

you, especially under such happy auspices! What great events have happened since this day last year! Do you remember it, Cecil?

'Rather!' laughed Cecil. 'I don't forget that you sent me to pray to St. Anthony, and the incident of seeing a certain young lady let fall her rosary is by no means forgotten.'

'Oh, to be sure!' rejoined the Cure; then, turning towards Margaret: 'So you recovered your rosary! I congratulate you.'

'Oh, mon bon Pere, I always thought there was a special blessing attached to that rosary,' said Margaret, with animation.

Cecil now came forward, and as he placed some crisp notes in the Cure's hand he said: 'This, monsieur, is an offering for St. Anthony's Bread. It is the first instalment of a huge debt that I never can repay.'

'Two thousand francs!' cried the Cure, and the eyes he turned up towards heaven were swimming in tears.

Cecil and Margaret saw that he was deeply moved, and when he had recovered his composure he told them of the accident that had befallen Piere Lebeau, and the consequent state of distress to which his family was reduced. 'How opportune is your generous gift!' he added. 'It lifts a load of anxiety from my mind with regard to this poor family.'

Margaret and Cecil listened with interest. 'I'll tell you what you are to do,' said the latter. 'You must make Margaret and myself the bankers of this good Piere, and you have carte blanche to draw on us *ad libitum*. He must have the best of medical attendance and everything calculated to facilitate his recovery, so you know where to apply for fresh funds.'

'God bless and reward you both!' said the Cure with fervor; and then, as his eyes again went up towards heaven, he added: 'How good is the good God!'

Cecil and Margaret now rose to depart.

'What stay do you make in Brussels?' queried the Cure.

'We make no stay,' answered Cecil as he took up his hat. Margaret wants to visit her uncle's grave, and then we journey on towards Paris. Our destination is Rome, for we intend kneeling at the feet of the Sovereign Pontiff.'

'Ah!' said the Cure, with emotion, 'it is children such as you who rejoice the Holy Father's heart.'

Cecil and Margaret both knelt before the aged priest, and with uplifted hands he blessed them from his heart.

'Farewell, dear friends,' he said, 'farewell! May happiness be ever shed around your path, as side by side and hand in hand you glide upon the stream of life. Possibly we may never meet again, for I am an old man now, and my earthly pilgrimage must soon be o'er; but we can, at least, look forward to a happy and everlasting reunion upon the eternal shores!'—*Catholic Fireside*.

The McCormick Harvesting Machine Company built and sold 213,629 machines in the season of 1899. This is the greatest sale of harvesting machines ever made by one company.—**

The Catholic World.

ENGLAND.—The Diocese of Portsmouth.—The Very Rev. Canon Luck has been made Vicar-General of the diocese of Portsmouth.

Ordination of Cardinal Vaughan's Nephew.—In the early part of October Cardinal Vaughan raised to the sub-diaconate Mr. Francis Vaughan, his nephew, and third son of Colonel Vaughan, of Courtfield, Ross. Some months ago Colonel Vaughan's second son, Herbert, was ordained priest in the same church by the Cardinal.

Lord Russell's Last Words.—In the October number of the *Irish Monthly* the editor—Father Matthew Russell, S.J.—makes the following reference to the last words of the late Lord Chief Justice:—'His child-like faith was shown in the last words that have reached us from his death-bed. A priest of the Oratory had administered the final Sacramental rites prescribed in the last chapter of St. James's Epistle, and was withdrawing from the death-chamber, when he was recalled by the summons: "Father, lay your hand upon my head and bless me." The last words—except the aspiration faltered out half consciously towards the very end by the feeble lips that had uttered so many a strong and noble word: "May God have mercy on me." The last word he would wish to be said of himself is what he himself always said when any man's death was announced in his presence: "God be merciful to him."'

A Representative Pilgrimage.—More than one thousand pilgrims, headed by the Bishops of Nottingham and Liverpool, left London recently on their way to Rome. The Pope had signified his intention of receiving the pilgrims in special audience. The last departure is to take place about the end of December. It will consist of a party representative of the Catholic Union of Great Britain, and will be headed by Cardinal Vaughan and the Duke of Norfolk.

Catholics in the House of Commons.—There are now four Catholics in the House representing English constituencies, these being Lord Edmund Talbot (Conservative), Sir John Austin (Liberal Imperialist), Mr. T. P. O'Connor (Nationalist), and Mr. James Fitzalan Hope (Conservative). Both the latter gentlemen and Sir John Austin represent constituencies in the Leeds diocese.

GERMANY.—Conversions to Catholicism.—In consequence of numerous conversions to Catholicism of members of the Saxon aristocracy, the Evangelical Bund of the Lutheran Church has addressed an earnest appeal to Protestant nobles in Saxony begging them to remember that it was their forefathers who were so helpful to Luther in his reforming work, and adjuring them to stand fast. These conversions are probably owing to the example of the Royal House of Saxony, which is Catholic. They have be-

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