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Through Thorny Paths.

BY MARY ROWENA COTTER.

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Synopsis of Previous Chapters.
Chapter I.—Edward Daton, of America, while visiting in Ireland, falls in love with Agnes Conlin, a poor Catholic girl. Thomas Conlin, Agnes' cousin, who is soon to be ordained a priest, notices a serpent ring on her finger and when told it is her engagement ring he tries to persuade her not to marry this Protestant stranger. She, however, refuses and is married by the old parish priest after which they depart for the stranger's beautiful home in Boston.
Chapter II.—Thomas Conlin is ordained and comes to America as a missionary and arrives at his cousin's home. There he learns that while his cousin has wealth and luxury she was not happy. Her husband had selected a circle in which she was to move and as it was strictly Protestant he said that she might give up her superstitions and become a member of his church. He would not even allow her to attend a Catholic church. She would not gratify him however and when Father Conlin arrived she insisted that he hear her confession and baptize her little baby son, who had just been born. Father Conlin goes away with his secret. Agnes dies a week after Mr. Daton marries Agnes, a rich Protestant woman, and his son is brought up a Protestant. When Edward is eight years old his father dies. Chapter III and IV.—Cecelia O'Kane, an orphan, who lives with her sister Nellie, is engaged by Mrs. Daton as a companion. Her stepson, Edward, falls in love with the Catholic girl, Cecelia, and marries her against the wishes of his stepmother. Chapter V.—Cecelia is married eight years and has three children all of whom die and she and Mr. Daton are left childless. Chapter VI.—After a lapse of seven and a half years we find Mr. and Mrs. Daton again happy with a daughter, Cecelia, who is about to celebrate her seventh birthday. Chapter VII.—The husband of Nellie O'Kane, now Mrs. Cullen, dies and she is left a widow with one child, Agnes. Mrs. Daton adopts her niece and brings her up with her own daughter. Chapter VIII and IX.—Cecelia and Agnes go to a convent school. The grandmother is very much opposed to this and reproaches her daughter-in-law. Chapter X.—Mr. Daton is suddenly taken sick and Cecelia is called home from school.

(Continued from last week.)

PART FIRST. CHAPTER XI.

"Of herself she has no power to do anything for us. God alone can help us, but as He loved His Mother on earth, so He continues to love her in heaven, and when you think we are praying to her, we are only asking her to intercede for us with her Divine Son, and we feel that He cannot refuse her the favors she asks for us."
"Ah, that is it? Well, you have made things a little clearer on that point, and it is not so bad as I thought, so continue your devotions in your own way if you wish, but I prefer praying directly to God."
"Do as you like, grandma, but above all pray to Him to give you light to know and do His holy will, and if your prayers are sincere they cannot go unrewarded."
"That I do, Cecelia, and I pray every day, too, that God may watch over my granddaughter and teach her to do what is right."
"Thank you, dear grandma."
"I almost forgot to ask how Aunt Nellie is feeling to day?"
"A little stronger, I think, though she is still very low. She has seemed much more cheerful since the priest was here, and I may as well tell you now, grandma, he is coming again tomorrow or next day."
"I see no need of it, Cecelia, and I speak frankly in saying that I do not approve his coming so often."
"You mean you object to his visits, grandma?"
"Yes, I do, as I gave you to understand a few minutes ago. We are not accustomed to having such people call here, and your father, I fear, would be displeased if he knew it."
"If that is all, I can easily make it all right with papa if he objects, but I have no fear that he will."
"Your father might possibly permit it, though I doubt it; but should he do so, I shall still strongly disapprove."
"Now, grandma, you do not mean that. What difference could it make to you as long as he does not trouble you?"
"It is not for myself, for I assure you I can keep out of his way, but, as I told you a little while ago, they are not the proper company for you. I have consideration for others as well as myself."
"Yes, grandma, I remember you have essentially repeated just what you said a little while ago. But you also say you have consideration for others. I know you have, for your heart is

always kind, and you have been so good in choosing the best physician for Aunt Nellie. I know, too, you have not the heart to refuse her the religious consolations the priest brings to her as no other man can. Now, please say that you will make no further objections to poor auntie's receiving visits from the priest."
Cecelia, who was about to leave the room, stood with one hand caressingly smoothing her grandmother's hair. The woman could not resist her.
"I shall say no more, Cecelia, but will leave all to you on condition that you promise to keep him out of my way."
"I promise that, grandma, and thank you for Aunt Nellie."
"That girl's witchery will be turning all of our brains," mused Mrs. Daton when Cecelia was gone. "If I had been told even yesterday that I would ever give my consent to a Catholic priest coming here I should not have believed it. But she has conquered. She may be trying next to turn her poor old grandmother herself over to Romanism, but she can never do it. I like her frankness however, and her willingness to instruct me, and surely there can be no harm in my listening to her; if there is any good in it, she alone can prove it to me, but she will have a most difficult task, and perhaps in the end I may come out victorious and win her to the pure reformed religion of her father and myself. It is well worth trying."

CHAPTER XII.

Aunt Nellie's illness was a long and dangerous one, and her young daughter; just entering the life she found so pleasant, feared that ere long the beautiful gown she so greatly admired would have to be laid aside for deep mourning and that crepe would take the place of delicate laces. The dreams that had been so bright on that evening when admirers had gathered around her, causing her to forget for the time her poor mother, were gone now, and she fully realized how dear the sufferer was to her; she resolved never again to be separated from her. She had heard the physician say that overwork had much to do with the attack and the weakened state of her constitution was the chief thing against her recovery. Mrs. Daton, too, was seized with remorse and realized for the first time that a few dollars which she would never had missed from her abundance might have prevented all this. She, too, made better plans for the future and prayed earnestly that she might be given an opportunity to carry these plans into execution.
Once during the days when life was despaired of and Agnes had gone from the room for a needed rest, Mrs. Daton sat beside her sister, trying by the kindest words to cheer her. Unseen by them, Cecelia had glided softly in and sat down. She had no thought of hearing anything not intended for her ears, for she never suspected that there were any family secrets.
"Cecelia," said the sick woman, addressing Mrs. Daton, "I fear that there is no help for me, but I could die content if it were not for one thing."
"Do not speak of death, Nellie, for you are only a little overworked, and good care is all you need, which you shall have, and I promise you that when you are well you shall do no more hard work."
"I must return to my position as soon as I recover, that is if it has not been given to another; if it has, I must find something else to do. I cannot afford to remain idle."
"No, Nellie," the other protested, "I have played a selfish part since I first left you to come here, but I am sorry for it now and I intend making amends by helping to make your life easier."
"You have done a great deal for me, sister, by taking my child. None could have done more and I fully appreciate it. God will bless you for that."
"Speak not of what I have done for Agnes. She has been not only a sister to my poor, lone child, but she has been a true daughter to me. I did wrong in leaving the mother to be a drudge while I make a lady of the child."
"The life I have been living was my own choice. It was a blessing to me to have work to occupy my mind, especially since I gave up my last child."
"You spoke of dying content, Nellie, were it not for one thing. To

what did you refer? Not Agnes, I hope?"
"No, not Agnes. I could leave her in your hands and rest assured of her safety, but—the other one."
"The other one, Nellie. Whom do you mean?"
"You have not forgotten, Cecelia, though he has not been mentioned between us for years. I mean our brother Charlie."
Mrs. Daton frowned slightly. "Why do you recall him to mind, Nellie, when he has undoubtedly been dead for many years, and if he is not, do you forget that he helped to break our poor mother's heart and send her to her grave?"
"No, Cecelia, I do not forget; but the poor boy was young when he went away, and he would never have gone had he not been driven to it by fright. I never believed nor shall believe that he took that money."
"I hope not, Nellie, but you know the evidence against him was very strong, and think of the disgrace he brought upon us."
"I understand it all as well as yourself, and perhaps better, for I was older than he, while you were younger, but remember, Cecelia, he was your brother, our own mother's son, and I have not forgotten him in all these years, but have prayed for him every day, as mother did while she lived. I had always hoped that I might not die until I saw him once more."
"Would you wish to see him in disgrace?"
"No, Cecelia, God forbid; but Charlie had many good qualities which I cannot forget, and if he was inclined to be wild as a boy, he may have made a good man, and it would greatly brighten my last hours to know that such were true."
Cecelia, who had not yet been noticed, sat spellbound, undecided what to do, for she felt that she had been listening to what her mother would not wish her to hear. She arose at length and glided softly from the room, still undiscovered. But she could not drive from her mind what she had heard and longed to know the whole truth.
After a time, owing to the good care and the kindness of those around her, Mrs. Cullen began to improve, but Christmas had almost come ere she was able to sit up. Dinner on that glorious day was the first meal she was able to partake of with the family. Agnes at her side waited upon her devotedly. It was only a continuation of what the girl had been doing during the days of illness, and the mother fully appreciated it, but in her heart she felt that Cecelia had done more; for while Agnes had ministered to her temporal wants, Cecelia had braved the displeasure of the elder Mrs. Daton in the matter of the priest. After the first visit the good father had been permitted to come and go as he chose, without a word of objection from the grandmother or her son; the latter, on the contrary, met him with a cordial welcome, and two or three occasions took him to his own room for the pleasant conversation after his duties in the sick room were over and pronounced him a most affable companion especially as he was well posted on the topics of the day and intruded none of his religious views upon his host.
"I do not see how you ever dared bring him here at first," said Mrs. Daton to her daughter on one occasion when she had left the priest with her husband.
"I dared to bring him because I knew Aunt Nellie wished it and she was in danger of death. I did not stop to consider what grandma or any one else in the house would think."
"You have done more, Cecelia, than I, the mistress of the house would have dared, and you are a brave girl."
"It was only duty, mother. You would have done the same had I failed but see how my courage conquered even grandma herself."
"Yes, I know, but it is the result of a mysterious power in my daughter which few can resist."
"Not that, dear mother; only courage."
After the Christmas dinner Mrs. Cullen went to her room to rest. Her sister followed.
"I have come, Nellie," she said, "to tell you of a decision reached by my husband and myself a few days ago. We have kept it for a Christmas surprise."
"What is it, Cecelia? Something good, I know by your face."
"Yes, we have decided to ask you to share our home. You are to do no more hard work."
"That is too much, Cecelia," said the other tears, of gratitude filling her eyes.

"No, Nellie, it is not even enough. I can never repay you for all you did for me when you were young, but you must help me make reparation for the wrong my stubborn pride has caused me to do you."
"I am afraid I cannot, Cecelia. Think not that I do not appreciate your kindness. I do, more than I can find words to express. But I could never live in the gay society in which you move."
"You may have a quiet room here, the one you occupied during your illness, and you need not mingle with my gay friends if you do not wish. Make your home with us and do as you please."
"You are indeed very kind, Cecelia, and I am grateful to you and your kind husband, but I intend to go back to my own home."
"And leave Agnes here without you?"
"Certainly, Cecelia, unless you wish to send her away. Why do you ask such a question, after the years she has spent with you?"
"Because she told me after I had informed her that we were to keep you with us that it had been her intention to go with you and seek a position by which she could support you both."
"Did Agnes really say that, Cecelia?" inquired the mother, a strange note of joy in her voice.
"Yes, she did, and she meant it, too."
"It must not be," protested Agnes' mother. "You have brought her up as a lady and, like the little sister I had years ago, she is wholly unfit for hard work."
"Ah, I understand! You spoiled your sister by keeping her in school and giving her a life of freedom and ease while you worked early and late, denying yourself. And I have done the same thing by your child, but with this difference, I made no sacrifices, but gave to her out of the abundance what I have never missed. No, Nellie, she is no more suited to face the world and work than I was at her age, so to save her from the course her mind is set upon you have only to remain here and be a lady if you wish to put it in those words."
"I do not think Agnes would leave you if I insisted upon her remaining here when I go away."
"I fear she would, and I am determined to part with her only on one condition."
"What is that, Cecelia?"
"When some good man whom I deem worthy of her comes to claim her for a wife she may go, but not before."
"When that happy time comes, if Agnes still wishes the company of her mother I may go to live with her, but if it would not be agreeable to both herself and her husband, I shall be content to live alone to the end of my life."
"And until then you shall and must remain here with us."
At this point the girls came in, arrayed in hats and fur wraps, saying that they were going for a drive. Cecelia spoke of a fire whose glare she had noticed the night before in the direction of the lower part of the city and declared her intention of going to see where it was, as there might be sufferers in need of help on this Christmas Day.
"Dear Cecelia, how thoughtful she always is of others," said her aunt as they departed.
"Too much so sometimes, I fear, for her own good," said Mrs. Daton. "She will never spare herself where the poor are concerned; but as long as she enjoys her work I do not like to stop her."
"That is right, leave her alone. We have no fear of any harm coming to her while she is doing a noble work."
Two hours later the girls were back their cheeks glowing from their ride in the frosty air. Both were greatly excited. They found Mrs. Daton and grandmother in the parlor.
"Did you locate the fire?" asked the younger Mrs. Daton.
"Yes, we did, and Aunt Nellie's home is gone."
"Gone Cecelia! Was the fire there?"
"Yes, the tenement where she lived and several others were burned to the ground. I have seldom seen such a complete wreck."
"Were any of her things saved?"
(To be continued.)



FRANK W. MALONEY, M. D.
There ought to be a perceptible improvement in the general health of the people of Rochester, considering the number of bright and competent physicians who now make the city their home. Perhaps their presence is to be credited with the fact that as compared with other places in the State, the public health of Rochester ranks so high. Among the able young physicians of the city Dr. Frank W. Maloney is prominent. He was born in 1864 at Niagara Falls, N. Y., his parents being John and Catherine Maloney. He was educated at Niagara Falls University and graduated in medicine from Buffalo University in 1891. He had two years experience in St. Mary's hospital before graduating. He has devoted his time exclusively to private practice since 1891. In September, 1892, the doctor was married to Miss Jennie



Murphy, daughter of John and Margaret Murphy, of Macedon, N. Y. He was elected supreme medical examiner of C. R. & B. A. in 1896 and re-elected in 1900. He was supreme medical examiner of the Knights of St. John in 1898, and is medical examiner for several local branches of the C. M. B. A., Macombes, Knights of St. John and L. C. B. A. He is a member of the Monroe County Medical Society, and Central New York Medical Society, a member of the Rochester White Club, Knights of Columbus, Union Club, Division No. 1, A. O. H. and president of the Central Council degree team.

Knights of Columbus.
Ottawa, Ont., Council No. 485 will open their new club building on Tuesday, April 29th.

Rochester members desiring to take the fourth degree which will be given on May 30th, must file their application on or before next Sunday. A special meeting has been called for that date for fourth degree members.

An enjoyable musical was given Wednesday evening in the rooms of the Union Club, which was largely attended by the friends and members of the organization. A pleasing soprano solo was rendered by Mrs. Chas. E. Cunningham. Miss Jessie B. Minges sang an enjoyable contralto solo. Miss Gertrude L. Hughes gave two recitations in which she displayed much dramatic power.

An interesting lecture was given by John J. McInerney on "The Harp, and the Music of the Irish."

C. R. B. A.
Council 28 initiated six candidates at its last meeting. The Central Council degree team were present and performed the initiatory work. 28 will have a much larger class to initiate on May 28th. The pedro party to be held on May 14th is sure to be a success as nearly all the tickets printed have been sold. Get yours before it is too late as no more will be issued.
The Central Council will meet with Council 18 on May 13th.

K. of E.
There will be a special meeting of Court 19, K. of E. held at their rooms, Sunday afternoon, 3 o'clock, to take action on the death of John M. Sweeney, who died of pneumonia Friday morning at his residence, 25 Glasgow street.

Life of McKinley.
Those of our subscribers who have not been reached by our agent and who desire to secure their book at once can get one by calling at this office.

ARCHBISHOP CORRIGAN IS He is Suffering From Pneumonia of the Extremes Type.

Archbishop Michael Augustine Corrigan is seriously ill in his home in the archiepiscopal palace in Madison avenue. Dr. Francis Delafield, one of the attending physicians, said that the archbishop's temperature was 102, his malady was pneumonia of the extreme type and that his condition was serious but not dangerous.
Dr. Edward L. Keyes, the archbishop's regular physician, was called by the archbishop's secretary Thursday. He found his grace suffering from a congestion of his right lung and symptoms of pneumonia. He is



once called in Dr. Delafield and up to a late hour their attendance on the archbishop was almost constant. The archbishop's age is 68 years. He had health for some time. Something like two months ago he was going over the foundations of the chapel which Mrs. Eugene Kelly is building back of the cathedral, he fell partly through the flooring and was more or less seriously injured. Since that time his health has been poor.

A. O. H.
Division 3, A. O. H. will give an entertainment and ball next Monday evening, April 28th, at Western Hall, 402 1/2 State St. The entertainment will consist of a free comedy sketch "Finnegan's Fortune" interspersed with songs and music under the direction of John B. Lennahan. Those who are to take part are J. E. Lennahan, Finnegan's son, also as Rafferty, friend; Tom Egan, as Dutch; Mrs. J. E. Lennahan, as Finnegan's wife; Rhoda Pierce, as Jake's daughter. Wm. A. Gourlay will sing "Slung Me a Song For Ireland." The A. O. H. Quartette will render selections; Edna M. Lennahan will solo. "Won't You Be My Little Girl" by Martin Roche, back and wing solo. Mrs. J. E. Lennahan, vocal solo. "Come Back to Erin."

The pedro party given under auspices of the ladies society here was a grand success. The prizes were won by Miss Grant, lady's 1st; Mrs. Egan, 2nd; Margaret Curtis, 3rd; Mr. Egan's 1st; Miss Dowd, 2nd; Mrs. Bradar, 3rd. After the party five dollar gold piece was drawn and won by Miss E. McCarty, Lake Ave.

Auxiliary No. 1, A. O. H. will hold a May party in their hall, 100 West Main St., Thursday evening, May 15th.

Celtic Land Company.
Articles of incorporation of the Celtic Land Company have been filed with the county clerk. The object of the corporation is the purchase, sale and improvement of land in the city, and the capital stock is \$100,000.

The directors, three in number, are John M. Murphy, Edward A. Egan and John B. Lennahan.

We keep a supply of A. O. H. A. O. H. Auxiliary and get our prices. They are as any. All kinds of books at reasonable prices. The Journal office is at 100 West Main St., Rochester, N. Y.