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The Waiting

The cottage is roofless now. The roses and honeysuckles and sweet-scented briar are dead. The unglazed windows gaze across the glen like sightless eyes. The yellow walls resemble a tear-strained face from trickling moisture of moldering thatch. Grass-rank and sodden-grows on the threshold and adown the winding avenue to the river's bank. Weeds have choked life from the shy pansies and tender violets. The once neatly-clipped hawthorn hedge is prickly and unkempt. The garden is a wilderness. Desolation meets one at every turn—desolation and sorrow, and the mute reproach of dead things, as if the very walls—nature even—mourned for her who once walked there, and now is no more.

Fair to the eye she was, and fair of soul, too. Soft were her eyes of hazel, beseeching as a collier's, tender as moonlight on the balmy September night. Slender and stately her figure; gentle her face, shaded with soft, nut-brown curls—gentle and rofly rounded as a child's, albeit twenty summers had passed over her head. Sweet and gracious in the glory of her dawning womanhood, sweet as the roses she touched so tenderly, so Dan Clune first saw her as he was passing by the way and stood transfixed at the sight, even as a hero of the Fiana might have been at first sight of the woman of his dreams.

In the neighborhood of the cottage Mrs. Grundy had not as yet ever been heard of. Formal etiquette had not yet taken place of kindly hospitality. Suspicion of the stranger would be refused a place in those hearts of rare metal. If Kate blushed as she looked up from her flowers on hearing the handsome stranger's: "God save you Miss!" it was merely the blush of innocent youth prompted by the kindly thought, "God save you kindly!" she answered modestly.

"The day is hot," Dan affirmed, thirst in his eyes—thirst of the soul, which no nectar compounded by human hands could satisfy.

"It is surely. You will take a bowl of milk—goat's milk only have we, but it is rich and thirst-satisfying," she said simply.

"Thank you kindly, Miss," Dan replied, taking a step nearer the river's edge.

"Maybe you will come in and rest while you drink," the girl went on, noting the stranger's fine, manly figure and good looks, as girls will do, and have done ever since Eve stood entranced at the sight of her mate aeons ago in the garden of Paradise.

"I would be more than thankful, Miss," Dan answered, doffing his cap involuntarily, and tripping lightly over the stepping stones to the girl's side.

As he stooped his broad shoulders to enter the cottage, a woman—old and feeble, with snowy hair and slow lace cap—bade him welcome, but her looks belied her words. Her face was tense, her eyes eager with suspicion. Kate was her only daughter, the child of many prayers. Alone, the twain had lived together, since the fever had untimely carried off a husband and a son many years before. Handsome young strangers found no more favor with her than the susceptible young farmers around who sighed at a glance from Kate's soft eyes, and mooned along the river's bank on summer evenings in hope of a nod or a "God save you!" from her ripe young lips.

"Thank you, ma'am; and God save all in this house!" Dan replied as he seated himself on a creepy stool, which always stood in the rose-embowered porch.

"Have you come far?" the widow queried, anxiety in her tone.

"Over the hills, ma'am from S—" Dan replied, meekly endeavoring to keep his eyes from straying from her wrinkled face to the young vision who stood obediently beside her mother's chair.

"Ah!" she ejaculated with a sigh of relief. Suspicion was oy-

ing. S—was a long way off—many leagues, if this too-frankly admiring stranger abode there, he would trouble neither the cottage nor its inmates often.

"It is a hot day," he affirmed, hoping to gain her attention.

"You do not walk so far off-ten?" she queried irrelevantly.

"I have never been in these parts before, and I may never have an excuse to come here again," he replied, looking at Kate, in hopes that she would assist him in solving a riddle created almost in that instant with his own brain—twit, on what pretext could he renew a visit to the cottage. Slowly he sipped his milk. Quickly, to him, the bowl was emptied. Unwillingly he departed, leaving his blessing and his thanks.

But within a brief spell Dan solved the riddle. He came again—not once, but often. On one pretext or another his tall form darkened the doorway of the cottage almost weekly. Today it was a straying heifer he sought. The next week a distant relative, lately discovered, lay ill a league beyond. In time he gave no excuse, and suspicion took up a permanent abode in the widow's eyes. Sometimes he rode a mountain pony; oftener he came on foot, on which occasions he tarried long—too long for the widow's peace of mind.

In those bygone times afternoon tea had not yet come into fashion, but there was abundance of buttermilk and laughing potatoes, and oaten bread and fancy griddle cakes made by Kate's own delicate hands—at least Dan thought them delicate, because they were so white and soft and slender; but, in reality, they were stony, capable, and willing. The neat aspect of the cottage, both inside and outside, was traceable to their tireless industry. Neither the edibles in the garden nor the flowers peeping through the hedges, clustered around the porch, would have arrived at such luxuriant growth were it not for her energetic weeding and hoeing and training. Dan never saw her at work, for the very simple reason that while still very young she had learned the art of good housewifery—or, perhaps, she was a born housewife. The sun and she were on the best of terms, and directly that luminary peeped in at her uncurtained window every morning, the girl was won't to jump out of bed so as to keep pace with him. In this wise she had her day's work finished and her second toilet made about eleven a. m., a line of action many housewives in Ireland today might copy with advantage. If Dan called early in the day, Kate always had leisure to devote to him. If the afternoon witnessed his long, swinging, eager stride adown the winding road, she was never too busy with her flowers to note his coming, even while yet some distance away. Although he had not yet dared to voice his love, the gladness in her eyes and the soft blush mantling her cheeks told their own tale to the joy of the man's heart and the sorrow of the mother's.

Thus the months went galloping by, drawn by love's chariot, until Dan could possess his soul no longer, and was perforce obliged to lay his hopes and wishes before the widow and her daughter. Kate's heart was singing a glad song. Almost from the first she had known what was in her lover's mind, and had but awaited his words to voice their reciprocation; but, for the widow the tale had a very different significance. To her it meant loneliness and sorrow—the severance of the one tie left to her on earth. Dan was a younger son, and by what he could make by what he locally called "jobbing," i. e., buying cattle and selling them at a profit, he had no visible means wherewith to keep a wife—not to mention such a trifle as a house to shelter her.

To be continued

Catholic News Notes

A class of twelve Chinese was baptized last week by the Rev. P. J. Driscoll, pastor of La Grande, Ore.

The Holy See has formally approved the constitutions of the Congregation of the Sisters of Divine Providence, of San Antonio, Texas.

Father Thomas Kearney of Hartland, Ill., is in possession of a large quarto Latin Bible printed in the year 1558. It is an excellent state of preservation.

It is proposed to erect the Particular Council of the St. Vincent de Paul Society of St. Paul, Minn., into a Superior Council.

The Cardinal Archbishop of New York, in the archdiocesan synod held last week, forbade the singing in churches of "Nearer, My God to Thee," and Cardinal Newman's "Lead, Kindly Light."

Rev. John Bacci, private secretary to the Archbishop of Dubuque, has gone to Washington, D. C., to enter the Catholic University of America for a course of study.

In response to Cardinal Gibbon's appeal for the English orphanages of his diocese, the sum of \$3,400 was sent in by the churches.

Manual training in the public schools of Sioux City, Ia., is to be given parochial school pupils, under an arrangement by the board of education, which requires that a sufficient number of pupils must be furnished to warrant the employment of an additional instructor.

A Denver court has decided that a father and mother has not the right to bring up their child in Catholic faith.

Rt. Rev. H. Granjon, D. D., Bishop of Tucson, Ariz., on December 17, quietly celebrated the silver jubilee of his ordination to the priesthood.

A fund of \$400 realized from the sale of penants and cameos during the recent Holy Name parade in Wheeling, W. Va., has been presented to the Sisters of the Good Shepherd.

The magnificent residence known as Errow House, situated on Lough Conn, in the neighborhood of Crossmolina, Mayo, Ireland, has been purchased by the Sisters of Jesus and Mary, Willingden, London.

The late Thomas George McCarty, of Wellington, New Zealand, devised out of his estate of \$2,500,000, much for Catholic charities.

October 31st was the fourth centenary of the inauguration by Pope Julius II of the Sistine Chapel, the most glorious shrine of Christian art in the world.

In Ireland, Catholics are taking the pledge against bad reading.

The progress of Catholicity and the decay of Protestantism is sharply in evidence in England.

While the earthquake hurled down the tower of the Church at Acambay, Mexico, while the congregation were assisting at Mass, 59 people and several priests were killed.

A new parish, St. Dominic's, has been added to the Church in Montreal.

The "Parish Weekly," the chief Catholic paper of Madrid, has a circulation of 30,000 copies.

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News From Ireland

An aged woman named Margaret Stewart was found dead on December 10 as the result of a fire in the house where she resided at Greencastle, Belfast. The indications were that the woman was asphyxiated.

The golden jubilee has just been celebrated of reverend Mother Agnes O'Halloran, founder and Superiress of the Convent of Mercy Beasbrook, Co. Wick.

The death of John Reilly, Lard, which took place on December 6, at the age of 104 years, occasioned sorrow throughout the district, where he was well known and respected. Deceased was a lifelong abstainer and had kept the pledge which he took from Father Mathew.

The body of John Pyper, a laborer, Limavady, was found in a stream near Carrick, about three miles from Limavady, on Dec. 11.

On December 7, Wm. Gallagher Ballinakill, fell dead at Bridgetown station just as the train that he was to travel by to Donegal market was steaming into the station.

On the night of December 12 a fire occurred in the hay store of George Hurst, coal merchant, Enniskillen. This was the third fire in the town within two weeks but happily it was not so disastrous as its predecessors.

Died, recently, Thomas Shaughnessy, Carnagar. — December 14, John Fahy, Gort. — December, Patrick Cooney, Gort.

Married. — November 30, at St. John's church, Tralee, by Rev. Thomas Hart, C. C., Eugene O'Sullivan, Ahanagan, Ballylongford, to Mary, fifth daughter of the late John MacMahon, Listelick, Tralee.

Died. — December 3, Patrick Martin, Broadford. — Recently, Mrs. Cooke, Castledermot.

During the progress of a hurling match at Market Field, Limerick, recently, about a dozen spectators who were standing on the wall toppled over a zinc railing. All were more or less hurt, and one had to be treated in the hospital.

Michael Rice, Lower Faughart, has been appointed relieving officer of Dundalk Union.

A farm of seven acres, held subject to a rent, the property of Mr. McKenna, Dunleer, has been disposed of to Mrs. Commons, at the rate of £50 per acre.

Died. — December 3, Martin Doyle, Conlon. — December 9, Mrs. Reilly, Turrough.

Mrs. Elizabeth McGrane died at her home on Fermanagh St., Clones, on December 6.

The death has taken place at Capra, Carrickmacross, of Bernard Fee, reported to have reached the age of 120 years.

An outbreak of typhus fever has occurred in the Ballinlough district.

E. Shaw, Ballymote, has been appointed clerk of Petty Sessions for that district.

William Hamilton, acting clerk of Castleberg Board of Guardians, has been appointed chief clerk in succession to his father who resigned.

Patrick Culleton, a native of Waterford, was drowned in the River Suir at Waterford on December 9.

Officers Installed in Different Catholic Organizations

On Thursday evening, January 9th, Holy Family Branch, 185, L. C. B. A., installed the following officers for the ensuing year: past pres., Mrs. Mary Huether assisted by Supreme Deputy, Mrs. Cora McParlin; Spiritual advisor, Rev. D. Laurentis, M. R.; Pres., Mrs. Sophia Hoffman; 1st vice pres., Miss Gertrude Sauter; 2nd vice Pres., Miss Mary Muller; recorder, Miss Lena Ehrstain; asst. recorder, Mrs. Julia Eckl; financial Secty., Mrs. Mary Wohlrab; treas., Mrs. Mary Schur; marshal, Miss Rose Kohlmeier; guard, Mrs. Gertrude Fritz; trustees, Mrs. M. Lingl, Mrs. C. Kreuz, Mrs. C. Hendren, Mrs. A. Cody, Mrs. M. Pesch, auditor, Mrs. M. Huether; Miss G. Sauter, Eliz. Sauter; board of appeals, Mrs. Margaret Hartel, Teresa Albrecht and Mary Huether.

At the last meeting of Division 2, A. O. H., the following named brothers were duly installed officers by our worthy County President, P. P. Kelly assisted by Bro. John Logan of Div. 7, Pres. Daniel Crowley; vice pres., James Usher; Rec. sect'y., Edward Mounarty; Fin. Sect'y., Daniel J. Slattery; treas., John T. Gleason; standing committee, Thomas Prazet; Cornelius C. Neill, Thomas Eustace, Michael Miskel, John T. Powers; Sergeant at arms, Wm. O'Brien. After the installation the members partook of the good things provided by the entertainment committee. Music was rendered by O'Connell's Own Band. There were Irish songs and dances galore. Our past president and county president Martin B. O'Neil spoke on the past, present and future of the A. O. H. His words were well received as they always are because he has the true spirit of a Hibernian. Rev. Dr. Vele gave a very interesting lecture on Irish history and spoke on other matters pertaining to our order. Brothers Logan and Devereux of Div. 7, also made some very interesting and instructive remarks.

The members of Div. 2, should attend the next meeting, Jan. 20th as our new president has something good to offer. Brothers should not think because they attended to the election and installation of officers that their work in the Division is done for the year. Members should attend meetings at least once a month and help the officers to do the work of our grand old honored order as it ought to be done.

Let us remember the words of an old Hibernian Warrior which we read in one of our Catholic Irish papers when he was addressing a class of young Hibernians. He said, "Young men awake, arise the old work begin anew. Let your many voices rent the skies, let your hearts be firm and true. Your Fathers bravely fought and nobly marched that little green Isle through. But O, young men remember their isle left yet for the A. O. H., to do. The same old faith, the same old land, the same old time honored banner of green and gold to be loved, honored and cherished as our Fathers lived, honored and died for them. We as members of the A. O. H., should not forget the principals of our Fathers. Men whose minds were pure, whose hearts were brave, in them their was no plea for their hearts blood is scattered o'er the soil that raise the shamrock green."

Our Lady of Victory Branch 485, L. C. B. A., held its annual installation of officers Friday evening, January 10th, when the following named officers were installed. Past pres., Mrs. E. Mirquet; pres., Mrs. Emma Luchinger; 1st vice pres., Mrs. Bertha Savard; 2nd vice pres., Mrs. Marguerite Ogsbury; recorder, Miss Anna Whitley; treas., Mrs. Louise Koesterer; marshal, Miss Mary Savard; guard, Mrs. Nellie McMahon; trustee, Mrs. Marguerite Ogsbury.

Our Lady of Victory Branch, 485, L. C. B. A., mourns the loss of a member, Miss Margaret FitzPatrick who passed away December 18th, at her home 104 Woodbury St., after an illness of several months. While unable to go about among her friends, Miss FitzPatrick was always willing to lend a helping hand where it was needed, ever striving to lighten the burden of those who kindly administered to her.

We sincerely sympathize with the mother whose feeble heart has been shattered by her loss, also with the sisters and brothers who survive her and who will surely miss her in their home.

Let us look through the mist of sadness, O'er the grave where the body lies, To a crown that awaits the faithful in a Home beyond the skies.

May we learn from the life of our dear one From whom we are called to part; The lesson of love and devotion That ever filled her heart.

May the mother whose heart is saddened Be strengthened, to think it is best, May our Father in Heaven receive her And grant her eternal rest.

The officers of Div. No. 12, A. O. H., were installed by County President, P. P. Kelly, assisted by Brothers Nugent of Div. 7 and Brothers Eustace and Slattery of Div. 2, on Thursday evening, January 9th, at the Hotel Rochester. After the meeting.

The officers of Council No. 8, R. & B. A., were installed by the Supreme deputy, Mrs. Robert last Tuesday evening.

The Fourth Degree Assembly will hold an informal dinner and meeting at the Hotel Rochester, Wednesday evening, January 23. This assembly has placed framed notices in all the leading hotels, of the time of Masses in the Catholic churches of our city.

The second of the social sessions for the winter of 1913 will be held in the rooms on Friday evening, January 17th. An excellent lecture has been arranged. Brother Willard Marlike, Hons. John J. McInerney and Henry R. Glynn will speak on "How Laws are made at Albany."

Monday January 27, this council will give an informal dance and reception to the young ladies of the Castaway's. All the members and ladies' friends invited. Dancing from 9 to 12 Friday, January 31, First degree at 8 o'clock sharp. The proposers of candidates are requested to be present and act as a reception committee. On Monday, February 3, a pre-lenten reception and dance will be given. Come and have a good time.

Holy Name Club Dinner

The Young Men's Club of the Holy Name Society of Our Lady of Victory church will hold its seventh annual dinner at the Hotel Rochester, Wednesday evening, January 22nd. This was one of the first branches of the Holy Name Society formed in this city, being organized by Rev. A. A. Notebaert, pastor of the church, on February 15, 1906. Each banquet date has found an increase in membership.

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