

To eat what was placed before them, but the older ones struggled with their tears at every mouthful, and the little ones with sleepiness, for they had been broken of their usual rest. They were all relieved when the doctor finally said: 'You are tired, children, and the best thing for you is to go to bed and sleep. To-morrow everything will look different to you.'

Each of the children walked up to the doctor and his wife, and shaking hands and bidding them good-night went to the bed-room prepared for them.

The doctor's wife was about to follow them, but her husband called her back. 'The more we leave them to themselves the sooner they will seem at home.' For a while one could hear the children whispering and moving about, and then out of the stillness came the voice of the oldest, loud and distinct. He prayed devoutly the old children's verse: 'I am tired, go to rest,' and so forth, then he continued: 'Dear God, make me a good boy, and grant that I may find my dear papa in heaven'—he was going to say what he had been accustomed to pray with his mother every night. But when it suddenly occurred to him that he now had to find not only his father but also his mother in heaven, he hesitated. With faltering voice he repeated: 'Grant that I may find my dear papa and my dear mamma.' Here he stopped and suddenly broke into violent, unrestrainable sobbing. At the same moment the self-control of the other children gave way, and for a long time one could hear nothing but the moaning and sobbing of the other children.

The doctor walked to the window and looked out into the darkness, while his wife plied her knitting needles as if her stockings must be finished that very night. When all was still in the adjoining room the doctor beckoned to his wife to go in with him. A pathetic picture presented itself to them. The four elder children had crawled out of their two beds into one and had fallen asleep just as they had clasped each other in their grief, with the tears still on their cheeks. 'Poor children,' whispered the doctor. While he was cautiously separating them and laying them two by two in their beds, his wife walked to the bed of the little one.

She lay with half-open mouth, breathing sweetly, her flaxen locks falling over her face, her little clenched fists pressed to her cheeks and one of her white, round legs stretched over the bedspread.

'Look at the dear child,' the wife whispered to the husband. 'Could there be a more touching picture of childish innocence.'

She hesitated, then threw her arms about her husband's neck, pressed her cheek to his and said: 'If you are willing, Albert, I should like to keep this child as my own.'

(To be concluded in our next.)

Catholic World

CANADA — Bishop of Montreal, Father Shelfhant, C.S.S.R., who has been created Bishop of Montreal, had to retire from the Redemptorists to accept the new dignity. He was reluctant to do so, but when the order came from Rome he felt it was his duty to obey.

ENGLAND.—Presentations.

King Edward has sent silver writing sets to Mgr. Cagianio, the Pope's major domo; Mgr. Bisleti, master of the chamber; and Mgr. Della Chiesa, deputy Secretary of State at the Vatican.

An Encyclical.

A telegram from Rome to the London papers states that the Holy Father intends soon to address an Encyclical to the Catholics of the English-speaking world.

Bigots Balked.

The Court of King's Bench in London (says the 'Monitor') has unanimously upheld the decision of the Magistrate in Great Marlborough street who refused to penalise certain Jesuit priests simply because they were Jesuits and resided in England. According to the strict letter of the law as it remains on the statute book, such Jesuits are liable to penalty or expulsion. Some kindly bigots of the Kensit stamp sought to enforce this law, and applied to a London magistrate, Mr. Kennedy, to set it in motion. Mr. Kennedy refused, and the bigots appealed to King's Bench. The Court unanimously decided that the Magistrate had a discretionary power to say whether or not the law should be put in operation, and had exercised a valid discretion in refusing the motion made to him. It is expected that the bigots will try still another method now that this resort has failed. We trust they may. The more light thrown upon such tyrannous and needless statutes, the stronger becomes the case for their abolition.

The Priesthood.

The Bishop of Salford points out with regret, in a pastoral letter, that from the noblest Catholic families in the country to-day, and even from the next in social rank, there are but few aspirants for the priesthood. This he regards as an unhealthy and somewhat alarming symptom which is not manifesting itself in the Salford diocese alone. Nor does it augur well for the Church's growth in England. He says that he often asks himself whether the lack of vocations to the priesthood at the present day from the upper and middle class Lancashire families is the penalty of worldliness and of the keen race for wealth in the parents or arises from the children themselves, who, brought up in the indulgence and effeminacy, are so devoid of habits of industry, self-denial and restraint, or even of any serious

purpose in life, that they have not manly courage to endure the bracing discipline of college life, or the heroism to devote themselves to God or the salvation of souls in the priestly state. The Bishop appeals to Catholic families to remember their duty in this matter.

ENGLAND.—A Dispensation.

The Holy Father desiring that Catholics throughout the British Empire might be enabled to participate more easily in the festivities that will mark the King's Coronation has dispensed them from the law of abstinence on Friday, June 27, and from the law of fasting and abstinence on the Saturday following, which is the Vigil of the Feast of SS. Peter and Paul. But it is the desire of the Holy Father that they should make up for this dispensation by the recital of certain prayers which are to be prescribed for them.

An Intolerable Strain.

In a letter to the 'Daily Chronicle' on the Education Question, Father Bannin, of the Italian Church, Hatton Garden, says:—'The intolerable strain which has been upon us ever since 1870 is to be seen in the fact that notwithstanding the millions which Nonconformists have received out of the rates, for building and maintaining Board schools, our Catholic schools are almost on a level with them in the standard of education given (vide Blue-book). And if one considers the amount of money expended on education in both sets of schools, the standard of efficiency is higher in ours than in theirs.'

FRANCE.—Harassing the Jesuit

The members of the world-famed Order of St. Ignatius Loyola (says the 'Catholic Times') must feel that all their stores of logic are useless in the presence of the persecuting spirit of the French Government. While they lived together in community, it regarded them as dangerous to the State owing to their submission to a foreign rule. In order to prevent this evil it broke up their organisation, and only consented to regard them as good citizens. But its hatred is not yet satisfied. It will have the Jesuits neither in community or out. They might not teach collectively; they may not teach individually. The other day at Marseilles the Public Prosecutor brought an action against four Jesuit Fathers for the heinous crime of having given lessons in private to some youths whose parents had desired Jesuit instruction for them. The magistrate held that Jesuits had as much right as any other citizens to give private lessons, and dismissed the case. However, the Public Prosecutor gave notice of appeal, and no doubt the Government will furnish up some rusty old legal enactment by which it may secure conviction. The incident discloses the true inwardness of the ruthless persecution which has fallen on the French religious Orders. Certainly we want no such State control here.

BENJAMIN GUM

.. FOR ..

COUGHS AND COLDS.

☞ CURES QUICKLY.

Suits all Ages Pleasant to take Children Like it.

BENJAMIN GUM

breaks down a Cough or Cold quickly, loosens the phlegm, soothes the throat and air passages, and prevents and cures Bronchitis and Chest complications.

BENJAMIN GUM has proved that it possesses these merits, by the hundreds of Testimonials we have published from well-known Citizens.

BENJAMIN GUM: Price 1/6 & 2/6 Everywhere. Procurable from all Merchants, Post Free from

Loasby's Wahoo Manufacturing Company, Ltd., Dunedin.

Wholesale Agents: KEMP THORNE, PROSSER & CO., LTD.

KOOLIBAH FOR ALL PAINS

☞ CURES HEADACHES, BACKACHE, NEURALGIA, SPRAINS, BRUISE

RELIEVES WORST NERVE OR MUSCLE PAINS QUICKLY.

PRICE, 2s. at CHEMISTS & GROCER, OR POST FREE

FROM

Loasby's Wahoo Manufacturing Co., Dunedin.