## AN ORIGINAL GIRL.

By Christine Faber.

"No," said Miss Burram shortly, and rising instantly, she went without a word into the hall, and a moment after, the two remaining occupants of the dining-room pants of the diffinition of the parlor door. Sarah, with the solemn awe of her manner increasing, looked at Rachel, but Rachel leisurely finishing her dinner, did not even return her look. She could hardly help wondering, because of Sarah's remark, whether the young woman were really one of Miss Burram's tenants, and if so, which one, and what her business could be? Poor creatures! all of them, but of what use was her interest, or compassion, now, when she could neither help them, nor even hear

about them?
The shabbily-dressed young woman waiting in the parlor was one of Miss Burram's tenants—the girl whose artificial flower making supported herself and her delicate sister. She rose with a timid, deprecating air as the lady of the house entered, and for an instant she seemed to be struggling to speak; then her words came only with a burst of

My sister is dying-I had not the rent for Mr. Burleigh yesterday, and the day after to-morrow he will put us upon the street unless you prevent. only want your mercy this time long before next month my sister this time, for be beyond need of it. The thought of being put out adds to her sufferings— she raves about it in her sleep, and she begs to be allowed to die in our home, such as it is—the neighbors are kind to us, though they have little for themselves, and I thought Miss Burram that for this time—just this once—you might be lenient as you were when your Charge, Miss Minturn, used to collect the rents. For five months we were not able to pay in full, and one month we could not pay anything, and you did not put us out -you even said nothing

She was obliged to pause because of her sobs, so loud now that Sarah and Rachel heard them; but Miss Burram waited coldly till the sobbing had quite

'I knew nothing of any deficiency in your rent," the hard, cold tones see to freeze the girl's tears at their source; "had I done so, you certainly should not now be occupying any prem ises of mine-and I say to you now, that I shall instruct Mr. Burleigh to do his duty-on the day after to-morrow, if you have not the rent, you and your sister shall be put out of my apartments -there are charity hospitals for your sister.

For one moment, one uncertain moment, in which the heart-broken girl doubted that she had heard aright, she stood silent and motionless; then, sud-denly transformed by the fury of a desthat went over all bounds, she shricked at Miss Burram:

"May the curse of the poor pursue you! May your own dead arise from their graves to haunt you! May you never know rest nor peace till your soul has been torn by the agony you have

caused others!"
Rachel and Sarah heard her, the latter starting in terror, and putting her hands to her ears to shut out the awful sound—she was not certain but this was another madwoman, and that she ought to go to the relief of her mistress, but while she hesitated, her mistress pushed back the door that opened into the dining-room, and called her, and then Rachel and the flower-girl saw each

"Oh, Miss Minturn!" the girl had darted to Rachel and knelt at her feet, her tears coming again like the rain, "I cursed Miss Burram, God help me! If she's anything to you I take it back, for you were always kind; but Nellie is dying and I came here to beg not to be

Rachel's eyes filled, and she looked

Go to your room, Rachel; and you,

the girl sprang to her feet: There is no need to put me out—I

am going,"—her voice sounded almost as hard as Miss Burram's had done,— "and may merey be denied to you in your last extremity as you have denied it to my dying sister." "Don't!" said Rachel, in a tone of hear from him soon.

the rain, and her heart going out in burning sympathy to the despairing creature; she forgot Miss Burram's sent in the interest of the tenants to eau drawer waiting for Tom; it was all that remained of her money after the tickets for the excursion we That sum would be more than enough to pay the flower-girl's rent, and she hastily from the room.

Miss Burram thought her departure her while she descended the steps, her tottering gait rousing Sarah's compas-sion. She fain would have given the poor creature some refreshment, but she dared not with Miss Burram watching her. While she stood and looked, body very Rachel darted by her, and after the flower-girl—a moment's parley, a grateful, glowing, astonished look on the part of the girl, and Rachel was back,

which at their very first meeting the child had confronted Miss Burram; it was the only time since that meeting it had shown itself so plainly, or in fact at all, and whether deterred by that un expected reappearance, or by a physical inability because of the shock her nerves had received from the flowergirl's visit, the lady said no more. She went out of the parlor and up to ner own room, leaving her Charge some what bewildered, and entirely disgusted with Miss Burram's cruelty to her ten-

ants.
Sarah was full of the curses.
"Mark my words," she said to Mrs.
McElvain, "they'll come to pass, and
I wouldn't be in Miss Burram's place

for all the money in the world."

That same night at supper after Hardman had heard the tale, as usual expressing no opinion, and Sarah had drunk her second cup of tea, she tossed the cup for the "luck of the house she said, immediately screaming, as she scanned the leaves, that there was a windingsheet among them. Hardman looked disgusted, but Sarah was too much in earnest and in something of terror also to heed him.
"Look, Mrs. McElvain, it's there as

day-that's a death to this house-oh, them curses wasn't for noth-

## CHAPTER XXIX.

The awful account of the flowergirl's curses was not confined to Miss Burram's household. Sarah gave it to Mrs. Gedding's cook, who in parted it to the family above stairs, and Sarah also gave it very thoroughly to Herrick. That surbane gentleman received it with great satisfaction, encouraging his informant to talk as long and as much as she would, and coinciding entirely with her views and predictions. By the time the interview was ended Herrick was in possession of every detail of the scene, even to a minute description of the flower-girl, and the blue pallor of Miss Burram's And the very next day business face. And the very next day business called Herrick to the city—to 24 Essex

This time he intended to repre himself as a member of a benevolent or-ganization whose object was to assist the sick poor, and that he might not be recognized as the gentleman who called before in the interest of repairs for the tenants, he went to the expense and trouble of hiring a suit of clothes, which, with a slouch hat that came down far over his brows, changed him so much, his own family would scarcely

ave known him.
In this disguise he introduced him In this disguise he introduced min-self first to Mrs. Rendey, her apart-ment being the nearest to the street. And time having prospered with the Rendeys, that little woman was inclined to be cheerful, and even loquacious with all comers. gentleman to a chair which he ac-cepted at the same time requesting permission to keep on his hat as he was uffering from a cold, and then she gave all the information the gentleman de-

"Yes, there were poor, sick people in the house, four or five of them, and up to yesterday there had been also a dead person—a young girl on the top floor. "She's been dying for two weeks," went on Mrs. Rendey, "and her sister didn't have the rent, and when Mr. Burleigh said he'd have to put them out, the sister went all the way to Miss Burram to beg her not to have them put out as poor Nellie was dying. But Miss Burram was like flint; and her Charge, Miss Minturn, just an angel on earth, managed to slip to the poor creature \$15. It saved the oor creatures that got it from des-air. The next day Nellie died, and my husband and I advised Martha, my husband and I advised Martina, that's the sister, not to think of paying the rent. She'll have to give up the rooms anyway, and God knows she had more urgent use for the money. Well, Burleigh came to put them out, and first thing he came face to face with put out of our rooms—we haven't the rent—maybe Miss Burram will listen to was the corpse. It staggered him just a little, and all of us tenants gathered round to see of he'd dare put a hand on the dead girl; he didn't —he went; appealingly at Miss Burram, but that lady pale, almost to blueness, said the dead girl; he didn't—he went; and Nellie was buried yesterday in the poor ground, and Martha brought her few, poor little sticks of furniture down Sarah, put this person out."

Sarah moved to obey the order, but

here, and she's stopping with me till she gets over the blow a little—she's

Herrick thanked the little woman he had gotten more than enough infor-mation for his purpose, but in order to keep up the sham of his errand, he wrote in a note-book the names of the sick people, promising that they should

"I hope you will not be like the genorder to herself, she seemed to forget even Miss Burram's presence, in her eompassion and desire to do something to alleviate this dreadful distress! She thought of the fifteen dollars in her fissued plaster just over her haad, "and in all the apartments there's no end of things out of order. We told Mr. Burleigh about the visit of the gentleman who was going to make Miss Burram attend to the repairs, and he laughed attend to the repairs, and he laughed the larger, and with taunting as much the larger, and with taunting was much the larger, and with taunting attended to the repairs, and he laughed the larger.

leaded sensationally headed article in the Rentonville Times. Names and localities were suppressed, but the facts, tallying exactly with the latest gossip about Miss Burram, told every-body very plainly who and what it was all gabout. Herrick bought several opies of the paper, mailing one to Mis Burram, and chuckling over the fact that nobody seemed to suspect the part of the girl, and Rachel was back, darting again past Sarah, and meeting face to face Miss Burram who had come out into the hall and had seen the whole proceeding. She motioned Parchel to the parlor: By such means he thought Rachel to the parlor:

"What did you say to that creature?"
The blueness had not yet left her lips and her voice seemed to tremble.

"I gave her money to pay the rentmy money that I had earned from you."

There was the same spirited air with the lips and her voice seemed to tremble.

"I gave her money to pay the rentmy money that I had earned from you."

There was the same spirited air with the lips and her voice seemed to tremble.

"I gave her money to pay the rentmy money that I had earned from you."

There was the same spirited air with the lips and her voice seemed to tremble.

"I gave her money to pay the rentmy money that I had earned from you."

"I gave her money to pay the rentmy money that I had earned from you."

"I gave her money to pay the rentmy money that I had earned from you."

"I gave her money to pay the rentmy money that I had earned from you."

"I gave her money to pay the rentmy money that I had earned from you."

"I gave her money to pay the rentmy money that I had earned from you."

"I gave her money to pay the rentmy money that I had earned from you."

"I gave her money to pay the rentmy money that I had earned from you."

"I gave her money to pay the rentmy money that I had earned from you."

"I gave her money to pay the rentmy money that I had earned from you."

"I gave her money to pay the rentmy money that I had earned from you."

"I gave her money to pay the rentmy money that I had earned from you."

"I gave her money to pay the rentmy money that I had earned from you."

"I gave her money to pay the rentmy money that I had earned from you."

"I gave her money to pay the rentmy money that I had earned from you."

"I gave her money to pay the rentmy money that I had earned from you."

"I gave her money to pay the rentmy money that I had earned from you."

"I gave her money to pay the rentmy money that I had earned from you."

"I had the form of the Herrick twins for Rachel, had the form of the Herrick twins for Rachel, had the form of the Herrick twins for Rachel, had the form of the

wealthy and aristocratic residents of Gedding's sister and her friend Miss

Rentonville. Many of these refused to notice the rising shopkeeper in any social way, and some of them had begun to censure Herrick's business enterprises on the island. Rumor had it those illiterate Italians, and semi-savages that he had been devied admission. prises on the Island, Rumor had it also, that he had been denied admission to membership in the Onotomah Yacht Club. For these reasons Herrick resolved to grieve the state of the second terrick resolved to grieve the second terrick resolved terrick resolved to grieve the second terrick resolved to grieve the second terrick resolved to grieve the second terrick resolved terrick resolved to grieve the second terrick resolved terrick resolved the second terrick resolved t Club. For these reasons Herrier re-solved to give unto himself a double-satisfaction. And though the bulk of public opinion, in the shape of the in-difference and aversion of Rentonville's be defeated."
"I know he would," answered Rose, best families, was against him, power and influence with the remain

power and inhuence with the remainder of Rentonville's residents grew rapid-ly. His enterprises on the island suc-ceeded so well that his financial backers were glad to leave to him its entire execution; that threw into way immense personal gain which he, way immense personal gain which ac, with its wonted canniness, foresaw would, if rightly used, in the next election bring him large political profit. He set to work early to use it, planning months before the election suc "dickers" with the political "Bosses in the adjoining city that the themselves were amazed and delighted

his cunning and efficiency.
Herrick worked so quietly, however that while some people suspected he had gone largely into politics, no one actually knew till he burst upon the astonished community as a candidate for Supervisor of the County. Amos Dickel, the President of the School Board, was the candidate of the opposing party, and Russell, who, up to the time of the promulgation of Herrick's political aspiration, had taken but languid interest, now woke up to ex-traordinary vigor and enthusiasm in the interest of Dickel; not that he thought Dickel eminently fit for the place, but that be had long di-

the place, but that be had long divined Herrick's rascally character.

Russell called Dickel's party the party of Reform, and he managed to enlist in it all the conservative and exclusive element of Rentonville; he even went so far as to call upon Notner, remembering that continues a present that continues a present continues that continues a present continues and the continues as the continues are continued to the continues and the continues are continued to t even went so far as to call upon Nother, remembering that gentleman's presence at a meeting in the Town Hall one day, but Nother only sent for his message through the middle-aged results. tainer who had taken Russell's card. For answer Russell sent a printed sheet setting forth the pros and cons of the coming election, and soliciting the earnest aid of all lovers of reform. ner returned the sheet, saying that his ould be certainly on the side of He kept his word, for Russell vote would be certainly caught glimpses of Notner on the out-ner on the outskirts of the meetings which were held for reform, and once when Russell, carried away by his feelings, had made an unusually speech in favor of justice and honesty, saw Notner enthusiastically applaud-

In the crusade which Russell headed ere also the Geddings, father and son, Hattie Fairfax's uncle, and even Father Hammond. The latter made speeches some of the meetings, and were so hot in Rentonville just before the election that the women were as active and as anxious as the men were.

Sarah Sinnott was on the side of Diekel because Hardman was, and not for the reason that she understood much about the merits of either party; she was indefatigable in getting frequent bulletins of how things were going, which bulletins Miss Burram did not decline to hear. Sarah generally delivered them when she served at the meals, and Rachel heard them also.

One time it was that Herrick's party was largely increased by laborers whom Herrick had employed and housed for several weeks past in order to get their rotes; again, that Russell was paying out of his own pocket for the numerous printed sheets that were distributed, n order to educate the people up to re form, and again, that Herrick and Father Hammond meeting on the street the former rebuked the latter for his abuse of his sacred position in taking any part in politics, and the latter replied that his sacred position did not take from him his rights as a citizen, and his duty as a citizen to raise his voice for honest government whenever and wherever he could.

All of which vastly interested Rachel, and made her most anxious for victory for Dickel. What Miss Bur-ram thought or wished, nobody knew; never lost its impassable expression, but Sarah felt that her misress' silence was proof enough that she actually wanted to hear all that she had to impart.

The playground in school was as hot a political spot as anywhere else, quite as hot among the girls as among the boys, and the Herrick twins, especially Alida, gave themselves saucier airs

than ever. One day during recess in the schoolyard when an enthusiastic girl dis-played a piece of muslin on which had been printed in red ink "Reform," and een printed in red ink "Reform, waving it above her head, called upon all who belonged to that party to fol-low her, Rachel instinctively fell into the procession. Alida Herrick immediately called upon those who were in favor of her father's party to form into You needn't be afraid," replied triumph she and her sister raised the cry of "Down with Dickel."

Miss Burram thought her departure was in obedience to her own order, and the flower-girl thought so too. She gathered her shabby shawl about her and went toward the door. Sarah hastened to open it, and also to open the hall door for her, and she watched her will go be decompded the story. Because the hall door for her, and she watched her will go be decompded the story. Because the story in the grid of the school took up the cries, speedily found its way into a double-beautile she decompded the story. Because and timult because and timult because and the story of "Down with Dickel." "Down with Herrick," came prompt-live from the opposing party. Rachel shouting as lustily as the others; the boys in their playground on the other side of the school took up the cries, and I'm very much obliged to her; she had supplied him with information that had supplied him with in teachers rush from their classrooms but the principals of both departments

hurried to the scene.

It took many minutes to restore absolute order, party feeling had run so high, and breasts were swelling and flashing even after class work r Rachel, the incident had resumed. broken down the barriers between her and many of her classmates; there was a bond of political sympathy them now, and she no longer felt when in school so isolated and alone. The same incident, however, intensified the same incident, however, intensified the same incident. However, intensified the same incident, however, intensified the same incident. them now, and she no longer felt when

those illiterate Italians, and semi-sav-age negroes that Herrick has employed purposely, can vote, and you and I, and a couple of hundred other intelligent women are debarred just because we are women—and I tell you, Rose, if the women could vote, Herrick would sure-

her eyes flashing, "but he is going to be defeated anyhow." Miss Fairfax shook her head:

"I'm afraid not; uncle says Herrick is using money like water, and he is so strongly supported by the corr litical leaders in the city, that the corrupt pois likely to go to the wall this time."

"Go to the wall," repeated Rose,

"when such men as Father Hammond and Mr. Notner—that dear, delightful, mysterious Mr. Notner-to say nothing of your uncle and my father, are working for it? I don't believe it—they are all on the side of honesty and justice and their very high-mindedness must win. I would dearly love to shake hands with Father Hammond for noble way he answered Herrick the such men as he are the men other day—such men as he are the men we need in religion—all religions—men who are fearless in the doing of their

duty. "Right you are, Rose," said her overheard her last spec brother, who overheard her last speech as he entered the room, "Father Ham-mond is a man after the heart of the people, but Herrick helped by the city tricksters will be too much for him this

"Ch, don't say so," ejaculated both

girls at once.
"Well, none of us like to admit even to ourselves, that we are beginning to feel such to be the case, but the fraudulent means Herrick is employing to win are so covered and protected by his political influence, that we can do very little; however even our defeat shall be something of a victory, inasmuch as we shall have made a struggl against corruption—a struggle must help to enlighten the people.

must help to entigate the people.

Despite his pessimistic view of the election young Gedding worked up to the last moment with unabated vigor, and enthusiasm ran so high in every member of the Reform party the morning of the election even Miss Fairfax quite concurred in Rose's hopeof the situation.

When the polls had closed, everybody eemed wound up to an extraordinary pitch of suspense and anxiety; and many and conflicting were the rumors went from mouth to mouth. Rachel, in her anxiety to learn something, ow that she could not go to Hardman, went down to the kitchen, a domain in which she scarcely ever set foot.

Hardman was there taking a late and hasty dinner, and at the first sight of Miss Burram's Charge, he bolted from the table with such haste that his entire cup of tea was spilled over Sarah's neat, white table-cloth; he did not wait to see the damage, but hastened out by

Rachel, seeing him, turned also and ent back. Sarah stared from one open oorway to the other, then she looked the overturned cup and the stained May I never be burned nor drowned

alive, but them pair is enough to un-settle the mind in one. Just because Miss Burram says they can't speak to other, they must be flyin' off in divarse directions whenever they meet, like the spokes of a wheel."

And the first opportunity she had of speaking to Miss Burram when Rachel was not present, she gave her own peculiar account of the meeting:

"You'd think, mem, Jeem was shot in the back, and Miss Rachel was sprayed with a hose, the way they ran from each other." But Miss Burram as usual made no reply.

Rachel did not again venture to the id Hardman return till late that night, when, tate that night, when, seeing a light there and judging by it that Sarah had not retired, he went in with the news of the election. Herrick was to be the next Supervisor.

## CHAPTER XXX.

There seemed to be an unusual lull Rentonville after the election; it was as if people were trying to recover their breath after the excitement of the past weeks. Even the victorious party past weeks. Even turner was astonishingly quiet. Russell said it was owing to the canny advice of Herrick, that that gentleman deemed it better policy to affect an unexpected modesty for the present. Herrick having won however, the number of his having won however, the number of mes friends largely increased, and even a delegation of ladies called at his resid-ence for the purpose of congratulating his wife. The Supervisor-elect met them, bland, grateful, and almost to ful, when he announced that Mrs. Herrick's delicate health prevented her from seeing anybody but the members of her own family. And the delegation, having among its members some ladies, who, prior to Herrick's election, had gly inclined to the opinion Mrs. Herrick was kept from society by her husband, retired from his presence

with very mixed feelings. with very mixed feelings.

The daughters of the Supervisor-elect did not restrain their triumph at their father's victory; in school it flashed father's victory; in school it flashed out constantly, but it was met on the part of those who had been for Dickel with a proud scorn that particular exasperated Alida Herrick. Rach Minturn was the leader in this superb defiance; indeed, it was due to her example that her followers did so well, and Alida, goaded to desperation by it one day in the playground said taunt

ingly, "I don't mind people giving themselves airs when they know who they are, and when they don't live with a queer, horrid old woman who starves

self-prescribed code of duty to that lady would not permit her to ignore she went up close to Alida, and being ram.
Young Gedding was as enthusiastic a worker in the election as Russell, and Young Speaking of Miss Burram?'

Her voice trembled, but her eyes were flashing, and her firm mouth was set in a manner to make little Miss Herrick a manner to make little Miss Herrick slightly afraid; still before the now gathering crowd—every girl in the playground was rushing to the scene he was not going to show the white

"Yes, I did," she answered with feather. "Did you know that you were speaklady?" Rachel's voice

bled still more, but the light in her eyes was growing wicked.
"No, I didn't know that I was speaking of a lady," repeated Alida, mimick-ing Rachel's emphasis, "but I was very sare I was speaking of a horrid, cruel, old woman that nobody knows anything about, and—" The rest of her speech was any the property of the p speech was cut short, for Rachel, with passionate impulsiveness utterly be-ond her control, had implanted a stinging slap squarely on Alida's mouth; and then turning instantly about she walked haughtily away, the groups of girls silently making a passage for her immediately that she went, burst forth sundry "Ohs," and "Ahs,' "Wasn't it dreadful?" and "I think she'd be afraid of Mr. Herrick, and "What will Alida do about it?"

Alida Herrick was crying, partly tears of pain, for the blow had been hard and well directed, and partly tears of shame that she had received such treatment before the other girls, but her little satellites began to comfort

"Cone right up-stairs to Miss Ashton," said one.
"Yes, and show her the mark," said

'all around your mouth is as another, "all red as blood." And escorted by a half-dozen of her

particular friends, each one willing and anxious to bear voluble witness to the of Rachel's conduct, Alida went to Miss Ashton. That practical, tolerant woman was somewhat shocked, but she sent for Rachel and questioned her apart from witnesses. Remember-ing her former belief in the child's truthfulness, she felt she had no more made a struggle occasion to doubt it now, and the child told her an unhesitating, straightforward story, about which Miss Ashton before she spoke. She had heard pretty much all the gossip of Rentonville about Miss Burram and

Miss Burram's Charge, and her just, gentle, womanly heart was making all sorts of allowance for this, in measure, untutored child; she wondered indeed at the candor of this young soul to whom was given, according to the gossips, so little moral training. And now, the fact of Rachel having defended Miss Burram, her benefactress, even though the defense had taken the vulgar form of fisticuffs, was another cation to the Principal of Rachel's remarkable character. Still, as the victim was the daughter

of a man who had much political power, it would not do to pass the matter over with a gentle reprimand as she wished to do, she must make it of more importance. No doubt, Herrick himself would be at the school in the morning to learn what she, Miss Ashton, had done about the matter. She said gently to Rachel:

"While it does you credit, my dear little girl, to have defended one who is dear to you"—Rachel looked up quick-, her impulse being to say that Miss Burram was not dear to her-" the lady went on, "still, I am sorry that you forgot yourself so far a strike any one; that is really a serious offense—a particularly serious offense in a girl, and a girl of your age and knowledge; much against my will I fear I shall be obliged to notify Miss Burram of your conduct. For the present you can return to your classroom."

A reaction had come to Rachel; she was somewhat ashamed herself of the blow she had struck and fragments of the unusual reading she had done during the summer wherein there had been multiplied instances of passion re-strained and good returned for evil, coming back to her, she felt humiliated in her own eyes; but one look at Alida Herrick, surrounded still by her satellites, conquered every feeling in Rachel's heart save one of supreme satisfaction; no matter what the con-sequences of a note to Miss Burram might be, since that lady had already inflicted the severest punishment by her prohibition to speak to Hardman, Rachel had little dread of any other

penalty. Alida Herrick, despite the support of her sycophantic classmates, was really afraid to beard Rachel again; was eemed rather to avoid her, though her mutterings of what her father might do were terrible enough to her

nmediate listeners.
Rachel's supporters were enthusiastic, the more venturesome of them actually raising a cheer when at the afternoon dismissal the class defiled into the playground, and the cheer was borne along till it saluted the ears of Sarah

waiting at the gate.
"Three cheers for Rachel Minturn." The cry was caught up by some of the cys defiling out of their playground,

boys defiling out of their playground, and it resounded till Sarah's eyes nearly started out of their sockets, "Whatever is it all about?" she asked in breathless amazement when Rachel joined her. But Rachel, not feeling that she had been a heroine, and half resenting the cheers, was in no

mood to answer. Sarah, however, would not be put off.
"Whatever are they a-cheerin' you for, Miss?" she asked again.
"I don't know, unless it is because I

slapped Alida Herrick."
"May I never be burned nor drowned alive!" after which ejaculabe burned nor tion a kind of horrified amazement seemed to incapacitate the woman from further question or remark till they reached the house, when she deliberate-

ly sought her mistress.
"You never heard the likes, mem; such cheers as they was from the whole school"—her imagination magnifying the numbers—"for Miss Rachel, for slappin', mem, actually slappin', one of

Mr. Herrick's daughters."
For once Miss Burram's interest got the better of her wonted seeming in-difference to Sarah's communication.

"Repeat what you have said, Sarah, and explain it; I do not understand your allusions to Miss Rachel."

"Whereupon, Sarah gave a prolonged and exaggerated account of all that she had witnessed and heard at the schoolvard gate, adding:

And Miss Rachel, mem, wouldn't say no more, than that she had slapped Alida Herrick."

That will do, Sarah," and Sarah went from her mistress' presence, her own surprise and curiosity regarding Miss Rachel's conduct somewhat allayed by the surprise and curiosity she knew she had roused in her mistress.

After dinner that evening, Miss Burner that a present it is not say as she always did as

ram did not say, as she always did, an immediate good night, the signal for her Charge to leave the room; instead she seemed to wait for something, and Rachel quietly waited also, wondering a little. At length, the customary little. At length, t Good-night, Rachel," and the girl having gone, Miss Burram

said sharply to herself:
"I thought she would have spoken; she has been frank enough about other matters—is it that their characteristi are being reproduced in her? same with them all—cunning and secrecy—I shall give her till to-morrow night to tell me about this matter that Sarah reports."

Before to-morrow night, however, Hardman brought her from the mail two letters, one, in the familiar looking blue envelope and the penmanship that always made ber lip curl-it curled now as she tore it open.

"My Dear Bedilla:
"Thave no ceasure to make this time only a friendly wring to give; the election in your parts has gone against your interests, moneyed and jotherwise. Herick, having carried everyoning before him will, probley as soon as he is warm in his new political seat, attempt to storm you; his tactice so far have been but the vanguard of success—later, his political influence may force you into his power; to speak planing, he covets your property; he may make you sell.
"Yours as ever." TERRY." " My Dear Bedilla:

Without waiting to open the other letter, Miss Burram wrote:

My Dear Terry.
"Your warnings, like your censures, have "Your warmings, user your many; the result of the election 'in my pares' can make no difference, despise your assertion to the contrary, to my interests, moneyed or otherwise. R. gardeing Herrick, I am abundantly ab of to produce was against him. Not thanking you for ing Harries, my own against him Andrews your friendly warning, "I am as usual, "Bedilla Burram."

Then she opened the other letter. It as from Miss Ashton, and told briefly but very explicitly about Rachel's con duct, her provocation to Miss Ashton's own opinion of the high character of Miss Burram's Charge. Miss Burram read it again and agai repeating to herself when at length she laid the letter down:

"In her defense of me she punished this Alida Herrick; perhaps the traits are not reproducing themselves—perhaps I am mistaken—that Rachel will prove that I thought they would be but no—they are all alike, all alike, and I could find the same thorns of blighted trust and disappointment.

That evening, instead of saying Good night," Miss Burram said sud-

denly: "Tell me exactly what occurred between yov and Alida Herrick; every word that you both said as nearly as you can remember, and what you did." Rachel obeyed, her face flushing and her voice trembling a little.

Why did you not tell me about this "Because Miss Ashton said she was

going to write to you." "That will do; good night, Rachel." And Rachel went up to her room; somehow she did not feel like going into the library to read that night; there was such a wild, flerce longing in her heart for Tom, that it would suffer her to read; instead, she put the lamp which was already lighted outside

her door and sat down by the window. It was a bright moonlight night, one and the water was like a hardly a ripple on its surface, and even the splash beneath her window sound-ing soft and murmuring. No eraft of the distance seemed to have grown in

proportions. What a charm it had for the child; principally, because somewhere on the water was Tom's home, and she got her basket of pebble to count them; not that she did not know exactly how many were in the basket, but there was kind of comforting interest in counting them. She opened the window and threw out one for the day that was just closing; then into her lap she poured the remainder, and one by one put then back into the basket; five hundred and ninety-two she counted—five hundred and ninety-two days; resolved into months they made a year and eight months; a long, long time yet, but when they were finally ended and Tom came at last, how all the pain of the waiting would be forgotten, and she took out his little keepsake and kissed t, and patted it, and spoke to it as if

were Tom:
"Oh, my dear, dear boy! My own boy!" her tears rained upon it, and by the time she had exhausted herself, and had put the little keepsake back into

her breast, Sarah had come up to extinguish the light.

"And, Miss," said Sarah, "what do you think I seen when I went to find out why Jeem didn't come to his suppose."

Rachel looked up with a kind of indifferent interest:
"I seen," went on Sarah with almost

"I seen," went on Sarah with almost tragic solemnity, "Miss Burram in the carriage-house a-talking to Jeem; she was talking awful secious, and she was talking about you, for I heard your name just as I went in."

The girl was full of interest, and that The girl was full of interest now, but

that was all Sarah had to impart.

Long after the woman had gone
Rachel lay in bed, wide awake, trying to think what Miss Burram could be saying about her to Jim; could it be, and at the very thought he a bound into her throat, that she going to remove her cruel prohibition? But instantly her judgment said no ; it was hardly probable in the face of the

fresh misdemeanor reported by Miss Ashton.
Miss Burram's visit to the carriage house at that hour in the evening had startled Hardman almost as if she had been an apparition; her first words startled him still more. Jim, I am going to take Miss Rachel

from the public school here."
He was too dumfounded to reply; his bewildered feelings considerably augmented by the fact that Miss Burram

hould speak to him at all about her Charge. "Sarah probably has told you what

Miss Rachel did to one of Mr. Herrick's daughters." Knowing Sarah's general loquaciousness Miss Burram felt quite certain that the incident had been fully discussed in her kitchen.

Hardman found his voice. She did. ma'am."

"Well, after such an event I cannot permit my Charge—" She stopped short, for Sarah had entered, and she

was looking with open mouth from her "What do you want?" asked Miss Burram with that in her voice which told the woman to state her errand as

briefly as possible and take her depart "Only to see, mem, why Jeem did not come to his supper," and without waiting for a reply she went out. His mistress, turning to note that the door was quite shut, did not resume her in-

complete sentence till she was assured by the retreating footsteps that Sarah well on her way back to the house. "I cannot permit Miss Rachel," she went on, "to come into any further contact with Herrick's upstart, vulgar brood; I have decided to have my Charge taught at home.

Hardman's face brightened. "At home," repeated Miss Burram,
and for that purpose I must have a teacher from the city—a male teacher I have written all the requirement ere," producing an unsealed note you will take it to-morrow morning to this address," pointing to the enve-lope; "go early, Jim, and if possible lope; "go early, "bring the teacher with you."

Jim replied, "Certainly, ma'am, "Shout another wor

and Miss Burram without another word departed. TO BE CONTINUED.

## THE EVICTION AT LISNALEE. Rev. P. A. Sheeban in "Luke Del-

"Luke Delmege," the second story of priestly life from the pen of the Rev. P. A. Sheehan, is approaching its last chapter in the American Ecclesiastical Review; and already comparisons are making between it and its ever popular predecessor "My New Curate." Shall predecessor "My New Curate." Shal "Luke Delmege" attain an equal popularity? It is rash to hazard a prediction; yet, in many respects it is the stronger book. Instead of the pastora charm of "My New Curate," as naive as that of Millet's "Angelus," it has much of the turmoil and the tragedy of city life, and its hero is a far more complex character, than dear old complex character than dear old "Daddy Dan," or young Father Lethe by. It has not a love episode to giv the dearest human interest, as "My New Curate" had; though the heroine Barbara Wilson, is of a grander spirit ual type than Britta, or even—though we remember the warning against com-

parisons among the holy—the saintly sufferer, Alice. 'Luke Delmege' is sombr where "My New Curate " is somor though the former has several dramati incidents unmatched in force of eloquen narration by aught that we recall in th latter, like the appended description of the eviction of the Delmeges from the old homestead at Lisnalee.

Luke and Father Martin begge leave of the resident magistrate to a proach the house and give such conslation as they might to the poor is mates. It was refused courteously No one could pass inside the cordor They stood on the outskirts, therefor and watched the eviction—Father Ma tin, anxious and sympathetic; Luk pale with excitement, his eyes strai ng from their sockets, his face draw kind, alas! so frequent in Ireland-t evicted as a rule make a show of host ity and opposition to the law. Som bailiffs are furiously tacked and their lives imperille When the keen, cruel hand of the mighty monster is laid upon them, the people cannot help striking back in te rer and anger—it is so omnipotent a so remorseless. But, in this case, t beautiful faith and resignation to Goo inscrutable will which had character ized the life of old Mike Delme the life of old Mike Deline hitherto, and the gentle decency of daughter and her husband, forbad sudisplay. And so, when the bailiffs tered the cottage at Lisnalee to co mence their dread work, they

It was heart-rending to witness i this same cold, callous precision of law. The quiet disraption of the lit household; the removal, bit by bit furniture; the indifference w pailiffs flung out objects, consecr ed by the memories of generations, them and mutilated them, ma this sensitive and impressionable peo wild with anger. In every Irish fa er's house the appointments are as actly identical as if all had been in some far-off time, from same emporium, and under one invo And when the people saw the rot deal chairs, the settle, the ware, little pious pictures, the beds with t hangings, flung out in the field, each that his own turn had come, and he suffered a personal and immed injury. And Father Cussen had greatest difficulty in restraining t from flaming up passions that would bring them into in diate and deadly conflict with forces of the Crown.

met silently, and without the least sh

of opposition!

As yet, however, the inmates as yet, however, the limites not appeared. There was an inte of great suspense, and then Will Namara, a splendid stalwart y farmer, came forth, the cradle of youngest child in his arms. He bleeding from the forehead, and people, divining what had taken p raised a shout of anger and defis rushed towards the house. The p moved up hastily, and Father Co beat back the people. But they su