

Stairs of Sand

By Anna M. Regan

(Continued from last week)

She embraced her son, and reached up and drew Sara to her arms. "Come right in, both of you," she breathed. "I've wondered and wondered what had happened to you. But it's all right now."

"I'm going to put this in your hands, Mother," Jim told her. "You must take care of this family. Get your Guild busy and do something worthwhile for them. Would you have known Sara from my description of her?"

"I would not know her on the street, Jimmy, although your description of her was very plain. You see, Sara, I'll call you that, Jimmy's my baby and the only one left at home now. His father's dead and the other four are married. But here I stand and you've so little time to get and get back to the depot. Come right out to the table, both of you."

"It was in the taxi that carried them back to the station: "Sara, dearest, Jim's arm was around her, his voice entered her and went straight to her heart. "You do love me, as I love you. You'll never leave me until you say that it is true."

"Yes—I love you, Jim, but it may be sometime before we can marry on account of my father and his mother—so helpless and old—"

"And I'll never ask you to give up those dear ones."

"Oh, my darling Sara—you have made me so happy! He drew her close and pressed his lips to hers. "We will have at least the happiness of knowing we belong to each other. I will go to New York for the holidays and meet your people!"

"I'll never see you again," Sara said. "I'll never see you again," Sara said. "I'll never see you again," Sara said. "I'll never see you again," Sara said. "I'll never see you again," Sara said.

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night. And the voice of it deep down to a hum, and again deepening and swelling to a roar. But it is always the same kind of a voice, for it always speaks of restlessness, of hopes and ambitions, worries and fears, driving and putting the young and the old, the rich and the poor, to new ventures, and new things!

As they went out to the street, Sara's voice sounded exultant, as if she had unexpectedly come upon something very precious. "Did you notice the wealth of material for novelist or painter, Billy? I'll often come here for inspiration."

"You look so fine Sara, and I can't tell you how glad I am to see you."

"The old folks are always about the same, too," he told her. Sara and Billy were just an hour reaching the yellow house in Glenville. Lots met them at the door.

"Why, Sara Leavitt, you're brown enough to be part Indian," Lots told her. "It's so becoming, too. Doesn't she look well, Billy?"

"I'll say she does," Billy agreed. "I felt pretty proud escorting such a fine-looking young lady."

"Now, Billy, please do not spread it on too thick. Remember the Bread and Butter," Sara laughed.

Grandmother DeLigt met her at the door. Sara took the frail little body into her strong young arms and pressed her close. The little quivering voice was so low.

"My dear, we are all and you're home again. We've missed you. I don't think Jake has ever realized you've been away at all. Go in alone and speak to him."

When Sara entered her father's room he was seated in a wheelchair facing the door. Her eyes filled with tears as she looked at him.

tors were frequent and lovingly intimate. A few days before Christmas, she was baptized and made her first confession Christmas eve.

Jim arrived at ten o'clock. With Billy and Lois, Jim and Sara attended midnight Mass. Before they left home she told them all about her embracing the Catholic faith, and that she would make her first Holy Communion with them when they went to the altar rail. Jim folded her in his arms and thanked God for leading his footsteps to this wonderful girl.

Before Jim left Glenville they arranged to be married the following June and to go to California for their honeymoon.

Late in January Jacob Leavitt left his earthly prison house and passed on to a better world.

His mother and the girls mounted the piazza. Although they realized how much better it was for every body, as his mentality had been impaired for so long.

Lois was expecting an interesting event in early spring, so Grandmother, Sara, and everyone were pressed into a vice preparing the layout.

Early in April a dim-eyed, healthy baby boy, a pure Leavitt, as Grandmother DeLigt named him, was born. He was baptized William and immediately became the loving center of interest for every one in the house.

Grandmother DeLigt be- grudging every moment spent out of sight of young Billy. She forgot the world outside. Even Sara's approaching marriage came second in interest to her.

The night before Sara's wedding she was armed with a basket and scissors and occupied in robbing the rose-garden of its white and pink blooms. It seemed as if June had come especially to Glenville.

No where else, surely, was such a sky-deep sapphire overhead, paling to faintest blue on the far horizon, as where such warm, scented air, white rose and snowballs and lilacs, made the drawing of each breath a draught of sweetness.

the door, waiting to see the bridal party emerge when the services were over.

Sara, moving slowly up the aisle on the arm of the best man, felt as though she were taking part in a dream. From the pews on either hand glimmered a confused blur of faces. They all seemed to have run together into an immense white mask that was turned toward her.

And then they were nearing the altar railing. She looked up and saw Jim standing waiting for her. His eyes—the grey, deep-set eyes she loved—met hers, with a smile in them. Such a friendly whimsical understanding smile. Her nervousness left her as suddenly as it had seized her, and lifting her head she smiled back at him.

Soon they were kneeling on the steps of the altar and the marriage vows were given. After that came the nuptial Mass with its solemn music.

Later seated about the tables in Sara's home came the customary routine of wedding parties, so thoroughly harkened and yet so jolly and friendly.

Sara and Jim left for the city at two. They were to start immediately for California for a two months' trip.

Later on, when at last they had boarded their train and their world was left behind, Sara raised brimming eyes to her husband:

"Oh, Jim, doesn't it seem too good to be true?"

"No, my darling, nothing is too good to be true. If only we all play the same."

The first

DON'T FORGET THE FRUIT DISH

By BETTY BARCLAY

Don't forget to have at least one dish in which fruit appears at each meal during the cold weather months. This is the season when we are likely to reduce the amount of fruit and green vegetables eaten, not because we have any desire to do so but because so many of our favorite fruits and vegetables are not on the market.

Corn on the cob has disappeared. Tomatoes grown locally are not available in most sections and some of us do not feel able to afford very many tomatoes that have been brought to us from perhaps two thousand miles away. Peaches, pears and plums are all conspicuous by their absence in our local stores. There are many of our favorite summer vegetables. Without realizing it we fail to make up for this loss by eating more heavily of other fruits and vegetables.

Two Minute Orange Cocktail (Individual Service) Peel an orange, removing all outer membrane. With a sharp knife, cut out segments. Divide these into several pieces. Place in cocktail glass and cover with juice saved in separating fruit. Crumble a wafer mint (peppermint flavor) or two smaller mints over fruit. Add a dash of lemon and sugar if desired, and a maraschino cherry for garnish. Serve very cold.

Winter Salad (Individual Service) On bed of shredded lettuce, arrange in star pattern, 5 orange segments, which have been cut out of a peeled fruit and are free of membrane. Peel a banana and cut in half. Cut halves in quarters to make fingers. Dip each banana finger in strawberry dressing. Tumble a wafer mint (peppermint flavor) or two smaller mints over fruit. Add a dash of lemon and sugar if desired, and a maraschino cherry for garnish. Serve very cold.

Orange Marshmallow Cream (Serves 5-8) 1 package of marshmallows (about 20) 1 small bottle maraschino cherries 2 cups orange pieces 1 cup whipping cream Cut marshmallows in quarters.

BETTY BARCLAY'S HELPFUL HINTS



COFFEE BEFORE BREAKFAST A cup of coffee first thing in the morning—if it is properly made and served. Make coffee in the proportion of a heaping tablespoon to a large cup of water and serve piping-hot in demitasse with or without sugar. In hotels and on dining cars this is called a "Coffee Cocktail." In the private home it is a mark of courtesy that guests will appreciate and remember.

For Time and for Eternity Invest Contributors under the Conditional Gift Plan of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith are given a legally-executed contract guaranteeing a rate of interest from 5 to 10 per cent—as long as they may live. This assures them of a dependable income for life whether times are good or bad, without fear of depreciation or failure. Interest is paid punctually on the date due.

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Father Cox Brings Army Safely Home

Pittsburgh, Pa., Jan. 15.—Father Cox's army was mustered out in Pittsburgh Friday night, with the assurance of its leader that it had focused the attention of the nation's leaders on the need for unemployment relief. Weary from four days of shepherding his flock of 15,000 destitute men, the Rev. James R. Cox retired within his church to pray as soon as he had disbanded the group that followed him to Washington and back. Nor did he forget the needs of his army as he sought spiritual peace. The priest obtained special dispensation to his Catholic followers so that they might eat meal sandwiches on Friday to nourish them after the rigorous journey from Washington to the Tebbie fires of home.

Nerve Treatment Wins World Fame

Over forty years ago a group of eminent physicians in Germany discovered a formula for the treatment of nervousness. It was their original intention only to use the prescription in their own hospital until a specialized in nervous ailments; but the reputation of the medicine spread so rapidly that a laboratory was opened to supply the public demand. Some years later the formula was brought to America by Rev. Father Koenig, and it was found desirable to arrange for distribution of the medicine under the name of Koenig's Nerve Tonic. Steadily the medicine became known and today it is recognized as the leading prescription for the treatment of nervous conditions. It is sold by all drug stores.—Adv.

Every good desire helps the work of the Church. If we may say from our hearts, "Thy Kingdom Come," this desire helps the spread of grace according to its fervor. If we say, "Eternal light shine upon them," this cry is heard and full value given it.

Bogus Priest Is Sent to Jail On Fraud Charge

Brooklyn, Jan. 15.—Convicted on charges of swindling, a priest collecting money for a man described as Raymond Norman has been sentenced in the Court of General Sessions to serve a prison term not to exceed three years. The man, it is charged, called himself a priest, because of an intimate connection with an organization called "The American Catholic Orthodox Church" and wore the garb of a priest, including the clerical collar. It is said he collected large sums of money, ostensibly for the relief of the poor and needy, and kept the money.

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HART'S ROCHESTER'S GREATEST EVERYBODY SAVES HART'S COUPONS PRICE CUTTERS

Sara kept herself very busy with her duties at home and in visiting the sick and aged of the village, never failing to cheer them all. Autumn went on with its beauty of coloring of woods and the days of golden sunshine and sudden sharp crispness in the winds. Jim's let-