

Jeannie Sinclair,  
OR,  
THE LILY OF THE STRATH.

CHAPTER XXXI.

A NIGHT OF PERIL—THE CRUEL FATE OF MOSES LEVI—CLOCKWORK FOR HIM—A BANGUINARY BATTLE—HOMEWARD BOUND.  
Before the robbers departed with their booty, they made hasty preparations for enjoying a few hours' wild, boisterous revelry. The spoil which had fallen into their hands was great enough to make their lawless hearts beat with extravagant delight, and as they had the whole night before them, with no prospect of attack from any quarter, they lighted more torches, kindled more fires, and produced from their wallets materials for a feast.

They gave little more heed to their prisoners, having bound them beyond the possibility of self-release, they left them to their own meditations, placing even no watch upon them, considering apparently that they had put them beyond the power of making any attempt to recover their property. And in truth so they had, for every one of the travellers was bound with painful severity—the legs being tied closely together a little above the knees and at the ankles, the arms being pinioned at the elbows, and the wrists tightly bound to each other. In pain and helplessness they lay together on the low emittance, unable to move from the spot where they had been placed, and far less able to do anything to free themselves from their bonds.

Who may imagine the bitter anguish of their feelings—particularly those of William Robert and Watty? In one hour the fruit of their long sore toil had been wrenched from them, and their glad hopes dashed to the ground. They were reduced to the position they occupied when they came to the country. By the labour of their hands and by a fortunate discovery Cloverlea had been won—but by ruthless and lawless force it had been again lost, and with it the dearest of all earthly hopes.

At the thought of this Robert Douglas was frantic and furious. As he lay upon the grass glaring upon the wild forms which the light from the torches and the blinding fire revealed, squatted in a circle near the waggon, his silent rage was something fearful. William Denman frequently turned an anxious look towards him, for he well divined the anguish of his heart and whirlwind of his soul. The lurid light from the burning torches revealed to William's gaze the still more lurid light of his friend's glaring eyes, and an expression on his face such as he shuddered to behold—it was so appalling. He longed to speak to him, to rouse him from his silent state of dreadfulness, if only to relieve his heart from a sealed-up furnace of wrath, which, while pent up there, threatened madness itself. Only he could think of no relieving words to whisper to him. Their disaster was ruinously complete, and hopelessly irretrievable.

'Robert, my friend, how do you feel?' he ventured at length to inquire.  
'I feel hell within me,' was the startling answer given, in tones of concentrated bitterness.

'Courage and hope,' rejoined William in the same low tone. 'This misfortune is indeed a severe one, but—'

'Say no more,' hissed Robert, fiercely. 'It is my death-blow—I care not how soon I were dead. Oh, for the power to strike the leader of these wretches to ground, and then to die beneath the knives of the rest of the wretches.'

'Hush! Give not way to desperate despair. Think of Helen, and live for her sake.'

'This night's wrong parts me from Helen forever,' groaned the youth.

'No, no—say not, think not so. You have done enough to prove the noble independence of your soul, and to show you are worthy of her. Trust to me to find the means of securing your happiness without injuring your self-respect. Notwithstanding the reverse which we have now met with, Cloverlea will still be yours, and so will Helen.'

'Never. I know it will never be,' said Robert, through his clenched teeth. 'Fate is against me, and I will strive no longer. I wish they would kill me as well as the Jew, whom they evidently intend to murder.'

'Ah! I fear it, I fear it,' answered William.

'He seems to be given up to that scoundrel Murdochson for revenge. I would willingly send a bullet through his heart if I had a chance.'

'I guess, Judge Lynch should have saved you that ere trouble when he had him in his hands at the diggings,' muttered Jonathan, who had been listening in silence to the young men's conversation. 'Had we hanged him slick off, as I wanted, the cursed coon wouldn't he got the better of us now. Jim Murdochson is the infernal fisher we ha' got to thank for this here bad business.'

'You are right,' returned Denman, 'and I wish we had hanged the blackguard. Ha! there are now turning their attention to Moses Levi.'

TO BE CONTINUED.

Meeting of Medical Men in Waterloo.

A meeting of the medical men of the North Riding of the County of Waterloo took place at Berlin on Monday last, for the purpose of taking into consideration the provisions of the Medical Bill passed at the late session of the Ontario Legislature, and to discuss other matters of moment to the profession.

Dr. Bowly was moved to the chair. Dr. Wallen to act as Secretary. The object of the meeting having been declared by the chairman, Dr. Clarke, of Guelph, representative of this Division at the Medical Council of Ontario, was called upon to express his views with regard to the Medical Act and to give an account of his Stewardship while representing this locality at the Council. The result of this gentleman's explanations and subsequent discussions was that the following resolutions were unanimously passed: Moved by Dr. W. H. Vardon, seconded by Dr. W. Pipe, that this meeting, after having heard the explanations of Dr. W. Clarke, member of the medical council for Saugeen Division, in reference to the Medical Bill passed at the last session of Parliament of Ontario, and of his course generally as our representative, express our approval of the same, and pledge him our support at the coming election.

Moved by Dr. Morton, seconded by Dr. Hughes, that our representative at the Medical Council be requested to use his influence to procure the appointment of a public prosecutor under the Medical Act for each county in the Saugeen Division. —Telegraph.

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The resignation of Daniel McLachlin, M. P. for South Renfrew, has been received by the Speaker. The writ will issue this week. Hon. Malcolm Cameron has issued his address to the electors. He expects to walk the course without opposition. Mr. McIntyre, the late member, it is said will be a candidate.

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