A MISSIONARY'S ADVENTURE.

How the Baptism of a Child Led to a Woman's Conversion.

A saintly prelate, lately deceased, used to say: "During the long years of my ministry I have again and again observed that an infant baptized in a Protestant family has proved a prelude to the conversion of its parents." The following incident of missionary life in the West would seem to be a proof of the truth of this saying:

The Rev. Father Van Quickenborne was the first Jesuit who appeared in the great valley of the Mississippi after the re-establishment of the Society of Jesus. In the course of time Florissant and St. Charles' missions (founded by his apostolical zeal) became rallying points, around which little colonies of Catholics and Protestants formed and multiplied. The missionaries had to go in every direction to minister to so many souls, and Father Van Quickenborne devoted himself to these apostolic excursions with real gladness of heart. In one of his rides having arrived at a place where the road branched, he intended to take the more beaten track, but his horse resisted. In vain he urged him to obey; the animal prevailed over his master and started off at a rapid pace by the less agreeable and familiar way. The route crossed a forest. Night came on, and the missionary found himself obliged to stop at a little cottage as poor as it was solitary, lost as it were amid the towering trees. The Father met with a cold reception, and though supper was served to him, the inmates spoke very few words, and these in an embarrassed and reserved manner. The good Father well understood the cause of this. The Protestant ministers at that time (1824) were wont to depict our religion as an assemblage of absurd and pernicious doctrines, and drew revolting portraits of our self sacrificing missionaries.

In a corner of the room lay a child sick with fever, and evidently in extremities. Father Van Quickenborne asked the distracted mother whether her boy had received baptism, and on being answered in the negative, he began to explain the necessity of this sacrament. "God himself has sent me here," he added, "to open to your child the gate of heaven. There is no time to lose; soon he will be no more." The mother replied with disdain that she would never suffer a priest to baptize her son; that she did not believe in baptism. It was in vain to insist further; but as the child was consumed with thirst, the Father feigning to renounce his idea, gently administered from time to time a little water. At a moment when the attention of the mother was turned elsewhere, he baptized the child, who soon after winged its flight to heaven.

Not long after this event, Father Van Quickenborne, happening to be in the vicinity of the cottage, called again, and asked to see the mother of the child, who this time showed herself a very different sort of a person. She evinced an earnest desire to have some instruction in the Catholic religion, and admitted that what the Father had said concerning the necessity of baptism troubled her; she deplored her conduct in depriving her son of so great a grace. "Console yourself," said the benevolent missionary, "I baptized your child, who now intercedes for you in the presence of God. Receive baptism, and you will one day share in his eternal happiness." These words produced the desired effect. The woman was converted, and, after being instructed in the catechism, she and the whole family received baptism.

The Mule Got Him the Job.

Among the quaintest of Washington characters is Peter O'Day. Peter has lived at the capital for a great many years, but when he departed from the Emerald Isle he did not leave his Irish wit behind him. One of his friends said the other day: "When Gov. Shepherd had charge of the public works here, he was rather particular in regard to the politics of the men whom he employed. A Republican was tolerably sure of getting a job, but a Democrat was invariably rejected. During the war Peter O'Day was the most rabid kind of a Democrat; indeed, it is hinted that his sympathies were with the South in the struggle. One day Pete drove the most disconsolate and dejected looking mule that I ever saw down to Shepherd's office. He went in and said: 'Governor, will yez be after givin' me a job to day?' Shepherd looked him square in the eye and said: 'If I am not very much mistaken you are the same man who was in the habit of hurrying for Jeff Davis during the war.' Pete's countenance changed in a second, but he glanced out of the window and seemed to get an inspiration, for he said: 'Ah, Governor, I am not after looking work for meself. For the love of God look at me mule and refuse him if you can.' Shepherd looked at the mule and gave Peter plenty of work to do."—*Washington Letter to the Boston Traveller.*

A Wonderful Shot

The man who put ten bullets in succession, inside the circumference of a Milwaukee girl's finger ring, at fifteen paces, was a pretty good shot, but he wasn't half so wise as the bilious man who put ten of "Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pellets" into his system in five days, and on the sixth walked ten miles "just because he felt so well." If your blood is out of order, if you feel low spirited and "blue," you will find these Little Liver Pills just what you need.

A Severe Trial.

"I tried all the doctors in this locality for liver and kidney troubles (which I had for years) with no benefit. Four bottles of Burdock Blood Bitters cured me," says Lemuel Allan, Lisle, Ont.

Faithful.

J. R Faithful, of Stroud, Ont., says he suffered from quinsy for several years, until cured by Hagyard's Yellow Oil, which medicine is a specific for all painful complaints.

THE SIGNS OF WORMS are well known, but the remedy is not always so well determined. Worm Powders will destroy them.

CATHOLICITY IN WOODSTOCK.

INTERESTING SKETCH OF THE EARLY EFFORTS OF THE CHURCH.

The opening of the new Catholic church in this town to-morrow will be an event of great importance in the history of Catholicity in Woodstock and one which cannot fail to stir up in the minds of the older adherents of the church memories of former religious trials, longings and struggles. The progress of the Catholic Church in Woodstock, owing to the paucity and comparative poverty of its members, has been slow in the past and attended with many difficulties. But the prospects are brightening, and no further evidence of this is required than that afforded by the beautiful new church, the dedication of which takes place to-morrow, Dec. 5th.

Through the kindness of Mr. Maurice Egan, one of the oldest Catholic settlers of Woodstock, the *Sentinel-Review* is enabled to place before its readers some interesting details of the history of the Catholic Church in this community. When Mr. Egan came here with his father and the rest of family 52 years ago, there was but one Catholic here and that was Mr. Phelan, father of the present Mr. Dan Phelan of Ingersoll. Mr. Dunn and his family arrived here the same time. One of the late Mr. Egan's children had attained the age of twelve years without being baptized, and to a man educated as he was according to the strict discipline of the Catholic Church, this fact was the occasion for much grieving on his part. It happened that on one occasion the late Mr. Egan was speaking to a man who came from Stratford, and in the course of the conversation he remarked that he would like to have a priest visit the place if that were possible. As a result of this conversation Father Variette, in company with another man, arrived at Mr. Egan's one day, after having walked all the way from Stratford. The news soon spread; the few Catholics who were in the neighborhood were notified and the morning after his arrival, Father Variette said mass at the home of Mr. Egan, which stood where the Credit Valley station now is. This was the first mass ever celebrated in Woodstock. Father Variette occasionally visited the place, always on foot, until a subscription was raised and a little pony was purchased for him, which by the way, was so small that it was with difficulty its rider kept his feet from the ground. It may be mentioned here incidentally that Father Variette's salary amounted to the magnificent sum of $112 annually.

The next priest who visited the place was Father Burke who built a little chapel at Beachville in 1838 At this chapel, Catholics from Woodstock, Ingersoll, East Oxford and Dereham attended regularly when services were held there. Woodstock was also occasionally attended by priests from Brantford and London.

As the number of Catholics increased Mr. Egan's house became too small and it was necessary to find a place of larger dimensions to hold services in. After much persuasion a little school house on Graham street was secured for occasional use, and after a while the use of the town hall was obtained.

In 1867, and while the place was attended by Father Volkert, the old church was built. The building of this church was greatly facilitated by a grant of $800 left for the purpose by a charitable person of Brantford.

The first resident priest of this place was Father Gahan, who came here in 1875. He was followed by Father Carlin and he by Father Brady, the present popular pastor.

The new church is built of red brick faced with white stone and presents a neat and substantial appearance from the outside. Inside it is finished with taste and appropriately furnished. The auditorium is 40x80 feet, is capable of accommodating 500 people and is furnished with fine hardwood seats. The last end is surmounted by a tower 120 feet high and at the west end are a chancel and a vestry. The building is heated by two large hot-air furnaces, supplied by the Gurney Manufacturing Co. of Hamilton. Altogether the church is an edifice to be proud of.—*Woodstock Sentinel Review, Dec. 4.*

Horsford's Acid Phosphate

AS A TONIC.

DR JOHN GERDINE, Athens, Ga., says: "In dyspepsia, accompanied with prostration from mental overwork, I think it is a fine tonic."

Catarrh, Catarrhal Deafness, and Hay Fever.

A NEW TREATMENT.

Sufferers are not generally aware that these diseases are contagious, or that they are due to the presence of living parasites in the lining membrane of the nose and eustachian tubes. Microscopic research, however, has proved this to be a fact, and the result is that a simple remedy has been formulated whereby catarrh, catarrhal deafness, and hay fever, are cured in from one to three simple applications made at home. Out of two thousand patients treated during the past six months fully ninety per cent. have been cured. This is none the less startling when it is remembered that not five per cent. of patients presenting themselves to the regular practitioner are benefited, while the patent medicines and other advertised cures never record a cure at all. In fact this is the only treatment which can possibly effect a permanent cure, and sufferers from catarrh, catarrhal deafness, and hay fever should at once correspond with Messrs. A. H. Dixon & Son, 303 West King street, Toronto, Canada, who have the sole control of this new remedy, and who send a pamphlet explaining this new treatment, free on receipt of stamp.—*Scientific American.*

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A. P. BRADLEY,
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Department of Railways and Canals,
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