

reg'lar tip-topper ! Me mudder used to scrub an' do odd jobs in dat house up to a month ago ; den de old lady died, an'.....Gee Whizz ! I never seed such a chap ! Are you goin' to t'row a fit ? You're as green as de skin of a boiled gooseberry. What's bitin' you anyway ? " He looked at the trembling figure that leant against a lamp-post for support, at the startled eyes, and the gray face contorted with pain ; he listened to the exclamation, " Dead ! And I never knew ! Dead...Oh, my God ! " and with a delicacy one would not have expected to find in a street-arab he hobbled away a few paces, leaving the stranger alone with his sorrow.

Presently a hand was laid on his shoulder, and a voice said brokenly, " Come, Jerry, take my arm again and we'll walk on. Won't you please tell me all you know of...of Mrs. Seaton's death ? "

" Me mudder can do dat better'n me, coz her an' de old lady's cook was chummy. I on'y heard she caught a cold an' died quite suddent. Say, yer great on askin' questions, like dem chaps wots writes pieces for de papers. But you ain't told me nothin' about yerself, not even yer name ! "

" My first name is Donald. You're welcome to know that, if it is of any interest to you. I'm anxious to see your mother, lad. Is she at home now ? "

" Naw. She'll be back bime-by. Here's de Church of St. Jean-Baptiste. Come in dere an' I'll show you somethin' orful queer. It's yer own name up on de wall. "

Jerry limped into the basement of the church, followed by his new acquaintance.

The man looked curiously around the quaint little place ; at the rose-decked altars, the beautiful statues surrounded by lighted candles ; the table on which stood the case containing a relic of Saint Anne, and the pile of crutches that had been left before it by grateful sufferers whose faith had made them whole. It was a touching sight, and although he, unfortunately, had been a careless, lukewarm Catholic, he regarded it with reverent eyes.

Jerry led him to the side-wall near the door and pointed to the marble slabs with which it was covered, and on which were inscribed petitions and thanksgivings signed