

called next morning she was sadly disappointed to find that Craig was wonderfully better.

"Dear Lord," she muttered, "why didn't you take him? Don't let him live to wallow in the mire again." It was well that she knew not then, that nine months' heroic suffering were in store for her friend.

"Did you get to confession that Saturday, Mr. Craig?"

"Indeed I did, and to a saint: he was not a bit cross. I had little left to tell the priest when you brought him that day."

As soon as Craig got about, he closed his saloon. Miss Judith was a staunch supporter in this resolve, although it appeared to invite starvation.

A chance remark discovered to her the relationship between the dying man and a wealthy family in a remote part of the city.

To her note came a speedy response, in the arrival of his aunt and a cousin. A handsome carriage brought them to her door; the pompous footman attracted the admiration of the neighborhood during the conversation that ensued in the little back room.

Miss Judith's simple statement of the situation was met by mother and daughter very coldly. "Really, Miss Judith, I don't see what we can do. Of course, if a ten dollar bill will be of use, you are welcome to it."

"I think, Mrs. Craig, that the sick man was named for your husband?"

"Yes, but the two brothers saw little of each other after they grew up."

Miss Judith's toe began to prance nervously, but she reined it in and clutched her hands deep down in her pocket.

The next question was put very quietly.

"Was your brother-in-law named David?"

"Yes, he was much older than my husband."

"Quite true, Mrs. Craig, you see I knew David Craig when he saved all his earnings to pay for his little brother's schooling. Alexander was a handsome boy, and the girls thought him very fine, but I always cared more for David: his devotion to his brother was his one weakness. Alexander wanted to go to college, so David worked hard and saved every penny to educate his brother. Alec graduated at the end of four years and got a situation, thanks to the

respect everyone had for David. Very soon David's ignorance became too much for Alec, who could not tolerate anything unrefined. David's clothes were not as elegant as Alec's unpaid for suit, and so the two brothers drifted apart. They are both dead now. Alec became very rich, but he was always in my eyes a poor man. No penny of his ever went to David."

Mrs. Alexander Craig had changed color many times during Miss Judith's remarks, which were uttered in a soothing tone. At first the widow tried to give Miss Judith a hint to be silent, but the speaker persisted in looking down.

Miss Edith Craig looked from one to the other.

"You must have known them very well, Miss Judith?"

"Yes, dear, we were neighbors' children."

"And happy children, Judith," said Mrs. Craig. "I do not forget the old days, and many a time since my husband's death my heart has cried out for just such love as that of the old friends. David's son shall be attended to."

"I am glad to hear you say that, Margaret. Everyone is known and when the poor fellow dies, as he will very soon, it would be a sorry story if his own people knew nothing of him or his sufferings."

"Could you not spare me that, Judith?"

"No, Margaret," retorted Judith severely, "you know you always had a poor memory."

"My dear Edith," said Judith, "your mother and I have had many a tilt before to-day."

"And will have many another," replied Mrs. Craig. "I am coming to see you often and make better use of your lesson than in the olden times."

The dying man never knew how his aunt discovered him: his last days were made easy by the knowledge that he was not leaving his wife and child without friends. Faithful to the end, his piety was most edifying to Mrs. Bazley, who began to question Miss Judith of many things that came to her knowledge for the first time. In referring to the Secular, Miss Judith read to the non-Catholic a part of the formula used in the admission of candidates.

How sweetly the words fell upon the ear of the sick man. "Almighty God, the