THE CATHOLIC RECORD.

"Weigh well now," resumed the stranger in a solemn tone, "whether you in very truth are ready to risk your life for the Lion, your liege lord. The castellan of Resurces is and a with doubt bordering on incredulity. newly. She house a use allowed a use allowed on the some moments with a countenance on which was depicted wonder, mingled with doubt bordering on incredulity. "What bight can visit such darkness as mine ?

"Nay, but so it is, neble lady; s better lot awaits you. See, here is a letter: does not the throbbing of your heart already tell you from whose hand t comes ?

child that cannot have its way.

resched me. I had wa

that sou

father's place ?"

the brief reply.

his own.'

More he would have said; but even as he spoke, Matilda sprang from her seat, and snatched the letter from his hand. Her bosom heaving, her checks glowing with a colour that had ong been stranger to them, and tear of joy streaming down her checks, she broke the scal and tore off the silken cord; and thrice had her eyes wandered over the writing on the parchment ere she seemed to catch its purport. Then she seemed to catch its purport. Then, at last, she understood it too well; unhappy maiden! her tears ceased not to flow, but the cause of them was changed; they were no longer tears of joy, but of new and bitter sorrow. "Sir Adolf," at last she said, in a tone of deep at suffering, "your joy adds torture to my grief. What was it you said? light! Read, and weep with me for my unhappy father." The knight took the letter from Matilda's bands, and as he read it, hiv countenance fell. For a moment he

Matilda's hands, and as he read it, his countenance fell. For a moment he feared that the priest had dealt treacheronsly by him, and had made him the bearer of evil tidings; no sooner, however, had he fully possessed himself of the contents of the letter than his suspicions vanished; but prison' recollecting his incantious exclamations, he was selzed with self reproach and remained silent and lost in thought And now compassion filled Matilda's breast; seeing him musing so sadly, with his eyes fixed mournfully upon the letter, she repented of her hasty words, and approaching him where he stood. while a smile gleamed through her tears. "Forgive me, Sir Adolf," she said

"be not thus troubled. Think not that I am angry with you for having raised my hopes too high; foll well I know the fervour of your zeal for all that touches me and mine. Believe me, Ado f, I am not ungrateful for your generous se f-devotion.

"Princely lady," he exclaimed, " have not raised your hopes too high. repeat, there is light for you, and my joy is not in vain. All that the letter tells you was known to me already; but it was not for that I so rejsiced. Dry your tears, lady, again I say, and cease your mourning; for soon your father shall press you to his heart." "What !" orled Matilda " can it

indeed be true ? Shall I, then, see my father, and speak to him? But why forture me thus? why talk to me in riddles? O Adolf ! speak, I pray you, and free my heart from doubt."

A slight shade of vexation passed across the young knight's countenance. Gladly would he have given her the ex planation that she sought; but his generous spirit could not bear to pub lish his own deserts. He answer therefore, in an earnest tone :

"I pray you, illustrious lady. not my silence amiss. Be assured that you shall in truth see my lord, your father ; that you shall hear his beloved -how have I deserved so much ? voice, receive his warm embrace; and that too, on the soil of our own dear Flanders. More to tell you is not in my power."

my power." But the young maiden was not to be thus put off. A double feeling—her woman's curiosity and a lingering doubt—alike impelled her not to rest our common country, the benefact till she had discovered the solution of the enigma. Evidently not well sacred to me.

pleased, she began again : But do, Sir Adolf-do tell me what this is which you would fain conceal from me. You surely do not rate my discretion so low as to suppose that I shall betray your secret—I that have so much at stake ?"

" Hail to thee, illustrious daughter of the Lion our lord ?" he began met

"I pray you spare me, lady," he re-plied : " it is impossible. I must not, I cannot tell you more." "Hail to thee, illustrious daughter of the Lion our lord ?" he began, mak. ing a lowly reverence, and at the same time throwing back his cowl. The sound of the voice instantly at-tracted Matilda's attention. She cycd him with a close scrutiny, and argue With each refusal or evasion of the knight, Matilda's curiosity grew more and more. Again and again she pressed him to disclose his secret ; but tracted Mathda's attention. Successed him with a close scrutiny, and arrious. ly taxed her memory to recall the name of one whose accents sounded so all in vsin. To curiosity succeeded impatience, to impatience irritation; till at last she lost all self command,

familiar to her ear. Suddenly she seized him by the band, and with eyes and burst into a flood of tears, like a flashing with delight passionately * ciaimed : * Heavens ! I see before me my Adolf could now resist no longer ; he resolved to tell her all, hewever much father's bosom friend ! I thought that all besides Sir Adolf here had deserted resolved to term in the bar, it we have a it might cost him to be the heraid of his own self-sacrifices. Matilda soon read her victory in his countenance, and drawing more closely to him, re garded him with a smile of pleasure.

all besides Sir Adolf here had deserted but now, thanks be to God, he has sent me a second protector !" Diederik die Vos stood aghast: his art had failed before a woman's ere. while he thus addressed her : "Listen, then, lady, since it must be so, and hear in how wonderful a man ner this letter and these joyful tidings art had failed before a woman's eye, With an air of something like chagrin, he threw off his beard, and now stood in his own character before his youth. ful friends; then turning to Matida, " In truth, lady," he exclaimed, "I must allow that your eight is sharp and toward, Sevecote, and was sitting upon a bank deep in thought, fervently be seeching heaven to have mercy upon must allow that your sight is sharp and piercing; I may now as well tesume my natural voice. I had rather, indeed, have remained unrecoglized; for the disguise which you have pen-otrated is of the last necessity for my natural weather weather in provide my lawful but unhappy lord. Sud denly, happening to raise my head, to my surprise I saw before me a stranger priest. In the instant it seemed to me boble master's weal. I pray you, therefore, be careful how you breathea bint of who I really am; it might cost that my prayer had been heard, and consolation was at hand, of which this stranger was to be the min-ister. And so it was, lady : for it was me my life, and what is of greater mo. ment, defeat the mission I have in from his hand that I received the let hand. Your countenance, lady, witter, and from his mouth the happy news. Your noble father has obtained nesses to the sufferings of your heart ; but if our hopes do not doceive us from a generous keeper the boon of a few day's liberty; but on condition that another knight take his place in your sorrow will soon be over. Never theless, should your father's captivity be even yet prolonged, we must not cease put our trust in the justice of saven. Meanwhile, I have seen the the justice of O, joy !" 'xelaimed Matilda : " shall see bim ! I shall speak with him ! Ab i my father ! how has my hear! heaven. Lord Robert, and conversed with him. His lot is much alleviated by the cour-

longed for one kiss of your lips ! O Adolf, I am beside myself with joy How sweet are your words, my brother tesy of the castellan in whose charge he is; for the present, therefore, your heart may be at ease regarding him." "But tell me all be said, Sir Died. erik; describe his prison to me, atd how he occupies his time; that i may have the pleasure of nicturing it all. But who will be willing to take my

" The man is already found," was have the pleasure of picturing it all to myself, since rs yet I cannot see him." " The blessings of our Lord be upon

him ! How noble a spirit must his be who can thus devote himself for my Thereupon Diederik began a minute description to the castle of Bourges; and related circumstantially to the lady father's safety ! But tell me now, who is this generous knight? Let me know his name, that I ever think of it with all that he thought could interest her answering with ready sympathy her love and gratitude; that is the least return I can make to one who thus re stores me to life at the instant peril of most trivial questions, and comforting her with the hope of a happier future. Adolf meanwhile had left the room, to inform his sister of the journey he was For a moment Adolf hesitated : the about to undertake and to give direcwords would not pass his lips. At last, tions for horse and armour to be in readiness. He also charged a confidbending one knee to the ground, with a hasty effort he exclaimed : ential servant to inform Deconinckiand

"Who else, lady, could it be than your servant Adolf ?" Breydel of his absence, that they migh keep closer watch over their yourg princess; a precaution, however, which Her eyes were now fastened upon him with an expression of deep emo tion; then, raising him from the was not, in fact, necessary; since Died-erik die Vos had already concerted measares with them to that end.

ground, she said : "Adolf, my good brother, how shall As soon as the young knight re'urned Diederik rose from his seat; "Now, Sir Adol'," said he, "we have not much time to spare; allow me, thereore, before we set out, to throw a little more age into your countenance. Si down, and let me have my own way, and fear not; I shall do nothing that will harm you.

backwards. Matilda, quite at a loss to understand the scene before her, louked on in astonishment ; with curious eyes she followed Diederik's fingers, as he traced many a deep line on Adolf's youthful visage, and darkened its complexion. Her astonishment increased, as at every stroke of the pencil Adol's countenance gradually changed its er-pression, and assumed something that reminded her of her father's features. At last the work was completed, and Diederik desired his patient to stand

same mother had borne you; and ill did not know the work of my own hands, I should make my obeisance to you as to

should be greatly obliged by any in formation you c. uld give me concern-ing the fresent state of things in our good city of Bruges. I pray you be not offended at my boldness." "How could I be offended, father," answered Adolf. "It will be a pless-ure to me to serve you in any way I can. Things go ill, enough traly, in our good city of Bruges; the French are now our masters there !" "That seems to please you but indif-ferently, noble sir. Nevertheless, I had understood that most part of the nobles had renounced allegiance to their lawful Count, and done homage to plished, he was prepared without further lelay, to seize Matilda and send her off to France. The arrival and entry of the French troops had filled Adolf of Nieuwland troops had filled Adolf of Nieuwiand with the most serious apprehension for his young charge, now in the midsi of her enemies, and totally without de fence; for though Deconinck, indeed their lawful Count, and done homage to visited her daily, and watched over her without intermission, yet this wa the stranger.' "Alas! that is but too true, father. not enough to set at ease the mind o Our unfortunate Count Guy has been deserted by very many of his subjects ; and still more of them there are who the young knight. After the lapse o some weeks, however, finding that in fact no molestation was (fiered to the have tarnished the glory of their an cient name by base submission. Yet are there left some in whose veins the fact girl, he began to think that the French had either forgotten her exist-ence altogether, or else that they had ceased to have any hostile designs against her. Meanwhile his vigorons Flemish blood runs pure ; still there are brave and loyal hearts, that have not given themselves up to the constitution, and the skilful care of his physician, had done their work; the colour returned to his cheeks, and stranger.' At these words an expression of the liveliest satisfaction passed over the features of the friar. With more ϵx -perier ce of life, Adolf might haply have activity to his limbs ; but not so peace and joy to his breast, in which was now opened, in truth, a fresh source of anxiety and sadness. Day by day it was his grief to behold the daughter perceived something both forced and feigned in the speech and countenance of his companion, betraying to a keen observer that he was playing a part of his prince and benefactor grow paler of his prince and benefactor grow pater and paler; wasted and sickly, like a blighted flower, Matilda pined away in sorrow and anguish of heart. And he who owed his life to her tender and which was not his own. "Your sentiments, noble sir," he re plied, " do you much honor. It is even a true joy to me to meet with one of generous care could do nothing to help her, nothing to comfort her! Neither kind attention nor pleasant erons sonls who have not those generous souls who have ceased lovingly to remember our words would bring a smile upon the countenance of the sorrowing maiden ; Count Guy in this his sad estate. God reward you for your loyalty !' "O father," cried Adolf, "would that you could look into the most see sighs and tears were the only utter ance of her heart ; sighs and tears for her father's unhappy lot, of whom no ret depths of my heart, that so you word of tidings reached her, and for the fate of the other dear prisoners, might know the love I bear to our old lord-now, alas! so helpless-and to all whom now she thought to see again no his ancient house. I swear to you, father, that the happiest moment of my life would be that in which I might more. Adolf's endeavours to mitigate her grief were incessant and fruitless ; pour out for them the last drop of my blood." vain he sought out for her the oldes legends and the newest toys ; in vain he sang to his harp of the Lion's deeds The friar had good experience of men's hearts, and of their words and faces too; he could well see that there of valour; nothing could rouse her from her depression, or dispel her dark forebodings. Gentle, indeed, she was, was no feigning in the young knight, affectionate and grateful ; but without and that Adolf was in very truth deeply attached to Connt Guy, and devoted to life, without interest in aught around her. Even her favourite bird sat his cause. After some reflection, he apart neglected, with du'l spiritless eye and drooping wing. " Then, if I should one day give you Some weeks had now passed since the opportunity of making good what you have just averred, you would not hold back; but would be ready, like a man and a true knight, to defy all Adolf's complete recovery, when one day with sauntering steps he passed the city gates, and struck into a narrow pathway across the fields, which led him on in dreamy mood danger ?' danger?" "I pray you, father," cried Adolf, in a tone of supplication, "I pray you, doubt not either of my faith or of my conrage. Speak now quickly; for your silence tortunes me." towards the little hamlet of Sevecote The sun was fast sinking towards th horizon, and the western sky was already glowing with the tints of even ing. Wi'h head bowed down, and ful ilence tortures me. " Listen then,-but calmly. To Guy bitter thought, Adolf walked on of Flanders and to his illustrious house I am bound by the tie of countless benefits; and I have resolved, to the following the path mechanically, and taking little heed whither he was A tear glistened from beneath atmost of my power, to pay them in this their hour of need the debt of bis eyelds, and many a heavy sigh broke from his bosom. A thousand times had he strained his imagination gratitude which I owe them. With this resolve I have been travelling through France; and there, sometimes to find some means of alleviating the young Matilda's lot, and as often had he fallen tack into deeper destair, so by money, sometimes under colour of my prietly character, have found means to visit all the noble prisoners. sad and hopeless did it appear. And, what we tohedness, what I have carried to the father the gret for himself. shame 1 each day, and all day long, to ing of the son, and brought back to the away wi sorrow on the blessing of the father; yes, and and sinking into an early grave, and thus to stand by the while with folded I have even sighed and wept with poor Philipps in the dungeons of the Louvre. arms, powerless alike to help, to counsel, or to console 1 Thus have I mitigated their sufferings, and bridged over for a moment the gulf

thereupon, moved either by respect for the friar's sacred character, or by some secret wish to enter into conver sation with him, resumed at once his former seat, and thus found himself side by side with the stranger. Something there was in the strange priest's voice which had a familiar sound to Adolf's ear, and he endeav-oured to recollect when and where and under what circumstances he had THE LION OF FLANDERS. BY HENDRIK CONSCIENCE.

and under what circumstances he had

heard it ; but as all his efforts failed

CHAPTER X. Bruges being now entirely at the mercy of the French party, De Chatil-lon began to think serionsly of execut-ing the several commissions with which

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he had been charged ; and the first that occurred to him was the securing. that occurred to him was the securing according to the queen's desire, the person of the young Matilda de Be thune. It might seem, indeed, as though nothing need stand in the way though nothing need stand in the way of his immediately carrying out this design, seeing that the city was occu pied by his troops in overpowering force; nevertheless, a motive of policy restrained him for a time. He was anxious, in the first instance, to estab-lish his dominion on a firm and per-manent basis; and this he conceived could be effected only by breaking once for all the power of the guilds, and erecting a strong citadel in order to overawe the town; this ac om-plished, he was prepared without further

The castellan of Bourges is feady to set him free for a season, upon his krightly word to render himself on the appointed day; but he mast find some fai hful and loving subject to take his lace the while. The young knight seized the priest's

hands, and kissed them with tears in "O happy hou !" he cried ; " and

he was at last obliged to dismiss the notion as a groundless fancy. shall it be mire to procure this consola-tion for Matilda? Shall she once more A short pause ensued, during which the friar regarded the young knight with many an anxious and inquiring be old her father, and that by my assistance? How does my heart beat with gladness! Father, you see be with many an anxious and induring glance: at length, however, be pro ceeded to open a conversation. "Noble sir," he commenced, "it is now long since I left Flanders; and I should be greatly obliged by any in fore you the happiest man upon earth. You cannot tell what delight, what unmixed happiness, your words have given me. I will fly to my prison on the wings of joy ! More precious to me than gold shall be the iron bars of my dungeon. O Mati dal would that the winds could speed to you this rap-

tu ous news!" Without interrupting the knight's transport, the friar now rose from his seat; Adolf followed his example, and they walked on together slowly towards

"Noble sir." said the priest again. "I cannot but admire the generosity of your spirit; but though I doubt not of your courage, thick you, h ve you well weighed the risk you are about to run? The deception once discovered, the re rd of your devotedness is death " "Is death, then, a word to frighten a

Flemish knight ?" answered Adolf no, nothing shall keep me back. you but know how, day and night, for these six months past, I have had no other thought but to devise means how I might serve the house of Flanders at the peril of my life, you would hardly speak to me of danger or of fear. Even now, when first you saw me sitting sor rowfully beside the path, was I carnest ly praying God to show me how I might best accomplish the object nearest to my heart; and He has answered me by you His priest."

"We must depart this very night, lest our secret be discovered," rejoined " We the friar. "The sooner the better; in thought I

am already at Bourges with the Lion of Flanders, my lord and prince." "But remember, sir knight, you are

somewhat young for the part you have to play. It may be that in feature you are not unlike to Robert de Bethune; but the difference of sge is much too great. That, however, shall be no hindrance to us; in a few moments my art shall make up the diffciency years.

"What mean you, father ? how can you make me older than 1 am ?' "That indeed I cannot do; but I can

change your face, so that the mother who bore you should not recog nise you. This I can do by means of hero of which I have learned to know the

virtues; think not that any unlawful art hath aught to do therewith. But noble sir, we are now hard upon the city; can you tell me whereabout re-sides one Adolf of Nieuwland?" "Adolf of Nieuwland I" exclaimed the

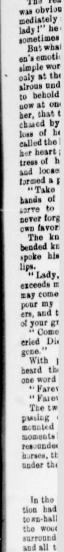
knight; "it is with him you are now conversing. I am Adolf of Nieuwland." Great seemed the friar's surprise; he stopped, turned full upon Adolf, and regarded him with well feigned astonish "What! you Adolf of Nieuwland!

Then it is in your house that the lady Matilda de Bethune now is ?" "That honour has fallen to its lot.

answered Adolf. "Your news, father, will bring it consolation; and not before it is wanted ; for Matilda's life is fast wasting away with sorrow.

"Here, then, is a letter from her father, which I commit to your charge to place in her hands ; for I can well perceive that it will be to you no trifling satisfaction to be the bearer of such happy tidings.'

such happy tidings." With these words he drew from underneath his frock a parchment secured with a seal and silken cord, and handed it to the knight, who received it in silence and with deep emotion Already he seemed to be in Matilda's



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He was now at some distance from the city. Wearled more with the burden of his sadness than with the length of the way, he seated himself upon a bank, and still allowed his thoughts to drift along upon the drowsy current of his reverie. As he sat there, with his eyes bent upon the ground, he suddenly became aware that which my arrival might evoke, a word of thanks which might greet me on my was no lorger alone ;- a stranger stood before him.

departure, was to me a reward against which all the gold in Flanders wou'd have weighed as nothing." The unknown was dressed in a friar's "Blessings upon you, generous riest! ' cried Adolf, "and a blessed frock of brown woollen, with a wide and deep hood; a long grey beard hung down upon his breast, and his bright priest! ' priest! ' oried Adolf, "and a blessed reward shall one day be yours! But tell me, I pray you, how is it with Lord Roberts?" "Let me proceed, and you shall soon black eyes were overhung by shaggy brows. His complexion was deeply bronzed ; his features hard and strong ly marked ; his forehead scarred, and deeply farrowed with wrinkles. Like hear more of him. He lies in a dark some tower, at Bourges, in the land of some way worn traveller, he dragged his weary steps to the spot where Adolf sat, and for an instant a gleam Berri. Worse, however, his lot might be; for he is free from chains and fet-ters. The old castellan, under whose of satisfaction seemed to light up his features, as though he recognized one charge he is, long ago fought in the Sicilian wars under the banner of the Black Lion; and he is now a friend whom he was glad to meet. This, how ever, was but for a moment; the grave and cold expression, whether real or rather than a gaoler to our prince." Adolf listened with intense eagerworn as a mask, with which he had ness; and many a time were exclama first regarded the youth, instantaneously returned.

tions of heartfelt joy upon his lips. He restrained himself, however; and the Adolf, aware of the friar's presence friar meanwhile proceeded : "His imprisonment would thus be tolerable enough, had he only himself only when the latter stood close before him, immediately rose from his seat. and greated the stranger in words of to think of; but he is a father, and has courtesy. But the melancholy tenor a father's heart, and it is that which of his thoughts had communicated a suffers most. His daughter is left be-tone of sadness to his voice; and, to say the truth, he had to put some spiteful and crue! Queen Joanna should

"Noble sir," responded the friar, "a long day's journey has wearied me, and the pleasentness of the spot while the spot while the spot while you have chosen tempts me to loiter awhile to snatch a few moments' rest : and each day of his life is a day of torbut I pray you let me not disturb ment." Adolf was about to give vent to his you.

So saying he threw himself upon the compassion; and Matilda's name was array and, motioning with his hand, invited Adolf to do the like; who the friar prevented him from speaking. As Adolf entered, the young Count-the friar prevented him from speaking.

presence, and to have a foretaste of the joy which her delight would give him. The friar's pace was now too slow for him : so urgent was his impatience, that he always found himself a step or two that separates them from each other in advance of his companion.

Once within the city, they soon stood Many a time have I spent the night in long and toilsome journeys; many a time have I been repulsed with scorn : but before Adolf's house; and here the priest took general but attentive survey both of it and of all the neighbouring little recked I of all this, if thereby I buildings, as though fixing them in his memory for future recognition. At could serve my lawful princes in the time of their distress. A tear of joy last he said :

"Sir Adolf, I must now bid you fare well; ere the day close I will be here again; probably it may be somewhat late; meanwhile, make all the necessary preparations for your journey."

"Will you not, then, allow me to present you to the lady? Moreover, you are weary; I pray you do me the honour of taking refreshment and re-pose beneath my roof."

pose beneath my root." "I thank yov, sir; my duty as a priest calls me eisewhere; at ten o'clock I wifl see you again. God have you in His holy keeping!" And with this greeting he parted from the astonished knight, and turned from the astonished knight, and turned

into the Wool street, whence he speedily vanished into Deconinck's the

Transported with joy at his unex-pected good fortune, which has come pected good tortane, which has come upon him like a golden dream, Adolf knocked with the greatest impatience at his door. His dear master's letter seemed to glow between his fingers; and as soon as the door was opened, he rushed past the servant and along the corridor like one mad.

"Where is the Lady Matilda," he inquired, in a tone which demanded speedy answer.

"In the front room," replied the servant.

servant. He hurried up stairs, and hastily opened the door of the chamber. "Dry your tears, Lady Matilda," he cried. "No more sadness and sorrow!

cried. Light is breaking in upon our darkness!

Kidney Derangements

Pains in the back just over the kidneys, weak back, lame back, aching back are the most marked and persist ent symptoms of kidney disease. It may be from

Straining at work. Exposure to dampness and cold. Sitting with back to draught after getting warm at work.

For such are the causes which make kidney diseases so prevalent among workingmen. Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills hold the good-will and confidence of the working people by their power to cure as well as the cheapness of the treatment. Immediately following is a testimonial as to their worth :--

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"For two years I was completely laid up with lame back, and could neither walk nor ride. I tried many treatments, and the doctor put on a fly blister which only increased the suffering and did not do me the slightest read

good. A friend told me about Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills A friend told me about Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver rule and I had not finished the first box before I was completely cured. I have never had a lame back or kidney trouble since, and it has been the means of selling dozens of box of Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills. We are never without them in the back or the link. We are never without them in the house and think there is no medicine them."-MR. GEO. TRYON, Westport, Leeds Co., Ont

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