POOR COPY

MIRAMICHI ADVANCE. CHATHAM, NEW BRUNSWICK, DECEMBER 9, 1880.

Hedical.

Poor Robin. BY MARY E. MOFFAT.

victory.

Margery Nixon made a pretty picture Prophet." as she stood in the doorway one bright June morning. The sun glinted down and turned her flaxen hair to gold, and showed how delicate was the texture of her dainty skin as its warm rays deepened the rose-flush which colored it But a troubled expression looked out of her sea-blue eyes, and hovered about the crimson curves of her parted lips. She had just told Geordie Lee-her faithful lover since she could remember -the champion of her childish daysthe defender of her girlish ones-that he need never hope to call her his wife.

And Geordie-tall, handsome and stalwart-stood before her with an angry house. light in his eyes, and bitter words upon his lips.

"You do not love me, lass, or you would not be so quick to make an excuse to send me off. I have always had a fondness for Robin, and am as willing to take him under my roof-tree and care for him as though he had been of kin to me. Oh ! Margery, think again of it ! Do not break your troth to me. You can trust to me, I am sure."

It would have been far easier for Margery to resist her lover's wishes had he kept up an aggressive, injured tone; but even though her heart should break in the struggle, the girl would not suffor herself to be won from what she considered to be her duty both to Geordie and to her simple brother, Robin.

At last, finding that his pleadings were of no effect, Geordie left her in a passion. She stood listening to his retreating footsteps until the last faint sound died away. Then with the telltale tears rolling slowly down her cheeks, she turned and went into the cottage. What a sad change the past few weeks had brought to her. By her widowed mother's sudden death, she had been left with the sole charge of the unfortunate brother who had been from his birth what the country people call an "innocent."

With her last faltering breath her dying mother had adjured her never to neglect or forsake poor Robin, and she had promised her to fulfil the trust sacredly.

it."

ed Geordie, and the future looked indeed dreary to the sorrowing orphan.

In about an hour Robin came in, sauntering along with awkward, shambling gait, as though his limbs had been strung too losely upon his frame. He was hungry ; and seating himself at the rude table upon which Margery had spread a frugal meal of black bread

the scene at the very moment of Henry's such cases persons wish to be interested and amused without either mental or From that time he was no longer physical exertion. They, therefore, take called " daft Robin," but "Robin the up a good book or newspaper, which proves a source of agreeable and inno-Not long after, as Margery was busy cent enjoyment.

at her household duties, she was startled When written with a skilful hand by Robin's sudden appearance from the fiction may be made a powerful means field, where he had been at work. He of education. Its style interests the International Steamship Co. rushed up to her, and said, with a masses, and it has an important influpiteous look : ence in forming the tastes and charac

"Hide poor Robin. The king wants ters of those who read it. Useful inhim, and he will be clammed if he goes struction can be given and moral printo the palace." [Clammed is an old ciples inculcated in the form of fiction Saxon word for "starved."] where they would not be heeded in any Margery tried to southe him, but in other form. Essays, lectures, and servain. He would not be comforted until mons, which by many are considered she humored his singular whim (as she more suitable educators, are seldom thought it,) and suffered him to hide heard or read by the masses, who, in behind a pile of unbeaten flax in an out- their hours of leisure, generally seek

means of amusement or entertainment A few hours later a messenger came rather than instruction. But yet it is from the king with orders to bring necessary that they should be educated, Robin to him. He had heard an ac- for in the same ratio that the people at count of his peculiar gifts, and with his large are educated, will crime be diminiasual shrewdness wished to turn them shed; and where the great majority of to account by keeping him near his persons are fond of reading, the larger portion of them read nothing but fiction. Margery was greatly surprised at

Robin's evident knowledge of the King's shown by its introduction into the New intentions; and she was also much Testament in the form of parables, troubled by the extreme terror it had The very name parable signifies "a occasioned him. For if his forebodings fable or allegorical relation or represent also were true, he would be going to his tation of something real in life or nature, death. But kingly commands must be from which a moral is drawn for instruc obeyed, and Robin was soon on his way tion." If, therefore, the Deity cono Henry's presence. siders fiction a worthy means for im-He threw himself pale and trembling parting useful moral lessons, shall any at his sovereign's feet and begged to be of His creatures deny its value?

sent home again before night-fall. All works of fiction portray character "I am of no use to any one but my and thereby have a tendency to creat brother Geordie and my sister Mar- a taste for biography. They also chro gery," he pleaded; "and if you keep nicle events, and lead the way to history

me here I shall surely die. I know it! and travels. In many cases a skilfel I shall be 'clammed.". presentation of these points excites the "No, no," answered the king, smil- ambition of the reader, and stimulates ing at the very idea of a person being him to enter upon particular lines of International steam Ship starving amid the plenty that reigned action in the serious business of lifein his household, "we will see to that. Bentham, in describing the influence You shall live on the best that a king's which the perusal of Telemachus exer larder can supply. You will soon be cised upon his mind in boyhood, said: so fat that your own people will not "That romance may be regarded as the know you. Now, my lad, can you tell foundation-stone of my whole characme of the whereabouts of a choice stone ter-The starting-point from whence which disappeared from among my my career of life commenced. The first treasures? I should be ill-pleased to lose dawning in my mind of the 'Principles of Utility' may, I think, be traced to "Those who hide shall find," answer- it."

ed Robin, sententiously, to the king's Since, then, fiction has been shown to Her first step in the path of sacrifice great surprise. He had himself secret- be an important means of education, it Her brst step in the path of sacrifice had now been taken. She had alieneat-to the boy to test his powers, secretly ten, and quite proper that it should be writ-ten, and quite proper that it should be distrusting them. But his ready reply read by all classes. But it must always caused a change of opinion in the king's be borne in mind that care should h mind, and Robin was at once installed | taken to read only such books as have a prime favorite at court. Presents been indorsed by competent critics, or and petting were the order of the day stories published in papers bearing an from the proudest courtier to the hum- established reputation both for purity blest menial. But envy filled the of tone and for high literary merit. hearts of those who seemed to make O. A. CHENEZ.

Horse for Sale.

WM. KERR.

Traveler's Column. 1880-81.

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Ilion, N. Y.

and goat's milk, he began to eat raven-Margery went up to him and stroked

the light hair-similar to her own in color-which hung in elf-locks upon either side of his face.

"Poor Robin !" she said, softly. " Does Robin love sister ?" *

Robin glanced up with a vacant smile. But something in the expression of Margery's face seemed to stir up within his mind some dormant emotion. He put out his hand and drew her toward him so as to look into her face. His eyes grew suddenly instinct with intelligence, and he began to mutter to himself. It was a common habit of his when anything occurred to arouse his sluggish intellect to interest. Sometimes he would croon over a jingle of words which seemed to bear with them a hidden meaning; and Margery's memory was stored with them, although, peculiarly tender place. as vet, she was unaware of Robin's singular gift of prescience. So it was a great surprise to her when he said :

"Why have you sent my Geordie Robin, and who had taken the precauhearing distance of the house at the he himself could attend to his wants time she had had the interview with lest some mishap might come to him, her lover.

His question came so unexpectedly his sovereign, and had in his haste forthat she asked wonderingly :

ful, chiding way, and said

"You have been unkind and cruel to after, to his great dismay he found that Geordie, and I am going after him to Robin had, as he had predicted from tell him so."

And, in spite of Margery's endeavors foreseen his own fate. to detain him, he rushed out into the The king was filled with regret when closing in around them.

He did not return until late on the following day. Then he brought Geor die with him. They both looked devoted sister's sorrow was not found in weary and worn, as though from a long the golden baubles displayed to her. It journey, but the young lover's face was was in Geordie's whispered words :

bright with newly-awakened hope. "I came with Robin," he said, "be-poor Robin. So his name will not be cause he told me that'I must, or you lost from among us." would cry. You see my lass, the poor And Margery dried her tearful eyes, innocent has the right kind of wisdom. as she pressed her little consoler to her He knows that it is a sin for you to beart. He knows that it is a sin to a sin the break your vows, and my heart at the Nore. Robert Nixon is a historical

same time. Don't you, Rob. But the brief interval of intelligent action had passed away. Robin was again as one is in a dream—oblivious to all but the mere creature-comforts of food and rest. Note. Robert Nixon is a historical character. He was a contemporary of the famous Mother Shipton, and soome of his prophesies are still extant, and are pro-foundly believed in by the lower classes of the English people. The incidents men-tioned with regard to him in my story are true ones, and the words used are his own. Like others of her class, Margery

had an almost superstitious reverence Fiction as a Means of Education. for him whom God had thus affiicted. She had heretofore made a brave fight to carry out her idea of anty-but it has an injurious effect on the persons even daft Robin was against her, she who read it by making them dissatisfied must be in the wrong. So she yielded with their present condition and by to Geordie's arguments and consented giving them exaggerated views of life. to become his wife.

After they were married, Robin prov- stories published at the present time ed to be a great help to Geordie's for- are not only improbable, but many of tunes, instead of the hindrance to them them exceed the limits of possibility. which Margery had feared. He took But these statements are subject to which Margery nad leafer. It is modifications, and the views are a single for any set of manufacturing and ne pound of wool per yard. about his land, and soon learned for plough as straight and even as furrow which give the daily news to satisfy him-self that very little can be written or the stock and samples now were shown be stock and samples now the stock and stock great pride and pleasure in helping his modifications, and the views therein Geordie himself, who was the cham- conceived which is impossible, or even pion ploughman of the country. It was while thus engaged that the sweeping statements only betrays his

turning point of his destiny came. One lack of knowledge of the actual events day Le stopped suddenly in the midst of the day. It is quite true that there of his work, and with a wild look and are stories written whose influence is undeniably bad. But shall we denounce, startled gesture called out : "Now, Dick ! now, Harry ! Oh, ill all fiction on that account? As well

done, Dick ! Oh, well done, Harry ! might we say that because there are Harry has gained the day !" charlatans and quacks among physicians

the most of him. It was galling to their pride to bow down and worship an "innocent"-a "daft idiot"-as The Subscriber offers ion sale 1 Draught Horse, seven years old, 1,150 los weight. If desired, a 1 year old or 2 year colt will be taken in part paysome unkindly called him.' ignoring the gift of prescience which had thus elevated him above their heads. So Rob-Napan, Oct. 26, 1880. in's roses had their thorns, after all. For he could read their secret aversion and envy, and never lost his first fear

of starvation. Meanwhile the kittle household at nome throve and prospered in the reflected light which ever emanates from a king's favorite.

OTHER that any one can engage in, instructions are so simple and plain, that any one can make great profits from the very start. No one can all who is willing to work. Women are as successful as men. Boys and girls can earn large sums, Many have made at the binness, over one hundred dollars in a single week. No thing like it ever known before. All who engag are surprised at the ease and rapidity with which they are able to make money. You can engage in this binsiness during your spare time at great pro-dit. You do not have to linvest capital in it. We take all the risk. Those who need rady money should write to us at once. All turnished free. Address TRUE & Co., Augusta, Mame. Geordie added field to field and flock to flock until he became quite an extensive landed proprietor. Last and most precious of gifts-he was made the

father of a fine boy. While in the Lime Juice. midst of rejoicings over the new-comer, a messenger came with tidings which cast a gloom over the hearts in which 1 Cask Montserrat Lime Juice from the poor Robin had always held-such a

PURE JUICE OF THE LIME FRUIT, For sale low by During the king's absence from the J. R. GOGGIN

palace, an officer of the court who had been especially charged to care for SPIKES, selling at manufacturer's prices. BEST REFINED IRON, all sizes. away?" for Robin had not been within tion to confine him in a room, so that Paints, Oils, Varnishes, Glass, &c together with a largest and most complete stock o

HARDWARE was suddenly sent for to attend upon "Did he tell you to say that to me " But Robin looked at her in a mourn-I, chiding way, and said

Upon his return about four days G. A. BLAIR, has on hand, a superior assortment of the first, starved to death ! He had READY - MADE CLOTHING

-COMPRISINGdarkness of the night which was rapidly he learned the truth, and sent princely Men's, Youths' & Childgifts by the messenger who conveyed ren's Suits,

IN CLOTH, TWEED & VELVET. Which he is offering at prices suitable to t imes. CARTER'S

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Chatham, July 22, '80.

io FARMERS. Those who object to fiction claim that The Subscriber who is agent at Chatha Messrs Reid Bros., of the

Tryon Woolen Mills of P.E.Island, They also assert that nearly all of the

begs to inform farmers that he has on hand a stoch of CLOTHS, FLANNELS and BLANNETS, from that establishment, which he is authorized to dis pose of on the most liberal terms. Either wool alone, or part payment in mone and the balance in wool, or whole payment in cash, will be received for any of the manufacture-named.

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I beg to inform the inhabitants of Chatham, requiring mile on the unbabilants of Chatham, re-quiring mile for the whiter, that my dairy will be running on first ice, and all orders left with the driver or the undersigned, will be promptly attend-ed to. Customers will please hand in their money every Monday norming to the driver, otherwise they will fall short of their milk 7r4 JOHN U. LOGGIE.

Harry has gained the day !"
A surprised group soon gathered round him, listening to him wonderingly, and trying to make out his meaning.
But it remained a riddle until the following day. Then came news of the Battle of Bosworth, at which Richard III. had been slain, and Henry VII.
made King of England.
Robin had evidently had a vision of
charlatans and quacks among physicians we will never employ a doctor. No result of human effort is perfect or free from liability to abuse.
Nearly all persons have at times a strong craving for mental exhilaration Especially is this noticeable when the body has been exercised during the day with constant manual labor, while the is will not road to fortume.
Robin had evidently had a vision of

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