# Che 

FATHER CONNELL : A TALE.
by tie oblaza famity.

## crapter xix.-(Gontinucl.)

The interruption was not reanered. Care-
fally and noiselessly he now remored the oiled folly und noiselessly he now remored the oiled
paper from tho windorm, put in his arm, and with a dexterous and linowing application of window then opened to the gentlest push of his
hand ; he clambered up to it, and knelt upon the lower part of its frame. A piece of nor
tar fell from the top of the recesis of the wior dow, and crashod and rattled auongs soue kit it monent he beame perfecty still. Kuceling as has boen suid, on the mindow frame and
also supporting himseit by restine his hands and arnes upon it, while his heatl and boty
erouched down and poked forwavd, not an mus crouched down and poled forwad, not a musi-
cle had motion except those of his cyes-and cle had motion except those of his cyes-and
even his eyes could but glare, like thiose of a
started tiver, checked in lis spriner, into the deop darkness of the kitchou.
Bat there came no stir through the house
to hint that the hardh ad suden noise had bea leard by its imnates; aud rery. rery cau-
 an opeca spot where it might rest without ceus-
ing fresh clatter. Tho next noment le with
 intently matching the

Bery way satistied Fith the observations of
beth senses, he next crept to the tire groping both senses, he next crept to the tire, gropiug
with one foot before the otles, and with both
hands, before him and beside him, Iest he might stumble ower: or hit himself amant some un-
seen objcer. Here he agan had recourso to ven objcet. hare he :gyu had recourso
the wallet slum orer hise inoulder. Jistracting firmin it a smanil dark lanterm, he took the can-
dle out of tiis, and with ceatious and thin dhairn puff: at the "red sol" in the gwate soon had a light: one might imigine a sketel of chentracteristic features; the puckered action of
his month, his down-turned cyes, with their sowing, owehnaging brow:- down-turned beciuse their glanees were dinted into the tur
he held ; the mixed expeesion of caperness santion, malignity, wad bliel purpose. legible lighted from muderneithe by the ficree ruddy glow of the sod, met move them a fers iucies re-
noved from his lips. He raised the lid of the salt-bor, and possesed hinself" of the key of the hall-door. In
gained that dopr; believing it loeked, turned the key in the lock without producing any eftownded, and in uo aniable humor, until ly peesing close he diseovered his mistake. A
few scoonds afier, the dony misi hald opened, when, protruding his head aud shoulders into the street, and ghancing upward and downward,
he risted in so pcoliar a kov and manner thecide whether the sound arose ncar or fia off. A small, sumbll echo, and at the same time a
perfect imitation of the alistle, floated through the stilled street; sun yery soon alfter, a ragged, mot deternine at a glauce, was adnitted by peaceable hous
peaceable house.
Mobin softly put down the latel of the door igain. His new come nequantinee was abou to speak, but he slook his fist, suarling, and
all but crowliny at him, and whispered into lis The bar, "Stale alther me. mondingly followe his preceptor into the kitehen. Costigan pro-
ducen another supply of woollen rars, handed duced another supply of woollen rags, handed
them to him, mod motioned him to sit on tho them to him, and motioned him to
Hoor and adjust them over his feet. as he complied with these instructions. "Les, but sjake low an" littlo Werve news for you then,

Because Mrive
"Bocnuse Miary Coongy is wid the 'prentice she"s tellin' him all about is." "
that "I "I
"I seen him abroud in tho shon, wid her, an'
I tollowed him to Joan Flaherty"
"You did?" He scowled on the lad as if "You did, did you? . You're quite shure ?"
"Ay, shure." Costigun, in a low, slow, horrible tono ; "bud come, no more words now. There's work to
do. Ticie onf tio ou, an' hutry, or 'lll cripple
"An' won't you rin while the rood is clear?" it as woll as Mary Cooney. Hou, or you'll rue 1 say. "lhere, don't stir now till I come to you."
Ho went to the hall-door, turned the key

## in ho f d $d$

"Are you ready?" he asked, coming back "I'm ready
Hould your prate, or--" there was another Hould your prate, or- there was inother "Opon your ear wide now, an' listen to me,
your life-at the peril ${ }^{\prime}$ ' your life, mind "ur your life-at the peril o' your hite, mind,
on you hear? Why don't you answer me?', He shook his scholit fierecly by the shoulders features almost touching
"Come here." Costigan scized him by the arm, and hurried him over to the kitchen
rrate. "Do you see that red sod o' turf?"
"I so id wol rite. "Do you so
"Iniud wee then, I bid you;" ho applied his lips closely to the boy's cir, and communieated
some orders in a whisper, so close and fine that the opposite ear might almost be said to have carcely heard it.
Hive you the "Hate y
sat?"
"I have.
"Iou're positive sartiu that you have?"
"I am. Ill give id back to yon, in" slmu that ud tell you whecther I an or not;" and in
his turn he whispered a nearly soundless whisper into his master's cirr.
"Ay, by the mortial, that's id. Let me se that you go by ordhers right, or woe beticie
Fou. Ifrece talke this." He placel thic kitchen poker in the hand of his young eofle:"yno and armed himself with the irou birn of itstioon cell you."
Without the slightest noise from tha treal of rin loct, the hipir mountel the stais, Cost his follower might have the sudyantage of it
light. They entered Ned Fennel's bed-room The bel was unoceapica, minh had not been lain
:" Tis a truth, by-! muttered Costig: He turned, and still led the way onward They gained the housckeeper's room. She troubled, perhaps with some drcimn of danger
Costican raised his ban in both hends she Costigan raised his bar in both hands. Sha he perfectly eaught the worde, " In the most holy and blossed nane of-" and these werd
saved her from his haud. It was not pity was not a return of humanan feeling to the liean of the desperado, that stayed his upliftel arm le:st of an could it have ween a religions silltipassing friyht at soncthing: but whaterer it peace.
He liehted the candle she had extinguishod and placed it on the floor, at the end of her
bed, to aroid startling her from her sleep by its glare; and then he again whisperel in slort
" If she stirs, toneh
"If she stirs, tonch her here," he drew his "If she stirs, toneh her here," he drew hi
inger in a line across her forehead, withonat howerer coming in contict with it-4 honld it that way in your hands, an keen it remely, an
watel her well." Ho poised the kitelen poker so as pertectly to satisfy his own judgmeat, both the hauds of the loss expricuced practi
tioner-"keep well in your mind what I tould tioner- kecp well in your mind what I tould
you in the kitchen, an' have your ears wide open for the
for your life.
Cautiously, but quickiy; Hobin Costigan stole out of the housekecper's bed-chander
The lad reminued alone at her bed-side; his weapon raised in both hands orer his riyl shoulder, and his cyes fixed in full, and ghastly
watchfuluess, on the old woman's face. Yes, hat boyish cye, which ought, at that monent, thave been closed in sweet and innocen parkled with the reflected merriuent of inind amused and at ense ; that boyish cye wals
distended with only the murderer's stony :b distended with only the murderer's stony :
striction of purpose, while the youthful lips instead of quivering to the laugh or carol o boyhood, were firnly closed in thic expression of a deadly and unfinching resolve.
$\Lambda$ sudden crash sound
A sudden crash sounded down staizs. The aged finale startod out of her sleep, and opened which were watching her. A second glavee made her understand what meant the tigure
with the raised poker, and the hagegard, hellish frec, which stood over her: : tud she was about to sit up in bed, and had berua to seroam,
when one blow, descending, on the exact spot when one blow, descending on the esact spot,
over which Costign had described the air drawn line with his fin
notionicss and quict.
With the concentruted foree of his whole young frame, the boy had inflicted that blow,
wns indeed joined with the weight of reapon, 100 much for him; the poker tound its way to the foot of the bed, fell uished the candle; and overthreors and oxtindarkness, with, he assured shimsolf, the corppse
the buman, being he had just deprived of him. He trembled, his teeth chattered, his

Lnoes smote each other; and, unable
step, cold sweat flwed down his face.
His master His master 'aniued, meantime, the door of
Nick M'Grath's bedrooun; and, as he had an ticipated, found it fastencel on the inside. But he did not hesitate, for an instint, foreibly to
insert the iron bar between the lock and the insert the iron bar between the lock and the
door-jumb: and then, with a single wreuch, the door-jumb: :and then, with a single wreuch, the
door was burst opeu. It was the noise of this
violence, which had startcd rolly Brechan from her sleep.
"Who are you? What do you want here ?" domanded Nick ar Grath of the ferocions in-
truder, as Costigitu hell his lantern over limin. The old man was on his baud and knees,



## robber here, Nel Fennel

"Say that again, ir cry out one wort more,
an" by the mortial, Ill
 the villain interrupting himself with : " Mah !" now snatched at at waistonat, which parrly piro-
truded from bencath the pillow. Nick $I$ Grath Hung himsilf upon the article of dress, in the
pooket of which was, inded, the identical hey requirad by Costigan: and a strugele cusued
 "hah! I we I must stop your pipe, then, Costigan phaced the lantern on the flas, and
then graspel by the throat the still prostrite old man. But his gripe vo longer had in it
the force of youth or of manhool ; cren the the roller had, thecther withe brutal indulgences annl cxessses considerably confecbled his
arme; and in a trial of strength, for dear. dear
 hinself: alnost at matel for him. At all cevent. hands tightly in Costigan's long grey locks, now fallen from under his striut hat, :mal tused with might :und minin. Costigen undin
his grasp, and scized tic waisteoit. Niek M. Gath followed his example, secured it at
the other emh, and was draged of his bed int the other emad and was draged of hisis bed into
the midele of the room- pow shricking, shrilly
 wad threats miggled
despairing cries.
 hold of the waistcont, stiuting up, scizing the iron bar, and masing it high over the prostrate
Nick IM Grath. But the next instime his prot posed rietim saw him fall heallong on
tlon by his side, while the henvy weapon can with a raging noise, aguinst the bourds. "Here I au, sir", said Ned Fennell, inme-
di:tely after thisis happoned-"، get up, sir, imut di:tely after this happened-" get up, sir, iut?
put on your clothes, and lot wis try to secture put on your clothes, and lat us try
this worthy pervon':
THe almost flumer himself on Costinn's pliced al knoe upon his brewt-bouc, and hold down both his arms.
"Sed, my pood boy, Coul bless you, Goul

 "You shan't escape the third langing, hobin Costigan,' said Ned Fenuell to his prisoner.
lobin Costigan returned no word of answer. Mobin Costigan returned uo word of answer.
Te only rolled his cyes, :s at manacled wild bent would have done, bent inwards his undervariety in the practice of the art of
ver "'What's that for ?" asked Ned Fenuell Still he received no :unswer. The eirr-split \% Youl have helpers in the house. Then I must be alive, I see., Are you reudy to go
down to the shop, sir? ing his old master. he safe, Neddy ?"
"He is, sir; I have him as sate for you, and "He is sir; I have himu as sale for
or the gallow, is his Iheart cann wish." Was it the tigltness of the grasp by which tain sounds in his throat, or was it reall laugh of derision, that cseanped from Robin Costignn? His old friend Ned looked close
into his cyes, to help himself to ascertaia the into his cyes, to help himself to ascertaia the
guestion, oue way or another. But in them ho question, one way or another. But in then h
could discern nothing but an oninous scowl. "You will now go down to the shop, sir, you please," "esumed Ned, "and bying me u a good strong rope; I must tic this worthy neck and hecss before I search the house.-
hight the cundle at the lantern, and take the "I will, Ned, my good boy-I will." "I will, Ned, my good boy-I will."
Doing just as ho was bid, with the docility "I was in the niek of tine to spoil your sport, Robin
companion.
manion
"I was
"How did you get into the house?
"Hah! you'd like to know that, would you $\because$ Hah! you'd like to know that, would you
Inl tell you, then. After try ing my latch1-key at the hall--loor, and finding that it would no
do for this evening, I turaed to the back of th promises, hobin, sealod the yard wall, and enou so obligingly left kitchen-window, whic hatuk yous."
"Cures for erer pushue ne! That went out o ' my head, , hure cuough.".
"Sever mind, my noor fricnd ; 'twas only "Never mind, my poor friend; 'twas only
slip of memory-amd we'l tach yon, if we an hon to awoid such little mistakes in, future.-
You and I met before. Robin, my dear-does
your menory fith you in that too?, "No. I remember id well, an I In pay you
for it, as well as for this, before I die." "Don't Robly; don't be so particular, I'll never ask you for payment. upou my word:
all that you cerer got :it my hamd I have gives grati, mat with heary grod will. Sou aro "I'll pry you to the last farthin'. for all "In ! hat and you really expect to make "I Ill make you no nasrrer to that, no more

 on, Rob show-ball ath ill ?-Fite, for shane but no uattir. You give me a fair warnint,
and $I$ had better make sure of you then-l kerpmy sye on yon--se that dhe hampan's rone is trong, and that you hang until you are tembYou'd want to to all that an' some, Ned Femnell's lieght vein clanyed a little Inpoteat as the oldi robber's thrent, under present circumstimecs, michht seem, still, it was
made so often, and with such seff-posecssion that Ned now folt a little mensy and 'rualmish
 myself, And so, we'll begiu at onee, if' you
prom his master, whon now returved into his bedromn, he sinteled the rope he hat gome for.
:ITohe one of his. feet tight for il moment urety able for so muph-.
:(b)! aint I, Jeddy, ny boy? Ask him self. Nodly; ; isk if In not able for a nook
deal more than that, when he had une alone here, all to himself; :th! if you d see the wa $\because$ Don't tell me about it now, sir in you pleth "out" Well I will, Yeddy, my boy." Enot, Ned soun had lobin Costigiul af well enot, . ed soun had Robin Costigur
nemacled als ever wiss man belore him. endenc his went down non hist kinees, besides th mosmite Costigan, and took up his interrupte diuching his little fist. protruting one of hit

 Chockling toumphaster bid you do it," he said, "My master! I have no
looi. What do you mem?
"I mean what I say. 'Twas your master hare, as clever a thand you: and a master you and I cun tell you who he is too, if you purtend to forget him, he's your master, the devil, yo punch, punch, with his knuckle, still anceonpanicd every word that the exultant old man $A$ glare of light here suddeuly burst on th unsnuttered windorf, tully illuminatiag the
"What can that be?" gaid Ned Fennell runiur to the window, which looked Fenuel little yarl. "Ha! hat ha!" lugghed Costigan, down i Wis very stomalah.
"Merciful Meavens! the hay-loft is on iire," repoined Ned.
Ned, my what? what Nod? don't say that, Nick II Grath, suddenly lowered in his high tonce, and struck almost into inaction by this new terror, as was testifed by his weak and mumbling voice, shaking frame, and vain at
tempts to risc from his lnecling tompts to rise from his leneeling posture.-
"Day that; Ned, if it is truth you aro spaaking we must all be destroyed in a fed minutes! The rarorooms, you know Another very original kind of laiugh oscaped
Costigan ' his chest ond shouldes und Costigan; his chest and shoulders undergoing
quick convulsions, in proof of the internal pleaquick convulsions, in proof of the internal ploa-
sure it gave him.
"I boow, sir,"
muster, "I kiow too well what duyper we are
in-come here, sin," he dragred tho bewildored old man to a window whiched looked into the the strect, theyst wut his ooke hinado and raised it up, and with will the power of lifs
hungs shouted "fite! the", "Shgs shouted "fire! hire!"
"Sow, for hearen's sake. dear sir, endeavor o keep your wits about you, or nill will indeed "I will, Nea, wy hev. I will kecpp all ny cal! my poor fiohts, Nod! my poer hols! urs hley keep off the fire and the inlhuck from the hutse and the phace and sumb a platy of them
 ": Silence! yon yrey-hembel senumutro,". said
 augh of a devil!" Hip shatelied up the iron
 howes, and wiees, in shriwhing allarm, domasered. they, in their tarns, waw him back


## is anaster, "do what I tell you, fing fiod's

hide; dow, dowa tet ita some of the neigh-
 hat's this?-wiy the olld minn is wether dying how sitting en the flom, with his back to the tuke sming and buttoring, and unable to Sel lennell thon a moment in almost the bar of iron in hiss hauds: he heard the haise of hattering at the strect
door, on the inside: mad ha a fuy wowe wat ertain that Sed Lomad hay. for how prewent. reen obliew to sive up the nttempt in de-
 Agrain the old robber bent his calr to all tha Moises arenar hime mand other mindow-sashes "where-rhere?" and reverberations of the wild ery of " dira! tire! fire"" ruming, like
fire itself" un and down the strent-the strect which, a fery moments before, hat been as dully und as deady sitent, ass the seale! temb. Af-
ere this the noise of rumning leet sounded abroad, of whic: a great miny cance to Nick M: Giathis howes door, while voices roared aud
 nocked aud bicked at it, till thu stwet echoed yrain. "A shduy, a slenle:" le then heard and frightemed reices increased every iustant. cll, before mentioned as hung in the high ructure, orer the Tholsel, norv only a few yurds distunt, suddenly clanged out a thrilling and irregulir manner, sonecineses slow and low, somectines loud and fast, conreying to the al fancy that, suddenly wakened out of its slecp, ke thenselves, it also shared their present
trepidation. At all events, is its clash, elash, roke over the midnight repose of the little ven to its wide-spread suburbs, no tocsin crer produced a greater panic.
Crash ! at the hall-door below, aud Costigan rore that it was burst open, He was righs, ting through the house, and alnost at the tme moment his apprentice (quickly, yet " Your knife here !" said the old offender. The not unapt boy looked, comprehended, and instantly procecded to cat the cords that "You done it, then!" growled Costigan dur"I this rapid procoss.
"Is the hall-door wide open for us?
"As wide open as hell's hall-door is for us." and was hastening out of the apartmont "Is he safe ?" questioned his young col-
lenguc pointing to Nick Mr Grath, who lay
hudded up in a corner, and as silent as if he
were dosd.
"No, but the fright 'ill do for him-whe
ther or no, we harn't time now; na, nor the In a short time, indeed,' the two, worthios

