TWO

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UNITED KINGDOM BY MRS. INNES-BROWNE

CHAPTER VI.-CONTINUED

After the plain and homely French fare at St. Banedict's, the luxury and good English food of their own table were duly appreciated by this cheer-ful, healthy English girl, and she thoroughly enjeyed the change. "Only one year more," said she gaily, as, seizing her brother Percy, she turned him briskly round and round on the saft green turf-" only one year more, dear, and I shall be out. How delightful it must be to teel you are free of every task and lesson, and able to go into and enjoy the world preperly." "Silly little sister," answered her

brother, as he smiled tenderly upon I wish you would not build so much upen getting out into the world. Ah ! Bartis," he added more gravely, "that same world may you harder lessons, and you may find its tasks more difficult, than any you have had to surmount as yet.

"Gramercy, Sir Prior, for thy timely warning !" replied the girl with a sweeping curisey and haughty toss of her pretty head. "In truth, I marvel much at the depth of thy knowledge on this treacherous subject, considering thy tender years and experience. But away with your grim words and moral lectures, brother : they will never alter me, I tell you, I was made to anjoy the world, and enjoy is I will. I love you all so dearly," continued the girl, dropping, school fashion, upon the grass, in front of her brother, the dear old home, and every free and stone upon it, nay, every flower and blade of gwass "-gently pressing it with her small white hand-" everything to me appears overflow. ing with beauty and grandeur, and would you try to make ms believe all this love is falsely placed ? Oh ! cruel Percy, and wieked to say so."

That is not the world I condemn, Bertie. I thought you meant the world in general, which is a totally different thing from aught you have met with as yet."

True, I meant balls and parties. theatres and galeties of every description, and you cannot condemn those, because you have never seen much of them yourself, and know absolutely nothing about them. So I shall credit nething you can urge against them," persisted Beatnice, with a wilful toss of her head.

Well," answered her brothes, ghing, "I have a whole year in laughing, which to convince you that my views of the world are right. It is too hot to argue today, so we will agree to differ for this once. But listen, he added, as his sharp ears caught the sound of carriage wheels, and his quick eye detected and recognized the inmates of a carriage which was coming at a brisk pace up the avenue, if I mistake not, there is a load

of the world driving up this very moment to call and pay thair respects to my little sister. Yes, it is as I guessed-Sir W. Watkin, late Mayor Alborough, and his lady, also two of their seven charming daughters. all come to bid you welcome home, Bartie, Rush and meet them. They are real people of the world ; you ought to love them much.'

whispered the girl, Silence !" creeping stealthily behind a flower-

young ladies were far too much of fine bamboo canes interwoven tion, where the tall, upright figure of Lord Reginald was distinctly dows, through which record winvisible strolling upon the opposite and sweet jessamine peeped. The side of tha lake.

O mother," was the simultaneous cay of the young ladies, "do not greens and laurels which grew in let us miss seeing his lowdship ! and rich abundance around the back and we shall have him all to ourselves out here; we are never quite free when his mother is present. Nor,' continued Miss Watkin, " do we care much about Mr. Percival, he is not nearly so attentive nor polite as his

his elder brother. I think he and Beatrice are both very conceited and quizzical.' Hem !" coughed Bartie. Then they heard the lady give her orders to the coachman to drive quickly, and, after rounding the head of the lake, follow as closely as possible the direction taken by the young lerd. The young ladies smiled with satisquaintness and rustic beauty ax-

faction, and settling their ruffs and finery, reclined in graceful attitudes, ready to be innocently startled when plore it more closely. The yellow they should accidently overtake his lordship.

Little coward !" again repeated Percy, as he stood before his sister, and assisted her to disentangle her dress from the thorns ; " at the first sight of a tiny contingency of the

world she flies and hides herself amonges thorns and briars. O Bertie, what a lark if they had dis-Bartie covered you ! I should have almost died with laughter."

"Of course you would," she an-swered gaily, " and the knowledge of was hushed and low. As Beatrice and her father entered that almost made me betray myself : in fact, I am not quite certain the hut, they found Lady de Wood-whether the eldest girl did not see ville and her sons already there, each occupied with a book.

Hardly, I think, or she would gladly "Hardly, I think, or she would gladly closed them, and Persy, have been more guarded in her rising, offered the Earl his seat speech about us," replied Percy, laughing. Whilst Beatrice sank upon a low stool at his side and rested her

Perhaps not; but the sudden pretty head beside him. She was apparition of Regie turned her looking very young and sweet, in a thoughts to another and more simple white engrossing subject. Such impu- pale blue cas dence !" exclaimed the girl, her color her slender waist. Her sleeves were rising as she spoke, " to think that full and short to the elbews, from could fascinate or charm our which some deep white lase hung, brother !'

'Oh, it's only the way of the white and rounded arms, or the world," said Percy, with a merry prettily shaped hands with their chuckle. taper fingers. She wore no orna

"A truce to the world," answered his sister, administering a half-pat, half-box to his ears: "and come her golden-brown hair, and another with me to see our pets, there's a at her throat; but her violet eyes Then slipping her arm dasling." through his, they wended their way to the paddock.

CHAPTER VII

The hot July sun shone brightly

face 'Have you heard from either of on the grey towers and lovely sur-roundings of Baron Court, yet, must your school friends since your return home, Beatrice ?" inquired we own it, in spite of everything, a heavy, though as yet an almost un- her mother. mansion. True, to some — the younger servants who had not known their master long the the to write; but the daws her the first see and admire that my friends have did not much dim their sight, it rather aroused their curiosity and been neglected." "Your mother has made me very excited their imaginations as to what would follow if it fell and enveloped interested in them," said the Earl. She informs me that they are such them; but the eyes of the older retainers were shaded by their hands. Their hearts sunk as they exceptionally nice girls; and I have been puzzling my mind, and wonder felt its oppressive weight - they would fain end their lives in the ing if this Mary Blake can be the daughter of General Blake, whom I same kind master's service ; whilst knew so well some years ago, and who fought so gallantly, and died in to those who were nearest and dear.

est to him their hopes were daily the Crimean War." diminishing, and to prayer alone "Yes," said Beatrice quickly, could they now turn in the vain must have been the same, for, hope that a Strong Right Hand though Marie seldom spoke of hercould they now turn in the vain

would either dispel the heavy cloud self or her family. I distinctly ing shrub. I do not wish them to see me. I cannot bear those girls; they are se forward and vulgar. Why do they persist in coming hare 1 words of the persist in they prayed with chastened hearts, was in the arm, and died out in the swered, yet not in the manner that they then sought and defined

THE CATHOLIC RECORD

to the General's orphan children. Beatrice was kneeling on the low long oruel winfor was over at last; steel now; her eyes were bright and every here and there was a tenhut," as it was called, was almost hidden from sight by the thick ever

sides of it, but, once seated within,

the view from the open door was

posed to awaken the stranger's curi-

osity, and arouse his desire to ex-

com was waving gently in the sum-

mer breeze, and a faint purple haze

hung over the distant hills. A great

They

stillness seemed to pervade every-

superb. A long stretch

almost certain that Marie is one of those orphans, for her mother's name was O'Hagan. Why did you never tell us all this before ?"

"Well, darling," replied the Easl, smiling at his little daughter's earnof grass lawn, soft as valvet, gently sloped to the lake below, which was studded siness, "you see I late the army with picturesque islands, where the soon after the war was over, and it was not long after I had done so ere wild-fowl, ducks, and stately swans built their nests, and brought up. my own little girl was born, and their numerous and varied families e thought of her drove all else out Below this rose the rich woods of of my mind ; yet I own to having Baron Ceut; they dipped into the valley below, and rose in stately groups on the opposite side, half wondered comstimes what had be-come of little Miss Blake, and should learly like to see a daughter of the hiding the pretty little town of Oak. brave General's. What is she like home, yet leaving enough of its Bertie

"She is the very sweetest girl that ever was born," answered Beatrice warmly. "and was the greatest favorite in the whole school. And is she not pretty, mother ?" "Very, indeed," replied Lady de

Wosdville; "I was much pleased with her. "There is little question about her

where; the heat was intenss; the beauty," said Reginald, who, with his few cattle that were visible stood head bowed down, was tracing an under whatever shade they could procare, idly whisking their tails imaginary pattern on the massing of the floor with his stick ; "but to my mind she has been at the convent from side to side to scare away tha tormenting flies. Even the hum of far too long. Young ladies get such silly notions into their heads about the bae, as he slowly flitted from flewer to flewer, sounded dull and dreamy, and the twitter of the birds wishing to be nuns," continued the young man warmly ; "and I consider their relations are vary much to blame in allowing them to enter the cleister ere they have seen or

known aught of the world.' The Earl raised his systrows and looked for an instant steadily at his eldest gon, who, however, appeared unduly troubled, for his brows were knit closely together, and hakept his

eyes fixed upon the ground. "Well, well !" said the Barl kindly muslin dress, with we at least will do our duty by Miss pale blue sash tied dainsily round Blake, for we will endeaver to tempt her here, and if she is old enough try and persuade her to have a little peep at the world, though," he added with a sigh, "it might be mishe but not deep enough to hide the taken kindness on our part to do 80.

" Pardon me," said Lord Reginald, raising his head, "if I fail to underment save two small half-blown stand your exact meaning."

'Ah, Regie, you are young and full of life and hope, but, when you have seen as much of the world as I have, beamed soft and sweet, and the long dark lashes drooped upon chesks how differently will you then judge tinged with the color of the carna tion, causing her father's hand to of it. Better for this child' -he continued so earnestly that Bestrice look even whiter still as she fondled never forgot his words - "far better if, hearing the voice of God calling, and pressed it closely to her rosy

she should arise, and forgetting all things else, faithfully follow His bidding. Still, Regie, you have reason on your side, and if Bertie will try and discover if Mary Blake's aunt is the lady whom I met during the Crimean War. I have little doubt but that she will allow her niece to visit us.

'I will write this very night,' said Beatrice. "How very strange it will be if it should turn out that and Marie's aunt are old friends !

"And what about the other young lady ?" inquired Percy. "You all appear to forget her, and really my mind the was the prettier of the

"Oh. nonsense !" said Bertle, laughing ; "she is a dear, dear girl, but she is not beautiful.'

"Well, every one to his taste,' answered Parey defiantly; " but I saw her face look lovely several times. Hers is a face to study, the variety of expression that flits soross it is most wonderful.

that she was filling a mother's place the valley below, splashing happily unwilling, in her generous modesty, over its stones with delight that the that he should surprise her in he good deed.

ates now; her eyes were parked, as she der wild flower slipped up suddenly eagerly drank in every word her alongside, or hung over its banks, or rose from slander rost right out of rose from slander rost right out of fostering soil. Yas, the long cruel winter was over, but not what it had brought-hunger and suffering ; for

famine had been upon the land and teuched, alas, too nearly at many a deor.

Up there in the castle, perhaps, they knew no want; but down here in the valley the vassals of the Landgrave had hungered sevely, and shrunk, with but scanty covering from the biting winds. Then, teo, Louis, the young Landgrave, was away in sunny Italy with the army of the Emperor, and his mother, the Duchess Sophia, was indeed charitable, as became a great lady. But, "Ah, that the dear Elizabeth was

now our duchess-that we had not to wait our lord's return to see her bride and lady of the land !" they

said, the one ic the other. The dear Elizabeth ! It was to har, young as she was, that each heart turned in confident hope while she, passionate friend of that sorrowed and suffared, could do so little of that which her heart urged, and had to listen unreplying the councillors of the duchy, when they said to her it was not far those to strip the treasury of their low with reckless hand, even for clearity's sake. With all her sweet soul she, \$00, longed for the return of him whom she had ever found kind and good, whose hand was ever open, and whose hears dwelt the same

blessed spirit as in her own. Sadly she falt the discontent of her that ran rife in the besoms of those about hay in the castle.

"She is not worthy of alliance with our noble Prince Louis," they "She loves better to be among maid. the poor and lowly of the land than with us of the court. Mereover, he cares not for her. Let her return to Hungary, her own land, and mate with a noble, as belts her station, but with no prince."

Bat Elizabeth smiled when her sister-to-be, who loved how not, the Lady Agnes, told has of this ; for she knew that Louis leved has indeed and would have none other for his

So out from the castle gates lady. came she each day, laden with all that one allowed her for her poor and stripped of every jewel or piece of rich gear that she might turn into geld to render thair suffering less.

Down in the valley, as the rays of the sun began to lengthen came the dear Elizabeth. A very part of Spring she looked, as with hurrying steps she crossed the ground that seemed almost to break into twe long gelden plaits hung down even her shoulder, banded with earlies? wild flowers, instead of the pearls of her rank, long since turned inte

bread for her poor. Her robe was of a pale green, as bright and delicate that of the verdure about, and over it hung a light mantle of the same hue, broidered with geld. She held it carefully gathered up before her, bearing a precieus busden with its folds for some who, even new that the famine had gone, had not the wherewith to feed hungry mouths

lifted to them. Her large eyes were of a clear dark gray that malted and seftened as one saw tham, so that each glance was a new beauty. As she came rapidly on, it seemed Spring herself was treading the earth to see that every living thing had its separate joy, and that none should miss of it.

gether for their people in many years

to come!

Yes within her own heart there was but little jey save that of char-

MURPHY & GUNN BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, NOTAERON Why, my sister Elizabeth, have you no word for me?" queried Louis. Bolicitors for The Home Bank of Can Solicitors for the Roman Catholic surprised and wondering. "See, I have just returned-I sent no word before me that your pleasure might be all the greater-and is it thus you Buite 53, Bank of Toronto Chamber great ma? Then as he saw the sweet color FOY, KNOX & MONAHAN come and go on her cheek-"You wished for me, Blizabeth. Here am BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, NOTARIES, 1932 te de my lady's bidding. Cable Address : "Foy"

He approached her with a roguish emile; still she shrank, foolishly timid of discovery, grasping her mantle even closer, heavy as it was new grown.

What hold you there ?" he asked her suddenly, seeing struggle in her mind. "Come, give me your burden then, it may be, you will speak again He held out his hand, laughing to

see how startled she was. "No, no, my lord," she cried. Ah, I could not speak at first to yow, because my heart had flown to Ged for joy of seeing you ! now-oh, walcome, welcome indeed. and leave me ne more in this world. My Louis, stay with me until, if so it please Him, we leave it together !

The tears dimmed his sweet eves and fell, as she extended one hand toward him with a gesture that took his heart with happiness.

Still did the other hold fast her manile, now ragging with the unsqual weight, so that she gave a little cry, and Louis involuntarily soized a corner that he might aid

her. "What have you within, Eliza-bath ?" he asked curiously, struck wish her solicitude. 'Naught but-naught but-" she

paused blushing, "Naught but-" he mocked her

tonderly. tenderly. "Why, what is all this? Nay, new must I see what thus takes your thought from me! Nmy nay-" as she feebly strove to hinder Tell me, what means it all?

Why are you so anxious to hide what you bear from mo? What is it. weethoart ?" Only-bread for my poor, my

lord," she said, at last, her eyes abashed, her tander head bant down standing culprit-like, discovered of her good deed befere him. His clear joyous laugh echoed up

the valley. So !- this is the rival that stands

in my way! But now I claim my rights. Give me all of your thought, my Elizabeth, and I will ease you of all your burden. But is there not more within? No golden crown, no jeweled red of justice, or some such bauble? You see, I have heard how the Landgravine Elizabeth would become the robber of her lerd and leave him bankrupt of his kingdom

Elizabeth smiled and blushed and

laughed with him. "See new, my little sister Elizabeth, I will be no King Assuerus to my Ester, not half, but the whele of my kingdem shall be yours, for so I know the blessing of Ged will be upon it. Now for the bread-I will carry it for you and take its burden as, please God, henceforth will I carry for you all your burdens of Hiss. Gently he drew the mantle aparl.

Surpassing sweetness smote the air about them. From cut the folds fall net bread indeed, but roses-roses of every eize grew wishin its breastgreat hearts of gold and crimeon and pink and white and saffron-great clusters of luscions perfumemag nifleances of celar and form and odor that showered and fell all about her

until Elizabeth stood in a civele and

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Let me they then sought and desired. coming here, I wonder? run and hide; I will not go and see withheld her will and rebellion at them !

when facing the beautiful world ?"

'I shall go and hide in the little arbor near the lake," said Bertie, darting off at full speed down the hill, now that the earnings was out staircase? Why were her feet sud- dignity I never saw her equal, of sight. "Come and tell me when denly arrested, and did her strength Many a laugh we had about her ; yet they have gone !"

called to see the but though search was made for her everywhere, no one white as she chased Leo down the felt quite secure until about half she heard the sound of a hollow but Bartie. Now I'm caught and done for," she said aleud. "Oh, how shall over, and she had the courage to go

you." On hearing Lady Watkin express her intention of driving slowly round the park, the better to enjoy the the park, the better to enjoy the strelled through the lovery grounds, was her hair as white as snew; at lovely view, Percy had run dewn in and Beatwise chattered gaily of all was her hair as white as snew; at the hope of being able to warm his the hope of being able to warm had while to hide from herself that her calm features a lock of intense sortaken the shartest and most direct father's step was more feeble and row, so hopeless did it appear, that, taken the shortess and most direct maners step was how and insult. He knowing her brave little nature, the arrived there before him.

The girl drew her slander figure so closely to the side of the shelter that some sharp thorns pieroing her arm reminded her she had gone far enough, then clasing her eyes she peeped slyly through the long lashes, ad watched carefully the appreach of the enemy. Fortunately for her the coachman and his companion effectof the knight and lady, and the closely and beautifully constructed the last thing I heard of her was stately. A little stream ran all along

whom you knew! I must indeed One alone in all that household write and ascertain the fact."

" The Ganeral Blake whom I mean 'Little coward !' smiled Percy, the decrees of Heaven, and that was had just lost his young wife, a most "Little coward " smiled rescy, the decrees of neaver, and that was had just lost his young whe, a diose work a work and the set is young lady Beatrice. The beautiful woman I believe she was, and the had always loved and he had a sister, by name Miss the passing carriage. "Is this the so tenderly, now grew each day bold conduct you intend to fellow dearer to her; she would little soul; but every officer in the after they have both spent a faw not even own to herself that she regiment respected her for the saw or feared the cloud at all. Yet, tender love and unwearied care she why should she pause in her song as bestowed upon her brother. she merrily bounded down the broad was only five feet nothing, but for

tail her, as she tripped-light as a it was amusing to watch the young The young ladies had ostensibly fairy-through the great and lofty officers' behaviour when they mat "dear Lasy hall? Why did her heart seem to her-each man would instinctively he search was case beating and her lips turn straighten his figure and cease his noisy joke; and when they passed thought of the little arbor, and she long dim corridor ? Was it because her, the respect expressed in their salute was worthy of royalty itselfan hour afterwards, when, looking sufficienting cough emanating now then, with the slightest inclination up from her place of retneat, she and again from her father's study? of her head the little lady would arbor boasted of no deor, and how was more than unpleasant certainly, we liked her; no hand was gentler to conceal her white dress puzzled bus it could, it would be easily cured. than hers as she bound up the Why, when the heavy parexyem was wounds of our soldiere, no heart over, and she had the courage to go in and join him, his dear face was as bight a ava by the courage to go in and join him, his dear face was as proud day for me-for I was the

for," she said aloue. On, now of the second to be asleep," said the bright as ever, may, his eyes were envy of many — when she breke bright as ever, may, his eyes were down, and called me to her aid, and fright as ever white and thin—well, it was a the back of the arbor; "they will never dare to disturb the bright as "Nothing serious alls form of her brether. We heard soon to be asleep."

him hands. "Nothing serious alls form of her brether. We heard soon him," argaed the girl, "and he loves after that she was a woman of very me so." Yes, hand in hand they strong attackments, and though her was her hair as white as snew; at times too there would rest upen her young saplings looked up and put least, and laughed kindly as his moved with sympathy for her. We little daughter recounted and imitated in her eriginal manner all the peculiarities of the different Sisters. young Irish peer, by name O'Hagan, if in answer: "Yes, yes, yeu young One day, it being very het and whe a few days before their intended sultry, they cought the shelter of a marriage was threw from his herse preter little Japanese summer heuse, and severely injured, dying upon the very day fixed for the wedding. Seeluded position, was a fevenrite For a long time afterwards her life

Mark my words : that girl is a fine

"Only that it is unmistakably autiful," replied the Countess. baautiful." Were she 'a poor girl her volca

with despite the lovely girl who might not, after all, become their Landgravine. Louis was far away ; months at home, they should receive har favor was of no present mamont an invitation here ; really it will be to them. Elizabeth could not even quite refreshing to see so many charms conbined in two young turn to her own for comfert. A motharless child of four, she had ladies. I wonder if either of tham been sent away to the court of Thurcan hold a candle to my little girl ? ingia that she might be brought up They all laughed, and Bertie, press and molded as bassamed the bride of ing his thin white hand to her lips, the young Prince Louis. His father, said affectionatelythe kindly old Landgrave Hayman-

She

Foolish old father, you will see her saft eyes glistened with a tear at how much better they are than your little Bartie."

But as ever-"Man proposes and Ged dispases," and, are many weaks been long gone-a whele year, far far away in Italy. But sh, hew happy the thought! he was looked for home now every day; any hoar, had passed the flat had gone forth from the physican's lips, that, before the autumn chills set in, Earl de in fac?, might bring him, and then there was one friend for her ! What Woodville must be in a warmer clime. might, what would they not do to

TO BE CONTINUED

THE MIRACLE OF THE ROSES

Spring ran laughing down the side a dream. of the Thuringian hills and pressed her signet of emerald on every tree out delicate tongues of golden green despitafully at the giants that towered above them, as if to say : "Wait awhile, you old felks up there-we shall seach you some day, and then we shall see !" And the old trees many menths. if in answer : "Yes, yes, yeu young ones-we shall see. Many have we eesn in our time, saplings and man,

and many shall we yet see; so goes the world." Up on the heights steed the Land.

on a carpet of transcendent level

still from above the reses fell, and DRUGS hers was a heart that craved affec. elung all about her shoulders and rested at last upon hes golden head tion as its daily bread. Their cour-PERFUMES tiers, quick to take the one, treated in a coronet of rishness a queen might envy bat never parallel.

Louis fell on his knee before her and kissed the edge of her mantle.

"Oh, thou beloved of Ged !" he said, in shaken tones of reverence and awe. "So hath He crowned thy charity! Give me, teo, of thy roses, my Elizabeth.' Banding above him, the dear

Elizabeth, all trembling with the glery and wender of her miracle from her bosom three roses which had there dropped and rested the thought of him-had ever been and laid them in his hands. H gentle and loving to her; but he had pressed them to his lips and said her, speaking very softly and low:

"Faith, Hope, and Chavity-but the greatest of all these is Chavity !" -Mary J. Malloy.

OUR ROSARY

'Oh, for my dear lord !" she cried aloud involuntarily. "And why de yeu wish him ?" said No devotion in the Church is more dear to the heart of a Catholic than a merry voice close by. Startled beyond words, she turned the Resary of our Blessed Mether. Knowing the wendreus power of

this crewn of prayers, the Church sets aside the menth of October to nd paused, believing it an illusion,

At the entrance of a little side its particular honer. In our Rosary path she had just crossed, leading we find the ideal union of vocal and mental prayer. The Catholic finds delight in prodown the hill from a private postern

of the castle, stood Lonis him. self, smiling as only Louis ever smiled upon her, helding out beth feesing his faith. The symbol formu-inted by the Apostles converted the hands-joy in his countemance and world to Christ. The angels and the semathing of wender besides at the Saints of God raise their veless world to Christ. The angels and the added beauty his eyes had missed se to join with the Catholis when he

makes the grand, complete act of Elizabeth's answer was a half. faith embedied in the Aperties' trified cay. She was about to fing Creed. Human lips cannot frame a stified ory. She was about to fling out answering hands of welcome to him when a sudden thought came to her mind, through all her thankful. ness and delight. She shrank back sacred lips of the Incarnate Ged. a little, and held her mantle to her Second only to the Our Fathe Second only to the Our Father is

more clesely with both fair hands, the salutation that was sent from

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