## FIRE AND SWORD :

A Story of the Massacre of Glencoe.

CHAPTER I. There was commotion in Glenorchy. Earl Breadalbane, the feudal laird of the district, had important state business in hand. He held a commision from the State for the pacification of the disaffected clans, and had invited the Jacobile chiefs and officers to friendly intercourse the Boyne. His position and talents It was further noticeable that the heathat his Glenorchy estate.

This was reception day, and his own numerous retainers were attired in spe- pacify the Highlands, he ascepted, and loop-knot. cial holiday garb, and had gathered in at once proceeded to execute, the imporgreat force on the siretch of green tant commission entrusted to him, ground fronting his princely residence hence the convention of the chiefs and officers of the Jacobite party at Glenorat the head of the Brae of Orchy.

The year was 1691, and on the failure of the Jacobite party to maintain itself "Another arrival, my Lord Breadalagainst the Whig party, Breadalbanebane," announced an attendant Dunniewho was a professed and trusted supportwassail, saluting the proud Earl. er of King William's Government, now "Who ?" he inquired. that that Government was on the win-"Cameron of Lochiel," promptly an-

ning side-had received a most important commission to conciliate the High land Chiefs by the distribution of £15. 000-an immense sum in these daysalong with the promise of an indemnity versation amongst the Highland chiefs from the consequences of past offences seated round the table. against loyalty to the new order of

things ; the conditions of all which were an acceptance, on the part of the disaffected Chiefs, of the Oath of Allegiance.

"None, my lord." The Earl had therefore entered into The earl resumed his seat, from which negotiations, on behalf of the Govern-\_ he had momentarily risen on receiving ment, with the principal Chiefs and offi the announcement of Lochiel. The nonappearance of M'Ian, the Chief of Glan. cers of the Jacobite party; and in the hope of furthering a successful issue had coe, had mentally disquieted him. A dark shade of mingled anger and disapinvited them as guests to a friendly conpointment clouded his handsome count ference in Glenorchy.

There was thus commotion in the quiet enance, which was noticed by those who Glen that day. Each Chieftain, accomsat in his presence. panied by a small body-guard of armed The Earl's suspicious of M'Ian's per

retainers, entered the seclusion of the sonal jealousy and hatred, apart from beautiful Glen with pipes playing and his mere political disaffection as a Jacobribbons and tartans flying; and from ite, was natural, and perhaps in a sense early morn till well on the afternoon the justifiable. For generations past the arrivals continued to pour in, from dis-"Men of the Glen," as the Macdonalds tricts distant and near, to strains of war- of Glencoe were familinrly called, had line and inspiring music. been regarded as enemies of the Breadal-

wered the attendant.

leave the hall.

A smile of satisfaction momentarily lit

the dark features of the haughty Earl,

which was succeeded by a buzz of con-

'No word vet of M'Ian of Glencoe?'

he inquired, as the attendant turned to

It was a bright, warm summer day, bane branch of the powerful Campbella the exact date being June 30, 1691. The The Earl entertained and persistently Vale of Orchy-beautiful in itself, alnursed a strong, if not a just, grudge though surrounded on all sides by moors ageirst the old chief and his "thieving and mountains-was looking its very people," as he was accustomed to name then, and knowing we'l the stern old chief's perferrid attachment to the Jacoheat in the rich, warm sunlight, while the mingled assortment of plaid and tartan which everywhere glanced bice cause, joined to their personai disalong its level length added a pictu-it is and suspicion of each other, he promptly concluded that M'Ian's produced resque and striking beauty to the scene.

From Rannoch the clansmen came ; ed absence from the convention was an from Glengarry ; from Glenlyon ; from other insult offered to his dignity as con gmeen Appin ; from Lochiel ; from the vener of the meeting in the King's wilds of Lochaber ; and from numerous .00 3'

other quarters, remote and near, where "The wilg old fox will not readily loyalty to the Stuart dynasty of King leave his den," he whispered in a low James was still lovingly adhered tc tone aside to Captain Robert Glen'yon, even in the dark hour of misfortune-as an unscrupulous partizan of the Earl, and a laird on his domains. an article of duty and true faith.

Some of the Clans had been three days Glenlyon smiled grimly, and suggesthe read but that was no he in fine weather to men accustomed to open remark lest the chiefs assembled the rude life of that period, and to the round the table should overhear it. wild and bloody forays of interaccine "He wants correction," again whisper war. They trod the rugged mountaia ed the E . passes with practised feet, and when the "Yes, this soit," responded Glenlyon, shades of night came down they alept stalling the massive hilt of his sword. soundly on the open heath, or within Further parley was present'y interthe shadow of the silent glens. rupted by the entrance of Lochiel, the

"Which means--"

## added to these dubious qualities was a McIan was a striking figure to look at | Ignoring M'Ian's arguments, and even deep tint of treachery and corruption as ha stood before his old enemy, the his existence at the table, the wily Earl haughty and over-reaching Earl. He again plead the acceptance of the antice again plead the acceptance of the antice the catching heile of money rewards again held out and largely dwelt upor acquired in the Royal Council Chambers, Edindburgh. After the Revolution. he joined and betrayed every political party in turn. He had sworn fealty to Wil-liam and Mary, and had afterwards secretly and systematically plotted agains them. His uncertain and dis-matrix, and with shoes made of deer-and dirks, and with shoes made of deer-matrix them. had, like others of his fellow nobles, creditable course-which had all along skin on his feet. The broad woollen bonbeen full of shifts and doubles-became net which he held in his hand was fitly somewhat less tortuous after the Whig adorned with a badge of heather blosascendancy consequent on the battle of som and a single white eagle's feather.

marking him out to the new Govern- er badge was artistically tied together by a white ribbon arranged in a double ment as a man who could do inuch to The quick eye of the Earl noticed

foremerly. They will all secure a new social standing of adherents of the King, these slight yet significant indications of and many of you will have court privile and hostility to the business at issue. He ges extended to you, with actual money promptly judged them as being equivawcalth. But as for our friend M'Ian, ent to an assumption of the "White he added, after a detailed statement pecuniary rewards, "he must, of courte Cockade," and the arrogance of the act annoyed him. He accepted it as a deforego his share of the money in respect fiant challenge against the success of the of certain just claims which I have important commission with which he against his lawless and thevish tenants stood entrusted. for plundering my lands of goods and

" Macdonald is late of arrival," recattle (M'Ian glared at the speaker), and marked the Earl. affecting by the tone of his voice to be more concerned in his guest's welfare than dubious of his sincerity in attending the business of the onference.

The old Chief tendered the Earl and evasive reply, and entered forthwith into a spirited conversation with his their eyes towards M'Ian to see how he would take the open affront, brother Chiefs around him.

The spacious baronial-looking hall wherein they were gathered presented a dare you to again call the Men of the picturesque and most striking appear-Glen lawless or thevish."

and short-hafted, heavy-headed axes of

great traditional value. in the eyes of

dition, the huge antlers of the latest

slain stag fitly adoined the centre of the

table, and portious of its fleah were serv-

ed up a repast for the Earl's guests in

commingling thus with the picturesque

and many-hued garbs of the different

Highland Chieftains, conspired to ven-

der the scene a notable one, and not un-

worthy of the important historical eni-

Outside the scene was equally inter

esting to look at, and hardly less pictu-

resque and striking in effect. On the

green plateau before the Earl's mansion

another part of the building.]

sode which occasioned it.

These martial and striking acces

coneding chief of the family. In ad-

On every side the walls were hung insist on the retention of your portion of with numerous trophies of the chase, the money," retorted the unabashed Earl, between whom and M'Ian a long-standing personal feud was thus un erhuge horns of beasts, suits of chain-armor, old swords of traditionary note, with rows of emblematic shields and banners, ectedly renewed. and with rude arms and accoutrements "Then I deny it, and appeal to the native to the period, and to preceding

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tains.

"Nothing will be wan'ing on the part

of the King's Government," he continu

ed, "to make the social position of the

Highland Jacobite leaders better than

onor of the sword," exclaimed the her oic M'Ian, and, suddenly unsheathing ages of rapine and blood. Each article honor, and each relic family history his claymore, he advanced a step on the and worth had a story of its own to tell, confounded Earl. "Draw !" details of which had been traditionally In a moment the crafty and schemin banded down from sire to son. In many Glenlyon was on his feet, and, sword in cases battle dents, and dark stains of hand, had trust himself between the bloodrendered longbladed broadswords ala

> "Stand aside, caitiff !" said the brav and chivalrous Lochiel, springing and denly to his feet and thrusting Glenlyon side in turn.

> John eldest son of the aged chief, als prang to his aid, sword in hand, and mentarily there was a seizure of sword hilts and dirk-heads all round.

"Caitiff #' repeated Glenlyon, def y brandishing his sword in the face of the brave Cameron. "Lochiel shall not thus speak of me ! Whatever Locheil may be in point of rank, in arms, at least, Glenlyon is his equal !"

The rival disputants glared savagely at each other, and seemed on the point of open and deadly conflict, when Breadalbane, remembering the kingly dignity of his commission, at once de-



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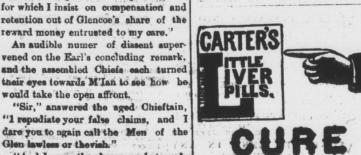
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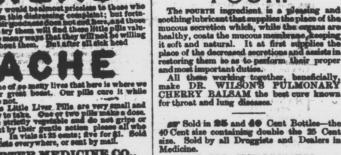
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The sland erty in char compelled to And yet th Nay, it ever ters of parti wrongfully baseless ch mentioned v who gave th ing letter, w "In your "the heading "opoly of "keepera,' "that Edwa 'hotel keep "ed to purc "Mr. Doher

"granted,' "the statem "consider it "and mysel England in was granted he bought Nerlich & other firm. "when you "please leav 'statements "true. I a "I will not "means. I "fessional e 'any way, I

The l In answer ing informa the Colling following su copy for the Properly

Stalwart men and strong they wererough-bearded, broad-chested, long of arm, and lithe of kimb ; and when they Charles of the '45. awoke from a night's sleep on the rough hillside they merely shook the dew from their plaids, and strode sturdily on. hand.

Lochiel retu and the frothy greeting Arriving on the ground, the retainers were provided for outside the Earl's less effusively than the proud Earl would mansion ; and by noon-day severals huntute a diplomatist to show his resentdreds were gathered, camp-like, on the green plateau facing the house, where ment, and friendly greetings went round inducements were held out them, and all they were invited to regale themselves with great draughts of home-brewed ale, and good faith, succeeded on which conand such solid refreshments as were common to that rude period.

Inside the Earl's princely domain special table had been set for the entertainment of the Chiefs. Breadalbane presiding over the business of the hour

Over a dozen Chieftains-the powerful brother chiefs, and the influence his heads of clans or septs of clans-were ounsel had with them. assembled round the Earl's board, sitting slowes, of appearance," again muttered, the Earl to his trusted henchman Gleudown to the table belted and sworded as beseemed their rank.

The Earl himself wore the picturesque dress of his Clan, with a strip of dark-

green plaid thrown over the right shoul-"Oppesition to our plans." interjected he angry Earl. der above his sword-belt, a pair or silver-By-aad-by, however, the attendant buckled shoes on his feet, his stockings Dunniewacsail rushed in and almost exbeing tied below the knees with red ribcited'y announced the arrival of M'Ian. bons. A pair of handsome pistols were occupied 'y his two sons John and Alstuck in his broad waist-belt, and a silver crest of a boar's head ado ned the lister, the old Chief's piper, and a small top of his shaggy sporan, bearing the body-guard of recainers. motto-Follow Me ! engraved in silver

letters over it. A word regarding the Earl's character ily to his trusty partizan Glenlyon. and standing may not be inadmissable

CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF THE

hall, supported right and left by his two here :-John, Earl of Breadalbane, was the stalwart sons, who each saluted the

head of a younger branch of the great Earl. house of Campbell, and ranked high M'Ian was a tall, fine-looking, muscu-

among the pretty princes of the moun- lar man, with broad, square shoulders. the Jacobite circle. From its first inceptains. He could bring 1700 claymores upon which rested his long white flowing tion the Government scheme had been into the field, and was consciously proud locks. He was decended from lan regarded by the bulk of the disaffected of the solid fact. A man of double Frach-from whom he derived the pat- Chiefs with suspicion and distrust, and character, he had regularly practised in ronymic of M'Ian-a brother of John, the present personal conference with its his castellated home among the hills Lord of the Is'es, who flourished in 1346, reputed author-the ambitious Earlthe barbarian pride and overbearing fer- and is said to have acquired Glencoe in did not seem at all likely to further it in ocity of a Highland Chief ; and super- right of his wife.

rival clansmen heartily fraternised and'pouring out copious libations of foaming ale drank to each other generally. and pledged each their own chiefs in particular, dancing between times, hornpipes on the grass to the scream of the pipes and the spproving shouts of spectators. It was enough that their below ed Chiefs were in conference with the ancestor, in a later generation, of the Earl inside the hall. They were congallant at d chivalrous adherent of Prince

tent to go, or remain, as directed. Meanwhile Breadalbane had caution "A thousand welcomes," should ly opened business by unfolding the Dreadalbane, rising and extending his Government plan of reconciliation and

clemency towards the rebellious Jacohite Chiefs Past offences, he explain But there is none. The Whigs are ed, were to be overlooked, additional have wished. He was, however, too as- portions of land were in some cases to be ceded, and as a catching bait money policy to submit ourselves to the King. the circle, with a fair show of sincerity on the single condition of their acceptance of the Oath of Allegiance. finite arrangement, requesting liberty to

Breadalbane urged on their attention versation became general, the main topic of business being studiously avoided by the generosity of the Government terms, zies to France to obtain the sanction of the Earl, in the hope that M'Ian of the an anxiously watched the effect of the Valley might still put in an appearance, proposal on the assembled guests. For some moments there was no verbal rewhose adhesion to the new Government was the more to be desired because of the sponse, and the profound silence with respect in which he was held by his which the Earl's scheme of reconciliato, and, during the necessary interim, s

tion had been received argued but poorly for its ultimate success.

Breadalbane urged a reply, and all ed to on both sides. "His land liss nearest us, and he is the looked to M'Ian for counsel. His courage, his sagacity, and his years all comtion thus concluded, Mclan hastily got. bined to give him that priority of speech to his feet, and, adjusting his shoulder and place among there which his brother plaid, he summoned his two sons to fol-Chiefs with one accord conceded.

low him, and having taken a formal Rising to his feet, he spoke with firm adieu of the haughty Earl, and a warm deliberation, and having the courage of all-round leave of his brother chiefs, he his convictions, he fearlessly deprecated hurried off northwards in the direction certain of the terms of the proposal, of Glencoe, followed by his trusty bodyalleging that loyalty to a fallen cause was guard, his "piper" playing a defiant preferable to chicanery in the matter of nibroch as they left the grounds. Several of the other chiefs followed

successful one. Breadalbane scowled disapproval of

A gleam of satisfaction lit up the Earl's dark face, and he smiled significan-M'Ian's remarks, and looked round the directions, but the majority-who had circle anticipatory of a friendly and long journeys to undertake-agreed to Presently the old Chief entered the sympathetic discussion of the proposal. hospitality at Kilchurn Castle, a magnifi-In this, however, he was doomed to cent feudal castle situated some miles

lisappcintment. McIan's disparaging and defiant stric-

tures seemed to give a mental keynote to any special way.

sired to sink all personal feeling in the matter, and fervently petitioned the recusant Jacobites to do the same.

astute Earl enlarging on the power and

wealth of the reigning Government, their

firm determination to suppress disaffection

at whatever cost, and the hopelessness of

further resistance which could only end

in disaster to the recognized heads of the

Clans. "Were there any real chance of

success in the desperate game you are

playing, he added, "I would willingly be

one with you in action as I am in heart.

powerful and numerous, the Jacobite

feeble and few. Therefore, it is good

The Chiefs, however, with one accord

declined acceding meantime to any de

send Sir Geo. Barclay and Major Men-

King James, permitting them to enter

into a treaty with the new Government

This request was relubtantly accede

cessation of hostilities till the first day

of the succeeding October was subscrib-

The immediate business of the conven

suit, setting off homewards in different

remain over night, and accept the Earl's

(TO BE CONTINUED. )

Worth Knowing.

distant at the foot of Glenorchy.

such as Breadalbane now proposed.

GEOPeace thus restored, the proposal was once more pressed for acceptance, the



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