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CHAPTER IV.

The Story of a Strange Girlhood.

"I shall not say much about my tion. childhood," the Signoria Valdi began. "It was like that of many other girls left to grow up in a great city, in the shabby gentility necessitated by that do, pay so little that comfort is scarcely known in the house and luxury never. My mother was an invalren, I grew up in the comparatively empty house a creature of fancies and dreams. My voice was my great companion. I dared not sing in the turbed possession of so much empty space, I would sing and trill till I was utterly exhausted or my stock of songs gave out. Later, I took to acting, having seen one opera through Portuguese crone whom you see with the kindness of a school-teacher of mine who knew my passion and had accidently overheard my voice one day. For even then I never sang before any one, and if by chance I other friend who could supply her caught any one listening, my throat place in faithfulness and devotion. She choked up and I broke into a cold is not propossessing to look at, but she perspiration. But this was inexperi-loves me; too well I fear, for she ence, as I thought, and I went on cherishing my dreams and acting over and over imaginary scenes from knew my secret desperation. situations which must have been suf-

and unhappy. "When I was fourteen my mother sary to achieve even the smallest suc-

and practice was simply a delight. found difficulty in existing till one happy day-was it happy?-I let my voice out in what I supposed to be an empty church, but which in reality contained a great teacher, who, hearing me, thereupon took me in charge said would end in wealth and adula-

"Alas for me. I believed him, and was no longer hungry or cold or meanly clothed. At least, I did not small means. My father was a doctor feel my hunger or the chill of the and only half successful, and that in room in which I worked at sewing a quarter of the town where most of or copying, or anything which would the patients never pay, and the few furnish me with daily bread. And as for my clothes, they were so certainly destined to change into the silver and id, and, there being no other child- gold tissues befitting an opera queen, that I have sometimes laughed, in passing through the streets, to think how the men and women who jostled parlors or where my mother could me so rudely would one day feel hear me too plainly, but would go proud if I cast them a glance or beaway into the garret, where in undis- towed upon them the haughtiest of smiles.

"My companion and the only confidante of my dreams was this old ance in the depths of my poverty, and would not even let me die, though she

operas which I knew only by name, "But this is hurrying on too fast. creating songs and manufacturing studied then, long and faithfully, and ficiently crude and ridiculous, but practiced every hour, when I was not which gave my voice a chance and al- obliged to work for my subsistence. lowed enough of my fervor to extend Hope sustained me, and the days flew itself to prevent me from falling ill by on wings. My eighteenth birthor becoming desperately dissatisfied day passed and the day was set for died, and two years after this, my fa- I carried out this intention, I might ther. But I was not discouraged. I have been saved two more years of had my voice, and, child as I was, I useless labor and vain hope. But unimagined I had only to lift it in pub- fertunately, at the last minute, a in the second place, the very first mu- costume. I would appear as Marghersical adept I saw explained to me how its or not at all, and my foolishness much study and practice were neces- was listened to, and my debut post-

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But I had no money, and training is thing, but not much. Never mind triumphant song. If he were willing to wait and he seemed to he I cerand started me on a career which he daily, and ere long the doors of the rather die. At the mere thought of theatres must open before me, and

> ing my failure, can you imagine such room has been peopled with visions. I every power, every happiness. When my fingers ached with writing. I have when just my signature would be worth gold. Till then I wanted no companionship, and felt myself untempted by pleasure or wealth. Till I could enjoy all, I wanted nothing I

preferred to take my happiness at a bound, and from these rooms of faded grandeur and sould suggestions, step at once into the palatial apartments suited to the successful rima donna. "You can imagine, then, the excitenent of those days, when I was informed by my enthusiastic teacher.

that the time had come for my apponths of rehearsal the stage of the should be ready for my debut. If time flew before, it halted to have gone so slowly, for I was very busy. The rehearsals themselves were enough to absorb me; and they I needed an audience, or so I thought. I could not warm up to empty bench-

I was. I can say this now, since I Laurier in Ottawa. doubted my voice nor my training nor the lines of the bust of Sir Wilfrid my spirit. I left this room on that Laurier made by the same artist and thought to be my last look of these farewell of one who feels her fortune are allegories. It will be ready in the nemories, but I went forward to great lars. hopes. When I heard the door close, ting upon my past, and went downstairs and out to my carriage with a different step than that which had Nerves Are

"This feeling followed me to the thetre, and increased, rather than di- And nervous prostration or paralysis minished, with the putting on of the dainty robes which another's enthusiasm had procured for me. Nor did the sounds of the orchestra make me quail, nor the voice of the call-boy; nothing moved me till, having crossed the stage, I caught a glunpse—or did I feel the presence —of the vast crowd that awaited in eager expectancy for my first notes. Then, indeed a dagger entered my heart and terror such as the victim of the amphithetre alone can know, caught me in its clutches, paralyzing throat and limbs till I could have welcomed any death that would have annihilated my consciousness. I was before the footlights; I was in the spot which i had pictured myself for years, and I could dainty robes which another's enthusi-

pity, the disgust, that must be on every countenance, till Fate should come to my aid and break the spell that bound me.

"It came in the shape of a few stray efforts at applause, doubtless mean for my encouragement. The sound-i ing frightfully, upon the floor of the stage. I was never more to mock b down and I was carried away, whither hardly knew, and to what I could even then dimly guess, for my heart was broken, and my only earthly hope was at an end."

"But." eagerly interposed the artist you may be mistaken about this Stage fright is common. Our greatest actors are subject to it. It is rather thought by them the token of genius and a promise of future success. Sure-

could easily liquidate by one night of I have never been able to face them wealth and honour take the place of faces, the blood steps flowing in my donna, or rather, something is lack-

To be continued.

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A Marble Statue of Sir Wilfred.

Montreal, Nov. 15 .- Mr. Paul Cehvre, the Champlain monument on Dufferin Terrace, Quebec, and the Mercier Fane, Mrs. Jas., monument to be unveiled next spring es; but my manager seemed satisfied, in the Ancient Capital, was in Monand fed me with flatteries, and ex- treal to-day after a short trip to Ottalic to have fame and fortune lavished spirit of opposition seized me, and I this regard; for, in the first place, I refused to test my powers fill I could toilet and the stage accessories. He order from the G. T. R. for a statue of could not raise my voice in public, and do so with all the eclat of scenery and

fatal night, calm. I took what I presented to the ex-Premier in 1901. The bust will slightly exceed the natural size and will be supported by a niserable apartments, with the quiet single column adorned with appropriassured. I left behind in it many spring and will cost five thousand dol-

> The Stephano arrived at Halifax at midnight. Saturday

Exhausted

is creeping steadily upon you. You hear of people suddenly falling

not sing a note; I could not even fly. The AIMED LETTERS REMAINING IN G. P. to Nov. 25th, 1911

ANCTAIMEN TE	TTEKS, REMAIN	ling in g.t. to	140V. Goth, 1911
	oero Mice H Carter		Power, Annie, card,
A Allen, Miss Hattie,		Tooor Mind Irong	New Gower Street
Monkstown Road Allen, Nellie (card),	Farrell, Miss Beatrice, Carter's Hill	Lacey. Mrs. M.	
loto Ronno Rav	Foone Miss S	Williams' Street	Pelly, Dan E.
Hamilton Street	New Gower Street	Lieuwell, Inob. Mari	Quirk, Miss Maggie,
Anthoine Mary Ann	Featherstone, MISS FIO	care Mrs. Flynn Learning, Miss M.	late Bishop's Falls
Anthony, Jacob, card	Feury, Miss Clara, Cabot Road	Lear, T., Job's Lane	Ractliffe, George, City Club
Anthony, Joe, Springdale St.	Thema Togonh	LeDrew, Mrs. Wm. C.	Ryan, Charles, New Gower St.
Andrews, Jack,	Fever Hospital	Lynch, Mrs. C., Gower St. Lilly, Miss Helen B.	Ryan, Mrs. Catherine
R	Fitzgerald, Wm., card,	Lock, Jesse, Cabot Street Lloyd, Joseph, card	Raciot, J. H. Reardon, Miss Minnie,
Bradbury, Wm., late Ontario Baggs, Mrs. Richard			Rose Lilian Bay
		Lockyer, Eliza, LeMerchant Road Long, Wm., Bond St.	Roberts, L.
Barnes, Alex Allandale Road	Cabot House	M	Rodgers, Miss K., New Gower Street
	Foote, Miss Florence, Quidi Vidi Road	March, Joseph Martin, Wm.	Rowsell, Miss Bessie, Theatre Hill
Blanchard, J. W.	Finlay, Joseph	Marshall, Mrs.	Damany Candy
Byrne, Miss Alice, card Bellwood, C.,	Grant, Wm. H., card	Martin, Miss mary	Russell, Mrs. Catherine, Milliner
care Gen'l Delivery	Greene or Gunn, Miss N. Geatherald, Miss Mary,	Martin, Arthur R., care Gen'l Delivery Mercer, Miss Rachael,	Ruggles, F. M., card
care Smith Co.	Water Street	Mercer, Miss Rachael,	Sage, Charles, card, Badger Brook
Breene, Vincent, care Gen'l Delivery	Greene, Harry Irving Greene, Mrs. Samuel, card	Mitchell Mrs. R. Porest Ru.	Channard C I
Beddlecombe, Mr.,	Gilbert, John, George's St.	Myrick, Mrs. John, Lime St. Miller, N. F.	Sheppard, F. B.
Bennett. Thomas	care Gen'l Delivery	Miller, J.	Sheppard, S. L., Pennywell Road
Bennett. Thomas Brenan, L., Water St. Bennett, Mrs. H. P.,	Gosse, Miss Eliza, care Gen'l P. O.	Miller, Mary Jane Moorse, Allan,	Sweet, J. W. Stewart, Capt. George,
Gower Street	Gunnerson, Augustine, St. oJhn's	Springdale St.	care F. McNamara
Bishop, Miss Mary, Springdale Street		Cornwall Avenue	Sheehan, Edward, Royal Cove,
Brown, Dr. A. S.	Hansen, Thomas, late Port au Port Hargrave, Jercey, card Hartery, Miss E.	Morris, W. L. Moriarty, Miss Bride,	Smith, Peter, St. John's
Boohen, Mr. E.	Hargrave, Jercey, card	Atlantic Avenue	care Gen'l P. Office
Boone, Robert D., late Trepassey line	Hanatord Jack.	Moore John, Blackhead	Simmonds, E. Smith, Miss M.,
Blunden, Miss Sarah,	Hann, Mrs. John,	Morgan, E. J., card Moores, Miss Jennie,	Duckworth St
Butler, Esau, Nagle's Hill	Pleasant St.	Rocky Lane	Domorchant Itoat
Butler, James R. Burden. Miss Carrie,	Harwood, James Harris, Gorden	Moulton, Rebecca, Victoria Street	Smythe, Hedley V., care Post Office
care Joseph Peckford Bailey, Eugene	Hamlin, Mrs., care Mrs. Jack,	Victoria Street Murphy, Patrick, late Salmon River	Smith, Thomas,
Beddlescombe, R.	St. John's	Mc	Smith, Jacob, Water St.
Chancey, A., card	Hayese, Robert, late Quebec	McLeen, J. W.	Smith, Mrs. Arthur Smith, Miss E.
Chancey, W. K.	Hewett, Mrs. L. D.	Duckworth St.	Snow, John,
Cranford, R. A., Springdale Street	McFarlane Lane	McCarthy, John, late Fermeuse	Snow, Mrs., Circular Road
Cantwell, John, care Miss M. Walsh,	Healey, John, late Grand Falls	McQuinn, Henry	Soper, Edward, Pennywell Road
Duckworth Street		McGarry, Miss Jennie McGrath, Matilda, card,	Scott, Mrs. Francis,
Carbray, Mrs. Lil, Water Street	Hinchey, Miss Mary,	McCoubrey, Jas. R.	nee King, St. John's Snow, Edward,
Campbell, Mrs. Wm., LeMerchant Road	Allandale Road, care Mrs. Myers		late Western Bay Sullivan, Miss Bridget,
Caldwell. J., care G.P.O.	Hines, Miss L.	Newell, Miss Emma,	LeMerchant Road
Chislett, Miss Jane, late Island Cove		College Square	Taylor, Edwin, Water St.
Collins, Mrs. P., Prince's St. Cook, Harvey E., St. John's	Hooton, M. K.	Neill, Wm., Burke's Square	Tapper, Miss Bessie,
Colleymore, Walter,	Water Street	Noble, Mrs. G., late Grand Falls	Tapper, Miss Janie
care F. B. Wood Co. Coleburn, Geo. H., Water St.		Norman Mand card	Temble, Mrs. Thos. Tuloar, Ralph,
Connelly, Mrs., Board of Trade Bldg.	Hubbell, E. S.	Norris, Edward	care Knowling
Cole, E. J.	Hurney, Mrs. Mary, card	Nugent, Thomas. late Trepassey Railway	Thistle, Mrs. Wm., Hamilton Street
late Grand Falls Curtis, Jane	Hunt, Miss Lizzie Hustin, H.	Nugent, Mamie, South Side	Thurman, W. L. Tobin, Mrs. Wm., Carew St
Carew, Miss Mary,	Hutchings, John A.,	Oakley, Wm.,	Thorne, Robert, Lime St.
Connell, Rose, Water St.	late Caplin Bay Hussey, Julia, retd.	late New York	Tucker, Miss M. J., General Hospital
D Davies, Wm.	Hurley, Margaret, McFarlane St.	O'Dea, Mrs. M., Water St.	Taylor, George
Dawe, Mrs. E. A., card	Hinkson, James,	O'Brien, J., care Miss M. Lambert	Y
	care Baine Johnston & Co Harris, Thomas	O'Neill, Miss Mary, card	Vey, Miss A., card,
	Hatland, Wm., Cabot St.	O'Neill, M. J. O'Rourke, M.,	W Lime Street
Dicks, Mrs. George	Ivany, Mr. M., St. John's	Oake, Raymond, late Fogo	Wallace, G.
Dooley, Richard	Irwin, J. C.		THE MANUEL OF THE

Alexander Street Piercey, Jacob, Queen's St. Young, Jas., card, J., card Powers, Miss B., Colonial Street Yetman, Mrs., card, Powers, Miss M. J., care Gen'l Delivery L Francis, R., care Anglo-American Tel. Co. Faucey, Miss Mary, card, Lamb, Miss Polly, care Mrs. C. Connelly Gower Street Yetman, May, card, Power, Edward, Nagle's Hill Young, S. J.

SEAMEN'S LIST.

Martin.

King, John J., card

Carter's Hill Johnston, E. S., card Parsons, L., Henry St.

Jacobs, Susie,
Fever Hospital Peddle, Thomas,
Geo

A	Kirby Stanley, schr. Fannie Freema G Sanson, Wm., ror Janes, James, schr. Gen. Falco Bradbury, Jacob, schr. Ger Adams, E. F., schr. Gladys Tucke	schr. J. A. Silve	Keats, Stephen,
Rogers, Beskley,	schr. Fannie Freema	m Mills, Albert,	schr. Maggi
schr. Arn	old G	Perry Master John	r N
Anstey, Richard,	Sanson, Wm.,	schr. Jennie Armstrone	Moulton Herbert
R schr. A. Conque	ror schr. George Wheatle	Organ, Joseph, schr. Jewel	schr. Ning
	schr. Gen. Falco	Greene, George, schr. Jewe	1 0
Lodge, Capt. H.,	Bradbury, Jacob, schr. Ger	Lane, Clara, schr. J. S. D	
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	schr. Gladys Tucke	r L	schr. Oressa Bell
Buckland, John,	Bradbury, Jacob, schr. Ger Adams, E. F., schr. Gladys Tucke Parks, Chas., schr. Giganti	Moulton, Herbert,	
Jacobs, James	H H	schr. Little Jewe	Evans, Henry,
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D	Gushue, Stewart, schr Hilto	Marshall, S. C.,	
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Hegdon, Charles H.,	s.s. Invermor	e m	
schr. Duche	ess Kennedy, Capt. John.	McCarthy, Michael,	S
, E	schr. Id	schr. Mistical Rose	Baggs, John schr Stella
Banson R G schr Emn	moore, James,	Simmonds, W.,	Barrett, John, schr. St. Clare
Rendell, Wm. C.,	Moore, James, s.s. Invermore West, Capt. W. A., s.s. Isabella J Mills, Albert, schr. J. A. Silver	senr. Mildred	T
schr. Eth	s.s. Isabella	Garland, Albert,	Barrie B. L. L.
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Schr. E. J. Red	Milla Albert	schr M Francis	White. John.
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Fritor Evening Telegram.

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