THE CATHOLIG REG. -

A FATAL RESEMBLANCE BY CHRISTIAN FABRE.

XXX -CONTINUED

"Asked you to tell me?" he repeated "she would not dare to tell me berself feeling, no doubt, that I should penetrate

teeing, no doubt, that I should penetrate whatever mask she might assume." In his indignation he forgot that his own coldness to Ned must have imposed a most effectual barrier to any voluntary

charitably not to believe, must be quite true, of which truth, perhaps, Edgar nad even some secret proofs, but that, in his magnanimity, he would not openly con-demn the imprudent, if not erring girl Then her own pale and sick-looking countenance that he saw when he went to speak to his annt in the latter's apart-ment, seemed to be a proof of the un-pleasant things against her. Well might she look pale and sick if, as he now be-lieved, young Mackay's suicide lay at her door. And not until that moment did he realize how much he himself loved Ned. But he knew it now, knew it by the agony of his own thoughts, and though he pera most effectual barrier to any volume communication on her part. He was silent then, recalling the sad, pale, anxious face which his nicce wore all the evening, a face in such unfavor-able contrast to the bright, happy-look-ing one of his daughter. That was another and a strong link in the chain of corrobor-tion orders against the unfortunate ative evidence against the unfortunate girl; the bad blood of her low mother was showing in her, and once the was owing in her, and on her now mother was ised by Ordotte's tale were allayed. He is more convinced than ever that E ina was his child

Edna continued to weep, more from her secret fears than any other cause, and when she saw that her father was still absorbed in his stern reverie, she said with a sob :

with a sob: "Forgive, her, papa." He roused himself. To her dying day she never forgot the expression of his conntenance. Her novel-reading had given her a vague idea of stern and vin-dictive-looking faces, but this one, with its compressed mouth, its rigid lines, its corrugated brow, and more than all, its flaming, biercing eves. was much more corrugated brow, and more flaming, piercing eyes, was much more terrible than anything she had ever im-agined. After the first wild look at it,

terrible than hay hing sho has a ti, spined. After the first wild look at it, she felt that she must scream with terror if she saw it again, and she covered her own countenance with her hands. "Forgive her! Was it yon, E ina, my own daughter, who had done a thing like this, my heart and my home should be closed to you at once and forever. Pro-vide for you I might at a distance, but never should I consent to see again a woman who could so degrade her family by stooping to such an affection; a datgh-ter who could so disgrace her father by could so disgrace her father by ter who could so disgrace her father by receiving for a moment clandestine atten-tions, and from a suitor so much beneath her. Ned is to me now, and shall be henceforth, an utter stranger." "But, papa," said Edna, taking her hands from her face, and keeping her eyesdown, "you will not tell these suspic-ions of yours to any one-you will not let Mr. Mackay know-"

let Mr. Mackay know

let Mr. Mackay know-" "No," he interrupted, "for the satisfac-tion of your poor, little, tender, foolish heart, I shall promise you that nothing of this shall pass my lips to any one. It would do little good now, since the poor wretch is beyond all earthly help, and i wretch is beyond all earthly help, and in might only add to the grief of his poor old father to feel that, at the bottom of it, was a woman who had been one of my house-hold. Let Ned keep her guilty scret, is it be through her, as I now firmly believe that this man has come to h to be, that this man has come to his eath. I shall not reveal it." That assurance made her tears cease t death

flow, and well knowing there was danger of any private conversation be-tween Ned and her father, in which per-haps her falsehoods might be detected. the looked up and became something herse

"I had decided to leave here to-morrow "I had decided to leave here to hort out Edna," Mr. Edgar said, "and now all that you have told me makes me more eager to go. I shall give orders for the transportation of poor Mackay's body to his home. His father is a worthy old man, and deserved a better son than that scapegrace.

To-morrow?" repeated Eina.

"To-morrow?" repeated Eina. "Yes; you can be ready, can you not? I am most anxious to remove you from many influences here — that ill-bred, coarse Mrs. Doloran, and Ned. With Carnew I am charmed. It seems one of the strange freaks of nature that he should be so nearly related to that vulgar

woman." "Oh, yes, papa; I can be ready, and I shall be glad to go." And that assertion was truthful; she was glad to get away from meeting Ned. Knowing how she had calumniated her, she was not yet so hardened in guilt as not to feal a little analm of consciones for she was not yet so hardened in guilt as not to feel a little qualm of conscience for her fiendish work. Her great hope was that their departure might be so hurried as to leave no time for a private interview with her cousin. For Carnew there was no regret at leaving him; since her father admired him so much, she knew he admired him so much, she knew he would be invited to Weewald Place, and she doubted not his immediate accept ance of the invitation.

sorrowfal. Carnew was disturbed and pained. Linking what Miss Elgar had told him only the day before of Ned's secret acquaintance with young Mackay. and Mr. Edgar's coldness to her because of that acquaintance, with the facts that, in the suicide, Edgar had himself dis-covered this identical Mackay, and was now so cager to leave R shandabed, and so stern in his order to his danghter not to see Ned, he could come to but one con-clusion-that the story of the previous day, which his informant wanted so charitably not to believe, must be quite true, of which truth, perhaps, Elgar had pleaded to himself in extenuation of her varying disposition, even though his secret heart sent up a little protest against it all. He could not help feeling that, having been absent from her father so long having been absent from her father so long, she might snrely enjoy having him to herself for a little, and show that enjoy-ment by appearing happy in his presence, instead of manifesting, as she frequently did, a listless, almost dejected air, and an absent, half-sad look. One day that he had contemplated her thus for some time, he said anddanly.

One day that he had contemplated list thus for some time, he said suddenly: "What do you think of my asking Mr. Carnew to visit as immediately? I thought to wait a month or so before re-newing my invitation to him, but there is newing my invitation to him, but there is

newing my invitation to firm, out there is really no reason to wait so long." "O papa," she answered, "it would be so delightful," and the sudden color that glowed in her cheeks, and the immediate traightening of her form, with the pleas

straightening of her form, with the pleas-ure showing in her whole changed com-tenance, attested the truth of her words. Edgar felt he had made a new dis-covery: that his daughter loved Carnew, and that her manner, which he had been attributing to other causes, was due solely to the fact that her heart was in another's keeping. Wondering if the affection was mugued and if a whether Carnew had but he knew it now, knew it by the agoing of his own thoughts, and though he per-formed all the parting ceremonies with perfect courtesy, it was with somewhat of a pre-occupied air but little flattering to Edna. keeping. Wondering if the affection was mutual, and if so, whether Carnew had openly professed it to Eina, he asked: "Has Mr. Carnew paid you very marked attention during your stay at his

Piqued and saddened by it, she said a figured and saddened by it, she said, as he assisted her to a place in the car-riage: "May I be assured that you will accept my father's invitation to Weewald Place?" home

"No, papa," opening her beautiful eyes with that look of innocent wonder wh with that look of innocent wonder which she knew how to assume with such ex-cellent effect, "nothing beyond that which he would pay to any lady guest. I was the latest arrival to Rahandabed, and the latest arrival to Rahandabed, and being unaccompanied by any male escort as the other latics were, I supposed he deemed it his duty to attend me when I rode, and to pay me some attention at our evening parties." Her father was somewhat relieved; charming and devoted as he though her to be, he still feared that she might have heen preciving marked, attentions with-

eyes looking fixedly into his own, so as to throw all the witchery of her exquisite beauty about him. But the effect was lost, for he saw only one face—the face that he must learn to forget He bowed, however, and murmured that she might be quite assured of his acceptance of her father's invitation been receiving marked attentions with been receiving marked attentions with-out first asking his consent, and in that case there would have been a strange parallel between her and Ned. But at the same time he felt also a little throb of pain that this child whom he loved so intensely could so soon and strange turn of Heaven to give him this reward for his long life of struggle and broken to him by another than Mr. Edgar he might not have exercised such stern control of his feelings; but as it was, ever

he loved so intensely could so soon and so readily give her affections to another; so readily give her affections to another , could be willing to leave his home to brighten that of a stranger. Still he took himself to task for the feeling. Why should he expect to keep her more than other fathers kept their children, and why should he want the very brightest of her years bound to him, an old man now as he magined himself to be, though hardly in imagined himsel to be, though the law of simplest his fiftish year, when the law of simplest reason demanded that she should move in a different and more useful sphere? Then, even in the event of her marriage, here each not be separated from him. she need not be separated from him. Her husband might be induced to make Weewald Place his home, and in that case

E igar would not only have the society of nis daughter, but that of a son. That view cheered him a little, and he resolved to watch Carnew closely when he came, and should he prove, on a longer acquaintance, to be as deserving of regard acquaintance, to be as deserving of regard as ne already seemed to be, he would not only not object to his attentions to Eina, but even try to forward them. Having trues resolved, he went immediately to write a note of invitation to Carnew, which note he intended to dispa ch by hand, so that the bearer might bilg to him immediately Carnew's answer. E ina was still blushing with pleasure. Her father's desire to invite Carnew, the absence of any censure or remonstrance

absence of any censure or remonstrance on his part when he interrogated gentleman's attentions to her about the gentleman's attentions to her-self, indicated that he would not object to the young man as a suitor, and E ina de-termined to wind about him when he came every coil of her many charms, whe did not drawn for a moment that it She did not dream for a moment that it was shy, reserved, calamniated Ned, who, without knowing it herself, had won the heart of handsome Alan Carnew. yet, and when she returns she may be

XXXII.

Mr. Elgar's departure caused Mrs Deloran to have one of her most tantaliz-ing moods. Her vanity had been sorely wounded by it, for, had that gentleman been at all impressed by her blandish-ments, he certainly would not have de-parted so soon. And, as was usual, everybody about her paid the penalty of her miserable failing; but the keenest brunt of it fell upon Ned. She made the most absurd demands of the poor girl, often by so doing exposing her to the ridicule of many of the guests, and she querulously cansured her in public and Doloran to have one of her

sanguine hopes; the fact had been hint-

could not for one moment expect her to remain in a place where her daily annoy-

ances were so great, and that he quite approved of her proposal to go to Albany.

the honest, large hearted fellow, it was the affection of a sister, nothing more. She soliloquized about the contents of the missive :

Since he is so certain of securing a posi Since he is so certain of securing a posi-tion for me in the spring, why should I not endere Mrs. Doloran until then? After all, if I go to these good people in Albany, they may insist upon doing as they did before, charging nothing for my expenses, and then I should feel not a little unhappy. No, I have changed my mind, I shall endure Rahandabed until April."

April And she wrote to that effect to Dyke and he, blinded by his own love, took her resolution to remain at Rahandabed as

and he, binded by his both how both as a resolution to remain at Rahandabed as a proof that she understood the true mean-ing of his letter, but that, with her natur-al and beautiful modesty, she had re-frained from a single question which must draw him out upon the subject. Nor would he be any more explicit until the actual moment arrived when he could pour out at her feet that affection which had begun when he first saw her as a baby, and which had increased since with every year of his own life. Carnew dispatched an immediate ac-ceptance of his invitation to Weewald Piace. Indeed, he was rather glad of the change it would afford. He was tired of the frivolity about him, disgusted with his aunt, whom his mathood would not permit to abandon to the sharp practices and the unkind gossip of many about her, and

and the unkind gossip of many about her and he was bitterly disappointed in, and heart-sick at the thought of Ned. Hav

neart-sick at the thought of Ned. Hav-ing by accident seen in the mail-bag her recentletters to Dykard Dutton, all sorts of unpleasant reflections arose in his mind. Was it for the sake of Datton she had discarded Musica and driven the had discarded Mackay and driven the latter to suicide? Had she been frank enough to tell Datton anything about the wretched affair? And then he tried to ha e Ned, to stigmatize her to himself as has a Nod, to stigmatize her to himself as a secret flirt, a schemer for a husband; but one look at the sweet, pale, sad face disarmed him and sent him back to other thoughts with a sigh in his heart, and a great wild longing that she was what he

nce thought her to be. He departed for Weewald Place very

quietly, no one knowing of his departure until he had actually gone, and then a brief note to Mis. Poloran borne by Macbrief note to Mrs. Poloran borne by Mid-gilivray, who had driven the young mas-ter, as the Sotchman always termed Alan in speaking of him, to the station, informed that lady of her neohew's in-tended absence for a few weeks, but the p age of his destination was not men-burged. Why Alan, had acted with such tioned. Why Alan had acted with such secrecy he perhaps could hardly have ex plained to himself, save that, as his ann so avowedly disliked Mr. E igar, it would but add fresh fuel to her anger did she know he had gone to visit that gentle man, and in that case her temper would man, and in that case her temper would be more disagreeable than ever to those about her during his absence. But his present course was hardly better. Upon reading the note, she turned in a perfect

fary to Nad: "What do you think of that? Alan leaving home without consulting me, and then daring to write that he has gone and never to name the place that he has gone gone to?' But she did not wait for Ned' e that he bas She burst out at astonished Mac-y. "When did he give this note to reply. zilivray.

The Scotchman did not lose his prud ence. Divining from the information that Mrs Doloran had already imparted that there was some motive for secrecy on the part of the master, he determine to be very careful not to reveal the precise time of Alan's departure, nor the train he

had taken. "Me leddy, he put that note into me han' just as the carriage stoppit doon at the station, an' just before he steppit into the car. Bat if you want mair precise information, it war just as I war a thinking aboot tightening the girths of black Bess the off horse, an' war aboot to get doon to luik at the left fore shoe of Jim the near

horse, an--" "Stop," commanded Mrs. Doloran, more infuriated than ever, "I didn't ask you for such stuff as that. What train did

from the unpleasant contact only because there was nothing very convenient to her

Bat Ned had to bear the woman's tirades, and to listen to passionate speeches, flung with demoniacal injustice at Car-new, until her head ached as well as her heart.

At length, Mrs. Doloran seemed to have A close to be an anchor for her restless thoughts. In her denunciations of A lan's conduct, she had named first one place, and then another as his likely destination, but only to discard the idea as soon as she had given it expression: now, however, she seemed to conclude that it was after after seemed to conclude that it was alle Edna he had gone, and immediately sh

said, so, adding: "Why did I not think of that before The girl bewitched him, and of course he cannot live without her. Depend upon it, Ned, he's gone to Weewald Place, and he'll come back, I suppose, with his bride?

Had she been a grain less selfishly at Had she been a grain less selishly ab-sorbed than she was, she must have noticed the change which her words caused in the face of her companion. Pale before, it was ghasily now, and the dark heavy lines under the big black eyes seemed to grow darker and larger. But Mrs Doloran continued: " I wouldn't object to his marrying her; I don't object to her, I only object to her father. I shall write to him immediate-ly and tabl him inst what I think of his

father. I shall write to him immediate-ly, and tell him just what I think of his sneaking away from Rahandabed like

TO BE CONTINUED. A NIGHT IN THE BUSH

Sequel to a Priest's Thrilling Adventure in Australia.

BY T J. LAWS.

Father Tom Ryan was seated in his osy little presbytery, surrounded by some of his parishoners. "Yes," said Father Ryan, "th

ways of Providence are indeed wonderful. That's not a very original obser vation, is it ? But, truth io tell, I was just thinking of an adventure which happened to me during my stay in

Australia. It was Sunday evening ; the winter wind howled without and snow fell thickly; but the fire blazed brightly within, and the fire of Christian char ity, I am sure, warmed the heart of every one in the room.

"On, do tell us the story, Father ! All joined in this chorus.

"Have I time ? I mustn't keep you here too late, because some of you are married men, and you'l get in the wars if you are not at home betimes Mr. Dsianey, you're nearest the win dow ; will you kindly raise the window and see if its snowing yet?"

" Faster than ever, Father.

"Oh, then, ye'll have a fair excuse to offer. Draw your chairs a bit nearer the fire. This is the first snow I've seen for ten years.

"Are you sorry to be back in the old country Fathe: ?" 'I'm ashamed of you, Mr. Casey. and me a Tipperary man ! 1 wouldn exchange a square yard of green Irish turf for acres of Aus ralian bush Yet I never thought I should have been allowed to return, only the Bishop, bless him ! saw the climate out there didn't agree with me and sent me home. But now, if you have pati ence to listen, I'll tell you my bit of a

Father Ryan then related the follow. ng :

About eight years ago I was bushed. I dare say you don't all know what that means, so I'll tell you. It means that I had lost my way in the bush hut. the Blessed Sacrament to Our parishes are large in though all appearing bigger - built a sick man. Australia, and a ride of a few miles to see your next door neighbor is common enough. The man I wished to see was a squatter named Burke, who lived some twenty miles from our mission church at Wallaloo, and to reach his house I had to cross a belt of bush about ten miles in width. I had been through it once before with a guide, night? and so, of course, was conceited enough to imagine I could do so a second time without one. And here I was, close on name. sundown, completely lost, having ridden round three times in as perfect a circle as Eucild ever described. knew that, by a certain aged and pac uliarly-formed gum tree whose ac quaintance I had made thrice in the course of the day, marking it with a cross at my second visit. the hut. Here was a pretty state of thingssick man waiting for me, myself desperately hungry, no sign of human habitation and the sun almost set. In a few moments darkness swift and sud

this uncouth apparition was as welcome me then as a warm fireside to a

shivering man. "My friend," I said, "I am thankful to meet you. I have lost my way ; perhaps you can conduct me to some shelter where I may pass the night.'

"Bushed, are ye ?" was the reply. Well I reckon you couldn't have lighted on a better chum than myself. There are bushrangers about, you know, and you might have fallen in with some of them.

scrutinized as keenly as I could in the gathering darkness the features of my new companion, and the thought leaped to my brain that here before me stood as fair a specimen of the genu-ine ruffian as I had ever seen. But one must not always judge by looks, so I simply said :

"Bashrangers would find a poor prize in me." "Ye're a parson, ain't ye?" queried

the stranger 'I am a Catholic priest."

" Oh !"

My friend seemed to regard me with that sort of amazed curiosity with which we examine some extraordinary freak of nature ; then, after a moment he added :

"Well, come along o' me. I can take you to a shanty belonging to some friends of mine; they'll let you have a 'damper' and a 'billy ' of tes, and give a shakedown of some sort for the night. It'll be better than camping out here among the snakes and

the ningoes." "Thank you very much," I said, "but how far am I from Burke's place? I ought to visit a sick man there

"You'd never find your way there to night; it's ten good miles. Sick man'll have to wait till to morrow. Say whether you'll come with me or not; make up your mind quick, for I'm getting peckish." "I shall only be too glad to accom-

pany you," I replied, "and thank you sincerely. I also agree that the sooner we reach your friend's shanty the better, for if you are peckish I am absolutely wolfish

"Come on, then." He laid his hand on my horses bridle, and in an incredibly short space of time-I should not think three minutes could have elapsed-we stood outside the door of a fairly large hut or shanty. My guide gave a peculiar low whistle, which was answered in kind from within, and the door

opened. "Dismount, reverend sir," said my conductor ; "I'll look after your horse.

I obeyed his direction. "Now," he said, "you're welcome to our humble abode ; we don't often see gentlemen of your cloth here ; but you're all the more welcome for that. Hope you don't object to smoke ?"

Now, nobody is fonder of smoke than I when it comes from a good cigar, but the atmosphere I faced on entering the cabin was enough to make a skipper quail. The whole interior seemed enveloped in dense and remarkably penetrating fog, which immediately got down my throat and caused a prolonged coughing fit. Somewhere out of the fog came sounds of laughter. which, when I cleared the tears from my eyes and was able to discern anything at all, I discovered proceeded from four men who were seated round a rough deal table in the centre of the Great rough - bearded fellows

JANUARY 12, 1901.

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"Bushrangers !" I started and

XXXI.

The events of the succeeding day, with that strange fate which is often more propitious to the evil-doer than to the od, were quite in accordance with E ina's secret wishes. Herfather, unable to sleep after she left him, waited only the first glimmer of the dawn to go and look at And he remained so long by the suicide. And he remained so long by the side of the dead man, impelled to his unseemly vigil by a strange fascination, that he was found there by some of the servants Later, when it was by his order the body was prepared for removal to Barrytown, everybody believed that it servants to Barrytown, everybody believed that it was he, who, in taking an early stroll abut the grounds, had recognized the dead man. Nor did Edgar drop s word to contradict the belief. For Mrs. Dolor-an, when she heard that her guest was bent upon his departure, and that, im-mediately after the late breakfast, her

anger knew no bounds. Nice return for her hospitality to take himself away just as she thought she should enjoy him. She hated him now, she would never meet him again. And when Alan came to say that Mr. Elgar was waiting to bid her adieu, she refnsed to see him, nor would she permit Ned, who was really ill enough looking to be in her bed, to leave her for a moment, lest she perhaps should say a conticous farewail. And so Alan had to apologize with

what grace he might, for his aunt's lack of courtesy. Ha was, however, assured by Mr.

Edgar's manner, and by that gentleman's earnest invitation to himself to visit Wea-wald Place, that Mrs. Doloran's eccentri-

"But Neo, papa," said Edna, with a charming warmth "I cannot go without bidding her adieu." Mr. Edgar, in the indignation that the

very mention of Ned's name aroused, for-got for the moment the presence of Alan,

so tor the moment the presence of Alan, and answered sternly: "It is my wish that you should not see her." After which his daughter said no more, bu dropped her eyes very be-comingly, and appeared to be somewhat

strong enough to receive the information. How long is she to remain with her aont? Mackay, having by an effort recovered

She lingered purposely, as she spoke, with her hand upon his arm, and her eyes looking fixedly into his own, so as to

father's invitation, Poor, old honest Mackay! It seemed

Perhaps, had the news

in his intense grief-for he loved his boy

scapegrace though he deemed him to be -he was impressed and, after the man

ner of poor human nature, a little flattere

by Edgar's unusual condescension. He bowed his head when told the news, and for a few minutes let his tears have thei

way down his farrowed cheeks. Mr

E igar had thought it better to tell at one

all that was known of the circumstance

all that was known of the crickinstances attending young Mackay's suicide, and he did it very gently, impelled to that course by the same feeling which had caused him, in the first place, to assume the charge of the body — a feeling that because,

charge of the body-a feeling that because through kin of his, trouble had come t

these poor people, it was in a measure hi duty to show them some kindness.

"And a paper pinned to his breast, you say, Mr. Eigar " the poor old father re-peaked, when the gentleman had told the

"Yessaying for love he had done it. Do

you know anything of his private affairs,

Mackay; anything of his might have driven him to such a deed?"

was away from home so much. In the last eighteen months he has scarcely been here a week. His sister, Annie, may know. They took to each other warmer than most brothers and sisters; only she's

away now with her aunt in Rochester, and so delicate that I'm afeared this news wil

be the death of her too, and—" He stopped suddenly, for the thought of the

loss of both his children caused a great lump to rise in his throat, and he turned

E igar was really touched. He placed his hand on the old man's arm and said with a strange tremulousness in his own tonge.

"Do not let ger know anything about it

away, unable to say more.

tones

"Nothing; but how should I know? He

his voice, answered: "As long as she likes; I wasn't particular, so long as it was doing her good." "Very well, then, let her stay, and send her no word of this."

To which proposition the old man as

And Edna, when told all that by her And Edna, when told all that by her father, felt intensely relieved. Annie Mackay away from home, add not likely to hear about her brother's shocking death for come time, lifted a weight of fear from her own heart. She knew not whether the pledged and faithful secrecy of the young girl in the past, would or could be maintained in the face of such a transdu and though she hoped much

ridicule of many of the gnests, and she querulously censured her in public and in private, until N3d, in desperation, was seriously determining the question of leaving the lady's service. She could at least go to Albany to Mag's relatives, to whom she punctually wrote, and she had sofficient money saved to defray her ex-penses until another situation could be found. But she must write to Dyke first; she could not take such a step without could be maintained in the face of such a tragedy, and though she hoped much from her own influence over Annie, and from the latter's affection for herself, still it seemed to be a lucky stroke of fate to have her absent just now. She wrote to Ned how Annie Mackay was away, and trail to he made acongined with what she could not take such a step without consulting him. And accordingly she wrote, detailing pretty fully the many itls to which she was subjected in her Not now Annie Mackay was away, and too ill to be made acquainted with what had happened, but she did not say a word to indicate her own feelings. In-deed, the letter was as bright and chatty on the activity of such a such as the set of such as ills to which she was subjected in her present home, but withal saying that, as it was now the beginning of winter, and perhaps rather an awkward time to think of securing a position in any family, if he thought it better, she would endure her present abode until the spring. Dyke read that letter with eyes that as the effasion of a gashing and guileless school-girl. In vain Ned tried to gather from it some little trace of remorae or penitence, or at least of that deeper feel-ing which is at all times the accompanivery nearly swam with tears of pleasure; it, as it were, gave him an assurance that her heart was still her own, and might ment of a truly Christian heart. There ment of a truly Constant neart. There was nothing of the kind, and the very sym-pathy expressed for oid Mackay had a cold, unfeeling ring about it that made Ned turn away from the letter with dis-(a): how his own heart beat at the thought) one day be his. He had given so much satisfaction to his employers that already it was contemplated to promote him to a position beyond his most

appointment. Young Mackay was laid to rest in the little country cemetery, on a bleak after-noon, when the dreary aspect of nature seemed in mournful keeping with the bereaved old father. Quite a concourse of hinter mouth with a seed the interthe country people witnessed the inter-ment, for the Mackays were well known, and old Mackay much liked and re-

Edgar did not attend the faneral, but he assumed all the expense, and to make further amends, he offered the old man the better and more lucrative situation of head gardener in Weewald Place, which offer was gratefully, if not gladly, ac-

approved of her proposal to go to Albany. In April, he was positive he would be able to secare a position for her, and in the meantime her stay with Meg and Meg's relatives might afford her perhaps cepted. Edna was gay and melancholy by turns; for, hardened as she had become she could not keep down the still white face that rose so often to reproach her. Her father, because of his deep affection, Her lather, because of his deep affection, singularly watchful of her, noticed her fit-ful moods and attributed them to the lonely contrast that Weewald Place was to Rahandabed. Mrs Staffrd, though kind, and gentle, and cultured. was hardly sufficient society for a girl of Edna's lively temperament, and he himself was perhaps too old and too much inclined to melan-choly reticence to prove an agreeable companion. Such were the arguments 1 e.

a little rest and recreation. If she would tell him the precise time of her depart ure, he would endeavor to get a couple of days' leave of absence in order to escort her. Not a word had he said of his real her. Not a word had he said of his real intention, and yet he flattered himself that she would see through it all, and and erstand that the position he would be able to secure for her would be that of his wife. Ned, however, was obtase in that respect. She divined nothing of the kind from the simply-worded letter; and while her heart beat with renewed affection for

Mr Carnew take?

The Scotchman's face assumed a most bewildered expression, and he looked from Mrs. Doloran to Ned in such an amusingly helpless way, that at another time the girl would have been provoked to larghter. to laughter.

"Speak, man!" thundered the irate

"Speak, man: thundered the frate woman. "Well, you see, me leddy, a train war going up and a train war coming doon, and what between the note that he gart me gie you, and Jim's left fore shoe—" "You're an utter fool," interrupted Mrs. Doloran; "can't you tell whether he went me as down; did you are him get on the up or down; did you see him get on the

Macgilivray was averse to downright but he could easily reconcile his lying,

lying, but he could easily reconcile his conscience to a little equivocation or pre-varication, and in this case the latter seemed especially commendable: "Yes, me leddy; I seen him steppit aboord the car, but then it might be the car gaug doon, and then agen, it might be the car gaug up, for, as I said before—" But again he was interrupted. "Since you are such an unmitigated idiat about the trains, tell me about the

idiot about the trains, tell me about the time that he boarded the car."

time that he boarded the car." This time, to insure success in the part he was playing, Macgilivray assumed rather a knowing look. "I think I can tell you that, me leddy,

if ye'll noo hurry me, but bide awee while I get it straucht."

while I get it straucht." Mrs. Doloran seemed to be trying to possess her soul in patience, and the crafty Soutchman, with the torefinger of his right hand pressed to the side of his nose as if to help his recollection, re-sumed: sangnine hopes; the fact had been hint-ed to him that very day, and he had ample reason to expect that by the soring he would be in a position to offer Ned at least a comfortable and an assured home. As his wife, his large loving heart could shelter her from every ill such as she now endured. So, in the fal-ness of his delight, he wrote that he could not far one moment expect her to sumed :

"It war verra near twa hours, an twenty-one minutes after lunch, when I got the order to be ready to be ready to drive the young master doon to the station, an' when we started it war verra wars? Scillock

near 3 o'clock. "Oh, then he must have taken the train up," interrupted Mrs. Doloran. "Bide a weel, me leddy; we had a stap-dage on the road; Black Bess's choc hurtil dage on the road; Black Bess's choc hurtil dage on the road; Black Bees schoe hurth her, and we had to stop round to Payne's the blacksmith to have it fixed; the young master said there war time encuch. That took twenty seven minutes and a half, and there war muckle mair time in half, and there war muckle main the half getting to the station, for he gart me not to drive fast. Sae I dinna haud in mind the exact hour you want, me, leddy, but if it war noo much past 4 o'clock, then it war verra near 5 o'clock."

it war verra near 5 o'clock." Mrs. Doloran's temper was at white heat by this time, and she almost drove

den would be upon me, and what was to be done then? What was that the stiff leaves of the trees seemed whis pering ?

"Oh, thou of little faith, is not the Lord with thee-resting upon thy very breast ?

True, and surely no harm could be fail me. Yet it was strange that, with the Blessed and Adorabl Sacrament in my possession, I should have been al-

lowed to lose my way ! "' ' Man,' the trees whispered again. what knoweth thou of the purposes of God ?

And then I forgot my doubts and re signed myself to spend a long and dreary night in the lonely bush.

Bat it was not to be, for my reverie was suddenly interrupted by the sound of a human voice close at my horse's

"Hallo, chum !"

The gruff words startled me like an electric shock.

They came from a tall, sturdy, rough looking man, who seemed to have sprung from the bowels of the earth to my horse's flank. Not a preheat by this time, and she almost drove the Scotchmon from the room. He went, congratualating himself that his departure had not been summarily hastened by the advent of a missile at his head; probably he had been saved hastened by the advent of a missile at his head; probably he had been saved hastened by the advent of a missile at his head; probably he had been saved hastened by the advent of a missile at his head; probably he had been saved hastened by the advent of a missile at his head; probably he had been saved hastened by the advent of a missile at his head; probably he had been saved hastened by the advent of a missile at his head; probably he had been saved hastened by the advent of a missile at his head; probably he had been saved hastened by the advent of a missile at his head; probably he had been saved hastened by the bad been saved hastened by the bad been saved hastened by the had been saved hastened by the bad been bad been saved hastened by the bad been saved hastened by the bad been saved hastened by the bad been bad

though an appearing bigger built men than he. They regarded me, I thought, with a kind of amused curl-osity, puffing the while great volumes of smoke from dirty, short clays. "Hallo, Jack Biake!" roared one

red whiskered giant, in a voice like that of a lion with the croup. "What new chum have you brought us to-

"This," said my guide, "is a rev-erend gentleman-I don't know his

And he vanished into the outer air I supposed to see my horse.

"Myname," I remarked, "is Ryan ; I am a Catholic priest, and I crave your hospitality for the night.'

A roar of laughter shook the sides of

"I am afraid." said Redwhiskers, 'your reverence will find us a very irreverent lot ; but you can have a drop of tea and some grub, such as it is, if you'll pay for it; we're poor men, as you see, and can't afford to give

much away. "My triend," I replied, "I have not much money with me, but, no doubt, I shall be able to satisfy your demands.'

"Then, perhaps, you won't mind paying in advance.

There was a peculiar emphasis placed on these words that I did not like

"Certainly," I replied ; "now or later on-what does it matter ? How much do you require?"

"Oaly all you have about you," was

the grim reply. "What do you mean ?" I cried

"No nonsense !" was the answer. "Bail up ! I'm Jack Rennie-maybe you've heard of me?"

I had, indeed. All Australia rang with his name as that of the most dar-ing of bush-rangers. What was to be done? I cared nothing for the little money I had about ma-but the Blessed and Adorable Sacrament-how should I save It from outrage? I made a dash

for the door. "Step !" thundered Rannie.

I turned; all the men had sprung to their feet, and four ugly looking revolvers were plinted straight at my head. A sudden thought occurred to