

MILES WALLINGFORD

By James Fenimore Cooper

CHAPTER V

"The serpent of the field, by art And spells, is won from harming. But that which coils around the heart, Oh! who hath power of charming?"

It was not easy to make Mr. Hardinge a sharer in his impatience. He had taken a fancy to Marble, and was as much rejoiced at this accidental discovery of the mate's parentage, as if he had been one of the family himself.

"Where? why, where we got our divine precept and inspired morality, the Bible. You must come to wish this, Mr. Van Tassel, good, instead of evil; try to love, instead of hating him."

"What do you mean by that? I don't know—sometimes I feel awful about it!"

"I never told you that, Chloe—I said on an island." "Well, what's the difference? You cannot tell me anything of education, Neb, for I have heard Miss Grace and Miss Lucy say dear lessons so often that I sometimes suppose I can say 'em all, one by one almost as well as any young lady 'emself."

"I am glad the name of this Mr. Van Tassel has been mentioned," observed, as it may be well to have your advice, sir, concerning our best mode of proceeding in his affair."

"I then related to Mr. Hardinge the history of the mortgage, and the necessity there was for promptitude, inasmuch as the sale was advertised for the ensuing week. My late guardian was better acquainted with the country, up the river, than I was myself; and it was fortunate the subject was broached, as he soon convinced me the only course to be pursued was to get Mr. Marble ashore at the regular stage, he might obtain some other conveyance, and proceed to town by land."

"I was turned in the Wallingford presented a singular spectacle. In her berth was Grace, patiently and sweetly leading herself to her friend's wish to seem to listen to her own account of the happiness of her newly-found relatives; Mr. Hardinge, overflowing with phlegm, and so much engrossed with his companion's good fortune as not to think of aught else at the moment; Marble, himself becoming gradually more under the influence of the situation, as his feelings had time to gather force and take their natural direction; while I was compelled to wear the semblance of joining in his festivities, at an instant when my whole soul was engrossed with anxiety on behalf of Grace."

Mr. Hardinge continued for some time to expatiate on the loveliness of Grace's character, and to betray the weight of the blow he had received in gaining this sudden knowledge of her danger. He seemed to pass all at once from a state of benevolent security to one of total hopelessness, and found the shock so much harder to endure. At length he sent for Lucy, with whom he continued closeted for near an hour. I ascertained, afterwards, that he questioned the dear girl closely on the subject of her sister's safety; even desiring to know if her affectionate security to the safety of her sister, was in any way connected with this extraordinary sinking of the vital powers, but not in the slightest degree inclining to the distrust of Rupert's being in any manner implicated in the affair. Lucy, truthful and frank as she was, felt the unpleasantness of the danger of enlightening her father, and managed to evade all his more delicate enquiries without involving herself in falsehood. She well knew if he were apprised of the real state of the case, that Rupert would have been sent for, and every preparation made to hasten to his aid, and she had no doubt that she had been effectually enjoined in her heart, that he could only be ejected by breaking in pieces and utterly destroying the tenement that had so long contained him.

"We must lean on God, Miles," answered my worthy guardian, still pacing the piazza, the rain running down his cheeks in streams, and speaking so huskily as barely to be intelligible; "yes, we will have the prayers of the congregation next Sunday morning; and most devout and heartfelt prayers they will be; for her own sainted mother was not more devotedly loved. The blood of youth and love, as it were—but it is to her God! We must endeavor to think of her gain—to rejoice over, rather than mourn her loss."

"I grieve to perceive that you regard my sister's case as so entirely hopeless, sir." "I am glad to see that you are so sensible. It is full of the brightest promise; and when I come to look calmly at it, my reason tells me I ought not to grieve. Still, Miles, the loss of Lucy, herself, would scarce be a more severe blow to me. I have loved her from childhood, and she has been the first love of my life. I should feel for a second daughter. Your parents were dear to me, and their children have always appeared to me to belong to my own blood. Had I not been your guardian, boy, and you and Grace been comparatively so rich, why, I and mine would have been as poor as the rest of the world. I should have been glad to have seen Rupert and Grace, and Lucy, united, which would have made you all my beloved children alike. I often thought of this, until I found it necessary to repress the hope, lest I should prove unfaithful to my trust. Now, in my opinion, Mr. Hardinge's request might have smoothed over every difficulty; but it came too late! It was not to be; Providence had ordered otherwise."

"You had an ardent supporter of your scheme in one of your children, at least sir." "So you have given me to understand, Miles, and I regret that I was informed of the fact so late, or I might have contrived to keep off other young men while you were at sea, or until an opportunity offered to enable you to secure my daughter's affections. That done, neither time nor distance could have displaced you; the needle might be more true than Lucy, or the laws of nature more certain."

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THE NE TEMERE DECREE

From the Month, London, England

The latest act in the ultra-Protestant campaign against the Ne Temere Decree is the meeting held, under the auspices of the Evangelical Alliance, at the Queen's Hall on November 15th. Lord Kinnaird took the chair, and was supported by Mr. H. M. Campbell, M. P., Dr. John Clifford, the Rev. M. Cooksey, of Belfast, the Rev. Dinahale Young, of Wesley Chapel, City Road, and the Rev. F. Scott Webster, Rector of All Souls, Langham Place. Not a particularly impressive group surely, with the sector of the church across the road as the sole representative of the National Church, and Dr. John Clifford to show by his personality, and the "high pitch of enthusiasm" he evoked, how largely the movement is being engineered by intolerant fanaticism! Still, they could claim to have received "messages" sympathetically with the object of the meeting by the Bishops of London (whose name was ungratefully "received in some quarters with hisses"), Rochester, Armagh, and Dublin. We are not aware in what terms these messages were conveyed; indeed, it is implied with good reason, though not read. But anyhow the Archbishop of Canterbury sent the following letter, which was doubtless very welcome, and was read publicly.

"Any branch of the Church of Christ must clearly have the power of detaching the conditions of its own membership, decreed that by the promulgation of this decree, and even more by the language which appears to have been used to secure obedience to it, the Roman Catholic Church should introduce confusion into domestic life, and disquieting doubts as to the legal validity of marriages already contracted, or as to the lawful status of persons who may hereafter be married. We must regret that a prelate whom we respect should have been misled into addressing a meeting so composed, but let it be plain in the proceedings, "national protest" though they were called, which the Times, in its issue of the following day, thought worthy of being reported. This national protest, however, which the Times treated so contemptuously, issued in some indignation, and the social stigma which "condemned the pretensions of the Church of Rome to regulate the conditions determining the validity of marriages legally solemnized between British subjects in any part of His Majesty's dominions," and another urged the Government to take steps to give relief to those suffering from the social consequences of the decree."

We have not yet seen a detailed report of the proceedings, and so cannot say for certain whether any attempt was made to lay before the meeting a definite and authenticated account of the provisions of the decree, or of the social consequences of the decree. Apparently no such attempt at accurate explanation was deemed necessary, any more than it was thought necessary to explain to the Government what sort of measures, legal or otherwise, it might take with any hope of success. The explanation which these gentlemen neglected to give we will try to give in their stead, not with any hopes of causing the light to penetrate the thick curtains of their bigotry, but for the information of any "foul persons who may be taken in by their misstatements. It is true that the subject has been often explained before, but it is one which will need to be explained many times over, in an age when people read so much but think so superficially and remember so little. For one thing we thank the Archbishop of Canterbury, for he has called attention to the important distinction between the action of the Church in "defining the conditions of its own membership," and "the language which appears to have been used to secure obedience to it." We thank him for drawing this distinction, though the first term of it is not very correctly stated, and we cannot think the implication contained in its second term to be just. If by the "language used to secure obedience to it" his Grace refers to language used by responsible prelates and writers to announce the character of the new discipline, surely he would find it hard to bring forward a pastoral letter or expository article which has not been calm and lucid, grave and conciliatory, in its style. If he refers to the language used, or alleged to have been used, by individuals having disconcerted the masters in council. This rendered him exceedingly popular at Clawbonny, the persuaded usually having the same sort of success in the world as a good listener. As for the rector himself, after so many discussions, he began to think he had actually influenced the decision adopted; and the cause of one of the illusions I have already portrayed.

Old Hiram did not quit when he came for instructions, alias a "dispute," without a word of inquiry touching Grace. I could see that the alarm had passed among the slaves, and it was quite touching to note the effect it produced on their simple minds. It would have been sufficient for them to love her, that Grace was their young mistress; but such a mistress as she had ever been, and one so winning in manner and person, they might be said almost to worship her. "I am sorry to hear Miss Grace be on well, sir," said old Hiram, looking at me sorrowfully. "It is good to hear of her, but I always hope Masser Miles, dat Miss Grace and Masser Rupert come together, sometime; and we all expect you and Miss Lucy will. Dem are happy days, sah, at Clawbonny, for den we all know our new masser and new mistress from de cradle. No, no, we can neber spare Miss Grace, sah; even I should miss her in de field!"

Psoriasis Was Cured

After Five Years of Suffering -- Three Doctors Failed and Said Case Was Incurable

Itching and Burning Was Terrible Until Relief and Cure Was Effected by

Dr. Chase's Ointment

Psoriasis is another name for chronic eczema. It is the worst form of this dreadful itching skin disease. Once eczema has reached this stage it is usually considered incurable. But here is a case which proves again the wonderful healing power of Dr. Chase's Ointment. Not only does relief come quickly, but the resulting benefits are thorough and lasting. Mrs. Nettie Massey, Conson, Ont., writes:—"I thought it my duty to write you telling you the great benefit I received from using Dr. Chase's Ointment. For five years I suffered with what three doctors called Psoriasis. I doctored with three different doctors, with no good results, and one of our noted doctors told me if any one offered to guarantee me a cure for \$500.00 to keep my money in my pocket, as I could not be cured. The disease spread all over me, even on my face and head. The itching and burning was hard to bear. At last my brother read in the paper about Dr. Chase's Ointment as a healer. I used 8 boxes, and I am glad to say I am entirely cured, not a sign of it is to be seen. I can hardly praise the ointment enough, and you are at liberty to use my testimony, as I hope thereby to induce other sufferers to try the same." Dr. Chase's Ointment, 60c a box, at all dealers or Edmondson Bates & Co., Limited, Toronto.

Some Good Points

For rough skin, chapped hands and face or cracked lips, CAMPANA'S ITALIAN BALM is unequalled. Some of its good points are: It is not greasy or oily; it does not take long to dry in; it leaves the skin with a soft velvety feeling; and is suitable for the most sensitive or delicate skin, from baby's up. Price 25c, at most druggists, or E. G. WEST & CO., Wholesale Druggists, 80 George St., Toronto.

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