# (4)L (1) <br> CATHOLIC CHRONICLE 

VOL. XIV
THE SECRET
Iranslated from the French
chapter i.-the threr friends. Charles Dars, Rudolphe Deliaunuoy, and Al-
fred Servals Haud, froun therr early childnood, fred Serratas stad, from therr early childnood,
beea su depotedy allached to each otler that their freend-lulp bad becuine a proverb in the city of $F$., wueth was therr native place. The thre
 their utachureut. Each seemed to the but for oot object, and Lhat object was the lap hiness ol
the ouver two. Ia shor, it was a fruendithp almost wultout a parailte, even among the most 1 . lustrious exumples of anluquily sociely, but inss circumstauce, ioge, seemed but to ueviguten tueir aftection for ing, setmed but the Diten had teen leff on or-
 the miseries of tis poorer tellow-creaures, and in miusiterng to bilis own lates which were ex and scarcely formed a wrish, ull he souslit to gra tify it.
Rudolphe Delaunocy, whose father had been a mercliant, "as also destined to a commercial
life and vow occupled the position of chiel clerk In one of the most hatuential busmess bouses votaries and was always willing to assist Cuarles in lorming plans for their empluyument.
Alfred Siervais, though young, was already a distiugushed mewher of the bar in lis palire
criy. Possessmg brilliant talents, aud a decided taste for stuly, lie sometimes declined acconpranying Cuarles and Rudulphe the the ph.
amunemrut so often frequente.l by thein. Widely different in cluaracter were the three young men, but that very difiereace strengithened
the ties whinth unted the hearts of Clarles, Ruthe cles whinh unted the hearts cl Claries, hu-
dotple and Allred. And jet somethng was wanting to preffect this altacbinent Soupe one
 unted. 'That something was Eant char some ${ }_{6}^{\text {senlence: }} \mathrm{U}^{2}$ : God alone should our affections be placed; all freendetup, of wanch he is not the
foundaulth, will be betlluer pure vor lastlung.' Alas! the lirree frie Crearght bur seldom nes, thry were tudebleal for their pleasures, the
 Was tunged witu rosy light, bit in the hearts
Alfred, Cbarles and Ruloplee, no semimemt Alfred, Charles and Ru holplee, an semhimemt
love was awakened towards $G$ Gud, who flad ynar
 light threw her unsty vell ofer bill and dule; -
the ' queen of nugh' arose in calin and se:ene loveltuess, whale millons of brilliant stars ollowe in her train, as she bathed the solent eurth in
floods of silvery lighl, but ine sight of so inuck bedurs
frieads,

## 'From Nature Up to N.ture's God-

up to tim who alone can preserve eartiol frisen alims from stae moils and the rust, and who
alone can present their gelding to tue minuce of lime, of passiun, or of interest Fud sutperal dass, Ciarles, Rund Alfred taci been separated. It was the firs time for many years, and they were quite satio
Allired yulduing to the entreaties of an aged $r$
 country seat. Durang the absence of Alfred
Ctarles and Rudulphe generally passed therir evennys at a cerlaiu cafe, which was nuch
quemted by the gay and plasure-loving youth of quented by the gay and pipasure-loving yourh of
tue cilv. There lie two friends ofien rematined till night was far advanced, retamed by the
obsorbung interest of therr favoitiegane -chess bolli loved the pracefic erolutions of the minaic their skill: an playing that dificult gniue.

[^0]cussion, the bystanders imagined that some! hing
bad occurred to disturb the harmong for whinch bad occurred to disturb the harmony for whing
the confersations of three freends had alwa been ciled as an exain tone, - I arm tred of this discussion; in abrut tuue our play
Rulol the Chiarles inoved in his urn ; they played rith greatest altention for awbile, but alter severa moves, Charles ph.rintted his alleation to wa
der for a momeur, and Rudolphe profiting by careless move ol tis adversary, clecktnaled hiin You took actiantage of my negligence, ex-
clamed Charles, wifi mingled surprise and inpatience, ' that was not very generous.
'I warned you that your queen was in dan-
ger,' answered has trie:d, ' but you played with accustomed unprucuene
your accustomed.......' began Chartes and theur remaned silem.
? What do you mean, Cbates ' Nuthing.'
Will you not explain sourself ?
'I dither sid and an explrnation,' said Rudolphe 'Oarmly if you demand, you shall hare satisfac thon as soon as you please.
These words, ulterei in a loud tone of roice, atracted the attention Wated with arxiety thet :rult of the diepulte.The two youny men matn'sted a great ded of
irritation. Rudolpbe, ta resirain his anger. and ralked with rapid from the up and down the avenue, whit- every one :andirkd his pale coun-
tenance and aguated naturr. Clarles, wihh a sullen and iudifferent air, smoked a cligar ; when he had finsbed he rose sund sauntered slowly
 bystanders remarked to each other
They will have an explatuation and noue of the
quiletest either
Nitht had
Night had wrapped the cify in her ssmbre
mantle, and a solemn sil mantr, and a solema silutce relynet throughout
the deserted sireets. At m!ervais the silliness
 Soon a vialtat storin broke :a all its lury over the caly. Throughout the Myht were
loud peals of thunder, minged with tlie my nolse of the falling hatl and the torrents of
rain which indulated ihe streth and ovell wad risers. Moruing dawned, briblth and beatiliul,
as if nature wislued to matbe winends for the lurioux tempest, which had awakeurd and terri-
fied the slumbering inthabilanls. The peasants on their way to the malket place, wre sud
denly arrested, and allinos per rifird with horror

 Tridly extended, and the band birmly ctrne hed. wone of the terribed group dared wuch the body,
till the arrioal of the julnce of tie peace, for the , therer, they lified the body; it wis cold and ryid-the ejes were fixed and glassy.
The unfortunate man nad, to all appearance.
been dead ior some hours. Upon hus forellead and the back part of his head, were the mark
 of the uubappy riction were saluatited wifh bis
 turale young man; why can have comumitted this "He whs known to be wealhy, and was per crowt.
iNo, rephed the juslice, ' here are his matel and chann, atid lis purse, the rontelth of winch
are uatouched: lus deteth appears to hare beeu the wouks of a tavment. Mosi probably he was knocken dowa, and, unable to defend hinsseif,
bruntly murdered.' was committed,' sald ane of the puttee officers, sompug to purt upa
Was I ying at tus feel.
It was one of that kind generally known a 4 sword can
esclatured

- It is the cane of the poor young man; here

weypon., wetpon.
A murnful silence reigned throughout the
crowd of sprectatore, and more than one nosong
and much lored for this many excellent quallitie An untuense crowd, whichy mereased every mity
meat, followed the hastily constructed liter ajon which were placed the disfigured remuins a Charles Dars-and many were the conjecture,
formed as to the cause of thas r.oat impsterious nurder. They bore the corpse to tho divelimg
of the young than, whach ane had left on the pre cedurg evenning lull of life and enghy on the - pite Weaming, poor Charles! that deatr and treason
vere luikilig migh, and that ere another nooneut their unlappy viectum
chapter mil.-the judichal inquiry.
 atren by the court of justace to diseover th
author of the crine which had calsed so mue xctuenent in the citg of F . The distrintation-
bey inquired into the habuls of the late Mr Dars, and endeavored to oblain information o
the mos! trifing particulars. Charles had been Dhe most triling particulars. Charles had been
of a lisely, perlaps even fripolous disposition, bu chargular liabits, wimle his genile and yieldin
chater precluded the tdea oi his havinar been curdered by an enemp. His purse, as well a
nis time, had alwaya been at the service ot others, and all were una ninous in praise of us excellen of man could deciule, it was neilher hatred of unded the hasad of the assasstn.
 ast erening of has life, were assembled as wi-
Reses, and gave therr testanong as follows:-
Tliat Mr. Dars had eatered the confe has frend, Mr. Drllatinnoy, and that after contous, the young men had exchanged some
bitter words; that they sudulenis sepliarated splparent irritation; thai Rudulphie had becon quite aytated and even angry. That Claanle:
letic the cafe without eren glateing at Rudolple The preciptately followed tum. Was a lodger, was summoned, and thus gare he Upoul the evening of the 8 th of Aunait sher ed dt teleres o'cloerk by be openng of hie from companied by another person; stut distacily


 lour was opemed a and slimt riolently, and she pre
 was eaveloped ta myslery, but from the appear 'blarles' deprarture frum the liouse.
But who was the uliurderer?
Rudolphe was brought befure the tribunal
justace. HIs pallid coustquetice bore traces he most heartfell sorruw, whale the incoherencs of bis repllies gave erideace of has wherual
yuish. On beng hererrogited as to the ere turoury of he firte whenses. He acknowledged docussion with Charles, which had been produc ive ol solle biller ter luys's
- Our ulluer fruend,' sadul he, ' was absent. W vere g-uuradly three together, and Alired Ser watmantied good feelus athrus as. Charlus an Were mare wrations, but hie wise counsels an
!Huw do you account for gour words to Mr Dus, ithat you demaaded satislaction? asked th '"Wryer. 'I spuke hastily,' replied Rudolpe. 'I was Tuang to the quet by sume words hat Ciarles
dedirseed to mee.'
You du nut speak to Mr. Dars during the
 aganst han. I knowit ouly too well. My pior
 - You acknuwpledgr, then,' said the lamger,
tone tult of su-plition, ‘that your conducs wa


Thue ta myer sumbed merndulouly

 the evenus of the elylith of Auguat." Your iol
lowed Mr. Dars out of the gardea of the cafe

Wes. "' "our intentou in so doing?'
To be reconeiled with my frtetul?' said Ru phe be reconeited with miny forit, said na Did you do so?' was the next question of the replied Rudolptie, 'I lailed to meet

## What road did you follow?

He one leadiug to the house where Charles - And yet you did not neet Mr. Dars ; that - Nereriluless,' sa
'Nin to ufon my homor.'
'D d you go to Mr. Dars' house
'No.'
'Why not?'

- Because, beng very much agitated, I en open air.' bayer, 'the pears to me extremely susplicious; when you re harned hinine, your clothes were damp aud soile II was exposed to that heary shower of ram, o the oulskirts of the city.'
'And those spots of bluod which stained you 'Thirt sleves?
'They were caused by a scratch which I eired on my hand, while gong through the deep forest.' - I wished to forwet my trouble; the storm wa of little unportance to tue; indeed, thas scarce y heeded. 'Say rather,' said the lauryer, as if anxious to committed a crime, and that soll sought, amil the coufusios of the elenents, to sllence the ac'I cominit a crine! ! sard Rullolphe, upon whon the truth appeared only dow to hash. 'I
good beapens! cin you entertain such a sus -good beapens! cian you entertain such a tainty that fiom this innment you are arrested fo the murder of Charles D, rs.'
At these lerrible woris, Ruinple trembled. he blood forsoak When the uiblampy young intn recovered bis,
animation he was alone, in a litte cell, the ouls urmure of winch contisted il an thon bed was near the ceiling, and serured by bars rron. 'The doon was firmly bolled, and in i
centre was a small wimtow, atso closely barre will iron; llirough hits windurs, or more properly. a pherlury, Rullophlie could see the senti-
tet, who walked will measured pare, up and lown the vast corrddor. The ayonizing trull doned - txicraa ed by afl as the murderer of bis beloved friend.
A secoal examination tool place in the after
 Cudolphe lound hunself in the apartument of the Irend-that aparturent so well huown and so en
deared by the reculitections of :he bappy hout pent within its wails, his agy ation was exees
aire, but witen he leidd toe companion of his infancy lying motionitess upon the funeral couch When he regarded those liph whel
mine would aduress hun by the sweet name - Whan he gazed on those eyrs, fores
closed to the brighand beautiful thuys of eari - When be cumenen. Ia ted lobse beloprd feature he, and ithe minjestic repiose of death - when $t$ tect wrth tlose dislijured remains, Rudalith could answer nothag to the mterrogatortes
which were nut to hang. He turen fimself upon We feet of the corps, embraced thein again an - Oit, Clarles, oh, my fripud, a awden, and tel
 You must heve, you musi speak to me that I mas oltained from Ru Solphe, aud he was conducted, almost dying, Tlie ciry of P —— was in mourning on the as thry thoughlt of the young mann, so cruelly cut duwn in tie morving of lung days. Clarims had one of lhese bright and bapply faces, which one lores to see about hern, and hut what addrd to that
ring inder to his heart. Bur what groeral sorrow was the thinught that this tryph
 Where uow were the three goung friendis?

One lay assasumated, in his colliu-another, a criminal relained by justice under lhe bolls of a
prison. One a rictun, the ollier a murderer While the chird followed the remans of his friend to their narrow home. A.ll eyey were directed
towards A.ffed Survais; he followed the cofia a company with th? nearest relatious of the tenot paler than lie; blinded by his tears, treanbling, almost fainlug, he accepted the suppurting arm of a priest who was at his side, whale be apploing. Durng the recitation of the 'office of
ind uncontrollable ; bis tears and sobs mingled with the roices of tie priests, and at limes merrupt--
ing them; he was kneeling; las fice concealed in his hands ; a convulsive shudder at tinas
agitated has body. The sight of the open grave appeared to auggent his angusth, and he lurned Way his head, that he might not see the coffin as the first shorel full of eartil fell whilis a hollow sound upon the coffin lid, Alfied ins metirely repeated the name of 'Cliarles.' THIs profound. viction was almoss forgollen for tlie fritend whe mourned him so bitteriy. Thuey led Aifred from hin and Ctharles, and to execrating the unfortu. ate Rudoliphe.
Some days later Alfred received the following

- I wish to employ you as my lawyer-you, he of conmiuing the -kime, for whelh languish in a glooing prison cell. Coine, ihen, my triend hear me; delend we ; ynu can beliere that alfer
the ordeal through which I lader passed, nig life. and in your bauds 1 lidaee it. Rudolphe.?

The rapud fight of time brought around too quickly, the day appointed for the trial of Rn-
dolphe. The announceanent of the trial attracted 4 large number of persons to P-, and the spactous thall of justuce was found ahnos: coo its himis. A sluadder rim through the assem.
oled mutinude whin Lidalphe appeared in the ourt roon and lonk his seal upon the criminuls
 whis burten in hing thou hils atalu orerwhithed isely untunking Rudolphe of lousure days. In lis pluce appleared a ulan, pale and bent wita whing hirn, and apon whont ane last fer days 'He sulfers from remorse,' said a person in the - And 'And not without cause,' said another. 'To anid! O, the wretch; I cannot eren naty him. Ar this monnent he movement and whispering
of the crowd announced an arraval of soute in vortance; and in a few moments Alried Siervias made his appearance in the hall. Befrere
tinking his place, lie went to ludolphe, nad afler riressed hily hand with expressive symprarliy. The ace of the young awyer was rmore anmated
ban unual; his eyes were bridhutit wilh a fever wa lusire; he could starcely restram tus unpatio rom-the amerenting hand of justice tile life of his unfortunate fiin nd. At lengita the mportant woment arrived. Aftre sane preluni wites had een digposid of, the hecorder read the charge,
allmet $h$ hudulphe, aud innugh it was already well known, it was listeued to with the most profund
at tention. The eximination was brgun, and the viluesses did not waver io the least fiom their evious testunony:-the quarrel al
 between Charles and the gersou addressed by nun as 'my fritid'-all was reluted without
 this emotion. He ar kuowledged that the wit-
 eper.
brilliant spurech, collected dind dwels upan the vidence jut listened to. 'What adds to the lact that ti was preceded by a frieudstap sa fong vords fuuud an echo in every leart-aud manis were the dooks, bolit reproachiful aud coulempluspirth aplieared to be crubted; whiose heart, ape ike siltuce an Altied Servisis ruse trou his sett. now ired, sueteveded a movement of bs apally at


[^0]:    It was a sultry erponing in Augnit; the day
    had tree exce-sively warm, aud though it was gow sone thuurs afler kuyrt, ine lieat had scarce baps had fauned the burnumg sumnints of Allas bore on its hreezes a stekrenlug sribalion ding feperimi mgithtion, an oppressive laugor to all who inluated the evening almaspliter
    Churres and Rumolphe were seated at a tabla ulon the tuble bur they hud censed playing, and wipn the tuble, but they had censed playing, and
    were inlkug of a receut event which had culased
     uifurtire of the weather, or whether hiry
    beconae too unach exatitu to thetr pultical

