

me, and if he thinks me worthy of him, would it be just to punish me so severely for my fortune? Ought he not to consent to be my husband?"

"Jean," said the old priest, solemnly, "marry her; it is your duty, and it will be your happiness!"

Jean approached Bettina, took her in his arms, and imprinted his first kiss on her forehead.

Bettina gently released herself, and addressing the abbe:

"And now, Monsieur le Cure, I want to ask you something more; I wish, I wish—"

"What is it you wish?"

"I wish, Monsieur le Cure, that you would kiss me too."

The old priest kissed her on both cheeks, and Bettina went on:

"You have often told me Monsieur le Cure, that Jean was like a son to you, and may not I be like a daughter? Then you will have two children."

A month afterwards, on the 12th of September, Bettina, in the simplest of bridal robes, stood before the altar in the church of Longueval.

Nannie Turner had solicited the honor of playing the organ on this joyful occasion; for the poor little harmonium had disappeared. An organ, with its shining pipes, had been put up in the gallery of the church. It was Miss Percival's wedding present to the Abbe Constantin.

The old cure said the mass. Jean and Bettina knelt before him; he pronounced the benediction, and stood with outstretched hands a few moments in prayer, invoking all the graces of heaven upon the heads of his two children.

Then the organ began to play that same reverie of Chopin's which Bettina played the first time that she came into the little village church, where the happiness of her life was to be consecrated.

And this time it was Bettina who wept.

Will Cost Him a Million.

In Austria and Hungary the entrance of Baron Hermann von Konigswarter, the heir of Baron Moritz, one of the wealthiest men in the empire, into the Catholic Church, has excited much interest. The renunciation of the Jewish religion, according to the will of his father, is to cost him 1,000,000 florins, which are to be given to charitable institutions of Vienna. Behind the conversion is a romance.

About six years ago the young Baron served his year in the army in Grosswarden and there met Fraulein Melaine von Blakovich, the daughter of one of the most aristocratic magnates of Hungary. They fell in love with each other, and in order to make the marriage possible the young girl became a Jewess. Socially the effect upon her entire family was great.

The old Baron Konigswarter appreciated the sacrifice and tried in every way to counteract its effects by the most precious gifts to his daughter-in-law and her parents. But he saw that gifts did not take the place of what she had lost.

He died recently and when his will was opened it was found that he gave permission to his heir to become a Catholic on condition that he would give 1,000,000 florins to the poor. This he has decided to do and the Baroness is about to be received again into the Church.

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Department of Public Works, Ottawa, 15th Dec. 1901.

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