GIENANAAR A STORY OF IRISH LIFE

BY VERY REV. CANON P. A. SHEEHAN, D.D. AUTHOB OF "MY NEW CURATE," "LUKI DELMEGE," "UNDER THE CEDARS AND THE STARS," "LOST ANGEL OF A RUINED PARADISE," ETC. CHAPTER XXIV.

THE PHANTOM AGAIN.

"It happened in this way. Life is still pretty rough ont West, but nothing like what it was when I went out there first, a raw, inexperienced fellow, used to hardship, but a stranger to violence. It's year different giving a fellow a I, when I heard the name Dailey, never connected it with the family. But the whole affair made me feel nervous about myself and my future. I determined to leave there at once, and strike north, further away from civilization, but further away also from a great and possible danger. I went to the north of the great Salt Lake City, passed through Idabo, got through a pass in the mountains right different giving a fellow It's very different giving a fellow a shoulder, and sending him sprawling on the soft grass, and putting the cold iron to his forehead with your finger on the trigger. Yet that's what it all comes to out there where there was no law, no trial, no jury, no judge. You simply heard that you were looked for, and the next thing was to find a lasso round your neck, or the revolver at your head. I did not relish that kind of thing much nohow, so I kept away from these rough fellows as much It's very tled down, and bought a ranch near Shoshone Lake, in the extreme north Shoshone Lake, in the extreme north of the State of Wyoming. That is my home now, and there I will take Nora, it she will have me. Say, Father, when may I see her? My time is up here, and I must be going back. I had one hope coming here, and that is now near being realized; and one fear, but that is vanishing." at your head. I did not relish that kind of thing much nohow, so I kept away from these rough fellows as much as I could, and worked my own way in silence. But do what I could, I should knock up against them from time to time in a saloon, in the diggings, across iear, but that is vanishing."
'' You know, my dear fellow," I said,
'' I would take you to her this moment,
but it means a shock. Give me a day
or so to prepare her."
'' Wal, then, Father," he said, " let
us say Sunday nicht." the prairies, up amid the snows. They were rough fellows, each of whom had a pretty bad record in his past; but there was a singular code of honor between them. Your claim once opened was respected, until you sold it, or abandoned it. Your little heap was as eafe as in the Bank of England. You had only to say: "Bill, or Jake, there's three thousand there in dust and solid. Keen it for re was a singular code of honor

there in dust and solid. Keep it for me till I return.'

"Your slarm is quite unfounded, my dear fellow," I said, and I fully be lieved it. "The Doneraile Conspir-acy is as forgotten here as the famine. We're living now under new condi-tions of life. What would be the talk of the country freeide for months and And you might not return for six months or a year, and it would be safe in his hands. He would give his life to defend it. The one that would break that code of honor answered with his

of the country fireside for months and life. "Well, it happened one night up in Nevada, where the silver mines had been opened up, and rapid fortunes were being made, I found myself sitting possible. were being made, I found myself shoring round a camp fire with a lot of desper-adoes. It was a cold night and we clustered close around an and we clustered close under immense fire of blazing logs, before we sought the shelter of our huts. The bottle went round, and many of the fellows were noisy enough. But the fellows were noisy enough. But one great, burly fellow, who sat on my right, smoked leisarely, and only at rare intervals drank, and then moder-ately. Many of the fellows, half drunk, had got back to their rude bunks, and still we two smoked and smoked, and, strangely enough, in absolute silence. I was mute, because I knew my man. He was called Big Din, from which, and from the strange dialect he spoke, half brogue, half miner, I concluded that he was an Irishman, but well acclimatized. I the fellows were noisy enough. but well acclimatized. Irishman, but well acclimatized. I knew him to be a desperado, ever anxious to pick a quarrel, which ever anxious to pick a quarrei, which ever ended but in one way. At last, when nearly all had gone away, and the blazing logs were now smouldering into red embers and white wood ashes, I pose stiffly and said : "I guess we had better cut this

now ! " He said gr. fly :

"'Sit down, youngster. I wants to hev a chat with you.'

nev a cnat with you. "You wasted a denced lot of time in making up your mind,' I said, gaily. 'I guess you wos a Quaker or a gaily.

But I sat down.

"You're from the ould dart, I "you're from the ould dart, I guess?' he said at length. 'So am I. Now what part might you have kem

'He had turned around, and putting his face close to mine, so that I could smell his breath, he screwed his eyes into mine, as if he would read my

"In an instant, I realized the im

THE CATHOLIC RECORD.

hands were seized in a moment and

zled me mostly was, who this Dailey was of whom Big Din spoke. It surely could not be my grandfather, unless he had lived to a very advanced age. one of the roughs said : "Allow me, youngster; 'tis too dangerous a toy for a child.'; "He took the revolver from him he had lived to a very advanced age. And then, how did this secret history transpire? I saw at once that he had effectually concealed his name under the new pronunciation (Dailey in

"He took the revolver how him and and drew all the charges, save one. "Five paces,' said Big Din, whilst they were binding his wounded arm, 'and his face to the lamp.' "In a second the two men were face to face. I cronched low, fearing the mineraring of a bullet. under the new pronunciation (Dailey is generally pronounced Dawley in Ireland) more effectually than if he had changed it altogether, because even I, when I heard the name Dailey. Dailey,

miscarriage of a bullet. "Stand up,' said a v "Stand up,' said a voice ; 'there is no danger here. Big Din never missed his game yet.' "The word was given. The two re-

ports rang out simultaneously. I heard the crash of glass behind Big Din's head and knew he was sate. When the smoke cleared, the young man was at smoke cleared, the young man was at my feet, and I saw the tiny stream trickling from his forehead. Big Din came over and turned over with his foot his dead antagonist. "I knew we'd meet,' he said. 'Lie there, you sneak thief; you—son of an informer!' through a pass in the mountains right under Fremont Peak, and at last set-

informer! "I gathered my wits together, and

with the dreadful words pursuing me, like demons, I loosed my team, and

like demons, I loosed my team, and sped fast into the night. "For days and days the dreadful words haunted me. They seemed like an echo of what I had heard that even-ing in the field at Kildorrery, and I could not help asking myself would they pursue me all my life long, and even to my grave. I knew they had an intimate connection with myself; for putting all Big Din's questions to gether, it was quite clear that these "Wal, then, Father," he said, us say Sunday night." "Be it so," I replied. "But you said you had one fear. What fear ?" "The fear that this dreadful thing would follow me here. Or rather, that it would crop up here, where it can never have entirely died away." "Your alarm is quite unfounded, my for putting all Big Din's questions to gether, it was quite clear that these Dailey's were my own people, and that probably my mother's father had mar-ried again, and that that young lad was my uncle. It seemed too terrible, and yet stranger things have happened. For the world is small and one never knows whom you may knock up against knows whom you may knock up against in the vicissitudes of life.

'However, time and occupation more or less dimmed my recollection of these things, but the old horror came back when I finally determined to visit this old land again. I argued if such things years, when you were a boy, is now forgotten in a week. You should get that dread off your nerves as soon as can be carried across the ocean, an confront you away from civilizatior, surely the same, or worse, may occur on the very spot where these things happened. However, Father, you have I've tried," he said, " but I can't say I have succeeded. When you once get a bad shock— but I did not finish my story." "'No," I said. "I left you comremains to see Nora, learn my fate, and

eave Ireland forever." I little dreamed that the old phantom would crop up, and in the most unex-pected place. But it was soon exerpected place. But cised and forever. " he said, "there's not much

CHAPTER XXV.

AFTER MANY YEARS.

more. I lived there some years, work-ing hard, but very happy. I was well off, and many an offer of marriage was made me, that would have doubled The next few days I was at my wits' my means. But no ! That was not to be. I had a great deal of time on ends to discover some way of breaking the eventful news to Mrs. Leonard, and hands; there the winters are long and terrible, and I had to while away the socuring her consent to a proposal that would lift her and her children out of loneliness by reading. You know I had but little education at home. Wal, there I had to read. I bought every would lift her and her children out of poverty forever. And I had also to suggest some little changes that would make the ravages of time and trouble less visible to the eyes of him who had book I could find, and read the whole winter through. Then, from time to time, a French Canadian trapper would kept his dream so faithfully all these years. This was no easy task, for if always extremely clean and neat, Nora Leonard had bidden farewell to all time, a French Canadish trappet wonk cross the border, or a German settler would come along prospecting, and I picked up a smattering of their lan guages from them. So that I have altogether read a good deal, though I numan vanities forevermore. I threw out a few little hints that she might have unexpected visitors, that her cousin, Father Curtain, might call, and cannot call myself an educated man. Wal, one summer I left my little dig that really she should tidy up things, etc. I saw my words fall on unheeding ging and went up to Battes. It is no a big city, and promises to be a capital yet. Then, it was but a rising town, ears, and I simply determined to let matters take their course. I told the "Yank" this, and that he should be and had an evil reputation for the classes that congregated there. Prob-ably I would have avoided it; but I tank this, and that he should be his own cicerone on the important occasion. He told me all afterwards. He had dressed himself with unusual care that Sanday evening, and when the night fell he went forth to reconably I would have avoided it; but i wanted a few winter necessaries, and especially books. I was very careful to avoid saloons, and the public halls; but fate would have it, that I strock across an old chum, and, as usual, we had a drink together. As we en ered the had a parlow of the salow. A YOUDE noitre. He had no difficulty about finding the wretched shop. It was un the back parlor of the saloon, a young man, not more than twenty five or

thrown away." "Wal, never mind, never mind," I said. "How much shall I pay ?" Something in his attitude or manne Something in his stitute of manner struck the mind of the poor woman, for she got nervous and trembled. But she said : "Would you consider sixpence too

"Some said one thing, and some said another," replied Nora. "The doctors said it was a decline, but she herself always said it was a broken heart." It was the blant truth, but then Nora always was blant and he liked her not the less for it. "You kept your promise, Nora," he said. "I know you did." "What promise ?" she seled. "That you would go see her often. and that you would tell her ... it that I told you." much ?" The wretched price she asked, denot-

The wretched price are also a, denot-ing extreme poverty, and her attitude of beseeching humiliation, touched the strong man deeply. He placed a half-crown on the counter, and she said : told you." He spoke as of events that occurred

I fear we haven't got the change, Take it back, and you can pay sir.

The color left her checks instantly, and her eyes opened in affright, as she said, without disengaging her hand : "Who? What is it?" and then, as the recognition flashed suddenly

upon her : " Ted !"

know me. I thought I should be too nuch changed." For some seconds these two, so long

"But the other part of your promise: Did you give my mother my message?" "I did," she said, simply. "But one deed is worth more than many declarations," she added. Again it was the bitter truth she was speaking. He felt it deeply. He knew that the deadly blow he had given his mother was not to be healed by empty protections of SOTOW. mother was not to be healed by empty protestations of sorrow. "Looking back upon it all now," he said, in self-defence, "I do not think I could have done anything else. changed figure and features with what

transformation he thought he saw the Nora of his dreams again. But this vanished and it was only a broken, almost aged widow that confronted him.

"And this is your daughter, I sup pose?" he said, disengaging his hand and stretching it out to Tessie. "She is so extremely like what you-like you, I mean," he stammered, "I acta." eproaching me.'

ally called her 'Nora' when I came in." "An' how long have you been home ?" Nora inquired. "A couple of months," he replied. "An' you never called before ?" sh she

said, reproachfully. "I was laid up at the hotel," he said. "I received a hurt."

"I was laid up at the hoter, he said. "I received a hurt." "Then," she said, as a new light dawned upon her, "your're the 'Yank,' all the town was talking about ?" "I suppose so," he said, smiling. "I was never made so much of before, I think." "And it was you. I suppose, the

"And it was you, I suppose, the parish priest wanted me to go and nurse ?"

"I believe so," he said. "I'm sorry you didn't accept his Reverence's offer. You'd have spared me some suffering.'

"Then," she replied, as the light of great solicitude dawned in her eyes, he replied, "I wasn't ex-

actly bad. But you can guess how lonely and miserable a fellow would feel in a strange place and not a human being to exchange a word with for

if she were to blame for all that dreary time he had spent, and her face showed

"If you had known it was I," he "If you had known it won'd have said, noticing her look, "you'd have come ? Say you would." She shook her head.

No, Ted," she replied. " I would not, though I am sorry for you, and all you went through. Let bygones be bygones !" " You're changed, Nora," he said

sadly. "And I suppose so am I. But I wanted to ask you a few questions about them that are gone." "Won't you come into the parlor?"

blame for that?' said Kathleen, with flashing eyes, nov

Nora said :

o be dissatisfied.

what was in her mind.

And who's to

agent of the line he travelled by give him a month's grace. TO BE CONTINUED.

A LEAF OF GERANIUM

A STORY OF NEWFOUNDLAND LIFE. There were great signs of bastle in many of the homes of the settlements, Mats, pieces of carpet, tablecloths, and other sundry articles of household use other sundry articles of household use were bedecking the fences outside the houses. In some cases they were hang-ing quietly, but in others they were undergoing a severe castigation from broom handles wielded by strong women, whose sleeves were tucked up above the elbow. The mats and car-

pets did not complain, but the house. wives were strong in their denuncia-tions of the mud patches that had been unceremoniously impressed by the top-boots of Pat or Mick. The language exchanged from yard to yard var in volubility and richness of expr sion according as the "yaller roses," or the multi-colored scrolls of indefinite or the multi-colored scrons of indennite pattern were smudged extensively or otherwise by the particularly cling-ing, adhesive mud that forms wherever snow has melted. One of the women

ing, anise melted. One of the women was bewailing that the mat over which she and her daughter had spent six weeks' hooking was now destroyed forever; no more could it ornament the kitchen floor on occasions of cere-mony. Another was shouting the amount of damage done in hers to the green shamroeks (each the size of a head of cabbage; and not very unlike it in shape) at the last ball they had. "Tis little they know, mamn," one was lamenting, " what it is to hook such a mat. It took me two years to save the pieces, and Mrs. Dwyer in St. John's gave me a yard and a quarther of green stuff; an' now 'tis all gone for nothin'."

I think I was right in getting away. I could never undo the injury. I could never get back that one word." "I'm sorry to hear you say so, d Nora. "It wasn't the word yo said Nora. "It wasn't the word you said that killediyour mother, but your backing up that word by abandoning her forever." But how could I go back and face her But how could I go back and face her

but now could 1go mack and lace her and father again ?" he argued. "I faced the world, the sea, the mountains, the prairies, wild beasts, wilder men, rather than look upon her sad eyes nothin'." "Tis true fur you, mamm," answered her neighbor, "the boys little know and care less about mats. But when they ketch me hooking another one they'll find winter in summer, and sum-He had flung his cigar into the grate,

But the whole of the bustle hustle was not onfined to women beating dust out of mats. Apart from the incidental fact that most kitchens were undergoing a miniature deluge and the chairs and tables a-scouring, I could see that even the young men were urged on to exert go. Nora said: "Are you going back soon?" "Yes!" he replied, blinking at the bleared lamp. "What should I do in this unbappy sountry?" the sound may be the sound of t " I hope things have gone well with you over the water ?" she said. "Yes," he replied, "everything has that had wrecked such havoc drumhead cabbage shamrock - ignominprospered with me. So far as worldly goods are concerned, I have no reason iously applying a blacking brush and vigorously polishing. Another had a coat hung on a nail in the door casing and was endeavoring, and it looked vainly to remuce the terms of the looked This implied some exception to his general happiness which his listeners vainly, to remove the signs of wear and "Yet one cannot help feeling an ex-ile and a hankering after old ties!" tear. But for every man that had his hand en cased in a boot perspiring in an endeavor to raise a shine, there Nora said. "True! But it wears away. Especi-

an endeavor to raise a shine, there were five to be seen sitting, smoking calmly, oiling and cleaning their long formidable-looking sealing guns. "Shall I try a guess, Skipper Jim?" said I, on coming to my old friend's house. "We are to have a marriage." "Right, sir! This evening young ally," he added, "after you have once come back and seen all your dreams flung to the winds." Nora flushed up and stooped down t the fire to conceal her confusion, al though the Yank had not a thought of O'Mara will be married. You mus You dream over there," he con-

now come over and see his father." The Skipper grasped his stick and we set off for the house of O'Mara. tinued, "of the blue mountains, the silver river, the white thorn in May-While we were walking along the of man pointed out the various places of interest in the settlement. Where boys and girls you knew. You feel that you must see it all again or die. You come back. All is desolation and the first house was built; where the old chapel that was blown down stood where the Norwegian barque struck and sunk with all aboard. loneliness and ruin. The mountains are there, and the rivers, and the blos-soms, and the wild flowers, and the leaves; but it is a land of the past-

and sunk with all aboard. We were received with open arms by the O'Mara household, everyone soundthe O Mara household, everyone sound-ly rating Skipper Jim for not bringing me over before. Out of the house we could not go until we promised to be present at the wedding supper that svening. We also visited the new and as yet uncorniad house of the intended s yet unoccupied house of the intended bridegroom. I was very much pleased with the house. It was able house for two about to begin

JUNE 15, 1907.

Neverthless, he sat down and wrote the

JUNE 15, 1907.

Davy, with a grin. "But wild like that now. Look nies, here they come. T your old scalp, Jim. Ready The bridal party in sle sight. The horses being f the guns were galloping the occupants enjoyed the The bride held on to the b bridesmaid clung to the were laughing merrily at of the horses in the sn skidding and twisting of The Skipper and I quiet to a pew just inside door, to observe the cer

altar. That evening, as he h

Skipper Jim brought me O'Maras to take part in t of the marrage. It must h according to the customs ment, for when we enter the place full of visitors ; their best. Skipper Jim was in his

such occasions he had the his feet. His experience varied that whenever the ering he took advantage tunity to entertain them two. After the usual hu hands with everybody in over, the Skipper held the apart and spoke long with the bride-a handsome g twenty-came to him and that the old man would l and bring her good luck. "Isn't Skipper Jim a

-a knowable man, a 'man ?' whispered old with a solemn nod of his

If the Skipper was Davy Dolan was equal It was a source of gene to see him leading off th of the night with the br "Bedad, Davy," crie "you're as agile on the

vere twenty years ago lad: 'tis younger you're As the night wore on folks, who were dancin tinually, became fatigu that all chairs be dray Skipper for a story. amiled, but shook his he groom begged him. T ing his hand, entreated

I can't re nember an child," said he to her, ftting.

Why bless my soul Moore used to say, tell t said old O'Mara. "Why not tell them himself!" said Davy. The Skipper frow

quietly to Davy: " is no occasion to tell J "Yes, yes, Skipper the bride, "tell us J Don't think I'm afrai Tom and I might ha jected to hear it. But

all trouble is over. Tom?'' said she, turni groom. "My child," said "you're a rock of sens have to tell it. "When I was a boy

in the world, in my of tion, was Jimmy Moor boys he was a kind of When at play on the suddenly ceased from fell back in a line wh as we called him, put He always enjoyed the respect or fear. White say, for it is now so fa not recall what feeling the act. With the gi iest, it was altogether rushed to him from at times you would a little tots clinging of and going along dand And from out those m of his came the de childhood-bullseyes. get two, Janie two me

all the little chatteri

him. Occasionally he

thing to whoever ans

"The prize for th

javenile teeth, a 'Ra

Whenever this happen after his departure t

knees in a circle,

vainly indeavoring

between two beach of equal size. And you could see as m

showing clear signs trickling from the were here and there

Evidences that Gib

dissolved into the

which it had origins

"As we grew up never find any chan

To our eves there

neither grew bigger hat, which we had miring, held the

was a source of be

young eyes, seemed

And that left has

hidden under the to of yore. The kindl

some face had ne

left it for a momen

The gold

head

in catechism hest.

you were bad ?" "Wal," he rep weeks She felt a curious kind of remorse a

inding the wretched shop ackage papers in the windows, the dim, parafin lamp swinging from the low ceiling, the strings of onions and red herrings, the tea chests, alas ! without tea-all in-

yesterday. Twenty five years had rolled back and left no trace to obliter-ate the anguish and passion of that when you call again." She pushed back the coin towards him. He took it and at the same time grasped her hand firmly, and said : "Nors !" "Yes !" she replied, simply. "There was hardly a day some of us didn't go to see her. Donal Connors was a great friend in the time of trouble." "He was a good man. Is he alive still still?" "He is, indeed, and as strong as ever. He has a houseful of children about him now." "But the other part of your promise!

"Yes !" he said. "I'm glad you

For some seconds these two, so thing parted, stared at one another in silence, the strong man's hand resting softly upon hers. The quick recognition gratified him exceedingly, as he looked and looked, and tried to reconcile the

he had known. At last she said : "It is just as if you came back from

the grave !" "I'm glad you had not entirely for-

gotten me," he said. "How could I?" she replied, al-most unconsciously. Then the possible meaning of her words flashed back upon her and she blushed. In the sudden

and rubbed his hards across his eyes. These he kept shaded now. Kathleen had closed her book, and was watching you, I mean,"

him intently. After some moments he stood up to

portance of the question, and said : " From the borders of the County Limerick. Now, where do you hail

from ?' "He flung the ashes from his pipe, and rose up. "'It don't make no matther, young.

ster. Tell me, have you ever kem across in these here counthries a fel-low called Dailey, a hell's fire of a

"Dailey! Dailey!" I repeated. No, I can't say I have.

"' If iver you meet him,' continued Big Din, 'tell him there's some wan Big Din, 'tell him there's some that on his thrack, and the sooner he gives hisself up to justice the betther !' ''' I will,' I said. 'But I guess that's not likely. 'Tis a big country

re.' Tis smaller than you think,' he

said. 'And the whole wuruld is smaller than you think, That is,' he added, meanirgly, 'whin revinge is

on your thrack.' "But,' he continued after a shor pause, which I thought would never end, 'ye never heard of the Doneraile conspiracy in your part of the counthry

" ' Never,' I answered, promptly. "What was it about ? It must have been a long time ago.

" 'It was, and it wasn't,' he said. Not long enough to be disremem-"Not long enough to be distributed bered yet, specially when it comes home to yerself. There's an ould say home to yerself. "what's bred bered yet, a thrue wan: "what's bred in,' an' a thrue wan: "wha in the blood is got in the bone." I heard it,' I said, as calmly as

could.

Wal, there it is as plain as a pike staff. Dailey, the-cus, gev good men and thrue into the good men hangman's hands over there in the ould dart thirty years agone, and Dailey gev my mate into the sheriff's hands here in Sacramento. Thiggin thu ? Good-night, youngster, an' an hones' man ef you can !

The night was cold, but I was frozen and flust ed alternately th the snows of Nevada. It was fortun-ate for me that the fire had burned low, and threw but a few red and black shadows on our faces, for othermy agitation would have be trayed me. I got away as fast as I could, but spent that night and many others, pondering on these strange

He had been smoking and readout. ing a newspaper, which he flung aside the moment he saw us.

fortably settled at Shoshone Lake

wherever it is, on your ranch, and amidst your fishing and your cattle."

. Wal,

the moment he saw us. ... On the run, I guess,' said my old mate, and we thought no more of it. Late in the evening, and just as the full moon was coming up the valley and making its way slowly valley and making its way slowly through the gorges, I had my team tackled and ready to start. I was passing the saloon at a trot, when

twenty-six years of age, rose up, and, after glancing stealthily at us, passed

again this old chum of mine, now much the worse for liquor, again accosted me. He was surrounded by a number of men grouped here and there at the door of the salcon. I was very angry for the delay and the danger, but I had for the delay and the danger, but I had no alternative but to dismount, hitch my wagon to the rail outside the saloon, and go in. I was not long detained. One of these awful tragedies that happen swift and sudden as a tor-nado in these lawless places liberated me. We had gone into the parlor of the saloon. Four men were playing poper with a grimy nade of cards.

poker with a grimy pack of cards. ecognized two-Big Din, now gray

and grizzled, but apparently as dat. gerous as ever. Sitting quite close to him was the young man who had left the saloon as we entered that morning. could see he was ill at ease. ands shook as he dealt out the cards. I concluded it was drink. It was deadly fear. Several dangerous-look. ing fellows lounged about, and occa-Sud. sionally looked at the players.

I heard a voice saying in a denly, quiet, passionless tone :

Your're chating, mate !'

" There was an oath from the young man and a nervous declaration of in nocence.

nocence.
"See here, you Pete, and you
Abe, just watch this youngster, and see if I'm right."
"It was the closing in of the wolves

around the doomed man, and I hasten

ed to go. "'Stop !' cried my friend. 'There's goin' to be some fun, I reckon. You may never see this 'ere circus again !' "The play went on silently. Then

again Big Din said :

"' 'Now, was I right, mates? You seen the darned cuss yersels.'

" In an instant there was the crack of a revolver, and Big Din's hand hung helpless at his side. The young man had arisen, the smoking weapon in his hand. He saw that he was doomed, sayings, and wondering how would his hand. He saw that he was doomed, they ultimately affect me. What puz- and determined to anticipate. His

dicated the wretchedness and poverty of the place. As he sauntered up and dowa in apparent carelessness and list-lessness, although his heart was beat ing wildly, and he had never been se nervous in his life, he caught a glimps nervous in his fife, he caugh a gimpse through the window-packages of a great glowing mass of auburn hair. He couldn't see the face, but his heart stood still. It was the same he had een twenty years back beneath the hawthorn tree, with the setting sun glinting upon it. That settled matters. He gulped down something, pulled nervously at the cigar between his eeth, and stepped into the dingy shop. tall, girlish figure arose and con fronted him. Carried away by the extraordinary likeness to the young girl he had parted from so many years ago, he could not help exclaiming Nora l'

Then in an instant reason came his aid, and he coughed and said :

"Can you let me have some cigar-ettes?" The girl flushed crimson, and then turned pale, as she stared at this unexpected customer. She went over to a little glass door and tapped. The

door opened gently as the girl said : "Mother, a gentleman wants some

cigarettes. Have we any?" And Nora Leonard, the girl who had bade him good bye so many years ago beneath the hawthorn, and in the light of the setting sun, now came forward wearily into the dingy, dusky shop, beneath the blurred and smoking lamp. His heart gave a great sob, as he saw

at once the terrible change ; but he said he would go through it to the end. And if she is changed so much me," he thought, "I must be equally changed to her. She can never recog-

nize me "I'm afraid, sir," she said, looking vacantly around the wretched shop, that we cannot oblige you. What we have are worthless. If you would call up at--'s, or at the hotel, you could up atget what you require." "Wal," he said, "I guess I ain't

"Wal," he said, "I guess I ain't particular. There just behind you is a package of 'Egyptians."" She turned to look. He saw how the

crease in her hair had widened, and how gray was the knot she had looped up and tied behind. She put the package on the counter, and said : "I fear they're mouldy and must be

she said, he thought, reiuctanily, "There's no one here but Kathleen. The place is very small and narrow," she added, apologetically.

It was-very small and narrow and ill-furnished. A few shaky, old chairs, the cretonne covering them faded and solied, a dark cupboard in one corner a few prints on the mantelpiece flanke by some paper flowers, and the table at hich Kathleen sat-that was all. wretched hand lamp, smoky and bleared such as would hang from a stable wal gave poor light, and must have straine stable wall gave poor light, and must have strained the sight of the girl, whose long hair swept the pages of the book she was reading. He thought of his own comfortable cottage by the lake and be-neath the Sierras, of the rich furniture brought all the way from New York, of the veranda, hidden under wild, luxuri

ant creepers, of the easy chairs and lounges, the books and pictures; and soh. once again his heart gave a grea Kathleen looked up from her book, Joyce's "Child History of Ireland," and stood up to go as the stranger en-tered. She gave him a long, deep, searching look, and held out her hand

in a cold, curt greeting. Her mother said : id : "You needn't go, Kathleen. This is old friend." The girl sat down, an old friend." and without taking further heed bent her head over her book again.

He took the proffered chair and said : "Would you mind my smoking,

Nora ? He didn't care about smoking just

then, but his nerves were trembling and he was making great mental atempts to control him

she said simply. No !'

He smoked in silence for a few econds. There was no sound in the com. Kathleen was bent down over her book, yet somehow he felt her keen, gray eyes searching him again and again. At last, with some hesitation, he said : "I heard that mother died soon after

I left for America ?" "Not very scon," said Nora, rising to kindle the wretched fre, which

to kindle the wretched fire, which served for cooking, heating, and every other domestic purpose. "I think you were gone about six months when she sickened. Then she lingered on and a for twelve months more. And then she died." "What was her ailment ?" he asked.

for the first time breaking silence. "I'll tell you. 'Tis you, Irish-Ameri-cans, who fly from your country, and then try to make everyone else fly

time, the dance, the hurling match, the

no present, no future! Do you know that I walked four miles to Templeru

adhan on last Thursday, and never say

a human being-not a living thing but a couple of donkeys and a goat!"

also. so." "Thank God!" he said, smiling reastically. "I feared you were sarcastically. lumb!"

"No, nor deaf, nor blind," she said, angrily. "Tis ye, the recruiting-ergeants of England, that are sweepangrily. ing the people away with your letters 'Come! Come! For God's sake, leave your cabins, and come out to wealth and comfort.' And ye are patriots !" She spoke with intense sarcasm, her

gray eyes glowing with passion. "I'm almost tempted to say, in your

he replied, smiling. own words,' Come ! Come !"

she said, stamping her little No! foot. "If you were to give me all the gold in California, and all the silver in the Rockies, I wouldn't leave my own country." "There, Ted, don't mind her," said

her mother. "She has picked up all this nonsense from Thade Murphy. I suppose you'll come to see us before suppose you'll come to see us

He lingered behind. The momentous question that had been on his lips for twenty-five years remained unsaid. He could not say how he was defeated. Everything was against him. He said good night, lingered for a few moments, talking to Tessie in the wretched shop, and went back to his hotel to fight with his conscience and sense of honor.

"What more can I do?" he reasone "I have had the best intentions and see how they are frustrated. Evidently, Nora regards such a thing as out of

the question. And yet-" The truth was, the old figure and face had glimmered away into that dream of the past of which he had spoken. He had seen, and been un-deceived. Time, which he thought had

stood still, had been marching ever onward and leaving his footprints everywhere. "I'll bluntly put the question some this week," he said. "And

day this week, He stood undecided. He was afraid now.

to say what he thought. A new dream had come into his life, and the old

life. "After all, Skipper Jim," said I,

"After all, Skipper Jim," said J, "there's nothing like your custom of making a young man build his own house before settling down." "Nothing like it to make a young man work, sir; nothing like it." "All I ask," said O'Mara, " is that Cod mil blogs me how. He was a good God will bless my boy. He was a good apd dutiful son to me, and I hope he'll have success.

The marriage took place that after-The first intimation I had of it 100n. was the sound of a volley of muskets echoing through the hills. Shot after

shot came in quick succession. "Come, sir," said the Skipper, "they're just now leaving the house. We'll have plenty of time to get to the

church before them." Scarcely had we stepped outside hen we saw some ten or twenty young fellows jumping over fences, racing fo dear life. Each with a gun in his hand and a horn of powder slung over his slung over his shoulder. They were taking short cuts to be at the church before the wedding

party, there to salute them with a volley. At the same time along the

volley. At the same time along the road groups of girls and women were hurrying, and numbers of men swung past at a lively pace. "Young Tom O'Mara is a great favor-ite," said the Skipper, "and nearly all the settlement will be at his wed-ding. The old man is well off, and a mod bit of means will diagnosat to-

ding. The old man is well off, and a good bit of money will disappear to-night. Now, boys, " said he to the gunners, " be careful; no more than two fingers of powder. Helloi Davy, you with a gun, too! You cld dunder-beaded groups! One of your years of your years

headed goose! One of your years among these young fellows firing at a wedding! Well, what are we coming to at all!" "Why wonldn't. I fire for Tom, and

Why wouldn't I fire for Tom, and

"How many fingers have you in," said the Skipper, laying hold of the

gun. "Four and three quarters. There was a time when she could stand six, but I'm afraid she's a bit rusty

"Shame ! Shame ! Davy, two are

enough. "God be with the time, Jim, when dream was fading as a second rainbow "God be with the time, Jim, when melts beneath the brightness of the first. He was ashamed to admit it. there was never any accident," said we were ranked as to know Jimmy Mo around the fi we would hear the youth, his doings, ted his course in He was of med slight figure, and degree seldom fou yes, barring Dav complexion was brought out more p rosy bloom that cheek. He had which is not comm was a wax like sh on his small whit this shine would b would think it an off the ears as if t

Jimmy's good look neat way in whi him as presentable could produce. "By birth he v