

must henceforth stay abroad, and the quicker he was gone the better. Of all the realm of Albyn this parish was most dangerous for him; let him show in Inveraray and his kail was cooked. But he was bound to come here for two things—first to see his child, and next, for money. He wrote to Duncanson to fix a meeting; Fraser took the letter, and brought back an answer. The place of meeting and the hour were fixed. It must be in the night, ye'll mind! Paul darena venture here in daytime. And I wouldna say, when I think of it, but Sandy warned him no' to give his plans to Lovat; that's what I would do in plotting murder. So Paul set ont on the borrowed horse wi' the silver-mounted saddle.

"He came over Glen Aray in the dark, and his foe was waiting. It was somewhere in the glen; it couldna be Drimdorran. He took Macmaster unawares, with dag or dagger, and I'll swear it was the dagger in the back, for that's the Clan Maclean! Then he ripped the dead man's pouches; got, with other things, the snuff-box; lest earth or water should give up the body he must leave no single thing on it to show that it was Paul's. What he did with the body God Almighty knows, and the woods are wide and thick, and Aray deep, but he put with it the harness of the horse, and lashed the brute back on the road it came. It went into Mackellar's corn that morning, and good for us it did, and that the cobbler made a song!"

All this the *beachdair* gave in gusts that left no chance for question; he was like a man possessed. The steam rose from his clothing; a flush was on his cheek-bones, and his knees were trembling; Janet stared at him with a face white as the cannoch.

And none of them for a while could speak.

Æneas was first to find his tongue in a stifled way.

"I'm thinking of the doocot," he said, and Janet flinched, with her father's eye on her.

"I'll warrant ye I thought of that, but there's nothing in the doocot, and it stands on rock."

"It's just the very place that Paul himsel' would fix