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TRUE TO THE END. Third Sunday of Advent. CHAPTER VIII.

The examination had been held on a

THE VICE OF SCANDAL. " And he confessed, and dil not deny." (Gos-pel of the day.) Saturday, and Willie, after having tried his best to console and comfort Brethren : It is too bad that Catho

by your honesty in business, by your

charity to the poor, by your respect and reverence for God and things

holy-that you belong, body and soul, to

and abhors iniquity. This is the con-tession you are called upon to make,

and this is the confession which many Catholic men in our day fail to make,

own power to influence others. what advantages you possess ! have a faith that is unerring.

grace, with a faith that is divine.

then by some miracle of God's mercy

scramble into heaven as best they can. Let every man take care of himself, is

unworthy of a Christian to whom God

has freely given the faith. Besides this, brethren, while there

are many who do not confess the faith

openly and henestly, who by their want of uprightness fail to make the

influence of their faith affect those

about them, there is still another class

who may be said to actually deny their

faith. That sounds strange to your

Catholic hearts, but, brethren-thank

God!-there are few who squarely and

openly deny their faith, and such a

denial is usually preceded by a total

ments.

own souls.

Frank, went to visit his sister, who lic laymen do not realize the important was hanging between life and death ; and Margaret, who was now watching mission God has confided to them in the workings of His Church among beside her, feared that if life were men. How much they can and ought to do, not only for the salvation of had been the blow to one in her weak to do, not only for the salvation of their fellow Catholics, but for those outside the Church, is a fact seldom state ; and the poor little children, with pale, wan faces and terrified eyes, considered. Yet this is a truth : Cathcrept down from the nursery at the sound of their uncle's voice, not knowolic laymen by their good example, owing to the peculiar and daily opporing or understanding what had hap tunities thrown in the'r way, pened, and nestled round him, and can bring back to the practice of faith not only negligent Catholics, but also bring back to the practice of faith not only negligent Catholics, but also many honest Protestants whom a priest would be better. He comforted them could never reach.

as best he could, and took the elder Now, Catholic men, God has given ones to the room where the babe that you a great and precious gift when He blessed you with a divine faith, and it is a gift for which you will some day have to render an account. It is true The children were awed, but not frightened, and they never afterwards you are not called upon to go out on the streets and proclaim before the forgot their first lesson about death ; public the faith that is in you, to boast of your Catholicity ; but you are obliged to confess before all men-by the baby waxen face, with a smile upon its lips, the sweet flowers fading round her, who had gone to gather flowers in the gardens of Paradise. your example, by the modesty of your conduct, by the purity of your speech.

Then he talked to them about death, and sorrow, and suffering. How death had come after sin, and how it nad since been robbed of its sting : and he spoke to them about the Cross a faith that teaches uprightness of life how blessed it was to bear it after Jesus, how it was just now heavily laid upon their dear father and mother, so that its shadow had darkened their and by their failure bring discredit upon the religion of Christ, disgrace young lives ; how they were to pray that the heavy cross might turn into a bright and glorious crown in heaven, upon the Church, and ruin upon their might make their dear parents saints,

very dear in the eyes of God. And You do not realize, brethren, your See the little ones were sent away comforted You and happy, to whisper their simple You prayers that God would take care of allible dear father and mother, and make have a faith that is unerring. You have a religion that is an infallible guide. You have principles founded on that faith which will always direct you in the right path. You have the examples of the heroic lives of the saints to encourage you, and the ad-vice and counsel of earnest Bishops and priests to instruct and assist you. get his hat; as he crossed the room, Where others are weak you are strong, strengthened with the sacramental his foot caught in something ; on looking down he discovered it was a glove, and on picking it up recognized it as Bat the great folly with many Cath olic men is this, that they fancy their one of a pair worn by Richard Danne. only work on earth is to look out for It was a peculiar glove, of a deep buff themselves, enjoy life to the full, and color, with a quaint embroidery run-

ning round the wrist-a sort of thing scramble into heaven as best they can. that insensibly attracts one's eye at Let every man take care of himself, is the moment, even when the mind is a false and heathen maxim, and one tull of grave matters, and which flashes across one's memory as some-thing we have seen before when we meet with it. Willie paused. Who can unravel the chain of association that

one passing thought will awaken in an instant? He had never thought once of the bygone threats once uttered by Richard. He had attached little weight to them at the time, and looked on them more as a burst of passionate excitement than seriously meant. Why did they flash across his memory now? Why did they his memory now? Why did they come in connection with the question put to him that very day by Frank's

rejection of nearly all the commandsolicitor, "Do you know of any secret enemy, of any one who has a grudge against Frank, or who wants But there are many who practically deny it, many who turn a deaf ear to its moral teaching, many to whom the o revenge a real or fancied injury ?" Willie stood quite still for several faith is a kind of problem, an hypominutes lost in thought, then he folded up the glove, placed it in his thesis, true enough in theory but too exacting in practice. They are the pocket, and left the house. He turned cannot suspect him of having a hidden the matter over in his mind as he motive." Catholic men who rarely approach the sacraments ; they are the Catholic men walked home, and came to the conwho feel no remorse at missing Mass; they are the Catholic men who make walked home, and cannot be to lay clusion that it would be his duty to lay what he knew before Mr. Fox, the with priests? — humbug! I would light of religious observances. The what he knew before Mr. Fox, the solicitor, in confidence. He shrank from acknowledging n who, when they come together, aping the manners and the swagger of even to himself that Richard Dunne the worldly-minded, consider it a smart thing to boast of and joke about was capable of such a crime, and dis missed that idea with a shudder ; but, aware as he was that Richard's private how careless and how indifferent they are to the practices of their faith life in many particulars would not bear to be brought to the light of day, he thought it was possible some evil companion might know of his early This is particularly a mean and cow ardly fault in some young men who while believing in their hearts, converse and act as if they did not believe. disappointment, and have desired to avenge him. "At all events," con-cluded Willie, "the safest way is to Brethren, your faith is too precious a treasure to be treated lightly, and the things connected with it are too sacred tell what I know. Mr. Fox said, if he not to prize it highly. Your calling as Catholic laymen demands that you had only the faintest clue, something that could give him an idea which way should first cherish it yourselves and then make its influence felt by others. to turn ; but at present it is simply a maze from beginning to end, and this may lead to something. I shall go to Fox on Monday about it. An hour later, and Father O'Donnell took his place in the confessional. The church was crowded, for the following day would be the first Sunday in the month, and penitent after peni

were of a superior kind to that ordinmighty battle is going on between the

powers of good and evil! "Yes, Father, you know me," was breathed into Father O'Donnell's ear, by a voice he too well recognized. "I come now to fulfil the promise I have never forgetten or lost sight of for an hour. Mine was to be no ordinhour is come. It was I who took the notes from the private drawer. I, unof one who would sell her soul to serve notes into the table in Frank's drawing room ; and the last and seventh note is now in my possession. The train is well laid, Father O'Donnell, and Frank's doom is sealed. No earthly being suspects me ; no mortal can suspect me but yourself, and there fore I come hither this night to seal your lips." He paused at length, and his eyes,

glowing with satisfied rage, tried to peer into the priest's face, but it was hidden from him. There had not been a gesture or a movement while he spoke, and the voice which answered him was calm and gentle as ever. "Be not afraid of them that kill

the body, and after that have no more that they can do; but fear ye Him, who, after He hath killed, hath power to cast into hell."" 'I fear neither God nor man," was the bitter answer. "I believe neither in your heaven nor your hell. If

be a God, He has been against there me all my life and I hate Him. "And yet," said the pri st, "it was to your keeping that you wanted me to confide Ellen's happiness?"

"Yes; and if you had given her to me I should have been a different creature. I worshipped her, and would have done as she wished ; would have believed in her God. But when she was taken from me, the sun went out of my life ; nothing but darkness and gloom was left ; and I vowed that day I left you I would live only for revenge, and I have kept my vow. Slowly have I matured my plan, and now it is ripe; now the fruit is

ready to my taste. "It will only be gall and bitterness to you," answered Father O'Donnell. "So you think. You have never known its delight," retorted Danne. 'However, now I have accomplished my purpose, I bid you farewell." But the priest detained him, and spoke to him in moving words, imploring him to desist from his purpose for his own sake. "If you believe I am influenced by fear of personal suffering, said he, "go to some other priest : his lips will be equally sealed with mine, and you

"I shall do no such thing," returned never have bent my knee to you, save

people among whom he knelt could can form no conception. Only Bridget not help noticing that the quality and the richness of the cloth and the velvet strange gentleman with his handsome cloak and his perfumes. Then the arily worn by the frequenters of that confessional, and with the instinctive and demanded Father O'Donnell's full humility of the poor they drew back, and let him pass in before his turn. difficulty; but it was not withheld. humility of the poor they drew back, and let him pass in before his turn. Simple old Bridget O'Connor, who was telling her beads, thought perchance it might be a poor gentleman that it might be a poor gentleman that had been long absent from the sacra-ments, and began to offer up her Aves for him. O Bridget, pray on, pray with all your heart, for at this mo-ments are been long absent from the sacra-their souls so stirred up to love and serve their Lord, for he spoke of the Heart of Jesus, of that Heart so tor-tured so rent with anguish for love of ment, though you know it not, a tured, so rent with anguish for love of them: who for them had borne calumny and ingratitude and treachery, and all that was most bitter to His human

nature. Then at length it was over. The last person had quitted the church, the made you long years ago, a promise I tired sacristan had gone to bed, the doors were locked and the lights put had been born and died yesterday was lying in her little coffin; loving hands had laid white flowers round her, and a crown of *immortelles* on her breast. The children were awed, but not be the provide the provide the sector of the provide the p on the altar step, enduring, like his Master a long and lonely agony notes from the private drawer. 1, un-known to my uncle, procured a second key when last in London, for I had taken a *facsimile* of the lock in wax with me. It was I who sent that note to you two nights ago, by the hands the King of the heavenly host. From out of that humble tabernacle, from me. It was I who put the other five that poor altar with its shabby ornaments, the Heart that loves and pities as no other can spoke to him, "strengthening him." Ah! then welcome sorrow, even though it crushes us to the earth ; welcome suffering, even though it nails us hand and foot to the cross; because it brings us closer to that Heart of Love, and makes us understand it. None car enter into sorrow save those who have suffered, so let others tread the smooth paths of life, cheered by God's blessing but let those whose steps have been set in a thorny road rejoice - those for

> have fallen to the lot of others. The morning came and Father O'Don nell said Mass as usual. People thought he looked very pale, but more than ever as if he were an angel, lingering for a brief time longer on earth, and when he preached that day, and catechised the children, and went among the sick, there was no per ceptible change, except that he seemed more full of tender sympathy for others, more forgetful of his own health and comfort.

TO BE CONTINUED.

We know from history that in those ages when the monastic institutions were most fourishing, and the monastic virtues were in their greatest viger, wealth was not suprems in society: and wisdom, though barefooted and in a coarse serge habit, made itself heard in the castle of the noile, and heeded even in the palace of the king.—Dr. Brown-son.

A Minister on Lourdes.

There has been one good result from the publication of Zola's infamous book on Lourdes : it has drawn attention to the shrine and the cures wrought there. Many of these miracles of healing ar inexplicable by science ; they can be accounted for only by the intervention of the supernatural. People want to "If hear more of such strange events. Among recent visitors to the far famed shrine was the Rev. Dr. Albert J. Lyman, of the South Congregational Church, Brooklyn, who on a recent Sunday evening charmed his congregation with an account of Lourdes and a description of what he saw there. He declared that the spot must be seen

to be appreciated,—that he had never beheld such a sight. It impressed and oppressed him. The faith of the people and the testimony of extraordinary cures made a deep impression or Belleville Business College, him, though the presence of so much suffering oppressed his soul. In concluding his discourse, Dr. Lyman said: "My impressions at Lourdes were far from those of easy judgment, far from supercilious contempt. It strengthened my love of humanity and made me see that in all ways God is leading His poor sick children up to Him.' Yes, Brother Lyman ; and He leads them as He led the Magi, who "found the Child with Mary His Mother." Christ came to us through her, and He wills that through her we should go to Him. The wonders wrought at Lourdes indicate clearly the Blessed Virgin's place in Christian worship. -Ave Maria.



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He Took the Prize.

The late Protestant Bishop Selwy delighted to tell the following incident in his varied experience. While Bishop of Littlefield, England, he was walking one day in the Black country, and observing a group of coal miners seated by the roadside in a semi-circle with a brass kettle in front of them, he had the curiosity to inquire

what was going on. "Why, yer honor," replied a gravelooking member of the group, "it's a sort of a wager. Yon kettle is a prize their lot; were not patient under the heavy load of poverty, hardship and care, and came to be strengthened for the fellow who can tell the biggest

lie. aud I am the umpire." Amazed and shocked the good Bishop said reprovingly : "Why, my friends, and encouraged.

I haven't told a lie that I know of since I was born."

broken by the voice of the umpire, who said in a deliberate tone : "Gie the Bishop the kettle."

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them at last to the tribunal of mercy

Others were making a feeble resist ance to the manifold temptations of

And others came, those wonderful beings who may be found again and

again among the poor of Catholic countries, who shrink from the shadow There was a dead silence, only of a sin ; who, though unknown, despised, poor and neglected, are exceedingly great in the eyes of God

to carry out my purpose. The only disappointment I have is that I cannot make you suffer more. You seem to take it quietly enough. I thought should make you quiver under it, as have made that wretched Frank. Are you dead to all human feeling, or are you trying to prevent my tri-umph?"

"No," said Father O'Donnell; "I feel it, and shall feel it as keenly as you can desire. Your plan has been well laid, and you have judged rightly in supposing that you have struck me a heavy blow. My poor Ellen and Frank ! Would to God I could suffer for them ; that you could wreak your full vengence on me instead of them ! But, Richard, I would endure that suffering for them and through them thrice over if I could save your soul. Take pity, not on us, but on yourself. Our sufferings will be brief. Life is at best but a shadow, and the day will speedily come when we shall bless the hand that bowed us to the earth, and thus won for us the crown for them that ' have gone through great tribula tion.' As briefly as our pain will pass, so will your poor satisfaction, your sorry triumph. And what will fol

low?" "Oh! hell fire, of course," said Richard, with a low chuckle. "Never mind, I'll risk it. Look to yourself, sir, and don't trouble about me." And

so saying, he left the confessional. By this time the good people outside had got very impatient. Some had dozed and woke up again ; others had nudged their neighbors, and wondered and murmured. They were simple folk, who could not easily have imag-ined the battle for life or death going on close beside them. And so in life and His angels. Many of these he was guiding in the path of perfection.

the human system. How a restores health. A Dinner Pill. — Many persons suffer ex-craciating agony after partaking of a hearty dinner. The food partaken of is like a ball of lead upon the stomach, and instead of heing a healthy nutriment it becomes 's Vege-table Pills are wonderful correctives of such as the state of the church, where he had been troubles. They correct acidity, open the secretions and convert the food partaken of into healthy nutriment. They are just be reading in the secretions and convert the food partaken of into healthy nutriment. They are just be reading in the secretions and convert the food partaken of into healthy nutriment. They are just but or Dyspepsia.

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