



DEATH OF GIFTED NUN

SISTER M. ANTONIO GALLAGHER, AUTHOR OF "REV. RICHARD W. ALEXANDER" STORIES AND THE "MERCEDES" POEMS

Readers of the Catholic press in all parts of the world will learn with deepest sorrow of the sudden death, on June 5, of Sister M. Antonio Gallagher, of St. Xavier's Convent of the Sisters of Mercy, at Beatty, in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Sister M. Antonio was the "Rev. Richard W. Alexander" whose touching and powerful true stories of conversions to Catholicity have been features of Catholic weeklies and magazines throughout the English-speaking world for the past nine years.

Not until June, 1911, when His Eminence Cardinal Gibbons, acting for St. Joseph's College, Emmitsburg, Md., her alma mater, conferred upon Sister M. Antonio the degree of L. H. D., "in recognition of successful literary work in the service of morals and religion," was the humble Sister of Mercy, hitherto hidden in the mountains of Western Pennsylvania, revealed, much against her personal inclination, as the "Reverend Richard W. Alexander" and as "Mercedes" whose devotional verse has graced the pages of every Catholic periodical in this and other English-speaking countries.

Sister M. Antonio was the elder of two daughters of Anthony J. Gallagher, who was a non-Catholic. She was secretly baptized at the age of seven years, studied in St. Mary's select school, Sixth and Spruce streets, until she was ten years of age, then went to St. Joseph's Emmitsburg, where she remained until its closing after the outbreak of the Civil War. Always called a Catholic she was one in truth when she left the good Sisters of Charity, and within a short time thereafter she entered the Sisters of Mercy. Her younger sister had also been studying at St. Joseph's, and she, too, became a Catholic, took the veil in the Order of Mercy, and was for many years, with Sister M. Antonio, a member of the community of St. Xavier's at Beatty. She was Sister M. Hilda, who died two years ago. Their father followed them into the true fold, and during his last illness in his home, near Nineteenth and Wallace streets, was attended by the late Archbishop Ryan.

Sister M. Antonio spent a number of years among the poor of Pittsburgh engaged in academy work during the day and teaching the mill boys at night. Besides her class duties, she found time to edit a college paper St. Xavier's Journal; to write and publish five books of poems and prose and more than twenty school dramas.

The preface to her first book of poems, "Wild Flowers," of which there have been four editions, was written by the late Archbishop Ryan.

The remarkable series of true stories of conversions written by Sister M. Antonio over the pen name of "Rev. Richard W. Alexander" have been described by the late Rev. A. P. Doyle, C. S. P., rector of the Apostolic Mission House, Washington, as "the first literary fruits of a religious movement that has spread throughout the country and has awakened the interest of the most sincere and devout Catholic souls"—the mission movement for non-Catholics. "They have been read with keenest interest in the classroom," said Father Doyle, "and have found their way into the refectories of not a few convents of religious, where they have been read aloud for the edification of all, and in some instances they have been taken into the pulpit and given to the people instead of the Sunday sermon. Many of these stories are so touching as well as so true that they have stirred the heart to its depths. I have heard some of them read in a group of not over-sensitive souls, and there was not a dry eye at the finish."

These stories, some of them descriptive of personal experiences, others gleaned from well-known missionaries and all vouched for as true, were written for The Missionary, The Catholic Standard and Times, The Ave Maria, The Messenger of the Sacred Heart and other publications, and have been copied everywhere and translated into French, German and Italian. Twenty-eight of them have been published in a volume of 200 pages, entitled "A Missionary's Notebook," with illustrations by the author, of which there have been five editions. A like number have appeared in a second volume, entitled "The Hand of Mercy."

At the time of her death Sister M. Antonio was writing a series of stories which were appearing in nearly a score of Catholic weeklies, and the proceeds of which she

planned to devote to the repairing of the little convent cemetery at Beatty, in which rest the remains of her lamented sister, Sister M. Hilda Gallagher. — Philadelphia Standard and Times.

BRITISH GOVERNMENT THANKS THE POPE

The French and German sick prisoners are already enjoying the health-giving airs of Switzerland, thanks to the intervention of the Holy Father, and now the benefit of this hospitality will be extended to the English prisoners. In consequence of this concession, secured entirely through the good offices and at the humane initiative of the Sovereign Pontiff, Sir Henry Howard, minister of Great Britain to the Vatican has presented a letter of thanks from Sir Edward Grey to Cardinal Gasparri.

THE JESUIT MARTYRS OF ONTARIO

By Walter R. Nurney, Late Inspector of Public Libraries

In the historical series now being published by the Canadian Messenger of Montreal, Father Devine, S. J., has in simple but alluring way amplified in biographical form the story of the first Jesuit missionary martyrs, who wrought with the Hurons. The self-sacrifice and heroism of these supermen in the camps of the Iroquois in their undaunted effort to plant the Cross of Christ and the flag of civilization in the Huron nation has earned for them the profound respect of all those races of men of diverse creeds who constitute Christendom.

After the founding of Quebec by Champlain in 1608, the establishment of the Recollet Friars and the transit of Lake Huron in 1616, by the Franciscan monk Le Caron, the effort to Christianize the savages was temporarily checked by British conquest. The interruption was brief. In 1626 John de Brebeuf, Herculean of frame, and unconquerably resolute, yet tender of soul—as became one of Norman descent—after wintering among the Montagnais on the Lower St. Lawrence was the first priest of the Society of Jesus to enter a birch canoe and ascend the dangerous Ottawa and Nipissing River route to the chief camp of the Huron tribes. The central stamping ground of the Hurons was at Otonnaca, the landing place for which, the village of Touché basked on the yellow beaches of the bay now familiar to the summer camper as "Penetang."

Father Devine's pamphlets are made the more valuable by numerous foot-notes giving both the Indian and the modern nomenclature of all the places referred to in the Lake Simcoe and Georgian Bay District. Here in the smoky lodges of these pagan savages Brebeuf on the occasion of his second visit and return from France consecrated his life irrevocably to the service of His Divine Master and entered upon his isolated sojourn in the wilderness—banishment, only to be terminated by his martyrdom at St. Ignace in March, 1649 by the implacable Iroquois. The tortures inflicted upon Father Brebeuf whose heroism and sublime faith never failed him were as Father Devine has gathered from the Jesuit Relations, equally infamous as awful.

The first five biographies of the series tell of the order named almost entirely in the course of the year. It is obvious that thanks to the Directors and General Manager the Merchants Bank is in an excellent position for serving both the shareholders and the country at large when business activity is again in full swing.

FAR BEYOND THE TYPE

In the Old Testament there are perhaps no types more striking and apposite than those which prefigure the Blessed Sacrament. What bears, in every detail, a closer resemblance to Holy Communion, for example, than the manna on which the Israelites miraculously fed in the desert, and how remarkably like the Eucharistic Tabernacle was the Ark of the Covenant? All that is said in Holy Writ about the Ark finds in the Real Presence not only a perfect parallel, but, as was to be expected of an antitype, the fulfillment far exceeds the figure in beauty, power and dignity, and possesses in its completeness all the excellence that the type symbolized.

For the Ark of the Covenant was the glory, the strength and the beauty of Israel; it was the oracle, guide, protector and comforter of the Chosen People; it was the center of their worship and the object of their devotion, an elaborate and detailed liturgy being drawn up by God Himself for the direction of the priests and Levites; in the Ark were preserved the stones of the Commandments, the flowering rod of Aaron, and a measure of the wonderful manna; the Ark indeed became the throne of God's holiness and mercy, a symbol of the abiding peace He had made with His people, and the pledge of His faithful Providence over them; by day a cloud and by night a fiery pillar stood above the Ark to guide or stay the progress of the pilgrim host. "They shall make me a sanctuary," was God's promise, "and I will dwell in the midst of them." In the Ark of the Covenant His words would seem to have found their perfect fulfillment.

But the feast of Corpus Christi is a new reminder that marvelous as was

indulging in a far-fetched forecast—the thought at least offers food for reflection. I salute the fact, however, which cannot be denied, that to these sons of France and of the Society of Jesus and—the some time not fairly appraised—Jesuit missionaries, the territory referred to is chiefly indebted for the drawing of the bolts of the portal to its fecund solitudes—as well as the proffer of salvation to its pagan population—for in these respects "not a cape was turned not a river entered but a Jesuit blazed the way," mingling business with suffering and winning enduring glory.

MERCHANTS BANK

ASSETS EXCEED NINETY-SIX MILLIONS

THE ANNUAL STATEMENT OF GREAT CANADIAN INSTITUTION SHOWS THE EXPANSION OF OVER TEN MILLIONS DURING THE YEAR

Annual statement of Great Canadian Institution shows expansion of over ten millions during year—liquid assets are 50% of liabilities—heavy security holdings. With a balance-sheet exhibiting \$96,361,363 of assets, an increase during the year of more than ten million dollars, The Merchants Bank of Canada presents a report for its fiscal year ending April 29, which is remarkable even in a year of remarkable bank statements. This son million dollars is wholly the product of the increase in the volume of public fund entrusted to this old and responsible institution. It has received during the year five millions more of interest-bearing deposits, and 4 1/2 millions of non-interest deposits, and has over a million dollars more of notes in circulation. The total of public funds under the management of the bank is now just short of \$2 million dollars.

On the other side of the account the Merchants Bank holds an unprecedented volume of liquid assets, amounting to just about 50%. The cash and equivalent of each in the balance sheet total more than twenty millions, to which must be added a similar amount in gilt-edged securities and call loans, making a total liquid reserve of \$40,960,486. This compares with \$32,686,972 or about 44% in 1915, and \$24,933,404 or about 36% in 1914. The strength of the bank needs no further demonstration. It may be observed that the various investment items show the largest increase from 1915, that of Canadian government and Canadian municipal bonds being over five millions as compared with less than a million a year ago. Assets of this character, in addition to being an excellent form of reserve, are, also, at current prices, an excellent revenue-producers.

Profits for the year were somewhat below those of 1915 but as a much smaller appropriation for contingencies sufficed to meet this year's needs the net result was better. In spite of heavy taxation by the Dominion Government and generous donations to patriotic purposes, the directors have a sum left over to add to the accumulated surplus. Commercial business is now looking up, as is evidenced by the improvement of over a million and a half in Canadian current loans, and owing to this circumstance and the improvement in the earning power of the reserves there is reason to anticipate something of a return to a better profit basis during the current year. It is obvious that thanks to the Directors and General Manager the Merchants Bank is in an excellent position for serving both the shareholders and the country at large when business activity is again in full swing.

THE WONDER GROWS

The eye and ear of the country were on New York last week. Startling revelations were to be made and everybody was anxious either to read them or to hear them. Traitors were to be exposed; international plots were to be laid bare; wire-tapping and theft of private letters were to be justified. The country was expectant; the inquiry was on—it came to an end without the discovery of a vestige of treason or the trace of a plot. But a defiance was thrown down, that must be taken up. The broker accused of treason declared:

"The Mayor of this great city publicly proclaimed the firm of Seymour & Seymour throughout the world as traitors to our country. The Mayor and Corporation Counsel asserted that our wires had been tapped because they believed we were engaged in a conspiracy against the United States Government. That was an absolute lie and they knew it. Nothing has been brought out in this inquiry to justify their statements." — New York Evening World, June 9.

What man of honor would let that pass? And is this not worse? "Mr. Seymour then asked the Court for permission to speak. When that was granted, he said that no evidence had been produced to show that the detective was trying to detect crime, or that any crime had been committed. The detective, he said, had been loud in declaring that papers had been stolen from the office of J. P. Morgan & Co., but

the Ark of the Covenant, beautiful and striking as was everything connected with its institution, maintenance and history, the Ark, after all, was only a figure of the Tabernacle. All that the Ark was to the Chosen People; that the Tabernacle is to Catholics, and a vast deal more besides. Every wonderful quality, every attractive characteristic of the Ark is first mystically realized and then surpassed in our Tabernacle. For Christ's abiding Presence in the Tabernacle is likewise the glory, strength and beauty of the Church, and the heart and center of her devotion. The Son of Mary has for all time become in the fullest and most intimate sense of support, defender and comcomity and humble. From there were in the ancient Jewish liturgy, whatever sanctity and decorum there were in the priests and levites in whose keeping the Ark was placed, become weak and poor and imperfect when compared with the magnificence, devotion and holy enthusiasm with which Catholics the world over celebrate the feast of Corpus Christi.—America.

THE LATE GARRETT GUIRY

After an illness of many years there passed to his reward on June 1st, Garrett Guiry an esteemed and venerable resident of Lindsay and a pioneer of Emily Township. The deceased, who was in his seventy-seventh year, was born in Cork county, Ireland. In 1842 he came with his parents to Canada, settling in the Township of Emily where he continued to reside until two years ago when he removed to Lindsay. The funeral took place on June 3rd from his late residence to St. Luke's Church, Downeyville, where solemn Requiem Mass was chanted by his son, Rev. Father Guiry, assisted by Rev. Father McGuire, Ennismore, as deacon and Rev. Father Phalen, Peterboro, as sub-deacon. Rev. Father Galvin, Downeyville, was master of ceremonies. In the sanctuary were His Lordship Bishop O'Brien, of Peterboro; Right Rev. Mgr. Casey, Lindsay; Rev. Father Meader, C. S. B., Toronto, and Rev. Father Ferguson, of Lindsay.

Rev. Father McGuire delivered the sermon, speaking of the Christian virtues of faith and charity which had characterized the life of the deceased who had been in his day, a leader in every good work undertaken by the parish. His Lordship Bishop O'Brien also addressed the congregation and said he was present to do honour to one who had done much for his country and for his religion. He had given three of his children to the service of God's Holy Church and he hoped many parents would strive to emulate the example of this good father. A vocation to the religious life is a divine call but yet these vocations are fostered in good homes by good parents.

After the last prayers, which were chanted by His Lordship, the remains were conveyed to St. Luke's cemetery where they were laid to rest. The deceased is survived by his sorrowing wife, four sons, Rev. Father Guiry of Kinmount; John, Joseph and Herbert of Emily, and five daughters, Sister Mary of Victory, St. Joseph's Academy, Lindsay; Sister M. Clement, St. Joseph's Convent, Fort William; Miss Mary of Emily, Miss Alice, Port Arthur, and Miss Ada of Lindsay.

A CHILD'S WISH

BEFORE AN ALTAR
I wish I were a little key
That locks Love's Captive in,
And lets Him out to go and free
A sinful heart from sin.

I wish I were the little bell
That tinkles for the Host,
When God comes down each day to dwell
With hearts He loves the most.

I wish I were the chalice fair,
That holds the Blood of Love,
When every flash lights holy prayer
Upon its way above.

I wish I were the little flower
So near the Host's sweet face,
Or like the light that half an hour
Burns on the shrine of grace.

I wish I were the altar where,
As on His mother's breast,
Christ nestles, like a child, fore'er
In Eucharistic rest.

But, oh! my God, I wish the most
That my poor heart may be
A home all holy for each Host
That comes in love to me.

—REV. ABRAHAM J. RYAN

IN MEMORIAM

WILSON.—In loving memory of John Wilson, Brussels, Ont., who died June 12, 1914. May his soul rest in peace.

MARRIAGE

McCORMICK-FORAN.—At Sacred Heart Church, St. Augustine, on Wednesday, June 7, 1916, by Rev. Father Dean, John McCormick, son of Mr. and Mrs. John McCormick, of Linwood, to Clara Meretta Foran, daughter of Mrs. Annie C. Foran, of St. Augustine.

TEACHERS WANTED

WANTED NORMAL TRAINED CATHOLIC teacher for Carlsruhe Separate school, Attendance 25. Duties to commence September next. Apply stating salary and experience, with testimonials to Peter Girodat, sr., Carlsruhe, Ont. 1916-2.

WANTED FOR SEPARATE SCHOOL NO. 17, Rochester, beginning September 1st, 1916, atleast, nestles, a 1st or 2nd class professional certificate and competent to teach English and French. Salary \$500. Apply to M. A. Tracey, Sec. R. B. No. 2, Belle River, Ont. 1916-2.

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had not proved it. After that had been exploded, they dragged in the National Government. No less a person than the Mayor of this city published us broadcast as traitors to our country. Senator Thompson told him that there was no international question involved. But the Mayor contended that there was and was backed by Corporation Counsel Hardy. Yet, they failed to show anything that would even lead a baby to believe it. They went into our office for no lawful purpose, but in an unlawful manner and on an unlawful errand, to get information for some person whose reason for wanting it has not been given.

Verily, the wonder grows. The air that was thick with intrigue and treason last week is now charged with mystery. Why were those wires tapped? To defend "the sacred altar of government"? Seymour is not a Papist. Why were those wires tapped? To reveal a plot? There was no plot. Why were those wires tapped? To uncover treason? There was no treason. But those were the reasons given. Precisely and therein lies the mystery. Why were those wires tapped? Can it be that the almost universal whisper that tickles the ear of every man is true? Why were those wires tapped? Why? And again, why? The wonder grows. Does it?—America.

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