

lover, and it is certain that Billy's seven years of seniority and his usually-confident slightly "blase" air of experience, held a powerful attraction for Isabel.

But to-night the tables were turned. There was something very soothing and restful about Eddie Bingham's immaculate linen, his nicely creased trousers, and his coat that so cleverly disguised his sloping shoulders.

So she warmed toward him; she bent upon him the favor of unusual smiles and interest; his drooping hopes revived and he outdid himself in his attentions to her.

She observed Billy gliding across the floor with Marie Elizabeth, and she experienced a faint twinge of jealousy. Isabel had not yet qualified as a prize dancer and Billy was far too fine a dancer to receive a snubbing.

The sudden realization of this aspect of the situation came with a passing glance, half-amused, half-pitiful, from Marie Elizabeth. Isabel was shaken with a new emotion, maddening in its complexity, sickening in its intensity.

All evening she had been prickly toward him, now she changed her tactics. Billy had never seen his sweetheart in such a mood. When anyone was near, her manner was angelic in its sweetness, but when they were alone, his descriptive word, "devilish," was only just.

At last Billy's temper grew ruffled and his gray eyes dark with anger; he delivered himself of some terse remarks and amenities between them ceased.

The presence of Eddie Bingham in the car with them relieved the situation a little. No longer was he to know that they had quarreled, and he made a splendid medium of conversation.

The car stopped, and an old, bent woman, draped voluminously with a shawl, her gray hair topped by a rusty, beaded bonnet, entered. There was no empty seat, and Billy rose with the promptness of a Jack-in-the-box, and surrendered his. Isabel moved a little away from the figure in the shawl.

The car bumped along; Billy hung onto a strap and conversation languished. Eddie Bingham, having expressed one by one the opinions and ideas that he kept for public use, and tried to use them over again.

Two bright crimson spots glowed high on Isabel's cheeks. This was the end! That he should dare to leave her in the face of her intimates! That he should turn her over to Eddie Bingham with a little ceremony as if she were a sack of flour.

There was a faint, half-nervous giggle from the person considered. "O'Farrell certainly does make some awful remarks," he observed.

Isabel sat turned to stone. Mr. Bingham twisted his slender, book-keeper's hands together. "Now, such a notion would never enter my head. I would think it was the proper thing to leave the lady in my car and inquire into somebody else's troubles."

A sudden, great weariness settled over Isabel. "No, I don't suppose you would," she said in a colorless voice. "I don't do things that way." Eddie's words were fat with self-satisfaction.

Mr. Bingham had struck a subject upon which he was eloquent—more eloquent than he knew. "I say a man's got enough to do if he looks after himself. You know O'Farrell, the O. D. D. bookkeeper? Well, if it hadn't been for O'Farrell, he'd have lost his job long ago."

Isabel turned with a jerk. "Billy doesn't drink," she said. Bingham perceived his blunder. "Er—er—of course not. I only meant that he, always seems to have so much sympathy."

Isabel rose, rigid. "We have reached my street. No, you needn't get off the car, only have to go to a block. But I prefer to assist you."

As she stepped on, she had a glimpse of Eddie Bingham, expositating and amazed, being held back by one willing pugilistic arm. "It was such a hollow victory. Every poisoned word that little reptile had uttered, I had seen in her told her so."

She let herself in with her latch key and stole quietly to bed. Billy could not get to his home for hours. But the fact that he lived at one end of the city and she at the other never made any difference to him; he waited for her when she worked late; he saw that she went wherever he could take her.

She was awakened by a peal from the telephone which an obliging roomer had allowed to be rung in the middle of the night. Isabel's mother would attend to it for him. A faint pink lightening of dawn was on the horizon. Sitting her night dress, she took down the receiver and her "Hello" was answered by Billy's voice.

"Say, kiddie, I just got home. Wanted to tell you you were all right." "You just got home?" "There was a laugh from the other end. "I thought you'd change your mind about speaking to me! No, wait a minute; that wasn't why I called you up."

"On something will probably turn up. Maybe you can get after that scamp of a son-in-law. But at the worst we can keep her here. We won't turn her out, that's sure. Never mind her. It's you I'm thinking of."

"Oh, Billy O'Farrell, son of a child-like race that never has stopped to count the cost of a generous deed! To such as you it has been given to be loved beyond belief and understanding."

"I don't know what you're talking about. My—my voice shakes because I'm old. Yes, I'll go right to bed. Shut? Why, I—I didn't see anything wrong with your shirt—Billy, dear."

LIFE TO-DAY IN CATHOLIC FRANCE

The activity with which the Church of France, disestablished, disendowed and dispossessed, is pursuing the necessary work of reorganization is a spectacle which has already gained recognition in unexpected quarters. It cannot be forgotten that the 38 parishes which robbed the Church of almost everything except the mere occupancy of the churches—an occupancy which the Government, after its experience of the process of taking the inventories, feared to terminate.

The difficulty still persists, as may be seen from extracts which have found record during the last few days. Country churches are being left to fall into decay by their new proprietors as a preliminary to their being closed as dangerous to the public; a Bishop is being hailed up before the courts to answer for money he had spent in restoring them.

A WONDERFUL STORY OF A WONDERFUL FAMILY. On the second day of October, 1756 a child was born in the town of Simsbury, Conn., who was to be the progenitor of a family the history of which is one of the most remarkable in the annals of the Catholic Church.

How successfully and with what earnestness that difficult task is being accomplished we have almost daily witnessed, which is none the less real that it made little mention in the English press. The new organization is taking a form not unlike that of the Catholic Federation in England.

But this is not the entire story. Mr. Daniel Barber had a son, Virgil, who had also become an Episcopalian minister and was living in Utica, N. Y., where he was not only a pastor, but was the principal of a flourishing academy.

And God truly did care for them all in the very way that their parents would have most desired. To all the five religious vocations came. And to all of them was rendered later, the testimony that is given to the chosen and tried servants of God.

My mother has often told me that he was so perfectly devoted to her and his children that he found no happiness out of his family; inasmuch that he was a circle of grandchildren upon or his domestic joys interrupted by the visits of friends; and she was frequently obliged to expostulate with him on the subject. In trouble, sickness, etc., no one could comfort, no one advise him but herself.

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been reckoned, and each has received an abundant recompense. Susan, the third daughter, Sister M. St. Joseph, took the white veil on St. Joseph's day, 1831, and died January 24, 1837.

When Mr. Barber began to consider the claims of the Catholic Church, we find the following statements regarding this from Sister Josephine's pen: "Night after night my parents used to sit up together, discussing points of doctrine and reading works of controversy. Indeed, my father would never willingly read without her, and she would stop and say: 'Try this, months must necessarily intervene, and these were to my parents months of agony.'"

Once or twice I expressed to Mother Gozaga O'Driscoll my regret at the trouble my mother's long protracted illness gave. "No trouble whatever," said she. "It is a great honor to us to have her die in our community."

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