—for the crowning gift of all. Only broken words came now, but they were of such unutterable gratitude! When all that Holy Church could do was done, I sat down that I might support him the more comfortably in my arms. 'What have you done,' I asked, 'that could have won for you such an extraordinary grace as this?' He tried to raise his poor bruised hand to his neck, round which hung a rosary. 'Nothing, nothing,' he nurmured; 'but my mother put this on when she was dying, and I have recited an Arc on it every day because I promised to do so.'

(To be continued)

HOW THE FAITH IS LOST.

Faith is a gift of God. It is granted by the Holy Ghost to whom-soever He pleases. No one can have it of himself.

But although a person cannot seize possession of faith at his will and as his right he may lose it at his own fault.

Faith is lost most frequently through persistent sin. The Catholic who begins by neglecting prayer, by missing Mass, by avoiding the sacraments, is apt to fall into grosser trespasses, and then guilt adding to guilt, his soul is dead and the light of faith goes out. The man who tritles with belief, who values it lightly, who attends the lectures of infidels, who reads agnostic books, who consorts to scoffers at roligion, is almost certain to be beset by doubts, and yield to them.

Another prolific scource of infidelity is the evil of mixed marriages. The Catholic party too often becomes indifferent in the practice of religion, then drifts away from the Church by failure to comply with the Easter duty, and finally loses faith, falls away altogether, and

dies impenitent.

There is no justification for any Catholic to abandon the faith ot even real, much less of fancied, injuries or injustice or harshness to him on the part of his pastor. Still that some do so cannot be

However, the evil happens, the loss of faith is most deplocable for without 'ith the soul is dead!—Catholic Columbian.

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