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# Centor <br> Ohe 

CATHOLIC CHRONICLE

## voL. XVI

## the poor scholar.

his legandsandtales
no. 1-the slave $\overline{\text { and }}$ tan hostage.
-That is the deed which I now call upon thee

percenpe, ind the,' saut Adrian, 'in presence of thy
'And thus wituesses do I trear a deed that recites a false-
hood, for never didst thou lead me tea besants; and so speazing, the old man tore the parchmen and trampled a ander foot. 'Mark me, Nautio,
contuued Adriau, percerving the latter laying his hanu upon his sword, ' violence may deprive me debt I have contracted-a debt that in presence of thy witkesses I acknowledge, but of which in
their presence also, I now teader the pay-
ment.' ay mo money-the money-old babbling toolfor ever,' sard Nautin

## marked Adrian.

as No money! then thou art a madman to speak hast insulced me in presence of mg friends, an
if I do not reveage myself on the spot, it is be cause I desjre to puaish-severely punish
as my slave?
'I know thee, Natin, well,' sald Adrian. am aware that thuy art a proud, haughty, purse-
proud, cruel man ; but $I$ also know that, of all thy vices the strongest is a varice; and therefore
do pot fear thy threats, for I wna sure tiat tho do not fear thy threats, for I wna sure titat tho
wilt accept the payment that I tender to thee -Thy drivelling ures me, Adrian, but 1 tole rate it, because this liberty of tongese in whic
the penaltes of
thou dost now indulge thyself as a treeman.' 'In comiog bither, said Adrian,' 'thy sule ex
pectation mas that thou would have me as a slave, that thy mallice would be indulged ia daly wit nessing the misertes of one who, if he bad neve
known thee, would still be poor, but still con tented and bappp. Io indulgagg thy cruel dispostloun thou wouldst bave lost naney, for ay ser-
vices could not repay thee for the cost of my feediug and mamatenance. lustead of an old man
for thy slave, $\perp$ teader thee a young snau. In the slave-market co one would purchase me; bu
here is one that, by his youth and agility alone, thou dost clame from mes
slare,' eried Nantio, as his eyes twinkled with the joy of a miser, as be gazed upos the noble
proportions of the dark youth who stood before him. '. What! the miserable half-starved Adria possibie! Coine huber, sirral,', satd Natio proaclied to Lim. -Dost thou acknowledge thy self to be the slave of Adrian?'
'I acknowledge, as slave, that Adrian ba full power to dispose of me as ise pleases.'
' It is wellt, it is well !? sadd Nuntua; chuesling Witb delight, and as Le did so, placing his hand
upoa tie brud anl uaked shoullier of Leo, aud his finger upon the mass of muscular flesth which
resisted hifa as if it were not flesl, but hardenen iron, 'The slave is in rude health,' observed Nantin. 'Thou must be a man of marvelous
strength, slave. Art thou as active as thou art ${ }^{\text {vigorous! }}$ Thus is my answer, said Leo; and, as he high, caugh in the one hand the branch of a tree
which had formerly staded the statue of Vedus, then letting his. body hang by the grasp of a sio gle hand, the chaoged so that the whole weight of
his body shoule depeud upon the other tand, and then runmeg wibu steady Land grasps along t untul the uttermost: poina was touching the soil, -When, with a sudde bo bound to the earth, and a dexterous tivist to the bendirg branch at the same monest, he gnappled in in wo, and then wrench
ing it oft, laid the huge lraginent of the gree growng tree at the feet of Nantin. agility 9 aiked Nantin, delybted, but at the same tume endeuvoring to discover some deficiency
which would enable bro to depreciate, in th eyes of Adrian, the value of a slave for the pos session of wincil be was most anxious.
$\therefore \leq$ May I speak candidy of myself, Master ? sald Leo, bowiog bis head to Adrian. Nantio know, the ralue. I own, that if I could Nantin snow thy value, iown, that will,' thou 'I thatat thee, Master, most kind, said Leo
-but blame me pot when 1 say 1 would prefe

| the service of the weallhy Nantia to thine. Mp gifts are lost in the house of a poor mat, for know, rich citizen of Treves, that as a vine dresser, a shepherd, a carpenter, or a blacksmith, no fault has yet been found with me. I do all those thiogs as well as of bers. Node do thera |
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conversation; whilst, at the same time, by thetr
faces being directed towards opposite sides, thep afforded a mutual protection to one another
againt the chance of thenr conversation beiog orerbeard. The epes of Leo were turned to
wards the tent of Nantin-the walchftu rision of ards the tent of Nantin-the walchifel vision berbach and the country beyond it
'Tbis very night', said Lee, we must make
'Thath and Tois very night, said Leo, we naust make
tempt to escape, if those two horses-the best
which Nantir owns, and to which $\{$ bave already drected your attentiou-are in a fit coadtion fo speedg fight.
'The steeds will run as it they had wrags, and
ach of us was mounted on a Pegasus; sadd At Calus. 'But wherefore, Ieo; do you deem in
necessary to make the allempt this very night bave nought but a shued and a short hunting
spzar. I can not go withoat a sword to protec both liberty and life, in case we should
lowed, and overtaken by our pursuers."

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\begin{aligned}
& \text { 'I consider it necessary to fly to anght,' sai } \\
& \text { co, because I am not fiere that the favor }
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& \text { low enjoy with Nantion will continue anothe } \\
& \text { liy, I have exhausted ng invention as a cook }
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& \text { diy, thive exhausted ne invention as a cool } \\
& \text { seekiog to gratify his capricious glutiony, and to } \\
& \text { soolite his tratienant, passionate, and brutal tein }
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mp ingenuity be revarded by a death
widst the most exquiste tortures.'
'Poor Leol ' 'sighed the geatle Attalus.
' For mys self E care not,' observed the
sas slave, ' my gruet in case of lailure would no
be for myself; but for you, for your generous
uncle, and my beioped wife, and for my dear dear chald. This nighs then the attempt w
 It is in honor of the marriage of that daughter,
whom you rejected. It is probable that Nantin, Whom you rejected. It is probable taat Nantin,
as well as his guests, wili indulge in strong pota hons of wioe. In the midst of these rejoicings free to prepare the horses for figbt. Be bere
then on this rery spot at unidaight. Here I shal then on this very spot at miduight. Here 1 stal
meet you, and here bring to your own sivord
that sword of which you were so wrongulify de prived, and that is now placed by the side Nastin, and close to the couch on which be
sleeps. Sur not your head now rouad, Antualus,
far your are withdraws. He stands at the openiag ; b is gaziog around him; he has not as yet recoos
dized either of us. Oh, he stops; lise eye re-
mains fixed in this direction. He pauses: he mains fixed in this direction. He pauses: he is
about to call me. He must do so more than

## sleeping.' The word ' Leo' here came as a distant and

odistinet sound to the ears of the two young
wen.
'He must speak louder than that, Attalus, 'He must speak louder than that, Attalus, in wheh the conversation had been carried on.

## words came pealing over the field; but was lis- ened to by the slave and seemed to be as $y$

 unluard by hum.'He must call a third time,' remarked Leo, before I pretend to awake.
At this instant,
the barst in the barsh, boarse tones of an angry and impa
tient man; and then the slave was seen by Nan tient man; and then the slave was seen by Nan
tin to start suddealy up, $t o$ rub lis eges, and th noment he saw bus master to speed towards bin Thou sleepest soundly, Leo,' sand Nantin. I was not sleep.ng,' snswered Leo.
Not sleeping!' exclaimed Natin.
I was thulsug of a derice; by which I hop I may surprise you,' was the truthful answer of
Leo. ' Oh, I percevre,' remarked Nantia, suilhag fallen asleep. 'Thou wert puzzling thy brain about soine new condiment, and in lay dream
faucied thou hadst discorered it, when mas palc spolied the recipe.
iag near to thee.?
' I sam no the slave sleeping near me,' sadd Leo 'I am sure it was Actelus,' remartsed Nantin. tha. yes, bisen from the grass on wheb he wa Ifing, and is now directued his footsteps tomard
the stalls of the borses, the care of which ar Confided to him.': said Leo. 'But this I am sure of, he was not lying ia lie field when I sa
nosself down there; for: I had looked noast care ysself down there; for 1 had looked most care-

I
-I suppose, rematked Naotin, he went there that device by mbich thou hnpest to surprise ine ad observing that thou wast go deeply absorbe othy contemplations, he did not wish to disturb bee. Bus let us thisk of samething more im
portant. Hast thou arranged all things for the
'I ventare to promse, anssered Leo, 'a a feas
for your guests that will equal ,ux splendor of de
coration and rariety of coration and rariety of viands any that could be
land before them, thougb king Thierry humself were their hast.' '...
'Gcod pouth! good y ruth?' said Nantun, high sprits. Now speed thee to thy task.
love thee much, Leo; for whatever theu do promaise is faithfully performed by thee.'
The promise whica Leo gave was, in this in stance, fully realizet, in the estimation of Nan
tin, of lis new son-kn-law, and of his guests. -
The banguet was prolonged to a late bour, The banquet was prolonged to a late bour, a
when the moment for all to retire came, it wa tained bad restraired their appetite in any way,
and that as they had eaten a large quantity of rod, so also had they imbibed an snordinate
uantity of wine.
'Excellert slave,' said the half-intoxicated one wore goblet of pure cold wine, that I may cool my tiroat, before I abandooed myself to
Leo filled out the wine, and presenting the
rimming goblet to his master, sadd, I wish yo as sound a sleep as if I desired to steal from now of my flight untll morning.'

- Ha, ha, thou art a inerry as well as a good
are, Leo,' said Namtin ; and ther tossing of the winc, te continued as on a jesting mood, but what
wouldst thou do if thou hadst a fleet steed, Leo, at thy command. Wouldst leave thy old master
Nanin? 'I would this sery night,' answered Leo. Nantin, now bursting into a roar of laughter.-
Well, then, for the future I must tell the other slares to keep a strict wateh upon thee. Re-
ied me, Leo, in the morning of what thou baat and to-nght, lest I should forget it.' As h couch, and elosing his eqess, mutterred to "himinelf
Leo is a wag-says-rue away-such a cook What a capon-fly away-no, no, no.'
The words ceased; Nantin's senses were al.
ssi sleep of the drunkard.-- - -
Jeo stood motiontess before his s.
Leo stood motionless before his sleiening mas-
er. Not a limb mored unit he heard the lould eavy, regular snore of the intoxicated man, and then betheving that the nomen: had cotne when
he might, with perfect securitr, remove the sword
of Altalus, which, crossed with that of Nantw,
$\qquad$ er, which was fastened to the wall over the spo
$\qquad$
$\qquad$ uddenly round, though still sleeping, and Leo, in
counding back from the couch, untixed the ssoriu and shield that stll rested against the wall, and
bort now fell on the ear:l with a loud clash, the shueld, in its descent, striking with its ponderous y the agony of pan, from the beary sleep as indulging.
Nautin bounded up with a loud execration in
his arouth, aod as he did so, he belleld Leo befor Im, and at his feet the shield aod the two swords. - Vile slave,' cried Nantul, ' what means this
Wherefure remamest thou tere? And how come i I my bead is racked with sach awful palu 'I pray your pardon,' answered Leo; 'I hav which they are coufined for the nightr, and nol in arnongst them, 1 desired to have one of thes
in sn ords as a protection for my self, in case I should
be allacked by a ferocious beast. In seebring to more the sword without dis lurbing you, I hav I My brain throbs with intensity of anguish. I forgive thee Lhowever, for the sake of thy rigil
fice. Another goblet of wine may ailay ing ane. Another goblet of wine may allay in hoe swords and speed to the enclosure. My
korstes are of enreat falue, and I would not part with any one of them for the price of two slaves. his master throw bunself' back upon the couch, The purried from the apar!ment.
Thantin's head would not suffer The pall in Nantion theadice whicis he ha taken added to rae fever which the paia bad proJuced. Insiead, then, of sleeping agana, as Lieo iag frum side to slde in ayonf, and cursing as he ficted unoceessarily such suffering upon. him. As Naniin lay thus awake, be was sstonished Aaces of two borges, which seemed to be urge the very utinost of their speed. As long as These sounds were in his ear, he did not more.hey womentarily became weaker, and at last so complete, that eren the most gentle rustling
of a leaf could have been beard in the midst:

Conlused by pain, and dalled by previous in Catioa, the faculties of Nuntin slept, alltoing
and senses were aroused. All the circumstances the day came in confusion back to his memor tirred from natural suspicion of his mind wa mmersed, and as it became active, it hafforded am a clue to that whelh had prestousty beer in
The slaves in the field together ! Attalus,
with the care of the horses!
Ioo but lately here with the care of the horses! Ino but lately here The words of Leo this very night. They have planned a fight. By all the gods of Treves the out of bed, and clattering together his sword and he pursut. The greater noise, ' Ho ' ho! to lalus, have hed. Pursue! pmisue! and five bea-
sants for the head of either, whiether living or

Leo and Attolus, from the soment that the feet of the horses on which they rode had passed confined, Hed at there urmost speed; because from ihat moment, both were aware that they had
rendered themse! punshments or rather tortures, which the ancieo ed as men Hy who kuow hat they are pursuad by the malicious revenge of a relendess enemy But as they passed beyond the boundarieg of, the
lands of Nantin, reither surmised that their espey had been observed even at he very monem hey had made the atempt. Unconscrous that if they had been apprised of it. During the ward, and never paused to eest untl the breaz of ay. They then hulted for a brief period, not
or tletr own sakes, but for that of che faithol gionals who had borne them hus far io gafeth Chey resled, but neilhe: ihougtit of sleeping.-
Biel as was the period allolted to repoge Biel as was the period allotted to repose, 1 then ead of that perfect stilloess which he hay hoped to fiod in the midst of the deep moad in hater he shettered, he thouglt he could beel, nur of men's voices. It appeared to bim lbit The very monent he had hoped their escape were, or might be on their track. No sooner did this fact gan upon has faculties, than be gain mounted his horse, and followed by At
glue, pusted on in the direction of lke river Meuse.
Ayain were the horses of Nantin urged on by Is two slaves to iherir topmost speed. Alii day g , when the fugiuves became a ware that they sere not only pursued, but their pursuers mer ast gannog upon itherc. The shouts of those
ho followed could at times be planity beard and, once or twice, when Leo looked bacts, he ing, by the flasturg gleams of his burn was rid as it retlected back the red rays of the set-

Altalus,' be sad, 'we are lost if we attempi to cross on any of the well known fords of the
Meuse. Our only chance for safety now, as it the orly means of boflug those who seek our rese, is to dasis at once intio the atjoning forests some place that we roay cross unscathed
Irve forest was ganed by them, as theg hoped unpercelved. At once they rode through it, as quickly as the horses would bear them, and never
did they rest untid the roar of the waters reached eir ears. Lto found that be was travellarig pon a lugh bauk of steep rocks, Jown whic Placed in these circumstances, Leo deemed it be most wise to stop-again for mmselfand bis g tuemselves on their weary luthos, by, stretcbeir borses to repose: and if thes could fiod any utriment at the root of trees to eat, so that
ang in be the better able to resum ey inght be the better able to resume they

Leto, at the first dawn of day, rose from the lus was sleeping as sound to pend calime that, as if at he iverils of the juarneg were over. Desirous to prolong his repose, Leo cautiousjg withdrew ow that side, proceeded to the river?s bank, and down to the stream, and that the horses might be brought there - without anay peril. As sood as
he percelved this, le iostatly returned; roized up Attalus, and both ugan mounted their horses, Leo had
is horse to. a direct line after bitus to guide per, when they heard upon the bigh mounatanons rocky steep, wheth formed one side of the en



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