ULUBER 20, 1000

OUR BOYS AND GIRLS.

DOROTHY CLOSE.

BY MARY T. ROBERTSON.

CHAPTER VI.

" LIVING."

Sir Arthur and Lady Stenleigh had shown much kindness, in an "I told you so "spirit, during Dorothy's long stay at the hospital, in providing ex-pensive luxuries, but they had not been to see her since her removal thence; and, except for an occasional note, had shown no further sign of interest in her. And now, after the lapse of nearly a year, Sir Arthur, prompted by his wife, sent a formal letter to Tom Close, the drift of which was : that as the writer could afford to make Dorothy more comfortable at Ashleigh Court than was possible to people of limited means, it was clearly Mr. Close's duty to send their niece, without consulting her wishes, back to Ashleigh Court, where, of course, every convenience would be provided for her, etc.

In sore perplexity, Tom Close took this missive to Dr. Bergholm. The doctor frowned as he read, but only said, as he returned it: "I will let them know it is impossible." These words set the good man's heart at rest, and that very evening the following note was despatched to the Baronet :

Sir .- Having been consulted as to the advisability of removing Miss Close the savissonity of removing miss close to the country, I am bound to declare that a journey of any kind at this juncture would prove, if not positively fatal, at least highly injurious, to her. I should, therefore, feel bound to with-hold my sanction if any such question should arise, especially as my patient is in excellent hands already.

I have the honor, sir, etc., A Bergholm.

After discoursing on the ingratitude of every one in general, and her niece in particular, Lady Stanleigh resigned herself, all the more easily as her gen-erous offer had somehow become known among her friends and acquaintance, so that she had the honor and glory of making it, without the trouble and anxiety its acceptance would have entailed.

As for Dorothy, her thoughts were far from Ashleigh Court ; for while her uncle was with Dr. Bergholm, and her aunt, with a heavy heart at the thought of a possible separation, directed a last rehersal at the "Arachne," for the annual children's directed performance, Dorothy was speaking earnestly to Hugh Mackenzie, who was seated by her side. When she paused, he looked up :

"Am I to take your decision as final, There was an infinite ap Dorothy ?" peal in his way of saying her name and for a moment she hesitated ; then the answer came, gentle but firm :

Hugh rose: "In that case, I will say good-bye," he said gravely. Dorothy took his outstretched hand, and held it is the and held it in hers. "Wait a minute," she said wistfully,

"I want to speak to you. Do not let this make you unhappy. I could only be a burden to you-to anyone. It is for the best. As we must both go on living, may not the memory of what has been be a help to us, even though we never meet again-here ?

Her low voice sank almost to a whisper, but as she ceased speaking she looked np ; their eyes met for one brief moment The young man bowed deeply; raising Dorothy's hand to his lips, "I understand," he said, "it shall be as you wish.

shall be as you wish. The door closed behind him, and for a few minutes Dorothy lay per-fectly still, physically and morally ex-our darling had left us. You, who

vent next Thursday, a week from today." "You are very happy ?"

"You are very happy?" "Happy," repeated Margaret, her face growing more and more radiant ; "I have been happy at the mere thought of it, ever since I got the letter yesterday. Mother St. Norbert is Reverend Mother now, you know, and wrote herself. Would you care to see it ?

Dorothy read the letter thoughtfully. "How kind," she said, as she returned it; "I wish I had known Mother St. Norbert better ; but i was never much good at school, or anywhere else," she added with a sigh. But, seeing Mar-garet's face cloud over she went on brightly : "I hope you won't have many children like me to manage. Do you remember our first argument as to whether it was wrong to like being the

worst girlin the school ?" "Not the worst, but the wildest, corrected Margaret ; and she smiled. After a moment's silence, Margaret began suddenly : "I seem to give up so little and to receive so much,

Dorothy. Of course, I have to leave Hugh, but then I see so little of him even at home nowadays. and every little difficulty has been smoothed away. Mrs. Miller has been ordered to the South of France, and has made up her mind to go and live with some cousins of hers, near Cannes. Hugh will take of hers, near Cannes. Hugh will tax rooms nearer the hospital when I am gone. Everything is settled, and I feel almost afraid of being so happy ; joy does not often come unalloyed." She knelt down by Dorothy and took her hand as she went on : "My sacrifice is no sacrifice, it is in itself my happiness ; but there are other sacrifices that are not like mine, sacrifices

that put happiness away because it is not the best. Oh ! my darling, do not be angry with me, I have guessed your secret." She bent over her friend and Dorothy hid her crimson face on her shoulder

"I wanted to tell you, but I could not talk about it," she whispered. A long silence followed, and then Margaret rose to go, saying: "I wanted you to know that it was settled

before anyone else. But I will come and say good bye to Mr. and Mrs. Close next Tuesday, if I may." And so on the following Tuesday the

last good-bye was said, and the friends parted.

The years went by swiftly to Margaret, happily settled at the Convent but very slowly to Dorothy, struggling to work and be useful in spite of con stant pain and helplessness. For five years now the friends had regularly exchanged a few lines of greeting Christmas and Easter. Th every sixth Easter Sunday was now over and there had been no letter from Dorothy. Margaret was only a little disappointed, thinking it must have been posted too late for the Sunday's post ; and when it was handed to her on Monday morning, she put it away to be read at a free moment. When she did read it she was not prepared for the news it contained. It ran thus :

5, Frederick Street Sunday.

My dear Miss Mackenzie, I know you will grieve to hear that our dear Dorothy was taken from us this morning. Her strength had been visibly decreasing for some time, but her courage and cheerfulness deceived us as to the real state of things. Oa Good Friday she lost consciousness, and Dr. Bergholm then told us there was no hope. She recovered conscious ness in the evening, and received the Last Sacraments. She said good bye to us all, and insisted on writing the little note I enclose to you, herself. Then she feel asleep and never woke

were you not? Do you remember my suggesting to you all that year that you should offer your lives for some special intention on that day?" Mother St. Norbert opened a manuscript volume as she spoke, and pointed to a few words in large childish writing on one of the first pages. "Look at Dorothy's offering, my child," she went on. "Can you now say that her suffering was useless-her life wasted ?

THE CANHOLIC RECORD

was useless—her life wasted?" They were simple words: "I offer my life, with all its joys and sorrows, to the Sacred Heart, for my companion of First Communion (M. M.)." and then the old familiar signature, " Dorothy.

But all this happened long ago, and time has wrought many alterations. The "Arachne" has changed names and owners more than once since Tom vanished from the stage of this Clo world.

Dr. Mackenzie, whose discoveries have made his name famous in the medical world, lives in a shabby little house in Frederick street, part of which he has fitted up as a hospital for diseases of the spine. He has won from the inhabitants of the miserable district around the honorable title of "the good doctor " At Ashleigh "the good doctor " At Ashleigh Court, Lady Stanleigh reposes after the arduour task of seeing her children married. Sir Arthur still gazes ad-miringly at her in the background.

And far away from the bustle and noise of the city, in the quiet Convent cemetery, the grass is green over Dorothy's grave, where, year by year, the daisies grow on it. The scent of sweet flowers is wafted over the peaceful spot, and birds sing sweetly in the wood close by. But the children, as they pass, wonder who "Dorothy Close" was,

and-it was to answer some of their questions that this little story has been written by

The Lady in Black.

Edith laid down the manuscript. and for some time no one spoke ; then Kitty aid, in a subdued voice :

"I wonder what Margaret's name was-when she was a Nun, I mean. Mother St. Norbert is dead, I have seen her mortuary card in the ante-chapel. Oh ! here is Mother St. Helen ; I shall ask her if she knows. Mother St. Helen did not answer the

eager little questioner, however, but smilingly told her that "curiosity should be mortified," and privately was not a little relieved to find that her identity had not been guessed nor ever suspected by the children.

THE END. CHATS WITH YOUNG MEN.

The Happy Man. Happy the man whose life is one Deum ! He will save his soul, ong Te but he will not save it alone, but many others also. Joy is not a solitary thing, and will come at last to his Mas ter's feet, bringing many others re-

The hardest thing is to keep cheerful under the little stings that come from uncongenial surroundings, the very insignificance of which adds to their power to annoy, because they cannot be wrestled with and overcome, as in the case of larger hurts. Som disagreeable habit in one to whom we may owe respect and duty, and which constant irritation to our sense ci the fitness of things may demand of u mitted against us. In the one case endurance is all that is possible : In the other we may sometimes rightfully fight-and there is a world of comfort

A Wood Tonie.

the pure water add fresh air of healthy body building exercises. It is the re servoir from which come the very acts of varied labor and healthful sport ; hence the secret of its succe when enthusiastically taught. Every one should learn it. It will help you physically, mentally and morally. The following is an extract from the Roberts' gymnasium dumb-bell drill : 1. Side pushes. 2 Muscular chest. 3

Front pushes. Dry land swim.

Vertical pushes. Side chest elevator.

The flip. Front chest elevator.

The rock.

Combine 2, 4, 6 and 8 10 Combine 1, 8, 5, 7 and 9. 11

12. Indoor breathing extension. This home dumb bell drill is for the

average person, and may be done with or without bells. Counting up to twenty four with each exercise, it will take about five minutes. Take it quickly in the morning, followed by a abort, cool sponge bath, and it will stimulate. Take it slowly at night, and it acts as a sedative. Take for special work the parts of the drill that tire you the most. This drill was de-vised for people who have but little time to exercise. Open wide your window, and while you are loosely clad practice the drill. You have no ex-cuse for not taking exercise when you Be a teacher of know this drill. simple hygienic body-building work,

and persuade others to follow your ex-ample by telling them that the body prays for daily exercise, and that it is their duty to answer its prayer every day.

The Service of Criticism.

The office of a friendly, loyal critic s attended with difficulties so great that many a person who is quite com fill this office hesitates to do so. And it is probably because those most competent to fulfil such an office petent to are deeply conscious of its delicate and difficult duties that they too hesitate most to undertake the task, especially when it involves the correction of an

other's weaknesses and faults. Many a bright, thoughtful and welleducated person is restrained from ven-turing to criticize a friend, whose faults ech, in morals or in manners are painfully conspicuous, for fear of giving serious offense. And yet such a kind, loyal, helpful service is just what

that friend needs. He may not be aware of it. Though probably con-scious of imperfections in his educa-

tion, though perhaps aware of having some moral defects, and realizing some deficiencies in manners, yet he may have no adequate conception of the extent and character of his blem ishes; but his keen eyed, competent friend readily sees these things, and he often yearns to point them out to him, seeking to correct them, thus helping his friend in a very practical way. Such has been the feeling and the ardent desire of many capable

young people. Saturated with the spirit of the "golden rule" they have greatly desired to loyally and kindly criticize their friends, solely for their good, and yet they have hesitated to render such a service for fear of giv ing offense and producing an aliena They who saw the need in their friends of such a service have felt that they themselves would like others to point out their weaknesses and correct their mistakes, but they have shrunk from doing to others as they them-selves would be done by. But should we, because of the diffi-

culties in the way, refuse to attempt the service of a faithful, helpful critic in behalf of those particularly who are our friends? No; because to refuse to do so is to virtually refuse to obey the golden rule." But that rule works both ways. W "Forest and Stream " says : " Iron has long been considered an excellent ourselves must be just as willing to retonic, but it has remained for the fag ceive true and loyal criticism for our weaknesses and errors as we are will-ing to render a like service to others. end of the century to demonstrate the tonic qualities of steel. Taken in the form of a bicycle, steel has a power for And we are to receive it as kindly and regenerating run down humanity that no other tonic has ever approached. pstiently as we are to give it. If we will not receive criticism in such a (MASON) HAMLIN) True, such speedy exercise, taken in the open air is indeed an invigorat spirit, then we are not rightly quali fied to efficiently criticize othere. Now, there is no doubt that members of Catholic young men's societies might ing tonic if it is taken in moderation. Also when taken in the form of a pain render one another very substantial of skates it is very helpful. Exercise, to be the most beneficial, should be taken in some pleasing form every service if in a truly fraternal spirit, they would prudently criticize one an other, as to defects in speech, personal day, either out doors or in, but out doors if possible. Did you ever on very cold and stormy days, when the roads were muddy or covered with snow and the ice was not in good conhabits, manners and morals. Many a young person has in this way received **CHAPEL ORGAN** benefits of the highest value, advantages which have become permanent buow and the ice was not in good con-dition, try the gymnasium dumb bell drill? There is a tonic in the light wooden dumb-bells that will surprise you, my bicycling and skating en-thusiasts. Taken in the form of a pair ssions, giving strength and polish to character and leading to improvements of inestimable worth.

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and interest them in the movement for

practical education by showing them its relation to their wage-earning capacity, as proven in many cases similar. Tell them of the interest shown by their employers. Obtain their suggestions concerning courses, teachers, etc. 2. Meet these needs energetically,

practically and in a business lik - man-ner. If you expect to get value out of this work, put value into it. You will find it will pay well. Don't play with it, make a boom of it, or simply imitate other societies; these things are dangerous. Make it a business. If you cannot put your energy, money and prayer into it for Christ's sake and the salvation of young men, better leave it lone.

From the study made and suggestion eccived, determine upon such facilities in the library and reading room such such literary and club work, such a course of practical talks, and such evening classes as shall attract, inter est and be profitable to young men of your community.

Put the best men available in charge of classes, pay them well even if they offer their services free, then hold them responsible for the success or failure of the class.

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TRUE PARENTAL LOVE.

The love of parents, says the Paulist Calendar, must, in the first place, be discreet ; but this is not all ; it must be likewise Christian. They must, like the Divine Exemplar, provide for the supernatural as well as the natural being of their children; they must temper their love not only with reason, but also with religion, that they may give their children a Christian as well as a commendable education. The chief concern that should be paramount with parents is the care of the children's souls, to fit them for heaven more than earth, which can only be done by providing for them an education which will include instruction in the Christian Doctrine so that the knowledge of Christ and His Gospel may grow up in them, and strengthen them against the false teachings which may confront them in their higher education and in the many walks of This is a true Christian love, and life. as such will discharge your obligations before God and men, and be your own as well as your children's salvation.

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joicing with him, the resplendent trophies of his grateful love. - Father Faber. Every-day Cheerfulness.

a greater moral force to keep the spirit serene than an absolute wrong com-

fectly still, physically and morally exhausted by the struggle she had gone For she had fought against through. herself, against her wild longing to be loved by someone better than all the world besides, against her own love for Hugh; and the victory was not yet assured. As she lay there, every word he had spoken, every persuasion he has used, came back to her with painful distinctness. If he had only " No, known how hard it was to say was the burthen of her thoughts. She knew she had decided rightly, and she did not regret having refused to bur den young Mackenzie with a helpless wife ; but for the moment her whole being revolted at being thus helpless —only for a moment. Then her eyes fell on the crucifix standing on the little altar at the toot of her couch. The wild, rebellious thoughts died away, as if the wondrous words: "Peace, be still," had again been spoken. Gazing at the thorn-crowned too far off to head and open arms of the Christ a sudden revulsion of feeling came over her : "What had she done to deserve happiness? What had the Cross taught her? The last dream of her What had the Cross active life was renounced, and the sacrifice was laid on the altar of the Cross. Perhaps her aunt guessed her secret, for when she came in and Dorothy whispered, "Let me stay with you, always," she only answered with a kiss. But Dorothy knew she understood.

A few days after her interview with Hugh, as Dorothy lay resting after the dismissal of the Catechism class, which was one of her useful amusements, Margaret came in. She did not often pay visits to her friend at this hour : but as she soon explained, she had wanted to see her quite alone. "You have good news ?" said Doro-

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TAL.

thy, glancing at the beaming face beside her.

"Such good news that I am almost afraid to tell it," replied Margaret. "It is that I am going to the Con-

love her, and know what she was to us, will sympathize with us in our bereave-At her own request she is to b ment. buried in the Convent Cemetery ; the funeral will take place there on Thursday. When you pray for her soul, pray for us, who must live on without Yours affectionately, Frances Close her.

Margaret stooped to pick up the piece of paper that had fluttered out of the envelope to her feet, and read the faintly pencilled words through a mist of tears. Below the well-known "V. M." of the Children of Mary stood the word Au revoir, in shaky irregular writing, and beneath it the straggling letters, "Dor—" The trembling hand had been unable to complete the familiar signature, and that hand was now

That faintly pencilled word was to Margaret as the echo of a distant voice too far off to be distinct, too well beloved to pass unheeded.

A few minutes later she was standing in Mother St. Norbert's room-now, as ever, her refuge in perplexity and sorrow. Her former mistress had read Mrs. Close's letter and returned it of one or two pound wooden bells, morning, noon and evening, this tonic will soon tell you, by a feeling of sore-ness in the misused or unused parts of without comment; but Margaret all lingered. "Mother," she said, hesi-tatingly, "what was the good of so much suffering? Dorothy was much better than I am, and I have never the body, that skating, bicycling, and many other forms of exercising only use certain muscles of the body other "tonics," specialties in physical exercise, with the exception of swimm suffered. Oh ! it seems such a wast ing, which is indeed the all-round exlife to have done nothing, to die like that. Why ?" Her voice faltered and she paused. ercise to keep a man in perfect physical form, tend to deform the human body. Bicycling, for instance, will

he paused. Mother St. Norbert looked up, but did not answer for a moment. Then she said slowly: "Do you realize what the Communion of Saints means cause, or is apt to cause, a rounding forward of the shoulders and a flattening of the front chest walls. This "wood tonic," as taken in the to us on earth, dear child ? You know dumb bell drill, reaches and invigorwe do not and should not pray for our selves alone : suffering may be made the most efficacious of all prayers. It is the least likely to be marred by selfYour Educational Plans,

From the experience gathered by young men's societies that have conducted evening classes, the following recommendations can most earnestly be made :

AII

De made: 1. Ascertain the needs of young men of your city. Don't guess at them. Study the situation. With your edu-cational director and committee make a systematic visit to managers and employers of young men. Interest them in the movement to improve the quality of labor, enhance the interest of commercial and manufacturing industries and the city at large by increasing the intelligence and skill of young men employes. None so well know how young men may increase their

Now young men may increase their value as the employer. Make a systematic study of young men themselves, their occupations and their places of abode. Observe their ates more or less every important part of the body. It it are found all the exercises which the follower of any love. I will show you something. You were Dorothy's companion when further his specialty. It will develop habits, associates and surroundings. you made your First Communion, every muscle in the body that can be Discover, their desires for improvement,

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