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REMORSE and REPENTANCE.
OR
For Daisie's Sake

CHAPTER IX.
SHE MUST KEEP THE SECRET.

"Oh, how I hate the wretch who nearly killed you, even though it was a stray shot!" she exclaimed; but the poor girl could not confess to Daisie Bell that it was through espousing her cause and trying to straighten out her tangled love affair that she had incurred Ray's jealousy, and caused the shipwreck of her own happiness.

No, she could not speak, for she must keep the secret now for the sake of her cruel lover.

"But not that I love him any more, for I suppose I ought to have told you, but I should not wish harm to come to him through me," thought the loyal young heart.

She told Daisie of her cruel disappointment in not finding out the address of Dallas Bain, and said:

"You will find the letter you gave me in the pocket of the gown I wore that day. It is hanging there in my wardrobe."

But Daisie found the pocket empty. "It is very strange," cried Annette. "I am sure the letter was in my pocket with my little netted purse."

"Never mind, dear, the letter does not matter now," Daisie returned sadly, for it seemed to her that Dallas was lost to her forever.

She was wretched, too, for, although she had confessed everything to Royall Sherwood, he would not release her from her promise to marry him.

CHAPTER X.
DAISIE'S DESPAIR.

Royall Sherwood's surprise and chagrin were beyond expression when



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he returned to Gull Beach and learned all that had happened in the two days of his absence.

For Daisie, in her desperation, did not spare herself. She had confessed everything, and taken back her promise.

"I never loved you, and it was flattered vanity alone that made me accept you. Forgive me, and release me," she pleaded, shrinking back from the flash of the beautiful ring he was trying to place on her finger.

In that moment he realized fully what a pang it would cost to give up the one he adored with all the fervor of his heart.

"Daisie Bell, I will not release you!" he vowed, clinging to the little hand that she strove to withdraw. "You gave me your promise of your own free will, and you shall not break it now."

He saw her turn pale and tremble with alarm, and he continued wildly:

"You shall not make me ridiculous, and cause the finger of scorn to be pointed at me as a flit man."

"Oh, but I told you not to let the engagement be known,"—she remonstrated.

"I only told my Cousin Lutie—and I forgot she could not keep a secret—so the whole town knows it now, and if you break your promise, you will be known as an arrant little flirt."

"I can't help it. I didn't mean to flirt, so let them say what they please. I am going away soon, so it cannot hurt me," she returned, in helpless defiance, the color rushing back into her face, and her eyes growing dark with emotion.

Every swift change in her wonderful beauty only wound his heartstrings more tightly about her; he vowed to himself that any man would be a fool to give her up after her promises had been once gained.

So he persevered. He urged and entreated, played the devoted lover to perfection.

"But I have told you that I love another!" she cried, with the lovely blushes rising up to her brow.

"He is gone, and you will never see him again. Let that brief dream be forgotten, and give your heart to me," urged Royall, in painful earnestness that touched her heart.

"Oh, I can never love you, and I feel I have wronged you enough already by my silly vacillation. Leave me now, for indeed all is at an end between us."

"You are very cruel to me, Daisie," he sighed.

"I know I am. I have been wicked and thoughtless to let you love me. I repent it now; but all I can do is to send you from me, and let you forget. That is the greatest kindness I can show you."

He saw that there was no use pressing her now. She would only turn stubborn, and command him to go. And he did not wish to anger her, for since his rival had withdrawn from the field, he was determined not to give up hope.

Sighing heavily, he said:

"This is a cruel blow to me, the crueler from being so totally unexpected. I must accept my fate, but I feel that it was undeserved."

Her generous heart was touched by his apparent humility. She felt a twinge of remorse for her apparent fickleness, and cried eagerly:

"Oh, I am so sorry I wounded you! Believe me, I am grateful for your love, though I cannot accept it. But—but—I will always be your friend."

"That is better than nothing," Royall answered, with a mirthless laugh; and, rising to go, he added pleadingly:

"Then this does not mean utter dismissal! Though I am unwelcome as a lover, I may come and see you sometimes—as a friend?"

She feared instantly that she had made a mistake, but in the consciousness of his suffering, she could not bear to refuse. She remembered, also, that she would soon be going away, and that would end it all. So she said falteringly:

"Yes, as a friend—but—but—I should think you would be too angry to care to see me again."

"Angry with you, Daisie, when I have loved you so dearly? How could such a thing be?" he exclaimed, with a thrilling glance, as he bowed himself out, taking with him the rejected ring, but vowing to himself that she should wear it yet if patient persistence counted for anything.

"When she finds that Bain has gone, never to return, she will be ready to take me back again," he thought, confident of the ultimate triumph of his golden charms if not of his personal attractions.

As for Daisie, she wept wildly when he was gone, yielding to the cruel strain on her emotions. She felt herself the most unhappy girl in the world. Dallas was gone from her in anger, and she had no hope of ever seeing him again.

Yet Daisie knew in her heart that this was the love of her life, and that she never could forget her handsome, dark-eyed lover. The joy and the sorrow of this brief love dream would stay with her forever.

One bitter drop in the cup of Daisie's sorrow was the anger of her Aunt Alice at her broken engagement.

The old lady had been so proud of her niece's rich catch that she could hardly believe it when Daisie confessed to her the truth of the broken engagement.

She became violently angry, but neither scolding nor reproaches could "bring that silly girl to her senses," as she termed it, then she relapsed into sullen silence. There was neither pity nor sympathy in that house for poor Daisie.

Worst of all, Royall Sherwood kept coming every day to call, and he let her see quite plainly that he did not despair of winning her yet.

"You will forget Dallas Bain, now that you see him no more," he said, confidently. "In fact, I am not sure that he was worthy of your regard. There was something very mysterious about the fellow, and I have no idea what has become of him."

Daisie had no answer to give; but she knew that the memory of Dallas Bain would never leave her mind.

When she was alone the music of his voice seemed to echo in her ears, the flash of his dark eyes to light up the darkness, and always, always, she could feel the touch of his hand and the thrill of his lips as they met her own—no, such love as hers could never die. Though she never spoke his name aloud, she would tremble and thrill when it was uttered by another.

After Annette's accident and the cruel failure of Daisie's letter to reach Dallas, there seemed nothing left to

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hope for now. Daisie determined to leave Gull Beach and return to the city.

When Royall Sherwood came to call the next evening she bid him farewell, saying that she was going to New York the next day.

He cried out reproachfully:

"You will return to a life of toil and hardship rather than accept my name and wealth?"

"Do not bring that subject up again," she answered wearily; and he went away in despair, to seek his cousin's advice.

"She is going away, she will be lost to me in the vortex of the wide world! Oh, Lutie, put your wits to work, you women are so shrewd! Is there no way to detain her longer at Gull Beach till she softens toward me?"

"I will think it over, and tell you in the morning," she replied.

CHAPTER XI.
SHE COULD NEVER FORGET.

Daisie was very busy the next morning packing her trunk, when Aunt Alice came upstairs, bringing Mrs. Fleming's card.

"It's that pretty little lady from Sea View, Mr. Sherwood's cousin. You must drop everything and go down," she said, with an authority that admitted no dispute; so Daisie pushed the tumbled love-locks from her brow with a weary hand, and went down most reluctantly to meet her guest, who had scolded her so vigorously at their last meeting.

"Oh, I'm not very welcome, I know," laughed the little widow gayly. "I behaved badly to you the last time I was here, and, of course, you haven't forgiven me. But I had some excuse, you will admit; for Royall was my cousin, and you flitted him shamefully, didn't you, now, Daisie Bell? But don't be angry, dear; for I came this morning to beg your pardon for the scolding I gave you."

Daisie had sunk into a chair near the open window, where the sunlight filtered through the wisteria leaves and flicked her wavy hair, all loose over her shoulders, with gleams of gold.

Mrs. Fleming thought, enviously, that she had never seen any one half so pretty as the girl in her white Empire morning gown. No wonder men raved over her charms, she was so beautiful, and so seemingly unconscious of it all.

"It was very silly in me, I dare say," continued Mrs. Fleming lightly. "I am quite repentant now. Will you forgive me?"

Daisie was at a loss for words; she could only listen in silence.

"You must forgive me, Daisie; for I have come to ask you a favor. Will you help us up at Sea View in a little entertainment we are going to have to-night—some tableaux and charades?"

Daisie opened her lips to refuse, to say that she was going away; but the widow rattled on:

"I have just come from seeing poor little Annette, who helped us the last time, and would now, only she is not well enough yet. And she said she was sure you would be willing to take her place, you were always so obliging. Will you?"

"Oh, I cannot, Mrs. Fleming, thank you. I am just packing my trunk to return to New York this evening."

"But you can put it off till to-morrow just as well, can you not? Oh, please do, just to oblige me! We have already secured all the available talent about here, but we lack one girl, and had expected Annette to fill that place; so everything is spoiled unless you will oblige us."

(To be continued.)

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An Act to Regulate the Exportation of Salt Codfish.



Be it enacted by the Governor, the Legislative Council and House of Assembly, in Legislative Session convened, as follows:—

1. There shall be a Codfish Exportation Board (hereinafter called the Board) which shall consist of seven members, namely the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, who shall be Chairman, four members appointed by the Governor-in-Council, who shall be licensed exporters of Codfish, and two members appointed by a majority of the exporters of Codfish holding licenses thereunder. Three members shall constitute a quorum of the Board at any meeting thereof for the transaction of business. The Minister of Marine and Fisheries shall have power to appoint a substitute to act in his place as Chairman at any time during his absence. A vacancy in the Board shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment was made, and in the temporary absence, through any unavoidable cause, of a member, the Governor-in-Council or the licensed exporters, as the case may be, may appoint a substitute to act in his place during such absence. Failure on the part of the said exporters to nominate or appoint any members of the Board shall not prejudice or invalidate any acts or proceedings of the Board.

2. It shall be the duty of the Board to advise the Governor-in-Council generally as to the exportation and marketing of salt Codfish; and more particularly to recommend to the Governor-in-Council rules to regulate:—

- (1) The issue, holding, suspension and cancellation of licenses to export salt codfish;
- (2) The conditions and terms of sale abroad;
- (3) The minimum prices for the sale of salt codfish in particular markets at particular times;
- (4) The maximum quantity of salt codfish which may be sold for or exported to any particular market at any particular time;
- (5) The Board may also from time to time recommend the modification, suspension, or renewal of any rule already approved and published in the Royal Gazette.

3. Any rule recommended by the Board, approved by the Governor-in-Council and published in the Royal Gazette shall have the same force of law as if included in this Act. Such rule may be modified, suspended or repealed by a new rule, recommended by the Board, approved by the Governor-in-Council and published in the Royal Gazette. Immediate notice by telegram of any new rule or the amendment of any existing rule shall be given by the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to all licensed exporters of codfish. In recommending any rule respecting the fixing of prices the Board shall not have power to interfere with any contract lawfully made under Rules and Regulations existing at the time of the finalizing of such contract.

- (1) No salt codfish shall hereafter be exported except under license. Such license shall be granted to any applicant who undertakes to comply with the rules made under this Act. A fee of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) shall be payable by the applicant on the issue of every license, and in addition a fee of ten cents per quintal on every quintal of cured salt codfish, and five cents per quintal on all other codfish, provided that the initial fee of Fifty Dollars shall not be payable by any fisherman exporter who exports codfish in shipments of less than one hundred quintals each. The Board shall have an absolute discretion to determine whether or not any applicant is a fisherman exporter.
- (2) Such license shall be in force until the thirty-first day of December of the year in which it is issued.
- (3) Such license may be suspended or cancelled by the Governor-in-Council for non-compliance with, or breach of, the provisions of this Act, or the rules issued under the authority of this Act.

5. A meeting of all exporters of Codfish shall be convened by the Minister of Marine and Fisheries during the first week in September in each year to consider and discuss with the Codfish Exportation-Board all matters relating to the exportation of Codfish for the ensuing season. Such meeting shall be held at St. John's and two weeks' notice thereof shall be given.

6. It shall be the duty of the Minister of Marine and Fisheries to carry out the provisions of this Act; to forward to the Governor-in-Council the advice and recommendations of the Board; and to report to the Governor-in-Council the non-compliance with and breaches of the provisions of this Act or the Rules issued under the authority of this Act.

7. The Governor-in-Council shall have power to appoint Trade Commissioners or Government Agents, to act in any country or place in the interest of this Act; and to fix their salaries, which shall be payable out of the revenue of the Colony. The Minister of Marine and Fisheries shall have power to authorize and direct the carrying on of research work in connection with the fisheries of the Colony, the cost and expense of which shall be payable out of the revenue of the Colony. All fees paid under the provisions of section four of this Act shall be collected by the Minister of Marine and Fisheries and paid by him into the public treasury.

8. Sections 3 and 4 of this Act shall have effect as though they were included in Chapter 22 of the Consolidated Statutes (Third Series), entitled "Of the Customs"; and the provisions of that Chapter, and of any Act amending or extending that Chapter shall apply accordingly; and if any person ships, or attempts to ship, codfish in contravention of any rules made under this Act with respect to exportation, he shall be liable to a penalty equal to the value of such codfish including the duty thereon.

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