## MIRAMICHI ADVANCE, CHATHAM, NEW BRUNSWICK, MAY 21, 1896.



BY THE AUTHOR OF

"A WOMAN'S CRIME," "THE MISSING DIAMOND." ETC., ETC.

Payne.'

CHAPTER I.-MAN PROPOSES. "B'm And you scarcely remember your mother, I suppose". "No, Lucian; I was such a mere babe when abe died. I have often wondered what it would be like to have a mother. Auntie Hagar was always very kind to ms, however; so kind, in fact, that my stop-father, fearing, he said, that I would grow up self-willed and disobedient, sent her away, and procured the services of the ugly old woman you saw in the garden. Poor Auntie Hagar," sighed the girl, "she was sorely grieved at our parting, and, that she might be near me, bought the little cottage in the field yonder." "Due We shewelt a the come a mother." be here.

be here." "Then, good-by till evening." A switk kiss, and a strong hand-clasp, and he strode away. Trampling down the wayside daisies "Oh!" ejaculated the man, more as if he felt that he was expected to say some-thing, than as if really interested in the subject under discussion. "Ah-er-was -a-was the old lady a property holder, then? Most discharged servants go up and down on the earth, seeking what they may devour-in another situation." Trampling down the wayside daisies and tender spring grasses; insensible to the beauties of earth and sky; smiling still that same queer, meaning smile he took the path leading back to the vil-lage. Reaching the site, where the woody path terminated in the highway, he turned. Yes, she was looking after him; she would be, he knew. He kissed his hand, lifted his hat with a courtly ges-ture, and passed out of her sight.

and down on the earth, seeking what they may deveur-in another situation." "That is the strangest part of the affair, Lucian; she had money. Where it came from, I never could guess, nor would she ever give me any information on the subject. It was a lega cy-that was all I was to knew, it seemed. "I remember," she continued, musing-ity, "how very much astonished I was to receive, from my step-father, a lecture on this head. He took the ground that my childish curiosity was unpardonably rude, and angrily forbade me to ask fur-ther questions. And I am sure that since that one instance of wonderful re-gard for the feelings of Aunt Hagar, he has not deigned to consider the comfor and happiness ot any, save and always himsel." hand, lifted his hat with a courtly ges-ture, and passed out of her sight. "Gad!" he ejaculated, half aloud, "she is a little beauty: and half inclined to rebel, too. She won't go with me to-night, I think; but a few weeks of this solitude without me, and my Lady Bird will capitulate. The old Turk, her step-father, won't raise much of a hue and cry at her flight, I fancy. Wonder what is the secret of his antipathy to Miss Payne."

As the girl's voice took on a tone of As the girl's voice took on a tone of seconful sarcasm; as her cheeks flushed and her eyes flashed while memory re-called the many instances of unfeeling crueity and neglect, that had brought tears to her childlish eyes and pain to her lenely heart—the eyes of Lucian Davlin became bright with admiration, and something more: something that might because oright wish administration, and consching more; something that might have caused her honest eyes to wonder; and question, if she had but interpreted the giance. But her thoughts had taken a backward turn. Without looking up, ceiving by his silence that he had no sire to interrupt her she proceeded, alf addressing her self :

half addressing herself: "I used to ask him about my mother, and was always informed that 'he didn't care to converse of dead folks.' Finally, he assured me that he was 'tired of seeing my siekly, ugly face,' and that, as I would have to look after myself when would have to look after myself when he was dead and gone, I must be educat-ed. Therefore, I was sent to the dreary Convent school at M — And there I studied hard, looking forward to the time when, having learned all they could teach me, I might breathe again outside the four stone walls; for, by my step-papa's commands, I was not permitted to ream outside the sisters' domains until my studies should reach an end. Then they brought me back, and my polite step-papa called me an 'educated didot;' and my good old Hagar cried over me and I made friends with the birds and the trees. Ever since, always avoiding

step-pape selled me an 'sducated lidet'; and my good old Hagar oried over me and I made friends with the birds and the trees. Ever since, always avoiding my worthy ancestor-in-law, I have been may are friends, in a bright spet semewhere, far away from this place, where I never have been happy for a day at a time, even as a chlid.'' ''Never, little girl?' The eyes were may held out entreatingly. ''Never, darling?' She leked up in his face shyly, yet trustfully, and then outting her hand in his, and: ""Never, until I knew you, Lucian; and always since, I think, ex-

for the remainder of my days, and the sum of ten thousand dollars." "It's making a wife a rather expensive inxury," quath old Amos, seating him-self: "but the girl's a beauty-no disput-ing that point; and-" "Of course she is," broke in Arthur, impatiently: "worth that, and more, to show ye wants have also you want to make from me entirely? Don't you know, dearie, how he swore that the day I toid you away where I could not even hear of you away where I could not even hear of you away where I could not even hear of

and the picture and the girls a bandy-no disputer in the winds and and the picture is the series of the band in the series of the series of the band in the series of the series of the band in the series of the series of

bought nim a whe; he had but to pay the price and take possession of the property. Madeline Payne sat long on her leafy perch thinking fast and hard, the expres-sions of her face changing rapidly as she revolved, in her mind, different phases of the situation. Surprise gave place to contempt, as she eyed the departing plot-'ers from her green hiding-place. Con-tempt merged into anusement, as she thought of the wonderful contrast be-tween the two woers who had profferes the their respective suits, in a manner so very different, beneath that self same tree. A look of fixed resolve settled ucwn upon her countenance at last, and "'And because"—the girl fixed the eyes of the old nurse with her own—"because of the old nurse with her own—"because past, and his, and knew too well the secret of his harted of me!"
Hagar sat silent and motionless, but Madeline, who had read her answer in the troubled face, continued "'Very good. I znew all this before, and I'll tell you what else I know. I know why had and pended her ment of old Hagar now placed in Madeline's hands the package, which was found to contain her mother's most valuable jeweis, and the tear-stained journal, which the girl seated herself to peruse, with sorrowful awe.
The last page being turned, and the sad life of her mother fully revealed, Madeline bowed her head and wept bitterly, heedless of the attempt of old Hagar to comfort her, until the name of her step-father upon the old woman's line

by at her might, I handy. Wonder what is is an interpretent the secret of his antipathy to Miss Payne."
He paced on, wrinkling his brow in thought a moment, and then whistling for softly as his fancies shaped themselves to contempt, as she eyed the departing plotwers from her green hiding-place. Contempt merged into anusement, as she thought of the wonderful contrast between the two wooers who had proffered their respective suits, in a manner so very different, benach that self same tree. A look of fixed resolve settled to runse-what's her name-to-night."
He glanced across the meadow to where stood the octage of nurse Hagar, and, as if satisfied with himself and his brilliant last idea, resumed his walk. Presently apon the ground.
Madeline out of her way. If they should meet-whew!"
Five and this unknown Cora, for after a pro-and this unknown Cora. Well, 1'll find that out, too.
Well, 1'll find that out, too.
CHAPTER II.-THE OLD TREE'S REVELATIONS. Madeline condensed the remainder of her force into one telling shot. If I would be kind enough to die he would consider it a great favor. But as I evidently intend to live long, he desires of course, to see me happy. Therefore, he has bargained me in marriage to Amos A dams for the splendid consideration of a few thousand more if I die young?" Still the bewildered look rested upon the old woman's face and still she gazed at the young girl before her. Suddenly she leared forward and taking the fair head between two trembling hands, gazed long at her. As if satisfied at last with her scrutiny, she drew a deep, sigh-ing breath, and leaned back in her chair. "It's true," groaned Hagar; "it's too CHAPTER IL.-THE OLD TREE'S REVELATIONS. Meanwhile, strange feelings filled the heart, and troublesome thoughts the

ing oreath, and leaned back in her chair. "if's true," groaned Hagar; "it's too true! She has found it out, and my lit-tle girl has gone away, has gone away;-my Baby Madeline is become a woman, There was never a coward in all the race, and a Payne never forgave! It has come at last," she walled, "and now, what will she do?" Madeline lost not a look not tone and Madeline lost not a look nor tone and

when the old woman ceased her rocking and moaning, she suggested, with a half smile: "Hadn't I better marry old Adam, auntie, worry them both into untimely mayae, and be a rich young widow?"

the two; and becoming intervening relatives of time and nature sole possessor of a very nice little fortune, afterwards held her bead very high. Later, in consequence of some little indiscretions of her W We have the farmers' favorite in Condition Powders. Large pack

brother at the time when he was set free in the world-the result of the popular superstition held by him that "the world owed him a living"-she held herself alcof from and ignored him completely.

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Mr. John Arthur hates me." Hagar opened her meath and shut it again quickly. "He hates me," pursued Madeline, "be-cause my mother left him her fertune so tied up that he can only use it; neven dispose of it. And at his death it re-verts to me." Hagar still looked her amazoment, and Madeline condensed the remainder of her force into one telling shot. If I would be kind enough to die her Mr. John Arthur hat dist attempt of old her step-father upon the old woman's line brought have been a revelation to John Arthur had that gentleman been there to see. Taking the old woman's HEAD QUARTERS. HHAD QUARTERS. THE HE DOUARTERS FOR DRUG4, PATENT MEDICINES AND TOILET A: CLICLES MEDICINES AND THE A

We have on hand now, as usual, s

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now she would sell her child. He will fail; and this is but the beginning. As he drove my mother into her grave, I will hunt him into his! He shall suffer all that she suffered, and more! I know

that she suffered, and more! I know where you obtained your independence now, Aunt Hagar; and he hates you doubly because my mother's love provid-ed for you a home, and for her child a haven in time of need. It was well. Keep the old cottage open for me, Aunt Hagar. Keep an eye on John Arthur, for my sake. Never fear for me, what-aver homens. Evenet to hear former

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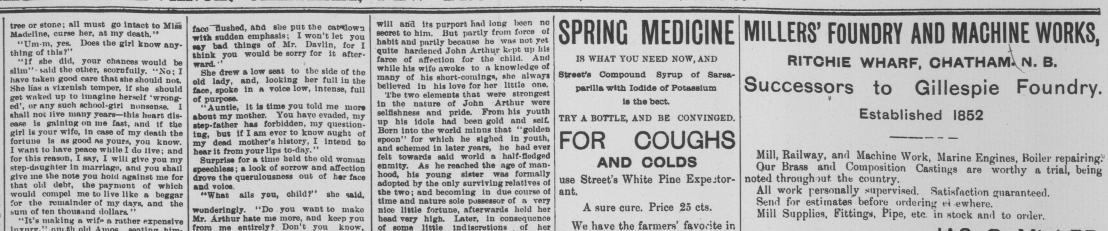
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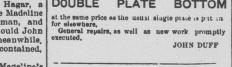
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besitated, and the color fied out

of her face. "Except when I think that the day And when the great world has swallowed you up, you will forget the 'little girl'

A smile fitted across the face of the intener, and he turned away for a moment to conceal the lurking devil gleam his out of his eyes. Then, flinging away his half-finished cigar, he took both her hands in his and, looking down into her clear eyes, said :

clear eyes, said: "Then don't let me go away from you, beauty. Don't stay here to make dismal meditations among the gloomy trees. Den't pass all the weary winter with Gurmudgeen, who will marry you to an ald bag of gold. Come with me; come to the dity and be happy. You shall see all the glories and beauties of the gay, beight world. You shall put dull care far behind you. You shall put dull care far behind you. You shall put dull care far of Hearts, to love and care for always. Swetheart, will you come!" He was folding her close now, and she

He was folding her close now, and she nestled in his arms with perfect trustfulsess, with untold ha piness shining in her bright eyes. She was in no haste to answer his eager question, and he smiled again; and once more the lurking devil laughed out of his eyes. But he held her

when with a provide an expansion of the summer rest under green branches, lulled and soothed by their songs. Wandering here, the acquaintance be-tween herself and Lucian Davin had be-gun. Here six long, bright weeks of the springtime had passed, each day find-the beam and the set of the set of the spring lower beam.

Slowly she turned away, and very thoughtful was her face is she wont, but fixed in its purpose as fate itself: and fearless still as if life had no dark places, no storm clouds, no despair. Oh, they were lovely, innocent eyes; and oh! it was a sweet, sweet mouth i But the eyes never wavered, and th mouth had no trace of weakness in its dainty curves. You have reckoned with out your host, John Arthur. It is n common-place school-girl with whom you have to deal. Madeline Payne possesses a nature all untried, yet strong for good or evil. Intense in love or hate, fearless to do and dare, she will meet the fate you gun. Here six long, bright weeks of the springtime had passed, each day finding the springtime had passed, each day finding them lingering longer among the leafy shadows, and drawing closer about them both the cords of a destiny sad for one, fatal for each.
Standing with hands clasped locsely before her, eyes down dropped, and foot tapping the mossy turf, Madeline presented a picture of youth and loveliness such as is rarely seen even in a beauty abounding land. A form of medium r height which would, in later years, develop much of stately grace; a complexion of lily-like fairness; and eyes as deep and brown, as tender and childlike, as if their owner were gazing, ever and always, as infants gaze who see only great, grand wonders, and never a woe or fear.
With a wee, small mouth, matching the eyes in expression, the face was one to strike a casual observer as lovely—as childishly sweet, perhaps. Yet there was something more than childishness in the broad brow and firm chin. The little white hands were shapely and strong, and the dainty feet pressed down the daisies softly yet firmly, with quiet but steady movement. evil. Intense in love or hat, fearless to do and dare, she will meet the fate you bring upon hew-but woe to those who have compassed her downfall! If you-hand has shaped the destiny of her life. she will no less over-rule your futur-and, from afar-pendaps unrecognized, unseen-mete out to you measure for measure!

The grand old tree is sighing-out a The grand old tree is sighing-out a farewell. The sunlight is casing fan tactic shadows where her foot, but a mo-ment since, rested. The leaves glister and whisper strange things. The golder buttercups laugh up n the sun's face, a if there were no drama of loving an hating, sin and atorement, daily enacted on their green m very buson An on theimgreen, m nerly bosom. An Madeline Payne has put her childhoo behind her, and turned her face to the darkness beyond.

takies sorty yet nrmiy, with quiet but steady movement. Many a man has been mistaken in baby mouth and sweetly-smiling eyes. And whose should mistake Madeline Payne, in CHAPTER 11.--THE STORY OF A

Slowly she turned away, and very

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graves, and be a rich young widow?" Hagar gazed at her in silence. And Madeline, taking her hand in her own, said: "Shall I tell you how I discovered all this, auntie, dear?" "Yes, child go on." And she bent upon the girl a look of attention. Madeline drew close to her side, and briefly related what had transpired while she sat in her favorite tree, not stating, by the by, how it occurred that she was kindness, auntie; good-by. by the by, how it occurred that she was by the by, now it defines that she was in the grove at that very opportune time. Hagar's indignation was unbounded, but she continued to gaze at Madeline in a strange, half fearful, half wondering. wholly expectant way, that the girl could not interpret. And now, Aunt Hagar," pursued Madeline, seriously, "I want to under-stand this matter more fully, and I will

stand this matter more fully, and 1 will not say a word of my plans until you have told me what I came to hear. I shall not come to you again for this in-formation; it is surely my right, and time now is precious." Madeline half rose, seeing that her nurse still rocked dismally and looked irresolute. "I can bide my time, and fight my battles alone, if need be," she continued, coldly. "I won't trouble you again, nurse," turnnig as if to go. "Stop, child!" reicel Hagar "let an old woman think. I'll tell you all I can; all I know. Don't turn away from your old nurse, dearle; her only thought is for your good. Yes; yu must not be left in the dark now-sit down, child; sit down." Madeline resumed her seat, and old COR. SOUTH STREET.

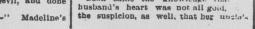
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