CHAPTER X .- Continued.

While poor Nellie Cullen had been

enter. Both the elder and younger Mrs. Daton had felt relieved

Nellie had declined the invitation to

attend the reception, because they

referred not to introduce her as the

preferred not to interest the mother of Agnes. It was not the

cause she was not considered good

enough, for she was every inch a lady

but she had been kept in the back

ground so long that they preferred having her remain there; besides,

Agnes' matrimonial chances might

had a poor mother who was obliged

The attention Cecelia was receiving

from young Mr. Carroll was the sub-

ject of some comment among the

ladies. Some mothers would gladly

own daughters, as well as the young ladies themselves, were inclined to be

jegious, while some of the gentlemen,

who would have been glad of even a

few minutes in the company of th

share the feelings of the ladies. The

fully realizing the young man's posi-

tion, was highly pleased. Grandma

Daton saw it too, and she smiled as

she thought that her prophecy in re-

young might come true, and she won-

dored if her fate was really to be set

Poor innocent child that she was,

ompany of a sincere Catholic gentle-

man, who, like herself, had been edu

cated by religious, and she enjoyed be

ing with him because he was wholly

free from the light talk and vair flat-

teries she had heard from others.

Much of their conversation was or

their recent school days. In a word

it might be said they were like two

other's company, and they suspected

nothing of the remarks they caused

when arm in arm they walked to the

piano, and while Cecelia played the

accompaniment they sang together a

had ever been heard in public, and as the clear, sweet tones floated

through the rooms, mingled with his

pended and all ears were bent to lis-

"Surely, Mrs. Daton, your daugh-

ter's voice is a fortune in itself," re-

marked one woman who was an ar

dent lover of music, and another came

to whisper that though she had heard

many a professional songster, she

had never yet found a voice to equal

this. Many other such remarks were

made, and Mrs. Daton smilingly

every word in her heart. Cecelia her-

self received her share of praises after

become embarrassed and could

leaving the piano, and she was press-

not be induced to sing another verse.

She had not thought of entertaining

the public; on the contrary, she had

become so deeply interested in the

school days to which Maurice had

carried her back that she had almost

orgotten that the house was full of

strangers, to whom she was a centre

Shortly after refreshments were to

be served, and Cecelia permitted her-

self to be led away on his arm to the dining-room, receiving like a child

all attentions he offered to her and

secretly admired him when she notic-

ed that the wine in his glass remain-

self to be led away on his arm

ed to sing more, but refused.

thanked the admirers,

rich tenor, conversations were

was the first time Cecelia's voice

song they had learned in school.

ent children, happy

younger Mrs. Daton saw it all,

gard to Cecelia being settled in

Cecelia knew nothing of this.

only realized that she was in

thei

life

the

in each

SHS

treasuring

were tempted to

to work to support herself.

have sought his company for

lovely brunette,

tled to-night.

be so good if it were known she

ar different part inside. The open little Cecelia O'Kane was

oors her only sister was acting a

inside. The one

crety Directory.

RDAY, MAY 28, 1904

TRICK'S SOCIETY. -Estat March 6th, 1856, incorpus 1863, revised 1846. Meets in 'atrick's Hall, 92 St. Alexan street, first Monday of Committee meets last Wed Officers : Rev. Director, M. Callaghan, P.P.; President Mr. Justice C. J. Doharty ice, F. E. Devlin, M.D.; 2nd F. J. Curran, B.C.L.; Treas. Frank J. Green; correspond Secretary, J. Kahala; Reg Secretary, T. P. Tansey.

oor little Cecelia O'Kane was en-oying an evening of happy triumph. The tributes to the beauty of her dris made her prouder than she had ever been in her life. "Her girls," she called them both, for she was proud to claim Agnes as her own, and TRICK'S T. A. AND B. SO. Y-Meets on the second Sun. f every month in St. Patrick's 92 St. Alexander etreet, as p.m. Committee of Manage meets in same hall on meets in same hall on the uesday of every month at 8 Rev. Director, Rev. Jas. Kil-President, W. P. Doyle; Rec. Jno. P. Gunning, 716 St. ine street, St. Henri,

N'S T. A. & B. SOCIETY. -Rev. Director, Shed 1863.—Rev. Director, Father McPhail; President, D. Fy, M.P.; Sec., J. F. Quinn, St. Dominique street; M. J. treasurer, 18 St. Augustia tt. Meets on the second Surevery month, in St. Ann's Young and Ottawa , at 3.30 p.m.

N'S YOUNG MEN'S SOCIE ganized 1885.—Meets in its 157 Ottawa street, on the Sunday of each month, .m. Spiritual Adviser, Rev. Flynn, C.SS.R.; President, Treasurer, Thom nell; Rec.-Sec., Robt. J. Hart.

OF CANADA, BRANCH Organized 13th November -Branch 26 meets at St. c's Hall, 92 St, Alexander every Monday of each The regular meetings for ansaction of business n the 2nd and 4th Mondays month, at 8 p.m. Spiritual r, Rev. M. Callaghan; Chan-P. J. Darcy; President, W. l; Recording Secretary, P. C 139 Visitation street agh, ial Secretary, Jas. J. Cos 325 St. Urbain street; Trea.

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ed untasted. It was over at last, like all things this world, and the two cousins had retired, each to her own room. Agnes threw herself into an easy

think of saying a prayer, she quickly | up the walk. She stood in utter | doubt me, whom you have never youth, leaving only you, Cecelia." ed and soon fell asleep to dream of many bright things.

With Cecelia it was different; tired of the glitter and glow of the evening, and glad to be alone, she cast her jewels and rich gown and knelt in prayer for some time before retiring. When she fell asleep it was in a dreamless and refreshing slumher, and a smile not founded earthly happiness rested on many were present who knew not that the lovely blonde had a poor mother, and not one suspected that that same mother watched outside in the zold to see her child honored in the cold to see her child honored in the cold to see her child honored in the cold to see her child honored in peaceful face.

CHAPTER XI.

Tired out after spent in mirth, the Daton family slept late, and the sun was far above the horizon ere any of them awoke. Agnes was the first to open her eyes and almost the first object they rest ed on was the dress she had worr the evening before.

"How fortunate I am," she thought "to be in society. I intend making the best of every opportunity offered me to enjoy myself. Truly this is the happiest time of life.'.

After a time, thinking of her mother, who might be pleased to hear something of her enjoyments, she hastily donned a loose dressing gown and stole softly to her room. Mrs. Cullen was sleeping soundly, but her heavy breathing was quite unnatural Agnes approached and laid her hand on her head. It was burning hot, and though the woman stirred un frightened, but undecided what to do, the daughter sat down by her mother's bedside and watched her fully half an hour, then moved to awaken her. She opened her eyes looked around until her gaze fell upon Agnes, then said :

"Good morning, Agnes; how kind of you to come and awake me when I might have siept until noon and my her sick aunt. work awaiting me."

"I hardly think you will go work this morning, mother, for it is nearly 11 now." "How could I have slept so late,

when I am always such an early riser ?

"I do not know, mother, unless you sat up too late last evening; but I do not think the rest will harm

"Probably not, Agnes; but what

will my employer think of my absence ?'

"One half-day can make no differ ence, mother."

"If you had to work you would know that it does. I should have gone home last evening, so as to have been up in time this morning. I am glad, however, I had the chance to see how lovely my own darling child looked."

All this had been spoken in a whis per. Agnes, not knowing that her mother was really unable to speak aloud, thought it was because did not wish to disturb grandmother, who occupied the adjoining room. Mrs. Cullen tried now to arise, but fell heavily back on the bed. She made a second effort, but with the same failure, while beads of perspiration stood on her forchead.

"What is the trouble, mother?"

asked Agnes in alarm. "Nothing, Agnes, only my head is a little light. It will soon pass away." So saying she sank back on her pillow and closed her eyes, while Agnes hastened to call Aunt Cecelia, who sent for a physician. The doctor pronounced patient very ill, the result of a severe cold. There were also symptoms of overwork. In a few days she was at the very portals of death. Knowledge of this fact were carefully kept from her, but the other members of the family knew it, and required all the strength Agnes posessed to keep back the tears when

lin her mother's presence. Never during the long years sine the first Mrs. Daton had been visited by her cousin had a priest crossed the threshold of the house, and had such a thing been mentioned in the presence of grandmother, she would have objected at once. It was bad enough, she thought, to have three Romanists in the house, but as long as they did not interfere with her she would not with them. Without consulting anyone excepting, her sunt chair, smiling as she remembered the and the nurse, whom she told to many attentions she had received be propared for the coming of the from her guests, and she longed for priest, Cecelia went to Mass one the morrow, when she could talk her happiness all over with her cousin the parish clergy. The old lady saw and mother. At tast, too tired to them from the window as they came "Yes, grandma; why should

amazement, and had he not been with her darling Cecelia she would have been tempted to open the window and ordered him out of grounds.

"Upon my word," she soliloquized, "what will that girl be doing next? There she is coming right into my house with a Catholic priest, when no one else would dare think bringing him here; she seems bound to rule the house and everybody in 1t 1"

They were nearer now, and she pressed her face closer to the window. She had no fear of being discovered, for both walked with downcast eyes, the priest holding his hand on his breast, as if guarding some Neither appeared to speaking a word.

"They appear very unsociable," thought Mrs. Daton, "but perhaps they are both saying some of their Popish prayers to protect that man as he enters this half-Protestant household.'

They were silent because the trea sure the priest was guarding was no other than the Lord of heaven earth. Whom he was taking to the sick woman, and both felt too strong ly the Divine presence to think talking, even if it had been proper for them to do so. Cecelia ducted the priest to Mrs. Cullen's room, and made a deep genuflection to the Blessed Sacrament before leaving him. When his work was done she accompanied him back to easily she did not awake. A little front door, and Mrs. Daton, who had not left the window, watched him as he took his departure

That afternoon when Cecelia went to spend a few minutes with her grandmother she commenced calling her to an account for what she had done, but the girl informed her that she had only done her duty in bringing one of her own clergy to visit

"Your mother would not think of bringing a Catholic priest into this

"I do not understand why, grandma, as it is her own home."

"Simply because she knows husband and his mother would not approve of it." "Not approve of it, grandma, when

he does not trouble you any? None of us ever think of objecting your minister, and his wife, too, visiting you, as they often do, and I cannot understand the difference." my

There is a great difference, dear girl, and I do not like to see a young lady, especially one in your in company with priests. Much less do I lile to have them coming to this house

"Oh, grandma," said Cecelia, "they can surely do me no harm, and for coming here, they have a right to go wherever duty calls them to attend to the spiritual wants of the sick of their churches."

"Cecelia, the last part of your argument may be all right, but you are young and inexperienced, your grandmother, who thinks only of your good, has read a great deal and understands much that you do not. When you get older and know world, you will think of your grandmother's kind advice to you when you were young, and you will thank her for it then."

"Perhaps so, grandma," said , Cecelia, softly patting the lady's cheek, "I know there is a great deal in this world for me to learn, but regard to religion. I am not afraid to tell you that I understand much

that you do not. "I readily admit that there are many strange, and, to me, useless things in the Catholic religion which I do not understand.'

This remark hurt Cecelia no less than the others. She was not angry but, brushing away a stray tear which persisted upon coming into her dark eye, she answered:

"Grandma, if you wish I shall explain some of those things to you, so that you may understand them

"Would your priest approve it?" "Certainly, grandma; why should he not ?"

"Because I thought they did not like to have the secrets of their Church told to Protestants."

side the Church who wishes to

known once to deceive you?

"I do not doubt you, child, for I am fully aware that you would not knowingly deceive me, but I thought perhaps you did not understand perfectly the way of the Catholic Church."

"There are many things, grandma especially in the supernatural, that we cannot always perfectly understand, and our Church is filled with strange beauties, but I know enough I understand it well enough to firmly convinced that in it alone is found the truth."

Cecel a's face as she spoke beameu with a supernatural glow which did not escape the lady, and she knew that one who could thus speak and look could be troubled with doubts. But it was strong language. such as she had never looked from one so mild and childish in appearance.

"Do you mean to tell me, Cecelia, that none but Catholics can ever go

"I did not say that, grandma; I only said the truth was to be found in the Catholic Church alone."

"Which means about the same thing, I understand."

"Take it as you like, grandma; but there are hundreds of non-Catholics saved because they have been kept in ignorance through no fault of their God judges us at the last day only according to the lights He has given us and the use we have made

"You seem to believe differently from most Catholics, Cecelia."

"I believe only what I know to be right; but where, grandma, may ask, did you get your impressions." "I cannot remember. Cecelia, but I know I have heard them some where."

"Perhaps from some ignorant person, who spoke from blindness, or, far worse, from malice. I know too well that it is the way of the world to say many hard and false things about the Catholic religion, and we are not always present to defend ourselves: but we must bear the persecution in patience, as our Divine Founder and Master did."

"Cecelia, you speak as if you considered yourself and all Catholics

"The Church in all ages has suffered martyrdom from her enemies and still suffers; but as for my individual self, my life has been so free and happy that I have no cause to complain.

"Are you sure. Cecelia, that there are no dark secrets in your Church?" religion to me?" asked the woman, who could drive that thought from her mind. "Yes, grandma: I am, Why did

you think of such a thing ?" "Because I have heard so much about it, and the way some Catho-

lics themselves act confirms the sus "I do not understand how that car

be, grandma."

"Well, your mother, for example I do not like to speak disrespectfully of her to her own child, for she has always been all that a daughter could be to me, but if I dared mention religion to her she would always change to something else so quickly that I finally learned to shun it as something too dangerous to speak

"I do not understand why mother should act thus, especially were in earnest and wanted informa-

tion. "I did desire to learn something of the Catholic religion in order know how my little granddaughter was being brought up, but I could not even find a book among your mother's possessions in the library to shed any light on the subject. If she had any, she must have kept them

hidden with her other treasures."
"Possibly so," said Cecelia, "She might have kept them from view thinking that it would not be pleasant for all members of the family to leep them in a public place."

"That might have been her motive but I cannot help feeling that she has kept too close in regard to the religion in which she chose to bring up her child. It is my opinion that a father and grandmother should not be kept wholly in the dark in regard | ly, but I had secretly hoped "Secrets, grandma! We have no to so important a thing as the resecrets in our Church. Everything is ligious instruction of the children of better." open to investigation of anyone out- of the family. If your brother and sisters had lived, I should now be the that you, in whom I have always crandmother of four instead of one placed the greatest confidence, could grandmother of four instead of one belonging to a Church of which them home in the innocence of their

them home." "Yes, God took thought Cecelia, "before they were eyes see you must believe." old enough to know what it was to suffer for their religion and see those dearest to them in darkness."
"Grandma," she said, raising her

head, which had dropped in reflection "don't you think you are a little

hard on my dear mother ?" "Perhaps so, Cecelia, for I may not be able to understand her per-

fectly." "That is it, grandma; you it now, for mother is always right.' "I am glad to hear you speak thus for it proves you to be a good, dutiful daughter, and I often feel that instead of taking the best, as

often done, God has left us the flower of our little flock " "Do not be too sure, grandma, for your Cecelia has her faults as well as others, and perhaps the ones who were taken might have grown up to

be a blessing to their family, and put their poor little sister Cecelia to shame." "They might have been an honor

to us, but that we can never tell. As for you, Cecelia, if you have any faults, they are certainly very triffing ones, and you keep them covered; but who of us in this world can be without faults?"

"None," said Cecelia; "we are all human."

She was thinking of failings, natural faults, which but for the helpful aid of the Sacraments might have gained the mastery over her, for Cecelia in reality was not by nature the faultless character we have seen. She was possessed of a high temper, which accompanied an over-sensitive nature, and germs of the family pride were there, but by prayer and frequent recourse to the holy fountains of grace held out by the Catholic Church she had so fully subdued them as to make them almost invisible to others, even those in her own household. Many a time had Agnes become impatient with her for remaining so long in the confessional, and wondered what sins one who anparently led so good a life could have to confess. But Agnes knew nothing of the interior trials of Cecelia, who had flown to this safe refuge to seek counsel from a friend who could understand and sympathize. This was what was passing through the mind of the young girl now, but it must be hidden from her grandmother, who could never understand.

"Cecelia, did I understand you to say that you would explain your

Yes, grandma, I will be very happy to do it any time you wish.' "And you promise to answer any questions I may ask?"

"To the best of my ability I shall; but remember, grandma, your young granddaughter is no great theologian and I cannot promise to answer many weighty or perhaps unreasonable questions."

'All I want to know, Cecelia, is a plain and simple explanation of what you believe."

"And that, grandma, I think I can easily give.' "Very well, Cecelia, and now

shall begin by asking one question which has troubled me for years. Does the Catholic Church approve the worshiping of idols ?"

strictly forbidden by the first commandment.'

"I know it is, as we have been taught the commandments, but to practice the Catholic Church does the contrary."

"I cannot understand how, for one of the first things we were taught in our catechism was to avoid such things.

"I need not go far. Cecelia, to prove it-only out in our own garden to what you call your Grotto You put fresh flowers be-Lourdes. fore that dumb statue and pray it yourself. You cannot deny that. Cecelia, for I have often seen you do it myself, and have watched you with an aching heart, but I dared not interfere because I knew your mother had taught it to you, and I had reher own way in bringing up her famithat when you were older you would know

"Oh, grandma, I never suspected feel thus towards your own Cecelia know little or nothing; but God took or her dear mother, who never does wrong."

"How could I help it, when I had such strong proofs? What your own

Cecelia glanced around the until her eyes rested on her grandfather's picture.

"Grandma," she asked, "wny you keep that picture in your room?' "That is my dear husband's picture, and I have it there to keep his memory fresh in my mind. He was one of the noblest of men, and I wish he could have lived until now. If you knew him, Cecelia, you could not

help loving him." "I think I should have loved him. grandma, from what I have heard you tell of him. And you feel that it is perfectly right for you to keep his picture in your room

"Yes, Cecelia, I do, and I should consider it an insult to his sacred memory if I banished it from sight.

"But did it never strike you, grandma, that it was akin to wor-

shiping idols? "No, child. By no means

do you ask such a question? Because the statue in our grotto is kept for the same purpose which you keep grandfather's picture-simply as a reminder of who was deemed worthy to be the Mother of Christ."

"Then why do you pray to it?" "I do not pray to it; no Catholic does; but in beholding that marble figure while we pray we can easily keep in mind the original, who is in heaven, instead of letting our minds be filled with distractions."

"Then I understand that you pray not to God, but to a woman whom He chose to be His mother and who, I believe, has no power to help us."

"Of herself she has no power to do anything for us. God alone can help us, but as He loved His Mother on earth, so He continues to love her in heaven, and when you think are praying to her we are only ask ing her to intercede for us with her Divine Son, and we feel that He cannot refuse her the favor she asks for

"Ah, that is it? Well, you have made things a little clearer on that point, and it is not so bad as I thought, so continue your devotions in your own way if you wish, but I

prefer praying directly to God." "Do as you like, grandma; but above all pray to Him that he may give you light to do His holy will. and if your prayers are sincere they cannot go unrewarded."

"That I do. Cecelia, and I pray every day, too, that God may watch over my granddaughter and teach her

to do what is right.' "Thank you, dear grandma." "I almost forgot to ask how Aunt

Nellie is feeling to-day "A little stronger, I think, though she is still very low. She has seemed much more cheerful since priest was here, and I may as well tell you now, grandma, he is coming again to-morrow or next day."

"I see no need of it, Cecelia, and I speak frankly in saying that I do not approve of his coming so often." You mean you object to his visits, grandma ?'

"Yes, I do, as I gave you to under not accustomed to having such people call here, and your father, par would be displeased if h

"If that is all, I can easily make it all right with papa if he objects; but I have no fear that he will. "Your father might possibly per-

mit it, though I doubt it; but should he do so, I shall strongly disapprove. "Now, grandma, you do not mean that. What difference could it make to you as long as he does not trou-

ble you?" "It is not for myself for I can as sure you I can keep out of his way, but, as I told you a little while ago. they are not proper company you. I have consideration

others as well as myself." "Yes, grandma, I remember have essentially repeated just what you said a little while ago. you also say you have consideration for others. your heart is always kind, and you have been so good in choosing the best physician for Aunt Nellie know, too, you have not the hard tions the priest brings to her as no other man can. Now please say that you will make no further objections to poor auntie's receiving visits from

To be Continued.)

S for which