



# JIM— an EASTER STORY

by F. H. W. Carter



In the street corner, deliberating, stood Jim. The cold wind tore round the angle and threatened to snatch the cap from his head. Jim did not mind the wind. He had had an unusual streak of good luck this afternoon, and sold off all his papers early, and now stood jingling several coins in his pockets, coins which meant for him a good hot supper and a night's lodging.

He turned and sauntered along, crossing street after street, till he had wandered into a section of the city where he very rarely came, a most prosperous section, judging from the fine broad avenue.

Jim was cold by this time, and thought that he would retrace his steps, when his attention was attracted by the sound of music. It came from a church close by, the door of which stood invitingly open. It looked nice and warm inside; there was no one in sight, and Jim softly stepped in and sat down at the back of the church, which was in semi-darkness.

The only lights were away down at the other end, where were gathered a group of boys about Jim's age, and a man seated at an organ. Soon the man began to play and the boys to sing. Now one would hardly have guessed on seeing Jim that he was a musician himself, but he had a great reputation among his friends, who were sure that not one of the famous singers of the day had a voice that could compare in sweetness with Jim's.

Jim was interested at once when he heard music in the church. Oh, the beautiful music! He had never heard anything like it in his life. It made him almost unhappy at one moment, and he would rise to go, only it held him so that he could not.

But the boys! His astonishment rose as he heard and watched them. The man was evidently trying to teach them something; but some were careless and would not listen, and others were stupid and could not learn. Finally the boys became so restless that the man rose, and closing the organ, told them all to come the next afternoon; and immediately there was a wild scramble for the door.

That night Jim would neither play nor whistle for his friends, to their great surprise; but the grand, uplifting strains which he had heard that afternoon still lingered in his ears.

The next afternoon, as soon as his papers were sold, Jim started again

for the church, and the next, and the next as well. Every afternoon found him a quiet, unnoticed listener at the back of the great church.

The master went over and over the strains, slowly, carefully and patiently, while the boys blundered and hesitated. Jim had learned the whole thing by the second afternoon, and could have sung every note of it.

Jim was completely out of patience with one boy. He had a beautiful part to sing alone, evidently the climax of the whole piece, and he had a voice like a skylark, so pure and clear; but it was such a task to teach him anything!

What he apparently learned one day was forgotten the next, and Jim fidgeted and muttered to himself in disgust at the bungling work which he made of it.

They were getting ready for an Easter celebration, as Jim learned from the conversation, and he made up his mind that he would be there on that day himself. He had attended so many of the rehearsals by this time that he felt quite at home in the church; but it seemed a very different place to him in the light of the bright spring morning, when Jim walked up to the door on Easter Day.

The many carriages, the throngs of gaily dressed people so abashed him that he hardly dared go in, but he



"A HOT CROSS BUN."

**Chinese Are Waking Up.**  
Hardly a province of China has escaped the recent mania for railways, and if all the lines projected are carried out some of the remotest parts of the empire will be rendered easy of access.

**Great Ocean Greyhound.**  
An idea of the immensity of the new Cunarder Mauretania may be



A VOICE OF WONDERFUL STRENGTH AND SWEETNESS FILLED THE CHURCH.

finally found an opportunity to go in unobserved, and slipped quietly into his accustomed seat. The church quickly filled, even to the corner where Jim sat.

After a while there was a sound of distant singing, and soon the boys came walking in procession, and singing the music that Jim had heard them learning.

In their choir garments they looked little like the rough, careless boys of the day before. He did not know that the boy with the beautiful voice, who was to have sung the solo part, had suddenly been taken ill, and that the organist, in despair, had been obliged to substitute in his place one of the other boys, who was not capable of filling it, but was the best that the

gathered from the length of her cable. This is about 1,900 feet long and weighs, with its shackles, 130 tons.



Young Mrs. Bunny—"Don't recognize him, my son. His conceit has been quite insufferable since he posed for those capdy rabbits."—Puck.

organist could find on such short notice.

So Jim did not know what to make of it when he saw the boy evidently preparing to sing alone. Jim knew each boy's capabilities in a musical way by this time as well as the organist himself did, and he knew that this boy could not sing the music properly. The organist began to play; the boy looked frightened. It was time for him to begin; he hesitated and choked. The organist turned partly around. The next instant a voice of wonderful strength and sweetness filled the church.

After a single start the organist played steadily on. He did not know from whence or whom the heavenly voice proceeded, but it was a God-send. Through to the end, without fear or faltering, glowing and thrilling with joy and love and devotion, Jim poured out his soul.

When the last pure tones had died away, and he realized what he had done, he would have rushed out if possible, but kindly hands gently detained him till the service was over and the surprise and wonder and admiration of the people could find expression.

Of course that was the beginning of a great change in Jim's life. The nightingale in his throat could no longer be hidden; it had brought to him friends and fortune. But in the future years people liked to tell the story of his first public appearance, when he sang because his bursting heart could not contain its wealth of melody.—Youth's Companion.

**Easter Reading.**  
We are told that neither in the New Testament, nor in the writings of the apostolic fathers do we find any trace of the celebration of Easter as a church festival. Origin urges that the Christian who dwells on the truth of Christ as our Passover, and the gift of the Holy Ghost, is every day keeping an Easter and pentecostal feast. It is doubtless true that the first Christians continued to observe the Jewish festivals as commemorative of events of which these had been the shadows, and thus the Passover made even more sacred by the thought of Christ, the true paschal lamb, the first fruits of the dead, continued to be celebrated and became the Christian Easter. The word "Easter," like the names of the days of the week, is derived from the old Teutonic mythology. Bede tells us it is derived from Eostre, or Ostara, the Anglo-Saxon goddess of spring, to whom the fourth month, April (or answering to our month of that name), was dedicated, and that this month was the same as the Mensis Paschalis, when the "old festival was observed with the gladness of a new solemnity."

## STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

### Latest News Gleaned From Various Parts.

Emma, the 3-year-old daughter of Benjamin Scheiler, of Allentown, was fatally injured in a fall from a window of the second story of her home. The little girl crept onto the window sill, lost her balance and fell.

John Dailey, of Walnutport, was struck and instantly killed by a fast freight train near his home.

Charles F. Raab, who was chosen Chief Burgess of Orwigsburg at the last election, early tired of the office, submitting his resignation. Thomas J. Reed was named by the Court as his successor.

The stocking of Schuylkill's depleted trout streams with fry has been started there having been placed at Indian Run, several miles west of Pottsville, 15,000 young trout from the Harrisburg fisheries.

A fund is being raised by the people of Williamsport with which to erect a memorial tablet in the city hall in honor of the late John P. Maloney, the patrolman who was murdered a week ago while attempting to arrest a notorious criminal.

Mr. and Mrs. Enos P. Findlay, of Quarryville, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary by holding a family reunion. Mr. Findlay is one of the oldest Odd Fellows in the State and he was presented with a beautiful badge of the order.

Maxim Kredich, a Russian, has been found guilty of murder in the second degree at Butler for beating his wife to death. He fractured her skull with a blow of his fist.

Upper Dublin Township, Montgomery County, is \$109 ahead, which the auditors cannot account for and neither can the treasurer.

Fort Washington is talking about applying for a borough charter.

His locomotive striking a loaded mine car at Hickory Swamp Colliery, near Shamokin, John Purcell, engineer, was thrown out of the locomotive and rolled over the edge of a high, steep culm bank and was badly injured.

The McTurk Coal Company, of Girardville, has let the contract for a monster breaker. The contract price is \$70,000 and the plant will have a capacity of 900 tons daily.

Byron, the son of Rev. W. O. Feigley, of Trappe, broke his leg by falling down stairs.

The Collegeville Fire Company realized about \$500 from a five nights' bazaar.

The York Y. M. C. A. male chorus will take a trip through Lancaster County, led by Secretary H. Bailey, of the association.

The body of Thomas Peach, of Lincoln Street, Dickson City, who has been missing from home for the past four weeks, was found lying half submerged in the Lackawanna River. How Peach came to his death will very likely never be known. There were no marks of violence on the body, which was in a fair state of preservation.

As a result of complications arising out of the failure of the Farmers' and Drivers' National Bank, at Waynesburg, Elms Brothers, who conduct big machine shops at the Green County capital, made an assignment for the benefit of creditors. Suits aggregating \$25,000 were entered in the courts at Waynesburg against J. L. Iams, former county recorder. They are all the outgrowth of the bank failure.

Prof. J. Irvine White, of Carlisle, formerly identified with school interests at Huntingdon, has been appointed treasurer to the Board of Trustees of Dickinson College, to succeed Frystinger Evans, who has represented Dickinson in that capacity for some years.

The Board of Tax Revision and Appeals of Easton has in three days increased the assessed valuation in the First and Second Wards nearly \$400,000. Nearly all the increases have been made in business properties.

The northbound Reading express train from Philadelphia, heavily loaded with passengers, narrowly collided with an outbuilding which had fallen from a terrace along the railroad near Shamokin and landed in the middle of the track. The engine tore the building in half and kept on the rails along with the cars.

Lawrence H. Rupp has been chosen as the orator for the annual Memorial day exercises to be held in Allentown, May 30.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the First National Bank plans for a new bank building were accepted. The building is to cost in the neighborhood of \$35,000 and will be the largest bank building in the town. It will contain in addition to the quarters occupied by the bank, eleven offices, a large storeroom and two lodge rooms to be occupied by the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. The structure is to be of three stories, the first of granite and the second and third of terra cotta.

After frankly telling her husband that she loved another man, Mrs. Samuel Kellenberger, of Lancaster, is said to have eloped with Garfield Moore, who leaves behind him a wife and five children. Both parties are under 30 years of age. Mrs. Kellenberger is an unusually attractive Auburn-haired girl. Moore was a trolley conductor and the affair is the result of a street car romance. The couple became acquainted while Moore was on a suburban resort line which Mrs. Kellenberger frequented.

China's trade with Japan has increased sixty per cent. in the last two years.

India is using much portland cement in building, for temples particularly.

The Bank of Japan has five times as much cash on hand as its entire capital stock.

Siberian butter goes to Hamburg, is repacked and sent to the Far East as a German production.

Nankin, China, is to have an electric light system of the most modern kind, also a new waterworks.

Petroleum exists near Toledo, on Cebu Island, Philippines, and in Tayabas, but has not been developed.

Russian sugar goes to Japan in an Austrian disguise, and Russian calico is sold there under a German wrapper.

Shipbuilding in Japan employs 10,000 men at Nagasaki, 8000 at Kobe and 4000 at Osaka. All the Japanese yards are full of orders.

Japanese savings bank deposits on July 31, 1906, were \$16,500,000 more than on December 31, 1905, a great gain for only seven months.

Many Chinese are becoming naturalized Japanese. The Japanese Consul in China are legally empowered to confer Japanese citizenship.

Manila is freely using re-enforced concrete for its new buildings with marked success. It is also being used for culvert pipes and other purposes.

New South Wales offers \$20 a head toward the passage money of approved agriculturists and domestic servants to that colony, and \$20 a head for other desirable immigrants.

Column after column of the newspapers in the Far East is filled with news about railways building, built and projected in China. The same is true as to Japan and the Federated Malay States.

**Preach That Earth is Square.**  
Members of the First Church of God (or Christ) are causing a revolution in religious matters in the Goose Creek neighborhood, south of this city. They preach that the earth is square, quoting from the Bible that the people are to be gathered from the four corners of the earth, and that they are to carry the gospel to all who inhabit the four corners of the earth.

They speak in strange tongues and an interpreter is required for those who talk in the meetings. They require converts to believe that Christ was not born in a manger, but under an apple tree, and they banish sickness by laying on of hands and other ceremonies. Fifty-nine converts are reported, some of whom are men well known in this city. — Martinsville Correspondence Indianapolis News.

**TOMMY'S THEORY.**  
"Yes, Tommy, it was in Salem that they burned the witches."  
"Gee, but that must have been a cold winter."—Cleveland Plaindealer.

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**THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD**  
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