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WILFRID CUMBERMEDE.

An Autobiographical Story.

BY GEORGE MACDONALD,

Author of "Alec Forbes," etc.

CHAPTER XLVI.

MY FOLIO.

WHEN I reached home I found Charley there, as I had expected.

But a change had again come over him. He was nervous, restless, apparently anxious. I questioned him about his mother and sister. He had met them as planned, and had, he assured me, done his utmost to impress them with the truth concerning me. But he had found his mother incredulous, and had been unable to discover from her how much she had heard; while Mary maintained an obstinate silence, and, as he said, looked more stupid than usual. He did not tell me that Clara had accompanied them so far, and that he had walked with her back to the entrance of the park. This I heard afterwards. When we had talked a while over the sword-business—for we could not well keep off it long—Charley seeming all the time more uncomfortable than ever, he said, perhaps merely to turn the talk into a more pleasant channel—

"By the way, where have you put your folio? I've been looking for it ever since I came in, but I can't find it. A new reading started up in my head the other day, and I want to try it both with the print and the context."

"It's in my room," I answered. "I will go and fetch it."

"We will go together," he said.

I looked where I thought I had laid it, but there it was not. A pang of forboding terror invaded me. Charley told me afterwards that I turned as white as a sheet. I looked everywhere, but in vain; ran and searched my uncle's room, and then Charley's, but still in vain; and at last, all at once, remembered with certainty that two nights before I had laid it on the window-sill in my uncle's room. I shouted for Styles, but he was gone home with the mare, and I had to wait, in little short of agony, until he returned. The moment he entered, I began to question him.

"You took those books home, Styles?" I said, as quietly as I could, anxious not to startle him, lest it should interfere with the just action of his memory.

"Yes, sir. I took them at once, and gave them into Miss Pease's own hands;—at least I suppose it was Miss Pease. She wasn't a young lady, sir."

"All right, I daresay. How many were there of them?"

"Six, sir."

"I told you five," I said, trembling with apprehension and wrath.

"You said four or five, and I never thought but the six were to go. They were all together on the window-sill."

I stood speechless. Charley took up the questioning.

"What sized books were they?" he asked.

"Pretty bigish—one of them quite a large one—the same I've seen you, gentlemen, more than once, putting your heads together over. At least it looked like it."

Charley started up and began pacing about the room. Styles saw he had committed some dreadful mistake, and began a blundering expression of regret, but neither of us took any notice of him, and he crept out in dismay.

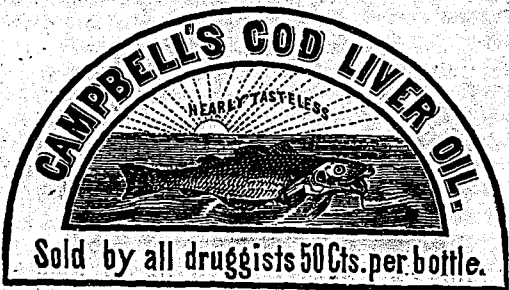
It was some time before either of us could utter a word. The loss of the sword was a trifle to this. Beyond a doubt the precious tome was now lying in the library of Moldwarp Hall—amongst old friends and companions, possibly—where years on years might elapse before one loving hand would open it, or any eyes gaze on it with reverence.

"Lost, Charley!" I said at last.—"Irrecoverably lost!"

"I will go and fetch it," he cried, starting up. "I will tell Clara to bring it out to me. It is beyond endurance this. Why should you not go and claim what both of us can take our oath to as yours?"

"You forget, Charley, how the sword-affair cripples us—and how the claiming of this volume would only render their belief with regard to the other the more probable. You forget too that I might have placed it in the chest first, and above all that the name on the title-page is the same as the initials on the blade of the sword,—the same as my own."

(To be Continued.)



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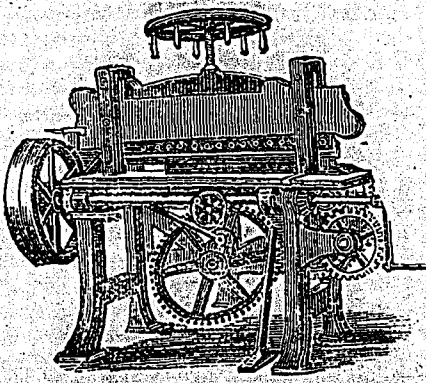
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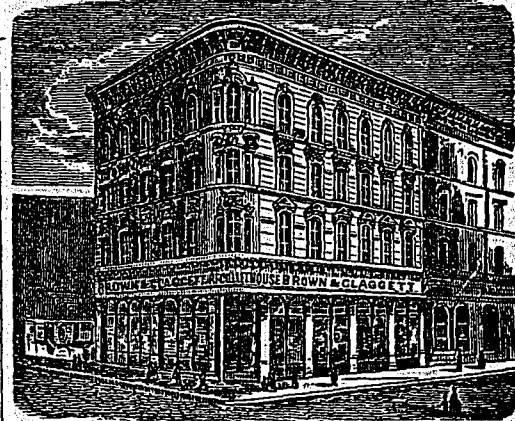
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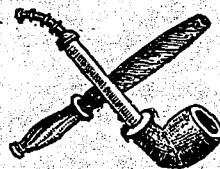
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Plans and specifications can be seen at this office, and at the Office of the Superintendent of the St. Maurice Works, at Three Rivers, where other information can be obtained.

The Department will not be bound to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order,

F. BRAUN,
Secretary.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, }
Ottawa, 16th Sept., 1871. 4-50c

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NOTICE.

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT.

OTTAWA, 6th November, 1871.

NOTICE is hereby given that His Excellency the Governor-General, by an Order in Council, bearing date the 30th of October last, and under the authority vested in him by the 3rd Section of the 34th Victoria, Cap. 10, has been pleased to order and direct that the following article be transferred to the list of goods which may be imported into Canada free of duty, viz.:

"Unmanufactured Ivory."
By Command,
R. S. M. BOUCHETTE,
Commissioner of Customs.

4-25-c

INSOLVENT ACT OF 1869, AND ITS AMENDMENTS.

IN the matter of JOHN MORRIS, the younger, of the City and District of Montreal, Publishing Agent and Trader, carrying on business as such, alone, there, under the name and style of "M. W. Avery & Company," as well individually as having been a partner with Myron W. Avery, trading together in Montreal aforesaid, as Advertising Agents, under the said name and firm of M. W. Avery & Company, An Insolvent.

The Insolvent has made an Assignment of his Estate to me, and the Creditors are notified to meet at the place of business of the Insolvent, No. 243 St. James Street, in the city of Montreal, on Tuesday the twenty-sixth day of December instant, at three o'clock in the afternoon, to receive statements of his affairs, and to appoint an Assignee.

A. B. STEWART,

Interim Assignee. 4-25-b

Montreal, 5th Dec., 1871.



GOVERNMENT HOUSE, OTTAWA.

MONDAY, 6th day of November, 1871.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL IN COUNCIL.

On the recommendation of the Honourable the Minister of Customs and under the authority of the Act 31 Vic., Cap. 6, Sec. 4, entitled: "An Act respecting the Customs." His Excellency has been pleased to order, and it is hereby ordered, that from and after the date thereof, the following articles when imported into Canada, or taken out of Warehouses for consumption therein—that is to say: Spirits and Strong Waters mixed with any ingredient or ingredients, and although thereby coming under the denomination of Proprietary Medicines, Tinctures, Essences, Extracts, or any other denomination, shall be, and they are hereby declared to be chargeable with the duty imposed by the 3rd section of the Act 33 Vic., cap. 9, and with no other Customs duty.

WH. H. LEE,
Clerk, Privy Council.

4-25-e



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THOS. REYNOLDS,
Managing Director.

R. LUTTRELL,
Superintendent, Prescott.
Ottawa, 26th Oct., 1871. 4-44-1