# $\rightarrow 7$ The glurthuest givien. 

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## WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, SATURDAY, AUGUST, 211886.

NO 36

PATHS THAT CROSS
A Beantiful Catholic Story Written by
chapter 1.
It is now full thirty years ago that, o a lovely May evening, two young men werelazily disporting themselves on the
classical stream of the Isis at Oxford. classical stream of the Isis at oxford
The day had been hot ani bright, and The day had been hot anc bright, and
the evening was so ideally beautiful that these two, though practiced and akilled thase too, though praticed and ekilied
oarsinen, were but little inelined for exer cise, 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 were profiting by the cool breeze to mak wheir crafts spin along and to go through at the unwonted inactivity of this particular couple. Yet a closer observatio would have made them aware, that,
though physically idle, they were not lost rary, boti one and the other, plunge in deep and anxioug thought. At last the silence of many minutes was broken and the fairer of the two, and it seemed slightly the younger, said in an empha ous question:
'No, Beryngton, it is impossible; cannot see my way out of it. It is hardBut I must go through with it it is in But I must go through with it. It 'Beryington, a singularly handso
dark eyed roung man, shrugged his shoulders slightly
The light! What light! There are so quietly:
'The light of faith ! The light of the Roman Catholic Uhurch. I can't help seeing it,' feeling and-'
'And following it,' said the other, in a 'ow voice, 'at any cost.'
Beryngton shook his head
'My dear follow, my dear Carruthers it seems to me that the cost is already
counted. Your uncle is--well about as pig headed a member of the Church ot his fathers, not to say as obstingte a Bri on, as exists. He will never give in.'
'I know that. I hope I hare taced ? know that. Io? For all the gold in But what can I do ? For all the gold in berateiy risk the loss of hin soul. I have come to the spot where the two road part, and I must choose either.'
'amiliar beaten track,' broke, in Beryng ton eagerly. 'Atter all, one can't'be cer tan eagerly. absolutely certain, as one is about a mathematical definition. To change one' religion is always 2 plunge in the dark, a
wandering forth into the howling wilder wandering forth into the howhing wilder
ness, Hang it all! It is too hari. 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 outjust as well
in the end.'
Perhaps. Yes, that is just it. But ho
can a sane man run the risk? No, Bery can a sane man run the risk ? No,
agton. 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 sulently against the
stream, down which they stream, down which they had oeen an
easily gliding, and had, in a fow minutp reached the landing place. They wer dear friends and had been close compan ions, yet now both were aware that yawning gulf had opened between them and they each stood apart, powerless to reach or help the other. They had both passed through the same phases, been
touched by the same fluences, been touched by the same fluences, been
impressed 'Jy the same causes, and had

## $\left\lvert\, \begin{aligned} & \text { bee } \\ & \text { yet } \\ & \text { on } \\ & \text { on }\end{aligned}\right.$

been confronted with the ons, while the other feared to face them One was poterless to rexist the over. whelming fluod of grace, while the oth er seeing perhaps as clearly, was yet a cow. ard at heart, and unable to make the acrifice which these convictions deman
ded, felt his friend's example to be an ded, teit his friend's example to be
elo quent though silent reproach.
and thus $1 t$ was that still in silence ,
And And hus 12 was that still in silenc traced their stepi along' the familiar rosd, towards the gray old colleges, in which such a happy time had sped so quickly away. The were both Ballool men, and thed
had admitted of ms, close togethor. neighborliness. By sheer force of habit, Beryngton followed Carruthers into his; and the young mon stood for a couple of minures in the dim light, as though
dreading and yiet dreading and yet wishing for a further explanation, and more definite
standing, At last Bergngton standing, At last Beryngton said:
'You said just now you had counted the cost. Do you min. telling me what the cost will be.' telling me what the c
The other laughed-
'You were always practcial, my dea
fellow. Well, as you know, I have small independence, a very small one, which is absolutely my own and which nobody can touch. But as for the rest-
all my expectations all my expectations from my ancle-they
are clean gone.

## are clean gone. <br> 'But that marriage?'

Carruthers fl ushed up
'Oh; that is all right. I have written to explain all to her, We shall have us rich. But nothing will not make us rich. But nothing can change her
She will be true to me.'
As she spoke he
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
simultaneoutly fallen on a letter. which simultaneoully fallen on a letter. which
the evening's post had brought, and the evening's post had brought, and
which lay upon the table. At the sight of it, Carruthers fushed vividly, and eagerly seized it.
-It is from Florence,' he said. 'I nev. or thought I could have hard so quickly i And without ceremony he tore it open. nized his writing, for his faee changed nized his writing, for his faee changed
color, too; and he watched
his his friend narrowly. There
followed a little spell of deep silence which a sudden exclamation, or rather a groan, from Carruthers broke. 'M y God? he cried, what does she mean' It can't
be true. I am dreaming! I am dreaming be true. I am dreamingl I am dreaming
Beryngton? Here read it. Tell me what Beryngton? Her
the gril 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. you uaccountable for your words.
you uuaccountable for your words.
never seems to oceur 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 I would of matrying a pagan or a Mohamedan. I consider you are behav. Mohamedan. I consider you are behav.
ing dishonorably mad cruelly to me, in even thinking of making such a obange You talk of consoience. Surely you conscience ought to tell you that your first duty is to the girl who had promised to be yourwife, but who considers herself completely relee sed from that pro mise, if you persist in doing a thing that ill incense not only all your own relati reat you to listen to reason, to honar, to Jur friends. Give up this nad scheme PutI 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. handed it back to his friend,
'Well, What?' Carruthers replied,
slowly lifting his head, which he had
buried in his hands.
re as pale as a ghost. Here, take some
brandy. Dear old chap, don't faint. My goodness, if you feel like that, can't you ollow her advice and giveit all up. you must make a choice, it seems. Wel tick to your first choice, marry Flor nce, and don't let yourself be disinher. ted by your crusty old uncle- Probably stead of being a rich man, as your friend had a right to expect, youll be a ne. It makes a difference you see.' Carruthers winced undor the taunt
which a certain suspicion made him hink was not quite unintentional. With a great effort he pulled himse ogether.
'Thank
'Thank you for your council, Beryng, n,' he sald a little coldly.
'No doubt you mean it kindly. I'll think over it,'
dubious smile.
Yes, do, my dear fellow. Where is the use of knosking one's head against stonewall, After all life is long and one bas plenty of tume, you see. Later on perhaps, in some years, when prejudiced stupid old people will be in their grave and not able to do any harm, one might think about 11 again. The Roman Cat, olic Church will not ran away you now. She will be always there waiting apacious nets Now can't you follow oy example and take thing a little eas my ex,
He never finishes the sentence. faring at him wildly.
'Boryngton! Berrvngton? leave me? Boryngton! Berrvngton? leave me?
he cried. 'You are a terapter, 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 lips slipped quietly away.

## UHAPTER II

Twenty eight years lator, a mission ancsinire, by the Passionist Father rom-- is amall and inmgnif cant. nay, absolutely hideous, but it is closely packed with humsu llfe, and within its mean monotonous, streets,
many a piteo is tragedy. the outcome of aisery, 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 or languidy aboul. The women were doors, for the usual after tea gossip: but he torrid sultriness of the gitmosphere ubduad even their shrill tongues and an unwonted stillness seemed to fill the ontire town.
The little Catholio Church, a little way was very silent and solitary too. There knelt there only one worshipper, the Father who was conduc ing the mission, and who resting himself after his own ashion in urayer atter the fatigues of the day, and at the same 引time prepar ing for the evening discourse which he was to deliver within an hqur. He was a tall spare man, with a gentle worn sen itive face, which had once been hand. ome. Now, no one would ever have hought of calling it handsome, uhough higher than baautyidest sym beauty-lis tenderest and was sad and anfforng on earth. And was sad and snffenng on earth. And
heaven knows that Father Oswald had ample opportunities ofbecoming 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 hum in their trouble, he had nev or known to turn a deaf ear, or not to Some one stole presently into the he church with a message that he was wanted, and with the obedience of a asefully trained soldier, he rose at once and followed the messenger to the cappel house, where as he was told. The word 'gentleman' rather astonish od Father Oswald, whose visitors were
of another kind. He had, however, little time to speculate, and in a moment und himself confronted with a man be ween fifty and sixty, whose hair was just turning to grey, and whose figure Wist aevoloping into corpulency
Without any ceremony, and scarcely acknowledging the salute with which the priest greeted him, the visitor at I am. Mr. Beryngton, he said in a tone $f$ importance, and with a pompous wave his hand, 'You have doubtless heard he namen entioned during your yisit ore. As you are perhaps aware, I am fact. I may say I own the entire town of
Father Oswald dowed his head slight. and courteously. 'Indeed,' he said quietly, and with a
ather curious glance. 'Indeed! What fearful reaponsibility!
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 ruic to me-in other words, that the fearful depression which is plaving the mischief with all of us business pen iu England should not utterly swamp the onte place, inhabitants and all, How not be decused here. ho nion need rapidly: "The paricular went on rapidy: The particular business in this. producing a paper from his pocket -a kind of petition; begging letter, which 1 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 attention to these documents and youll not mind my giving youna hint you know wir socation-duty perhaps, ahem -brings you again to this neighborhood to retuse to nave anything to say to signing such documents, in other words d request you to leave me to manage
my own affairs after my own fashion, Father Oswald's pale facc flushed Father OBwald's pale face flushed
slightly during this speeoh, and for an slightly during this speeoh, and for an
instant he looked disposed to be angry. But by the time Mr. Beryngton had concluded it, he had quite recovered his mposure.
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 the discharge of a plain duty. This is and distress. I have spared no trouble in inquiring into all the particulara, and

