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The Broken Circle!

CHAPTER XXVIII.

So one autumn day Sir Basil strolled over to Rosewalk. He told Leah that he was going for a long ramble; but he did not ask her to accompany him. There was in his mind no direct thought that he was going somewhere clandestinely. He climbed the steep hill once more, and there before him lay the pretty town of Southwood. He saw how it seemed to wind up the hill, beginning at the foot with humble cottages, and ending with handsome villas as it approached the summit.

He saw near the brow of the hill a pretty green lane with tall hedgerows, and he decided that that must be Rosewalk. In the midst stood a small cottage, half buried in foliage. He did not know why his heart beat fast when he saw it. A sudden fit of timidity came over him. What if he should see the beautiful singer, or if from one of those flower-vreathed windows, he should hear her voice?

After walking so far his courage had failed him; he passed through the lane, and did not even look at the cottage he had come to see.

He felt ashamed of himself, and went back again—the lane was a long one. When he returned he found that an elderly man was standing watching the passage of a ship at sea. The scene was so beautiful that he was charmed with it—the blue waters, the white-sailed ship, the grassy hill, the

beautiful green lane, the picturesque flower-hidden cottage. The man stood looking over a low ivy-hidden wall. Some instinct told him that this was Martin Ray.

"This is a lovely scene, sir," Sir Basil remarked, as he paused in front of the old man.

"It is well enough," he said. And then Sir Basil was slightly disconcerted. He hardly knew what next to say. He stood and looked, first at the blue rippling waters, and then at the stern, worn, haggard man. It was better perhaps to be frank.

"I am looking," he said quietly, "for the house of Mr. Martin Ray. Can you tell me if this be it?"

"I am Martin Ray," answered the other, briefly.

And again Sir Basil was nonplussed. The man raised himself, from his leaning attitude, and looked at the handsome, dark face before him.

"You wanted to see my house and me—why?" he asked.

And then Sir Basil's sense of good breeding came to his aid.

"My reason is very simple," replied Sir Basil, raising his hat. "I heard that you were living here, and I wished to see one who rightly or wrongly, has been a leader among the people."

"Are you of my way of thinking?" asked Martin abruptly.

"No, I am not," replied Sir Basil. "You carry to excess that which I believe in but little. I hold a middle path between you and those whom you would call your enemies."

"A middle path," repeated Martin. "Ah, then you will not interest me!"

"I am not sure that I wish to do so," said Sir Basil. "It was not with a view of interesting you that I desired to see you."

"I did not intend to be rude," returned Martin Ray. "I mean this—my life has been a fierce fight. I know but two extremes. You must forgive me—I hate all mediocrity."

"You are like an old soldier who smells gunpowder," said Sir Basil, good-temperedly. "You would enjoy a warm political argument with me; but it is not possible. I am only just beginning to understand matters. I could not hold my own with you"—which words delighted Martin. "I have not had the advantage of an English education; my youth has been spent in Italy, and politics have formed no part of my training."

"A sad pity! An English lad should be reared in England," remarked Martin, gruffly.

"There is an exception to every rule, and every creature living has to bow to circumstances," said Sir Basil. "No man can be so arrogant as to stand up and say, 'All other men should do this or that.'"

"Perhaps not," admitted Martin, more humbly.

"In a few months or a few years," continued Sir Basil, "I shall be better informed about politics than I am now. I intend to read, to study, to think; and then, when I have mastered both sides of the various questions I shall be able to form clear and decided views of my own."

"That is right," said Martin.

"At present I am inclined to trust in what I should call the happy medium. All my faith does not lie with those who believe in the divine right of kings, nor yet with those who would make a king's crown fair target for good shot. I have read some of your writings. You go too far; they bristle with sedition."

"You are plain spoken," said Martin Ray.

"I believe in truth and plain words," replied Sir Basil. "I have heard that you are out of health, and that of late you have not been fortunate. I hope it is not so."

"It is quite true," was the answer. Martin Ray was beginning to like this handsome, frank young man who was evidently interested in him. If any one had whispered to him that this was caused by the fact that he was Hettie's father, he would have scouted the idea. "My health and strength have failed me," he said; and there was a certain dignity in his pathos. "I am a dead lion; and every one knows that a live dog is better. Time was when my 'roar' struck the ears of hundreds—now it is not heard. I have outlived myself. I had great hopes once, great ambitions. I must have been mad when I dreamed that I should be the elected leader of a free people."

"All Englishmen are free," said Sir Basil.

"Ah," he cried, with sudden energy and fire, "but they have not the same freedom that I would have given them! I have been mad all my life, I believe; but I have had dreams of a grand nation, a grand people, free from taxes and national debt—free, and led by me. There have been times when I have seemed even to myself, by the splendor of my own dreams, more than human, more than man. Now my dreams, my pride, and my very life almost have come to an end."

"I cannot quite see the sense of your argument," said Sir Basil. "If a people are to be led, what does it matter whether they are led by a high-souled, generous king, by a noble woman like our queen, or by a man like yourself, whose rule would of necessity be inferior, because your education and learning must be inferior?"

"I will answer that question another time," replied Martin Ray, with a nod of dismissal. "Come and see me again. You have stirred an old pain in my heart. Good-bye."

And without another word Sir Basil retraced his steps to Dene Abbey, thinking the whole way of the man he had just left.

(To be continued)

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You are busy through the day and you have no time to play. But the stranger, good or bad, seem to find each little lad. Seem to have the time to spend. Posing as a youngster's friend; Always there is one or more waiting just outside your door. For your boy to come and play, when you bid him go away.

Can you trust your son to him. To some stranger's passing whim are you sure that he will fare as he would if you were there? He is your boy. Will a stranger be so quick to fly from danger? Will he learn what's good to do? As he would were he with you? Can you look him in the face? While some stranger fills your place?

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Brushing does not save the teeth if you leave the film. That's why well-brushed teeth so often discolor and decay.

Film is that viscous coat you feel. It clings to teeth, enters crevices and stays. The ordinary tooth paste does not end it, so very few people have escaped its damage.

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Fashion Plates.

3387, 3651, 3407

A SIMPLE ATTRACTIVE FROCK FOR MOTHERS GIRL.
Pattern 3651 is shown in this illustration. It is cut in 4 Sizes: 4, 6, 8, and 10 years. A 6 year-size will require 1 1/2 yards of 27 inch material and the dress 2 3/4 yards for a 10 year-size.

The pattern is attractive for bordered materials, for combinations of fabrics and colors, and also for linen, gingham, voile, gabardine, serge, tafeta, poplin and repp.

A pattern of this illustration mailed to any address on receipt of 15c. in silver or stamps.

A SMART BLOUSE DRESS FOR GROWING GIRL.
Pattern 3409 is shown in this illustration. It is cut in 4 Sizes: 8, 10, 12 and 14 years. A 10 year size will require 4 1/2 yards of 36 inch material. Velvetene, taffeta, satin, serge, gabardine, and all wash fabrics are attractive for this style.

A pattern of this illustration mailed to any address on receipt of 15c. in silver or stamps.

A POPULAR MODEL.
8855. The jumper style offers many possibilities in design, finish and material. As here shown, the waist is lengthened in panel effect, over the front, and is joined to gathered skirt sections over sides and back. The dress may be of serge, or jersey cloth, or batiste.

The pattern is cut in 4 Sizes: 8, 10, 12 and 14 years. The gumpes will require 1 1/2 yard of 27 inch material and the dress 2 3/4 yards for a 10 year-size.

Pattern mailed to any address on receipt of 15c. in silver or stamps.

3462, 3873, 3551

A CHARMING AND ATTRACTIVE MODEL.
Pattern 3462 is portrayed in this illustration. It is cut in 6 Sizes: 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. A 38 inch size will require 6 1/2 yards of 44 inch material. Serge, gabardine, satin, velvetene, duvetyne, also combinations of satin and serge or satin and velvet are suitable for this style. The width of the skirt at the lower edge is 1 1/2 yard. The address is "silt on style."

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A GRACEFUL WRAP FOR THE YOUNG MISS.
3873. So smart a cape model, will please any girl who likes a top garment of this kind. This style may be made of duvetyne, broad cloth, or velvetene. It is also good for broad Bolivar. The closing may be in do style, or as shown in the illustration with the fronts lapped.

The pattern is cut in 6 Sizes: 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. A 38 inch size will require 8 1/2 yards of 54 inch material. Serge, gabardine, satin, velvetene, duvetyne, also combinations of satin and serge or satin and velvet are suitable for this style. The width of the skirt at the lower edge is 1 1/2 yard. The address is "silt on style."

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A VERY ATTRACTIVE MODEL.
Pattern 3551 is portrayed in this illustration. It is cut in 6 Sizes: 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. A 38 inch size will require 8 1/2 yards of 54 inch material. The width of the foot is about 2 yards.

This style is attractive for satin, linen, gingham, chambray, challie, gabardine, serge and velvetene. A pattern of this illustration mailed to any address on receipt of 15c. in silver or stamps.

THE SILENT ONES.
I hobble by the churchyard fence and to myself I sigh, "I hope it may be long years hence when those lads I lie. It must be rotten to be dead, and planted here outdoors, no more to paint the village red, or read the baseball scores." Yet I am but a gloomy wreck of what I used to be; I have nine boils upon my neck, a spavin on my knee. I've just recovered from the flu, which racked my weary frame; and I have aches in every thwack, and I am woe and lame. And yonder sleepers have no ills that torture flesh and bones; they do not have to live on pills until the spirit groans. They're done with every kind of pain, and every throb is gone, and in the sunshine and the rain they slumber calmly on. Oh, every morning brings new grief to this sad life of mine, and all day long I sit and weep beneath my fig and vine. A change of wind will make me sick, and if I'm in the sun, the maladies come fast and thick upon my bones with pain. My feet are hot and fever comes, and to my bed I lie and gnash my teeth for long days, in my woe. But I pass the churchyard wall and exclaim, "May it be long years hence when I fall for yonder sexton's sake."

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