

who believe that the Squire of Ballymore alone could throw any light on the mystery, and I am one of those."

"I went away with Mr. Lyndon—at least, I went before him, and he came in a few days; but I am his lawful wedded wife, your riverence, nothing less."

"Have you proof of this, Kitty?" asked the old priest, with great eagerness, leaning forward in his chair, his thin spirituelle face full of eagerness he was at no pains to suppress.

She nodded, then in a few words told him the whole story of her temptation and her flight. Father O'Hagan's soul was moved as he listened, and discerning that she had actually made a sacrifice of herself for those she so dearly loved, he looked at her with compassion and admiration. He had always known her to be a dutiful daughter and a quiet, well-behaved girl, but the depth of her nature and character was now revealed to him for the first time.

"You forget the injunction—'Ye may not do evil that good may come,'" he said, almost sadly. "The motive was good, but the act was desperate. You ought to have sought advice. If only you had come to me."

"Father, I could not—he forbade me."

"Is he aware that you are here to-night? If you are his lawful wife how comes it that you are alone at this late hour, and that you have come on foot from Rathdrum? Mr. Lyndon's wife should travel in different fashion."

"He doesn't know. He is full of trouble himself since his half-brother has been found——"

"Child, what are you talking of?"

Kitty hesitated, seeing her mistake. But, having