HELEN MOIR

LOVE AND HONOUR.

A TALE OF THE CLYDE.

A TALE OF THE CLYDE.

CHAPTER XXII.

THE SECRET PLOTTERS—HELEN'S MUSINOS—SHE IS DRAWN INTO THE SOLITUPE.

Before the curtain descends on the of that important day—and how important it was not one of those whom the events concerned could adequately intimate—we must not neglect to attend at a meeting between Jasper Jaquin and Victor Dubosque, held shortly after sunset, by the margin of Dunloskin, on the spot where they had their first interview, and where those words were spoken in the cars of the Frenchman which had led to such momentous issues in the experience of the other personages of our story.

We shall steal upon them, not at the first moment of their meeting, but at point where Dubosque has been put in possession of the facts relating to David Bridgenorth and the scene at the villa. The Frenchman was sufficiently astonished at what the other told him, though at the same time it served to explain what had before puzzled him, viz., how Jaquin had obtained the information which had enabled him to confront Helen Moir with such scathing effect. Of course all was made plain to him now, and strong as were the unruly passions of his own nature, he could only gaze in silence on the concentration of rage and flendish malice manifested by the hunchback, for at that moment Jasper Jaquin was more like a flend than a human being—a flend already gloating over the anticipated revenge he would secure over David Bridgenorth and all connected with him. Nothing would satisfy him till he had tortured, crushed, and ruined them—repaying them, as he termed it, a hundredfold for the insults to which he had that night been subjected. The worst calamities he could possibly bring upon them he would compass earth and hell to inflict, and the misfortune was that his power to injure was almost commensurate with the desire which possessed him.

Dubosque, who knew nothing of this, and thought only of his own concerns, cast his eye across the loch with a gloomy covel.

"This contretemps shuts the last door of a chance for me," he observe

and thought only of his own concerns, cast his eye across the loch with a gloomy scowl.

"This contretemps shuts the last door of a chance for me," he observed.

"Why should it?" said Jaquin, with a vicious snap of his teeth.

"Because, now that her father has turned up, she'll have no scruple about marrying that German boor."

"His turning up don't take away the disgrace of his crime," hissed Jaquin. "The difficulty is there still, and they can't get rid of it. Ha! didn't! send that mil home when I came off? I wished them all joy of their relative the forger. How it galled them! How it made the young Englishman foam with rage! But, foam and bluster as they will, the brand is on his brow, and they have no power to take it off. Aha! that, at least, is an injury! can do them; but that won't be all. Me nust effect something more like triumph than that. Do you hear me, M. Dubosque? We must."

"Say you—not we," "ejoined the French" man, peevishly. "Since I lose the girl, I lose all the game I have been playing," "Have you no wish for revenge?" asked Jaquin, hoarsely.

"Not if it cost me much trouble and effect. So long as I played for the stake fould have gone any length, and even now I would go so far out of my way to destroy them. But as for setting myself to achieve a barren triumph.""

"I don't speak of a barren triumph," returned Jaquin, vehemently. "I speak of triumph as great as you have ever wished—the triumph of gaining the girl for your wife."

"Jaquin, your are mocking me!" rear-od Dubosque, with a sudden and a violent start.

"No, I am not. If you are bold enough to allow your nart the girl and her wealth."

"No, I am not. If you are bold enough to play your part, the girl and her wealth may both be yours."

"How?—tell me how?"

"By scizing her, and carrying her off

"By scizing her, and carrying her on to France."

"Ha! what say you."

"Nothing more easy. We can hire a vessel, and waiting our opportunity, earry her on board. Once we have her in France, all the rest is easy. What, are you afraid?"

"Afraid old man! Ask you if Victor Dubosque is afraid? I would dare all the fiends of hell in a cause on which my heart is set. But such a scheme as you propose needs money, and I have none."

"But I have it in abundance—his money. Look ye, M. Dubosque. Whover marries Helet Moir, if I am on his side, will find her heiress to much wealth."

Why, how can you make her either rich or poor."

"I cant make her poor exactly, for this ten thousand which Bridgenorth's father left him fifteen years ago makes a tidy fortune for her. But I have it in my power to double it."

"You?"

"Ay me."
"In what way."
"I'll trust you and tell you. He thinks he has forfeited Jerdan's property. I know better; but I won't move a finger to keep it from him if you do not join in this."

to keep it from him if you do not join me in this."

Didn't you tell me Jerdan's will cuts him out of the property if he makes himself known? He has made himself known, and, of course, the hospital in Melbourne is the better of it."

"I tell you I can make that all right if I choose. But it all depends on me. Secure the girl, and I'll secure the property for her and you. Miss your chance and—you understand? But you won't be such a fool as lose the girl you have such a notion of—and—forty thousand pounds."

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Half-bound Horse and Cattle Powder

CONTAINS no Meal or Salt to increase

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Guelph, Feb. 19, 1872.

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Weilington.

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No. 20.

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No. 20.

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