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CONN COYLE'S ELDEST
 By.....
 Charles Kennett Burrow.
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It was a gusty, squally day,
 which made it difficult for
 Maggie's bare legs to carry
 her toward Carmore as rapidly
 as the occasion demanded. She
 made herself as small as possible,
 held the shawl which covered her head
 close under her throat and in the lull
 of the wind increased her pace to a run.
 Tightly clutched in her left hand
 was a slip of paper on which was
 scrawled a list of the articles she was
 to buy and carry back to Ballycloher.
 The luxuries enumerated on the slip
 of paper were for the entertainment of
 one guest, Maggie's uncle, her mother's
 brother, whom she had never seen.
 She understood him to be rich. Indeed,
 he was always held up by Mrs. Coyle
 as a model for her husband's imitation.
 "He's hundreds," she used to say,
 "hundreds!" It's my belief they're
 all in gold; ye can see money in 'is
 face. It's ye might be as warm, Conn,
 if ye'd think of the poor childer."

She made her purchases all at one
 shop, and then found, as was inevitable,
 that Mrs. Coyle had overestimated
 the prices and she was 2 shillings
 short. Mrs. MacDonogh, who kept the
 store, was quite willing to give credit
 for the balance, but it seemed to Maggie
 that this course would be a kind of
 reflection on her uncle. While she
 grieved helplessly in her pocket for
 money which she knew was not there,
 she saw James Phelan pass the door.
 An inspiration thot her to his side.
 "Jim," she cried, "I had me 2 shillings
 'p' that short. Ye'll have it back to-
 morrow."

"Faith, is it ye? Well, well! Two
 shillins! Is it? How do ye think I'd
 have all that about me?"
 "No jokin'. It's a blessin' I saw ye,
 sure."

"That's true," said Jim. "The polis
 might have had ye else, Maggie." He
 produced the money. She settled the
 account and took a receipt with an air
 of grave dignity. When she came out
 of the shop, Jim was waiting.
 "Is it ye still?" asked Maggie.
 "An' why not? I'm goin' yer way,
 sure, an' we might as well walk in
 slither."

"I'm in a mad hurry, Jim."
 "Did I ask ye to go slow for me?"
 "Ye did not," said Maggie candidly.
 "That's a great, ugly parcel," said
 Jim, "an' too heavy for the likes of
 ye. Just hand it here, Maggie."
 "Ye'll not drop it? There's things
 that'd break if ye did."
 "I'll hold it an' to it right enough.
 What's inside at all? It's monstrous
 heavy!"

"All sorts. We've a visitor comin'
 tonight—Uncle Frank Power."
 "An' who's he?"
 "Sure ye've heard tell of him times
 an' times. He's mother's brother."
 "I'd forgot, Maggie."
 "I've never set eyes on 'im yet, but
 he's a grand, rich man, I'm told."
 "Ye be that? This 'wunt'll be want
 in Ballycloher?"
 "To see his own people, sure."
 "That's kind of 'im," said Jim.
 The wind had dropped somewhat,
 and a smart shower of rain came on.
 After a time Jim said:
 "Ye'd best shelter a bit."
 Maggie hesitated. "I could wrap the
 parcel up in me shawl," she said.
 "An' ketch yer death! That's likely!
 There's no hurry, sure, if he's not comin'
 till night."

"He found a dry spot under a wayside
 inn, Maggie took the parcel from Jim
 and carefully placed it close to the
 trunk. Then the pair stood side by side
 before it and listened to the hiss of
 the rain in the leaves and watched the
 streaming white road."
 "Ye'd made jodds in this weather,"
 said Jim, glancing at her bare feet.
 "Not at all! What mischief'd a little
 wet do?" She pressed her toes into the
 soft earth.
 "I'm doin' well now, Maggie."
 "That's good hearin'," she said.
 "Aye, I'm doin' well," he repeated.
 "Ye'll be 'most a woman now, I
 s'pose?"
 "Sixteen last birthday," she said.
 "Bedad, that's a great age! 'Most
 marryin' time, Maggie. I s'pose ye
 haven't a notion as it yerself?"
 "How would I, wid all them childer
 to look after?"
 "Jin slipped an arm round her waist
 and kissed her."
 "I thought ye might have," he said.
 Maggie flushed and closed her eyes
 for a moment. Then they opened again
 to see the blazed sky and rainy road.
 "I couldn't," she said softly.
 "Jim released her suddenly and cried:
 "Whisht! There's Mary Cregan comin'!"

She was opposite the pair almost as
 soon as Jim spoke—a tall, handsome
 girl, warmly clad, though less neat
 than Maggie. She had strong shoes on
 her feet, too, which should have been
 sufficient herald of her approach if
 Jim had not been deaf at the moment.
 She paused and looked them up and
 down with a smile that had something
 of scorn in it and at the back of that
 again a spark of anger.
 "This a grand day for the like of that,
 James Phelan," she said. "Ye might
 as well be in the sky as in the mud."
 "I might put the comether on grown girls
 an' not childer."
 "This a grand day indeed, Mary,"
 said James, avoiding her eyes. "Aye,
 ye comin'?"
 "Not now; I've an errand to Bally-
 cloher."
 "Aa, well, good day to ye." She
 passed on.
 "She's a hard nail," said Jim, laugh-
 ing wistfully.
 "She saw."
 "What of that, sure?"
 "She'll tell an us."
 "Let her."
 "Did ye ever kiss her, Jim?"
 "I did, many a time, an' others have
 too. What's there in that to trouble
 wid? I'd rather kiss ye, Maggie."
 "It's not rainin' riss," she said.
 "Give me wan kiss, asthore," he said;
 "the other I tuk widout lave."
 Maggie trembled as she lifted her
 face to his, and there were tears in her
 eyes, which James Phelan did not see.
 When the children came in from
 school, a riotous mob, they were taken
 by Maggie to be "put straight," a process
 which involved much howling and
 many tears. She was so full of the
 morning's episode that she would have
 preferred not to change the dress she
 wore; it seemed now to be part of the
 altered life. In the same way she hesi-
 tated to wash the mud from her feet.
 But, of course, she did both and the
 act was brought nearer to the practical
 side of things.

"No, no," with a shiver that shook her
 throat. She clung closer. "Let me
 shilly v'ld ye; let me shilly."
 Conn held her to him and allowed his
 lips to go on. It was a poor man,
 with many clamorous mouths to feed;
 he was also a man of strong affections.
 A bitter struggle began in him. Frank
 Power watched cautiously.
 "I'm thinkin' the north mightn't
 shute th' childer," said Conn. "An' thin
 there's the young wans. Who'll see
 after 'em?"
 "Sure, Biddy's fourteen an' well able
 for it. Would ye shude in the girl's
 way, Conn?"
 "God save us, what talk, woman!
 Shand in her way! Is it me harm the
 childer? Ach, Maggie, ye know well yer
 own own heart's blood!"
 "Yes," whispered the girl.
 "I say thank ye kindly, Frank Power,
 an' God bless ye for the thought av'
 AF to bed wid ye, Maggie, asthore,
 an' I've us to think a bit."
 She slipped from Conn's knee after an
 embrace piteous with entreaty, kissed
 her mother and the uncle whom she
 already regarded with a kind of terror
 and went up quietly to her bed. But a
 week before she would have accepted the
 proposed change, not indeed, without
 sorrow, but as part of the necessary
 round of life. Now it seemed an
 utter uprooting, terrible as the idea of
 it.

It was decided that Maggie should
 go. Frank Power when he made the
 offer knew it was inevitable and con-
 gratulated himself on the brilliant idea
 which had sent him to see Ellen's eld-
 est girl. Her attractiveness was beyond
 all hopes, even in his eyes she was
 pretty, and he saw no more than the
 shell of her, the accidents of feature
 and of health. He advanced a meager
 sum toward the purchase of the neces-
 sary outfit, to be repaid, he said, when
 she was earning for herself.
 Maggie's parting from James Phelan
 was a very simple matter after all.
 Her heart was too big for speech, and
 his, if not that, at least prompted him
 to say no more than might have been
 overheard with safety by any passer-
 by.

Mary Cregan, as he knew, had long
 ears and a longer tongue; it was well
 to be discreet. But Frank Power, who
 had a habit of silent prowling, both
 saw and heard. He said nothing, but
 that night his lean face looked leamer
 and his crafty eyes drew closer to-
 gether under bent brows.
 Conn's last words to Maggie were:
 "Be good, dearie, an' whin ye come
 back we'll be proud av' ye."
 The change to Maggie from Bally-
 cloher to Belfast was like moving from
 from free air to a close room. Dis-
 appointment met her on the thresh-
 old of the new life, for the glorious
 shop which she had imagined, with a
 plated glass front and sumptuous dis-
 play of millinery, far finer than any-
 thing in Carmore, proved to be a dark
 little place in a side street, with hardly
 more room than Mrs. MacDonogh's.
 Maggie and a companion worked at
 one counter, Frank Power and his new
 partner at another facing it. The new
 partner was an amiable young man,
 content, it seemed, to work under his
 senior's direction and appearing to
 have no ideas of his own. Power ruled
 the place. He sat up late at night over
 his books, long after the household had
 gone to bed. Once in a while Maggie
 came down to fetch something she had for-
 gotten, she found him in his little
 counting house poring over rows of fig-
 ures like a man whose life depended on
 the solution of some fantastic puzzle.

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Railroads.
 Manchester & Oneida Ry.

TIME TABLE.
 Train No. 2 leaves Manchester at 5 a. m., arrives at Oneida at 5:30 a. m. Connects with west bound C. & N. No. 5. Returns to Manchester at 6:30 a. m.
 Train No. 4 leaves Manchester at 7:15 a. m., arrives at Oneida at 7:45 a. m. Connects with east bound C. & N. No. 3. Returns to Manchester at 8:30 a. m.
 Train No. 6 leaves Manchester at 8:45 a. m., arrives at Oneida at 9:15 a. m. Connects with the north bound C. M. & St. P. No. 22. Returns to Manchester at 10:30 a. m.
 Train No. 8 leaves Manchester at 2:15 p. m., arrives at Oneida at 2:45 p. m. Connects with south bound C. M. & St. P. No. 9. Returns to Manchester at 3:30 p. m.
 Train No. 10 leaves Manchester at 4:30 p. m., arrives at Oneida at 5:00 p. m. Connects with south bound C. M. & St. P. No. 21. Returns to Manchester at 5:30 p. m.

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 via Omaha and the scenic route every Friday
 night from Chicago.

ILLINOIS CENTRAL R. R.
 TIME TABLE.
 Main Line Passenger Trains.

WEST BOUND	MAIN LINE	EAST BOUND
No. 1212 10 p. m.	Fast Train	No. 4 8:30 a. m.
No. 1214 11 p. m.	Chicago	No. 6 10:15 a. m.
No. 1216 12:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 8 11:45 a. m.
No. 1218 1:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 10 1:15 p. m.
No. 1220 2:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 12 2:45 p. m.
No. 1222 3:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 14 4:15 p. m.
No. 1224 4:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 16 5:45 p. m.
No. 1226 5:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 18 7:15 p. m.
No. 1228 6:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 20 8:45 p. m.
No. 1230 7:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 22 10:15 p. m.
No. 1232 8:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 24 11:45 p. m.
No. 1234 9:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 26 1:15 a. m.
No. 1236 10:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 28 2:45 a. m.
No. 1238 11:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 30 4:15 a. m.
No. 1240 12:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 32 5:45 a. m.
No. 1242 1:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 34 7:15 a. m.
No. 1244 2:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 36 8:45 a. m.
No. 1246 3:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 38 10:15 a. m.
No. 1248 4:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 40 11:45 a. m.
No. 1250 5:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 42 1:15 p. m.
No. 1252 6:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 44 2:45 p. m.
No. 1254 7:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 46 4:15 p. m.
No. 1256 8:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 48 5:45 p. m.
No. 1258 9:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 50 7:15 p. m.
No. 1260 10:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 52 8:45 p. m.
No. 1262 11:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 54 10:15 p. m.
No. 1264 12:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 56 11:45 p. m.
No. 1266 1:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 58 1:15 a. m.
No. 1268 2:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 60 2:45 a. m.
No. 1270 3:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 62 4:15 a. m.
No. 1272 4:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 64 5:45 a. m.
No. 1274 5:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 66 7:15 a. m.
No. 1276 6:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 68 8:45 a. m.
No. 1278 7:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 70 10:15 a. m.
No. 1280 8:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 72 11:45 a. m.
No. 1282 9:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 74 1:15 p. m.
No. 1284 10:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 76 2:45 p. m.
No. 1286 11:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 78 4:15 p. m.
No. 1288 12:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 80 5:45 p. m.
No. 1290 1:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 82 7:15 p. m.
No. 1292 2:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 84 8:45 p. m.
No. 1294 3:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 86 10:15 p. m.
No. 1296 4:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 88 11:45 p. m.
No. 1298 5:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 90 1:15 a. m.
No. 1300 6:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 92 2:45 a. m.
No. 1302 7:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 94 4:15 a. m.
No. 1304 8:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 96 5:45 a. m.
No. 1306 9:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 98 7:15 a. m.
No. 1308 10:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 100 8:45 a. m.
No. 1310 11:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 102 10:15 a. m.
No. 1312 12:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 104 11:45 a. m.
No. 1314 1:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 106 1:15 p. m.
No. 1316 2:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 108 2:45 p. m.
No. 1318 3:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 110 4:15 p. m.
No. 1320 4:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 112 5:45 p. m.
No. 1322 5:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 114 7:15 p. m.
No. 1324 6:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 116 8:45 p. m.
No. 1326 7:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 118 10:15 p. m.
No. 1328 8:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 120 11:45 p. m.
No. 1330 9:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 122 1:15 a. m.
No. 1332 10:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 124 2:45 a. m.
No. 1334 11:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 126 4:15 a. m.
No. 1336 12:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 128 5:45 a. m.
No. 1338 1:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 130 7:15 a. m.
No. 1340 2:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 132 8:45 a. m.
No. 1342 3:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 134 10:15 a. m.
No. 1344 4:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 136 11:45 a. m.
No. 1346 5:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 138 1:15 p. m.
No. 1348 6:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 140 2:45 p. m.
No. 1350 7:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 142 4:15 p. m.
No. 1352 8:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 144 5:45 p. m.
No. 1354 9:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 146 7:15 p. m.
No. 1356 10:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 148 8:45 p. m.
No. 1358 11:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 150 10:15 p. m.
No. 1360 12:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 152 11:45 p. m.
No. 1362 1:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 154 1:15 a. m.
No. 1364 2:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 156 2:45 a. m.
No. 1366 3:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 158 4:15 a. m.
No. 1368 4:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 160 5:45 a. m.
No. 1370 5:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 162 7:15 a. m.
No. 1372 6:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 164 8:45 a. m.
No. 1374 7:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 166 10:15 a. m.
No. 1376 8:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 168 11:45 a. m.
No. 1378 9:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 170 1:15 p. m.
No. 1380 10:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 172 2:45 p. m.
No. 1382 11:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 174 4:15 p. m.
No. 1384 12:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 176 5:45 p. m.
No. 1386 1:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 178 7:15 p. m.
No. 1388 2:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 180 8:45 p. m.
No. 1390 3:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 182 10:15 p. m.
No. 1392 4:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 184 11:45 p. m.
No. 1394 5:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 186 1:15 a. m.
No. 1396 6:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 188 2:45 a. m.
No. 1398 7:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 190 4:15 a. m.
No. 1400 8:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 192 5:45 a. m.
No. 1402 9:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 194 7:15 a. m.
No. 1404 10:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 196 8:45 a. m.
No. 1406 11:15 p. m.	Chicago	No. 198 10:15 a. m.
No. 1408 12:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 200 11:45 a. m.
No. 1410 1:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 202 1:15 p. m.
No. 1412 2:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 204 2:45 p. m.
No. 1414 3:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 206 4:15 p. m.
No. 1416 4:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 208 5:45 p. m.
No. 1418 5:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 210 7:15 p. m.
No. 1420 6:15 a. m.	Chicago	No. 212 8:45 p. m.
No. 1422 7:15 a. m.		