

trance around which clustered countless burning candles.

For several moments Arthur Everson gazed wonderingly ; but slowly there stole over his bewildered mind recollections of his earlier days, his happy past, of the college altar lighted and adorned as this one was, and to do honor to the same Guest ; of a long line of boys kneeling at the railing to receive the Bread of Angels ; and of one boy who knelt in the chapel long after the others had left, offering up his pure young heart to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. He fell on his knees and hid his face in his hands.

How long he knelt there he never remembered. Moments passed into hours, the twilight deepened, the lights burned more brightly in the gathering gloom, and still that bowed figure remained motionless. A mighty tempest raged within him ; thoughts crowded thick and fast upon him like the billows of a great sea, flooding his inmost soul ; but at last, just as the waves seemed closing over him, he lifted his head with a shoking gasp, as though struggling for breath, and his eyes rested on the monstenance.

In that glance the faith of his boyhood returned. Yes, there was the Good Shepherd from whom he had strayed so far, and yet who was calling him now to return to the safe shelter of the fold ; there was the Sacred Heart, wounded so deeply by his sins and yet " burning with love " for him. As he gazed, his eyes filled with tears, tears of deep and true contrition. Every earthly friend had deserted him ; those to whom he had shown the greatest kindness had treated him with basest ingratitude ; and yet here was one Friend whom he had neglected, scorned and grieved, still waiting and watching for him, drawing him back with love and tenderness. Arthur Everson bowed his head on his folded arms and sobbed like a child.

Kneeling in that far-way corner of the church he was suddenly aroused from his thoughts by a slight noise just behind him, and, on looking round, he saw a woman just leaving one of the confessionals. Not waiting for a moment, he rose, left the pew, and presently was kneeling beside a priest. There in that solemn hour the man's very soul was laid before God's minister, and when at last the words of absolution fell from the lips of the priest, the