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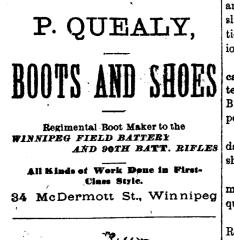
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ANSWER 10 A CHILD'S QUESTION, Doyou ask what the birds say? the sparrow the dove. The line and thrush say' I love and 'I love In the winterthey're stient—the wind is so strong; What it says, I dont know, but it sings a loud

But green leaves, and blossoms, and sunny warm weather, And singing, and loving, all come back together. But the lark, is so brimful of gladness and The green fields below him the sky That he sings and he sings and fore ver sings

I, love my Love and my Love loves me!' . COLERIDGE.

# PATHS THAT CROSS

A Beantiful Catholic Story Written by C. Martin.

### CHAPTER I.

It is now full thirty years ago that, on a lovely May evening, two young men werelazily disporting themselves on the classical stream of the Isis at Oxford. The day had been hot and bright, and standing. At last Beryngton said: the evening was so ideally beautiful that these two, though practiced and skilled oarsmen, were but little inclined for exercise, and were well content to let themselves drift at the pleasure of the tide, and to give themselves up to the indolent enjoyment of the hour. At least, so it seemed to the cursory, half mocking, half wondering glances of other men who nobody can touch. But as for the restwere profiting by the cool breeze to maktheir crafts spin along and to go through with their training and who marvelled at the unwonted inactivity of this particular couple. Yet a closer observation would have made them aware that, though physically idle, they were not lost in vagues reveries, but were, on the con trary, both one and the other, plunged in deep and anxioug thought. At last, She will be true to me." the silence of many minutes was broken, and the fairer of the two, and it seemed,

slightly the younger, said in an emphatic voice, as though in reply to a previous question: 'No, Beryngton, it is impossible; I cannot see my way out of it. It is hardterrible even God only knowns how hard. But I must go through with it. It is im-

possible to shut one's eyes to light.' 'Beryington, a singularly handsome, dark eyed young man, shrugged his shoulders slightly.

'The light ! What light ! There are so many lights to choose from!' he said quietly:

'The light of faith ! The light of the Roman Catholic Church. I can't help seeing it,' feeling and \_\_'

'And following it,' said the other, in a low voice, 'at any cost.' Beryngton shook his head.

yet one had the courage of his convictons, while the other feared to face them One was powerless to resist the over. whelming flood of grace, while the other seeing perhaps as clearly, was yet a cow. ard at heart, and unable to make the acrifice which these convictions doman ded, felt his friend's example to be an elo quent, though silent reproach.

And thus it was that still in silence, the two landed, and, side by side, retraced their steps along the familiar road, towards the gray old colleges, in which such a happy time had sped so quickly away. The were both Balliol men, and there to must close together. had admitted or real and intimate neighborliness. By sheer force of habit, Beryngton followed Carruthers into his; and the young mon stood for a couple of minutes in the dim light, as though dreading and yet wishing for a further explanation, and more definite under

'You said just now Carruthers, that you had counted the cost. Do you mind telling me what the cost will be.' The other laughed.

'You were always practical, my dear fellow Well, as you know, I have a small independence, a very small one, which is absolutely my own and which all my expectations from my ancle-they are clean gone.'

But that is not all. What about your marriage?'

Carruthers flushed up.

'Oh; that is all right. I have written to explain all to her. We shall have to wait, and even waiting will not make us rich. But nothing can change her

As she spoke he had struck a match; and was lightening the lamp which stood on the table ready prepared to his hand. And what charming, elegant surround. ings did the light reveal? J nst then however, Carruthers' nor his friend's eyes were much concerned with the var, ious collections of objects of 'bigotry and virtue,' both of their glances having simultaneously fallen on a letter. which the evening's post had brought, and which lay upon the table. At the sight of it, Carruthers flushed vividly, and eagerly seized it.

'It is from Florence,' he said. 'I nev. er thought I could have hard so quickly i And without ceremony he tore it open. Beryngton, also, seemed to have recognized his writing, for his face changed color, too; and he watched his friend narrowly. There followed a little spell of deep silence 'My dear follow, my dear Carruthers, which a sudden exclamation, or rather a

been confronted with the same issues; | re as pale as a ghost. Here, take some | of another kind. He had, however, little brandy. Dear old chap, don't faint. My, time to speculate, and in a moment goodness, if you feel like that, can't you found himself confronted with a man be follow her advice and give it all up. You must make a choice, it seems. Well just turning to grey, and whose figure stick to your first choice, marry Flor was fast developing into corpulency. ence. and don't let yourself be disinher. ted by your crusty old uncle. Probably that's where the old shoe pinches. In. stead of being a rich man, as your friend

> had a right to expect, you'll be a poor one. It makes a difference you see.'

Carruthers winced under the taunt which a certain suspicion made him think was not quite unintentional. With a great effort he pulled himself

ogether. 'Thank you for your council, Beryng,

ton,' he sald a little coldly.

'No doubt you mean it kindly. I'll think over it,' he added with a vague dubious smile.

Yes, do, my dear fellow. Where is the use of knocking one's head against a stonewall, After all life is long and one has plenty of time, you see. Later on perhaps, in some years, when prejudiced stupid old people will be in their graves and not able to do any harm, one might think about it again. The Roman Cat, holic Church will not run away you know. She will be always there waiting for one and ready to catch one in her capacious nets. Now can't you follow, my example and take things a little eas ily--'

He never finishes the sentence. Car. ruthers had sprung to his feet and was glaring at him wildly.

'Beryngton! Berryngton? leave me? he cried. 'You are a tempter, a wicke' tempter. For Heaven's sake, leave me? Oh, my God! I am so weak?"

And the poor fellow threw himself upon his knees in a kind of agony, while his friend, with a strange smile upon his lips slipped quietly away.

#### CHAPTER II.

Twenty eight years later, a mission was held in the small town of .-- '1n Lancashire, by the Passionist Fathers \_is small and insignifi. from\_\_\_\_ cant. nay, absolutely hideous, but it is closely packed with humau llfe, and within its mean monotonous, streets, many a pitco is tragedy. the outcome of misery, poverty and passion, is daily perhaps hourly, enacted. It was sum, mer now. and evening. Weary toilers, were slowly returning home from their work; pallid, sickly children were play ing languidly about. The women were or the most part, gathered around their doors, for the usual after tea gossip: but the torrid sultriness of the atmosphere subdued even their shrill tongues and

tween fifty and sixty, whose hair was

Without any ceremony, and scarcely acknowledging the salute with which the priest greeted him, the visitor at once announced his business:

I am. Mr. Beryngton, he said in a tone of importance, and with a pompous wave of his hand, 'You have doubtless heard the name n entioned during your visit here. As you are perhaps aware, I am the principal landlord about here, in fact. I may say I own the entire town of

Father Oswald dowed his head slightly and courteously.

'Indeed,' he said quietly, and with a rather curious glance. 'Indeed'! What a fearful responsibility?

Mr. Beryngton stared, not disconcer. ted bnt immensely surprised.

Responsibility!. he repeated\_'Well of course it is a kind of responsibility, though at present my principal care connected with the place is that the re. sponsibility should not form a complete ruin to me-in other words, that the fearful depression which is playing the mischief with all of us business men iu England should not utterly swamp the entire place, inhabitants and all, How ever that is a wide question which need not be discussed here, he went on rapidly: 'The particular business in hand, on which I wished to see you is this. producing a paper from his pocket -a kind of petition; begging letter, which I found waiting for me at the. hotel. Well sir I think it is only fair to inform you that I never pay the least attention to these documents and youll not mind my giving yours hint you know I'd advise you for the future whenever your avocation-duty perhaps, ahem -brings you again to this neighborhood to refuse to have anything to say to signing such documents, in other words I'd request you to leave me to manage my own affairs after my own fashion,'

Father Oswald's pale facc flushed slightly during this speech, and for an instant he looked disposed to be angry. But by the time Mr. Beryngton had concluded it, he had quite recovered his composure,

'I beg your pardon, Mr. Beryngton,' he replied quietly, 'you must forgive my ignorance, for really I had not the slightest idea of giving you offence. On the contrary. I fancied 1 was aiding you in the discharge of a plain duty. This is a genuine case, I assure you, of want



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Such informations may be communicated to the Commissioners of the North West houn-ted Police Regins or the undersigned. W. W. McLEOD P. O. Inspector,

P. O. Inspectors Office. Winnipeg Man., 29th July 1886,



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> T. R. COLPITS. ARTIST.

it seems to me that the cost is already counted. Your uncle is--well about as pig headed a member of the Church of his fathers, not to say as obstinate a Briton, as exists. He will never give in.'

'I know that. I hope I have faced it. But what can I do ? For all the gold in the mines of Golconda a man can't deliberately risk the loss of his soul. I have come to the spot where the two roads part, and I must choose either.' 'Then choose the safe one, the old, familiar beaten track,' broke in Beryngton eagerly. 'After all, one can't be certain, absolutely certain, as one is about a mathematical definition. To change one's religion is always a plunge in the dark, a wandering forth into the howling wilder. ness, Hang it all ! It is too hard. Can't you follow the old French lady's example and 'pour plus de surete, faire votre. Paradis dans ce monde.' Who knows ? Perhaps you'll find it turn out just as well in the end.

'Perhaps. Yes, that is just it. But how can a sane man run the risk ? No, Bery. ngton. I feel that I am in for it!'

His companion made no reply, and as it by a tacit mutual understanding, the two young men seized their oars, and pulled steadily and silently against the stream, down which they had oeen so easily gliding, and had, in a few minutes reached the landing place. They were dear friends and had been close compan. ions, yet now both were aware that a yawning gulf had opened between them, and they each stood apart, powerless to | handed it back to his friend, reach or help the other. They had both passed through the same phases, been touched by the same fluences, been buried in his hands. impressed by the same causes, and had

groan, from Carruthers broke. 'M y God? he cried, what does she mean? It can't be true. I am dreaming! I am dreaming Beryngton? Here read it. Tell me what the girl means?'

Beryngton read the letter as follows; My Dear Mr. Carruthers.-Your letter received this morning was a great shock, to me; but I still hope that it was writ. ten in a state of excitement which made you uuaccountable for your words. It never seems to occur to you the great, the terrible change you are; contemplat ing; can make any difference in our re, lations to one another. I may as well at once tell you, that I should no more think of marrying a Roman Catholic than 1 would of marrying a pagan or a Mohamedan. I consider you are behav. ing dishonorably and oruelly to me, in even thinking of making such a change You talk of conscience. Surely your conscience ought to tell you that your first duty is to the girl who had promised to be yourwife. but who considers herself completely released from that pro mise, if you persist in doing a thing that will incense not only all your own relati. ves but hers also, Dear Reginald I en, treat you to listen to reason, to honor, to your friends. Give up this mad scheme. Put it entirely our of your head, and promise me never to think it it again On that condition, and on that alone. can I remain your Florence.'

Well,' Beryngton said after a pause, as he deliberately folded the paper and.

Well, What?' Carruthers replied slowly lifting his head, which he had

an unwonted stillness seemed to fill the and distress. I have spared no trouble entire town.

The little Catholic Church, a little way apart, down a shabby, deserted lanewa y was very silent and solitary too. There kneit there only one worshipper, the Father who was conducting the mission. and who resting himself after his own fashion in prayer after the fatigues of the day and at the same time preparing for the evening discourse which he was to deliver within an hour. He was a tall spare man, with a gentle worn sensitive face, which had once been hand. some. Now, no one would ever have thought of calling it handsome, hough it expressed something far better and higher than beauty-the tenderest and widest sympathy with everything that was sad and snffering on earth. And heaven knows that Father Oswald had ample opportunities of becoming acquain ted with the darker, and less attractive phases of human life. For years he had labored amongst the poor and miserable sharing all their burdens. helping, so far as in him lay, to lighten their sorrow Amongst them, he was known as the Apostle of the poor. and to those who songht him in their trouble, he had nev er known to turn a deaf ear, or not to have attempted at least to help them.

Some one stole presently into the he church with a message that he was wanted, and with the obedience of a oarefully trained soldier, he rose at once be by gones. I am quite content that and followed the messenger to the chapel house, where as he was told. a ness about these poor people. Ah how gentlemau was waiting to to see him.

'My dear fellow, don't take on so. You ed Father Oswald, whose visitors were

in inquiring into all the particulars, and believed you would be glad to be made acquainted with them."

•Excuse me, sir,' interrupted Beryng ton, testily, ion these matters I can al. low no interference, My agent in whom, I have perfect confidence, and whose business it is to know the property thoroughly would have informed me if there had been any necessity to make exceptions to the general rule of the es tate in this matter. But really all this is scarcely to the point,' he went on with another wave of his hand. 'What I am anxious to impress upon you is that I never allow strangers to interfere. 'Beryngton!" exclaimed Father Os wald suddenly, 'Beryngton, is it really you? And is it possible that you don't recognize me.'

The other man started aghast.

'Recognize you. Certainly I do not.' he replied in a chilly voice., 'You are laboring under an extraordinary mistake sir. I have not the honor of counting many Roman Catholics amongst my acquaintances, and certainly not a single priest of that persuasion.'

Father Oswal was looking at him curiouisly.

'And yet,' he began, But he suddenly changed his mind. 'Ah well.' he said with a slight shrug of his shoulders and a half smile, "so be it, Let by gones it shall be so; well, sir to return to busi. unfortenate, There is the church bell The word 'gentleman' rather astonish. | ringing for the evening sermon which I Continued on fifth page.