

like many another young idiot, he expected to make—shall we say—a modest competency in about eighteen months.'

'And the girl?'

'Oh! She came to her senses. At the end of a year she wrote to him—a note of six lines—she was going to marry a rich man, and she returned his ring and portrait.'

'But, I suppose, you never saw that letter?'

'Well,' admitted John, 'I mustn't confess that I did see it. Of course, I've never mentioned it to anyone else,' he added hastily.

'Did it seem the sort of a letter likely to be written by a girl with whom a man would fall madly in love?'

'He didn't blame her much. The getting on he had talked about was a slow business, and it was not to be supposed that she would wait for an indefinite time.'

'It's rather a curious coincidence that I should know something of a similar story,' said Miss Leeson slowly, as she bent over her painting. 'However, in the case of which I am thinking it was the girl who had to suffer the most, and who was, I think, the more to be pitied. When one is working it's easier to forget than when one is only waiting.'

'Yes. I never could do much in the waiting line,' said John.

'Well, like the heroine of your story, the girl of whom you speak promised to marry a man to whom her father objected. Like your hero, her lover went abroad, hoping to find some Tom Tiddler's ground where gold and silver could be had for the trouble of picking them up. After he left, the girl didn't have a very cheerful time in her home, and at the end of a few months she broke down.'

'Badly?'

'Oh, badly enough; and it took her some time to get strong again. You see, after her illness she never once heard from the man who was to have done such great things for her sake.'

'Then he was either dead or a most contemptible cad.'

'Four years later the girl's father died,' continued Miss Leeson, ignoring the interruption. 'It was he who during her illness—imitating her writing—had sent that letter of dismissal to her lover. When she knew that, the girl was glad. She had never thought harshly of the man she loved.'

'No two people have stories so much alike as all that,' he declared, as he rose, and leaning on the table pushed aside the paints. 'You have been speaking of yourself?'

'And if I have?'

'Why, it means that there was no rich man—that you did not forget—that—'

'Oh! pardon me; there was the rich man, but he failed to—interest me, so after a time he and I went our separate ways.'

'And I wonder whether—you still remember?'

Miss Leeson dropped her paint brush, put her fingers on John's right hand, and turned it over, palm uppermost.

'Another coincidence,' she said quietly. 'My hero had a scar like a Maltese cross on his right palm, and—there, the game is at an end. The first time we met I guessed who you were. The second time I knew. If you ever again wish to play at Make Believe, you must put on gloves, alter your voice, and wear spectacles. Now—touching the photograph as she spoke—'is it worth while copying this?'

'No, for I don't want it. And you,' but here he paused, then, greatly daring, he went on, 'and you, Diana, had better have the original.'

'Are you sure you are quite justified in giving away so much?' she asked with a smile.

'Well, tell me what your rich man could afford, and I'll double the gift,' he answered, for once enjoying the power of wealth.

'Oh!' and they turned to see Di standing in the doorway. 'Oh! don't hesitate, Aunt Diana. It's the chance of a lifetime. Choose a carriage and pair for yourself, and then take Mr. Jephson out to buy a new coat.'

Advice that was figuratively if not literally obeyed.—'Manchester Guardian.'

Bad Breath

Bad breath is a most offensive thing both to yourself and your friends. If you are troubled in this way try DR. ENSOR'S TAMER JUICE for Biliousness, Indigestion, and all Stomach Disorders.

The Catholic World

CHINA—A Heroic Missionary

The Chinese Government has conferred the dignity of Mandarin upon the Right Rev. Eifren Giesen, Franciscan, who is Vicar-Apostolic of Northern Shan-Tung, China. The worthy prelate was born in Amsterdam in 1868. He joined the Order of St. Francis when eighteen years of age, and soon after his ordination to the priesthood was sent to the Chinese missions, receiving episcopal consecration in 1902. He showed an admirable courage during the Boxer rebellion, defending the faithful entrusted to his care. On that occasion the heroic missionary was wounded twice, and still bears on his face the marks of his valor.

ENGLAND—The Late Monsignor Nugent

Particulars of the late Monsignor Nugent's will have been published. The gross value of the estate has been returned at £7630 18s 5d, and the net value at £7410 5s 6d. With the exception of small bequests to immediate relatives and a few friends, the whole is left for charitable purposes.

FRANCE—The Law of Separation

The adoption of the Law of Separation in France (says the 'Catholic Times') has caused the Holy Father both pain and anxiety—feelings which were reflected in his Allocution at the Consistory. But we have reason to know that his Holiness is by no means despondent. After all, what is wanted in France is help not from the State but from the people. For many, many years the trend of the State's action has been towards deadening the influence of religion. Many Frenchmen have as a consequence become indifferent in spiritual affairs. They have, so to say, been absorbed by what was worldly and material. Great missions to rouse them from their lethargy, popular action by clergymen reaching to the hearts of multitudes and awakening religious emotions have not been possible because officials have constantly used their power to obstruct and paralyse. Henceforth that power of obstruction will be, at least, greatly diminished, and despite the hostility of the Government, we expect to see soon in France a great Catholic revival, instead of the extinction of the Church in the country, which her enemies so eagerly hope to bring about.

ITALY—Death of an English Convert

The 'Italian Gazette' of Florence, December 5, says: 'The funeral of Monsignor Harrington Moore took place in St. Joseph's on December 2. Father Carmody, P.S.M., his successor, by whom he was nobly attended throughout his last illness, sang the Mass and preached the sermon, and Perosi's Mass was sung by a select choir. The large congregation included the British Consul-General.' Monsignor Harrington Moore was an Oxford man and a convert. When he was rector of the Pro-Cathedral, Kensington, in the days of Cardinal Manning, the husband of a lady who became a convert raised protests because she had been received into the Church without his consent. The gentleman himself afterwards became a Catholic.

ROME—The Duke and Duchess of Norfolk

The Duke and Duchess of Norfolk (writes the Rome correspondent of a London newspaper) were received in audience by the Holy Father on December 2. They went to the Vatican accompanied by the Most Rev. E. Stonor, Archbishop of Trebizond. The Pope had previously been informed of the arrival in Rome of the Duke and Duchess, who, after being greeted by Monsignor Bisleti and other Papal dignitaries, were immediately conducted to the library and introduced into the presence of the Pope. The Duke and Duchess, who were met by his Holiness at the door of the library, kissed the hand of the Pontiff, who invited them to sit by his side. Monsignor Stonor acted as interpreter. The Pope said he was very pleased to see the Duke and Duchess, knowing what staunch Catholics they were and how much good they did. A long conversation ensued, at the end of which the Pope signed and handed to his visitors two copies of a photograph of himself. He next presented the Duchess with a beautiful gold medallion for her daughter, having the Madonna on one side and a portrait of himself on the other. When his Holiness learned that the Duke and Duchess had come to Rome for the express purpose of seeing him, he thanked them most heartily. Subsequently the Duke and Duchess called on Cardinal Merry del Val, the Pontifical Secretary of State, and later paid a visit to St. Peter's.