THE SENTINEL

mamma says they show I have two muzzers : one way up in Heaven, and one on Fourth street."

Time passed, and with it little Mary's childhood. When she was in her teens, circumstances led me to a far distant city, where I remained for several years. I heard nothing during that period from my precious godchild but the news of the death of both her parents. When I returned to my native city for a short visit, the person I inquired for was Mary Immaculata. The lady whom I questioned concerning her answered, in a very cold tone, that Mary had disapointed all her friends. She went on to say that when the young girl had been left an orphan, her maternal grandmother had given her a home, which she shared with two cousins also orphans.

As during her school days she had proved very clever, a rich and worldly Protestant relative invited her, after she was graduated, to live with her family and share the advanced studies, under the best of masters, of her two daughters.

Her grandmother, who was aged and ailing was reluctant to lose the acceptable services which, of all her grandchildren, Mary alone gave her ; but her cousins were eager for her to accept the valuable offer, hoping that through her intercourse with a family of wealth and high social position she might be able to aid them to carry out certain ambitious views they held.

To their bitter chagrin, Mary remained but three months with her rich relative, and then, notwithstanding their entreaties, returned to her grandmother's home and resumed toward her aged relative the duties of housekeeper and nurse.

I was relieved to hear, in this explanation nothing that reflected seriously on the dear child in whom I felt so deep an interest, although I condemned in her that which I considered the want of a proper spirit and of wise ambition.

A few days later I found time to call at the grandmother's house, which was situated in a secluded suburb, and was so perfectly appointed in its way, so charmingly neat in every detail, that it was easy to see a person of well balanced mind presided over it, and impressed her

164