

THE NUN.

An Episode of Convent Life.

Translated from the French by Rev. M. J. P. Thoin, A. M.

CHAPTER IX.

We engaged in an interesting conversation in which the truths of the Gospel were explained to us with great clearness.

So passed our first day in this valley. Beautiful, happy Switzerland. Thou art associated with all that is precious in my heart, both for time and eternity!

On the day following, at dinner, they told us that our sister was so tranquil, that if we would promise not to irritate her, we might see her. After dinner we went to the chamber. Madame d'Ivanholz took her place by the bedside, to hold us in check, as she said.

"Oh, Heaven! Impossible! Impossible!" I only had an idea of following Pauline, for I was immediately behind her.

William approached at the same time as I, and was extremely frightened to see her faint and deathly pale.

"Go away, William, go away!" she finally cried. "Take away your friend! Leave me alone with Angelique, or my heart will break!"

"Yes," said I, "and what a great proof of His love has He given us in sending the noble friend who has delivered us and led us thither!"

"What is his name?" asked I. "A friend! who is he?" said she. "I feared to reveal the whole truth to her; but I ventured to say: 'He is a good, an excellent young man, who has had pity upon us when we were captives.'"

"Tell him, Sister Angelique, that I have prayed the Lord to bless and recommend him. I am unable to do anything save to acknowledge my obligation. But tell me," said she, "is Clarisse dead?"

"Yes," said I, "we have finished with Sister Clarisse; that name is forgotten. You are now Emily Beaumont." "Emily Beaumont?" she responded; "then where is Edward? Has he not sent me a letter, or have I dreamed?"

"Edward Beaumont, who is he? who was he? A beautiful little boy. They carried Emily upon the vessel and Edward remained upon the shore. Ah! Edward, that beautiful time has passed. It will never return. Have they not said that it was a thousand years ago?"

"Dear, dear Madame, are you still ignorant of our extreme good fortune? Do you not know that this poor sister is our Clarisse? Yes, Madame, M. Beaumont has delivered his Emily!"

subterranean chapel; but the agitation of that scene having passed, some unaccountable horror, as I learned later, had made her almost lose her reason.

I hastened to her and drew her to my heart; a moment after and I was kneeling by the side of her bed.

"This was the first time for many weeks that Clarisse had been able to weep; this would doubtless have proved a great relief to her if I had not imprudently thrown her mind into a state of confusion by asking her what I should think of her death and funeral."

"All this, then, is a dream. Nothing is true. How can we discern between a vision and the reality?" I trembled under her excited look, but I responded:

"Clarisse, it seems to me that we all have lived in a sort of dream. Our superiors have tried to prevent our apprehending the truth; but our Heavenly Father pitied us, and, in His infinite love, has led us into this refuge, into this place of rest. Here our spirits, with the benediction of God, will recover, little by little, from the blows so cruel they have received."

"Yes," said I, "and what a great proof of His love has He given us in sending the noble friend who has delivered us and led us thither." "A friend! who is he?" said she. "I feared to reveal the whole truth to her; but I ventured to say: 'He is a good, an excellent young man, who has had pity upon us when we were captives.'"

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My second interview with Clarisse, in which Pauline was also present, was much more peaceful than the first.

self. When Pauline had embraced her we seated ourselves around her; Madame d'Ivanholz tried to turn the conversation upon different subjects, Clarisse responded to her remarks with respect and politeness, but she returned to the subject which pre-occupied her, and addressing herself to her brother; whom she had regarded with much attention, she said to him:

"It is one of my first duties, Monsieur, as well as a great pleasure, to express to you all the gratitude I feel towards you. You have been, by the favor of God, the means of delivering me from horrors so frightful that I dare not think of them; and I am only able to see the hand of God in this extraordinary deliverance."

Edward was unable to respond; his eyes were full of tears, and we could see that it took all his self-control to prevent his rushing to Clarisse and pressing to his heart his only and well-beloved sister.

Stupid Protestants are rejoicing over the fact that Mgr. Satolli, the papal delegate has visited the public schools of Waterbury, Conn., and expressed himself in favor of education. Were they bright enough to read between the lines of his cunningly constructed speech they would see the mark of the Jesuit in every word.

"The state does all within its power and beyond doubt wishes to encourage all institutions that are based upon the American spirit and obedient to the scholastic law, whose object is to protect and assure a moral and religious education—and such institutions are Catholic schools.

This visit of Satolli will lull many an American to sleep. Meanwhile, the papal delegate will continue his professional rounds, deceiving many and doing incalculable harm. Oh, that a baptism of common sense might descend upon us as a people, and wake the great mass of now unawakened Americans to the real situation! Woman's Voice.

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