

## THE LAST OF CASPER AND JACK. 277

after the lapse of all these years, if I were ascending the Saskatchewan, I could locate the spot.

With regard to Jack Bushby, the desperado, when he recovered consciousness, which he did shortly after Casper's death, we allowed him to depart after binding up his injured arm. He appeared greatly broken down at the sight of his dead master, and, hardened criminal though he was, he shed bitter tears over the body.

"I always warned Casper," he said to me, "to give up his wild enterprise agin yeh. After the attempt to pizen yeh failed (he wanted me to 'sassinate yeh the first night yeh wuz in the Lodge) I growed superstitious an' told Casper to give yeh a wide berth, as some-thin' tol' me he would not succeed agin yeh, fer ef yeh hed right on yer side ye'd be sure to triumph. I think Casper allus thought so hisself, fer arter yeh captured the belt he wuz never the same man. He wunst confessed to me his superstitious presentiment, er w'ativer yeh calls it, thet he thort ye'd be the death uv him, but he sed he'd sooner die nor hev yeh defeat him. He sed he'd hang on to the Cameron estates in Bruce if he'd to go t' hell fer it, w'ich I s'pose he hez, poor fellow."

"Why did you join him in such a murderous enterprise against me?" I asked.

"Well, fack is he hed a grip on me uv w'ich I can't tell yeh the facks. He'd seen me through an' helped me in bygone days w'en I was liable to be strung up, an' I hed promised him to stan' by him if he iver needed mc. Then you cum along, an' he sent fer me. It's not as I want anything from yeh, as yeh hev al-