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TORONTO, ONT. MONTREAL

Under False Colors
OR
Lord Somerton's Ally.

CHAPTER XVIII.

"And if you believe in my friend Stretton, you shall do it," Kemp said quickly. "Everybody knows that I am not a poor man, and it isn't often that I take a generous freak into my head, but I do this time, and you know why! In business I'm as hard as nails, but for solid friendship you take a man of my nature. Stretton, the two hundred is your, whenever you want it, and you can repay me just when you please."

"Mr. Kemp, I—"

"There! I will have no denial! I shall feel happy if you will let me do you this good turn, and must insist that you do not breathe one word to Miss Moffatt—well, not until she is Mrs. Stretton! I'll arrange how it is to be done, and how proud the bride will be of her beautiful home!"

"He showed his teeth as he laughed, and slapped the young gamekeeper on the back.

"Good-bye for the present, Stretton, and a prosperous future to you!"

He walked back to the house, and the gamekeeper toward the park.

The picture that Kemp had held before him was positively alluring. Annette did admire beautiful things, and she certainly would feel the change in being transplanted from the manor to the cottage. Kemp was quite right. Annette was no commonplace girl. She was pretty and sweet, and deserved a lovely home-nest. The more he thought of it the more determined he became to give her a surprise!

He continued through the park until he came to Jones' cottage—the cottage that would soon be his home and here—and his heart bounded with joy.

He quickly broke the news to old Jim Jones that he was to be pensioned on. Then he strolled toward a portion of the grounds where the stables had stood half a century earlier. The spot was now a complete wilderness of trees and brambles. A complaint had been made to the head keeper that the top of a diseased wall had crumbled in, and Stretton had been told to see that it was made safe.

He forced his way through the bushes to the inclosure in which the

well was situated, and came face to face with Lord George Somerton.

Lord Somerton stuck his eyes into his eye, and regarded the gamekeeper indifferently, saying:

"Ah, my bucolic friend, aren't you the fellow I saw leave the library an hour since?"

"Yes, my lord," replied Stretton, though he strongly resented his lordship's manner.

"Holding a private consultation with Miss Sterne, eh? Now, see here, my good fellow! What the deuce can the young mistress of Blairwood Park have to talk to you about? Why does she forget her position to such a lamentable degree? What is the steward doing? the butler, or even the housekeeper? I tell you, young man, you run serious risks of getting discharged without a character. Miss Sterne is not responsible for her actions, as all power is vested in me and Sir John's lawyers. I can revoke any order given by Miss Sterne, and your recent appointment to the post of head keeper will not hold water if I choose to oppose it. Now, my man, think twice before you speak, and obey me, or your projected wedding with the pretty Annette will be a mere airy dream."

He watched the keeper keenly, and continued:

"In a measure you are in Miss Sterne's confidence, Stretton. Now it has occurred to me that if you continue in that very enviable occupation you can be of great use to me, secure a firm hold upon my purse and my affections, and your future and that of the pretty Annette will be assured."

"You mean, my lord," Stretton replied, "you mean that I am to betray my mistress' actions to you, while pretending to be faithful in her service?"

"Exactly—exactly, Stretton. I see that your perceptions are sharp for one of your class!"

"I do not know your power, Lord Somerton," proceeded the gamekeeper, steadily, "but let the result be what it may, I feel some gratification in falling you that you are a despicable villain! If I lose my position at Blairwood Park, I think that I shall be able to obtain honorable employment elsewhere."

"You are a blind fool!" sneered Somerton, "and I might be inclined to chastise you for your insolence but for the danger of this open well. Look in yourself in the future, my good fellow!"

He favored Stretton with one of his baleful glances, and strode away, leaving the keeper in a very uncomfortable frame of mind.

CHAPTER XIX.

To one of Elsie Sterne's proud nature it was bitterly humiliating that so much that was mysterious and unexplainable in connection with herself should have to be shared with one of her servants.

Still she did not for one moment doubt Stretton, and the more she pondered upon Mrs. Moffatt's strange actions the more she became perplexed.

Why should he visit Blairwood at so peculiar a time? Why should he come at all in secrecy? There was the chance that the gamekeeper had been mistaken, but the pipe that the visitor had left behind, Elsie had certainly seen in Colin Erskine's possession.

It was a most imprudent thing to do so soon after the unhappy events of the past week, and in face of the cruel suspicions that had almost resulted in his arrest.

"I cannot doubt him, whatever may happen," she thought. "I know that he is good, and brave, and true. It is possible that he, too, is for a time a plaything in the hands of a malicious fate. But, oh, Colin, why do you not write to me often, as you promised? Why do you not tell me all?"

She heard a step behind her, and Lady Helena's voice exclaimed:

"Good gracious, Elsie! I believe that you have been crying! Why, your eyes are positively red and swollen. What is the matter, child?"

She looked quizzically at the girl, and Elsie replied:

"Is there anything wonderful in that, Lady Helena? I have been thinking of my father. I am hungry for news of him. This uncertainty is dreadful."

"My dear, it is useless worrying in that fashion. You may depend upon it that Markham will lose no time in sending a cablegram. Dear Sir John promised that."

There was a pause, then Lady Helena said:

"You know, dear, that I am your best friend, do you not?"

Borden's
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Condensed Milk

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MONTREAL

"I thought that you were honest in your professions once," replied Elsie, coldly, "but I am not of the same opinion now, Lady Fremont."

Her ladyship flushed and looked displeased.

"I am sorry for this," she said, "very sorry; but it is all through Sir John. He had no right to leave you in so false a position. I am sure that he never really meant it, but—"

"If this is all that you have to say to me, Lady Helena, I think that the interview had better come to an end," was the haughty interruption. "It is not for you to criticize my father's actions."

Her ladyship became erect at once, and proceeded:

"You force me to be cruel. Miss Sterne, and I deeply regret that it should fall to my duty to have to inform you that the reins of control have been taken out of your hands by the executors appointed by Sir John the week before he left Blairwood for India."

She glanced swiftly at Elsie's white face, and there were triumph and malice in the glance.

"Do you understand, my dear?"

"I confess that I do not, neither do I believe it," the girl said, coldly.

"Then let me explain in the briefest and kindest manner possible. Sir John appointed two executors to advise and, in fact, conduct the affairs of the estate, until you were twenty-five years of age, or had married with the consent of both guardians. You were only nominally permitted to manage affairs. These executors were the rector and Mr. Grant, the lawyer. Owing to the rector's illness, a new executor

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has been agreed to by both Mr. Vellings and Mr. Grant, and one in whom both have the utmost confidence."

"Was" said Elsie, questioningly, "Cannot you guess who it is?" smiled Lady Helena.

"Yes," the girl whispered, hoarsely, "I think that I can. It is the man I despise and fear more than any other creature living—it is Lord Somerton!"

Lady Helena looked away for a few moments, she felt that she dared not face the wrath and scorn in the girl's flashing eyes.

(To be continued)

Animals as Weather Prophets

Is it going to rain? Ask the cat; he knows! Will the water be wild and stormy? Watch the sheep, and they will tell you. Whatever you want to know about the weather, or the season directly ahead, you can find out by simply gazing from the animal kingdom information which is strictly accurate, and, in fact, infallible.

The power possessed by our four-footed friends to foretell climatic conditions and variations is almost uncanny. While our meteorologists are engaged in the collection and classification of intricate data, and making elaborate deductions that are not always so reliable as one would wish, animals—sensitive to influences we know nothing about—indicate by distinct and not-to-be-mistaken actions the exact changes in weather that may be confidently anticipated.

To reason the matter out, and try to discover just why this should be so, would be a waste of time. All we know is that they have been endowed with an instinct which the human being either does not possess or else has, but permits to its dormant and unresponsive.

Cats are known to be exceptionally good weather prophets, but their abilities, though marvellous, are limited. It is well known that they will wash themselves right over their ears when rain is imminent, and wander from room to room when a thunderstorm is approaching; but, after that, they tell us little.

Donkeys seem to know as long as twelve hours ahead when fine weather is to give place to wet, for they will huddle in weird fashion almost continuously. Bees, again, under similar circumstances, will hustle to their hives and there stay, refusing to leave until they are certain of rain for a few days.

Geese who fly about in frantic haphazard fashion, and appear thoroughly restless, may be regarded as proper weather forecasters, for we may rest assured it is going to rain; and ducks that energetically search for snails in long grass predict a shower followed by sunshine.

Spiders are very sensitive to climatic changes, and by their actions foretell the weather for twenty-four hours ahead. If there is a likelihood of wind accompanied by hard rain they will spin very short webs and work with frantic haste, but if, on the other hand, a long spell of dry, warm weather is in sight they work slower and construct much more elaborate fly-traps.

Often, when thunder is "in the air," a spider will tie in a kind of asaphetic manner in the centre of his web, but he will also sit stolidly when waiting for the flies to come along. If, however, the threads of a web be short when Mr. Spider is thus taking his ease, it can be generally taken that the atmosphere is going to be disturbed.

Peacocks will make their presence known in a very shrill voice when the weather, no matter if it be fine or wet, is about to change; and swallows fly high when it is safe for us to leave our umbrellas at home, and low when it is not.

If rooks fly aimlessly amid trees, instead of taking a direct course away, the barometer can be depended upon to fall; if they fly low before sunrise or after sunset a frost can be expected.

Seagulls indicate the early or tardy approach of winter by making tracks inland a few weeks before boisterous times are due, but sheep are able to forecast just what kind of a winter it will be. If they alter their feeding ground to the lee side of a group of trees, a hill, or any other form of protection, it is a sign that acute cold will be experienced, and field-men are usually careful to cover up the entrance to their holes under like circumstances.

Almost every living thing instinctively prepares for the advent of frost, snow, and cold rain. Even fish will refuse to feed near the surface of the water when winter approaches, and will not be attracted to the most tempting bait.

Circular ruffles on the sleeves and a small free-swinging circular cape at the back give interest to a rich wrap of mink.

Over a straight skirt of black velvet is worn a straight, knee-length coat of gray moire faced with black fur.

The "rose" vanity bag, made of tiny colored shells, set one over another, is a charming fancy.

Murphy's Good Things!

A Price Saving Sale; Reductions are Great!

Values offered will be more inviting than ever. Cost is not considered as everything must be sold to make room for the new Winter Goods, which are already beginning to arrive.

Clothe Your Children

Children's Coats.
In Fawn and Navy Blue, full lined, sizes to fit up to 3 years.
Each \$1.25

Girls' School Dresses.
In shades of Fawn and Sage, silk worked.
Each \$1.98

Children's Poplin and Repp. Coats.
Lined throughout, in shades of Navy, V. Rose and Pink.
Each \$1.25

Blue Lustre Jack Tar Reefers.
Each \$1.98

Misses' Wool Middies.
Long sleeves, sailor or Duchess collar, in shades of Peacock and Fawn.
Each \$1.49 to \$1.98

Girls' Sweater Coats.
With long sleeves and belt effect, Duchess collar, in trimmed in contrasting shades.
Each \$2.49 to \$2.75

Babies Bonnets.
In Velvet, Serge, and Cashmere, ribbon and silk trimmings while they last.
Each 30c

Misses & Women's Sweaters

Ladies' Sweaters.
Ladies' Tweedo Coat Sweaters, all shades & sizes.
Each \$6.49

Ladies' Heavy Wool Coat Sweaters.
Button front, belt effect, comfortable, roll collar, shades: Navy & Grey, American Beauty and White, Peacock and Fawn.
Each \$3.49

Cap and Scarf Sets.
Of brushed wool, snug fitting and comfy for school wear.
Per Set \$1.92 to \$2.98

Girls' Wool Hockey Caps.
With large pom-pom at top, shades: Peacock, Emerald, Fawn, Brown and White.
Each \$1.10

Boys' and Girls' Wool Caps.
Special Clearance Sale of Boys' and Girls' Wool Caps, all shades.
Each 39c

Ladies' Pullover Sweaters.
Ladies' Soft Wool Pullover Sweaters, in the newest loose fitting makes.
Each \$2.49 to \$2.98

Misses' and Small Women's Soft Wool Sweater Coats.
Assorted shades, sizes up to 32.
Each \$2.98

Be Prepared for the Cold Weather

Men's Suits.
Tweeds, Worsted and Serge good durable, well-tailored suits all new models.
Each \$9.98 to \$29.98

Men's Pants.
Good quality Tweeds and Serges, all perfect, well made.
Each \$2.98 to \$5.98

Men's Winter Overcoats.
Lots of excess values offered. We've grouped all our winter overcoats together at this low price. Every garment is in a size and worth a whole lot more than our price.
Each \$11.98 to \$29.98

Corticelli Wool.
Per 1 oz. Ball 19c

Children's Wool Leggings.
Elastic rib knit, draw string at waist, shades: V. Rose, Sage, Brown, Peacock, Navy and White.
Per Pair 98c

Congolium Mats.
Sizes 18 x 26.
Each 19c

Melton Cloth.
Superior quality English Melton Cloth, 40 inches wide.
Per Yard 90c. to \$1.20

Serge.
32 inch Serge, in shades of Navy, Cardinal and Sage.
Per Yard 59c

Ladies' All Wool English Rib Hose.
Per Pair 98c

Ladies' Botany Wool Hose.
Plain, full fashioned, light and dark shades.
Per Pair 98c

Ladies' Fancy Cotton Hose.
Plain and rib.
Per Pair 39c

Yard Goods.
Red and White Flannel, good quality, per yard 80c
Cotton Towel, wide width, per yard 35c
Dress Linings, light and dark shades, per yard 19c
Red Flocking, per yard 49c
Floral Quilt Covering, 54 inches wide, per yard 90c
Table Damask, in 1 to 2 1/2 yard lengths, per yard 1.00

Men's Wool Underwear.
Men's new knit Wool Underwear, best weight.
Per Garment \$1.49

Men's Green Label Starfield's.
Per Garment \$1.49

Mixed Goods.
This lot consists of Serge, Serges, Vests, Satens, large clean pieces, 1 to 5 yards.
Per Pound 53c

Men's Dress Shirts.
Of stripe percale, fancy style, soft cuff.
Each \$1.19

Men's Silk Stripe Percale Shirts.
All sizes.
Each \$2.98

Wool Nap Plaid Blankets.
70 x 80.
Per Pair \$4.49

Honeycomb Wool Squares.
With fringe ends, in Black and White.
White, each \$2.25
Black, each \$2.25

Red Rose Wool.
A new shipment just in, all shades in this lot.
Per 1 oz. Ball 19c

White Curtain Net.
Pretty patterns, single and double width.
Per Yard 29c. to 49c

Men's Local Grey Hose.
Per Pair 49c

Suit Cases.
Strong look, expand, bound corners.
Each \$1.98

Men's Medium Weight Caps.
Good quality, all sizes.
Each 59c

Watches.
Accurate time keepers.
Each \$1.98

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Men's Dress Shirts.
Of stripe percale, fancy style, soft cuff.
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"I cannot doubt him, whatever may happen," she thought. "I know that he is good, and brave, and true. It is possible that he, too, is for a time a plaything in the hands of a malicious fate. But, oh, Colin, why do you not write to me often, as you promised? Why do you not tell me all?"

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Mems. for Madame

Cream that is just "turned" can be used for tea and coffee if you add a large teaspoonful of sugar and a pinch of salt to each half-pint. Beat briskly for a minute, and use in the ordinary way.

Pepper should not be put into anything that is fried, as it causes fritters, rissoles, etc. to break.

Never mix flour with boiling milk when making a sauce, but mix it first with cold milk, and your sauce will be quite smooth.

To remove a "stuck" glass stopper, pour a little glycerine round its neck, and let it stand until it can be withdrawn easily.

To perfume gloves and handker-

After illness, recuperate with SCOTT'S EMULSION

chiefs, sprinkle blotting paper with your favorite scent, and keep it in the drawer or box. Laces can be delicately perfumed in the same way.

To pick up bits of broken glass spread a wet cloth over them and pat gently, wearing a glove whilst doing so. Destroy the cloth afterwards.

The best "brush" for a velvet coat or frock is a yard of book-muslin, fairly stiff. Crush it in the hand, and use like a brush.

A teaspoonful of Epsom salts added to each gallon of warm washing and rinsing water, prevents colors from running or fading.

To make "gloss" for linen, reduce and powder two ounces of white gum arabic, put it into a jar and pour in a pint of boiling water, cover and leave all night. Pour it off the dregs into a clean bottle, and use as required, a tablespoonful to one pint of starch.

Fashions and Fads.

For both tailored and less formal afternoon costumes the long, close sleeve is extremely smart.

With the night hours fashion offers her most gorgeous array of rhinestones—encrusted facial cloths and necklaces, brooches and pins.

A sports dress of checked wool poplin in Peter Pan style is collarless and girdled with white linen.

A flounce of green fur and a crimson rosette turn a slip of white velvet into a French "variation."

Both coats and dresses are wrapped closely about the hips, and perhaps held with one hand.

Dainty handkerchiefs of plaided Georgette are worn pulled through the charming ribbon bracelets.

Mildly now parts her hair in the middle or draws it straight back and dresses it quite sleek and close.

One handkerchief bracelet is fashioned of narrow black grosgrain ribbon, ornamented with marvellous