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BY REV. P. A. SHEEHAN, D. D. Author of "My New Curate," Luke Delmege," CHAPTER XXXIX

THE GREAT ARTIST AGAIN

The marriage of Kerins to Martha Sullivan was celebrated with much pomp and expense. The whole Clan-Sullivan and expense. The whole Clan-Sullivan and their gossips and neighbors were gathered together, not only for the ceremony and the fun and feasting, but also as a demonstration of strength and as a warning to all whom it might con-cern that henceforth and forever Kerins had allied himself with first-rate powers in the parish, and that an offensive and defensive alliance was now solemnly defensive alliance was now solemnly made, which would be opposed only at

made, which would be opposed only at the peril of the offenders. Kerins had brought home his bride after the festivities, and, having furnished his house at some expense, he was anxious to reciprocate the hospital-ity of his wife's friends and also to show them that it was not to a cold and in-hospitable hearth he had brought her. hospitable hearth he had brought her.

It was on the twenty-ninth of January, the evening after Annie O'Farrell and her patient had left for South Africa, that the "house-warming" South Africa, that the "house-warming" took place. And it was so complete and the hospitality was so profuse, that it was regarded as a second wedding. Spring-chickens were not to be had, but a few fat turkeys, left over after the holocaust, were ruthlessly sacrificed, and there was salt meat enough boiled for the whole parish. Vast currantcakes were ordered up, too, from the neighbouring town; there were several dozens of bottled porter and, as or cask, containing ten gallons of good Cork whiskey. It was none of your well-watered, washy, pale, and limpid whiskeys either, but rich, brown, sherry-looking liquor that gripped your throat and warmed you, inside and outside, and made you at peace, at least for a while, with all mankind. The big barn was cleared for dancing and there were two fiddlers up from the town, although the boys and girls had brought concertinas dozens of bottled porter and, as a piece de resistance, a keg good Cork whiskey. It was none of your well-watered, washy, pale, and limpid whiskeys either, but rich, brown, sherrycleared for dancing and there were two fiddlers up from the town, although the boys and girls had brought concertinas and accordians enough to make an oratorio.

The passed from field to field matter beinght field the functional the state of the source and the scale and the scale paintings. The daubs are absort the night field the functional the proventing with their young. When the night field the functional the scale paintings. The daubs are absort the night field the functional the provided the panels of their doors door the bright, cheer, hand some young the scale and the scale paintings. The daubs are absort of the scale waves, red waves, yellow waves; a boat the waves, red waves, red waves, yellow waves; a boat the parely and the parely the scale to the waves, red waves, re Before the short, wintry day had that he sibilities of the household. She was one of those bright, cheery, handsome young girls, who, self-forgetful and unspoiled, seemed created to make everyone happy around her; and this night, when she appeared for the first time as queen and mistress of the place, she threw all her energies into the task of making it a memorable occasion by reason of the splendid hospitality that was being dis-pensed. There were good wishes galore, too, shed around her, although there were also little hints and suggestions that it was a shame to throw away such a fine young creature on such an old and waves, red waves, yellow waves ; a boa waves, red waves, yellow waves; a boat is heeling over in a position that no boat ever yet assumed without losing its centre of gravity. But I weary you. Suffice it to say that this young woman, ambitious I suppose, wants all this done over again and—in the same style. Im-agine my feelings when I am compelled for hese lower to maint a sky like a

her head resting to be beckoned to the girl and a while, she beckoned to the girl and a she while, she beckoned to the girl and a while, she beckoned to the girl and a she while, she beckoned to the girl and the a while, she beckoned to the girl and a while, she beckoned to the girl and a she beckoned to the girl and piece of the fort, she while, she beckoned to the girl and the and the fastivities in Crossfields, if the cottage where the Duggans resided was sunk in darkness and sullen misery that have discontinued the conversation and gone away, but he knew that the artist would develop.
"You have expressed some surprise, sir," said he, after a deep draught of porter, "at my appearing in my capacity as artist amid such humble surroundings, but you must remember that even that night. The sounds of the forther ears to redouble their despondency. as artist amid such humble surroundings, but you must remember that even greater than I painted frescoes on the walls of monastic cells and on the panels of sacristies. True, I have been sent here, comissioned by the young lady, to whom you have referred this evening in the sector of the sector more of less despondency. Late that night and just as they were sent thinking of retiring; the latch of the door was suddenly and unceremoniously ing in lifted, and Cora, the gypsy girl, without lifted, and corn, one gave in, and unin-vited took a seat near the fire. For a few moments not a word of greeting or in-

man, taking the pipe from his mouth and pointing over his shoulder, said : "You have been over there ?" Yes !" she said, carelessly looking

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THE CATHOLIC RECORD

A construct of the provided in THEWhen Henry approached, the admir-<br/>ing audience meited away, much to<br/>Delane's chagrin, and it was with some<br/>little pique he said, in answer to<br/>Henry's abrupt interrogation, "What<br/>brought you here, Delane? You're the<br/>last man I expected to see at such a<br/>rural feast."<br/>"I am here, sir, in the pursuit of my<br/>profession."<br/>The little word "rural," however<br/>seemed by some subtle flattery to<br/>suggest that he was quite above such<br/>things, but was there as a matter of con-<br/>descension, for he added:<br/>"But surely," said Henry in all sincer-<br/>ity, "you had no work to do here? I can<br/>hardly imagine gou engaged in a<br/>farmer's house."<br/>"Ah, there again," said Delane.<br/>"Ah, there again," said Delane.<br/>"Ah, there again," said Delane.<br/>"Then y protested his utter and enture<br/>imocence of any desire to give the<br/>great man offence. But the great man<br/>only shock his head mournfully.<br/>"It is a fatal git that some people<br/>have," he said, "of always treading on<br/>have," he said, "of always treading on<br/>"At the man offence. But the great man<br/>only shock his head mournfully.<br/>"It is a fatal git that some people<br/>have," he said, "of always treading on<br/>were seemed to can be the girl and<br/>wen," he said, "of always treading on<br/>ways the assid, "of always treading on<br/>ways treading on<br/>the seemed to great with the light and<br/>proventast with the light and<br/>proventast with the light and proventast with the light and<br/>proventast with the light and proventast with the light and<br/>proventast with the light and proventast with the light and<br/>proventast with the light and proventast with the light and<br/>proventast with the light and proventast with the light and<br/>proventast with the light and proventast with the light and proventa the scale states are particle uning the scale or strength admitted uning the scale or strength admitted admitted away in the heat and moisture of the coast; and they closed their journey by breaking of at Amabele Junction and making for the little village of Butter-worth.

Here, in a kind of shanty, half-hotel, helf-store, and combining post-office, newspaper depot, saloon, etc., they found themselves at first located. But the ebbing strength of the boy made him ir-

ritable and impatient of Luises, and nervously susceptible to such inconven-iences as will arise from a mixed and iences as will arise from a mixed and not highly civilized community. And, after a few weeks, he changed to an im-provised sanitorium, hastily constructed by the willing hands of the natives. It was made of shingle, roofed with cor-rugated iron, that seems to be the most attainable and useful commodity in South Africa, but it was so placed that the thick foliage of the trees sheltered the roof from the hurning sun and from the thick to lage of the trees sheltered the roof from the burning sun and from the tropical rains when they came. Annie remained at the hotel, visiting her pa-tient several times a day and minister-ing to his ever-increasing wants. Here she was brought into contact with the she was brought into contact with the she was brought into contact with the most diverse specimens of humanity— Bushmen, Hottentots, Griguas, Zulus, Basutos, Boers and Triberren, English speculators, and Dutch veldtsmen, Cam-bridge M. A.'s and Hooligans from the savageries of civilization seemed to have toned down into a broader spirit of humanity, as there was more equal

humanity, as there was more equal "Test: she said, carlessly loosing humanity, as there was more equal trong and studying the faces that ity of condition and community of interests. And over this motley uight of the peat-fire. "There's a goodly commonwealth, Annie O'Farrell as-gatherin' over there!" sumed in an incredibly short space of time a kind of queenship, undesired, but in the barn. It is a car scene."

"Yes! Hark! That is the dancing in the barn. It is agay scene." "I guess their cool will be changed into keening before long," said Dick Duggan savagely. The girl tried to catch his eye and beckon to him, but failed. He was too preoccupied with his savage thoughts. "I hope Mr. Wycherly will survive the voyage? Is he gone?" was

the voyage !" said the grpsy girl meaning.
"What voyage ? Is he gone ?" was
"Yes. He departed for the Cape yesterday morning, but he didn't go alone."
"Of course, not," said the old woman.
"The poor boy couldn't never bear the journey: and I believe 'its as far away as America."
"No !" said the girl, looking at the fire and apparently speaking to herself."
"He took a companion—a wife I should sa... The parish priest's niece eloped with him."
The whole family sprang to their
"The whole family sprang to

opening your lips on religion to me." "I think, Jack," she said after a pause, "it would be well if you allowed

pause, "it would be well if you andwea me to read something for you and to pray for you, as there is no minister of your religion here." "The very thing I was going to ask," he said. "But I was shy. And I think I must make my will also. The sands are running out fast."

It was about a week after this conver-sation that waking up one afternoon in his hammock and finding Annie ever watchful near him, he said abruptly: "I wonder who is this Ba-as! as the natives call him, about whom they are

source of the brain is waring up to consciousness, do you know, and you see things by second-sight. Now that happened to a me a few nights ago. By the way, did any letters come from home yet, Annie ?" he asked suddenly. " No !" she said. "You know I wrote father all along the route and I expect

" Dion Wycherly ?"

Yes, I fear so !"

" Dying ?"

"Yes !" he said abruptly. " Tell me, whoever you are, and in God's Name, who is that ?"

Your brother, Jack !" she said.

" Yes, I fear so !" " Yes, I fear so !" He passed his rough hand athwart his forehead, where the beads of perspira-tion were gathering, and simply said : " My God !" Then, recollecting' himself, he ad-dressed Annie : " And you ? Forgive me, I should know you, but I cannot remember." " Tm Annie O'Farrell," she said. " Your old teacher." He grasped her hand in his strong palm. Then as if a sudden thought struck him, he said eagerly : " His wife ?" " No!" she said, and he thought in an

she said, and he thought in an

The words struck her silent, but he went on: "You mustn't mind what a poor devil with one foot in the grave is saying. Annie. But you have brought back to me all that I had ever learned in my childbood about religion and all that I had forgotten in science. It is hard to help thinking when you are probing, and cutting, and tearing open the human mechanism that it is all but a piece of chemistry, animated, of course. but still a chemical compound and no more. But when one sees you and such as you, the question will arise, Wheneed came all this goodness and truth, and lime and iron don't possess these things. There is some other principle contain-ing them all, and in perfection; and that is God. There, Annie, see what a controversialist you are without ever opening your lips on religion to me." " Think Jack," she said after a " That lies still darker than the way I've " That lies still darker than the way I've " That lies still darker than the way I've

Guide me, O Light ! along the weary path That lies still darker than the way I've trod; Wash me, O Fountain, in Thy silvery

That lies still darker than the way ive<br/>trod;alow.alow.<br/>trod;alow.Annle stood still and waited. Not a<br/>sound came from the interior—no sound<br/>of word or human language but now<br/>again a sharp cough from the patient<br/>which seemed to be answered by the<br/>bark of the jackal from the neighboring<br/>mountain.

Thou, the All-Fure, make clean my spotted soul! Thou, the All-Rich, enrich my poverty! Cast round my neck the white and spot-less stole, Thy clasp of Love—Thy seal of purity. I see Thee swinging those vast orbs of Light.

I see Thee swinging those vast orbs of Light. I watch Thee pour into the lily's vase Odours distilled beneath the noon of night, Plucked with the dew from out the Of flowered fancies, each so subtly wrought I needed all Thy Godhead's Science

wrought It needed all Thy Godhead's Science

Lo is as my pulses fractione of Deskin. Lo is any pulses flag, my senses die, I feel Thee onning near and ever near. I hear Thee in my last unuttered sight : My spirit lingers ; but my God is here !

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and save for over - wrought ne and save for over wrought in which prostrated her at times, shi in a fair way to be as well as Seeing how matters stood, the friend of the family, Dr. Gildea, w Dan Casey, that for some time to Nora would require care, freedom worw, and a good how rest.

worry, and a good long rest. "If any other boy wished to a Nora, I'd forbid the banns Dan, know she'll be happier with you little home of her own, than out little home of her own, than out It will help her when she has a tirely new set of duties too,' sai kindly doctor. Dan's mother, thou heart a good woman, never h known what real illness was in her long, active life, had no sympath

known what real illness was in her long, active life, had no sympath her weaker sisters. "Narves bedad! Sure I nive time to find out av I had anny thin, I'm thinking 'tis a poor wife make for Dan! Those McNa niver wor sthrong! Luk at the n av thim! As Mrs. Casey fi laid down his pipe, and said grave "Whist now Mary! Tis the God you ought to be for ye're own health, an' it's not like you to be s that way. Give the poor gir chance to get over the hard life st an' I'll go bail she'll be sthrong en "Av coorse! I knew ye'd s Ye're all gone crazy about Nor ye're as bad as the resht o' thim piled his wife hastily. "Now listen agra! Don't go i faring between Dan an' Nora have no hard feelings av I can H Ye didn't like it anny too well ye're own mother-in-law used to ye, av I remimber righty." "Well thin indeed, ye liked betther aither," said Mrs. Casey. "Ye said my last word Mary, ye don't mind, ye'll have to reek Dan. He's quite, but he'll shi nonsinse, ye may be sure." So saying, Hugh Casey took pile once more, while his wi silently knitting.

So saying, High Casey took pipe once more, while his wi silently knitting. Many a little tiff had thes though they were fond of each o no ordinary way. High was peace, though not at all a we When his authority was in qu there was no doubt as to the issu His wife was inclined to be do ing and was never happier tha setting some other person right; as she never once thought she possibly be wrong, proved that a good fund of obstinacy.

a good fund of obstinacy. She expected Nora to consult all her affairs, and was forever all her affairs, and was forever ' ing, advising, or more often, fault with everything the you did. Nora's neighbors used to s "Sure, ould Mrs. Casey is in o' Dan's like a dog at a fair ! S be always bossin' some wan !" I was among themselves ; indeed, dared say as much to the old lad Nors hore hor trials well, nor Nora bore her trials well, new mplaining to Dan, but, at last, complaining to Dal, but, at last, ing on the meckness with wh strictures were received, Mrs said some intensely bitter thing It the midst of her tirade, Di pectedly entered, and was not

unprepared for what was hap Calmly, but firmly, he told his that this must cease, as he notic with shaking hands and tear

Dan's mother, feeling rather a but still defant, said : "Sure I was only afther tellin to be so exthravagant, an sayli hard on yo to be navin' a wash "Sure I was only afther tellin to be so exthravagant, an sayli hard an ye to be payin' a wash-I always did me own washin', an betther nor me! Why, av ye're father would be poor this " But," said Dan, " I don't ex to wash as long as I can afford woman It's entirely by my de Mrs. Murphy assists Nora with heavy work." " " Musha, 'tis well for thim t ife like a lady! Sure she al maids to wait an her, an' must haring betted like a baby," was th tie ortort.

tic retort. "Well, me bye, have ye're o an' whin the bailiffs is in an

know betther !" 'Tis not kind of you to be so

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'Tis not kind of you to be so Nora, and as you can't stop m here, 111 have to ask you to ceas here, unless I'm in the house m "Oh, av coorse! 'Tis air ye're a poor softy, but ye'll be time, I'll be bound !' Dan went up to his mother, hand in a frm grip and said: " Mother, mother ! Come of He led her into the liv which, with its air of spotless ness and good taste spoke vo Nora's merits as a house-wife the orderly aspect of the wh was a tribute to her energies i ect. Poor weary Nora sat her neat kitchen, feeling much ened, when they left the re heard their excited voices wi ually became calmer, till they

At last, she heard her mot say in shocked tones : "Eh thin ! God forgi' me

"Eh thin I God forgi' mu shame I am such an old crabby thry to curb me timper, an 'mi An instant later, she came c kitchen, went up to Nora, and to overlook the hard words

Nora's reply pleased her. "Well you see, you're Dan so I'll have to forgive you, gave her hand to Mrs. C.

gave her hand to harms, his seized her with both arms, her tightly, and after kissing her the lips, said huskily : "God bless an' guard ye, al In another instant she had l

as if overcome by emotion. Nora looked at Dan in amag

between tears and laughter. "Why Danny boy, you're a What in the world did you sa

there?" "Oh, just a word or two thinking you'll have no mo with her. Poor mother! SI and ready, (Nora, but when at it, you'll find a stout tru the core of her."

at it, you'll ind a stout tri the core of her." "I'm isure of it Dan, but very unpleasant. It seems me to try to please her. I w. her, Dan, if she'll let me." "An' so you will. You se on you that I never had a daughter of her own would ened mother. I'm afraid we all so big and sturdy, that th need of great gentleness

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