

PART FIRST—THE TRANSGRESSION

Amongst the persons who smiled more or less at the conversion of Madame de Sairtizer, were a young and charming couple whom she had known since their infancy, and amidst the scenes of revelry in which she had lived. The young couple became more impassioned and devoted to each other than ever; they were reconciled and married, after the passing storm which had hurled them asunder; and they indulged in no other vengeance against the cause than the secret satisfaction that of mildly jesting at the pious conversion of the man who had done them so much injury. Some time after, a terrible fatalitv overtook the loving pair. The husband, until then blidely unsuspecting, was suddenly informed by anonymous communications. A rupture ensued, and the young wife was

dress, very simple, decorated with grey ribbons, allowed her fair sleek hair to be seen, arranged in broad bands. At first look, people were struck with her dignified though somewhat austere appearance. She would have vainly tried to discover in her plump, rosy cheeks, now marked with repentant camellias, and trace of the agitations of her past life. So naturally grave and reserved was she that people could not believe her the heroine of so many intrigues and adventures and gallantries. It was by chance she ever heard any lightness in her name. Her first defence, since she had come to believe herself a kind of "mother in the church," immediately expressed candid but grieved astonishment, which soon changed into an air of offended chastity and disdainful pity.

For the rest, her smile, when requisite, was still full of grace, and her voice, so soft and sweet and resistless sweetness of seeming to seduce, was still the same. Her large blue eyes, on fit occasions, became affectionate and caroling. But if

With regard to this text, a commentary upon it will be found in the "Constitutions of the Jesuits," as follows:—"In order that the habit of language may come to the help of the sentiments, it is wise not to say, 'I am parenia, or I have brothers;' but to say 'I had parenia; I had brothers.'"—"General Examination, 19; Constitutions.—Paulin, 1843. Paris.

"I thought this room would do very well for our purpose. It is separated from the smaller parlor by a curtain only, behind which our man may be stationed."

"Capital!"

... yesterday, unfortunate Philippon came to tell me, that Madame de la Sainte Colombe was about to have an awful relapse—moral, of course—for her physical health is now tolerably good. The said relapse appears to have been occasioned by an interview she

"A sincere conversation can never be called
d, as you term it, madame," said Abbe
Algrigny, coldly. "It is, on the contrary,

grained with
per to most
ite of the crea
ed upon her li
years faithfully,
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