IMMURING OF NUNS A FICTION.

Rider Haggard's Statements in His Recent Novel Proved to be Groundless.

Mr. Rider Haggard contributed last year to the London Graphic a romance, entitled, "Montezuma's Daughter," of Which the scene was laid partly in Spain, partly in Mexico, in the last days of the old Aztec kingdom. The hero was a roving Englishman, and having got him to Spain, Mr. Rider Haggard followed a well-recognized tradition in embroiling him with the Inquisition. broiling him with the Inquisition. Amongst other sensational horrors which enlivened this part of the story was the description of a nun being walled up alive at Seville. Mr. Rider Haggard has a peculiar liking for horrors; he enjoys "making your blood freeze" (to use the famous Pickwickian expression) but as a rule he does not go out sion), but, as a rule, he does not go out of his way to prove that the grim details in his story have had their prototype in stern reality. In this case, however, he added a footnote that he had himself seen in a museum, in the city of Mexico. the bodies of a young woman and an infant, found in the wall of a religious building in that city, which still bore upon their dessicated frames proofs that they had been placed there while still alive

editor of that paper, calling his attention to "the extremely offensive and untrue assertions with regard to the immuring of nuns and the general management of Accordingly I offered some five or six represents in the pambel evidence discussed in detail in the pambel that the correspondence you publish I had satisfied myself that the immuring of nuns was a myth.

Accordingly I offered some five or six convents,' which Mr. Rider Haggard had been allowed to publish in his columns, and expressing surprise that such a misleading account of Catholic life and practice of the columns o

editor to Mr. Haggard, who wrote to Mr. Britten, disclaiming any intention of writing what was offensive to Catholics, but insisting on the historical truth of his assertion that it was once a practice of Catholics to condemn nuns to be walled up alive, and alleging in support of this assertion various allusions to the alleged practice in other writers but inspect to a friend in Mexico, asking him to investigate the matter, but I had not received any reply. Since then, I am not received any reply. Since then, I am not received any reply. Since them, I am not recei alleged practice in other writers, but in- should he desire it. Probably some

alleged practice in other writers, but insisting chiefly on what he himself had seen in Mexico.

In reply to this letter Mr. Britten sent Mr. Haggard the excellent pamphlet on "The Immuring of Nuns," written by Father Thurston, S.J., and issued some months ago by the Catholic Truth Society, a pamphlet which examines and disposes of every alleged case, making use chiefly of non-Catholic testimony for the purpose. Mr. Britten also asked for further particulars as to the alleged case in Mexico.

should he desire it. Probably some other opportunity may present itself of publishing in detail the information sent to me:

"For the present it will be sufficient to state that my friend called on Senor Agreda, the director of the museum, and in the course of a conversation with him learnt—1. That there is no foundation at all for Mr. Rider Haggard's statement (or insimation) identifying the dessicated body with that of an immured nun. 2. That the remains were kept only to illustrate the phenomenon common and

fant. Although the exact cause of her ture to remind him that it is rather danexecution remains a matter of conjecture, there can be no doubt as to the manner of her death, for in addition to the evidences the marks of the rope with which her limbs were bound in life are all distinctly visible. Such in those days were the merries of religion!"

appended. The Pall Mall—with a business eye of a good sensation—made Archdeacon Churton and or Mr. Edward Peacock—reject the whole in the strong-Peacock—reject the whole in t had made a mistake, or that his memory was playing him some trick with regard duct English and American visitors to what he had seen in Mexico. But Mr.

"On page 71 of my romance, 'Montezuma's Daughter,' I stated in a footnote
that I myself have seen in the museum
of the City of Monies the museum of the City of Monies the museum of the City of Mexico the remains of a roman and an intant found in the walls of a religious building in that town. In reply to this statement my critic politer by suggests that my memory or imagination is playing me tricks, and asks for nation is playing me tricks, and asks for proofs that the remains are really there. woman and an infant found in the walls I cannot give it to him, for I have no copy of the official catalogue is printed by other matter. But a column of letters or obtained by the sublicity of the hypping question of the sublicity or obtainable by the public; nor can I ask him to go to Mexico and see for himself. But I can suggest that he should learn to distinguish between the fibre of a romance and the positive allegations such as I have made in this footnote."

After this there appeared in the Pall reply was, to say the least of it, very Mall Gazette letters from Catholics in curious. It may be friendly to Mr. Hagner station, twice per week, computed distance is mile.

ALTA AND RAILWAY STATION, twice per week, computed distance is timed by the mile.

ARDEN STATION AND RAILWAY STATION, six times per week, computed distance is mile. writers being Mr. Merry del Val, a relation of the present Ambassador of Spain at the Vatican, who made his protest both as a Catholic and as a Spaniard."

Mr. Britten also wrote dissecting Mr. Haggard's alleged proofs.
Father Thurston then wrote a letter which also appeared in the Pall Mall Gazette, which, on the basis of evidence obtained from Mexico direct, fairly blew Mr. Bider Haggard's story to pieces. Tr. Rider Haggard's story to pieces.

Here is the document:

"The case between Mr. Rider Haggard public.

"You and myself, when stripped of irrelevan-cies amounts to this. Mr. Haggard has bublished an historical novel, in which he has introduced almost as its central animal management of a nun in a cofepisode the walling-up of a nun in a cof-fin-shaped niche. This he represents not as an isolated instance of cruelty, but as a common practice in the six-teenth century, sanctioned by the high-set accommon practice. est ecclesiastical authority. Moreover, in order that this incident should not be regarded as only part of the fibre of the romance, he justified it in a footnote by the 'positive allegation' that he has seen in the City of Mexico 'the dessicated was

cated body of a young woman which was

found immured in the walls of a religi-

That Hacking Cough

if allowed to run, will destroy the lining to Throat and Lungs, weaken the system and invite the Consumption Germ.

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when this appeared in the Graphic, When this appeared in the Graphic, Mr. James Britten, as the secretary of the Catholic Truth Society, wrote to the evidence discussed in detail in the pamble of the Catholic Truth Society, wrote to the evidence discussed in detail in the pamble of the catholic Truth Society, wrote to the evidence discussed in detail in the pamble of the catholic Truth Society. possible explanations of what Mr. Rider tice should be published in a paper which had so many Catholic readers.

This letter was forwarded by the editor to Mr. Haggard, who wrote to Mr.

Britten disclaiming any intention of him to investigate the matter but I had

alleged case in Mexico.

Notwithstanding this protest and the well-known in Mexico—namely, the processing influence of the climate on the processing influence of the climate of the processing influence of the climate of the processing influence of the climate of the processing influence of the processin evidence laid before Mr. Haggard, the offensive passages were retained when he republished his story in volume form. form, the note on page 71 running thus:

"Lest such cruelty should seem impossible and unprecedented, the writer may mention that in the museum of the City of Mexico he has seen the dessicated body of a young woman, which was found immured in the walls of a religious building. With it is the body of an infant. Although the exact cause of her other tremains preserved there were found in the cemeteries of San Pablo and Los Angeles when they were done away with not very long ago. Comment is needless. The body is certainly there. If any words of mine should seem to imply that Mr. Rider Haggard is drawing entirely upon his imagination, I am very glad to withdraw them. Only I will venture to remind him that it is rather dandays were the mercies of religion!"

Mr. Britten again wrote to Mr. Haggatd, expressing his surprise at his persistent adherence to this anti Catholic

levend and colling his attention to the consequence of proof lies with those who make the assertion. It is no doubt antecedently legend, and calling his attention to the article on the subject by Father Thurston in an English magazine. The result was that Mr. Rider Haggard appealed to the general public for aid in bolstering up his story.

The appeal took the form of an article in the Pall Mall Gazette, to which the in the Pall Mall Gazette, to which the competent antiquaries who have examined appended. The Pall Mall—with a busi-

Haggard was as positive as ever, and resaserted his original statement in these
words:—

**Rider Haggard heard, and which made him fancy he saw in the corpse evidence of the alleged crime. Probably he is

Gazette of January 22, and you will find or obtainable by the public; nor can I was him to go to Mexico and see for himbelf. But I can suggest that he should earn to distinguish between the fibre of arm to distinguish between the fibre of I romance and the positive allegations and the wound up with an appeal to anti-arians and others to supply him with quarians and others to supply him with two columns found for it in every edifurther facts.

After this there appeared in the Pall Mall Gazette letters from Catholics in further protest and refutation of Mr. Rider Haggard's allegations one of these

gard, but it is not fair to those whom he has calumnated, and such methods do no credit to the Pall Mall Gazette.—
American Catholic News.

st

Archbishop Ireland, of St. Paul, was the guest of the Loyal Legion of New York, at Delmonico's last We inesday evening. The subject under discussion was:

"Patriotism," and the Archbishop was assigned to speak to it. He delivered an eloquent and impassioned speech, in which he enlarged upon the duties of American citizens to the Republic.

"You are working too hard," said a policeman to a man who was a drilling a hole in a safe at two o'clock in the morning. "What's that?" asked the burglar in a discontented tone, as he looked into the muzzle of the policeman's revolver.

"It is ay you need a(r) rest."

The Boston papers state that Father O'Callaghan's lecture in Appleton chapel at Harvard University last Sunday was to well attended that three hundred for people were crowded out. President Eliot.

at Harvard University last Sunday was so well attended that three hundred people were crowded out. President Eliot people were crowded that the young Paulist land at the Post Offices on the respective contact and at the Post Offices on the respective contact and at the Post Offices on the respective contact and at the Post Offices on the respective contact and at the Post Offices on the respective contact and at the Post Offices on the respective contact and at the Post Offices on the respective contact and at the Post Offices on the respective contact and at the Post Offices on the respective contact and at the Post Offices on the respective contact and at the Post Offices on wormly congratulated the young Paulist routes, and at this office.
Tommy: "My father's in the butcher business. What business is your'n in?" Sammy: "My father don't have to follow in the worm of the

low any business. He's a politician.

Ecclesiastical Province of St.

1. All Sundays in the year.
2. Jan. 1st. The Circumcision.
3. Jan. 6th. The Epipnany.
4. The Ascension.
5. Nov. 1st. All Saints.
6. Dec. 8th. The Immaculate Conception.
7. Dec. 25th Christmas.

I. DAYS OF FAST. 1. The forty days of Lent.
2. The Wednesdays and Fridays in Advent
3. The Ember days, at the four Seasons
being the Wednesdays, Fridays and
Saturdays of
a. The first week in Lent.
b. Whitsun Week.
c. The third week in September.
d. The third week in Advent.
4. The Vigils of
a. Whitsunday.
b. The Solemnity of SS. Peter and Paul.

a. Whitsunday.
b. The Solemnity of SS. Peter and Paul.
c. The Solemnity of the Assumption
d. All Saints.
e. Christmas.

III. DAYS OF ABSTINENCE.

All Fridays in the year.
Wednesdays in Advent and in Lent. Thursdays (in Holy week Saturdays in Holy week
The Embre Days.
The Vigils above mentioned.

CHURCH NOTICES. CATHEDRAL ST. BONIFACE.

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Catechism for Boys in the church at 3 p. m. Catechism for girls in St. Mary's Convent, Notre Dame Street at 4 p. m.
Sundays,—Masses at 7.09 S.30 and 10.30 a. m. Vespers at 7.15 p. m.

Week Days—Masses at 6.30 and 7.30.

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IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

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Sundays—Masses at 8.30 a. m. with short instruction, and at 10.30 a. m. with sermon. Vespers at 7.15 p. m.

Week days—Mass at 7.30 a. m. IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.



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	Sarnia - Dominion Line May 5	
	FROM BOSTON	ĺ
	Lake Superior-Beaver Line April 11	
	Lake Winnipeg - Beaver Line April 25	
	FROM NEW YORK,	
	Majestic-White Star Line April 18	
	Germanic-White Star LineApril 25	
	State of California—Allan State Line	
	State of Nebraska—Allan State	
	Line April 26	i
	Furnessia-Anchor Line April 19	=
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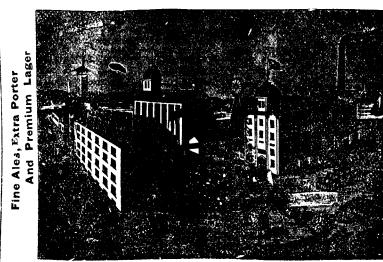
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