

The Right to Their

She pointed out to him a little cottage near by, and as he started to go toward it, she turned and walked with him, remarking upon the beauty of the day and the glorious sunset, which they could see through the over-arching trees that grew about the chapel.

More than once he found himself searching her sweet face, and there was something in her manner and in the tones of her voice which made him wonder at the time in her life she too, had not suffered deeply.

"Perhaps," he thought, "there is another tale of wrong, and misery, and disappointment connected with her life." They walked together as far as the sexton's house, she passing in to speak to the wife, while he sought the man who was working in the garden.

He questioned him regarding the incidents already related, about the secret marriage that had occurred, nearly fifteen years previous; and when the young man told him who he was—the son of that fair young bride—he was surprised to see him betray deep emotion.

"Yes, mister," he said, eyeing him keenly; "I remember clearly the young gentleman and pretty lady that came here to be married, and he, the groom, paid me a handsome sum to leave the chapel unlocked, so that they could go there for the ceremony. He would bring his own clergyman, he said, and as the marriage would have to be kept secret for awhile, he wanted it done as late as possible, and no lights."

The sexton here stopped and leaned reflectively upon the handle of his spade, while he contemplated the neat little chapel visible through the trees.

"I tell you, sir," he at length resumed, "the sight of the gentleman's manner you met at first, but when I came to think it all over, I seemed to think that it did not have a right to look so late in the evening, to say nothing about their bringing me to let them into the chapel. I thought if it was honest and square, even if the marriage was to be a secret, they might have come quietly, but openly, and at a proper time, for the ceremony; and sir—I beg your pardon if I did wrong, but my conscience was heavy, and the gold seemed like the price of innocent blood to me, and I went and confessed the whole thing to the old sexton himself, and gave him the money to put in the poor-box."

Marion's son started violently at these words, and he grew white as trembling. "When did you make this confession—before or after marriage?" he asked, with intense eagerness.

"The fatrnoon before sir. I felt that if there was anything wrong about the affair, the good old sexton would see that it was made right. He reprimanded me severely for the betrayal of my trust, as he called it, but he relieved my mind by saying, 'Sir, you are faint,' he said, holding his visitor's ghastly face, which was absolutely startling in its paleness."

"No; go out go on!" he breathed, in voice that sounded strange even to himself.

"Well, sir, you had better sit down on the bench, for you don't look able to stand," and he indicated a rustic bench near by, as the young man sank weakly upon it, motioning his companion to proceed. "I don't know, sir, how the old sexton managed that business, but I do know that after that young couple had entered in through an open window, and looked in through an open window, and I heard his reverence marry them good and strong as ever a couple was married in the world."

"Are you sure?" he demanded his listener, actually gasping for breath at this startling and unexpected announcement, while he wiped away the great drops of sweat that had gathered upon his brow.

"As sure, sir, as I am talking to you at this moment," returned the old man, confidently. "I could not see the sexton, it is true, for the chapel was dark, but I knew the good old man's voice well, and I know that, instead of the young man's clergyman, a clergyman had with him at all—marrying them, the sexton of St. John's chapel said the ceremony over them himself."

"Oh, if you could prove this to me!" Marion's son said, an agony of longing in his concentrated face.

The sexton shook his head with an air of perplexity.

he paced back and forth beneath the trees, while waiting for the sexton's daughter to appear.

CHAPTER XXIV.
The sweet-faced Miss Isabel did not stay this patience long.

She had been deeply interested in the young and handsome stranger, wondering who he was, and whence he came, as well as why he should seek their quiet little chapel, and then the old sexton.

She had heard his last words to the old man, and knew that he was desirous of speaking with her. She at once arose, and as soon as she came forth from the cottage, he immediately approached her.

"Pardon," he said, courteously, lifting his hat, "but may I have a little conversation with you?"

"Certainly," she answered, with a sweet graciousness that made him think of his mother.

He then stated something of his objection in saying there, and also the startling revelation of the sexton as well as what he had said regarding the sexton's diary, and begged her, if it was in her power, to let him know the truth of the matter.

Her face grew sad and full of pity as she listened to him, and realized something of the wrong that had been suffered for so many years, and when he had finished she said simply:

"Yes, I can give you comfort. Come with me."

How his heart bounded at the words, "I can give you comfort," and heaving a breath that was almost a sob, a cry of thankfulness went up to God from his heart for the light that was beginning to shine upon his darkened life.

Miss Isabel Grafton, for that was the lady's name, led the way toward a small villa, built in the Gothic style, near by.

It was a charming little place, covered with vines and climbing roses, and surrounded by noble trees, with here and there a patch of gay flowers adding a brightness to the scene.

(To be continued.)

AWFUL TALE OF SUFFERING.

GOLSPIE SAILORS TELL A SORROWFUL TALE.

State That Mate on the Way to Michipicoten Refused to Wait for the Helpless—An Awful Night—Lay on Top of One Another Trying to Keep Warm.

Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., Dec. 30.—As evidence in the enquiry ordered by the Dominion Government of the wreck of the steamer Golspie and the subsequent freezing of five of the crew so that their feet had to be amputated, the sailors who are now in the General Hospital here gave their stories of the affair to Capt. Thomas Dinnely yesterday.

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THIRTY-THREE LIVES LOST

And Thirty Injured in a Railway Wreck Near Washington.

Bodies of Dead Strewn Along Track for a Quarter of a Mile.

Empty Train Crashed Through Three Cars of an Accommodation.

Washington, Dec. 31.—Thirty-three people are known to be dead, and more than thirty are more or less injured as the result of a wreck on the Metropolitan branch of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at Terra-cotta, a small station about four miles from Washington, at 6:40 o'clock this evening.

The wreck was the most disastrous that ever occurred in the District of Columbia.

The accident was caused by a train of seven empty coaches running into a local train of three passenger coaches, and a baggage car, which had stopped at Terra-cotta, to take on passengers. The empty train was running at a high rate of speed and crashed through all three of the coaches, smashing them to splinters.

The bodies of the dead were strewn along the track for a distance of more than a quarter of a mile. Many of them were horribly mutilated, and it is probable that at least eight or ten could not be identified, as the bodies were displaced out of all human form.

Each one of the three coaches was fairly well filled with passengers, and with only a few exceptions, none escaped death or serious injury. Had the three coaches been constructed of tin, their demolition could not have been more complete, as the heavy engine plowed its way through and scattered the unfortunate victims along the track. Some were ground into horrible meshes beneath the wheels, while others were killed by the flying debris.

It required fully three hours on the part of the workers to gather these fragments of human beings together and spread them along the banks of the railroad track. Identification was extremely difficult in the darkness, and delay in bringing them to the hospital after being frozen did not have serious consequences.

The captain, who is attending the patients, gave technical evidence regarding their condition, and stated that the delay in bringing them to the hospital after being frozen did not have serious consequences.

The story of the sailors was that the Golspie left Fort William Dec. 2, and the next night encountered a rough weather that induced the captain to turn about and run towards Michipicoten. The morning of the 4th the boat grounded at Brule Bay. All hands were ashore. Forty blankets were taken, and also some provisions. The day was spent in a shack, which was made quite comfortable. The captain did not divide the blankets equally among the crew of 17. He took several himself, and other officers had good supplies.

Some of the crew had only one each, and four none at all. The next morning 12 of the crew set out to walk to Michipicoten. They found they could not reach there by land—landed, and all set out to walk. Mate McLeod and others got along well. Neil had only a few clothes, and being cold and exhausted, fell behind. The others asked the mate to wait, but he would not, and the party became divided again. The party left behind was made up of the five sailors who were frozen.

A Night of Hardship.

The first night out they were able to build a fire and keep warm. They lost their way the second day, and that night could not build a fire, as they had lost their axes and their matches were wet. They huddled together in the open, lying on each other in turn to keep warm as possible, but during the night all their feet were frozen. Next day they were found by an Indian from the mission, who gave them food, an axe and matches to keep on their way, which gave them comfort over the next night. The following day a party from the mission took them in by boat after they had crawled on their hands and knees a couple of miles to shore. They remained at the Hotel Mine Hospital until the 13th, and were brought to the "Soo" on the 14th, eight days after having been frozen.

Capt. Dinnely will take the evidence of Cook, Baill, of the Golspie, and others of the crew, some of whom are at Hamilton. He left for that place today. The report is to be ready for the opening of Parliament after the Christmas recess.

The condition of Premier Scott, of Saskatchewan, is somewhat improved. He slept very well last night.

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12 dozen of Children's Heavy Woolen Overalls, in cardinal, white, black, with or without feet, come in 3 sizes, regular 75c, to clear . . . 49c

Ladies' Golf Gloves 29c Pair

50 dozen pairs of Fine Woolen Golf Gloves, in nice shades of brown, green, white, grey, cardinal, black, in self colors, also with fancy backs, jersey wrist, all sizes; a good heavy glove for everyday wear; regular 45c, on sale 29c pair

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Tapestry Carpets 42½c

700 yards of Heavy Tapestry Carpet, splendid colorings, suitable for parlors, dining rooms or bedrooms, worth 55 and 60c, sale price, per yard . . . 42½c

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1,000 yards of Heavy Scotch Inlaid Linoleums, tile and floral patterns, regular price 90c, sale price, per yard . . . 75c

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500 yards of Heavy Printed Linoleums, 2 yards wide, beautiful patterns, regular price 45c, sale price per square yard . . . 35c

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