A TALE OF THE WEST.

By RALPH NEVILLE, Esq.

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CHAPTER XIII.—CONTINUED.

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"I disposed of my watch Miss," said Tom, "and it's all gone, or I wouldn't have asked you."

"Well, but I have a watch, too; dispose of it—handing it to him—"I can easily buy another."

"It will go but a small way."

"And what's to be done?" inquired Kate. "Let me see: I'll write to Ireland myself; my uncle receives the interest of my fortune; I can't touch that, but I can borrow, you know,"

"Aye do, Miss," said Tim: "If we were only out of this inferral house—that's the worst of moving—these Smalls must get their rent: there's double as much due to the shopkeepers, and all must be paid or we'll get disgraced."

"Ah, to be sure," cried Kate, out of a thought. "I can do it. I have abundance of things, now useless to me, which you can sell; there's a diamond cross and necklace which cost three hundred guineas, and rings and other ornaments—come, come, I'll gave you all."

The pawnbroker was rather astonished at the splendor of the articles submitted to his inspection, and would probably have hesitated to advance money upon them; but, having felt uneasy safer the first transaction as to the means by which so good a watch had come into the hands of a servant, he quietly sent one of his men to dog Tim home, and this person having learned that the family was respectable, but in reduced circumstances, and that Tim was a confidential domestic, his master made no difficulty in receiving the more valuable deposits. Tim returned in triumph with the cash, and Kate, with his assistance, arranged all the accounts and calculated their surplus.

The woman of the house became more urgent in her entrenties for the departure of the family the less likelihood she saw of their being able to pay their way—and she had been teasing the Colonel during Kate's absence—first, she begged he would oblige her, and "there was a nice comfortable apartment, which was not above half the price of hers, into which they might remove at once." When her proposal was not above half the price of hers, into which they might remove at once." When her pr

door had scarcely closed after her when the Colonel broke into a storm.

"What have you done, Kate? We shall be publicly exposed. I have no money to pay either the rent or the bills."

"Make your mind easy on that subject," replied Kate, laughing, "I have enough for both; I don't spend my money foolishly, uncle."

"Well," said the Colonel, "how stupid of me not to have told you my situation and asked if you could assist me—what misery I might have spared myself if I had. Heaven bless you, my dearest child—you're always my consolation in distress."

distress."
"Now," said Kate, "uncle, you leave all to me, and don't trouble yourself about domestic

me, and don't trouble yourself about domestle matters."

Tim went proudly round to call in the bills, and the reassembled tradespeople became as mild as doves. There was no end of Tim's boasting of the amount of money which had arrived from Ireland; but, unfortunately, Mrs. Small had discovered the true source of the supply and had communicated her information to all interested; so that although loud in their expressions of gratitude, they were one and all firmly resolved on withholding future credit; but their compliance was not put to the test, other had and much less expensive suite of apartments at Kensington. In some days after it might have reached him, had his correspondent been more punctual, Colonel flake received Mr. Pepper's answer. It apprised him that in as far as his law affairs were concerned everything remained precisely in the same position as when he had last communicated with him. Pincher had made no step in advance, and, of course, it was not the duty of the defendant's solicitor to provoke active hostilities. Mr. Pepper combuted his client's desire to sell atonce by private contract, and pointed out how ruinous such a proceeding would be were it even practicable. But he assured him that in the present state of the country no one would give a sum sufficient to cover the itabilities, and the only consequence of forcing a sale just then, under the decree of the Court, must be to throw the entire estate into the hands of the mortgage without realizing one shilling of surplus. As to Mike, Mr. Pepper Court, must be to throw the entire estate into the hands of the mortgagee without realizing one shilling of surplus. As to Mike, Mr. Pepper knew nothing whatever of his whereabouts or movements, but only hoped that he was dealing with more prudence than usual, as he had "a customer" to deal with who would surely trip him up if he only found the opportunity. As usual, the attorney wound up his letter with a pencilar meaning the only in the professions of the constitution of the profession of the constitution is his own established to the constitution of the con an eulogium on his own attention to his professional duties, and a gentle hint that a further advance on account would be very acceptable, as the necessities of some of his clients and the inthe necessities of some of his clients and the ingratitude of others had left him literally without one penny at his disposal. The intelligence conveyed by this communication was anything but consolatory to the Colonel—It was but too evident that the sale of his property could not be counted on as a means of relieving his pressing necessities. Mike's exertions, then, were the only source from which he could anticipate as sistance, and from him not a line had been received during the last two months. The Colonel framed in his own mind every possible excuse for his relation's extraordinary conduct, but was ultimately obliged to come to the conclusion that such behaviour was not only unaccountable but suspictous. Kate, too, was muking more frequent inquiries than she had eyer done before as to the exact sate of affairs—she had altogether assumed the guidance of the houseperore as to the exact state of affairs—she had altogether assumed the guidance of the household—and as the evident reluctance of the new tradespeople to give credit necessitated eash payments for their living the remnant of his stock purse was being rapidly consumed, and she naturally enough became more solicitous for the future.

the future.

Day after day the Colouel was at the window, and Tim on the steps of the hall door, when the first sharp knock of the postman announced his appaerance in the neighborhood; and day after day they were doomed to disappointment, Sometimes the man crossed in their direction, but it was only to deliver at the next door, or with a letter for Mrs. Bloom, their landlady.

From his long absence on the Continent, the secluded life which he led after his return home, and the coldness of his manners, Colonel Blake had formed no friendships and few acquaintainees amongst his neighbors in the country. Trough universally respected, he was personally but little known, and there were none amongst them to whom he would willingly address himself in order to acquire information as to the acts and intentions of Mike. He felt an almost invincible repugnance to solicit favors in his altered circumstances, from persons whom he had treated, perhaps, with supercilliousness in the zenith of his prosperity; and then, those inquiries, should he make them, must to a certain extent involve admissions calculated to reveal his poverty ond cast discredit on his kinsman. It was on this account that he had waited so long and patiently for Mike's answers without applying for information in any other quarter (save to Pepper, who was unable to afford it; but now his necessities compelied him to act, and he determined to write by that nights post to a gentleman with whom he had never been on very intimate terms, but whose kindness towards him had been often evinced. e future. Day after day the Colonel was at the window,

CHAPTER XIV.

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His own troubles had prevented the Colonel's thinking of Pennant since his arrival in London. He had intended calling at the Admiralty, but for one reason or another was unable to do so during the first month, and the annoyance he subsequently suffered put all other matters out of his head. While taking his accustomed morning walk he entered St. James'Park, and thought, being so near, he might as well call there. On his way he met Captain Beaumont, who stared and passed without saluting him. Could it be that he had heard of his reverses, and, like the common herd of mankind, spurned the unfortunate. The idea fired his blood, and he resolved to test the truth of his suspicious. Following the Captain, he quickly overtook him.

"I must be strangely changed when Captain Beaumont does not recognize Colonel Blake"

"Pa'don me, sir," replied the Captain, coldly; "I know you perfectly well, but effections and future in imacy between us impossible."

"Sir," said the Colonel, proudly, "I am not aware of any circumstances which should deprive me of the respect of my former acquaintances, or of any circumstances which should deprive me of the respect of my former acquaintances, or of any man of honor. I am poorer than I was, and in the estimation of some this may be a damming crime."

"Not in mine, sir; I should rather consider it a canse of closer friendship. But surely your conduct towards Captain Pennant is a full justification of my desire to avoid all further intercourse. You received the unfortunate young man in your family but to debauch him from his allegiance. By so doing, you have ruined him, and brought discredit upon myself as commanding the only British ship in which disloyalty found a footing."

destruction."

"That," interposed Kate, hastlly, and with a flushed cheek, "that must be untrue."

"I fear not, for Pennant is accused of having concealed my unfortunate friend in his own uniform at Dunseverick when he was pursued by Cavarnant agants."

Government agents."
The flush on Kate's cheek had given place to

The flush on Kate's check had given place to an ashy paleness, and she remained silent as the Colonel continued:

"For myself, I could bear my own crosses with resignation; but to see you—you that have been nurtured with tenderness and brought up with brilliant prospects—to see you reduced to dependence, perhaps exposed to insult, by me—aye, by me—I can't, I won't endure it!"

"Uncle, uncle," cried Kate, "you shock me. Rebel not against the will of God, but let us seek pardon for our past transgressions and your present disobedience. Pray, pray with me now for resignation to bear our trials and strength to pass through them, and, beyond all, to supplicate justice for the innocent that we may have unintentionally injured."

She fell upon her knees; the Colonel followed

instrict for the innecent that we may have unintentionally injured."

She fell upon her knees; the Colonel followed her example. Raising her eyes to Heaven, she poured fourth an extemporaneous prayer, ombodying the sentiments to which she had just given utterance, and then bending her head in an attitude of submission, remained silent.

When they resumed their seats, the Colonel was more composed, but the utter depression which succeeded was more alarming to Kate than his former excitement. She was now totally dependent on him for protection. Were her last support lost, what was to ensue?

"But for you, Kate, I should bury myself from the world and spend the remnant of my days in penifence."

violess?"
No, child, no. This last blow has altered my "No, child, no. This last blow has altered my resolution. I must not abandon you to the vicissitudes of this world stripped even of the feeble support which I can afford you. 'Tis my duty to labor for you, and labor in such a cause will be some small consolation. A thought struck me when praying, I will solicit restoration to my former rank in the Austrian army. Beachung my request may be granted. I am not

will 90 some small consolution. A thought struck me when praying, I will solicit restoration to my former rank in the Austrian army. Perhaps my request may be granted. I am not yet too old to perform my duty."

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The strength of mind which supported Kate during this trying interview forsook her in the retirement of her chamber. The veil had been alsed, and the reality was worse—much worse—than her most gloomy anticipations had depicted. Heretofore helding a high position in society, looked up to and flattered as the future possessor of a large inheritance, sho now found herself pointless; and, short as her experience of this world was, she had learned on the first time what she supposed to be the real cause of Pennant's absence, and she bitterly felt how much she it was who had introduced him to Lord Edward, and persuaded him to act the part which, no doubt, led to their after intimacy and to his disgrace. Devotedly attached to Pennant, she had never abandoned the loope of his ultimate return, and calculated that co ac what might, her own money and his profession would after would be in her power to contribute to that it would be in her power to contribute to that it would be in her power to contribute to that it would be in her power to contribute to the first would be in her power to contribute to the first would be in her power to contribute to that it would be in her power to contribute to the first would be in her power to contribute to the change of apartments absence, but the residue of a finite change of an armitical she shell by the change of apartments absence, but the residue of a finite changes of the first, added but little to her scanty manner. In the instant of this carriage in his Bingham's hands, with a strict injunction that she should to total of his carriage in her seal the first, added but little to her scanty manner. In the instant in the money as far as it went, until it was the first, added but little to her scanty

ity!"
"It will, to be sure it will," said Tim; "not a doubt about it;" and he set about removing the breakfast things with a light heart and a smiling doubt about it;" and he set about removing the breakfast things with a light heart and a smiling countenance.

Als. Bollingbroke had been long warmly invited to spend some time with a friend in the north of England, and, after consulting Kate, she announced her intention of availing herself of that opportunity to lessen the pressure on the reduced means of the family. Kate would miss her society much, but she could not object, more especially as their separation was only to be temporary, for the kind old lady loved her young relative, and had already assured her that their fortune should be inseparable, and that, were matters at the worst, they could together exercise their falents, and turn their acquirements to profit for their mutual support.

Every day brought more dismal news from Ireland but still no tidings came from home. At length the capture of the French and the total dispersion of the rebels were announced, and the report that Mike had fallen in battle, sedulously propagated by his friends to facilitate his escape, was confirmed in the newspapers.

"Heaven forgive the unfortunate poor fellow," prayed the Colonel, "as I do, although his sense, less conduct may cause my ultimate ruin. Self never entered into his consideration, and I can and, I will not, believe that dishonor could find a

never entered into his consideration, and I can

never entered into his consideration, and I cannot, I will not, believe that dishonor could find a place in such a heart."

"God have mercy upon him!" said Kate.
"He never meant iil by any one, and could the truth be known, his desire to serve your interests most likely hurried him into this unfortunate conflict."

Tim week long and hitterly on learning the said.

truth be known, his desire to serve your interests most likely hurried him into this unfortunate conflict."

Tim wept long and bitterly on leaning the sad intelligence. He and the Colonel appeared next day with crape on their hats, and kate set about transforming some half-worn black dresses into such mourning as she could make of them. Mike's death was to her a cause of bitter sorrow. He had been her only confident, was entrusted with the immost seerets of her heart, he had always sympathized with her griefs, and cheered her despondency. The loss of so intimate a friend was, to a person in her situation, irreparable. The expenses of their menage were greatly diminished by the change of apartments and Mrs. Bolingbroke's absence, but the residue of Kate's money was expended, and some articles of minor value, disposed of in a similar manner as the first, added but little to her scanty means. Tim obtained the employment which he had been proinised, and regularly deposited the total of his carnings in Miss Bingham's hands, wilh a strict injunction that she should not spare the money as far as it went, until it was his master's convenience to repay it.

This was, to say the least, a precarlous and humiliating mode of existence, and Kate began to reflect that she, too, might employ her time profitably, and carn the means of subsistence. She looked over the various advertisements in the newspapers carefully, in the hope of finding some occupations by means of which she might gain money without ceasing to reside with her would quite suit her purposes. A person competent to give lessons on the harp was required to attend a young lady dally, and delighted with the prospect of converting her accomplishments to profitable uses, she dotermined on applying for the place, and oxt day repaired by appointment to an interview with the person from whom she expected an engagement.

In the drawing-room of the agent's house Kate found.

THE TRUE WINDSANS AND STEEDING CHRONICLE

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invalid."
"Not supposed I was an invalid!" repeated the little man; "why, sir, I live, I may say, in death—my existence is but momentary—there's not an office in London would do business with me; I'm not insureable at no premium whatsome; I'm not insureable at no premium whatso-ever. I may drop here here, anywhere, sir; but I have, as far as man can do it, provided for the occasion. You may see by this, sir holding out a small note taken from his waisteeat pocket), that I'm fully prepared the event, There, sir, is my contract with Mr. Gleem, the undertaker a first-rate man in his line), to bury me for the sum of twenty-five guiners.—bearse

out a small note taken from his waisteont pocket), that I'm fully prepared the event, There, sir, is my contract with Mr. Gleem, the undertaker a first-rate man in his line, to bury me for the sum of twenty-five guineas—hearse, conches, plumes, mutes and attendants included—in good style, you understand. It's inclosed in a note, requesting any person who may find it (pointing significantly) to his bodyl to forward same to the aforesaid Gleem, in Fleet street. Carriage of more than thirty miles from London to be an extra payment, for which full provision is made in my will. Not an Invalid. Why, sir, you yourself, may have, before we part, the melancholy duty of calling a coach to convey me to my destination; uot—lobscrying the Colonel's look of astonishment)—not, sir, that I ask or require a compliment from you, sir, or any other man. I'm rich, don't be alarmed; but, sir, what's the good of riches when one can't enjoy them? Believe me that sometimes I wish I had not a guinea."

"That's strange," replied the Colonel, "for the possession of wealth is generally supposed to confer happiness,"

"Money's a humbug, sir—a d—d humbug I have it, and I can make no total of what it's worth. When I say money, I mean, you understand, more of it than a man wants. I have that, sir, and I believe in my conscience I'd be happier if I was a pauper. What am I? Why I am a creature living for nothing and nobody; cared for by no one, who ought to care for me, except for my money—and made what I am, a honeless wanderers are made so by the want of it." He paused—his thoughts turned towards home—the lordly estate and the towering oaks passed in review before him—from want of money he was driven from its shelter and their shade.

"My name, sir, is Skittles—Jim Skittles I'm generally called in 'the Lane,' as we always call Minclag Lane, sir—but, of course, you don't know that, not being a city man. I entered life, sir, without the price of my breakfast, and lived in a cellar for the first month of my struggle with fortuse—am not ashamed to

WHILE Kate was trying to obtain a situation and exerting her talents to procure a livelihood, Skittles continued his promoundes in Kensington Gardens without interruption; every day he ton Gardens without interruption; every day he was to be found there and, at length, the Colonel became so habitanted to the meeting and the greeting which followed that he gradually relaxed the austerity of his manner, and a rather familiar intercourse was insensibly established between them. Skittles did not again introduce the subject of money-lending; but he frequently alluded to the emoluments and honors accorded to literature, and hinted at the comparative ease with which a competence could be acquired by its cultivation, until, at last, the Colonel felt astonished that he had never thought of so applying his talents before. The insecurity of his its cultivation, until, at last, the Colonel felt astonished that he had nevor thought of so applying his talents before. The insecurity of his position urged him to make a trial. It was a duty to exert himself, and he resolved to do so.

On the next occasion that Skittles descanted on the profits to be derived from periodical writings, the Colonel remarked that, as his time was quite at his disposal and hung heavily upon his hands, he should have no objection to accept such an occupation; "Not, of course, for any pecuniary remuneration he might receive, but rather as an amusement."

Skittles seized the opportunity he had been long seeking for, and having brought the Colonel gradually to the point he desired, natled him to his proposal "Nothing," he assured him, "was more casily procured; he had a fread, Mr. Dowell, a first-rate fellow, one of the kindest creatures that ever lived—a poet—a philosopher—an orator—a writer—a young man who contributed to the first reviews, and whose seciety was sought after by tip-top people; and who, with all, was so industrious aad so kind a husband, and so good a father, his success ought to he are necouragement to any one. Dowell could band, and so good a father, his success ought to be an encouragement to any one. Dowell could and would assist a friend of his:" and Skittles proposed that the Colonel should call upon the ilourishing man of letters the next day, with a note of introduction, which he gave in pencil on the spat.

ilterary "sweating shop" to the higher walks of my profession. I have now only to deal with those who, gentlemen themselves, can appreciate the feelings of a gentlemen, who treat merit with consideration, and even failure with respect. My prospects are, I may say, brilliant and all my success is due, under Providence, to the timely interference of a generous friend."

The Colonel involuntarily cast his eyes around the dilapidated room when Dowell alluded to his success and thriving fortunes; the latter promptly noticed the look, and proceeded to offer an explanation.

"I might have left these humble lodgings before now, and I soon must do so from prudential motives, but somehow I dislike the separation, and love to linger here, where, although I suffered much, the first rays of hope burst in upon me; and now, Colonel Blake (for with a pardonable vanity the poor Colonel had disclosed his real name and position to insure respect for his present humiliation)—now that I have not hesitated to make you acquainted with my own anairs, you must, without taking offense, permit me to meddle somewhat in yours. I have become a small capitalist, the balance at my banker's being considerably in my favor, so I beg your acceptance of the small loan of ten pounds, until we ascertain the fate of your article." It was arranged that the Colonel should re-

turn at the end of the week, by which time Dowell, who had partially inspected the manu-script, hoped to have favorable news to commu-

Dowell, who had partially inspected the manuscript, hoped to have favorable news to communicate.

The Colonel's pride was gradually healed as he wended his way homewards, He had accepted money from a stranger, no doubt; it was but as a loan, howeyer, and he hoped soon to have it in his power to ropay it with interest, even should his literary speculation fail; meantime, he was not insensible to the value of such seasonable relief, and he now censured the vanity which had caused him to reject assistance before, when he reflected that perhaps a few days later he and his niece might have been in absolute want, but for its timely arrival. As he passed through the Strand a crowd had assembled round the remains of a carriage, which was broken by a runaway horse, and the ilagway opposite a surgeon's shop, into which a wounded lady had been carried, was so obstructed that he forced a passage through with difficulty. He was rudely jostled more than once, and quickened his pace after he got clear of the mob in order to, gain his home by dimeritime. He met Kate in high spirits—told her all that had occurred at the interview between himself and Dowell, and concluded by saying:

"Now, my dearest child, you see I have attended to your advice; take this to replenish your exchequer," and suiting the action to the word he thrust his hand into his pocket to draw forth the note—it was gone! The poor Colonel ate little dinner that day, and scarcely slept that night. He had incurred a new debt, and profitted nothing by the additional burthen. The loan had entailed humiliation, but no relief. It was not the extent of the loss alone which caused his inquietude, but he saw in the incident a continuation of his lil-luck, and it filled him with a presentiment of fullure in his new undertakings.

It was with difficulty Kate could persuade him to take his usual exercise the next day. To Kensington Garden he would not go. He could not endure the idea of meeting slivings.

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