CHAPTER VII.

ildren after her sister had

like her poor mother, the ever

married life had been like a

hers, but like Cecelia, she was doom

ed to have them taken from her, and,

tient woman seemed doomed to a life

of suffering. The beginning of her

as was nearly a year old the mo-

ther awoke to the fact that she was

a drunkard's wife. She had been warn

ed of this long before, but notwith-

standing the many little indications

pointed to the truth of the warning,

she trusted her husband too thorough

ly and loved him too tenderly to be-

lieve it. She knew that, like many

mother, he would occasionally take

a glass of liquor, but firmly believing

that he was strong enough never to take too much, she did not worry;

besides, he provided well for herself

and baby. All too soon the time

came when the evil habit grew on

him, and five years after her marriage

she found herself with three small

children and a besotted, improvident

companion. She wrote to Cecelia

about her little boys, but hid from

her the secret of her unhappy state.

God in His infinite mercy took the

younger when he was but a few weeks

old, and the other boy went to his

grave two years later, leaving only little Agnes, who had grown to be a

beautiful child. For a third time the

Angel of Death came, and thie time

it took the father. Nellie's first

mpulse was to write to her sister,

to whom she would naturally look

celia had neglected for a long time

to write to her, and not knowing how

news, she resolved to wait, hoping

that some word might come from

A year passed, and the drunkard's

widow had many a hard struggle

with poverty. For herself she could

have borne it, uncomplainingly, but

agonizing worry. She thought again

of making an appeal to her sister by

letter, but finally decided to go back

in person and take her child with her

If she failed she knew she could earn

her support as well in the city of her

early struggles as in that which had

been the scene of her married life. It

was hard to think of leaving forever

the graves of her boys, but had there

been no other reason for her return,

there still lingered in her heart a ten-

der love for the sister her dying mo

ther had left in her care. Agnes

gift from her aunt had to be taken

from the bahk now to pay their tra-

velling expenses, for it was the last

resource, but Nellie fully intended re-

placing it as soon as she could

Wearied from long hours of travel,

the mother and daughter arrived in

the city on the morning of Cecelia's

hour to refresh themselves at a cheap

hotel near the depot, Nellie, whose

name now was Mrs. Cullen, proceed-

ed to her sister's home. She trembled

with fear, and little Agnes clung clo-

ser to her as she ascended the stone

up the broad stone walk, but the

steps leading up the terrace and went

feeling was nothing new, for a visit

to Cecelia's home always inspired her

with awe. Half way up the walk a

crossed their path, looking curiously

at them, then smiling sweetly at lit-

'Mamma," queried Agnes, "is that

seventh birthday, and after taking an

earn enough.

tle Agnes.

her child's future was a source

Ce

for consolation and help, but

the haughty lady would take

But none came.

bright

BY MARY ROWENA COTTER.

'S T. A. AND B. 80month in St. Patrick's ommittee of Manage n same hall on of every month at 8 irector, Rev. Jas. Kilent, W. P. Doyle; Rec P. Gunning, 716 8t.

A. & B. SOCIETY 1868.—Rev. Director, McPhail; President, D. P.; Sec., J. F. Quina, minique street; M. J. rer, 18 St. Augustin s on the secon month, in St. Ann's Young and Ottaws

OUNG MEN'S SOCIE. 1885.-Meets in awa street, on of each month, of each mo , C.SS.R.; President, Treasurer. c.-Sec., Robt. J. Hart.

CANADA, BRANCE ted, 18th h 26 meets at St. Monday regular meetings for tion of business are 2nd and 4th Mondays a, at 8 p.m. Spiritual M. Callaghan; Chan-Sears; President, P.J. Sec., P. J. McDonagh; y, Jas. J. Costigan; H. Feeley, jr.; Medi-Drs. H. J. Harrison, of and G. H. Merrill

OH BELLS.

McShane's

BELLCOMPANY N.Y. and

Y. NEW YORE CO.

perior CHURCH BELLS

FERS, Etc.

is only a repair

ell you so, if a new d we give a guaranor 5 years, according experts are at your nout extra cost. Can for you?

REED & CO., sphalters, &c. AIG STREET.

which

Cousin Cecelia ?" 'Yes, Agnes, I know it must be," said Nellie, who would have recog. nized her sister's child among many. By this time the child was fleeing in the direction of the house, which she entered by the front door, at which they themselves were soon ad-

mitted by the liveried servant. 'Mamma.' exclaimed Agnes, know I shall love Cousin Cecelia, and I wish I might live in this big house with her. I wonder if she has lots of dolls and other nice things to every day."

Play with?"

"I am so

The mother did not reply, but gazed sadly at her, thinking of how unequal were the positions of the two children. She was sitting in same room where years before little Cecelia O'Kane had awaited the coming of the grand Mrs. Daton, and she ment of supreme happiness or su-preme sorrow. All depended upon the reception her sister was to give Mary's' for her.

But all doubt was soon dispelled, other, but their thoughts were in

the time being fired the heart of the True, Nellie had been blessed with haughty woman with true sisterly love, and the little Cecelia of other vears held her own dear sister in one long loving embrace while she showered tears of true affection upon her face. For once the critical eye spring morning, but when little Agment.

"Vou are welcome Nellie. It has been so long, so very long, since I to Cecelia now. And then, relaxheard from you." ing her hold, she turned to the little golden-haired girl, who reminded her of one of her own dead children.

"And this is your little Agnes?" "Yes, Cecelia. She is all I have in

the world now." "And where are your boys? You widow's garments tell me that you for have lost your good husband, which I am truly sorry; but the

"The boys, Cecelia, they too, like your own three darlings, are gone." "And you never wrote to tell me about it. Why did you keep silent?"

"Because I knew that my dear little sister had suffered enough herself without being burdened with a knowledge of my traubles until it was necessary.'

"Still the same loving, unselfish Nellie you were years ago, when we

were two poor orphans together "" Cecelia had never before spoken of her own early life or family in presence of her child, but she too happy in the company of her only sister to care even when discovered that the little one had followed her into the room and stood gazing wonderingly at the strangers In reality she was possessed of most tender and affectionate nature, but her natural pride had been nursed by contact with her husband's mo-

ther and a desire to please his friends

until her better nature had been al-

most crushed. She turned now and tenderly em braced the child of her sister, then presented her own, who received them as kindly as her mother had done. Soon Cecelia was seated on a divan with her arm thrown lovingly around her cousin, as if she had always known her, and a pretty ture they made, though the contrast in one part smote Nellie sadly. The dark eyes and raven tresses contrasted strongly with the blue ones and golden locks, and both mothers saw it; but what claimed their attention most was the costly gown on one and the neat but cheap muslin dress on

the other. "See, Nellie, how kindly our little girls take to each other," Mrs. Daton said, penetrating her sister's thought. "You would almost think they had known and loved each other always. Each being the only one left it almost seems as if the proper thing would be to keep them together."

Mrs. Daton scarcely knew why she made the last part of this remark, but it brought a joyful expression to her sister's face. The light faded almost as quickly as it had come, however, for Nellie dared not entertain the faint hope the words had created. But Mrs. Daton had noted the effect of her words and did not forget it.

"What a pretty dress you have," Agnes was saying, and she laid her little hand reverently on the gauzy folds. "I wish I had one just like it, wir blue Mamma says I always look best in blue."

"I have lots of nice blue dresses, and white ones too," said Cecelia 'Some of them are so small I cannot wear them any more, and I know mamma will let me give them to you Mamma consecrated me to the Blessed Virgin when I was a little baby and I have never worn anything but blue and white. But I am seven years old," and Cecelia drew herself up proudly at this announcement, 'and I am to wear red and other

pretty colors now," "Hoc nice to be consecrated to the Blessed Virgin," said Agnes, "I wish I was, for I love her and pray to her

"I am so glad," said Cecelia, "that you love the Blessed Virgin. you can help me pray for grandma for she does not love the Blessed Vir gin because she does not know her." everybody who was

good loved the Blessed Virgin." "Grandma don't love her, because she told me so yesterday, but she is the best grandma that ever lived, and you must help me to say "Hail

The two mothers looked at each

God in His infinite goodness had for | different channels. Nellie was filled | long. She must be out earning mo- | necessary. Forgetting now how she | from the "errors of Romanism," and with silent admiration for the pure ney to support herself and her little faith of her little niece, but Cecelia was filled with dismay. What if the child should take it into her head to rush off at once to Mrs. Daton's room with that poor little beggar !. She knew too weell that for Cecelia the proud creature had penetrated to think was to act, unless forbidden the loving heart beneath a poor gar- by her elders, to whom she always gave the most perfect obedience, but she did not wish to have to speak

> "Nellie" she said. "in my joy in seeing you I almost forgot that you must be very tired and hungry, too, after your long journey."

"Yes, Cecelia, we are tired, but not hungry, as we dined at the hotel be-fore coming here."

"I will show you to your room where you can rest for an hour or two," said Mrs. Daton, and she led the way to an elegantly furnished apartment.

"Please, mamma, may I show Agnes our grotto first ?" said Cecelia.

"Yes, darling, if Agnes is not too tired; but do not stay long or go anywhere else, for cousin must have a little rest before your party this afternoon."

The happy children, with arms around each other, glided from the room. Cecelia talking about her party and all the nice cakes candy she was to have, while the other listened with glowing counten-

The mothers watched them out of sight, then Nellie was free for little while to talk over the past with her sister.

"And what are your plans now Nellie?" asked Mrs. Daton.

"Only to work as I have always done, and try to earn comfortable support for myself and little Agnes. It would be much easier if I had some good home in which to leave her while I am out. I dread thought of putting her in an institution, where she would be obliged to mingle with all classes."

A bright idea came to Mrs. Daton, but she said nothing of it now, because she must first consult her hus band, though she felt confident of his approval.

That afternoon in a pretty white dress, the only one she had, Agnes joined her little cousin in receiving her youthful guests, and Nellie from an obscure corner proudly watched them, noting every little attention paid her child. Agnes received it all with a dignified grace of which she had thought her incapable. Mrs. Daton tried to draw her sister from her seclusion to join in the sports, as she herself was doing, and Nellie would gladly have acquiesced, she felt too keenly the difference be-

tween her own poor widow's garments and the light muslin which made the other look at least ten years younger than she really was. There, too, in black sills, the elder Mrs. Daton sat on the veranda fanning herself.

place, threw herself into her arms exclaiming:

"Really, mamma, you should come out on the lawn with us. We are having such a glorious time with Aunt Cecelia, but I would like it so much better if you were there too."

and enjoy it."

"Do you wish me to remain with you, mamma?" "No. darling, not by any means;

run away and play now. forget her mother, and during the compared to this. She bowed her bountiful supper she missed her and head on her hands and while ate but little of the dainties offered. tears trickled through her fingers she After supper, after the rest started back to play, she stole up to her aunt and whispered:

"Please, auntie, may I take supper up to mamma's room and divide with her? She would not come

"Yes, Agnes, if you wish; I intendthink you will do better."

Mrs. Daton assisted the little girl child." in filling two large plates with the choicest delicacies, which mother and daughter heartily enjoyed in the se-clusion of their room.

"This is just lovely, mamma," said Agnes, "I am so happy; I wish could remain here always."

"Without mamma, dearest?"
"No, oh, no; I could not be happy without you."

"But mamma cannot remain here

Agnes."
"I don't see why we could not have been rich, like Aunt Cecelia." "Because, dear child, it was not the Lord's will, and we must submit to what he sends. Perhaps we are far better off as we are."

"It is hard to be poor." "You must not complain, Agnes, for many are far worse off than we, and our dear Lord Himself was poor Go, now and play with the children, for they will soon be going home.'

"It is hard to be poor," repeated Mrs. Cullen, when her child had left her, "but it is harder to know that she feels it, just as her poor aunt did years ago. How strange that poor little Agnes should be so much more like her sister than me! Perhaps, after all, I did wrong in coming here to give her a glimpse of the life she can never enjoy.'

That evening, after little Cecelia had lisped her night prayers at her mother's knee and had fallen into peaceful slumber, her parents held a long consultation, during which the father was convinced that his child really needed a companion of her own age, and it was decided Agnes was to be given a home and brought up the same as their own child. Nellie could scarcely believe she heard aright when told of it. She received the proposal with joy, but on second thought it was hard contemplate being separated from her only child. Even if her sister should offer her a home, she probably would not, she could not think of accepting it.

"Sister," said Mrs. Daton. "you do not appear to be as pleased as I expected at the bright prospects offered your child.'

"Pleased! Indeed dear sister, no one could possibly appreciate your kindness more than myself. But it is too much to ask of you." "Not at all, Nellie, with the abun-

dance we have. Agnes is a sweet, beautiful child, and was not born to lead a life of poverty."

"No more than yourself, Cecelia. I can see plainly she is more fitted to be your child than mine. She is so much more like vou."

"Then give her to me and I promise you I will make a lady of her." Nellie bowed her head and was silent, for the mother's heart clung more closely than ever to her only remaining child.

"Cecelia, I must have time to think of this.'s

"When can you give me your answer ?"

"To-morrow, for time is passing and I must be at worle."

It was much harder for the mother decide than she had anticipated, and at last, unable to come to any conclusion herself, she thought best to leave the matter with Agnes. The little girl, like her mother, was first delighted with the prospect, but when separation was mentioned her Once Agnes left the gay crowd, and, eyes filled with tears. With the help ferreting out her mother's hiding of her aunt's and cousin's persuasion she was soon overcome, the pact was made between the two mothers, and Nellie went her way seek work and take up her lonely abode in a distant part of the city. Poor Nellie Cullen, with her sweet

loving disposition! Her life it seem-"I prefer remaining here, for I am ed, was to be one continual sacrifice. As she sat alone in the little room to join you. But I can watch you she had rented, after securing a poworked for before her marriage, she had time to think it all over. reaclled vividly to mind how hard it had been to give up her sister Cecelia Agnes left at once, but she did not but that sacrifice had been nothing prayed earnestly that the sin of pride might never take possession of child as it had of her sister

"It would break my heart," thought, to have her become ashamed of me as my poor sister has, and only because I am poor. Perhaps I have done wrong, but God knows I have ed to send it up by a servant, but I acted as I really thought was best, and may His holy will be done to my

CHAPTER VIII.

her own home, for Mrs. Daton was have on their morals she never once wholly unwilling to trust the last of stopped to consider. her precious flock away from her pa- had been chosen by grandmother with ternal care until the matter of educa- a secret hope that she might be able

had laid her babe at the foot of the BlessedMother, she thought only to make of her a woman of the world like herself, and the growing brilliancy of the girl's budding beauty increased the mother's pride in her day by day. She knew that she herself had been and was still considered a beauty, but Cecelia promised to far surpass her, for the perfect features and fair complexion of her grandmother, combined with dark eyes and made a striking combination. Then, too, Cecelia was developing a sweet, melodious voice, which, if properly trained, promised great results, while her talent for instrumental music was equally as great.

In striking contrast to the young brunette was her cousin, who still lived with her, more as a sister than a dependent, for Agnes had never been made to feel, even by the elder Mrs. Daton, that she was an object of charity. The old lady, remarkable to relate, had taken kindly to the child from the first, permitting her to address her as grandma. There were two reasons for this: first, because Cecelia, the idol of her heart, wished it, and, secondly, because Agnes bade fair to become the proud lady she would like to see her own grandchild. Agnes' golden curls had scarcely turned a shade darker in the past seven years, and her bright blue eyes had in them a happy light which one could not help admiring. She had always been small for age, was much shorter and stouter than Cecelia, and, although a few months the elder of the two, appeared a year or two younger. Cecelia was tall and slight, so in every item of their personal appearance the girls were wholly unlike. They were both greatly admired, but while Agnes was deemed very pretty, Cecelia was considered beautiful.

In their dispositions also they greatly differed, Cecelia was firm and unyielding, though her nature was no less angelic than her face. She was slow to form conclusions, but when convinced that she was right, she was willing to suffer even persecution rather than relent. Agnes on the other hand, was more readily influenced by the opinions of others, and while in the company of her cousin it was well for her. ways possessed of an intellect far beyond her years, was rarely in the wrong, and many a time she was able to advise her cousin to her advantage.

In a word, it might be said that Cecelia's child had inherited all the while sweetness of Nellie's nature, Nellie's daughter was a true child of Cecelia. Naturally, the fair Agnes was of a proud disposition, and she fullly appreciated the beautiful home and fine clothes which had been given her, but Cecelia was a model Christian humility. True to her sex. she enjoyed what wealth gave as well as her cousin, but her pure young heart was set on things higher than fine clothes. It was her genthe influence that kept Agnes from surrendering to the sin of pride, and also kept alive in her heart a love for her poor. hard-working mother. Often on a Sunday afternoon, when catechism was over. Cecelia would accompany Agnes to spend an hour or two in the humble abode where had saved her from utter ignorance ones might not have gone so often sition with the same firm she had but for her. Fortunately for Nellie, easily. Cecelia in the presence her love for her own child was too others had made no comment, deep for her to penetrate this, but it soon became necessary for her to admit to herself that she knew not which girl she loved the more. All Her mother never knew, but it requirthe deep pride of which a broken ed all her kindest words to consc heart may be capable sprang into being when she saw her own little girl be most cheerful in the presence dressed as stylishly as the millionaire daughter, and she felt that in making felt that they might not approve a her sacrifice she had done what was

So far the education of the girls had been wholly in the hands of a governess, though at times Mrs. stole an hour or two from her social duties to give to the girls she called her daughters. The governess being a Protestant, no religious instructions were given by her, and the mother thought it just as not to have the young minds filled with religion to an extent that might The first fourteen years of Cecelia's dull their brilliancy as society belles happy young life had been spent in The effect this foolish plan might The governess tion rendered some action absolutely to help win the innocent young minds Arethe Best. Notice the Name on them

as she fully came up to the younger altar, offering her to God and His Mrs. Daton's standard, she was retained. A few prayers and minor points of religion were taught Mrs. Daton, but far more was learned from Agnes' mother, who told them many beautiful stories of the saints, and did much towards preparing them for the sacraments. The rest was learned at catechism

> In their limited religious instructions the girls were given equal opportunities to learn, but there was a wide difference in the results. Cecelia listened with the deepest interest. treasuring every word in her young heart, and meditating long and carnestly on what she had heard; but with Agnes it was different. thought more of worldly pleasures, and wished her mother would show more interest in her pretty clothes. For all, she would never deny faith, and was ever ready to in its defence, but even here Cecelia's influence was the ruling spirit.

It was when about to choose a place of education for the girls that Mrs. Daton asked her sister's advice for the first time since her marriage, and when Nellie told her to send them to a convent, she demurred a little at first, fearing that her husband might object. In the end, however, she selected an academy where many young ladies of wealth were being educated. Mr. Daton raised no. objection when told of the arrangement, but his mother became angry and reproached her daughterin-law bitterly for thinking of "shutting up those two innocent little lambs in a nunnery."

"They will pine their young lives away in a short time." she said. "No danger of that, for they will be too well cared for, and, besides, their studies will take up too much

of their time. "What do you know about it?" "This much; I was educated in a convent myself, and though not boarder, I saw enough of the boarders to know they were very happy.'

"Perhaps so, but if they were it was because they had never enjoyed their freedom in as beautiful a home as our girls have had,'

"You are mistaken; many of them were daughters of very wealthy paents. I allowed you to choose ceacher for our girls during the carly years of their education, and I claim the right of choosing for them now, so we will discuss the matter no fur-

With that she left the room, giving the old lady plenty of time to think of her folly in bringing a poor Catholic girl into the house for her son to marry and oppose her most sacred

wishes. When the parties most interested, the young ladies themselvesi were informed of the plan, they received the news with differing emotions. Agnes, ever fond of novelty and glad of a chance to prepare herself for high life, was delighted, but she did not know then of the many hard days of school work ahead of her, neither did she know of the strict rules to which she. always accustomed to freedom, must submit. She had had much of her own way with an overindulgent governess, and the only thing that had been her natural ability to learn proof of her disapproval stronger than words, but when alone the poor child wept tears of real homesickness her. Instinct prompted Cecelia to her father and grandfather, for she convent.

To be Continued.)

DO NOT BUY TRASHY GOODS AT ANY PRICE. . .

Cowan's Cocoa and Chocolate