

supply of strength to make successful resistance grow. When the paper lamp refuses to burn, you do not carry it into the sitting room, on hopes that it will do better there. Instead, you see if anything is wrong with the wick, or if the supply of oil is low. If the lamp of love in your soul grows dim, do not look for the cause in the room where it happens to be burning. Failure to live the life of a Christian is never the result of outward circumstances, but of some inward lack, which a living Father is ready to supply.

A RARE GIFT

St. Monica's church was all in confusion. It was the eve of the harvest festival and the dimly-lighted aisles, the stately chancel and even the richly adorned sanctuary were invaded by a perfect army of decorators.

One or two workmen in white shirt-sleeves yet lingered, giving finishing touches to the woodwork which had been out of the reach, both literally and metaphorically, of the daintily dressed enthusiasts, to whose care the structure was to be presently given over.

These stood about in groups, talking in low tones (some of them), of plans and "effects." A few had already set to work, and with the assistance of two or three youths were making wreaths or fixing designs.

A cassocked clergyman flitted from one party to another, advising, admiring, criticizing, and occasionally holding an end of string or insinuating a slender nail into a concealed crack.

By the door stood a very important individual clad in a black gown. His duties were arduous. In the first place he had to restrain the curiosity of the youth of the neighbourhood who were one and all bent on seeing what was going on in the church. He told them they ought to be at school, but they derided him, and no sooner had he set off on another of his duties—that of carrying in the floral offerings, which were continually arriving—than they entered and mad their swift way into divers dark corners, whence he had subsequently to dislodge them when he could find them.

Costly exotics, priceless orchids, stately palms, arrived in quick succession, and were flanked by colossal pears and grapes and velvety peaches, which called forth such irrepressible murmurs of admiration from the concealed onlookers as ended in the forcible expulsion of not a few.

Just as a man in livery was turning from delivering his sweet burden into the verger's hands, a little ragged child came to the bottom of the steps. Her head was bare, and her dirty plaid frock was insufficiently covered by a torn pinafore, under which she concealed some treasure, holding it tightly with both hands. She climbed the steps and reached the door before she unfolded and presented to the

astounded and indignant eyes of the verger a small carrot. It was not even a handsome carrot. Its roots were pulled by some way, leaving a greener white stump. It had no tapering end, but was stumpy and crooked and rough.

"Run away, child, you can't come in here," said the man in authority. But the tiny creature held her ground, and gazing at him from beneath her tangled locks with a pair of wondering blue eyes, she held out the despised vegetable, saying, with a slight lisp, "Tith for the church." Then, as her hearer seemed unable to understand, adding, "For the harvest."

The verger's wrath knew no bounds, the insolent little thing was insulting him, so raising both hand and voice he drove the terrified baby down the steps. At the bottom she burst into tears, and sobbed piteously, still clasping her carrot.

A lady passing saw her grief and stopped to ask its cause.

"I brought it for the church," gasped the little thing, between her

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The beauty of the bed chamber is enhanced, or this beauty may be marred, according as the Curtains and Draperies of the room are selected with good taste.

This is why we ask particular attention just now to new goods that we have opened in Muslin Curtains for the bedroom. These are made of fine sheer muslin, the materials having been selected by ourselves, and the goods made up specially to our own order. They are not lines made up for regular stock that everyone is selling. We give some particulars:—

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The arrivals of the week also include some very beautiful Brussels Point Curtains, that many would like to see.

- Fine Sheer Muslin Curtains, we have been out of these for a little while and many have been waiting for them; 39 inches and 3 yards long, with a pretty frill round one side and bottom; per pair, 75c.
- Fine Sheer Muslin Curtains, very fine quality muslin, small spot, with embroidered frill, size 54 inches wide and 10 feet 6 inches long, special, per pair, \$2.25
- Fine Sheer Muslin Curtains, extra quality muslin, with pretty coin spot, size 54 inches wide and 10 feet 6 inches long, per pair \$3.00
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- Fine Sheer Muslin Curtains, open work, insertions, dainty goods, size 54 inches wide and 10 feet 6 inches long, per pair, \$2.10.
- Fine Sheer Muslin Curtains, with Empire design through centre, open work corners, size 54 inches wide and 10 feet 6 inches long, special, per pair, \$2.15.
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—Fine Brussels Point Curtains, beautiful goods, size 54 inches wide and 10 feet 6 inches long, special, per pair, \$9.50, \$8, and \$6.

—Tambour Net Lace Curtains, suitable for any room down stairs, with fine Russian cord, 54 inches wide and 10 feet 6 inches long, special, per pair, \$3.25.

—Fine Tambour Lace Curtains, with Marie Antoinette stripes, 54 inches wide and 10 feet 6 inches long, special, per pair, \$3.50.

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sobs, "but the man won't have it." "Never mind!" said the lady. "See, you shall take these flowers instead."

But the little maid shook her head and looked lovingly at the carrot.

"Tith mine," she reiterated; "I brought it for the church."

"And it shall go in the church," said the lady. "I will take it in now and find a place for it," and carry-

ing the stumpy carrot with the beautiful flowers she entered the sacred building and joined the band of workers.

She had not proceeded far with the task assigned to her, when she was summoned away to assist in a more important part, but not before she had skilfully laid the carrot in a bed of soft green moss, so that a glimpse of its colour could be seen by a careful observer.