

FATHER MURTAGH'S GLOVE.

"Fling away ambition," was the advice of St. Ignace's Cardinal. Father Murtagh had not done so; in fact, it did not seem that he ever could. It did all very well for a fanciful poet to outlast ambition as a thing sure in the long run to bring disenchantment, but on the other hand, what was life worth without the inspiration of an incentive? True enough, Father De Mentone, had also warned him often against this same larking idea of shoals. "Be aware of mere empty ambition," the venerable ecclesiastic had said; "it means too frequently the wreck of the proper priestly spirit: caute l'esperit sacerdotal, mon cher enfant! Ambition means pride and its frivolous helpmate, vanity).

dudes have troubles of their own! Ah! there goes the stroke of the clock! Gentlemen, please come to order; well, I'll start in about five minutes for the hall!" He took out a silk kerchief and began to smooth the fine glossy hat he was holding, when suddenly his own call-bell rang below stairs. It provoked him for the instant, but he descended at once to the reception-room. On the table lay the ominous sick call slate. It was somewhat with an eagerness of mood that he read the words: "Mrs. Sweeney, 28 Mechanics' Court, Urgent." Father Murtagh summoned the housemaid. "Did you ring my bell?" he asked. "Yes, Father; it's a sick call; it's there on the slate."

"I see it is. But don't you know that I can't attend any sick calls tonight? I've got very important business at the temperance convention to look after. You must tell one of the other—" "But, Father, the other priests are not in. Father Delmore went home to-day to his mother's in Woburn and he's not back yet. Father Gilbride is away, too; he went to Merrimac to help them hear confessions for the Forty Hours' there." "Yes, I know. But the pastor—isn't the pastor at home?" "No, sir; he took those two little orphans down to the rectory in Boston this afternoon. He said he'd be back on the 10 o'clock train; but it's after 8 already and he hasn't come. The next train doesn't get here until 10 o'clock."

common sense didn't you wait a few days without sending a hurry-up call to us on such a night as this?" He had completely lost control of his temper. "I didn't think it was wrong, Father." "No; that is the way with you folk; you never think that anything's wrong. Do you know that I've torn myself away from very important business to run down here, you talk never think of anybody but yourselves—have no consideration for others at all. Any one would have thought you were dying—sending for a priest to rush here post-haste!" "Father, it wasn't for myself that I sent for you."

"And yours?" "Tom." "Well, Tom and Walter must both say their prayers to-night for mamma to get well soon, won't you?" "Yes, sir." "Say yes, Father," Katie bade them. "Yes, Father," they answered at once. "Were you ever sick yourself, Tom?" "Walter was; he had the measles." "Well, the nicest medicine for that is eat plenty of pumpkin pie. The children laughed outright, and the sick mother seemed somewhat amused. "Yes, that's the best thing. I remember once climbing up to a high pantry shelf where there was lots of it. My mother happened to see me, and when I came down—I'm going to tell you what she gave me: she didn't give me cake, she gave me—now don't tell anybody—she gave me a spanking." They laughed unrestrainedly and so he rose to leave them. He bowed pleasantly and waved his hand. "Good-night, Mrs. Sweeney; good-night, children."

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AN AMERICAN IMPRESSION OF CARDINAL MANNING. In Contemporaries, an interesting book by that judicious critic and pleasant literary gossip, Thomas Wentworth Higginson, he entertainingly describes many of the celebrities he met in London in 1878. Speaking of English orators, he pays a noteworthy tribute to the late Cardinal Manning. "Most remarkable of all," he says, "and surpassing in spontaneous oratory anything I ever heard in England, was the speech of Cardinal Manning, a man whose whole bearing made him, as my friend Moncreaf Conway said, the very evolution of an ecclesiastic. Even the shape of his head showed the development of his function; he had

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