a chilly exterior, Jennie knew her sister's heart to be as warm as her old Squire Denune put it, "born dig. Happily it was not long until the doctor arrived. Strange to say, he found Jennie not hut seriously. Her face had fortunately escaped, and "Miss Hester" and "Jennie" to the many to the doctor arrived. Strange to say, her face had fortunately escaped, and though she was profoundly shocked to grow in his field lest in uprooting it the tiny shoots of good grain be also destroyed. In tolerating, and eventually christian izing, these customs the Church has shown that she is not a heartless to the climate, which in some way does seem to color the customs of a paople. In Ireland, of course, as in proclamation, but the Mayor's proclamation, but the Case is utterly barren of evidence to justify his confectivities in Ireland, due doubtless to the climate, which in some way does seem to color the customs of a paople. In Ireland, of course, as in since left girlhood behind.

"This is my mother, Miss Butler," said Margaret, in her pretty old-fashioned way; and Mrs. Lynch hased to supplement the introduction saying brightly: "I could not resist coming along, Miss Butler, and I hope you won't mind. I thought I might be of some use; and I'm like the children. I have never less with terror—I never have any seen apple-buttermade." Shesmiled presence of mind—and so was Kit engagingly at Jennie, whose domin. Ann.

said with extra heartiness. 'I have been making friends with your children—they are lovely," relieving Margaret of her hat and smoothing John's fair hair. He manifested a desire to begin operations imme-

this set them all at ease.

"You must come in and meet my sister," said Jennie, leading the way sister." said Jennie, leading the way some," he said, "but we can soon fix into the sitting room with inward them up" to a chorus of pitiful and apprehension. Miss Hester was seated at the window, her favorite workchildren she acknowledged with stately and frigid politeness, and returned to her work with a most forbidding cast of the children she acknowledged with reassuringly, "and so will Jenuis, with a cheerful smile in her direction." You see, "he said to Manual Control of the children she are the children s she even asked the mother and wouldn't tell me!" thought angrily. And to Mrs. Lynch's

Poor Mrs. Lynch felt strangely rebuffed. Never in all her heretofore sheltered life had she encountered actual discourtesy or been made to feel unwelcome. It was a new and bitter experience. Most heartily she wished herself out of the house and at home. Bitterly she told herself that she deserved the reception she got from the older sister for com to a strange house uninvited. I won't tell Jack," she thought, while an unbidden quiver crossed her lips. Jennie, who had been as much hurt by the rebuff as Mrs. Lynch, had tried to ignore it by keeping up a lively chatter in a laudable attempt

to put her guest more at ease. Now, Mrs. Lynch, " she said, gay you just come with me. We'll begin the apples, and I'll give the little ones somthing to do outside."

She was anxious to minimize her sister's lack of cordiality, for well she

" I've started the fire, Jennie," now announced Kit Ann, coming in with a big panful of apples all pealed and Hadn't I better go out and tell the children not to play too near

'Oh, I'll go myself," was Jennie's reply. "I want to tell them wast-to find me some eggs. I know chil-dren love to hunt eggs." to Mrs. Lynch, who had looked anxious at promised, smiling.

there !" with an excited jump.

'Yes, I see," smiling at the child-conceit; "but the smoke will all be gone after a bit, when you and margaret come back after gathering that her children may become thor me a — whole — lot — of — eggs!"
Whoops of joy greeted the egg plan,

dent of history knows well that the dooter. In the meantime Mrs. Lynch helped Kit Ann carry Jennie into the sitting room, found healing ingredients to put on the poor burned body pending he arrival of the doctor; reassured Miss Hester and laved her brow when she was in imminent danger of fainting, and constituted on the state of the state of the day. It is denoted that the would not force the doctor of the doctor, rather than destroy what was innocent and indifferent, allowed with certain feasts to continue in the hope that as the Faith deepened in the pending he arrival of the doctor; reassured Miss Hester and laved her brow when she was in imminent danger of fainting, and constituted on the cold, which by was innocent and indifferent, allowed coved much to the cold, which by the sections of the section of the section

he sisters were still known as the Butler girls," though both had long pain of course was severe, and she since left girlhood behind.

Jennie's consternation may be imagined when eight o'clock saw the Hearing their excited account of the children arriving, and not tragic happening the doctor was amazed that Jennie had escaped so

well. "You are fortunate." he said. "Mrs.

Lynch is a real heroine.' "She is, doctor! Oh, she is!" Miss Hester had not been able to quiet herself, but was sobbing gently. "Oh, doctor, what would have happened had she not been here! I was help-We were no good. But this ant thought was, "What on earth will good woman—Oh, Mrs. Lynch," she Hester tunk of this?" the while she said sobbingly, "will you—can you shook hands cordially with Mrs.
Lynch and bade her welcome.

ever forgive me for my actions this morning? This morning? It was only nch and bade her welcome.

'Indeed, I'm glad to see you," she
a little while ago, but it seems hours —hours! I was mean and cross, but I was sorry right away—" "Don't speak of it," said Mrs. Lynch

reaching out a trembling hand to the penitent woman, cementing there and then a friendship of lifelong en-

"So this is our heroine!" said Dr. gerly. "I brought mother along to Conner lightly, to break the tension of the moment. "Let's see if she of the moment. "Let's see if she doesn't need some attention. Yes, the brave little hands are burned self-reproachful exclamations from the three other women. "We never thought of her being burned." went

> "You see," he said to Mrs. Lynch. apple-butter, so it's up to me to get She her well again as soon as possible

thought angrily. And to Mrs. Lynch's timid remark about the beauty of the day she vouchsafed no answer whatplace, isn't it? My sister has been talking of calling on you, and I rather think I will come along and make your husband's acquaintance. How do you like The Corners?"

> Mrs. Lynch turned a somewhat diffident smile towards the two sisters, the sufferer on the sofa and Miss Hester hanging over her with tender

"I think," she replied slowly, That I am going to like it here very

## CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS

One of the most brilliant English writers, George Eliot, remarks somewhere in one of her works that, given the doctrine of mortal sin, she could not understand how any Catho-lic could smile or be happy while in knew that Miss Hester herself would a state of enmity with God. It may shortly be seized with remorse and be said with equal truth that no one "Come, Margaret," said Mrs. Lynch seeing that she would have to make the best of the situation, "you must see that John doesn't get into an account of the situation of the situ directly from the conviction assurance that God is with him. is for this reason that the saints have all been joyous in their own waysome, even, like St. Philip Neri, having been so merry as to be chiefly re-membered on that account by their contemporaries. They felt them-selves the friends of God, and as selves the friends of God, and as such basked in the sunshine of His face. The Church has never stood in the way of any legitimate form of amusement; on the contrary, be.
cause she teaches that mortal sin is hem. After Communion at the midthat they don't get burned," she the only real evil that can befall romised, smiling.

John was poking the fire with an this dark, sorrowing world. She is investigating stick. "I'ts a smoky old fire," he said to Jennie; "but men brave against the whips of forevery once in a while it sticks its tune and can bear their hearts up tongue out at me. Oh-h h! look when they are heavy with discourage tune and can bear their hearts up ment and despair. This note of gladness manifests

itself especially in the Church's offi-

oughly imbued with her spirit, the Church makes use of a whole cycle of feasts, each of which recalls in Whoops of joy greeted the egg plan, of feasts, each of which recalls in and the children were off on the wings of the wind toward the lure of its own way some phase of our Blessed Saviour's life. And just bethe fire. As she stooped over to pile lar favor at a time when men were more dry wood on it, a stray gust of embracing the faith of Christ in wind blew her apron toward the great numbers, she took over those smouldering blaze just as a long national customs or celebrations tongue of flame shot out. Blinded which had entwined themselves for a moment by the smoke, Jennie did not notice that her apron had caught fire, and almost in a second her clothes were aflame. With horible, gasping shrieks she rushed to ward the house. Mrs. Lynch, who had sprung for the door at the first Romans, for instance, synchronized shriek, a dreadful terror at her heart, in time with the Christmas festivi at sight of the flame-enveloped figure ties. Some modern atteistic writers flew to the rescue. Snatching up a who are bent at all odds on making large rug from the porch, she soon had the terrified, struggling creature wrapped in it, and in an incredibly took over bodily on some occasions, short space of time the flames were pagan celebrations. And having quenched. Paralized with fear, the horror-stricken Miss Hester had wit-nessed the whole scene, unable even to stir, while Kit Ann's piercing cries of the Church were also borrowed for help had brought the children, from pagan antiquity. But any stu-pale and frightened, from the barn, dent of history knows well that the

Every country has its own manner of Assisi, whose heart was as joyous and there. A beautiful custom, as it was simple. Up to that time the Crib was popular enough in paintings, specimens of it being found as far back as the days of the Cotson of the condens of the found as far back as the days of the Catacombe. After all, the condescension of Christ's love in coming to us was so great that it must have struck powerfully the minds and imaginations of artists. But it was the poet of the Lord, "the Poor Little Man of Assisi," who tried to make the masses realize what the artist burning of a candle in the window of every house all during the night preceding Christmas. The pious folk will tell you that they have placed the light there to show Our Blessed Lady the way to Bethlehem and to assure her of a welcome should she wish to enter. And surely there is not an Irish home in which Mary the masses realize what the artist not an Irish home in which Mary the masses realize what the artist alone had so far felt keenly—namely, the tender love which prompied the Master to come to us in human form.

One Christmas night he assembled

One of the many Yuletide customs the simple folk of the Tuscan hills in in vogue in England have taken his well beloved church of the Porti her strong walls, sat like a queen. and other countries of the main-He preached to them of the goodness land. and loving kindness of the Master. In He showed them by his earnest, direct words how Christ had been all n all to each and every one present. He narrated with Gospel simplicity the tender story of Christ's birth, showing how Mary and Joseph, having gone down to Bethlehem, the city of her fathers, to be inscribed in night Mass. Not only are the census of the Empire then being taken up, participated in the greatest event that had ever happened in the event that had ever happened in two world. He drew a touching picture Christian people. In Brittany it is of the poverty of the Son of God, the tustom on Christmas morning, after midnight Mass, for all those hat we have quarreled during born between an ox and an ass, with nothing but a handful of straw to persons who have quarreled during rest upon. And when he had made the course of the year to forgive one known to them the joy that Christ's coming had made possible, he bade them follow them to the Church of "a procession of pardon." When all San Damiano, some miles distant, have been reconciled, they partake where he showed them a Crib filled of a banquet at the expense of the with straw, upon which lay the Infant Saviour, with Mary and Joseph adoring and the proverbial ox and ass beside the manger breathing upon the Christ. It was the first Crib ever shown in Christendom, and crib ever shown in Christendom, and so powerful and magical was its is a religion of joy. The Church effect upon the people, so surely did does not seek to make Puritans of it strike home to their hearts, that the custom was immediately estab-

ciscan churches is generally most ably as we can the time of our so-realistic and appealing. In Rome, journ in this world, reminding us all on the Capitoline Hill, where stands the while that, as it is not our true the Church of Ara Cell, is the home, we must await for the fulness famous Bambino, carved out of wood of joy that Christmas morn when we Crib, in the background of which is night Mass the Bambino is carried in procession from behind the altar and placed in position, amidst the prayer ful cheering of those demonstrative children of the South. Up to Epiphany Day, lights are burni thousands around the shrine. and every afternoon, from two till four, the children of the parish seek to amuse the Bambino by reciting little nursery rhymes from a plat-form erected on the other side of the church. Their proud parents are there by the hundreds to listen to the little ones repeating their verses, and an especially good one is fre-quently greeted by shouts of "Bravo!

The Christmas festivities in Rome. The Christmas festivities in Rome, however, are not confined to the church of the Franciscaus, but are carried on in most of the other churches of the city. Notable among these celebrations is that which takes place in the Church of Santa Maria Maggiore, in which the boards out of which the Crib of the Infant Saviour was made are preserved in a

tyrant but a tender mother, stooping to our weakness, and by doing so lifting us up to the high plane on the Suthern countries, we find the Christmas Crib everywhere, but not which she moves.

There are many customs for the different feast-days of the Church in various lands of the world. Around the Easter celebration there cluster whole series of celebrations, espectively. the Easter celebration there cluster whole series of celebrations, especially in Italy, which are touching in the extreme. But just because the Christmas season is one of the greatest rejoicing, following as it does after Advent's four weeks of expectant waiting—signifying the four thousand years during which the Jews cried out for the Messias—it is accompanied everywhere by many customs which cling close to the heart. ly from the inclemency of the weather, the Christmas Crib is some of celebrating the Christmas festival.

The one, however, which has gained heart with tenderness but also melts almost universal popularity—the Christmas Crib—we owe to that troubadour of the Lord, St. Francis of Assis whose heart was residued. uncula on the plain down below the mas tree ever attained popularity. hill on which Assisi, girded about in For the latter we must go to Germany

> In France, Christmas celebrations generally take the form of serenades. Many of the old Ohristmas carols, or "Noels," as they are called, dating back to the Middle Ages, are still surg by knots of men and boys who gather under the windows of their neighbors on their return from Mid Christmas carols hoary with the ages, but they enshrine the best and a procession of pardon." When all community.

The Christmas customs of the various lands upon which we have briefly touched, while differing widely in many respects, all bear witness to the fact that the Catholic religion us. She is only too glad to see us the custom was immediately estate.

It shed throughout Italy. And from Italy, through the preaching of the Friars Minor, it soon spread over the Italy. By the many heaviful customs. ful. By the many beautiful customs Even to this day we find, as a rule, which she has sanctioned and fosthat the Christmas Crib in Fran-

## DECISION REVERSED

FATHER EDWARD HEINLEIN COMPLETELY EXONERATED

Father Edward Heinlein, former of Victory in Mt. Vernon, N.Y., who was arrested last July for failing to obey the Mayor's proclamation for the ringing of church bells to cele-brate the victory of the American soldiers in France and subsequently fined \$200 has been completely ex-onerated by Judge Frank L. Young, of Westchester County. Judge Young discourage patriotic demonstrations, reversed the decision of the Mt.

Vernon Court and ordered that the to insist that their religious liberty fine paid by the priest be returned to him.

out of which the Crib of the Infant
Saviour was made are preserved in a
brilliant reliquary. On Christmas
afternoon at four o'clock, a long procession of priests, bishops and cardinals wends its way to the crypt of
the church where the precious relic
is kept during the year, and from
thence it is carried through dense
there of propose of propose of the Chapel of
the church where the precious relic
is kept during the year, and from
thence it is carried through dense
there of propose of p thence it is carried through dense subjected to indignities by the infur-throngs of people to the Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament, where it is exposed on the altar during the entire holiday season, at the close of which it is once more borne in state of the state which it is once more borne in state to its resting place in the crypt below the main altar.

In Italy the domestic festivities owe much to the cold, which by Christmas time has become very intense. Never do Italians gather more freely around their own firemore freely around the formation for the formation for the formation for the formation for the formation f

"The judgment of conviction should be reversed in its entirety, and the fine of Two Hundred Dollars paid by the defendant should be re

"County Judge of Westchester County."-Dated White Plains, N. Y., Novem

Attorney Joseph H. Hayes of New

New York, Nov. 12, 1918, "The Echo,
"Buffalo, N. Y.,

Dear Sirs: "The enclosed decision was ren dered upon the appeal of the Rev. Edward Heinlein, D. D., formerly pastor of church at Mt. Vernon, New fork, who was convicted on July 31st of causing a serious breach of the peace on July 19th because he failed to obey the Mayor's proclamation for the ringing of church bells to celebrate the victory of the American and

"Yours very truly. JOSEPH H. HAYES.

The article to which Mr. Hayes refers contended that the action of the Mayor was an unwarranted encroach—Catholic Sun. ment of a civil authority on ecclesias

in part: "In the Catholic Church, bells serve a liturgical purpose. The ritual for the blessing of bells has been in use in the Church for nearly The THERE ARE FIFTEEN MORE COUNTRIES twelve hundred years. According to ecclesiastical law, even if the con-secrated bells belong to lay persons, the right to their use resides solely with the clergy. Concerning this matter, the "Catholic Encyclopedia"

only be carried out by a Bishop or by a priest specially empowered, and it is only to be employed in the case of bells intended for Church use. For other bells a simpler blessing is provided in the 'Rituale.' Numerous prohibitions exist against Church bells being used for 'profane' purposes, e. g., for summoning meetings or for merely secular festivities and in particular for executions. In Catholic ecclesiastical legislation the principle is maintained that the con trol of bells rests absolutely with

"The Mt. Vernon priest may be supposed to have known that his the laws of the Church, he came in ship; they are not "sounding brass Rector of the Church of Our Lady and tinkling cymbals"—mere noise of Victory in Ms. Vernon, N.Y., who on was tampering with the freedom of religious worship when he issued his decree for the tolling of church bells without having previously come to an understanding with Catholic ecclesiastical authorities. There is no disposition among Catholics to be not encroached on directly or in directly by the arbitrary action of

secular authorities. "Recently Archbishop Moeller of Cincinnati granted permission to ring church bells in signalizing patriotic events whenever a request was made by the authorities, vas made by although, as a rule, church bells cor secrated for religious purposes are not intended to be rung on secular occasions. This action of Archbis Moeller implies that control of the church bells lies with the ecclesiastical authorities and that to ring them on secular occasions is a temporary concession made to the civil authorities. To make a priest amenable to the civil law for not doing what could only be regarded as a favor, not as an obligation, would be a miscarriage of justice."

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will never master. Some of my com-rades and I went into a restaurant

recently and I ordered a steak and

musbrooms. The waitress shook her

head and I tried to make her under-

stand in vain. Then I took out my pencil and drew a cow and some

AT THE VATICAN

sia, Portugal and Monaco

Telegram.

111 years old.

usbrooms on a piece of paper. The

a dash of

turned to him. Let the order of reversal so provide. FRANK L. YOUNG.

York, who represented Father Hein-lein upon the appeal, in his brief to the court quoted from an article which appeared in The Echo of August 8th. Mr. Haves writes as fol

Allied troops in France.
"The case received wide publicity at the time and in justice to Father Heinlein his complete exoneration should be as extensively published. The order of reversal was filed in the Westchester County Clerk's office yesterday, the 11th inst. I know you will be glad to give the matter the

attention it deserves.
'In my brief I quoted in part the article you published on August 8th concerning the granting of permission by Archbishop Moeller for the ringing of church bells. I used it for a purpose not connected with the merits and the decision of the appellate court is in no way based upon canonical law.

"Attorney for Dr. Heinlein upon

tical affairs. It is here reproduced

informs us as follows:
"'The solemn ceremony of benediction provided in the Pontifical can

other things how the French Govern church bells were not to be rung for secular festivities.' By abiding by conflict with the civil authorities and the mob spirit of Mt. Vernon. In a country such as ours where there is separation of Church and State there is separ State, there is all reason why the Church should jealously guard its freedom against State interference, Catholic church bells are consecrated to the purpose of religious worship; they are not "sounding brass" of the celebration in honor of Cardinal Gibbons' fiftieth anniversary of his episcopacy. M. de Monzie points out that the French Government will have necessarily to treat with will have necessarily to treat with the Pope about the Holy Land and Alsace Lorraine, and that French Government officials were instrumention of England at the Vati books, a long-time friend of Americans, felt convinced that, after the War, relations will be resumed be

ous. One of our young men at Camp Mills preparatory to "going over" and reassured Miss Hester and laved her significance would be lost in the brow when she was in imminent Christian meaning of the day. It is danger of fainting, and constituted but a repetition of the old Gospel "Christmas must be kept with your discreet, in the circumstances, in re-worth Americans. They are as

"From our Catholic friends we may learn to appreciate the value of the outward forms of religious worship. While many of our Protestants were still asleep, hundreds of men and women this morning were on women this morning were on their way to offer up their prayers in the house of God. The heart must be right to secure the divine favor, but the outward forms of worship possess an importance far beyond what we often give to them. them and you will find the springs which feed your spiritual life drying up completely.

OUTWARD FORMS

"A second lesson which we may learn is that of reverence. The Catholic Church instils in the hearts and minds of its followers a spirit of reverence for sacred things

"Millet's Angelus has won the admiration of multitudes by its portrayal of the spirit of reverence in two peasants toiling in the field. have been busily engaged in hard, laborious toil, but as the clear light of day fades into the glow of evening they hear the bell in the distant tower calling to prayer, and they are gay here as they were two years ago before we thought so very much about war." A boy eager to be at the front wrote from Camp San Diego: "We've got a new version out here of the popular song, 'Over There.' We sing it as follows: We're take of life almost unconsciously it reveals its presence. Protestantism going over, when it's over, over there." One of the best humorous came as a reaction against the grossest spiritual abuses. But it stories, really true and just across the water came in the letter of a young Irishman who has been in France since the first of August and who often happens that a reaction swings the pendulum too far in the opposite direction. In discarding forms and belongs to the 81st Division. "I am up here studying to run and repair motor trucks. I can hit any obstrucliturgies so largely, I sometimes fear that we do not attach to this matter of reverence the importance that we tion now on schedule time. But the language is something that I fear I

"A third lesson which learn is that of loyalty. In order to succeed in our work, we must imitate their example. A church that influences the life of a community must have not an uncertain wavering attachment for its members, but a loyalty which will not falter even when subjected to the severest tests.

waitress, face liv up. 'Oui, oui!' she cried and hastened out. She re-turned quickly and gave me a package "The fourth lesson which we may learn from our Catholic friends is one of zeal. A spirit of cold indiffer ence never accomplishes anything."

Rev. W. M. Walker, (Baptist.)

Life is not for mere passing pleas-REPRESENTED THAN BEFORE THE WAR that one can attain to, the noblest ire, but for the highest unfoldment Baltimore, Nov. 23.-Catholics character that one can grow, aud for throughout the world have been much gratified to read the news of the greatest service that one can render to all mankind. In this, however

the wonderful grouping of nations around the Pope in Rome since the beginning of the War. Nations which we will find the highest pleasure. I have learned to distrust all evidence of personal evil. The most searching tone of Our Lord's utterhad no representatives at the Vatican in 1914, and which have now their ances, and one that grows every day nuncios or internuncios are Argen-tine, Columbia, Costa Rica, Nicara-gua, Honduras, San Salvador, Ecuain its significance upon me, is "Judge not, and you shall not be judged : and not on the grounds of charity, dor, Bolivia, Peru, and Haiti, on our American Continent; and over the but truth. It is impossible to judge of another; we do not even unde stand ourselves.—Pachal Germain.



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