

When the Mahdi left Rahad Father Ohrwalder was put in charge of yet another master—Sherif Mahmud. He was in a wretched state of health, and they started for El Obeid. A few days after their arrival Father Bonomi was brought in chains. Later a note was delivered to Father Bonomi, and in deep agitation he read:

'Dear Friend,—I am sending this man so that you may escape with him. Trust him—he is honest. Mgr. Sogaro awaits you in Cairo with outstretched arms.—Your fellow-countryman, ALOIS SANTONI.'

Bonomi prepared for flight. The two priests left their huts and proceeded to the rendezvous. The messenger would not take both, so they parted. The Arab, who had promised to return for Father Ohrwalder, did not come.

'Thus we dragged out a miserable existence, devoid of hope, shunned by all, and suffering much from continual sickness.'

Eventually Father Ohrwalder went to Omdurman, where he was a witness to the scenes of famine of 1888-9. The people were driven to such a point that children were roasted and eaten by the distracted population.

The escape of a lay Brother resulted in a closer watch being kept upon Father Ohrwalder and the

Sisters, but 'freedom' was the consideration uppermost in their thoughts. In the meantime they employed themselves at various industries and lived from hand to mouth.

Almost in the depths of his despair, Father Ohrwalder received a visit from Ahmed Hassan, with whom he had entrusted a message to Archbishop Sogaro. Plans were considered, and at last, on November 30, 1891, Father Ohrwalder and Sisters Venturini and Chincarini started their flight across the great Nubian desert. Thus they returned to Cairo and civilisation from out the clutches of the Mahdi.

The Abbe Walty, Professor of Theology, has been appointed auxiliary Bishop of the Prince Bishop of Bressanone, a diocese which extends over the whole German Tyrol. The new Bishop was formerly a journalist—he was the editor of the *Brineuer Chronik*. He is a man of much learning and apostolic zeal, and is certain to adorn the high and responsible office to which he has been called by the Holy See.

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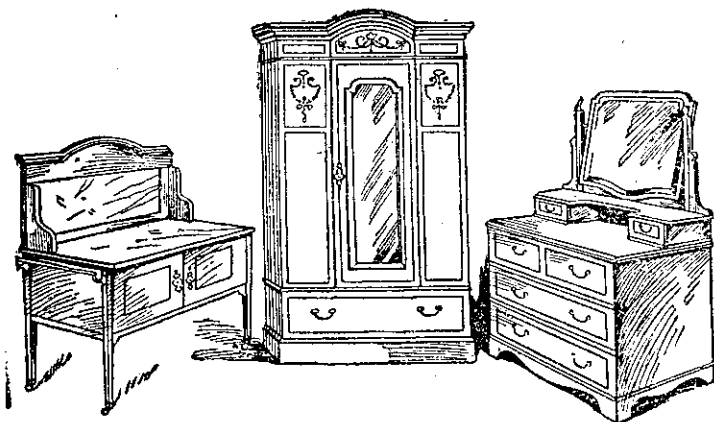
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