

NORAH CUSHALEEN

HAUNTED CASTLE.

CHAPTER XXIII.—MARY KENDAL LOSES HER WAY AMONG THE MOUNTAINS.

Before the break of the day Mary Kendal was far among the mountains. Through the hours of darkness she had toiled upward with steady and unflagging zeal, her great object being to travel beyond the region of general habitation while the occupants of the houses near the bases of the mountains were asleep, so that they might not see her, and so be unable to give information to any one who might come in pursuit.

She was congratulating herself on having gained this important object, when several hours after midnight, and just as the purple dawn was streaking the east she came to a level place in the steep path and paused to take the first rest she had allowed herself since she left her father's castle.

For nearly two hours she had passed neither cabin nor cottage, and concluded that nought but solitary mountain sheelings would now be met with, the residents of which would have little or no communication with the valley. She had reached that solitary eminence without having been seen by any one. Once or twice the flickering light from a peat fire flashed through a cabin window and shone upon the path, and she caught a glimpse of the happy circle within; but on these occasions she passed the place with such caution that even the dog did not bark, and turning away from the gleaming light, she pressed with resolute heart against the foilsome slope.

No personal fear found a place in her bosom. Her heart was filled with that true and pure love which casteth out fear. She dreaded only interruption and detention. She feared for being pursued and overtaken. To a timid, gently nurtured maiden the darkness and the solitude might well present a thousand terrors, but Mary Kendal found herself surrounded with these, and felt no tremor. The danger in which her lover was, shut out the thought of all other danger—his deliverance, standing over against the difficulty, suffering, or risks of the way, made these seem less than nothing in her eyes.

She sat down on a large stone near to the brow of the eminence, to rest her now aching limbs and take a quiet view of the valley below and the mountain peaks above. The landscape beneath was but a mighty mass of deep shadows—a grey and gloomy chaos—for night still lurked in the vale, waiting till the brightening dawn chased away its density and once again revealed the beauty of wood and mansion—house, glancing streams and sparkling meadows. Behind and far up against the dull western sky, loomed the peak of the Skerryvoe—the mountain near whose summit lay the termination of her journey. It seemed close at hand, rising close behind some lesser heights; but Mary knew that between it and her lay many leagues of difficult pathway, winding up slopes, across ravines, and through black rugged defiles into which the sunshine could scarcely penetrate.

With the wings of a bird Mary might have reached the cavern of the robbers by sunrise, but with her slow means of locomotion, and ignorance of the easiest and shortest route, she did not hope to reach it till perhaps late on the following day.

As she sat looking dreamily down upon the dark and indistinct valley, she fell into a train of sad bitter musing. She thought painfully of the mistaken ideas, the sinful feelings, the deceit, hypocrisy, violence, injustice, and crime that found a place in human hearts, and made other human hearts grieve, suffer, and mourn. When she thought of her father it was with softened feelings of affection still, for she doubted not his love, or the genuineness of his desire to secure her happiness; but these feelings were largely mixed with pity and regret, because of the baleful influence under which he acted, and the cruel part he had been induced to play. But when her wandering thoughts reverted to Malvra, her heart was unrestrained in its scorn and loathing.

The colder breath of the morning breeze as it came floating down the mountain tossed the ringlets against her cheek and caused her to start up. Pain would she have remained longer on her stone seat to ease her weary and now stiff limbs; but the urgency for progress forbade the indulgence, and turning her face towards the lofty peak, she boldly resumed her journey.

She had not advanced a hundred yards when a slight noise among the rocks in front caught her ear, and a man came leaping down upon the path at a little distance before her. He paused for some moments, gazing with an air of uncertainty, if not alarm; then as she continued quietly to advance, he came to meet her.

He had a gun over his shoulder, and a well filled game bag slung at his back; and in the thick-set figure, Mary to her consternation, recognised Mike O'Rafferty. Hastily she drew the shawl closer round her head, and walked forward with the air of one who did not mean to loiter or engage in conversation.

'The top o' the mornin' to ye, my purty colleen,' said Mike, stepping right in her way, and peeping at her through the din light.

'Good morning,' said Mary, hastily, and made an effort to get past.

'Sure then, what needs ye be in such a hurry?' returned Mike.

POETRY.

TO KATE.

Written for the Mercury. Come to me now, for my heart is sad, And my life is full of care; Come with your light voice, free and glad, And the smile you used to wear.

And let me feel your soft arms fold Around me once again; And I'll forget the world is cold, And life is full of pain.

And let me lay my weary head Upon your faithful breast, Till my worn spirit too has fled To that far land of rest.

For all my kindred there have gone, The friends with whom in youth I played, Afar beyond the setting sun, Their last long journey made.

And I, too, soon will join them there, In that far land of rest, Where all are happy, free and fair, Eternal, bright and blest.

And when within that happy land I'll wait for thee to come; I'll meet thee on the golden strand, The first to greet thee home!

HETTY HAZELWOOD.

THE India and China Tea Company beg to call the attention of the Canadian community to their directly imported Teas, which for PURITY and EXCELLENCE will be found unequalled.

The Company have made arrangements whereby they have secured the entire produce of some of the best plantations in Assam and on the slopes of the Himalayas, and by a judicious blending of these magnificent Teas with the best varieties of China produce, they are enabled to offer to the public Teas of quality and flavour hitherto unknown to the general consumer.

The Company supply two qualities only, either Black, Green or Mixed. Their Black Teas will be found to possess great brilliancy and flavour, combined with colour and strength, and to be entirely different to the flat and insipid article usually sold as Black Tea; while their Green Teas are altogether free from the deleterious mineral powder so commonly used for coloring the leaf.

PRICES:—Black, full-flavoured Tea, for family use a real genuine and fine article 70 cents per lb. Finest quality procurable, one dollar per lb.

MR. N. HIGINBOTHAM Agent, Guelph. Guelph, August 3, 1867.

GUELPH WOOD YARD. THE undersigned is now prepared to deliver to any part of the town good Beech and Maple Cordwood at \$4 per cord, or \$2 for a half cord. Also for sale a quantity of good, sound Rock Elm at \$3 per cord.

TO THE PUBLIC. THE undersigned having bought out No. 4 Stall, lately occupied by Mr. R. Cochrane, is prepared to sell meat of the very best quality at the lowest possible prices for cash.

New Advertisements.

DIRECT IMPORTATIONS OF STAPLE AND FANCY DRY GOODS!

AT THE BRADFORD HOUSE. GEORGE JEFFREY

FALL AND WINTER STOCK!

WHICH WILL BE FOUND ONE OF THE MOST ATTRACTIVE IN CANADA. HE WOULD PARTICULARLY DIRECT ATTENTION TO A FEW DEPARTMENTS:

SILKS, Black and Coloured. REPS, PRINCESS' CLOTHS, MANTLE CLOTHS, Some things Quite New.

And every other description of Goods will be shown as they appear in the Market. GEORGE JEFFREY.

CO-OPERATIVE STORE!

GUELPH, ONTARIO.

THE SUBSCRIBERS HAVE PURCHASED FROM JOHN WHYTE, ESQ., ASSIGNEE, MONTREAL JOHN DAVIDSON'S STOCK, CONSISTING OF

DRY GOODS, GROCERIES BOOTS AND SHOES.

The Stock amounts to \$4,670. The price paid was \$2,381.70, being Fifty-one Cents on the Dollar, and the Goods will be sold at the undermentioned figures, being on an average 40 per cent. under wholesale and 108 per cent. below retail prices.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT BANKRUPT STOCKS.

A merchant only a short time in business fails and assigns, and then his Goods are called an old Bankrupt Stock. Does the circumstance of his failure convert new goods into old? May not Bankrupt Stocks be as good as and as new as others? Purchasers, however, should be the judges. Sellers should not give evidence in their own cause.

LIST OF GOODS AND PRICES:

Table with columns: Former Retail Prices, Wholesale Prices, Present Prices. Items include Wineys, Challies, Checks, Cobourg Lusters, Orleans, French Merinos, Black and Striped Silks, Bleached Cottons, Prints, Cambric Linings, Flannels, Striped Shirtings, Canadian Tweeds, Cassimeres, Black Cloth.

Handkerchiefs, Ties, Falls, Collars, Sets, Laces, Trimmings, Belts, Flowers, Braids, Buttons, &c., &c., Equally Low.

WILLIAM MACKLIN & CO. Guelph, 21st September, 1867.

RUSSELL WATCH!

A FEW REASONS THAT MAKE IT SUPERIOR TO ALL OTHERS.

- 1st—It proves itself a reliable time-keeper beyond all question. 2nd—The RUSSELL WATCH being made on correct and scientific principles, it must follow as a natural consequence that it will keep time. 3rd—Each part of which the RUSSELL WATCH is composed is a reflex of the perfect machine which, under skillful direction, it is produced. 4th—Truth is the essential of each part. 5th—Uniformity and conformity must therefore characterize the several parts in fulfilling the purpose for which they are made and brought together.

TESTIMONIAL.

To Robert Cuthbert, Watchmaker, Wyndham Street, Guelph.

IMPORTANT! ROBERT CUTHBERT, WATCHMAKER, WYNDHAM-ST., GUELPH.

has always on hand a large variety of the celebrated RUSSELL WATCHES. His stock of Clocks, Jewellery and Fancy Goods will be found equally large and attractive.

Direct Importations of Fall & Winter Goods JAMES CORMACK, TAILOR AND CLOTHIER,

HAS NOW RECEIVED A VERY LARGE AND MOST ATTRACTIVE STOCK OF BROADCLOTHS, DOESKINS, MELTONS

READY-MADE CLOTHING.

The Stock of Ready-made Clothing, got up by himself in all the varied styles (suited for the season), is Larger, Better and Cheaper than ever has been offered before.

NEW GOODS



DIRECT from ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND

Just Received, a few Cases of New MANTLE CLOTHS!

NEW SHAWLS, NEW DRESS GOODS, NEW SKIRTINGS, NEW WINCEYS, NEW MANTLE BUTTONS.

ALL ARE OFFERED AT GREATLY REDUCED PRICES!

HOGG & CHANCE. Guelph, 13th September, 1867.

IMPORTANT BUSINESS CHANGE!

MONTREAL BOOT AND SHOE STORE

JOHN McNEIL, Who has been in the employment of Wm. McLaren for years,

WOULD respectfully announce to the inhabitants of Guelph and vicinity that he has purchased the whole stock in trade of WM. McLAREN, consisting of BOOTS and SHOES, at

A GREAT Reduction on Original Cost!

and is determined to give A BENEFIT to the old customers of this Institution, and all who may favor him with their patronage. JOHN McNEIL, is determined to maintain the old laurels won by his predecessor, and also to add many new ones, by keeping only the best of Goods, and always selling at the LOWEST PRICES.

HOME MANUFACTURED GOODS!

always on hand. All kinds of Goods made to order. REPAIRING done with neatness and dispatch.

ALL WORK WARRANTED!

Country Merchants are invited to call, examine our Stock, and hear our Prices.

JOHN McNEIL, Montreal Boot and Shoe Store, Wyndham-st., Guelph, Ontario

CARD.

HAVING disposed of my BUSINESS to Mr. JOHN McNEIL, who has been for a long period in my employment, I have much pleasure in recommending him as worthy and highly qualified to maintain the reputation which I latterly myself has been accorded to the Montreal Boot and Shoe Store since it was opened.

NEW FALL GOODS.

R. B. MORISON & CO., MORRISTON. GREAT REDUCTION in PRICES

THE SHOW ROOM will be OPEN on the 23rd INSTANT AND WILL BE UP TO THE TIMES.

CLOTHES made to order in the latest styles, and READY-MADES in great variety Wholesale and Retail.

COTTAGE WANTED

W ITH six or seven rooms, and good commodious yard room. The West End of the Town preferred. Address with particulars as to rent, &c., to

At E. C. MORRISON, 18th Sept., 1867.

A Lot of New Strained