

money had been left to his mother, but she made her son a generous allowance. Being thus possessed of a large amount of money, he plucked up courage when he returned to Lucca, and asked for the hand of the his benefactor's beautiful daughter, for whom he had been serving his seven years apprenticeship in silent adoration. After the birth of twin sons, there came his father-in-law's death, and finally, the death of his wife.

Not long after the last sad event he went to Rome to visit the Pope. Speaking of the Vatican he says, "Indeed the severity of everything in the Vatican soon impresses ; we have heard it called a palace, and think of luxury ; there is much of state, if you will, but nowhere a trace of luxury. 'Tis a curious infirmity of the modern mind that it is often unable to distinguish between state and luxury ; there are good people who seem to think that because the Pope's cassock is made of taffetas and his slippers of velvet, he is therefore a luxury-loving sybarite."

Aside from the main story, there are two minor stories of Mr. Walshe's two sons. Both mistook their vocations. The author says "It is always the merry sons and daughters that become priests and nuns. Only a cheerful disposition can stand the strain of a self-denying life." One of Mr. Walshe's sons was of an exceedingly vivacious disposition. Although he found religious practices irksome, he fulfilled his actual duties as a Catholic. He formed a hot-headed passionate attachment for an Italian beauty who had made havoc in many a rustic heart. The love affair ended in a most tragic manner. The girl he loved was stabbed to death by a former lover, whom she had jilted for this "grand young signorino." The murderer then attempted to take the life of his rival, but without success. The young man lingered between life and death for a month, but finally recovered. A short time after he became a Jesuit.

The second son was sedate and addicted to books, and his father had early noticed in him, as he thought, all the signs of a promising ecclesiastic. "This was his great dream and, his dream being for the most part spent in prayer it became his fixed idea." But after a year spent at college, his son came home having obviously, and especially in the opinion of his superiors, not a shred of a vocation for the priesthood.