Stairs of Sand

By Anna M. Regan

(Continued from Last Week)

Sara crept, with hot blood racing in her veins, upstairs hoping to reach her room without being catechised. She and Hedda seldom came in from an outing of any kind without being waylaid with questions. To-night in the afterglow of her pleasant afternoon, she particularly wished to be undisturbed.

But as she pushed open the door of her room, she saw a limp figure lying across her bed and heard a muf-

"Why Lois, child!" she cried, rushing to her sister and taking her in her arms. "What's the matter? Why all the tears?"

The sobs grew louder as Lois submitted to her sis-

'It's Billy!" she cried tragically. "I just can't live without him. I tried to enjoy the camp but I was too miserable. I just had to come home. And, now . . . now . . . " another burst of tears interrupted her. "When did you leave for home?"

"This morning. Billy and I have been wandering around town afraid to come out here. Finally he said he

was coming out and face my Father."

"And did he do it. Did Dad bawl him out?"

"No, not so bad. Billy told him he loved me and wanted to marry me sometime when we were old enough. We were willing to wait, he said, if he could see me without sneaking around meeting me on the sly."

"What did Dad say then?" Sara asked eagerly. "Before he could say anything Grandmother sent Hedda to call us up to her room. She told Billy I was nothing but a child and didn't know my own mind, and he'd better stay away from me. Oh my, how mad Billy got then. He said he'd never stay away from me unless I told him to.

"Good for Billy!" cried Sara.
"Wait till you hear the rest!" said Lois, "Grand-mother asked him why he didn't pick a girl oi his own class and faith. When he started to tell her why, she

ordered him from the house."

"Didn't Hedda say a word?"

"She wanted to, but Grandmother is really sick today and Hedda was afraid to excite her." After Billy left she raved on and on. She said it would be a disgrace for me to many a Cathelia and have a blacksmith for a for me to marry a Catholic and have a blacksmith for a father-in-law. If they don't let up on me I'll run away

and marry Billy even if I'm not eighteen yet."

"You won't do anything of the sort," said Sara, firmly. "If you'll promise on your word of honor that you'll wait a year before you marry him, I'll arrange so you can see him once a week at least.'

"Sara, you're a darling!" cried Lois, flinging her arms about her. "You must promise, you won't let them torment me and say horrid things about the Millers?"
"I'll make Grandmother forget it. Of course

Hedda's with us anyway, so now stop worrying.' As Sara went out into the hall she found Hedda at

the head of the stairs. "Is Neil in the living room or on the porch?" she fluttered. "I meant to be down when you came, but Lois got home and brought Billy Miller with her and we had a most awful time!'

"lle didn't stay." "Didn't he ask for me or anything," Hedda's coun-

"He probably thought you were busy with Grand-

"Probably. Did you have a good time?"

"Fine. What time did Lois come? "Just after you left. Was the lunch all right?"

"Delicious. Neil ate six sandwiches. What made Grandmother act so to Billy Miller?"

"He shouldn't have come out here knowing how we "You at least, Hedda, ought to have been decent to him for her sake. She'll run off and marry him if you

keep this up. "Grandmother will never consent to have him come

here to see h*er.*" "I am going to see that they have a chance to meet somewhere once a week. I've promised Lois I would." "All right, but now tell me, Sara, what did you do

this afternoon?" "I showeh him the Glen and Robber's Den and told

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him all the lore connected with them. We went canoeing but he didn't enjoy it so we tied up the boat and spread out our lunch on the table there and ate and talked. It was heavenly in the Glen today."

"Aren't you really beginning to like him?"

"Oh, yes, he is very interesting, indeed."
Sara got away from Hedda as soon as she could and slipped down to the porch swing. She felt uneasy, out of harmony with herself. The afternoon with Neil Cramer had been the happiest she had spent in years. Now that it was over she was not at all comfortable about it. Why had she opened her heart to him and laid bare all her hidden secrets? As she sat in the shadow her cheeks burned. She took herself sternly to task. But she was not really cool or indifferent, only something within her protested. She couldn't go on forever denying the natural desires of her heart.

"If Hedda was not going to marry Neil Cramer—why shouldn't she accept his friendship! They had so many tastes in common: art, literature, all the things she longed for. She decided to cultivate the more perious side of her nature, and she promised herself she would allow him to be her friend.

Thinking the facts over in the swaying swing, with the moonlight casting lacey shadows through the vines, it was eleven o'clock before she realized it. The telephone bell summoned her back to reality. She harried into the house to forestall anyone else answering it. After a few moments with the receiver at her ear

an unfamiliar voice asked: "Who is this speaking?"

"This is Sara Leavitt." "Well, this is Vedder of the "Central Hotel. Your brother Nat was just brought in pretty drunk. He wants a room but hasn't any money, but I'll put him to led if you'll see I get paid for it."

'Put him to bed. I'll take care of it," In her own room later, she had just undressed and slipped into bed when she heard a low voice at the door. "Sara, may I come in a minute?"
"Come right in, Hedda, of course."

"Grandmother is so nervous to-night. She's dozing now so I came out for a minute." "Tell me, dear, what's troubling you?"
"I thought you hadn't come upstairs and I heard the

telephone." 'Crawl in beside me," Sara urged, "and go to sleep. She tossed restlessly, and from time to time she sighed. I guess Grandmother has been too much for you,"

said Sara, at last. "No, it's not that. I'm very unhappy." This declaration remained unanswered for a moment

before Sara said, "Well, what about?" "It's Neil Cramer," Hedda burst forth. "I did think he cared for me. Now I don't feel so sure. Perhaps I encouraged him to much. Maybe you'll think I'm silly but I'm just simply wild about him."

"Do you mean you would marry him if he asked you "Oh, yes, I would. Of course not for a while. I

couldn't leave you to bear all the burdens alone. I would wait if I knew he loved me." "Some wait you'd have," said Sara dryly.

"Didn't he say a word this afternoon by which you could guess?" Sara was glad that her face was in the dark. "He didn't ask me for you if that's what you

At this Hedda began to sob, and her voice was young and uncontrolled as Lois' was earlier. Sara gathered her into her arms and comforted her much as she had comforted her younger sister carlier in the eve-

Tears always roused in Sara a flerce protective interest. If Cramer didn't love Hedda, he certainly ought to, for she had given every evidence of being interested in

Dodge the issue as she would, she could not evade the answer. If he had seen liedda and Hedda alone, the attraction he had felt for her might have developed into something strong and lasting. Now that it was too late she could see the shifting of his interest. And now she had taken him fully into her friendship. And his friendship was so comforting, so worthwhile.

In a panic she told herself that not for all the friendships in the world would she stand in the way of her sister's remotest chance for happiness! She must make Cramer dislike her—anything to undo the harm she had unwittingly done.

"Hedda, dear, go back to your own room now," she said. "You shall have everything in this world you want, if I can secure it for you."

"And you do think he cares a little?" "I'm sure he does."

Hedda lifted a wet cheek to be kissed. "You must think me perfectly silly," she whispered.
"No, I think you a perfect darling," said Sara. "Call me any time if you need me."

A very few minutes and Hedda was sound asteep in her own bed, but Sara lay staring into the darkness, trying to vision things out. She saw her life which had broadened out of late, shrink back into the narrow duties of Cherry Lane Farm. She had not realized until now how much Cramer's approbation meant to her, how much it was going to cost her to put him out of her life.

The resort on Mount Sharon that Cramer had laid out was finished and was to be formally opened by a week of fetes, balls and high class entertainment, Cramer was invited to be a guest. They felt that he had worked out an unusual and distinctive effect in the grouping of buildings and the arrangement of trees and flowers.

As he emerged from his shower bath the morning after Mt. Sharon Park had been officially opened, feeling (CONTINUED ON PAGE 6).

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Memory of Edward J. Dunn Honored by People of Elmira Attorist District Colons Register and Colons Register

Hom. H. C. Mandeville of Elmira and Hon. Eugene J.

Dwyer of Rochester Pay Tributes Eloquent and
Appealing—An Inspiring Occasion.

Elmaira, July 3.—At a dvic mass meeting, held in the beautiful multiple and the Catholic Respital mass of periodic tributes were paid to the life, the work, the memory and the charity of Edward Josh Dunn, whose friendship and reneroalty made possible this splendid building, Elmira's tallest and finest structure of any kind. Hon Hubert C. Mandeville of Elmira, long a business associate of Mr. Dunn, and Hon. Eugene J. Dwyer of Rochester, were the speakers of the evening, and their addresses were heard with keen appreciation by an audience that filled the and to capacity and that was representative of all classes of people in Elmira.

The building right been blessed and filttle but their devotion and great line in the Bishop was tree. Aller and States Reams. They were shale the Bishop was tree. Aller and States Reams. They were shale the Bishop was tree. Aller and States Reams. They were shale the Bishop was tree. Aller and States Reams. They were shale the Bishop was tree. Aller and States Reams. They were shale the Bishop was tree. Aller and States Reams. They were shale the Bishop was tree.

MEr. Deman's Life and Work

"It is four this community that?"
am permitted to speak on this coession to voice your thoughts and the hearts of all, in Bronor and remembers to may friend, Edward Joseph Duan, his write and family. Two distribute to Mr. Dunn, to the Catholic Life and morey. Let use for a moment bring Bofore you the picture of sacrifice, of charity and of service and conject to account bring Bofore you then picture of that has made Catholic hospital work a yours man horm within a stone's blooking to the world. He spoke that he work of all these institutions of mear of where I now stand. His pronous wor o upstanding citizens of this city. Today we bed and walk.

paronts wore upstanding clittens of this communicity, hard working, faithful and reliable, who gave their son a strength, theo brain and strong claracter.

"We all know of his growth among us-how he began work at an early use (I know he became skilled in the use of the generosity, charity ures (I know he became skilled in the member financial statements); how he advanted from a beginner's clerkship to the presidency of the Cheston of the generosity, charity and benevolence of one of Ministration of the presidency of the Cheston of the generosity, charity and benevolence of one of Ministration of the presidency of the Cheston of the generosity of the presidency of the Cheston of the generosity of the gener

ming Canal Trust Company; how he built up the Edipse Machine Company; giving employment to many genius and noble heart of him whose and marking one of the greatest and most profitable industries in the whole country; how he grained great wealth without reproach or breath of dislavor; how he Lived and died an honest, successful and powerful man.

Some indian Contlemen

"We know of his marriage and the develors of Ed Dunan (as he was glad to have us call him) and of Mrs. Duna to all good works, and of his develors to his church and to his friends. He was never purse proper case of and position in the world. He was always a devent Christian gentle man. There can be no higher tribute than he contained in this state ment.

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"We preum fortunate in mothaving present this evening Mrs. Dunn, who has shared his many good cleeds. She is unavoidably absent. But we are fortunate to have with us his sister. Miss Mary Aran Duran, and his niece, Mrs. Whitherld. With them; this gave so much of himself and his gave so much of himself and his money to the public good. He gave to every chartly both his efforts and his money. Ho gave the city the Dunn Planying Floid. He helped build up the city's Dushness and gave gen gratitude is this St. Joseph's Hospital has made amazingly progratitude is this St. Joseph's freezes with the confidence that fix opportunities for the finest type of the unit under the confidence that fix opportunities for the finest type of scientific service will increase with

"let us now look at another pic eclentific service will increase with ture of lives devoted to good deeds the demands of the times and with and devout service. Twenty-three the support of this generous and appears ago, when Mr. Dunn was in the preciative community will continue prime of his strongth an the begin ning of lais continued advance in favor with God and man, two flaters of the Order of the Sisters of St. Joseph, carrie to this community with

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were heard with keen appreciation by an audience that filled the auditorium to capacity and that of people in Eilmira.

The building had been blessed and dedicated by litshop O'Hem in the aftersion, and the Bishop was present the civic meeting, He arrows and of the observance of the observance of the observance of the capteristics. Alloe and Sister St. Anne. They were sinter Rosse and other individuals and bloceme to the architecta, the contractors, the subcontractors of the analysis of the analysis of the architecta, the contractors, the subcontractors of the followed by sky others of the subcontractors of the followed by sky others of the subcontractors of the followed by sky others of the subcontractors of the analysis of the same of the same of the subcontractors of the followed by sky others of the subcontractors of the analysis of the same of the subcontractors of the followed by sky others of the subcontractors of the followed by sky others of the subcontractors of the subcontractors of the followed by sky others of the subcontractors of the subcontractors of the subcontractors of the followed by sky others of the subcontractors of the subco

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