

The Rival Glansmen

A Scottish Vendetta.

CHAPTER XXII.

THE END OF TWO VILLAINS—THE WITCH OF BEN-LAIR REVEALS HER TRUE NAME AND CHARACTER—A STRANGE STORY.

"Thank not me," replied M'Leod, "but thank a higher power. I but struck one blow, and even that was not required, for they hurled themselves over the precipice outside there."

"Ha! say ye that they lie at the bottom of the Witches' den? Then their race is ended, and they'll never harm mortals again. But seat you," she continued, placing a chair before the fire for him to sit down upon—"seat you, and tell me how you came to be here so fortunately, and whether I was right when I named Donald Cameron with having sent these villains to do the foul deed they contemplated."

"You spoke truly when you said so," replied Hector, "and it was the knowledge that he had sent them on this terrible mission that latterly caused me to dox them here. I overheard them speak of you, and of Donald Cameron being eager for your death, and I determined that the villains should have one more to overcome than they reckoned on."

"Donald Cameron's a black-hearted wretch," exclaimed the old woman, who had now seated herself beside Hector, gazing into his face, her small black eyes glittering fiercely. "A heartless wretch rather, I should say; but his race must be nearly run. If not, I shall hasten on the end; for now, since he has raised his hand directly against her, the Witch of Ben-Lair must go forth against him. The clouds before her are dark and thick and heavy, but they may grow lighter the nearer they approached. But of this we can talk again, M'Leod. How is your father, and how is Flora Macgregor?"

Questions these which made the young man start—questions mayhap easy for the old woman to put, but, oh, what a world of misery, of heartrending grief, lay in the answering of them. How short a time was it since he had parted with the Witch of Ben-Lair on the shores of Loch Maree, and yet what a world of sorrow had he endured since then. It had been an eventful time. The sound of her voice had scarcely ceased sounding in his ears when he was struggling with his father, Gordon, and the other clansmen in the cold waters of the loch, at the bottom of which nearly thirty of his clansmen yet lay, sleeping their last sleep. His father's death had followed, and then his arch enemies had broken into his castle and snatched Flora Macgregor almost from his bosom. A sob burst up from his breast as he remembered the last words of the Witch of Ben-Lair addressed to him at the side of the Loch—"Trust me," he said, "that Flora Macgregor is now beyond the reach of danger; I will constitute myself her lawful protector." "See to it then, young man, that you keep your promise well; as you value the Service I have rendered you to-night, do this," was her reply.

And now, as he was before her, she was asking at him how it fared with Flora, and, alas! Flora was gone! The young man's anguish was unbearable. He turned towards the old woman while even yet these thoughts rushed through his mind, but his tongue failed of utterance, and he sat dumb before her.

The old woman was keenly regarding him, and jealously marked his agitation. Leaning eagerly forward, she exclaimed "M'Leod, why do you give no answer? Why is your tongue silent? Be strong as M'Leod should be, and tell me whether it is your father or Flora Macgregor whom ill has befallen. If it is your father who has seen affliction, I can sympathize and suffer with you; if it is the girl who has suffered, the account of it I can bear. Speak, M'Leod."

The New Ministry in England. The following is the list of the new Cabinet:—
 First Lord of the Treasury (£5,000)—Mr. Disraeli.
 Lord Chancellor (10,000)—Lord Cairns.
 Lord President of the Council (£2,000)—Duke of Richmond.
 Lord Privy Seal (£2,000)—Earl of Malmesbury.
 Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (£5,000)—Earl of Derby.
 Secretary of State for India (£5,000)—Marquis of Salisbury.
 Secretary of State for the Colonies (£5,000)—Earl of Carnarvon.
 Secretary of State for War (£5,000)—Mr. G. Thorne Hardy.
 Secretary of State for Home Department (£5,000)—Mr. R. A. Cross.
 First Lord of Admiralty (£1,500)—Mr. Ward Hunt.
 Chancellor of Exchequer (£5,000)—Sir Stafford Northcote.
 Postmaster-General (£2,500)—Lord John Lubbock.

Universal Suffrage. Mr. James Dunn, the essayist, lectured before an intelligent audience in New York a few evenings since, on the subject of Universal Suffrage. He regarded the extension of the franchise to all male citizens who had arrived at the age of manhood as a failure. He said, in substance, that no thinking man can shut his eyes to the evils which universal suffrage may not bring about, and these evils, too, are peculiar in being insinuating rather than sudden and aggressive. Universal suffrage is the gospel of mediocrity, and every year's experience shows that its tendency is to elevate not the best but the presuming and clamoring. A mass of shiftless citizens, who do not feel the direct burdens of taxation, take a strange glory in resting from the rich what appears to them ill-gotten gains. The principal of universal suffrage is the fact of majority rule; and as it always has and probably always will be the fact that the ignorant and unlettered will outnumber the opposite class, the result virtually is that these latter are excluded from representation. A notable example of this is found in the present negro rule in the South, where the uneducated slave, whose ignorance is dense beyond description, riots in the possession of unswayed power.

One ton (2,000 pounds avoirdupois) of gold or silver contains 29,163 troy ounces, and, therefore, the value of a ton of pure gold is \$602,799.21, and of a ton of silver, \$37,701.81. A cubic foot of pure gold weighs 1,218.75 pounds avoirdupois; a cubic foot of pure silver weighs 656.95 pounds avoirdupois. One million dollars gold coin weighs 3,658.8 pounds avoirdupois; one million dollars silver coin weighs 58,925.9 pounds avoirdupois.

Among the gifts to a Pennsylvania bride, a few days since, was a broom, to which were attached the following sweet, sentimental lines:—
 "This trifling gift accept of me,
 As use I would commend;
 Whence use the brushy part,
 In storms the other end."

NEW SPRING DRESS GOODS

GEORGE JEFFREY, WYNDHAM STREET, GUELPH,

Has just received the first of his Spring Importations per steamship Corinthian, consisting of
 3 Cases plain Dress Goods ; 1 case Plain Silks, all new colors ;
 2 " Striped Dress Goods, something new ; 1 case Striped Silks, cheapest goods in town.

ALSO, A BEAUTIFUL ASSORTMENT OF
 Real Thread Laces and French Kid Gloves from the best makers in the World
 To be sold at reasonable prices.
 GEORGE JEFFREY, GUELPH
 Direct Importer, Guelph.

THE LION  THE LION
 LARGE ARRIVALS OF SPRING GOODS
 FROM BRITAIN!
 1000 pieces of Prints at 12½ cents,
 Worth 16c,
 AT THE GOLDEN LION:
 Golden Lion, Wyndham Street, Guelph. J. D. WILLIAMSON.

NEW SPRING GOODS
 Commencing to Arrive
 AT THE
 FASHIONABLE WEST END.
 A. O. BUCHAM,
 Fashionable West End Dress, Mantle, and Millinery Establishment.

Change of Business.
 We beg leave to intimate that with the intention of devoting our time exclusively to the Wholesale Manufacturing, we have disposed of our Retail and Custom Business to Messrs. R. MACGREGOR & CO., who will carry on the business, and for whom we bespeak the patronage of all old customers, and the public generally. From an acquaintance of some years we can confidently recommend them as worthy of a liberal support.
 W. D. HEPBURN & Co.
 WITH reference to the above we have the pleasure to state that we have purchased the stock of Messrs. W. D. HEPBURN & Co., on favorable terms, and are making large additions to the same, which will be complete in a few days.
 In respectfully asking for the patronage of all the old customers and the public generally, we hope to secure the same by keeping first-class goods, selling at the most reasonable prices, and offering the largest and best assortment in town to choose from, keeping it, as it has been in the past, the leading Boot and Shoe business in Guelph.
 Custom Work will receive special attention, and satisfaction guaranteed.
 Repairing promptly attended to as usual.
 R. MACGREGOR & Co.
 Successors to W. D. Hepburn & Co.

1874 1874
 NEW
 HATS AND CAPS
 -AT-
 SHAW & MURTON'S,
 GUELPH.

Being about to leave Guelph to seek a home in the Far West, would certainly thank his many kind friends for their continued patronage for the past fifteen years, and as he is likely to be but a short time in Guelph, he has decided to dispose of his stock of goods at a special discount. All goods will be sold at 25 to 30 per cent. below wholesale prices. A special discount will be allowed on purchases over \$25. This sale is genuine, the proprietor having to give up possession of his store on the 1st of May next.
 G. B. FRASER,
 Wyndham Street, Guelph.

Co-Operative Store.
 ARRIVAL OF NEW GOODS
 OUR NEW TWEEDS
 Were selected from six different houses, therefore we have a choice lot to choose from. We employ a Tailor.
 NEW COTTONS
 Horrocks Bleached Cottons, soft finish; also, Linen finished Cottons, all prices. Dundas and Lybster Cottons in stock.
 NEW PRINTS
 Hoyle & Ashton's Fancy Prints will be offered at 12½ cents per yard.
 NEW BOOTS AND SHOES
 For style, finish and durability will be found superior to former years. Ladies' Prunella Boots 75c per pair.
 J. C. MACKLIN & Co.
 GUELPH, March 2, 1874

12lbs. of Good Bright
 Sugar for \$1.
 CHOICE IMPERIAL
 New Crop Teas 50c. per lb
 J. E. McELDERRY
 2 DAY'S BLOCK,
 THE NOTED TEA HOUSE

FRESH FISH
 RECEIVED DAILY PER EXPRESS.
 Fresh Cod, Fresh Haddock, Fresh Flounders,
 " Lobsters, " Herrings, " Salmon Trout,
 " Speckled Trout, Fresh Oysters, cans full.
 HUGH WALKER,
 Wyndham-st., Guelph.
 Guelph Feb. 19, 1874

JARDINE'S
 WOOD-WORKING
 MACHINERY
 Sash and Moulding Machines;
 Tenoning Machines, single and double cope;
 Hand Mitre Machines;
 Moulding Knives to any pattern;
 Screw Stamping Machines.
 Mill, Agricultural and other
 Repairs.
 ANDREW JARDINE,
 Hespeler, Ont.
 Hespeler, Feb. 16, 1873.