## GLENANAAR A SIORY OF IRISH LIFE

BT VERY BEV. CANON P. A. SHEEHAN, D.D. AUTHOR OF "MY NEW CURATE," "LUKE DELMEGE," "UNDER THE CEDARS AND THE STARS," "LOST ANGEL OF A RUINED PARADISE," ETC. CHAPTER XIII.

A WEDDING AND A WARNING. The lights that he saw in his delirium were the lanterns of the rescuing party, who had been sent forward to party, who had been sent forward to search for him, attor their unavailing quest for Nodlag in the mountains; and the voices were the voices of his brother Owen and the men-servants. When he awoke from the stupor and lelirium he found himself lying on the delirium he found himsen tying on the hard settle in the kitchen, propped by pillows; and as the cells of memory began to awaken, and he wandered over the events of the night, he turned ddenly, and said : " Nodlag ?"

"Thanks be to the great God," said his mother, coming over, "your're

yourself agin." "Nodlag?" he said, impatiently. "Where is Nodlag?" "She's all right. She's in bed; and

nothin' the worse for her sousin'." He relapsed into silence. They

gave him some drinks of milk and whiskey. But for a long time he could not eatch on to what had occurred ; and the dream of his delirium was yet haunting him. Then he asked : "Who saved us ?" Where Where were

"You were near enough," said his ' in the ditch at the end of the sister, " in the ditch at the end of the church-field. Bat a miss is as good a enuron-neid. Dat a miss is as good as a mile. You must change, and be a good boy now, for you were never so near your end before." "Was it so bad ?" he asked.

"Twas, and worse. You were talk ing all the raimeis in the world." I felt my mind wandering before I " he said. "It was the quar fell."

thing out and out, altogether." "Bether get on to bed, now," said his mother. "'This time for us all to his mother.

be there. What time is it ?" said Donal.

"Just four o'clock!" said his mother. "And the boys must be up at five." The next day he was all right, ex

cept for the intense muscular pains in back and shoulders. His father said nothing; but looked at him with his keen, kind glance, and gripped his hand with a fervour that was more than eloquence. Little Nodiag lay unwell in the inner room. The chill had brought on a slight attack of pneumonia; and when Donal entered she looked very ill and feverish. But she fixed her great shining eyes upon him. and her great shining eyes upon him, and said not a word. The strong man man shook with emotion. The very sense that he had saved her intensified the great love newly born in that night ad on that drift where he had found

her. "We lost the lamb, Nodlag," he said. "He wint down the river. found him dead in your arms, when pulled you from the snow.'

"Was he dead ?' she gasped. "He was, and cowld and hard as a stone. But I ll give you another, whin you're up and around."

whin you're up and around." "This is the second time Donal saved you, Nodlag," said his mother, coming in. "Begor, you'll have to marry him now, whether you like him

or no." "She doesn't want me," said Donal, in a bantering tone; "'tis Owen she wants. She wouldn't believe it was I saved her from the snow and the

The large shining eyes of the child ere fixed on him. Then she did a retty thing. She put aside the hot pretty thing. drink which Mrs. Connors was offering her, and asked Donal to give it to her. He held the vessel to the child's she drank eagerly. But his

like a big snowball for all the world." "How is the night ?" said the old man, anxious to change the conversa-tion. "Do you think ye'll have every thin' in for the weddin', Bess ?" he said to his wife. "How many gallons is converted did no orders "" of sporits did ye ordher ?" "We ordered thirty," said the vanithee. "But sure we can get

"An' the rounds of beel ?"

"At the rounds of the set of the

Maring with our work 'n Did you achieve wid the priest yourself?" "I did, God bless him !" said her husband, "an' twas aisy settlin". He'll have twinty weddings that day, and more cummin' in ; but he'll be bere to be a set and the set and th at 3 o'clock to the minit, he says ; s that we can have nine hours rale Keol, before Ash Windsday breaks npon us !"

before Ash Windsday breaks upon us  $1^{\prime\prime}$ And they had — real, downright, tumultuous, Irish fun and frolic. From North, South, East, West, the friends came, as heedless of the snow that lay caked upon the ground, and the drifts that were piled in ithe ditches and furro As, as a Canadian with his horses and sleds. There was the house far off — the objective of all the country that and sleds. There was the house far off -the objective of all the country that

night-with its small square windows blazing merrily under the flerce fres apon the hearth; and afar off, clearly outlined against the white pall on the ground ground, were the dark figures of the ground, were the the line in the first of the operation of the state o danced; and, late at night, the old people gathered around the fire in the kitchen, and told stories, whilst the kitchen, and told stories, whilst the youngsters, to the sound of bagpipes and fiddles, danced themselves into fever in the decorated and festooned barn. And Donal led out Nodlag, and insisted on dancing an Irish reel with her, much to the disgust of his intended bride, who watched the child with n friendly eyes, and half determined that the moment she became mistress of Glenansar farm, out that waif and foundling should go, and seek a home elsewhere. But no shadow crossed the

nind of the child, now thoroughly re covered from her illness; but she danced, and danced with Donal, and Owen, and Jerry; and some old people shook their heads, and raid 'twas the fairies brought her and left her, and that somehow there was something uncanny about it all. At last, 12 o'clock rang out from the

kitchen timepiece—an old grandfather's clock, an heirloom in the family for clock, au neirioom in the family for generations—and Lent broke solemnly on the festivities of the night. Some of the youngsters, a little heated, in sisted on keeping up the fun till morn-ing, and queted as an excuse for additional revels the old distich :

Long life and success to the Council of Trint That put fast upon mate, but not upon drink

But the elders were inexorable. This was the day of ashes and humilia tion, the first day of penance, and all should yield to the Church's behests in this grave and solemn matter. So, in the moonlight of that March night, the great crowd dispersed with many a good wish for the happiness of the oung people who commenced to carry the burden of life together that solem

night. As they said goodbye ! after many a

dhoc-a-dhurrus, young Burk, the bride-groom, whispered to Donal : "Light your pipe, and walk down a bit of the road with us !"

bit of the road with us 1" Donal did so. Burke and he had been always close friends, even before they assumed this new relationship. They allowed the cars to go on before them with their female relatives, and trudged along the hardened snow,

smoking leisurely. "'Twas a pleasant night enough !" said Donal, not wishing to make too much of their profuse hospitality. "Nothin' could be grander," said turke. "It bate every weddin' in the Burke. parish." He went on, smoking silently. "I hope you'll be good to Joan," said Donal; "there isn't, and 'tisn't

found her meself amongst the cows." Burke walked on in silence, till they came to the forge just at the cross-roads above the bridge where old Edmond Connors had interviewed Nod lag and her mother. Here he stood still, and hailed the cars that were beneath them in the hollow where the bridge was sunk. He held out his

THE CATHOLIC RECORD.

"I see ve don't know it, nor suspec

"I see ye don't know it, now it, now it, now it, no it is the taik of the country side, and is spoke of where you wouldn't like to hear. Thiggin thu i Well, I'm your brother-in-law now; and wan of family. So I put you on your guard. If the boys," he whispered, hoarsely, looking around cautiously at the time, "find out that what they suspect i true, there'll be a bonfre at Glenanas petore St. John's Eve.

ithout. swinging his hands loosely, he And passed on, and overtook the cars that held his young bride and the members f his own family. Donal stood still for a moment of his own fa

shocked at the unexpected revelation of his father's secret. Then, when he thought of all he had suffered for Nodthought of all he has subject to not the lag that night, three weeks gone, when he rescued her from the snow, and the winning ways of the child, and her utter helplessness, he muttered between his teeth :

"Why the d-I can't they keep their selves quiet? There's always some blackguardin' and ruffianism brew their selves quiet ? ing betune them. What's it to thim who Nodlag is, or where she kum from ? But, be the powers-" "Fine night, Donal Connors," said

the cheery voice of the blacksmith, Redmond Casey, or, as he was popular-ly known, " Red " Casey, parily as an bbreviation of his name, and partly explanatory of a red shock of hair which was always victoriously engaged in a deadly struggle against the black dyes of the smithy. He was a young man, and had taken over the business on his father's death of the business on his father's death a few years pre on his father's death a low years pro-viously. His aged mother was his housekeeper; and his smithy was, as is usual in Ireland, club and newshop and House of Parliament for half the coun try side. Here, in the fierce light of try side. Here, in the here had by the mighty fire, fanned by the huge bellows, and to the music of the clang ing sledge and anvil, were all subjects of parochial, national, political, and ecclesiastical affairs discussed — the ecclesiastical affairs discussed — the only silent man being the smith himself, who pared and cut, and measured and nailed, drinking in every kind of in-formation, but saying nothing. He stood this night of the wedding, calmly smoking at the door of his forge. He had been kept busy up to the last moment, "frosting" and "kniving" moment, "frosting" and "kniving" the horses that had borne the merry crowds to and from the wedding. "'Tis a fine night, Red," said Donal. coming over. "I'm sorry you couldn't be with us.

"So was I; but there was no help for it. Ye broke up airly." "We did. The ould people would

"We did. The onld people would have no more dancin' nor sportin' after 12 o'clock. An' now we have to face the black tay in the mornin'." "Well, but ye'll be havin' your own wedding scon," said Red. "An' I hope we ll have a rale night of it." "I hope so," said Donal, moving homeard

homeward. "I say, Donal," said Red, as if suddenly recollecting himself. "Well, Red, what is it?" said

Donal. Donal. "'Tis a family business, an' I sup-pose I shouldn't interfare," said Red,

heavy hands upon them. The smoulder-ing fires of hatred were newly lighted by the startling report that had gone far and wide over the country. These The and wide over the country. These boys, too, were first coasins to Nano Hegarty, Donal's future bride. There were few preliminaries. At least, there were no synodical prayers. "Boys," said young Lynch, "ye know what ye're here for. It has gone round the country that the and and

that must be out to be loosened. None of us ever wore it." ""Tisn't too late a-yet," said Lynch, moving away. "High hangin' and the divil playin' is what some of ye will see before ye die. Come, Murty ! Come, Darby ! All the sperit is died out of the sumtry !" round the counthry that the seed and breed of that infernal ruffish, Cloumper Daly, is in our midst, leit here by her father and mother. And, the question is, what's to be done ?" "Is that what we're summoned for ?" said a young farmer, no great friend of out of the country !" And he and his brother and the one follower left the meeting. "Wisha, in the name of God," said

"Wisha, in the name of God," said one of the boys, rising up to return home, "is that what we're brought here for this could night, whin we ought to be in our warrum beds ? Be-gobs, some people will soon call a meet-ing if they want to snare a hare, or snear a salmon." said a young tarmer, ho great friend of the Lynch's. "'Tis, and isn't it enough ?'' hotly replied Lynch. "Do ye mane to say that we're goin' to stand by, and see that hellspawn amongst dacent people, who never had shame, altho' they had their fill of sorrow at their dure?" spear a salmon." "Lynch thinks we're obligated to

"'Tis a quare thing, though," said he former speaker, "that we should "Lynch thinks we're obligated to him and his, on account of his father," replied the giant. "An' if it wor a clear case, and someboby besides a woman or child consarned, I'd not be for backin' out of anything in fairity. the former speaker, "that we should be called upon to make war upon a slip of a child that never did nobody harm. How can she help those from whom she

was got ?" " " Tis aisy for you to talk, Connor But, be the hole in my cost, I'm not goin' to pick a quarrel with Edmond Connors, nor his family, bekase he Brien," said Lynch, " but if you knew what it was to rise in the mornin,' and think of your father swung by the throat by thim Sassanachs in Cork; and he, before the High God, inniand he, John Burke," replied the former.

Here the poor fellow's emotion smothered him ; and he could not pro ceed. But it had the effect of the most deadly eloquence upon his audience. "Thrue for you, Dan," said a great, arly fellow, rising. "'Tis only whin burly fellow, rising. "'Tis only whin it comes home to our own dures, that we feel for other's troub'es."

"If I thought," said another, "that the spawn of that sarpint was amongst us, be the Holy Moses, 'twould soon go town the river, or up the sky in smoke.

long as from here to Bantry Bay ! "We're all of wan mind in that mather," said a peace maker. "But, before ye go farther, wouldn't it be well to know what 'tis all about ?" about it ?'

"What the divil, man," said young Lynch. "Don't we all know what 'tis as that ? comin' on, I'm tould," was the reply. " Donal Connors is bringin' in Nano about? Are our heads growin' onder our oxters that we haven't hard what weryone is sayin' ?" "Alsy now, aisy now, Murty," said Hegarty from out there beyant Ard-

the peace maker. " Does anny man mane to tell me, that Edmond Connors would give food and shelter to any war of that seed, breed, and gineration? "They say he don't know it," replied the other. "All he knows is, that he picked up the child on a Christ man night, and kep' her out of charity.

That's all.' "An' how can anny wan prove she's Cloumper Daly's child ?" asked an

"An' how can anny wan prove she's Cloumper Daly's child ?" asked an other who was for peace, and who was tired enough of violence. "There's no prooi if you come to that," said Murty Lynch. "Bat Cloumper Daly's wife wint to America without her child; and the child at Connors' was found about the same time." goin' to bind oursely to help take 'Twill be many a long day afore we'll come to a meetin' of the Lynches again.

time "Yerra, what proof is that ?" asked the pleader. "And was there anny more onlikely place on the face of the airth for Cloumper Daly, or his wife, to put their child than at the dure of the man whose life they wor swearing

away Begor, that clinches the matter Dan," said a young fellow, who had been hitherto silent. "Sure, in the whole wurruld they couldn't find a Dan," Ould

whole wurring they contain the and a worse spot than Glenanar. Ould Ned Connors would have pitched her straight to the divil." 'But sure, man, I tell you he didn't know it; nor does he know it till this day. Thin, ye heard what Dunscombe day. Thin, ye he said to his wood-re great snow fell ?" od-ranger, just before the

No i no ! what's that ?" said many voices, whilst all faces were turned up expectant. "Is it Linehan you mane?" said one, to make quite sure of the personal-

ogue. "What are you thinkin', Jim?"

MAY 11, 1907. said Jim. "He did many a good turn that none of ye, nor of thim belongin' to ye, ever swung for yere creed or

"You can't," said Thade, senten. "Begor, you're right, Dan," said one of the "boys," passing his finger inside his collar. "That's a cravat that must be cut to be loosened. None of us even more it."

"Why can't I ?" said Jim. "Haven't you yer oath, you rufflan?" said Thade. "Didn't ye sware on the crossed shticks not to revale iss, aye or no, that'nd happen here?"

or no, that'ud happen here?" "Thrue for you, begobs," said Jim. "Shure I forgot meself. But it will be no harrum av I have it convayed to Donal, that he may expect a visit, but that they won't shtay long." "Well, that's another question," said Thede balancing the mediate

Thade, balancing the morality of the thing in his mind. "It's wan thing to tell, another thing to convay. Well," he said at length, "I suppose you may, but don't let the Lynches ever hear it, av ye vally yer life, an' dont care to be tied to the settle."

"Are ye done, Thade?" said Jim, "It's mortial cowld here."

"Take another shaugh,' said Thad, "N-no !" said Jim, "But I'll take the lind of a loan of your 'bacey-box till to-morrow. Ab !" he said, lovingly as Thade handed him the little flat tin box, "Sure, 'tis atin' and drinkin,' and sleepin'--all thegither !" A few nights later there was a little

scene at the forge. A few of the boys met as usual to talk over events; and chase to take in a little gorlach of a child on a Christmas night." "I was spakin' to his son in-law, met as usual to talk over events; and the conversation turned upon Nodlag. "Whatever they say, the Lynches are right," said one, lighting his pipe at the forge furnace. "They might be, if they could prove themselves," said another. "That's just it!" said a third.

tould me he gave a hint to Donal, which he wouldn't have done, only he

had a sup in him the hight of the weddin'-an' sure if he hadn't it thin, whin would he have a right to it? An he tould me, from the way Donal took it, he had no more idee of it than the 'No wan manes anny harrum to the girl,'' said the first speaker, "but it is clear this is no place for the likes of her girl," aiquals, alther all that occurred, Begobs, people have their feelings; and 'tisn't Ned Connors should go agin babe unborned." "Av course," said the giant, "ould women's talk will go far an' wide across the counthry. Give 'em the tay an' the snuff, an' begob, they'll them, whatever tie he has in the "The right thing would be to frighten him, without hurtin' him; and let him sind her on the road, where he picked for ye, at

her up," said the first. Red Casey was swinging his sledge with great strokes on a horseshoe that But why are the Lynches so hot nt it?" was asked. "Sure, it can't be they want to revinge the murdher of their father on such a child was held redhot by a boy with a long, forked tongs. He caught the conversa-No ! but there's another weddin' tion, however; and lifting high the

sleege in the air, he said : "The man that puts a wet finger of that girl, by G-, I'll smash his skull as aisy as I shtrike that shoe." and sure she don't want any

He brought the heavy sledge down " Thin Owen and the sisther go out, with a fearful thud, and the red sparks flew fast and thick all around. I suppose ?" "Av coorse, they do. An' av she could turn out the ould couple wid-them, she think no more of it than of saying, 'Hurrish !" to the pig." "An' that's Dan Lynch's game, is boy, who held the horseshoe, let it fall in terror; the rest slunk silently from

the forge. And Nodlag, the cause of all this commotion, slept calmly the sleep of innocence, and dreamed out her little span of happy oblivion till the dawn. TO BE CONTINUED.

HUNTING WILD ANIMALS.

In Camp on the Summit of the Man Mountains. FEBRUARY 8, 1907.

The following interesting paper is from the pen of Mr. Frank N. Gibbs, son of Mr. Chas. T. Gibbs, accountant of the Senate of Canada. The writer is a graduate of the Royal Military College, Kingston, and a civil engineer. He went to South Africa with the last contingent. When the war was over he was employed by the Portuguese Government, and succeeded in bringing water from the mountains to supply the city of Lorenzo Marquis, a dis-

ing the spark on the spunk; and amoked for a long time leisurely. Then, tance of seventy miles: noanion and, wiping his mouth with the back Am returning from my trip towards of his hand, he remarked : "I'm thinkin' to night's meetin' the German East African Border and expect to be in Naivasha in two days time. To-day makes the twenty-fourth I'm thinkin' the same," said the day since leaving Naivasha and I have been very lucky indeed, shooting every-thing. I came here for Neuman's hartibeest, wilderbeest, topi, eland, other, reluctantly joining in the dia-

giraffe, hyena, wild dog, leopard and

## MAY 11, 1907.

I decided, however, to sit night also. What happene copy from my diary which

copy from my diary which the next day. JAN. 31sT., THURSDAY 51X OUT FROM NAIVAS About 6 a. m. I took second Somali gun-bearer men and started out dow ther giraffe again. I so

men and started out dow after giraffe again. I so of giraffe until I had cross the next valley, where I so two old ones and a young three quarters grown. Th two old ones and a young three quarters grown. Thing on some trees at the open plain about half a m was obliged to wait pati half an hour until the giraf into the bush and down a then started out after th then started out which is ceeded in getting within 40 I was confronted with an 0 150 yards on which I can tull view of the giraffe, w see feeding. I succeeded, safely negotiating this by pent-like crawl on my han thereby reaching the cove bushes, from which latter bushes, from which latter tage I successfully stal within a hundred yards, v examination with the glass disclosure that they were very much to my disappoint now been walking about decided to stop and have and a drink; then return reaching it about 6.30 p reaching it about 6 30 some dinner, I then, w head Shikari, took up my the kill. I was very the the kill. I was tely if d twelve hours walking d and was soon fast asleep; to keep watch. Evident suit later on, for about suddenly awakened by th crunching noise and th partially dried flesh, f

peculiar noise. I shall now the lion mouthed the great chunk it had r heart commenced thumpi hammer for there was no sound. No other anim tear and crush flesh with There succeeded this flesh eating, quietness of padded feet, which to lion or whatever it wa and my hopes dropped to

however, and with gr emerged from my blas into position so that I co the small peep hole in that purpose, a sort of and taking my double cordite rifle across my further developments. moon but it was obscur

clouds which made sigh A few minutes passe lions were suddenly he cass ; one at each end c a tear and then both of off again to return one short interval. This

short interval. This apparently satisfied th danger for they commer tearing away at a g straining my eyes I co make out a moving for away at its midnight m tinged to strain my eye tinued to strain my en came clearer and I co ake a bite and while its head and stare rig not 10 feet away. sgined it could see so not certain. The next get the rifle into pos tempt, or a guess a without the least bit neant good-bye to the

meant good-bye to the the slightest sound wa inch, between bites, muzzle of the rifle; th turning its head and until finally the rifle w fire. The next few m of great tension as I to their ntmost to try and get them lined of thought would be t but it was I simply to guess my b must leave to Allah a the dream of my en upon the line that rif

And the boys dispersed, one by one, And the boys dispersed, one by one, each taking a different pathway across the snow-enveloped fields. The great giant, Thade Ryall, and one young lad, who always accompanied him, lingered behind. "Have you a steel and fint aboat you ?" asked Thade.

suppose ?"

"I have," said the boy, searching his breeches pocket. "An' a piece of spunk ?" "Here you are !" 'Tis dyin' for a dhraw I am myself this cowld night." Thade Ryall lit his pipe by striking fire from the fint and steel, and catch-ing the spark on the spunk his breeches pocket.

he handed the pipe to his co

won't ind here !'

had a sup in him the night of

vint stories and romances

wan to share the flure wid her."

it ?" cried the others, in a chorus of indignation. "Wisha, thin, bad luck

to him, the naygur, to think we were goin' to bind ourselv' to help Nano.

unborned."

hand trembled. His mother wiped her hand trembled. This mother when not lips with a handkerchief; and the child made a sign. "Stoop down said his mother, "she wants you." The big man stooped;

and Nodlag put one hot arm around his neck, and drew him closer. He pressed her hot lips with his own and

went out to have a good cry. When they were gathered around the fire that night, old Edmond Connors in the centre, looking as was his wont, dreamily at the blazing wood blocks, there was a good deal of banter and fun, which Donal had to bear. "Begor, Owen, you're cut out altogether. Nodlag and Donal now are

bound to one another; and 'twould take the Pope himself to brake it."

"No matther," said Owen, "we must get somebody else, I suppose. 'Twill be a quare story if we can't pick up some likely colleen at Joan's wedding. There'll be the power an' all of

people here, I suppose,' said Donal. "Where'll we put 'em ?"

barns big enough for Aren't the the whole parish ?'' said the old Bat, if this weather lasts, the neigh bors won't come.

Won't they though ?" said Owen. "'Tisn't snow, nor hail nor wind will keep the boys and girls away from a good wedding." "Wisha, thin, Donal," said Joan,

who was anxious to turn away the conversation from herself, "wasn't it the quare things you were sayin' last night, when you wor brought in ?"

"What things ?" said Donal, an-xioasly looking at his father. "Never mind !" said the old man.

"Shure you were out of you're min' with the cowld and the hardship ; and and you didn't know what you were sayin'.'

You wor talkin' and talkin' about jedges, and black caps an' informers, an' Daly and his wife, and Nodlag." things mix themselves Tis quare how drames like that

up in drames like that." "I remimber," said Donal cautionsly, "jest before I fell, I thought I was in the ck, an' the jedge was puttin' on his black cap, whin a woman, a great tall woman stood up, and stopped him. An'

because I say it, a better girl nor claner housekeeper in this counthry.' " Do you doubt me ?" said his com-

"Divil a doubt," said Donal, " but we were fond of Joan, an' we'll miss

Barke was again silent.

You've somethin' on your mind to me,'' said Donal. "Wasn't every tell me.' thin' right, marriage money an' all ?" His companion gave him a rude

shove. "Thin you have somethin' to say," cried Donal. "Out wid it, man What have you to be afeared of ?"

" I'm afeared of nothin' for meself,'

said Burke. "But I'm afeared for ye." Then suddenly turning, he asked

fiercely : "Who's that girl ye have up at the house?

Girl? What girl? We've no

Girl 7 what girl 7 we ve no girl there but Norry and Peggy !" "I don't mane thim. We all know who thim are. But who's that young thucka ye danced with to-night ?"

"I danced with many a one," said )onal, on his guard. "With your Donal, on his guard. "With your sisters, and your cousin, Kate Heaphy, and Lucy Kelly, and

"I don't mane thim naither," said Burke. 'I mane that youngster whom ye tuk into yere house, and who's been

wid ye since." "Oh ! Nodlag !" said Donal, wak-

iog up. "That's her ! Who is she? Where did she come from ? Who're her be-

longings ?" "Ask me somethin' aisy," said Donal, fencing and parrying the ques

tion. "Do ye mane to say, Donal Connors, "Do ye mane to say, Donal Connors, that nayther you, nor your father, nor your mother, know who the divil's breed it is ye are keepin' on a flure that

woman stood up, and stopped him. An' thin I heard voices: 'Donal! Donal! ''You've taken a little dhrap too Nodlag! Nodlag!' an' I fell.'' ''Twas we wor callin','' said Owen. ''And 'twas the devil's own job to make you hear. An' sure 'twas well we didn't miss you both; for ye were us who the girl is, since the night I

blushing in the darkness. " But they say your intinded, Donal, don't want Nodlag on the same flure wid her, an' the ould woman here does be lone etimes-'

You mane you'll like to have her

"That is, av there's no room for her at Glenanaar," said Red. "So long as there's bit, bite and

sup yonder," said Donal, solemnly, "Nodlag will have her place at our table, no matter who comes in-" "Oh, I meant no offince," said Red.

"An' at laste, it is somethin' to know that she has a friend in you, Red, if all

fails her. "That she has, and some day I may have the chance to prove it," said Red. "Good-night !"

CHAPTER XIV.

## A MIDNIGHT SYNOD.

It was in an old gray keep, one of the square frontier fortresses, built in Queen Elizabeth's time, that the mid-night synod was held. The castle rose night synod was held. from a little swen, or probably was in ancient days the moraine of some mighty glacier that down from the mountain val-

leys and pushed the detritus of sand and earth before it. It was built of gray limestone, and "stood full square to all the winds that blow." Here, in past ages, were entrenched

the mail-clad warriors, who held the whole country side "against the rapparees; and here this moonlit, frosty night, with the snow still glittering all around, were gathered the descendants

of these same rapparees, as flerce, as generous, and as vindictive as their sires of three hundred years gone by. Some sate on the stone steps that led to the upper stories of the old castle; ned against the heavy walls and two or three were on the summit hidden behind the parapets, sentinels

against the approach of strangers or enemies. They were all young men, of the farming and laboring class. A few were still members of the White boy vendetta. All had worn the white shirt in their time. Two were the sons of the Dan Lynch who was executed at

ity. "Yes, Thade Linehan-"

" The divil a much I'd give for what that ruffian and rint-warner would say," cried a boy, who had been pro-secuted by Linehan for poaching.

"He's not much better than an in-former himself." " No matter for that !" said Murty

Lynch, angrily, as he felt the tide of opinion setting against him, "the divil himself will tell the truth whin it suits his purpose." "Well ! well ! what did Danscombe

say ? Let us hear it !' oried a dozen

"What did he say ?" repeated Murty, to emphasize the answer. "He said he made an offer to ould Ned Connors about that child, which he'd

be sorry for not takin'." "What was the offer ?" cried the incredulous ones. "It must have been a chape bargain that Dunscombe offered He'd split with the divil himself. for. He'd split with the dividual and "He offered to take the child, and

do for her, and rare her up a lady "An' make a souper of her ?" "He didn't say that.'

He meant it.

"Well, I see ye're all agin me, said Dan Lynch. "But, be this and be that, I'll take the thing into me own hands, as ye haven't the heart of a hare

"Yerra, now, aisy, Dan," cried the great big giant. well as any wan-" You know us as

well as any wan--"
"I know you, Dinny; an' I know you're a man, an 'a man's son."
"You know well, Dan," said the giant, soothed by the flattery, "that I'd face all the landlords, an 'agents, an' bailiffs in Munster; an' if it come that the the the point of snitting to that, I'd think no more of spitting one of thim thin I'd think of spearin' salmon in the close saison. different altegither, whin it comes to talkin' of doin' away wid a little slip of a colleen, that never did no harrum to no wan.

"An' who the divil talked of doin away wid her ?" said Lynch, angrily. "I never mintioned it, av ye did." "Hallo ! me beuchal, is't that ye're

said the giant. "Ye want to afther ?"

afther?" said the giant. "Ye want to save yere own skin; and let uz pay the piper. Is that it?" "Ye're a parcel of white livered kinats," said Lynch, now losing all control of himself. "Tis aisy to see

said the giant. "I'm thinkin' I'd like to hear you talkin', Thade," said Jim, innocently.

"'Tis the pity the weed is not grown in Ireland," said Thade. "What manufacturer and consumer and gin eral daler you would be !" "Go on, Thade ! Go on !" said Jim,

economizing every valuable moment. "The top of a rick of turf, a sunny day, and the wind from the south to timper it, and a well-blackened dhud-

timper it, and a wort-backered unde-een, and the tin box full ——" "Shtop, av ye don't want me to shtrike you! What the divil do ye want grigging a poor fellow like that for ?" said Jim as the delectable vision rose up before him, and the stern contrast was all around.

"Well, as I was about saying, whin ye interrupted me wid yere minan derings," replied Thade, "I don't think the Lynches with shtop their hand ofther to night."

What can they do ?" said Jim. "What can anny wan do whin the divil inthers into him? Whin I kim out that moonlight night tin years ago. d'ye think I had any notion of drivin thim slugs through the Ameral's car riage? An' av I knew his daughter was wid him, don't ye think I'd sooner turn the muzle upon meself ?" "Whist !" said Jim, cautiously. "Do ye hear nothin""

"Nothing at all," said Thade, un-concernedly. "And when you, Jim Cassidy, as good and riligious a boy as ever broke his mother's heart, lie in

"Whisht, for George--" "Whisht, for God's sake, whisht !" said Jim, rising up. "The walls have said Jim, rising up. "The walls have ears. Here's yer pipe, and bad luck to ye wid it.

"I thought I'd get it out av ye," said Thade, coolly smoking. "Nothin but one thing could take the pipe from " Nothin' your mouth, Jim !"

But what were ye saying about the Lynches " asked Jim, crossly, for he felt he had been cheated. Nothin' pertickler, 'cept they

won't shtop there." "Ned Connors is a dangerous man,"

said Jim. know a more dangerous man." said Thade.

" Who ?' "Donald Connors. He's the wan man I'd be afeared to meet, av his timper

"I think I'll put him on his guard,"

very exciting times so will have many a yard to spin you when we meet again

There are only four other species of big game in this country now that I have not shot, and I am going to have a try for three of these yet. They are elephant, kudoo, oryx and buffalo. Elephant, I shall have to give up an idea of this time, as it is the wrong sea son of the year for this country, and I do not want to go into Uganda for them as it is in the bad fever districts where

they are found. The camp I am now writing from is about 12 000 ft. elevation on the summit of the Nan Escarpment and it is quite old, ice at night, think of it! and

almost on the equator too. I think one of the happiest days of my life was the day following the night when I bagged my first lions. I suppose there are not 25 per cent. of the sportsmen who come here and spend five and six months who go away with a lion. This is how it happened. On the 29th I shot a cow giraffe by mistake. It is difficult to tell the difference between the cow and the bull at a distance and as my Shikari said one of five, was the largest and a bull, I promptly shot it at a distance of 300 yards. It is against the law to kill a female and you are only allowed to kill one bull giraffe for which you have to pay a special license of £5 which I had taken out. An infringement of this law is liable to a fine of some 800 rupees so a there was only the Shikari and myself present at the time we left the giraffe and came away. The next morning being again out for giraffe, my Shikari, whom I sent on ahead with the pony to scout for lions at some kills [ had left out for then (it being about a 5.30 a. m.) came back and reported that he had come across a giraffe which had been killed by lions and partially eaten. (This was for the special benefit of the camp followers who were with me.) The fact that lions had visited the car

The fact that lions had visited the car-cass and eaten a portion of the giraff-was, however, quite true enough as I plainly saw on visiting it, so I decided to sit up that night and had a clump of bushes arranged within about 10 ft. of the carcass. That night two lions came within 40 to 50 yards and roared, but they evidently suspected danger and did not pay a visit to the giraffe, so nothing came of the first night's vigil.

as I pulled the trigge 450 soft nosed men Then a report like a l out on the st to be immediately fo st equally loud ros of two lions simultan see dimly two object vision and then bla down un me at the t missed the only chan ever have of bagging ings of disappointment were indescribable. in the same position with the barrel of the through the "Port lat my shoulder; jus not say (as I seemed stupor of misery) wi electrified to life ag seemed to come from distance in front an this noise was follow by a curious mixto and proans inde but in whi mixed a mass of ] anger, surprise an touched me on the pered in my ear in rcitement : he di dead.

I thought so t ence of lions being limited to zoo I could only bo true. Neverthele to see or verify i mented by doubts the advent of dayli thus I must wait v could muster for th minute, I was abs I had hit fata minute, when I co ditions, not seein very hazy object general excitement realized how easy I lay down in m tried to sleep bu anxious to see th might go out to se lion, if wounded it

I lay thus for p when a slight nois