

THE DOMAIN OF WOMAN

The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world. TALES BY "TERESA"

The wonderful linguistic abilities of Cardinal Mezzofanti probably never been equalled before or since his day.

His bench was beneath a room where an old priest gave lessons in Greek and Latin.

A folio volume of St. Chrysostom, in Greek, being one day put into his hands, he read a page once over, and closing the book, repeated it verbatim, without a single mistake.

At fifteen he was an elegant Latinist and master of Greek.

Before he had completed his nineteenth year he knew Hebrew, Arabic and Coptic, as well as French and German.

His knowledge of those tongues was not merely superficial; he understood almost intuitively the grammatical peculiarities of each.

A Swedish boy, son of Italian parents was sent to Bologna to be educated.

On his arrival, speaking only his vernacular, no one understood him; and Mezzofanti, then but twenty, was sent for.

On his arrival he asked to see the books the lad had brought.

A short examination enabled him to determine the German affinities of the language, as well as its own peculiarities; a few short trials with the boy sufficed to show him the system of punctuation, and in a very few days he could speak Swedish fluently, though before he had not known a word of it.

Mr. J. T. Headley relates that Mezzofanti one day called to confess, two foreigners condemned for piracy, who were to be executed the next day.

He was blessed, as he himself says, with an increase of the flexibility of the organs of speech, enabling him to pronounce the most barbarous tongues with ease and fluency.

Lord Byron relates: "I tried him in every language in which I knew a single oath, or adjection to the gods against post boys, savages, Tartars, boatmen, pilots, sailors, gondoliers, milkers, camel-drivers, vetturini, postmasters, posthouses, post everything, and, egad! he astounded me, even to my English!"

"I can go no farther," said the poet, "unless I coin words for the purpose."

"Pardon me, my lord," said the priest; and proceeded to repeat to him a strange variety of the refinements of London slang till then unknown to his astonished visitor.

This wonderful man brought on an attack of brain fever in his attempts to learn Chinese, which, perhaps shows the immense difficulty of this most singular and unique language.

When in 1828, the Professor was made Cardinal, a party of fifty three, comprising all languages and nationalities at that time represented in the Propaganda waited upon him to offer their pious congratulations.

He replied to each in his own tongue. At his death on March 16th 1849, he was seventy-fourth year of his age, he was acquainted with no less than one hundred and fourteen languages and dialects, of which he spoke thirty with absolute fluency and precision, the rest he used

more rarely, and some he only wrote. This marvellous man has never had a word in the whole history of the world.

The leading physicians of Toronto patronize and recommend Lemaire's Pharmacy, 256 Queen St. West, opposite the Fire Hall.

Knights of St. John. A progressive Euchar party will be held at Richmond Hall on Friday evening, Nov. 4th under the auspices of St. Paul's Commandery.

Personal. Mr. John M. Lyons, General Passenger Agent of the Intercontinental, paid a short business visit to the city this week.

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It is worth noting that the most signal act of bravery accomplished in connection with the charge of the 21st Lancers at Omdurman falls to the credit of an Irishman, Private Byrne.

Dies in the Hands of Christian Scientists

London, Oct. 20.—The remains of Harold Frederic, the newspaper correspondent and author, who died yesterday morning at Henley, will be cremated at Woking Common.

Seasoned—Young Wife—"But aren't you the man I gave some cake to on Monday?" "That's true," "Yes, but I've got over it."

Stammerers!

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