

Bob, Son of Battle.

BY ALFRED OLIVANT.

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CHAPTER XIII.

The Face in the Frame.

All Friday M'Adam never left the kitchen. He sat opposite the Cup, in a coma, as it were; and Red Wull lay motionless at his feet.

Saturday came, and still the two never budged. Toward the evening the little man rose, all in a tremble, and took the Cup down from the mantelpiece; then he sat down again with it in his arms.

"Eh, Wullie, Wullie, is it a dream? Ha' they took her fra us? Eh, but it's you and I alane, lad."

He hugged it to him, crying silently, and rocking to and fro like a mother with a dying child. And Red Wull sat up on his haunches, and weaved from side to side in sympathy.

As the dark was falling, David looked in.

At the sound of the opening door the little man swung round noiselessly, the Cup nursed in his arms, and glared, sullen and suspicious, at the boy; yet seemed not to recognize him. In the half-light David could see the tears coursing down the little wizened face.

"'Pon ma life, he's gaein' daft!" was his comment as he turned away to Kenmuir. And again the mourners were left alone.

"A few hours noo, Wullie," the little man wailed, "and she'll be gane. We won her, Wullie, you and I, won her fair: she's lit the hoose for us; she's softened a' for us—and God kens we need-ed it; she was the ae thing we had to look to and love. And noo they're takin' her awa', and 'twill be night agin. We've oherished her, we've garnished her, we've loved her like oor ain; and noo she maun gang to strangers who know her not."

He rose to his feet, and the great dog rose with him. His voice heightened to a scream, and he swayed with the Cup in his arms till it seemed he must fall.

"Did they win her fair, Wullie? Na; they plotted, they conspired, they worked ilka ain o' them agin us, and they beat us. Ay, and noo they're robbin' us—robbin us! But they shallna ha' her. Oor's or naebod's, Wullie! We'll finish her sooner nor that."

He banged the Cup down on the table and rushed madly out of the room, Red Wull at his heels. In a moment he came running back, brandishing a great axe about his head.

"Come on, Wullie!" he cried. "'Scots wha hae!' Noo's the day and noo's the hour! Come on!"

On the table before him, serene and beautiful, stood the target of his madness. The little man ran at it, swinging his murderous weapon like a flail.

"Oor's or naebod's, Wullie! Come on! Lay the proud usurpers low!" He aimed a mighty buffet; and the Shepherds' Trophy—the Shepherds' Trophy which had won through the hardships of a hundred years—was almost gone. It seemed to quiver as the blow fell. But the cruel steel missed, and the axe-head sank into the wood, clean and deep, like a spade in snow.

Red Wull had leapt on to the table, and in his cavernous voice was grumbling a chorus to his master's yells. The little man danced up and down, tugging and straining at the axe-handle.

"You and I, Wullie!"

"Tyrants fall in every foe!
Liberty's in every blow!"

The axe-head was as immovable as the Muir Pike.

"Let us do or die!"

The shaft snapped, and the little man

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Notes of the Bank in Circulation.....		2,850,675 00
Deposits Payable on Demand.....	5,685,321 09	
Deposits Payable after Notice.....	9,893,598 66	
		15,578,919 75
Other Liabilities.....		1,635,249 15
		<u>\$25,343,401 12</u>

ASSETS.

Gold and Silver Coin on hand.....	\$ 538,989 58.	
Dominion Government Notes on hand.....	1,121,447 00	
Notes and Cheques of other Banks.....	1,155,304 99	
Balance with Bankers.....	1,101,101 00	
Total Cash Assets.....	\$ 3,916,842 57	
Cash Deposited with Dominion Government for Security of Note Circulation.....	80,000 00	
Prov. Government and Other Securities.....	1,612,831 16	
Call Loans Secured by Bonds, etc.....	4,614,067 00	
		\$10,223,740 73
Commercial Loans (less rebate of interest)....	\$14,640,510 40	
Bank Premises, Real Estate, Safes, etc.....	473,837 57	
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