# AN ORIGINAL GIRL.

## By Obristine Faber.

#### CHAPTER XXI.

With the advent of May, all sorts of business interests seemed sudder revive in New Utterton; all the suddenly to revive in New Utterton; all the more suddenly because the late spring had kept every out-door industry unusually back. Renton's agents who had been so quiet during the winter, were said to be actively at work negotiating for lands lying, without, the houndaries of the lying without the boundaries of the ship, with a view to enlarging those township, with a view to enlarging those boundaries; and work was commenced on the new club-house adjoining Miss Burram's grounds. This last month of the spring seemed to be trying to make amends for the unseasonableness of its predecessors, in the mid-summer heat with which it made its appearance. To with which it made its appearance. To Rachel, the genial weather gave a thrill of delight, and she ran and skipped and junped the rope on Miss Burram's ample grounds, till the roses came into her checks and her eyes sparkled. As Hardman said delightedly to himself, and as Sarah remarked to Mrs. McEl-vain, "She looked like a different child." vain, " child."

Perhaps the only one to whom this first month of spring brought no delight was Sarah. That peculiar woman was still waiting for Hardman's answer to which letter yet lay in the her letter, which letter yet lay in the pocket of Hardman's tronsers. In vair she sought by hints, and by extra at to make him tention to him at meals, to make him speak; he was as oblivious as a wooden speak; he was as oblivious as a wooden image, and Sarah bemoaned to Mrs. McElvain, and tossed her own cup several times for signs of "Jeem's in-tentions," and declared she'd fetch him to the point before much longer. Bachel had so much to think of, now

Rachel had so much to think of, now that she had, as it were, the twenty families of Miss Burram's tenement house on her mind, beside her studie for the summer examination, that she had no time to think of her treatment by her schoolmates. Were it not for the Herrick twins most of her schoolmates, abashed by Rachel's proud in difference, would have let her alone, but Alida and Mabel Herrick were continually stirring up something, and Rachel, not having the favor of the could never forgive the scene the little girl once made in the class, had neither defense nor protecteacher, who

The Herrick twins asserted them-The Herrick twins asserted them-selves with great impunity since their father's appointment to the School Board, and "pa's doings," and "pa's opinions," were often proudly quoted, and "pa" himself frequently dropped in of a morning, knowing that Miss Ash-ten according to content ton according to custom would request him to speak to the assembled school, and delivered himself of certain learned platitudes which he had not a doubt would be received by pupils and teach-ers alike, as evidences of his own indi-

vidual learning and wisdom. The more pleasant the weather became, the more Rachel thought of what Mrs. Rendey had said regarding kind ladies inviting mothers with sick babies to their country residences. What a place for sick babies would not Miss Burram's grounds be, especially the beach! And every day she walked about surveyed that part of the beach which adjoined the grounds of the new club house. It was the part of the beach most remote from Miss Burram's beach most remote from Miss burrant's house, and in its vicinity were some fine old trees just now putting forth their wealth of leaves; and a most per-fect patch of green sward. The odd thing about the trees was that they formed almost a perfect semicircle, while between them greew shrubs that attained ween them grew shrubs that attained to a height of six feet, forming a hedge between the trees, and in seasons when both trees and shrubs were thickly covered with verdure, made a thick and almost impenetrable screen. By June the place would be delightini, and eyes danced as she pictured Rachel's it would seem to Mrs. the Paradise Rendey and the flower-girls, and the Bohemian family, and the hunch-back German, aud the tobacco-strippers, and everybody in the house-she could not bear to omit a single one-but how Having such adcould she manage it? vanced ideas about the proprietorship of land she did not think it wrong to effect it all if she could, without Miss Burram's consent, for, as she argued to

"No," replied Rachel eagerly, her face brightening, "she has'nt told me anything of the kind." "But," he continued, "it seems to

anything of the kind." "But," he continued, "it seems to me as if them signs on the trees was

me as it then signs on the second sec good it might be for sick people to go upon her land ?"

to gratify Rachel, the confusion which her arguments produced in his mind, and his stern sense of duty to his mis-tress. At length he replied: "How could it be done, Miss Rachel, without Miss Burram knowing it? Like as not she'd take a walk that particular Saturday afternoon and come right into the midst of them." "Oh, Jim, your're forgetting," with a sigh of impatience; "Miss Burram

on, that, you're to getting, that a sigh of impatience; "Miss Burram doesn't ever go on the beach as far down as that; I've heard you say that you never knew her to walk on the other side of those trees that make that half side of those trees that make that half circle. And the people, when they come, could come in and go out by that gate that's never used," pointing to where the key of the said gate hung. "Well," said Hardman in utter per-plexity, "we won't talk any more about there's time enough, seeing it

now; there's time enough, seeing it

ain't the first part of summer yet. But if Hardman did not talk of it h thought of it; in fact he could hardly get away from the thought of it, and saw the pinched, hunger-lined when h the drooping figures of the faces and nt house, he felt, people in the tenement house, he felt, as much as did Rachel, what the benefit of even a few hours on Miss Burram's grounds might be to them; especially as in the warm weather the muck of arrow Essex street added its odors foul, stifling atmosphere within s. He said to Rachel a day or two

before the time for collecting the June 'I've been thinking about that plan rents of yours-having these tenement-house

people out here." Rachel listened with sparkling in-

terest. "And I've been a-thinking, Miss, that as most of them has to work all the week days, Sunday'd be a better day for them; Sunday'd be a better day for us, too, seeing as how Miss Burram is taken up most of the time with her com-new out there company, and there ain't no attention paid to you till along in the evening for

dinner. Splendid, Jim," put in Rachel.

"They could come out in the morn-ing, these people," went on Jim; "the railroad'd bring them down in a couple ing, these people," went on Jim; the railroad'd bring them down in a couple of fours, and they could fetch some-thing to eat with them. I guess most of them could fetch something with i them, and they could eat it right out here on the grounds, and get away be-fore evening; the most thing is to guide them down here and to pay their way." "I've got the money," said Rachel; "Jots now, sixty-five dollars. "Let me see," resumed Jim, "if they all come, there will be twenty-five men, thirty-five women, and forty-three chil-dren; it will take, counting car fare in the the city, and half fare for children---why, Miss, it will take all your sixty-five the dollars, and I thought you wanted that particular for Mr. Tom."

back.

particular for Mr. Tom." "So I do, Jim, but by six o'clock to-night there will be four years one month and twenty-nine days to wait yet, and if I keep getting thirteen dollars every month I guess I'll have a good deal for Tom."

But Hardman seemed to doubt still. "Wouldn't it do, Miss, if the women and the children just came down? that downy surface being rubbed again and again

they were going to have the excursion the halls were almost as much tenanted as the rooms, for the younger children whose mothers were afraid to trust them on the street, made their play-One woman whose amount of rent had been growing less and less since Miss Burram's Charge began to collect, and who had not a cent of the rent this them on the street, made their play-ground there, and as the water from which the four families on a floor drew their supply was in the middle of the hall, the latter was hardly ever with-sut one or more women. In this way. month, said to her next-door neighbor when Rachel and Hardman had gone to

THE CATHOLIC RECORD.

his door of nearly every

"Bring your dinner with you !" ex-plained Hardman, "and eat it on the grass; you'll have plenty of air and the

water to look at while you're eating." "Auch! eine pienie! kinder, come a herein!" and immediately ensued a

ludicrous scampering of little feet, from

the rooms and the hall-all the children

responding to the invitation—even the Bohemian ones of the next floor, who

had been hanging over the stair and understood no more than the rush, which as it was a rush of their own kind, they felt it to be a duty to take part in, so that the little hunched-back's announce-

ment in voluble Dutch was made, not

quite finished, some one of them bore the news to the little ones playing with-

out, and in a few moments the hallway was a mass of children struggling to get

near Hardman, and each one clamoring for a ticket to "that 'ere oxcursion,

Such was the news that had be

spread in the street, and it was travel-ing so fast that boys and girls, and even

men, were hurrying from all parts

the neighborhood. A crowd had gath-ered in front of the hall door, and pass-

ers-by asking what was the matter, on being told a distribution of free tickets

for an excursion, waited also with the

house became almost riotous, till a policeman coming that way dispersed it,

dispensing this free-air charity. Within the house the clamor

Mein Got was ist dis ?"

protect

and went in himself to find out who was

alone to four of his own offspringwere playing on the street—but to a dozen other children, and before he had

hanging over the stair and

tering about

Mister.

"Them's free tickets they're distriout one or more women. In this way when the tendering of the tickets and butin'; they didn't cost anything, so there's not much thanks for them." the explanation of the same to the little hunched-back German and his queer little wife called forth from him an ex-But how about the invitation to the clamation of amazement in his broken English, it was the signal for the clus-

"But how about the invitation to the private grounds?" asked the more grateful neighbor, "that's something." "No, it's not; why don't they throw in a dinner with it? asking us down there and never a bite to eat only as we bring it with us." But Beachel, and Hardman were combody else on the floor. "You buy ticket for me and mine amily?" the little German went on, "to go down to your place Sunday morning, and have dinner ?"

But Rachel and Hardman were comin every style. To Rachel's horror they stopped be ing forth again, and the last speaker beat a hasty retreat. The flower-girls also had heard the tumult and had learned the cause ; and

fore the very gate they were told to pass, but some parley seemed to ensue among them, and to her relief they came on. A kind of shout went up from them they had laughed to themselves at the crowd they had seen from their window. when they saw her; she was waving her hands to them, wishing they would has-ten and get into the grounds while the The warm weather seemed to have abated the younger girl's cough, and the elder, having had steady work for a

the elder, having had steady work for a month past, every cent of the rent was cheerfully given to Rachel. "And we feel," said the younger girl, who always gave the money, "as if we have wronged Miss Burram. We used to have such bad thoughts of her when the was so therefore, and ever elders, and Racher's heart du not leave her mouth till they were all safely with-in the semicircle of trees. Their exclamations of delight when fairly in possession of the beautiful spot were both in various tones and lanused to have such bad thoughts of her when she was so threatening and exact about always gotting the full amount of her rent; but for five months past, as you know Miss, we haven't paid our rent in full, and Miss Burram hasn't dane a thing about it."

and a thing about it." Hardman coughed and Rachel looked embarrassed; then Hardman introduced the nuch-talked-of trip, and Rachel walk the tights from her satchel.

took the tickets from her satchel. "How lovely !" said both girls at once, and the elder added : "We have the pier just finished by the Onotomah Club, was enough for an ample promennot seen the country since we have little things; how good of you to give this excursion to all the tenants—and ade. all are going, you say ; are we expected tenement house people had not come-the tobacco-strippers, so the little hunchback said, were going to use to go altogether, or can we go by ourelves ?

That question brought for the first Hardman's mind the picture of was on that same road, and where they could have better recreation than eatthe thirty-five men, twenty-five women, and forty-three children, not counting hope of getting one. And the crowd grew, and in its efforts to get into the the babies in arms, walking in a body through the streets of Rentonville on a quiet, church-going Sunday morning, and entering Miss Burram's carefully guarded grounds. It gave him a shock and he began to feel that were well-nigh insurmountable difficulties in the way worse than on the street, for the chil-dren not alone filled the halls and the of the execution of Rachel's charitable plan. Nor had Rachel herself thought dren not alone filled the nails and the stairways, but they had swarmed un-ceremoniously into the little German's rooms, and they surrounded Hardman and Rachel, till neither could move a of anything more than just getting the people into the grounds without obser-Burram's house, and vation from Miss he looked now to Hardman for a reply 

she must leave them for her own lunch, else Sarah would come out to seek her, and she went among the various groups sne looked now to Hardman for a reply to the girl's question. "I guess, Miss, you had better go by yourselves," he said, "any time in the morning that suits you;" and then he wondered if he ought not to revisit the constructs and instruct the tenants to into which the crowd had disposed self, with repeated caution not to go on the other side of the trees, nor beyond to the uproar without doing any good. to the uproar without doing any good. Hardman, porspiring and perplexed, coaxed and begged the children to be quiet, till at least he would explain, and he waved his hand for them to fall apartments and instruct the tenants to the limits appointed for them on the go in separate detachments. But there was not time for that now, and he questioned somewhat whether such a caution His other hand was caught fast would make things any better; the by both of Rachel's, who shrank closer and closer to him as the children pressed visit of these people was use to become known anyhow; he only hoped it would not become known to Miss Burram till upon her. "Just give us the tickets for that ere their visit should have been made, and excursion, Mister, and then we'll go," screamed a wizened, prematurely old little boy in the crowd, and the others old

Then he was prepared for the conse then? quences; as to the consequences to Rachel, he intended to take all the

shouted in chorus : "The tickets, Mister ; the tickets Rachel, he intended to take all the blame that might attach to her. How Rachel hoped for fine weather for that third Sunday in June; it was her prayer on going to bed on Saturday night, just next to her petition for Tom, and at dawn the next morning the way a word with Jim she would leel more confortable, but she knew it was not yet time for him to have returned with Miss Burram's guests, and she tried to calm herself before entering the diningwot you promised ; shell 'em out !' and Hardman could not even make himself heard again. He had all he could do to protect Rachel's clothes from their smutty fingers ; her velvet cloak being night, just next to her petition for Tom, and at dawn the next morning she was looking from her window; the sky was beginning to glow with the colors which Rachel was weather-wise enough to know betokened a fair day, and by the time she was dressed where the wakeroom. It seemed to her as if her whole body was tingling, and as for her heart particularly tempting, for not alone their hands, but for their faces, its she was sure that every other beat sent it unto her mouth. She fancied Miss to several pairs of cheeks. Seed-she was too wakeful to return to bed-the world seemed to feel the thrill of the perfect morning. She stole down the stair and out ; she wanted to assure herself anew of the beauty of the spot where her motley guests were to assemble, but silently as she went, Sarah chanced to see her. "Wherever is that child going a this hour of the mornin'?" she asked herself; "if it's to see Jim, he's gone to church. I'll go and tell her.' And she followed leisurely to the carriage house; but Rachel went beyon that, to the path that led to the semithat, to the path that led to the semi-circle of trees, and behind which she disappeared. Still, Sarah followed, passing also to the other side of the trees, but keeping sufficiently in their abade not to be appendent to the childle shade, not to be exposed to the child' sight. And there she saw the little sight. And there she saw the little girl simply stand and look about her, from the glistening water just now but sparsely dotted with craft, and the smooth, clean, hard beach immediately below the terraced sward to the grass below the terraced sward to the grass as evenly cut as the grass of the lawn at the rear of Miss Burram's house. "May I never be burned nor drowned alive!" said Sarah, after watching the child for a moment, "whatever does she want leaving her bed at this time in the morning just to come out here and look around her. But satisfied that Rachel had no other but satisfied that Rachel had no other object, Sarah returned to the kitchen without betraying her presence. After breakfast, Rachel went forth again; this time to get the key from the carriage house and to open the gate. It was much like the other time when she had opened that gate and it. a she had opened that gate and it Hardman stifled his last objection and had brought her such painful consequences, and she could not help having ome misgiving about her present ac-ion; but she said to herself as she snatched the key-Hardman was not there-and hurried with it out of the carriage house, "This isn't disobedient; Miss Burram didn't just say I couldn't do this. She opened the gate and swung it far back, fixing its position with a stone, and then she waited. Being Sunday morning the passers-by were very few, and she looked boldly up and down the the inroad. Everything seemed to be un-usually quiet, but in a moment the still-ness was broken by the sound of the loness was broken by the sound of the lo-comotive whistle; perhaps this train would bring some of the expected ones. She almost held her breath in the ex-Every door open on the floors above, as they always were in warm weather, and the various odors, chief among which were soup-making, stale cabbage water, and tobacco leaves, floated sick-eningly from the rooms into the close atmosphere of the unventilated halls;

### NOVEMBER 2, 1901.

put on a large sun hat, and motioned

train seemed such a long time that she quite gave up any arrival so early, and she turned to walk to the beach; but the sound of many feet approaching from the turn in the road made her stop short and road main to the gate. Sarah to lead the way. The same sounds of merriment—only louder, as both children and adults beahandon themselves more to the gan to : short and go again to the gate. There were her guests—apparently as many as Hardman had counted—mer, charm of their surroundings-that Sarah had heard fell upon the ears of mistress and maid long before the two reached and maid long before the two reached the screen of trees, and Miss Burram's as many as Hardman had counted—men, women and children, and a queer, mot-ley crowd they were. Most of the men were carrying babies, the women car-ried baskets, and some of them carried both baskets and babies. None of the men seemed to have been shaved for breathing became labored from very indignation. She hastened her steps till Sarah could not keep up with her without an occasional run, and she burst upon the crowd with the suddenness of men seemed to have been shaved for several months, and the hair on their

t was indeed "a sight," as several months, and the hair on their faces looked as antiquated as their clothes. The women's clothes were mostly patched, with here and there a whole, but a very old-fashioned gar-ment, while the children were dressed in every style It had described it, and fury made Miss Burram speechless. She could only look about her for a moment like one in a nightmare. To her it was a most hideous nightmare-the gathering of that horde of miserable creatures on her grounds; as if the reeking tenement-house itself had been transplanted. had been transplanted. From mouth to mouth ran in a kind of

frightened whisper. Miss Burram

They had not been told to fear her coming, but her appearance now was enough, and after that breathless anten and get into the grounds while the road was so free from passers-by, and they seemed to understand the signal, for both men and women quickened their steps, while the children began to nouncement from one to another, a grave-like silence fell upon everybody. grave-like shence ten upon everybody. There was more spectators of the scene than even Miss Burram saw; through the unfinished windows of the new club-house, heads were thrust—the heads of run in order to keep up with their elders, and Rachel's heart did not leave

house, heads were thrust-the heads of some of the members who had taken ad-vantage of the leisure of a Sunday morn-ing to inspect the progress of the work, and to them the proceedings on Miss Burram's grounds were most guages, and for one brief moment, in the novel and exciting. Rachel was like a little figure turned

guages, and for one brief moment, in the happiness which Rachel saw about her, she was intensely happy herself. The children had ample playground without going on the other side of the trees, and the stretch of beach below the terto stone. Miss Burram recovered her voice, and pointing in the direction of the road, she said with such loud distinctness her tones reached the spectators from the club-house. race, from Miss Burram's boat-house to

"Go, instantly, every one of you !" "Then something seemed to rise within the child—something that seemed to be strangely distinct from herself, and Despite the size of the crowd, all the that impelled her to dart forward and

say impetuously: "I asked them here because it was "I asked them here because it was only the land they would come to—not your house, not anything you had paid for being made, but just the ground here and the air that would do them good—they were so poor, and they had such a miserable place to live in the their railroad tickets for a resort which ing dry pretzels on private grounds—a statement that conflicted somewhat with Rachel's compassion for them, and purgled her a good deal is nor wore the

Rachel's compassion for them, and puzzled her a good deal; nor were the flower-girls of the motley party, but the very next train brought them, and they, following intelligently the in-structions given them, found their way without trouble into the midst of the city." Miss Burram was aghast, and once well-nigh speechless at this awful audacity; and in a moment, more imperi-ously than before, she repeated her without trouble into the midst of the picnickers, and in their delight Rachel

Some of the less intelligent foreign element of the crowd were for insisting upon their rights as involved in the invitation, they had been invited for the day, and the day had not yet expired, but Rendey comprehending the situ-ation, assumed, as it were, a sort of command of the party, and with a word here, an order there, and an air of au-thority that no one seemed able to dis-pute, he marshaled them towards the gate by which they had entered. beach, her fears lending surprising em-phasis and authority to her words. Mr. Rendey, however, offered his aid by promising to watch during her ab-sence, that no one strayed into forbid-den grounds, and as the luncheons of the protect words along in different Burram watched them as they went, her lips set, and her eyes flashing, whil Rachel again seemed turned to stone. while Sarah standing a little in the rear of her mistress, viewed all with her mouth the party were already in different stages of progress, his surveillance

her mistress, viewed all with her mouth as wide open as her eyes, and as she said afterward to Mrs. McElvain, "with her hair standing on end." And when all had gone, and the dreadful litter which the crowd had left was fully exposed, even Rachel's heart sank at the thought of the feeling it must give Miss Eurram. Greasy promised to be a comparatively easy one for the present. Rachel hastened to the house, thinking if she could have word with Jim she would feel more it must give Miss Burram. Greasy newspapers, dilapidated lunch-baskets, pieces of bread, bits of meat, ends of pickles seemed to be everywhere; but that lady, assuming an imperturbability as sudden and as great as her anger had been, turned without a word or look she was sure that because the peculiarly, as if had been, turned without a word or the at Rachel, and went on her way to the house. Sarah followed her example, house. Sarah followed her example, and Rachel, utterly wretched at this and Rachel, utterly wretched at this

### NOVEMBER 2, 1901.

thence, without waiting even to take the horses from the carriage, he hurried to the scene of the picnic; not that he had much hope of having the mysterihad much hope of the "excursion" ous termination of the "excursion" solved there, for he supposed in such a summary breaking up as it seemed to be, summary breaking up as to summoned to Rachel must have been summoned to the house; nor did he see her at first, the house; tor distonded horror he as with a sort of distonded horror he beheld the condition of the grounds subbing heap near the foot of one of the trees, and he strode to her, calling hoarsely: " Miss Rachel !" but his eyes caught her at last, a little

"Miss Rachel !" She was on her feet in an instant. "Oh, Jim !" It was all she could say for her sobs; but in a moment the relief of his presence made itself felt, and she told him all as they walked head to the carriage house.

and she told nin an as they wared back to the carriago-house. "And Sarah was there, you say," he repeated. "Sarah's the one who found out and told. Well, I don't know as out and told. Well, I don't know as there's anything to be done about it just now. You say Miss Burram didn't notice you, — probably she won't to-day as she's got her company, and it's kind of her way not to do anything first off. Well, don't take it to heart no more Miss, you done it to be kind to the poor and if your intentions miscarried in and if your intentions miscarried wasn't your fault."

TO BE CONTINUED.

## A BUSH CHRISTENING

Some years ago Hugh MacCartne left County Antrim, in Ireland, ar came to Australia in order to seek h fortune. A young man, possessin some of the good qualities of his cou trymen, he had been brought up a Pre trymen, he had been brought up a Fre byterian and had become a member the Orange society; his prejudic against the Catholics were very stron However, after having settled down a bush hamlet in New South Wales, generally managed for worldly reaso generally managed for worldly reass to keep his prejudices to hims Being a steady, honest, hard-work fellow, he succeeded, after a time, saving some money, and he openee store such as is usually found in country towns. He described him on his cards as Ironmonger, Grocer Provision Merchant. When his h Provision Merchant. When his b ness had prospered, the thought of n riage came into his head, and he narked attention to little Jeanie honey, who, with her parents, had c from the south of Ireland. To her confided that he had no ill-will aga confided that he had no ill-will age the Papists—as he called Catholi that he approved of many of thebi liefs and practices, and—well, if consented to be his wife, she c have her way in religious matters. he would have his. Jeanie had somewhat careless as a Catholic, she became more so after she had she became more so atter sue had MacCartney. There was no priest dent in the little township. It was of a vast district which one pries to look after, and Mass was said in entertainty of the second particular place only about or month. The priest advised Jeanie though she made fair promises sh not fulfill them. Others were law advice, too, but it was often given advice, too, but it was often given little discretion and only made m worse. At last, Jeauie scandaliz good Catholies of the district b ting married to the storekeeper Presbyterian church. After marriage, her husband

After marriage, her husband like so many in his part of Irelan like so many in his part of Irelan a turn for a controversy, tried t her see what he regarded as the of her religion. Without stried bidding her, he strongly disappr-her going to Mass. She, he went a few times, and this led pleasantness, and even to a disp temper on his part, which fright her. She tried to avoid the p much as possible, and when at managed to see hor, she was su managed to see her, she was su silent and would make no p felt miserable. The light soul was quenched, and the despair sottled on her. The keeper persuaded himself that lost all love for him, and he To his customers h bully ber. w what was the mat her, and that as far as he was o

tism. He swore a terrible out would have her life if she got

priest to perform any mummer child of his. Baptism con

non-Catholic clergymon is som valid, owing to their not a

what is essential. This over very well, and she was detern what it might, to have her bal by the priest. This could n on the Sunday the priest

township, for her movements

township, for her movements watched on that day; and tempted to take the baby would be a scene, probabl would be used toward he events she was persuaded t attempt would be unsucce thing may chough h

might tolerate her own Ca

thing

was clear, though h

ential. This Jee

They won't go into Miss Burram's herself : house, but only on the land that she didn't make, and they can't steal the land nor hurt it, so it ain't no harm.' But to convince herself and also to

But to convince hersen and not ber get his help, she took Hardman into her confidence. That simple-minded man was aghast. What! have all those tenement house people on Miss Bur-ram's grounds—she that wouldn't let ram's grounds—she that wouldn't let the best people in Rentonville on them! It almost made Hardman gasp; but Rachel, without giving him time to speak, poured forth all she thought about it, at the conclusion of every sentence repeating the one argume which she felt must sweep away his chief

objection. "They're only coming on the land, and Miss God made the land, and Miss Burram has no right to keep people of the land, when the land is necessary for

them to live." "That's so," said Hardman slowly, and looking puzzled, "but this ain't a case just like that. Miss Burram's paid for her land and she's got signs on the trees a-warnin' trespassers; that means warnin' to people not to come upon

her property." property are not like these people who ire coming because they're sick ; and these people won't do any harmthese people won't do any harm—only just come and sit here, and have the air, and the water, and the grass—just the things that God made; and oh, Jim, think of how they will feel with all those beautiful things around them-that poor sick flower-girl, and that poor little baby, and the children, and everybody in that house! Oh, Jim; do you think I'll be disobeying Miss Burram if I have them come some Saturday?" She was looking up at Hardman with

her soul in her eyes. "I don't know about the disobeyin'," he answered, "Miss Burram ain't just told you not to have them come."

But Rachel, remembering the pathe-tic face of the little hunched-back Ger-man, and the emaciated, drawn faces of lady. the tobacco-strippers, could not find it

in her heart to assent to that. "Oh, no," she said pleadingly, "I couldn't leave any out; I must have them all.'

And at length, after much further thought, Hardman decided upon the only plan he could think of. To buy only plan he could think of. 10 bay the railroad tickets himself-not, how ever, in the railroad station in New Utterton-his purchase of so large a number would certainly cause talk in that gossip-loving place, but in the city when he went with Rachel to collect the rents, and she could distribute them, and he could explain for her their ob

ject to the tenants. The day agreed upon was the Sunday of the week following the Saturday that Rachel collected the rents—providing the weather was fine—the third Sun-day in June, and far enough in advance to give time for preparation and antici-

pation. seenes which accompanied The Rachel's distribution of the railroad tickets, and Hardman's explanations tickets, and Hardman's Capital the same, were both pathetic and ludi-erous. Mrs. Rendey, to whom the in-vitation was given first, could hardly vitation was given believe it ; a free excursion to the country, as she called it, for not alone If and the baby, but for her husband, and on a day that would not take him

from his work, almost took her breath away. She could not keep her tears back as she looked at the tickets, and listened to Used at the tickets, and back as she looked at the tickets, and listened to Hardman's directions how to go, and by which gate to enter Miss Burram's grounds. Not either of the two gates they would reach first on making the turn in the road that led

from the train, but the single, narrow gate, almost a quarter of a mile farther on, and which they would find open.

Hardman repeated this last instruction with great care, as he intended to repeat it in every instance, so as to make sure that none of Miss Burram's tenants should apply for admission at either of the gates which led directly to the house. Mrs. Rendey tearfully said she understood, and then she thanked both Rachel and Hardman, and promised to make an early start with her little family.

which the hunched-back became more furious still. You not even respect de leetle ture the policeman appeared at the door of the room waving his club, and the children screamed louder than before and fell down, and tumbled over each

and fell down, and timbled over each other in their effort to get away. "Now, what's all this disturbing of the peace for?" said the officer of the law in a bluff, but not uncivil, manner in Hardman explained withto Hardman. Hardman explained with out mentioning names or localities, and the policeman laughed.

"Gness you'll know better, nert time," he said, " and not give your in-vitations in a way that'll attract the whole street. Well, go ahead with your business, and I'll stay round the neighborhood awhile to see that things hear suit." keep quiet." He departed, and the little German

gladly followed Hardman's advice to shut his door; then he politely got a chair for Rachel and ejaculated, as he braced himself against the mantelpiece,

braced himself against the mantelpiece, "I am sick from dot erowd." His little quivering wife looked sick too, and Rachel was as white as the handkerchief she had in her hand. Hardman wondered if this unpleasant oversime had not discouraged the Hardman wondered it this unpleasant experience had not discouraged the child, and whether it might not be bet-ter to ask her to give up the "excur-sion," at least, not to give invitations

to everybody in the house. But then, there were the railroad tickets all bought, and Rachel herself, wondering why her companion hesitated, said : "Why don't you tell them how to go,

Jim 1 gave the same precise instruction he had given before, and the hunched-back

promised that he and his frau, and his tion; but kinder would all go early. All through the house by this time, he news had gone of the "free excur-

sion," so that no one appeared sur-prised at receiving tickets ; the family of tobacco-strippers whose faces always touched Rachel's heart, seemed, much to her astonishment, to accept vitation with a kind of stolid indifference, responding through their spokes-man, the eldest, who interrupted Hardman's instructions, "Ya, ya." They stopped their work for an instant to ex-

stopped their work for an instant to ex-amine the tickets. Nor did their inter-preter utter a word of thanks. Hard-man said it was because they were for-eigners and not much used to kindness

thought that Sarah's eyes inigered when her very suspiciously, and once, when Sarah seemed to turn suddenly toward swindow, Rachel though it was because she had caught sight of one of the she had caught sight she had caught sight she had caught she had the she had caught sight she had the she had th

sne had caught sight of one of the notley crowd. Her heart appeared to stand still; what if those Bohemian children had toddled out there? For an instant she was afraid to turn her own eyes to the window; but there was nothing to startle her, the smooth velvet-like lawn was unbroken by any of Miss Burram's tenants, and Rachel

ad another moment of supreme happi-

But the hour was approaching when

beach, her fears lending surprising em-

went on with her pretence of eating; she really could not swallow the food. Never had a meal seemed so long; and never before was the child so thankful for the end of a meal. She could hardly wait for Miss Burram to rise from the table, which was the signal for her own exit, and though she walked decorously enough from the dining-room, a moment later, Sarah, watching for Jim's return from the depot, saw Rachel running like a deer and without any covering on her head. In her anxiety o return to her guests, the child had forgotten her hat.

forgotten her hat. The inquisitive woman, putting this speedy flight with Rachel's outing of the early morning, made up her mind that there must be something in it all, and she promptly determined to leave her work and learn what it was. Rache was nowhere to be seen by the

Rachel was nowhere to be seen by the time Sarah got out of the house, but the woman took the same direction she had taken in the morning, hearing before

esence she turned and ran back to the house, and without waiting for any response to her knock at the door of her Mistress' private apartment, she burst upon that astounded lady. "Come quick, mem, and see for your-

self; it's a sight that the like of us has never been before, and Miss Rachel in the middle of 'em.''

"Sarah, have you quite lost your

he did not hinder her from p the Catholic religion. He trie suade himself that he was spec When the first baby was bor it baptized by the Presbyteri tor. He would hear of no o truth.

grass and cried miserably. Out on the road the crowd that went from Miss Burram's gates was just time to meet the tardier comers from late services of the fashionable the churches, and in time to confront Hardman returning with Miss Burram's

"Bless my ribs!" he said, almost guests. letting the reins fall in his startling anazement, "something is happened." And that something ind happened fall the fashionable home-going church foll seemed to think, for most of them actu ally paused to look and wonder at the procession. Nor were the numbers now confined to Miss Burram's tenants; the juvenile rabble of Rentonville had been attracted and they followed, jeer-ing at the odd appearance of the crowd, and in some instances provoking fights with the youngsters in the rear that caused the angry intervention of the

older folk. At the station, whither Rendey headed them with but one thought, to get his fellow tenants as far from their indignant landlord as possible, some of the tenants began to protest against going home so soon, and to suggest an exploration of some other picnic ground from which they might not be driven—a suggestion that the Rendeys and the hubbub of voices and laughter, that in her amazement she stood and gasped for breath; then she went cautiously forward and peered from behind one of the trees. The sight made her gasp again, and without a word to betray her

So back into the streets the horder went again, rambling in groups into the lanes and country roads beyond, eating as they went the remnants of their vari-ous luncheons, and talking in a way that could Rachel have seen and heard she would have felt her charitable ex-cursion had not entirely miscarried. cursion had not entirely miscarried.

eursion had not entrely miscarriad Hardman felt as if he had a sudden fever, while Mr. Burleigh, recognizing from the carriage window many of the faces of Miss Burran's tenants, made a he had a sudden

"I never had me senses fuller, mem; but it's all on your own grounds, mem, and Miss Rachel, as I said before, in the middle of 'em. Oh, mem, please come quick and see for yourself." There was too much earnestness about the woman to doubt longer, and Miss Burram's curiosity was getting the better of her dignity. She rose quietly

tices, he was determined, e his business should suffer, the Church of Rome to have to do with a child of his. The summer was now at spring rains had fallen and spring rains had talten and seed-sowing was done. T with the bright glare of D the grass had already tu The baby sickened, and Jea lest it should die with Rumors of a mission being far-off town right away ranges had reached Jean strange priest in a stra appeared among the peo cent was foreign, but he and distinctly and his we power; many were the co took place. He knew som life and was gentle wit Jeanie thought that if good Father and made her whole life to him happy again. She resolv baby with her and have

as to its baptism remove Christmas was now a Cartney had gone out o