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his arms up over his face, and the great, racking sobs of a man shook his whole frame, coming from his very soul. It was a relief, and soon he was still again, lying like one dead, cold and white. A light had come to him and down in the deep recesses of his heart he heard a voice say, "Take up thy cross and follow Me."

At midnight Dennis Scott awoke from a long sleep. Carefully he crawled out of his bed and felt around until he found his dressing gown and slippers. Then he groped his way slowly over to the window. He knew every place in the room instinctively. This perpetual darkness was fearful. He could not bear it. Why had not God in his goodness permitted him to die, instead of forcing upon him a life of helplessness and uselessness?

"My God, what have I done," his soul cried out, "that at one stroke Thou shouldst take away my genius and my sight? It is too much."

And then again that voice in sweet command: "Take up thy cross and follow Me."

He opened the window to let the night air cool his throbbing, burning brow. Above him, he knew, were myriads of stars, and below and beyond there was the ceaseless hum of the great city even at that midnight hour. Afar off he heard a clock strike twelve. A great heavy sigh came from his heart, for he knew not whether it was night or day. He threw out his arms in helpless misery and swayed, and his hand fell upon the violin-case, which had lain on the broad window-sill ever since that eventful day. He opened the case and drew out the instrument, and almost by mere force of habit laid it caressingly under his chin. A strain of music, like a low wail from a human soul trembled and quivered out into the night. He played on and on, oblivious of his sorrow, of everything, only seeking this expression, now softly and sweetly, now passionately, his soul rising higher and higher on wings of music and finding infinite peace. His very soul, his heart, his whole being was absorbed in the marvelous playing. Oblivious of all things, he played on, never stopping until physical weakness overcame him and checked the flight of his soul, bringing him back to earth and realities. The playing ceased, the violin dropped from his hand, and he grasped the edge of the window-sill to steady his swaying form. A great, beautiful light had broken upon him, and he knew that at last he had awakened; that his playing was that of a genius, and that beyond there, where he heard the mighty murmur of the city, there were worlds which he could conquer even now, and thousands of lives which he could make happy by causing them to forget their cares and troubles in musics divine language.

And sinking to his knees, he raised his sightless eyes to heaven and begged God from his heart to forgive him for his unjust thoughts, and thanked Him for lightening the heavy load of his cross by giving him this wonderful gift, and showing him that true genius was not meant to bring fame and glory, which he had wanted at first, but to help other souls on their life journeys. It had been a hard, hard lesson, but at last he was ready to take up his lightened cross with willing hands, and to climb the rocky path of life which his Master had laid out for him.

—The mind which does not wholly sink under misfortune, rises above it more lofty than before.

God takes especial delight in the humility of a man who believes that he has not yet begun to do any good. —ST. PHILIP NERI.

### Canadian News

**Alberta**

—That the Alberta mines were losing the Manitoba market through poor railway service, was the statement made by operators of the Drumheller field to the coal commission. Shortage of cars, long delays in delivery, and other reasons were given for the fact that the Manitoba market, gained during the last year of the war, was slipping away. Evidence was concentrated on the car question, which was stated by operation to be very serious and causing the mines a good deal of loss in production.

**Manitoba**

WINNIPEG.—One more death from sleeping sickness reported on Nov. 19th brings the total of fatal terminations of this malady in Winnipeg to five. A man 19 years old died the day previous as a result of an attack of the malady. Twenty-one cases of the disease have developed since it was first discovered in the city. W. T. J. Watt, of the civic health department, said today that the disease is not spreading so as to cause alarm.

—According to official figures recently made public by the department of agriculture, about 2,000,000 bushels of potatoes have been frozen in the ground, meaning the loss of about \$1,000,000. The estimated yield this year was only 5,000,000 bushels, or 2,000,000 less than last year.

**Ontario**

OTTAWA.—The deportation, or as it is euphemistically termed by the authorities the "repatriation" of the enemy aliens held prisoner of war in Canadian camps during the past few years is now almost complete. Over 2000 Germans and Austrians have already been sent home via Holland or other neutral countries. A small batch of about 250 still remain to be sent to their fatherlands. These are mostly at Kapuskasing. Most of them take away a comfortable pittance since they have been receiving 25 cents a day while employed in the camps. They will leave behind several well cleared and highly cultivated areas of land in New Ontario and elsewhere, which will be used for experimental farm purposes and a nucleus for further settlement in these regions.

TORONTO.—The grand total of the Victory loan of the Dominion of Canada is \$673,199,170, made up as follows: Ontario \$354,624,500; Quebec \$161,102,200; British Columbia \$35,000,000; Alberta \$16,181,090; Saskatchewan \$20,000,000; Manitoba \$40,452,000; New Brunswick \$14,750,000; Nova Scotia \$28,000,000; Prince Edward Island \$3,000,000.

—Premier Drury expressed himself in favor of the Ontario government making application to the Dominion government for a referendum on the question of importation of liquor into the province of Ontario.

—Toronto's Chinese colony was invaded on Nov. 17th at night by a howling mob of 600 young hoodlums, who set out to wreck all of the Chinese stores and restaurants. There were only a few in the crowd wearing returned soldiers buttons. The good work of the police saved the situation, and although it was necessary for the policemen to draw their batons, no person was seriously injured. (If Mr. Hocken were as zealous in teaching the young folks of Toronto civilization, justice and good manners as he is ready to attack the schools of Saskatchewan of which he knows nothing, he might be of some use for his district, but the old saying still remains true: It is easier to criticize than to do. —Ed.)

### Fifteen Years Ago

From No. 42 of St. Peters Bote

A correspondent from Muenster under date of Nov. 26, describes a trip on the new railroad as far as Clark's Crossing. Of Humboldt he says that the principal side track is 4,800 ft. long. There are also a number of shorter side-tracks filled with freight cars, loaded with material to be used in the construction of the road further west. The round house, which is nearly completed, will have room for about six locomotives. No depot has as yet been erected, an old car serving as such, for the present. The agent climbs up on a ladder to get to the office. In Humboldt there are two lumber yards, and two hardware stores; one general store, erected by Mr. Haskamp, and a restaurant conducted by Mr. Rath. These buildings are not large; for the exact site of the town has not yet been surveyed. A water tank has been erected about a mile east of the place. It took about an hour to fill a locomotive. A ditch eight feet deep has been dug for the pipes which are to bring the water from a small lake 1½ miles from town. The correspondent remarks that all railroaders seem to be in the habit of cursing and swearing. —At St. Bruno a fine depot is being built. A store, put up during the summer by the Smith Bros. is occasionally used for holding religious services. St. Bruno promises to become quite a town. The rails are laid 25 miles west of the Regina-Prince Albert line, up to the North Saskatchewan river.

Father Prior Alfred announces to the readers of the paper that it will not be possible to publish the paper at Muenster after New Year as planned, because the new railroad does not intend to carry any mail until next spring or summer. A Benedictine priest however will take up his residence in Winnipeg after New Year and take over the management of the paper.

Rostern reports on the third of Dec., that on the last day of Nov., it was 20 below zero and that it has been just as cold the past few days. To-day it is warmer, but snow is falling. The river is frozen over so that last week the mail could be taken out to the Colony.

**ADDENDA:**

There is only one copy of this issue of the paper on file in the office. If you should have No. 42 of the year 1904 among your old papers, and should not intend to bind them, we would be pleased to have you send it to us.

HELSINGFORS, Finland.—The Finnish Government has nominated Father Christirson, a Catholic priest, to be Finnish Ambassador to the Holy See. Very shortly after Finland had declared its independence the new government begged the Pope to open diplomatic relations and to extend his recognition to the new Republic, which the Pope very willingly did. The result is that owing to this understanding Catholic interests in Finland are well protected. The number of Catholics in Finland is not very great. The center of Catholic activity is at Helsingfors, where there is a very fine church. The new Ambassador comes from the city of Helsingfors. When the Bolshevik regime came into power in Russia, it laid hands on a great deal of Catholic Church property in Finland, which it conveyed to Petrograd, where it still remains. Ecclesiastically Finland comes under the jurisdiction of the Apostolic Vicariate of Sweden. Msgr. Ratti, the Nuncio in Warsaw, has received a mission to visit all the Catholic parishes in Finland.

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