

FIVE-MINUTE SERMONS. Third Sunday After Epiphany.

LIVING UP TO OUR FAITH.

Jesus hearing this marvelled; and said to them that followed him: Amen, for ye have not found so great faith in Israel.

The love and care of the heathen centurion for his servant would certainly put to shame many Christian masters and mistresses of to-day who not only do not encourage their servants to approach our Lord at Holy Mass and in the sacraments, but even put obstacles in their way.

A few weeks ago we kept the Feast of the Epiphany, the manifestation, that is, of our Lord to the Gentiles, to those who had not till then formed part of the Church of God.

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LADY JANE. CHAPTER XXIII.

MADAME JOZAIN CALLS UPON MAMSELLE DIANE.

It was somewhere about the time that Pichoux bought the watch when Mam'selle Diane was surprised one morning by a visit from Madame Jozain, who entered the little green gate with an air of haughty severity.

"My bill, Madame Jozain? What bill?" said Mam'selle Diane, looking at her with cold surprise.

"I owe you for teaching Lady Jane music; you've been giving her lessons now for some months, and I'm sure you must need your money."

"Oh, Madame," gasped Mam'selle Diane, "you are laboring under a mistake. I never thought of receiving money for the pleasure I have had with the child."

"I certainly did. Why should you teach her for nothing when I am able to pay?" returned Madame haughtily.

"For a moment Mam'selle Diane was quite overcome by the woman's insolence. Then, remembering that she was a Hautevre, she drew herself up."

"I assure you it is impossible," said Diane gently. "It is useless to discuss the matter. Will you permit me to open the gate for you?"

"Very well then," exclaimed Madame hotly. "I shan't allow my niece to come here again. I won't accept favors from any one. She shall have a teacher that isn't too proud to take pay."

"I hope you will not deprive us of the pleasure of seeing Lady Jane. We are very fond of her," said Mam'selle Diane, almost humbly.

"I shan't allow her to run about the neighborhood any more," replied Madame, tartly.

"I don't regret it. I only regret that I have lost the pleasure of seeing her. Madame Jozain will not allow her to come any more."

"Oh, mama, I don't regret it. I only regret that I have lost the pleasure of seeing her. Madame Jozain will not allow her to come any more."

"I didn't wish to be unkind to her, mama. Perhaps she is not so wrong after all. Sometimes I think it would have been better to have let our friends know our real circumstances."

"Think of it! A grand-daughter of the Counts d'Hautevre and d'Orgenois teaching the children of grocers and bakers to play the piano. No, no; I would rather bury myself here and die in poverty than disgrace our name in that way."

Mam'selle Diane made no reply, and after a few moments Madame turned on her pillow to finish her morning nap. Then the last of the d'Hautevres went into the little garden, and drawing on a pair of old gloves she dug and trimmed and trained her flowers for some time, and afterwards gathered up the small pile of seeds from the white papers.

"Oh, oh!" she said wearily, seeing how few they were, "even the flowers refuse to seed this year."

She sighed heavily as she raised the lid. Inside on a blue velvet lining lay a slender bracelet set with turquoise and diamonds.

"It must go," she said sadly to herself. "I have kept it till the last. I hoped I wouldn't be obliged to part with it, but I must. I can't let poor mama know how needy we are."

For more than a week Mam'selle Diane did not see Lady Jane, and the poor woman's eyes had a suspicious look of tears, as she went about her duties, silent and dejected.

"It's Lady Jane!" she cried, and springing up hastily that she upset the piano-stool she grappled with the rusty bolts of the shutters, and for the first time in years, threw them boldly open, and there stood the child, hugging her bird to her breast, her wan little face lit up with her sparkling eyes and bright, winsome smile.

"Diane, Diane, what are you thinking of, to open that shutter in the face of everyone?" said the old lady feebly.

"But Mam'selle Diane did not hear her mother; she was in an ecstasy of happiness, with the child's soft lips pressed to her faded cheek.

"Tante Pauline says that I mustn't come in," whispered Lady Jane between her kisses, "and I must mind what she says."

"I've been here every day listening, and I haven't heard you sing before." "Dear child, I couldn't sing. I missed you so I couldn't sing."

"Don't cry, Mam'selle Diane; I love you dearly. Don't cry, and I'll come every day to the window. Tante Pauline won't be angry at that."

"I don't know my dear; I'm afraid she will." "Diane, close that window instantly," cried Madame d'Hautevre, quite beside herself.

"I think you must be insane, Diane, I surely think you must be, to let all these common people know that a blanchisseuse de fin will not allow her child to come into our house, and that you are obliged to go on your knees and reach out of the window to embrace her. Oh, Diane, Diane, for the first time you've forgotten that you're a d'Hautevre!"

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"I didn't wish to be unkind to her, mama. Perhaps she is not so wrong after all. Sometimes I think it would have been better to have let our friends know our real circumstances."

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