

THE INHERITANCE OF JEAN TROUVE

By NEVIL HENSHAW Author of "Alone of the Grand Woods, etc."

CHAPTER III. A LETTER AND ITS CONSEQUENCES

Of the time that elapsed between my father's death and burial I have little recollection. For the most part it passed in a peculiar blur of half-conscious misery, although there are certain small details that linger quite clearly in my memory. The day following being Mardi Gras, a funeral was out of the question. So the poor peaceful figure was laid in state in the big front room, with the shades drawn close over the French windows, and the small pointed flames of the holy candle fighting desperately against the heavy gloom.

Madame Therese and myself to the rue Bourbon. There were still some small matters to be attended to, he said, and, as he had already lost the best part of the morning, he would look after them before returning to his work. Madame Therese was very grateful. "You are kind, M'sieu," she murmured. "Of course you mean M'sieu Marsh's papers, I had meant to ask you to look over them."

Mr. Gray nodded. "And the boy?" he inquired. "He will stay with—" "Yes, yes, M'sieu," Madame Therese interrupted eagerly. "Believe me, I will do the best I can. He has always been like my own child, and I have felt that if ever his father should—" She paused and the sudden tender pressure of her embrace finished her sentence far better than any poor words could have done.

On arriving at her home, Madame Therese led the way directly to my father's room, and placed a chair before his writing-table. "You may find nothing, M'sieu," she apologized. "M'sieu Marsh was always very silent about his affairs."

Unlocking the drawer of the writing-table, Mr. Gray peered inside. It was empty save for a single long envelope that had been placed carefully in its exact center. "For you, Madame," said Mr. Gray, and Madame Therese, taking the envelope, read its inscription in a broken voice. "For Madame Therese—To be opened by her only after my death."

Mr. Gray's answer was disappointing. "Of course, of course," he muttered. "Everything was destroyed beforehand. And now for the letter, Madame."

Opening the envelope with trembling fingers, Madame Therese drew forth two smaller ones from inside. The first was addressed to herself. The second bore a name that caused Mr. Gray to cry out in surprise. "Come, hurry, Madame," he urged. "There is some mystery here."

Very slowly and carefully Madame Therese read her letter, and when she had finished she paused for a long moment before handing it to Mr. Gray. A white stricken look had come into her face, and she grasped with which she seized me so fierce that my eyes were damp with pain.

THE POWER OF A HAIL MARY

The Rev. Mr. Clarkson was puzzled by the question put to him by his wife: "Dwight, can you give me an explanation of a little prayer called the Ave Maria?"

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THE STORY OF CHRIST

BY GIOVANNI PAPINI
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A CROWNED KING
The mercenaries, who (in the provinces) were the majority in the legions, had been waiting for this decision...

Now at last something to their taste happened. They were to have their turn at amusing themselves. To flog a Jew, hated by the Jews themselves...

All the company was ordered into the courtyard of the palace, and the white cloak given by Antipas was taken from Jesus' back...

Jesus, half of His body bared, tied to a pillar, that He might not lessen the force of the blows by bending forward, silently prayed to the Father for the soldiers about to scourge Him...

Strike hard, O legionaries, for of this blood which now begins to flow, some drops are shed for you. This was the first blood drawn by men from the Son of Man...

The number of blows prescribed had been duly administered, but now, after their taste of amusement, the legionaries did not wish to let their plaything escape at once...

A soldier took off his scarlet cloak, the red clams of the legionaries, and threw it over those shoulders, red with blood...

But some were not satisfied with this burlesque homage, and one of them struck a blow at the cheek, still showing the marks of the fingers of Caiaphas...

They would perhaps have thought of some other amusing diversion if the Procurator, coming up when they were making merry...

with the sarcastic intention of Pilate. He smiled, and taking Jesus by the hand, led Him to the crowd of wild animals there...

Behold the man! And he turned Christ's shoulders towards that expanse of yelling muzzles that they might see the welts left by the rods...

But the Jews were quieted neither by these words nor by that spectacle. They demanded something quite other than a flogging and a masquerade before they would go their ways...

Too late Pilate realized that they had driven him into a tangle from which he could not disengage himself. All his decisions were combated with a pertinacity he had not foreseen...

He did not realize that he had found the truth he was seeking; a half-truth, but deeper than all the teachings of the philosophers of Rome and Greece...

And yet Pilate still did not yield. Standing beside that silent man, the Roman felt his heart heavy with an oppression he had never known before...

But Jesus gave him no answer. "Speakest thou not unto me? knowest thou not that I have power to crucify thee..."

Then the insulted king raised his head. "Thou couldst have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above..."

The Jews, infuriated by this repeated insult, burst out, enraged. "If thou let this man go, thou art not Caesar's friend..."

He had tried to save Him by referring the matter to the Sanhedrin, which could not pronounce a death sentence; he had tried to save Him by sending Him to Herod; he had tried to save Him by affirming that he found no fault in Him...

Pilate thought himself innocent of the blood of this innocent man. And in order that they might all have a visible representation of that innocence which they would not forget, he had a basin of water brought to him...

But the water which flowed over his hands was not enough to cleanse them. His hands are still blood-stained, and will be to all eternity. He might have saved Christ if he had really wished...

But Pilate said, "I have done everything that I could to save Him from the hands of the unjust. That was not true; he had tried many ways, but not the only way which could have succeeded..."

Little did his shifts avail him; for the fate he now sought to avert by giving Jesus over into the hands of his adversaries fell upon him a few years later. The Jews and the Samaritans accused him; the Governor of Syria deposed him...

He washed himself with that water before the multitude. That water was Jewish water, turbid and ill-omened water that did not cleanse. No washing will ever cleanse his hands from the stains left on them by the divine blood of Christ.

GENERAL INTENTION FOR JULY

RECOMMENDED AND BLESSED BY HIS HOLINESS POPE PIUS XI.

In the language of the Church, the word "parish" has a very definite meaning. It is a portion of a diocese, under the supervision of a priest who has the spiritual charge of the souls living within its borders...

A parish supposes a temple wherein the flock may worship, an altar where Mass is celebrated for their intentions, and where the Heavenly Food is reserved for their spiritual nourishment...

tion, and call for an administration, both temporal and spiritual, the procedure of which is outlined in Canon Law.

But we may be assured that it is not to technical matters such as these that the Sovereign Pontiff wished to draw our attention during the present month. It is rather to the ascetic spirit which should animate the lives of the organized flocks...

The parish church, no matter how humble, should be a magnet drawing to itself the devotedness and love of parishioners, for the reason that so many souvenirs that interest them converge within its venerable walls.

Seeing that parishes are organized and kept up for the purpose of promoting piety and good living among Catholics, it is worth while to ask ourselves how this end may be attained. A modern writer informs us that the essence of sound parish life depends mainly on the observance of those two important events...

While, strictly speaking, this precept is fulfilled by going to even a Low Mass, still parishioners should try to observe it in its integrity. One may have his choice in the matter of Mass on Sundays and holy days...

If we walk before God in truth, uprightness and purity of heart we have no reason to fear.—Life of St. Teresa.

is necessary for engendering the faith in our intellects, it is also necessary for keeping it fresh in our hearts. The Church has always interpreted her duty to her children in this way, and this is really one of the reasons why the faithful are divided into small groups...

The Sunday High Mass, with its accompanying sermon, helps to keep the flock together and provides a healthy parish spirit. But this can hardly be all that parishioners are called upon to do.

Again, it is essentially in the spirit of parish life to take an interest in the societies and other organizations that are established therein, for they are usually societies in which zeal is exercised and piety cultivated.

Many other phases of the parish life might be considered, but enough has been written for our readers to understand what is aimed at in the present intention.

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CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN

WHY WORRY?

There was a man that loved to borrow care... Where with to worry. If the day was fair...

MISTAKES

Learn from your mistakes, but don't cry over them... He who never makes a mistake never makes anything.

BE OBLIGING

Readiness to oblige is the small coin in the treasury of happiness... Oh sweetest blood, that can implore...

WHAT IS A FRIEND

What is a friend? I will tell you. It is a person with whom you dare to be yourself... He understands those conditions in your nature...

THE TRULY SUCCESSFUL LIFE

We often hear it remarked that success in life results from the association or acquaintance with men of influence... But these are merely the accidents of influence...

superficial appearance of success, but in the eye of thoughtful man and in the kingdom of God it is worse than obscurity... There is, however, an influence that man can exercise in this life which will bring with it gifts that will grace man in Eternity.

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

THE PRECIOUS BLOOD

Hail Jesus! Hail who for our sake Sweet Blood from Mary's veins didst take... Oh blessed be my Saviour's Blood, My life, my light, my only good.

Oh sweetest blood, that can implore Pardon of God, and heaven restore, The heaven which sin had lost; While Abel's blood for vengeance pleads...

OBEEDIENCE

There was once a great philosopher who had a little daughter. A friend of the philosopher's came to see him, and while waiting he asked the little girl, "What is your father teaching you?"

TWO GREAT CENTRAL THOUGHTS

Long standing and venerable tradition in the Church has dedicated certain months to certain spiritual objects. Thus May is the month of Mary, June the month of the Sacred Heart, and July the Month of the Precious Blood.

arouse in ourselves a devotion for that Precious Blood which atoned for man's sins and purchased Heaven for a sinful race.

On the last occasion but one on which Father Faber preached he uttered these words, which in the light of the circumstances might be deemed prophetic.

Eternal Punishment and the Precious Blood are two great central thoughts around which revolve our lives and our thoughts and our aspirations. For it is due to the one that we escape the other.

As Father Faber so beautifully puts it: "There are two prayers which never cease from off the earth; one the Lord's prayer, taught on a grassy hill of Galilee, notable for the thickets of its grass, overlooking the quiet lake, the other by a whole people in the frenzy of their sin in the streets of the Holy City."

K. C. WELFARE WORK IN ETERNAL CITY

WILL CONSIST OF FIVE UNITS AND WILL COST \$1,000,000—DIFFERENT PROJECTS DESCRIBED

The welfare and recreation centers for children established here by the Knights of Columbus now represent an investment of approximately \$1,000,000. Five extensive sites have been acquired and the work of improving these sites is either complete or rapidly progressing toward completion in all cases.

The most ambitious unit in the project, from the standpoint of providing recreational facilities, is the great athletic field on the top of Gelsomino Hill. It has an area of 50,000 square meters and includes two football fields, a running track, three tennis courts, a basketball court and other provisions for outdoor athletics.

THE GREAT ATHLETIC FIELD

The most ambitious unit in the project, from the standpoint of providing recreational facilities, is the great athletic field on the top of Gelsomino Hill. It has an area of 50,000 square meters and includes two football fields, a running track, three tennis courts, a basketball court and other provisions for outdoor athletics.

Both will be opened in the near future. This center will supply recreational facilities for 5,000 children from the three parochial schools in the neighborhood. At present there is absolutely no provision for their recreation and since the district is one of the poorest as well as the most thickly settled in Rome, the need for such facilities is very great.

OTHER UNITS OF SYSTEM

In striking contrast to the neighborhood around the San Lorenzo center are the surroundings of the fourth K. of C. center in the Valle Giulia. This site is between the villas of Popes Pius IV. and Julius III. in one of the richest and most beautiful sections of the city.

The task of promoting and supervising the establishment of this vast system of welfare work here has been entrusted to Commissioner Hearn, representative of the Knights of Columbus in Rome. He has been ably assisted by his Secretary, Mr. Andreoli, and in technical matters by a gifted young engineer, Mr. Galeazzi.

A MISCHIEVOUS LIE

New York, April 10.—A report that the Knights of Columbus welfare and recreational centers in Rome, to be opened in the near future, have been built with \$1,000,000 left over from donations received by the Knights for their War work, has been flatly denied by James A. Flaherty, Supreme Knight of the order.

PROTEST EVASION OF GREAT MORAL QUESTION

London, June 6.—Signed by the Anglican Bishop of Winchester, two other clergymen and four lay members of the Established Church, a recent report of a special committee of the National Council of Public Morals takes a position against the practice of birth control in opposition to the favor with which such practices are regarded by some Established Churches including Bishop Barnes of Birmingham and Dean Inge.

THE CZECH CABINET PLOTS TO INJURE CATHOLIC CAUSE

Prague.—An attempt on the part of the Czechoslovakian Government to split the Catholic Slovakian Popular Party by subsidizing a paper in opposition to that party, has just been exposed by the Catholic press here. The exposure has created a sensation.

Exposure of the government's plan to subsidize the opposition to the Popular Party in Slovakia is regarded as likely to prevent the plan from being successful. The alarm has been sounded by the Rev. Andrew Hlinka and other Popular Party leaders and the Catholic populace is thoroughly aroused.

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