what do you think of our selling this place and going to Washington to live? Dr. Elbert thinks that he can infuence triends to give me an appointment there as a clerk in one of the govern-

It was an effort on Robbrt's part not to let the fact that he loved Vera and wished her always near him, to in flaence his reply. An impersonal an-awer, he felt sure, could be given only Vera's interest was not con

Would it be possible, Vera, for you and your mother to stay on the fact and make a living?"

"I think so, with Dunny's help who willing and anxious to remain with

"I an afraid it would be a greater task than you now imagine. In com-paring it, however, with what I know paring it, nowever, with what I know the life of a government clerk in Washington to be, I should say stay here. I must add, Vera, that it is cruel of you to ask me to help you to decide such a question, when you know so well how I feel about your attempting to do anything. My heart and home are yours whenever you are ready to

Oa, Robert, I came to you as an old friend and not as a lover, and you must not talk so. I love you R bert as a brother, or a dear friend and you must

not cherish hard thoughts of me it I do not feel in any other way."

'Cherish hard feelings toward you, Tera! Never! You are dearer than life to me, and I am willing to wait, dear, uatil you know your own heart. know that in time you will grow to eve me," and he playfully added.
"Faint heart, you know, ne'er won Stay on the farm, Vera, and "Il abide my time." Vera decided to remain on the farm

and make it yield her a living. She had always been observant, and found in the summing up of her know edge of farming that she was not entirely ignorant of the most important things. The barden was to be borne by Danny and herself, as her mother e counted a helping factor only in loving companionship. Danny's de carried out, but was supplemented by night study with Miss Ve as teacher. this way he kep, up in his studies with average negro country boy of his The seiling of products, such as vegetables, chickens and eggs, twice a week in the city markets, was the means by which Vera hoped to earn a livelihood. Danny was a fair gardener, and did all the work himself. except in planting season, when a man was hired to ass at him. Vera sub scribed for several magazines pertain ing to gardening and tarm life. These were the reading lessons of Danny during the long winter evenings. In dener, his produce excelling in many ways that of some older farmers. Vera devoted most of her time to the

poultry yard, where she was very suc-cessful in showing a fine brood of chickens every season for the markets. The first year, expenses only were made, as there had to be many expen sive repairs. The second year, a small sum of money was to her credit in the bank, and by the end of the fourth year she felt independent, that is, as living. She was able after a short time to hire a woman of all work, so mprovement, and an occasional visit friends in the city. She was a'so ble to be correspondingly hospitable

n her own home. Danny was now twenty years old. le still insisted on not taking wages.

Miss Ve," he said one day, "when
am twenty one, I will then consider taking wages from you. I have given these years to you, Miss Ve, but I feel

Why! I've given you nothing,

Yes, Miss Ve you have! You "Why, Danny, it seems to me that

you were all those even when a little

Yes, Miss Ve, I don't deny they

"Well, Danny," Vara replied, "our relation, as I see it, has been mutually helpful."

"Miss Ve," Danny said in an em-

Well, Danny, 'she replied, as she stood in the doorway.

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"Miss Ve, there is something else I seen wanting to tell you for some time. on know Sarah, what works for Major

"Why, yes, Danny; she is a very good and industrious girl, so Mrs. Fritchard told me the other day. Has anything happened to her?"

"Well, Miss Ve, I'm keeping com pany with with Strah, and I hopes some day to make her my wife."
"Oh! is that it," Vera exclaimed, somewhat relieved from her suspense. And Danny, looking as if he wished it were over with, continued: "I wouldn't do anything that mean to man to do anything that meant so much to me as that without telling you about b. I had planned, Miss Ve, to begin on my twenty first birthday to work for arah—that is, to save and buy a few scres of ground and to build a little house on it by the time I was ready to get married."

"I believe you have made a good choice in Sarah, Danny, and you have planned rightly to have a home of your own before you do marry."

"I am not going to settle far from here, Miss Ve, so as I'll always be near

here, Miss Ve, so as I'il always be near and ready to do for you."

"Well, I am glad to hear that, Dunny,"

Vera had placed in bank every month a certain sum of money for Dunny. On his twenty first birthday she presented him with a bank-book, in which were \$500 to his credit. A deed to three acres of ground on the southeast corner of her farm was also given him on that day. I purposely selected that portion of land, Dunny," Vera

said to him, "because the adjoining land is cheap and is for sale. You can add to your acreage as you feel able to

seemed to him Miss Ve's munificent generosity. "I'm done for words now, Miss Ve, as to how and what to say. It kinder seems with your doing this that I ain't done what I intended to do. that I aim't done what I intended to do.

I ain't been a-working for myself; I've
been working for you, Miss Ve, and I'd
like for you to take it back. I ain't
saying I ain't thankfal to you, an' I
don't want you to think I'm ungrateful;
but please keep it, Miss Ve—you and
your ma might need it some time. I
am big, healthy and strong; and was
made to work and I can and will made to work, and I can and will

" No, Danny, I shall not take it back; have no nesitancy in accepting it, as you have earned it all," Vera said with a decided air, which Danny knew, as she laid the book and deed upon the table near which they had

been standing.

During all these years the devoted attention of Robert Fairchild to Vera had helped to make pleasant the long, winter evenings, and he also entered largely into the pleasant diversions of the summer life of the farm.

Robert viewed with dismay, some-times, the independence of Vera's life. An independence that made him fear the might never fee! the need of a pro tector, a role which he was ready at any time to assume. This new role of Vera's as the sucressful manager of s farm, as a successful fluancier, while it was arduous, was also fascinating to her. It had developed the latent pos sibilities of her character, making her strong and decisive, quick to interpret

and to decide with finality.

Little did Robert understand, however, if he felt that these unde veloped characters ever reached a true woman's heart, which always longs to be loved and to be placed firmly and steadfastly within the citadel of some strong man's heart. At unexpected moments our hearts are revealed to us :

so with Vera. Dany came home from market one day with the news that Robert Fair child had been hart, thrown out of his buggy, and was seriously, if not fatally hurt. Vera paled on hearing it, and clutched for support to the table by which she was standing. She did not stop to ask questions, but ordered Danny to harness up her horse to the light buggy and in a few moments she was on the way to Robert's house. He lived alone with his father, his mother having died several years before. Aunt Cynthia aud her hasband, Uncle Joe, as they were called, were the only other inmates of t e house. Aunt Cynthia kept the house for the two en while Uncle Joe attended to the outside work of the place; "driving "old man Fairchild" who was very into the city whenever h-to go. Robert generally rode in unattended and the breaking of a young colt into buggy harness was the cause of the accident. Dr. Elbert was called in and Vera

assumed the position of nurse, giving all the time she could spare from home in making Robert comfortable. His in juries were not as serious as they were thought to be. He was soon on the road to the convalescent period, which was made so delightful to him by Vera's attention that he looked forward to the time when he should be declared well with something like regret. He was, in a way, thankful for the accident, as it had revealed Vera's heart to him as he suspicioned it had been revealed to her. He had known his own heart only too well all these years, and he was happy in the thought that he saw his of years coming true.

Ou his first visit to Vera after getting well be again spoke of his love and said: Vera, how many more years am I to wait for you?" She answered: "You wait for you?" She answered: "You have waited too long already, Robert." He drew her to his side and their love was sealed with a first kiss. They alked of the future far into the taught me to be true, upright and After he had bid her good by she stood in the doorway watching his figure down the moonlighted pathway until he came to a turn in the road.

Danny on this same evening paid a visit to Sarah. He seemed so overjoyed that Sarah explaimed, "Goodness graci-"Yes, Miss Ve, I don't deny they might have been in me, as they are in many a poor boy who has no one, as I did, to help them to hold on to show."

"You sholy must have, for you do look so happy like."

"Sarsh," he explained, "we can get married sooner than we thought. He then told her of Miss Vera's gift, and then talked and planned until quite late. The planning of their cottage consumed most of the time. The pivotal point being whether it should he a three room house with a porch or four-room house without a porch. Well, Sarah, we has plenty of time to decide that point," Danny said as he bade her good night, at the gate. He began whi tling a love tune as he took loog, rapid strides down the road. It was a warm evening and he felt the weight of his coat. He took it off, flang it across his arm and walked more slowly with his hat in his hand.

As he was crossing a cross-road that ran through a farm adjoining the Prit chard estate, he heard a galloping of horses and the whooping of men who seemed to be nearing the pike along which he was walking slowly. The foremost man cried, "There he is!" and with that a pistol shot rang out in the clear air. Danny as he looked back saw that he was pursued, possibly in mistake for some one else. "Stop, you damned nigger, stop!" and another volley of piscol shots rent the air. Danny, who was now thoroughly fright ened, began to run with the hope that he might reach the Faircnild home before they overtook him. Another shot hit him squarely in the back and he

is the man. I know he is, for he was seen to take this road after the deed was committed. If you let this nigger go you've missed your nigger, that's all I've got to say," joined in another

Danny by this time was damb with horror and fright. In five mirutes more he was hanging dead on the

strongest limb of the tree.

As the men flashed their deadly work Robert Fairchild, on his way home from Vera's, had by this time reached his own gate. He had he rd the shots as they rang out in the clear air and wondered what it meant. On seeing the squad of men further up the road he hurried toward them to find out what was the matter. As he neared the spot the nearest man exclaimed "We've fixed him, as he poin ed his finger upward toward the ghastly signt. Robert had no sooner gotten a full viet of the object, when he exclaimed in My God, men! you have lynched Danny, the faithful and trusted servant of Miss Vera Bronson."—Bettie G. Francis in The Springfield, Mass., Re publican.

TRIBUTES TO ST. JOSEPH.

As God's interest in us is eternal and re never fail to be the object of His ove and care so all the saints, above all the Queen of Saints and St. Joseph have a relative interest in us for God's sake. We know, therefore, what is St. Joseph's interest in us and his care over us. He watched over and pro-vided for our divine Lord and His Virgin Mother at Nazareth, and now in heaven he is constituted a father and friend to all Christians. At Nazareth St Joseph could do but one mau's part and do no more, while in heaven his power is increased to almost indefinite egree, for he has Our D.vine Lord's arm to call on, who, while or earth, obeyed St. Joseph as a Son. All the aints help us by their prayers, for they are our glorified brethren us to share their happiness, but St. Joseph s power to help us is greater than all the rest. Hence the hope we may have in his prayers. St. Francis De Sales made constant use of his ad vocacy, and St. Teresa said: "Some special wants, but St. Joseph can help us in everything." Witness the countless favors received at his hands; the sick have been cured; plagues have been banished; the distressed relieved; the perplexed guided; the unsuccessful have received success. Religion in the erection of churches, convents and schools. Much as he does tempor ally, 't. Joseph does still more spirit ually, but it is at the crucial moment of our death that he will serve us best for dying as he old, in the arms of Jesus and Mary, St. Joseph is the patron of a happy death. But if we would be favored children of St. Joseph and wish to receive the help of hi prayers, we must atrive to imitate hi virtues, for heaven holds him up as our model, declaring him a just man. His humility commands our admiration; think of him being the foster-father o the Son of the Most High, and yet so humble that by neither word nor ac does he attract attention to himself He is pure and chaste as become to be the guardian of purity itself in the Virgin Mother of God. He is resigned and uncomplaining, knowing that though poor and humble his station before the world, he was rich beyond expression by the possession of Our Lord and His Holy Mother, and more exalted than kings by having their love and obedience. He lived an interior and recollected life-in the world and yet not of it—and in this St. Joseph is the model for all living in the world. He was an humble citizen and earned bread for the little household at Nazareth by the labor of his hands. How toilsome the days and nights that found him at his work and how heavy and trying the burdens it brought with it, and yet St. Joseph toiled on reso lutely and courageously to the end, knowing it was Gous will he was but for mysell, it will be this s.rength to accomplish it. He was the head of the Holy Family, and as such s.rength to accomplish it. He was the head of the Holy Family, and as such St. Joseph had to exhibit these virtues and that wisdom that would command the respect and confidence of his precious charges. We know, too, how prectous charges. We know, too, how much he must have been growing in everything by the union he enjoyed with Jesus and Mary; how he became wise by converse with Him Who is the "Wisdom of the Father," and purer and humbler day by day by association with Our Blessed Lady, fair spouse of the Holy Ghost and the humble handmaid of God Who had existed her hu mility. We should love St. Joseph as heaven loves him and honor him as God has honored him. Companion to the Blessed Mother on earth, he sits the Blessed Mother on earth, he sits beside her in the courts of heaven. The angels sing his glory and all heaven proclaims his power and hely Church takes up the strain and bids her children love and honor him, and have constant recourse to his prayers. As we are all brethren in Our Lord, have St. Joseph for our father and the Biessed Virgin for our mother. We should rejvice in this honor and strive by grace to grow worthy of it. "God is great in His saints," sings the psalmist, but the beauty of their souls

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is but the reflection of His own. How

beautiful, then, is St. Joseph, so clos and so dear to the heart of our Lord He is the friend of the Sacred Heart As such let us beg St. Joseph to obtain for us the grace of imitating his hu-mility, purity and holiness, that one day we may share the honor, glory and happiness he is now enjoying in heaven. —Bishop Cotton in Catholic Union and

THE EVOLUCION OF PROFESSOR MCBRIDE.

Antigonish Casket. Sydney Smith once remarked: "I Tom Micaulay is of everything." It would scarcely be profane for an earn Christian to wish that he was as of his eternal salvation as McGill's lessor of Z sology is of his descent, ascent, from the ape. In a public ture delivered at the University last Professor McBride traced the history of our race from the Pithecan opus of Java to the Evlithic homa es of Tasmania, the River Drift man who used stone axes, the Soluti can man who carved pictures, the Mag dalenian man who hunted the mammoth and the Neolithic man who met his fate e lineage is almost as detailed as a of Barke's or Debrett's peerage how the fair-haired, blue eyed glo Saxon, so superior to all the rest, ne in. Was there a Creation after all and were they the only human beings sprung directly from God's hand Tais would explain their title to be the

race capable of ruling over others. Man's structure, interpreted by the evolution theory, leaves no doubt to his development from an ape, cribing the discovery made by Dr. Dubois in Java in 1830, he de without any reservation: were the remains, therefore, of the ing link, which was named Pithe thropus." It is interesting to concanthropus.' trast with this cock-sureness the last thing written on the subject by a man certainly had studied it much eper than the Professor of Zho ogy McGill. Professor Firchow was re garded as the greatest biologist of the eteenth century. Writing in Aug. 1901, he gave to the world the lasions of his lifetime in the fol-

ing words: I have never been an opponent of Darwin, though all my quarrels were with the Darwinists and particularly those defending the descent of man from the monkey. As an objective natural philosopher I always demanded that the moakey theory, or to be more correct, the hypothesis relating to it, could not be definitely discussed until he genus ape from hich man is supposed to have sprung is discovered. In other words, I demanded that a cer tain ape be unmistakably pointed out as the possible forefather of man. The theory cannot be demonstrated on any embers of the genus or species of ape known to science up to date."

onderful discovery in Java? Here is what Professor Virchow thought: The discovery of Eagene Dubois in Java made in recent years has de veloped an entirely new question. It is undecided whether the bones he found belonged to man or age. My own investigation led me to conclude that they were the bones of a monkey rather than those of a human being."

And he concludes as follows:
"Those interested in the question should remember that the ape theory is not new by any means. Old Galenos already (born A D 131) recognized the monkey in general as the animal most resembling man and made this resemplance the basis of his instruction in anatomy. That shows for one thing that the monkey theory has not made much progress in the course of twenty centuries. In my opinion, the stand taken by Galenos ought to satisfy spec-ulative minds. Objective thinkers, ulative however, must demand muc's more. 48 for myself, it will be remembered that supremacy of objective knowledge in natural science. Some time previous to the publication of Dar-win's Origin of Species' (1859) I ex-ploited before the Congress of German natural scientists and physicians in Carlsrupe this theory: 'For those who will not accept the Church dogma of the creation, evolution is the only possibility left." But from possibility

Even in the face of such a magister Bride may claim the right to speculate if he pleases. But he has no right to put forth his or other men's specula-tions as though they were truths which science had demonstrated, and this is what he has done in the present in stance. His hearers and readers should be informed that a philosopher like Edward von Hartmann, who certainly has no ecclesiastical bias, has written these words:

"In the first decade of the twentieth century it has become apparent that the days of Darwinism are numbered. Among its latest opponents are such savarts as Eimer, Gustav, Wolf, De savarts as Einer, Gustav, Wolf, De Vries, Hoocke, von Wellstein, Fielsch-mann, Reinke and many others." Hartmann does not think the Dar-

ELECTRO-CHEMICAL winian theory of descent destroyed as yet, but Fleischmann of Erlangen

says:
 The Darwinian theory of descent
has not a single fact to confirm it in
the realm of nature. It is not the result of scientific research, but purely the product of the imagination."

And Zeckler of Greifswald calls
Hartmann's article "the tomb stone inscription for Darwinism." Erlangen
and Greifswald are not the greatest universities of Germany, but we fancy that their professors are just as weighty as those of McGill. Professor McBride felt bound, of

course, to explain the evolution of the moral sense in man as well as his physical frame. "The tribe was physical frame. "The tribe was the oldest human institution," he ex-plained, "and the tribal virtues of brotherhood and loyalty to a leader were the beginning of morality.

The earlier forms of religion were gropings after an unknown cause." It is pleasing to note, however, that he recognized that reasoning and reflection required more explanation than this, and that his final conclusion is that "it is possible and even probable that at one point in the chain of men tal progress there was what Dr. Wal lace calls spiritual influx to account tor the spirit of man." This may sat isfy some of the Christian gentlemen who were doubtless growing a little uneasy during the course of the lecture, still, we suspect that if the Professor were pointedly asked: "Do you believe in the fall of man?" he would answer, "No."

There is a world of difference be tween such a theory as tals and the be lief of those who read in Scripture lief of those who read in Scri that "God created man right. makes no difference how low in the scale of civilization we find him so long as we recognize that he was not always there and that in the words of New

He dreed his penance age by age And step by step begin Slowly to doff his savage garb, And be again a man."

As Father Rickabs puts it, Nabu-hodonosor eating grass may have been a type of the fallen race.

## A STRANGE ROAD TO ROME.

To what do you attribute your conversion to the Catholic Church? is a frequent question asked of those who have entered her communion from the ranks of Protestantism. And the fact that many of the reasons may be found in book form attests both the interest in and the popularity of the subject Of course, the question always applies to the indirect, or apparently material cause.

Even one uninformed would naturally infer that the answers disclose simple, strange, common place and remarkable incidents. And such is the fact. Here is a very recent case, which now finds its way into print for the first time. Its authenticity is unquestioned, because it was related to the chronicler by the young priest who instructed and

received the convert into the Church.

The incident occurred in one of the arger Missouri towns, which dot the upper banks of the Mississippi river. One day there came to the parish residence the message that a certain gentleman who was sick would be much pleased to receive a visit from one of the priests. As the gentleman was known to be a rather staugen adherent of the Baptist Church, the request caused always put it off. Feeling now that some surprise, but the priest promptly my time on earth is almost over, I wish complied.

His welcome was quite pleasant, and after discussing for some little time common topics, the priest inquired why he had been sent for. To his great surprise, he was told by his sick host that he desired to become a Catholic. Another question by the priest brought the following story :

"Father, this is not a sudden notion. I have been thinking of the sep a long time. In fact I have been convinced of the truth of the Catholic religion long ago. Some years ago, when I lived on a farm in the interior of the State, my neighbor, a devout Catholic, took sick, and, according to our custom, called in to learn if I could be of any assistance. On the table of the sick

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room lay a book on the cover of which was a gold cross. At once I concluded it was the book of Catholic secrets, and I resolved to steal it to learn what they were. You know, Father, we Baptists have some horrible ideas about you priests and nuns and the confessional. Believing this book Believing this would put me in possession of them. I watched my chance and slipped it into my pocket.

"On my way back home I could not restrain my curiosity and impatience to get at the contents. String down in a ence corner under the shade of a tree, and suspiciously scanning everything around to be sure I was not seen, I drew the book from my pocket and be-The more I gan to read its contents. read the more interested I became, but failed to discover what I was looking for. Having thus tarried some time, and thinking my search would be re vealed later on in the book, I returned it to my pocket and continued my way home, where I resolved to finish it in secret.

"This was not long delayed. I found one secret — the beauty, charm and truth of the Catholic faith. For n y stolen book was a treatise on the doctrines of the Catholic Church. I then resolved to become one of its members, but have always put it off. Feeling now that to die in the Catholic Church.

A strange road to Rome, indeed, thought the priest. He cheerfully in-structed the gentleman, who some time atter being received into the Church passed to his eternal reward. His widow and daughter, after arranging their little proporty interests, moved to a near city in Illinois, where both are now under instructions to enter the Church, also .- Church Progress.

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