TWO

#### REAPING THE WHIRLWIND

BY CHRISTINE FABER CHAPTER XXXVI-CONTINUED

"I thought not to have made this proposal so soon, Miss Burchill," the missive continued. 'Indeed, I had almost decided to wait some months yet in order to be very certain of your affection for me. As it is, I am not sure of all of your regard beyond wLat you would give to any friend, but I am certain of my own love for you, and that is so strong that is would not let me wait longer. I love you, Mildred,—allow me to call you so this once,—for the virtues which I have observed in your character; above all, for that sweet, gentle char. ity with which woman is angelic, without which she is a blot upon the creation, and I long to have your gentle ministry about myself. I have suffered keenly in my life, so keenly that I cannot even revert to those memories of the past without feeling again much of the bitterness of my first pange. I loved once, Mildred but my love was shattered in cruel duplicity and treachery. I thought never to love again, but you have engagement with Miss Burchill.' There was a sound no won me from my resolution; you have realized to me all my boyish dreams of woman's true and tender characer. Forgive then, my precipitancy, ad let me know my fate at once. Where my heart is engaged, my im-petuosity knows little control. Cora Cora will bring me your reply.

Yours in ardent expectation, GEBALD THURSTON.

Had she read aright, or was it not her usual lack of regard in excite. all a horrid dream? Was so bitter a cup as this reserved for her? and ment, she said, impetuously. must she drink it?

"O God, pity me!" she said, sinking upon her knees, and pressing marry you." again and again her parched lips to the letter. Thurston had long since won her deepest affection through the virtues which she had observed but with true womanliness she had sought to conceal the fact even from herself. Now, however, with his own manly proposal before her, the tide of resistless passion for beloved object swept over her soul in a storm that would be neither calmed nor abated. It seemed as if her heart must break, and the burning tears which blistered the letter seemed to be wrung from her very soul

I cannot make this sacrifice." she said to herself. At least I shall tell him all, and then he will know that I love him, and that I give him up only to save another." But in anewer to that soliloquy rose up sternly her promise to Horton to tell nothing about him to any one. And even did she obtain a release from that prom-ise, what help could Thurston render in this case? It would be impossible faction, if not of positive pain, at the news; but to Robinson's repeated for him to foil now Robinson's de signs in regard to the convict,-dewish for congratulations on signs which, she felt, any withdrawal engagement, he answered calmly her part from her contract with enough : Robinson would but render more des perate and malicious. And did she felicitous enough to warrant congratrefuse to sacrifice herself, how could ulations. Better defer the congratu she be happy, even as the esteemed and beloved wife of Thurston, when lations until after marriage," a reply that brought upon the speaker one of every day of her future would be har. rowed by pictures of her uncle again in prison, separated from his child. the factory owner evidently thought treated with far greater severity than before, and dying at last, perhaps, subject. unattended and unconsoled? One of the family already had died in prison, Cora, without waiting as she usually -died for her; must this one also when she could prevent it? No, no; did until her uncle and Gerald ad journed to apother room for cigars, despite her anguish, her heart rose hurried immediately from the table up with its denial, and after all was Both men noticed her pricipitate it not better to sacrifice the happideparture, for both continued to ness of one when that sacrifice would bring joy to two? Then her own life might not be a very long one. Its very wretchedness must shorten it, and God would recompense her. exit, but it had too close of her hasty He who had sacrificed Himself for her would give her strength. Out of the thought came an unexpected ation to Thurston of her refusal of his offer, and did she tell him that she returned his love while she was forced to accept the hand of another, such a statement would only plunge him into dire unbappiness, and make some explanation from her absolutely necessary. There was no way for her but to make her sacrifice, horrible as it was, prompt and complete. And what if she were misunderstood, even condemned for her conduct by him whom she loved dearer than her own God would know what she had done and suffered, and perhaps, sometime, in His own mysterious way, He would vindicate her character. With compressed lips that told of a deter mination which wears upon the very heart, she drew toward her writing materials and penned :

and you won't say anything about my sick appearance to anybody, will you? "May not I just tell Mr. Thurston?

watching her.

asked.

suddenly mad.

He always seems so interested in everything that concerns you." "Not even him ; but you may give him this answer to his letter, please.

it had occasionally come up in their lighter reading, could or should Cora took the note, insisting that make a woman give her hand where her heart could not accompany it? as Miss Burchill had shut herself from sight so long, she must now remain with her until it was time for And though the governess had always spoken in most respectful terms of Mr. Robinson, and when in her to descend ; and as Mildred could not reasonably refuse, she did so, his presence had treated him with extreme courtesy, still it required averting her face, however, as often as she found the girl anxiously but little discrimination on Cora's Cora gave Gerald the note, and left

part to feel that, with all, the factory owner never really possessed Miss him to its perusal while she went Burchill's liking or esteem. She burned to tell this now, and to ask into dinner. He followed, just as Robinson, tired of waiting, was about what duty could justify the proposed to send for him. His face since his step, but she felt that her question father's death wore always a grave expression, but now there was a would not be answered. Miss Burchill seemed very tired, painfully compressed look about the mouth and a preoccupied expression of the eyes that instantly attracted

indeed, ill, it one might judge by her pale face and heavy eyes; and as Cora watched her she became filled Robinson's attention. "Anything the matter, Gerald?" he with sudden remorse for her momentary distrust. The duty said "You look blue, and I want to be in the case was plainly a painful one, judging from all you in your best spirits tonight; very want your congratulations on my circumstances,-the seclusion of the governess during the day, her appear was a sound nearly ance when she came from her room, approaching a scream from Cora, as she let fall the spoonful of soup and her look and manner now. -and the girl could bear her sad and perplexed thoughts no longer. She which she had been carrying to her mouth, and stared across at her uncle as if she thought he had gone

threw herself on Mildred's r saying between bursts of tears: There was a firmer compression still of Gerald's lips, but that was all Ob, Miss Burchill! I cannot understand it, and I cannot help the sign he gave. Cora had found her voice, and with feeling sorry for you. I thought you liked Mr. Thurston, and I know he liked you, and I am so disappointed." The aching heart of Mildred echoed

it all, but her brave soul would not flinch from the cross she had decided "Miss Burchill going to marry you uncle # I can't believe it, for I don't think she likes you well enough to to accept. "You are acting childishly," she said, with an assumption of stern-

Robinson's cheeks began to glow. "It ain't likely," he said, with a frowning glance at his niece, "that Miss Burchill made you the keeper of ness which she was far from feeling, and if you continue to do so I shall be very much displeased. You for. her feelings; she's promised to marry me, and that's all there's about it." get that when one does one's duty happiness is sure to follow some The girl felt that any further time.

remark of hers would not be tolerated, so she was silent, but her appetite Her words had the desired effect; the girl dried her tears, and then, as for dinner had quite gone. She could not help thinking of Miss Burthe sound of a clock striking the hour reached her, she started : chill's strange seclusion all day, her

bur reached her, she started: "It is time for my visit to uncle." She rose hastily, but instead of bur reached her, she started: "Ob, it is a nice one! It's more "Ob, it is a nice one! It's more than nice: it's wonderful! You see -but really I don't know where to bur reached her, she stood in a -but really I don't know where to bur reached her, she stood in a sorrow-stricken and ill appearance when at last she showed herself, and leaving the room she stood in a troubled, uncertain way, as if she felt that all was connected in some way with that which her uncle wished to say something further, but was deterred by some impulse. "Why do you not go ?" asked Miss

announced. She longed to rush to Mildred to ask her about the matter, but she feared her uncle's displeasure Burchill, anxious to be alone. At if she left the table now at the begin which Cora stooped again, and kissning of the meal, and as a relief to ing her, hurried away. The two men had adjourned for their cigars; but while Robinson her own tormenting thoughts, she

watched Thurston's face, wondering how the news affected him. She had selected one and lit it. Gerald. with. intelligence enough to construe the out touching any, seemed to wait for on about his mouth and the an opportunity to speak. lock in his eyes into signs of dissatis-

> young man's abstinence, and puffing away himself with every evidence of his complete self-satisfaction. No; but I want to talk on busi-

"Contracts to marry are not always less matters for a few moments. You intend I believe, to retire from the factory very soon ? Robinson, in a good deal of wonder,

took the cigar from his mouth. "Pooty soon," he answered; "but Robinson's sharpest looks. But Gerald was bending to his plate, and there'll be time enough to talk about that after my marriage." "No, there won't, Mr. Robinson, it best not to refer again to the

for I am going away. I intend to resign from the factory altogether." Eh! what?' and the factory owner's eyes twinkled at Gerald like little greenish crystals set in vellow parchment. "What do you mean? I thought you was going to take the

look in her direction even after she had vanished, but neither made any Well, I've changed my mind. I have made sufficient money to lay off for a year or two and travel. outward comment upon it. Possibly exit, but it had too close and too After that I can find some field for not succeeded. going to retire, my leaving cannot make much difference. So I should like all accounts settled to morrow. important a connection with that which was uppermost in their own thoughts to bear outward touching calm, and she was enabled to think upon. She fled to Miss Burchill's like all accounts settled to morrow. more clearly than she had yet done. room; the latter was not locked I want to go away to morrow night." A sudden light seemed to break on obinson's mind. He went over to against her, as it had been during the day, and Miss Burchill herself Robinson's mind. He went over to was sitting calmly enough by a window, apparently looking at the clear starlit night. Cora rushed to Gerald, and grasped the latter's arm : Not cut up about my intended marriage, be you? Maybe you was sweet on Miss Burchill yourself, and this week. I am on my way to buy a her, hardly waiting to reach her beshe burst out, panting and fore feel pooty bad at losin' her ?" Gerald had swung himself free breathless : "Are you going to marry uncle?" "Did he tell you so?" was the from the grasp upon his arm, and drew himself erect with that dignity quivering reply. which was so natural to him, and Yes, he announced it at the that never failed to awe any one table." upon whom he exerted it, while he "So soon !" Miss Burchill muttered answered :

### THE CATHOLIC RECORD

question, nor can I say more to you self sounded so strange he shuddered than that I have promised to marry slightly, then he looked at the clock looked at the clock in some trepidation lest the hour already had arrived in which he was your uncle from a sense of duty." 'From a sense of duty!" Vague words to the puzzled listener. What duty, according to Miss Burchill's own comments on the subject when

subjected to the terror that not alone produced so visible an effect upon himself, but which struck fear to the himself, but which struck fear to the heart of any one else who might be present. He enjoyed it immensely, and present. TO BE CONTINUED

## HER BIRTHDAY

Mrs. Martin put on her carefully mended gloves, and her best though rather shabby hat, slipped a handbag over her arm, and set forth down the street—a quaint, old fashioned, ladyplan funny from that angle. too do you know, Mrs. Rutherford, I feel very much as I did long ago? I'd like a party almost as well today as I did who have to h like figure, with a face so bright that it sent a ray of sunshine into the heart of everyone she passed. She was going down town to make a

did when Harry was a child.' purchase so delightfal, so momentous so almost unbelievable that her heart was as happy as her face. It Martin's last words. was so happy that she found it impos "Yes, very happy, and tremendoussible any longer to keep secret the plan she had in mind ; and, instead of ly surprised. The surprise will make going due eastward, she turned down Prospect Avenue, and stopped at Mrs. Rutherford's pretty little house-Mrs. Rutherford being one of those kindly, sympathetic people who of terrible possibilities occurring to are as much interested in their friends' sorrows as in their own.

Mrs. Rutherford chanced to be seated on her verands, knitting rather listlessly, and longing for companionship. When Mrs. Martin companionship. When Mrs. Martin opened the gate, she dropped her work and hurried down the path to meet her, saying every cheery word of welcome that she knew.

After they had been seated for few minutes, and the inevitable com ments on the weather and inquiries as to each other's health had been made, Mrs. Martin explained, with an Mrs. Rutherford tried to say some air of excitement quite unlike her

usual placid manner : "I am going down town on ana certain errand, and I came to tell vou about it."

Mrs. Rutherford smiled as she answered : "It must be a very nice errand. I

don't know when I have seen any one who looked so happy as you do

begin." After laughing at her own foolishness, as she called it, Mrs. Martin continued, not less excitedly except for a ten days' vacation in and rather incoherently : "Perhap it would be well to begin at the begin Perhaps August. the best part." ning, if you are to understand. It's all about Harry—my Harry. You know that he has been out West for had not the heart to say another word that might cast a shadow over twenty-one years. In all that long, long time I have never seen him. Ha Mrs. Martin's joy. "Did you tell me that you will start in a few days?" was her next, pur went first to Chicago to get into one "Not sworn agin smoking, be you?" said Robinson, noticing the of the big business houses ; and soon posely colorless remark. he went there. A year or two after Tuesday-just a week from todayward he drifted to Denver: I never I'll reach Les Angeles at 3:10 in the afternoon, if the train is on time. understood just why he made that move. And for the last ten years he I'll be able to get to his lodging-house before him, even if it is a long has been sometimes in San Francisco and sometimes in Los Angeles. He's way from the station. A week from today I'll watch for him to come in. a good boy-he always was : any of the old people about here will tell as I used to do when he first went to you that. And he is clever and big-hearted, and—and everything dear and nice; but he has no knack for work at Johnstone's and O'Rourke's in their old place on Main and Haw thorne Streets. And when he comes making money. I decided long ago that it is a knack and nothing else; down the avenue—" Her voice trembled, and there were tears in her for it's impossible—isn't it ?--to explain why one man fails and his shiningeyes—"And when he comes—" she repeated in a whisper. "But I neighbor, no cleverer, no more indus can't even imagine it. Twenty one trious, and with no better education long years! He was only twenty, succeeds almost without effort."

Mrs. Rutherford made haste to gree with her. "The best men I thought you was going to take the business. I calculated on your doing never grow rich," she rashly generalized, not meaning exactly what sh said, but eager to make Mrs. Martin understand that she thought non the less of her son because he had

and boyish for his age.

rapturously. "He is very affection-ate, and so devoted to his prosy old she felt that she must have help; and, ate, and so devoted to his prosy old mother! We always had merry putting on her hat so carefully re-trimmed for her journey, and gloves times together. In fact, it was th which were the one purchase she had remembrance of one of our old jokes that made me think of going to spend made in preparation for it, she slipped over to the church to tell Our Lord that her heart was broken.

After spending an hour or more before the Blessed Sacrament, she when it was over gratefully assured me that on my seventieth birthday started homeward, not as greatly comforted as she had hoped to be he would give me one. We often She felt tired and listless and sad, laughed about it when he was a little older, because to us both it seemed although she tried to admire flowers and the fresh greenness of the ridiculous to suppose that I could ever grow old. I was young then; and I believed, as firmly as he did, trees, and to forget that it was the seventieth birthday for which she had so long planned and saved, dressing that any one so old would care noth-ing for a party; so we thought his shabbily for more than one season, and being half hungry for many a But day.

It was almost noon opened her front door, left unlatched as were all doors and windows in did when Harry was a child." "How happy your son will be!" Mrs. Ratherford repeated, breaking the silence that followed Mrs. Martin's last words. he opened it, stepped inside, and had drawn off one glove before she chanced to glance at the hatrackthe visit much nicer." "You don't mean that you haven't told him you are going!" Mrs. Rutherford cried in dismay, a number nail, a man's raincoat on another; a worn suitcase stood near it on the her : he might be ill or out of town ; floor.

might have no place for her to She tiptoed across the hall. And sleep ; it might even be that he would as she touched the things, lightly, not want her. "I haven't said a word to him-I curiously, tenderly, she heard a little sound ; and, looking up, saw stand-ing in the parlordoorway a tall spare haven't given him the least hint," Mrs. Martin explained. "And he would never dream that I could with more than a trace of gray in his with more than a trace of gray in his afford the trip and might even hair and a weary droop of the shoul-imagine that I am too feeble to make ders, but whose gentle, kindly face In nearly every letter he asks was beaming as it had never beamed w I feel, and tells me to be very before.

careful of myself. To think that I shall see him next week! He'll be so glad, poor boy! And I-I-" In an instant Mrs. Martin was sob-bing in his arms, and his tears were raining fast on the poor little flowers of her renovated hat. She tried to thing both sympathetic and cheerful, brush her tears away, that she might but her heart had fallen when she learned that Harry Martin did not eyes filled again and again be able to see him clearly ; but her expect his mother; that she was nany minutesshe could only cling to determined to take the long, expenhim, saying his name over and over, sive journey without making certain all the hungry love of twenty one that all was well in Los Angeles, and years satisfied at last.

a welcome awaiting her there. After It was quite an hour afterward-when they were seated, hand in hand, a few moments' thought she could not refrain from suggesting : "Bat wouldn't it be better to write in a corner of the sunny little parlor "Bat wouldn't it be better to write to your son? He might be away, or be had saved for two years to go to "No, no! He loves surprises. He California and spend that day with him, and how she had lost all her always did. Besides, in five years he money, and had thought that she has not been away from Los Angeles could never smile again ; and when she was done he told that he had The surprise will be almost saved even longer to be able to to her for the day. "If you had gone Mrs. Rutherford locked serious, we should have passed each other on and then made haste to smile. She the way," he smiled, appalled at the

thought. "Yes; and I have been sad andand almost rebellious, Harry. Sure-

ly, when God has been so good to me for seventy years, I should have understood Him better.

Yes; on Thursday; and on next He did not contradict her : and there was a long, happy silence before

he finished his story. "And mother," he said at last, "I saved more than I needed for the trip, because I have come to -to stay; and it may be some time, you know, before I can get a position. We have only each other, and I was foolish to drift so far away."

Tostay. Harry ?' "Always, mother darling, and to take good care of you!-Florence Gilmore in The Ave Maria.

THE HOLY ROSARY

Mrs. Rutherford furtively dried As a guide to the regitation of the her eyes. She was not thicking of Holy Rosary it may not be unprofit-Harry Martin or of his mother ; and able for us, to call attention at this she started a little when the clock in particular season, to the method we the hall behind them began to strike should endeavor to follow, if we wish 11, and Mrs. Martin jumped to her to join with profit in what is so et /exclaiming: peculiarly for to be at of October. peculiarly a devotion of the month

home long before 12. But I had to tell you my news. You will pray for know so well, is therefore excellent, The prayer of the Rosary, as we sively: So I have not seen Harry for introne years. You know how

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"Accept my sincere thanks for your kind and flattering proposal, ent effort of the governess to keep You have been and are my most her face averted. But she must esteemed friend, but I have promised to marry Mr. Bobinson.

#### Yours very gratefully, MILDRED BURCHILL."

The characters were so tremulous that they were scarcely legible, and she wrote them three times before she decided to send them. Then trying to keep her wild thoughts at bay, she sought Cora. The girl was dress-ing for dinner, but at sight of that pale, tear-strained face in the door way, she left her toilet to rush into

Way, Burchill's arms. "You have been sick," she said, "and you would not let me in to nurse you. And you are BICK Suit, you look so frightfully pale. And you have been crying." All this as Cora continued to strain the governess wondering sadness upon her own, she replied, with what calmness she affectionately to her. "It is over now," was the reply, could assume :

"and I shall be quite well tomorrow ;

bitterly to herself, while she averted her face, but she answered : very unseemly; I can neither answer It is true. I have promised to

marry him." Cora was silent. Amazement, sorrow, and a momentary distrust of

The dinner was over at last, and

Miss Burchill herself were strug gling in her mind, the latter feeling

ness as I reckon you won't git the chance of agin." "My decision is made," said Garald speak at length; she must know if firmly, " "and I shall expect to settle

Miss Burchill's own intended act was all as consistent with the theories of truth night!" accounts to-morrow. Good-

and right doing which she so con-stantly advanced, and she asked in He went from the room leaving Robinson astonished, vexed, and distremulous tones and with a feeling appointed. He soliloquized, as he of suffication which caused the averted head to turn quickly and relit his cigar ; "With all his high speeches about the pale face to become suffased : "Do you love my uncle enough to

marry him ?" The governess seemed to divine much of what was passing in the guess I can reckon on her pooty sure. That handsome, devilish little

somewhat prematurely matured young mind beside her, and she knew what influences must go out from her answer; so forcing herself to look standily into the bright door widow will be cut up when she heart Gerald's gone for good. After all, he might have stayed; I wanted him at the wedding. Well, as long as I've got Mildred, I don't care. She'll have to take her turn with the spooks, as I do." widow will be cut up when she hears

twenty one years. You know how well?

"Indeed I will," Mrs. Rutherford promised. "I'll say a special 'Hail Mary' for you every day until you get has never been able to has never been able to come for a visit; so-so-O Mrs. Rutherford I back, and then you must tell me about your lovely visit."

" I'll come to see you as soon as I reach home," Mrs. Martin said; and Mrs. Rutherford was more surprised than she would have liked to as she walked blithely away Mrs. Rutherford watched her with sad show ; for Mrs. Martin was known to be far from rich, and the trip from Ohio to California is indeed expeneyes. Down Prospect Avenue Mrs. Martin

sive.

ticket.'

Going this week ?" she echoed : "Your language, Mr. Robinson, is and hastened to add enthusiastically, "Well, there ain't no use in being so tichy," said the factory owner, testily. "And you'd better not be so hasty, neither,—the factory's doing a pooty nice business,—such a busi-ness as I rackon yon won't git tight. "Two years ago I made no won "Oh, Mrs. Martin, how lovely !

first time since leaving home, that she looked at her handbag into which

she had put an old purse fairly bulging with bills. The bag itself was old, and had seen much service ; mind that I would go to California to spend my seventieth birthday with Harry, and I'll be seventy on the and evidently the catch was not secure, for it hung open, and—and it 25th of this month. I have laid aside every penny I could save during the two years, and now I have enough for the trip, and a little-not much, but a little-to spend while I am in California. Of course if Harry were rich I shouldn't go-I couldn't. a word to any one, she groped her way to the door and turned toward It would cut me to the quick to see my unseemly language, the fact is him ashamed of me; and my clothes he's jist cut up about Miss Burchill are plain and old fashioned, and able. As she crapt wearily along, having me. Well, I'm glad on't. quaint, too, no doubt. I mended and I've got her in a tight place, and I altered and retrimmed as best I absent-mindedly going out of her way more than once, she thought that she could, but of course I couldn't afford

to buy anything new this spring. door.

ation in which the soul elevates itself to union with God through contemplation of the various inci dents and mysteries in the His only begotten Son, while at the same time distractions are ren through the repetition of the individ-

ual prayers, each of which has so sublime an origin. To recite the Rosary properly.

therefore, it is not sufficient for

marely to repeat in order the Our Fathers, Hail Marys, etc., which occur throughout, but our mind must at the same time be devoted to hurried, not realizing that the way was long, and, coming in sight of the ticket office, she walked so fast that reflection on the particular she was out of breath by the time she teries " which the respective stepped inside. It was then, for the decades are dedicated.

We have all noticed the form in which the Rosary is "given out" publicly in the church, and how, be fore each decade, is announced the mystery on which meditation is to Mrs. Martin stared into the empty bag. A minute passed —a long, long minute, a second; a third. Her strangely weak, her face had lanched. At last, not having spoken a word to any one, she groped her be made, as : "In the third mys-tery let us contemplate the birth way to the door and turned toward home. The way seemed intermin-of the Rosary, or five of the fifteen decades, may do so in the proper order

more than once, she thought that she would never, never reach her own door. A reach logged her Mar Marin 2016. The five joyful mysteries are re-cited on all Mondays and Thursdays throughout the year, and on the

A week lagged by. Mrs. Martin did Sundays which occur from the benot leave the house except to go to Mass on Sunday, and then she studi-ously avoided Mrs. Rutherford. The said on all Tuesdays and Fridays, desire to talk had been borne of her joy; she could say nothing now; her Lent; while the glorious mysteries the replied, with what calmness she by books, as I do." The laughed aloud as he said the last words, a laugh that even to him-"I must refuse to answer your and so the said that even to him-"I must refuse to answer your and so the said that even to him-"I must refuse to answer your and so the said that even to him-"I must refuse to answer your and so the said that even to him-"I must refuse to answer your and so the said that even to him-"I must refuse to answer your and so the said that even to him-"I must refuse to answer your and so the said that even to him-"I must refuse to answer your and so the said that even to him-"I must refuse to answer your and so the said the said that even to him-"I must refuse to answer your and so the said that even to him-"I must refuse to answer your and so the said the sa

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