BY GEORGE DOUGLAS.

CHAPTER XIII.—(Continued.) "D'ye ken Goudie, the company's manager? He's worth making up to, I can tell ye. He has complete control of the business, and can airt you the road of a good thing. I made a point of helping him in everything, ever since he came to Barbie, and I'm glad to say that he hasna forgotten't. Man, it was through him I got the building contract-they never threw't open to the public. But they mean to contract means that they'll need the length of a dozen horses on the road for a twelvemonth to come; for it's no only the building-they're launching out on a big scale, and there's lots of other things forbye. Now Goudie's as close as a whin and likes to keep everything dark till the proper time comes for sploring o't. Not a whisper has been nothing near the reality. And there's

the reason of my visit." "I see," said Wilson briskly. "You're you'll give me an inkling in private of the other estimates sent in, and help to arrange mine according?"

"Na," said Gibson. "Goudie's owre you agree to the proposal I mean to you need to keep your eye on. It's you or him for the contract—there's nobody else to compete wi' the two o' ye."

while his brain churned within. What self to Gibson quite so rapidly. Brodie had christened "the considering away, and saw the distant village in process of erection; busy with its chances and occasions. Then an uneasy thought seemed to strike him and recall him to the man by his side. He stole a shifty glance at the sandy

"But I thought you were a friend of Gourlay's." he said slowly. "We're 'Friendship!" said Gibson. speaking of business! And there's sma-all friendship atween me and Gourlay. He was nebby owre a bill I

sent in the other day; and I'm getting tired of his bluster. Besides, there's little more to be made of him. Gourley's bye wi't. But you're a rising man, Mr. Wilson, and I think that our advantage, don't ye see? Yes; just so; to the advantage of us both.

"I hardly see what you're driving at,"

"I'm driving at this." said Gibson. "If Gourlay kens you're against him for the contract, he'll cut his estimate | Gourlay?" down to a ruinous price, out o' sheer You will that!"

of that. But I fail to see how we can insert a clause that he must deliver prevent it!'

scent," said Gibson. "But how though?"

and a horse and a day's carrying when an ass like Gourlay! Besides, he'll ye first came hereaway?" he asked. Wilson promptly. "It has risen to six and, as I let it to him, he'll fancy I'm now." he added

town it'll rise to eight yet! I have it that you're meaning to build on a big for a fact that the company's willing scale upon your own land-we'll have smile to gie that! Now if you and me could the ground levelled, the foundations procure a job for Gourlay at the lower dug, and the darins and everything testingly: "have ye forogeten whatna rate, before the news o' this new in- seen to. Now, it'll never occur to dustry gets scattered-a job that would Gourlay, in the present slackness o' require the whole of his plant, you trade, that you would contract wi' anfor the company's business—we would go hunting for other work yoursell. clear"-he clawed his chin to help his That'll throw him off the scent till the unreasonable in tha-at! For it's not cart for us at six!" the mere twelvemonth's work that's at stake, you understand, it's the valuable connection for the fee-yuture! gets in there's just a chance that you'll aye the safest." never be able to oust him."

"I see," said Wilson. "Before he tion. both to put money in our own pocket and prevent him competing for the bet-

"You've summed it to the nines." said Gibson.

"Yes," said Wilson blankly, "but

and tapped Wilson on the knee. chance for building there's in that

fortune there, lying undeveloped!" That was the point to which Cunning Johnny had been leading all the time. they boasted o' hasna done muckle for ged rent, his eyes harrowed to flercely before his eyes, and stared like a fel- ing his cub by the scruff of the neck ed down on Barbie for many a day. He cared as little for Wilson as for the town!" Gourlay; all he wanted was a contract for covering Wilson's holm with jerrypompous wisdom; "they'll maybe find,
built houses, and a good commission on or a's bye, that the auld way wasna cried, "that's the game John Gourlay

Wilson's thoughts went to and fro like the shuttle of a weaver. He blink- Gibson, "it's the slackest time for the teeth wolfish with anger.

| ed in rapidity of thinking, and stole shifty glances at his comrade. He tugged his moustache and said asked. 'mphm" many times. Then his eyes

"I see," he said slowly. "You mean to bind Gourlay to cart building ma- lay. separate for carting the material. That time comes, who in particular he's to cunning as he could. the higher price."

"That's the size o't," said Gibson. combinations of the scheme. But Cunbig contract for carting to be had no other, should obtain this contract, ceptna Gouldie and mysell. But fore a which was both valuable in itself and month's bye, they'll be advertising for an earnest of other business in the fuestimates for a twelvemonth's carry- ture. And Gibson's scheme got Gourbe worth something to you, and that's way. For it was not possible for Gourlay to put more than twelve horses on roaring than." verra good, Mr. Gibson. You mean secured a good contract already, he who hated him, should have to serve. put before you. But Gourlay's the man Wilson, was inflamed by the vision of the morrow. himself as a wealthy house owner

"You go fast, Mr. Gibson," said he. keek" was in his eyes; they were far Faith, you go to waste. We maun act on the spur of the moment.'

"It was never worth more in Barbie than it is at the present time. Man, don't ye see the chance you're neglecting? Don't ye see what it means? There's thousands lying at your back door if ye'll only reach to pick them up! Yes, thousands! Thousands, I'm telling ye! Thousands!"

Wilson saw himself provost plutocrat. Yet was he cautious. "You'll do well by the scheme," he said tartly, "if you get the sole contract for building these premises of you and me might work thegither to mine, and a fat commission on the carrying forbye!"

"Can you carry the scheme without said Gibson. "A word from me to Goudie means a heap." There was a veiled threat in the remark.

"Oh, we'll come to terms," said the other, "But how will you manage

"Aha!" said Gibson, "I'll come in than be likeked by you in public com- been a backset in Barbie for the last petition. And if he does that, Goudie year-things went owre quick at the and I may do what we like, but we start and were followed by a wee lull; canna help you. For it's the partners but it's only for a time, sir, it's only see? Imphm, it's the partners. Goudle has noathing to do wi' that. And if both short o' work and scarce o' cash, "Were ye no sorry?" Gourlay once gets round the partners, as I found to my cost when I asked you'll be left out in the cold for a very him for my siller! So when I offer him loang time. Shivering, sir, shivering! a big contract for carting stones "Dod, you're right. There's a danger he'll swallow it without question. I'll the stuff at such places as I direct within four hundred yards of the Cross, in ainy direction-for I've several jobs near the Cross, doan't ye see, Gibson met one question by another. and how's he to know that yours is one "What was the charge for a man o' them? Man, it's easy to bamboohzle think my principals have trusted me "Only four shillings a day," said to let the carrying to ainyone I like, on his side, doan't ye see?-he'll never "Exactly!" said Gibson; "and with jalouse that I mean to diddle him. In understand, and prevent his competing other man to cart your material, and

arithmetic-"we would clear three hun- time comes to put his nose on't. When dred and seventy-four pounds o' dif- the company advertise for estimates he ference on the twelvemonth. At least canna compete wi' you, because he's you would make that," he added, "but | pre-engaged to me, and he'll think you would allow me a handsome com- you're out o't, too, because you're busy mission of course-the add hundred and wi' your own woark. You'll be free to seventy, say-for bringing the scheme nip the eight shillings. Then we'll before ye! I don't think there's ocht force him to fulfill his bargain and "If he refuses?" said Wilson.

"I'll have the contract stamped and signed in the presence of witnesses," Now, I have influence wi's Goudie; I said Gibson. "Not that that's necescan help you there. But if Gourlay sary, I believe, but a double knot's

Wilson looked at him with admira-

knows what's coming, we're to provide "Gosh, Mr. Gibson," he cried, "you're said Gourlay in a voice the tense quietwork for Gourlay at the lower rate, a warmer! Ye deserve your name. Ye ness of which should have warned Gib- for the sake of showing off! And he's You have been playing the truant, he had borrowed considerably upon ken what the folk ca' you?"

"Oh. yes." said Gibson complacently. "I'm quite proud o' the description." "I've my ain craw to pick wi' Gourlay." he went on. "He was damned illbred yestreen when I asked him to Gibson leaned forward a second time I'll enjoy the look on his face when "Have you never considered what a at a rate lower than the market price." When Gibson approached Gourlay on holm of yours?" he asked. "You've a the following day he was full of la- in a circle of white faces and startled grey slag would flash below ye!' Those ments about the poor state of trade.

"Ave." said he. "the grand railway the year's carrying. It was for this he the warst way. There was to be a can play wi' a thing like you."

evolved the conspiracy to cripple Gour- great boom, as they ca't, but I see few signs o't."

Gourlay grunted his assent. "But I've a grand job for ye, for a hat," said Gibson, slapping his hands. but you'll implement your bond." What do ye say to the feck of a

last twa years.'

"if the terms were good." trade, doan't ye see, I couldna green teeth. give a penny more." Gourlay, who had words from asking for a penny more. Lords.' "At the town foot, you say?" he

audible in the quiet room. Wilson was the Cross!-It's all one to you, of thought of them. one of the men whom you hear think- course," he went on, "seeing you're paid by the day."

"Oh, it's all one to me," said Gour-Peter Riney and the new "orra" man

means a heap."

"You're damned particular the day," Wilson was staggered by the rapid cried Gourlay in a sudden heat. "Oh, nothing more than my usual, heard so far about this village for the ning Johnny had him in the toils. The nothing more than my usual," said miners—there's a rumor, to be sure, plan he proposed stole about the gro- Gibson blandly,-"Good morning, Mr. about a wheen houses going up, but cer's every weakness, and tugged his Gourlay," and he made for the door, inclinations to consent. It was very buttoning the charter of his dear renot a soul, either, that kens there's a important, he considered, that he, and venge in the inside pocket of his coat. Wilson in everything he did was his Gourlay ignored him.

the House with the Green Shutters, his business decreasing daily was a birth. and "Curse you!" said he, "you may reestimates for a twelvemonth's carry large for a twelvemonth's carry large for a petter. What lng. I thought a hint aforehand would lay, the only possible rival, out the fuse to answer me the day, but wait of fifteen now, undersized for his age have you been doing that you didnate the fuse to answer me the day, but wait of fifteen now, undersized for his age have you been doing that you didnate the fuse to answer me the day, but wait of fifteen now, undersized for his age have you been doing that you didnate the fuse to answer me the day, but wait of fifteen now, undersized for his age have you been doing that you didnate the fuse to answer me the day have sight weeks. till this day eight weeks. You'll be at that time, though he soon shot up see't?"

the road, and if he thought he had On that day eight weeks Gourlay re- been looking orward with delight to ing heavens were a black purple. The ceived a letter from Gibson requiring helping his father in the business-how thunder, which had been growling in would never dream of applying for an- him to hold himself in readiness to deother. Then, Wilson's malice was liver stone, lime, baulks of timber and gratified by the thought that Gourlay, iron girders in Mr. Wilson's holm, in irked at being kept for so long under as helper and underling, in a scheme ance with the orders to be given him if the business went on at this rate ning stabbed the world in vicious and finger, I'll have a word to say to close to let me kne! I'll speak a word for his aggrandizement. That would from day to day. He was apprised there would be little in it for the boy. In his ear on your behalf, to be sure, if take down his pride for him! And the that a couple of carts of lime, and Gourlay was not without a thought of lay heavy on the cowering earth. The commercial imagination, so strong in seven loads of stone were needed on his son's welfare when he packed him rain came—a few drops at first, sullen,

He went down the street with grindwhich Gibson put before him. Cunning ing jaws, the letter crushed to a white a kirk or a mill o't. Johnny knew all this when he broach- pellet in his hand. It would have gone "Imphm, I see," said Wilson, and ed the scheme—he foresaw the pull of ill with Gibson had he met him. Gourtugged his moustache in meditation. it on Wilson's nature. Yet Wilson lay could not tell why, or to what pur- drudge at books? Was he to go out Gourlay's cheek. It was lukewarm. He All expression died out of his face hesitated. He did not like to give him- pose, he marched on and on with forward staring eyes. He only knew vaguely that the anger drove him.

string of carts was filing from the "I'll have to borrow money," said Skeighan road, and passing across to Wilson slowly, "and it's verra dear at the street leading Fleckie-ward. He knew them to be Wilson's. The Deacon was there of course, hobbling on jing-bang o' them? his thin shanks, and cocking his eye to see everything that happened. Gourlay

"What does this mean?" asked him, though he loathed the Dea-"Oh, haven't ye heard?" quoth the Deacon blithely. "That's the stuff for

the new mining village out the Fleckie road. Wilson has nabbed the contract for the carting. They're saying it was Gibson's influence wi' Goudie that helped him to the getting o't!" Amid his storm of anger at the trick, Gourlay was conscious of a sudden pity for himself, as for a man most unfairly worsted. He realized for a moment his own inefficiency as a business man, in conflict with cleverer rivals, and felt sorry to be thus handicapped by nature. Though wrath was uppermost, the other feeling was revealed, showing itself by a gulping in the throat and a rapid blinking of the eyes. The spite—yes, out o' sheer spite—rather handy for that, you'll discover! There's Deacon marked the signs of his

"Man!" he reported to the bodies, but Gourlay was cut to the quick. His face showed how gunkit he was. Oh, that decide the estimates sent in, d'ye for a time. Hows'ever, it and you but he was chawed. I saw his breist

"Were ye no sorry?" cried the baker.
"Thorry, hi!" laughed the Deacon. "Oh, I was thorry, to be sure," he lisped "but I ding thyow't. I'm glad to atween the quarry and the town foot, thay I've a grand control of my emotionth. Not like thum folk we know of." he added slily, giving the baker a

All next day Gibson's masons waited for their building material in Wilson's holm. But none came. And all day seven of Gourlay's horses champed idly n their stalls.

Barbie had a weekly market now, nd, as it happened, that was the day fell on. At two in the afternoon Gourlay was standing on the gravel outside the Red Lion, trying to look wise the new works coming in about the the meantime we'll spread the news had poured upon his great palm. Gibson approached with false voice and "Gosh, Mr. Gourlay!" he cried pro-

> day it is? Ye havena gien my men a ton o' stuff to gang on wi.!" To the former's dismay his fine sample of grain was scattered on the gravel by a convulsive movement of Gourlay's arm. As Gourlay turned or his enemy, his face was frightfully dis-

torted; all his brow seemed gathered in a knot above his nose, and he gaped on his words, yet ground them out like a laboring mill, each word solid as plug shot "I'll see Wil-son. . .and Gib-son. and every other man's son. . . . frying in hell." he said slowly, 'ere a

son's property. Be damned to ye, but there's your answer!' Gibson's cunning deserted him for once. He put his hand on Gourlay's shoulder in pretended friendly remonstrance.

orse o' mine draws a stane o' Wil-

"Take your hand off my shoulder! son to forbear.

a feigned playfulness. Next instant he was high in air: for a moment the hobnails in the soles of the heels! He didn't mean it, to be his boots gleaned vivid to the sun; sure; but young Gourlay grew white Dinna thrash him."

one of the heels! He didn't mean it, to be Dinna thrash him."

one of the heels! He didn't mean it, to be Dinna thrash him."

one of the heels! He didn't mean it, to be Dinna thrash him." how on earth are we to provide work settle my account, and talked about then Gourlay sent him flying through at the very idea o't-he shook like a extortion. But bide a wee, bide a wee! the big window of the Red Lion, right dog in a wet sack. 'Oh!' he cried, he sees himself forced to carry for you, where the market folk were drinking. For a minute he lay stunned and bleeding among the broken crockery,

> Gourlay's face appeared at the jaggleaming points, a hard, triumphant "Atwell aye," quoth Gourlay with devilry playing round his black lips.

Gibson rose from the ruin on the

make you pay for this; I'll fight you no longer dazed by brutal and repeated staring crowd, never looking to the

through a' the law courts in Breetain, floggings. In some of his classes he right or left. year's carting tweesht the quarry and would you grunt at me," cried Gourlay, school to change rooms every hour, the ger shot to his features at the sight. and made to go at him through the classes tramping from one to another Gourlay swung the boy up-"I might consider that," said Gour- window. Though he could not reach through a big lobby. Gourlay got a ment a wild impulse surged within him him Gibson quailed at his look. He habit of stealing off at such times—it to club his rival with his own son. "Six shillin," said Gibson, and went shook his fist in impotent wrath, and was easy to slip out-and playing tru-

"To hell wi' your law-ers!" cried loafed in the waiting room. He had denounced the present state of trade Gourlay, "I'd throttle ye like the dog gone there on a summer afternoon, to the janitor. even now, was prevented by his own you are on the floor o' the House o' avoid his mathematics and read a

But that day was to cost him dear. Ere six months passed he was cast in empty platform and smoked a cigar-"I've several jobs thereaway," Gib- damages and costs for a breach of ette. Milk cans clanked in a shed, went off in their long preoccupied son explained hurriedly; "and you contract aggravated by assault. He mournfully. Gourlay had a congenial stare, and the sound of the breath, must agree to deliver stuff ainy place appealed, of course. He was not to be coming heavy through his nostrils, was I want it within four hundred yards o' done; he would show the dogs what he ther's son for that—and he fied to the

In those days it came to pass that Wilson sent his son to the High school of Skeighan, even James, the redof work. You'll bind him in general were called in to witness the agree- hired one, with the squint in his eye. terms so that he canna suspect, till the men. Cunning Johnny had made it as Whereupon Gourlay sent his son to the time comes, who in particular he's to work for. In the meantime I'll be free to offer for the company's business at to offer for the company's business at the company at t High a distant and expensive school, then, by the Lord, so could he! And it also came to pass that James, the son of John, the grocer, took many prizes. But John, the son of John, took no prizes. Whereat there were ructions in the House of Gourlay.

Gourlay's resolve to be equal to When Gibson got out he turned to High school of Skeighan. That he saw main reason for sending his son to the reason, too. Young Gourlay was a lad to be a swaggering youngster. He had grand it would be to drive about the country and see things!-and he had ed above the town. The crash no off to Skeighan. He would give him as if loth to come, that splashed on some book-lear, he said; let him make the payement wide as a crown-piece-

But John shrank, chicken-hearted, among strangers whom he feared? His started violently-that warmth on his imagination set to work on what he heard of the High school of Skeighan When he came to the Cross a long and made it a bugbear. They had to do mathematics-what could he do wi' thae whigmaleeries? They had to recite Shakespeare in public-how could he stand up and spout, before a whole "I don't want to gang," he whined.

know. You ought to be a hardy man.' "Want?" flamed his father. "What does it matter what you want? Go the truth coming out in his fear. "I you shall." "I thocht I was to help in the busi-

ness," whimpered John. "Busness!" sneered his father. "A fine help you would be in business." "Aye, man, Johnnie," said his mo her, maternal fondness coming out in support of her husband, "you should be glad your father can allow ye the and he covered his face with his hands. opportunity. Eh, but it's a grand thing, a gude education! You may rise to be a minister.

stared Courlay Her ambition could no further go But Gourlay seemed to have formed a down in a broad flash-then jerked to different opinion of the sacred calling. 'It's a' he's fit for," he growled. So John was put to the High school

of Skeighan, travelling backwards and forwards night and morning by the train, after the railway had been opened. And he discovered, on trying it, that the life was not so bad as he had feared. He hated his lessons, true, and avoided them whenever he was able. But his father's pride and his mother's fondness saw that he was well-dressed | They give me pictures in my mind. I'm and with money in his pocket; and he feared of them, but I like to think them Gourlay was no longer the only "big man" of Barbie, he was still one of the 'big men," and a consciousness of the baker's kindness moved him to speak. fact grew upon his son. When he In a vague way he wanted to explain. passed his old classmates (apprentice grocers now and carters and ploughboys) his febrile insolence led him to swagger and assume. And it was fine to mount the train at Barbie in the fresh cool mornings, and be off past the gleaming rivers and the woods. Retter still was the home-coming-to board the empty train at Skeighan If his father should find him playing when the afternoon sun came pleasant through the windows, to loll on the fat cushions, and read the novelettes. He learned to smoke too, and that was a source of pride. When the train was full on market days he liked to get in among the jovial farmers who encouraged his assmuptions. Meanwhile Jimmy Wilson would be elsewhere in the train, busy with his lessons for the morrow-for Jimmy had to help in the Emporium of nights-his father kept him to the grindstone. Jimmy had no more real ability than young Gourlay, the look. It widens and concentrates but infinitely more caution. He was at once. one of the gimlet characters who, by diligence and memory, gain prizes i their schooldays-and are fools for the remainder of their lives.

The bodies of Barbie, seeing young Gourlay at his pranks, speculated over his future, as Scotch bodies do about father. the future of every youngster in their

"I wonder what that son o' Gourlay's 'ull come till," said Sandy Toddle, musing on him with the characterreading eye of the Scots peasant. "To no good-you may be sure of that," said ex-Provost Connal. "He's a regular splurge! When Drunk Dan Kennedy passed him his flask in the train the other day he swigged it, just a coward, too, for all his swagger. He But he actually shook Gourlay with grew ill-bred when he swallowed the money on you for this to be the end go to Skeighan and get more.

drink, and Dan, to frighten him, threat- o't?" ened to hang him from the window by pay the High school of Skeighan to on to the middle of the great table shivering, how the ground would go flying past your eyes; how quick the care I get my money's worth. I don't wheel opposite ye would buzz-it would blind ye by its quickness-how the sell!" were his very words. He seemed to lar and swung him out the room. see the thing as if it were happening Down High street he marched, carryto give him another drink! 'You would

Young Gourlay seemed bent on mak- Grocers coming to their doors, to scating good the prophecy of Barbie, ter fresh yellow sawdust on the old. table and came bleeding to the window, Though his father was spending money "I see few signs o't, either," said his grin a rictus of wrath, his green he coudi ill afford on his education, he sills, stared sideways, chins up and edged timorously into the room. fooled away his time. His mind de- mouths open, after the strange specta- only opened the door the width of his all the members.

"By God, Gourlay," he screamed, "I'll veloped a little, no doubt, since it was cle. But Gourlay splashed on amid the did fairly well. But others he loath-

clang. It was a June afternoon, of room where the headmaster was sent-

novel, when a terrible thing befell him

brooding heat, and a band of yellow

sunshine was lying on the glazed table,

showing every scratch in its surface.

The place oppressed him-he was sorry

he had come. But he plunged into his

He started in fear when a voice ad-

"Storm!" said Gourlay. He had a

"Aye, we're in for a pelter. What

the distance, swept forward and roar-

longer rolled afar, but cracked close to

then a white rush of slanting spears.

The baker put his arm round him in

But the worst was soon over. Light-

"The heavens are opening and shut-

ng like a man's eye." said Gourlay:

A flash shot into a mounded wood far

red crack in a white-hot furnace door.'

"Man, you're a noticing boy," said

"Aye," said John, smiling in curious

elf-interest, "I notice things too much.

Boys are slow of confidence to their

elders, but Gourlay's terror and the

"I'm no feared of folk," he went o

with a faint return to his swagger

"But things get in on me. A body

eems so wee compared with that-

The baker did not understand. "Have

"My father!" John gasped in terror

"Yes; did ye no ken he was in Skeig-

han? We come up thegither by the ten

John turned to escape. In the door-

offender-yet his eye seemed to stab-a

flash shot from its centre to transfix

the bars of his cage, and you will see

"What are you doing here?" he ask-

"I-I-I," John stammered and chok-

"How lang has he been here, baker?"

"I see! You want to shield him .-

mean to hire dowgs and bark for my-

He grabbed his son by the coat col-

When Gourlay was in wrath he had

train, and are meaning to gang hame

by this. I expect him every m

way stood his father.

words would come.

with a firm civility.

he nodded to the warring heavens.

you seen your father?" he asked.

away. "It stabbed it like a dagger!

oh, it's a terrible thing the world-

"You're John Gourlay's son, ye

"Tuts, man, dinna be feared,"

cheek brought the terror so near.

screamed in terror.

kindly protection.

just let on to be.'

growling away

the baker

horror of lightning since the day of his

his face to his eyes in merry

hearty manner with a boy.

storm's at the burstin!"

novel and forgot the world.

Opposite the Fiddler's Inn whon "Damn you for a measled swine, ed. It was the rule at Skeighan High should they meet but Wilson! A snig-

He marched into the vestibule of the on in solemn protest: "In the present spat threats of justice through his ant in the bye-ways of Skeighan. He High school, the boy dangling from his enow, to put his harness on, he often made his way to the station, and great hand. "Where's your gaffer?" he roared at

"Gaffer?" blinked the janitor.

For a while he swaggered round the you ca' him, the fellow that runs the business.' "The headmaster!" said the janitor. "Heid-maister, aye!" said Gourlay in scorn, and went trampling after the janitor down a long wooden corridor. waiting room, to avoid the hollow A door was flung open showing a class-

> ed teaching Greek. The sudden appearance of the greatchested figure in the door, with his pity. But the sudden death of his flerce gleaming eyes, and the rainbeads shining on his frieze coat, brought into the close academic air a sense of quite personal loss and the sharp strong gust of an outer

dressed him. He looked up—and here it was only the baker!-the baker smil-"I believe I pay you to look after ing at him with his fine grey eyes, the that boy," thundered Gourlay; "is this baker with his reddish fringe of beard the way you do your work?" And with and his honest grin, which wrinkled up the words he sent his son spinning along the floor like a curling stone, till kindly wrinkles. He had a wonderful he ratled, a wet huddled lump, against a row of chairs. John slunk bleeding "Aye man, John; it's you," said the behind the master.

baker. "Dod, I'm just in time. The "Really." said MacCandlish, rising in protest. "Don't 'really' me, sir! I pay you to

teach that boy, and you allow him to run idle in the streets! What have "But what can I do?" bleated Mac-Candlish, with a white spread of de-They went to the window. The frontprecating hands. The stronger man

took the grit from his limbs. "Do? Do? Damn it, sir, am I to be your dominie? Am I to teach you your duty? Do! Flog him, flog him, flog him-if you don't send him hame terms of his agreement, and in accord- the tawse of old Bleach-the-boys. But the ear, hard, crepitant. Quick light- the welts on him as thick as that foreyou-ou, Misterr MacCandlish!"

repeated hate. A blue-black moistness He was gone-they heard him go clumping along the corridor. Thereafter young Gourlay had to stick to his books. And, as we know, the forced union of opposite breeds the A great blob shot in through the wingreater disgust between them. How from the prospect. Was he still to dow, open at the top, and spat wide on ever, his school days would soon be over, and meanwhile it was fine to pose on his journeys to and fro as Young Hopeful of the Green Shutters. The heavens were rent with a crash He was smoking at Skeighan staand the earth seemed on fire. Gourlay tion on an afternoon, as the Barbie

train was on the point of starting. He was staying on the platform till the last moment, in order to show the people how nicely he could bring the smoke down his nostrils-his "Prince of Wales' feathers" he called the great "Aye, but I'm no," chattered John. curling puffs. As he dallied, a little aback from an open window, he heard which he knew mentioning the It was Templandmuir who ning, both sheeted and forked, was was speaking.

vivid as ever, but the thunder slunk "I see that Gourlay has lost his final appeal in that law suit of his," said the Templar. "D'ye tell me that?" said a strange to rub shoulders with his stinging

Then-"Gosh, he must have lost detested foes. It was a fine day; infernal! "Atweel has he that," said Templandmuir. "The costs must have been Skeighan. Gourlay, who shrank normous, and then there's the dam-

"Look, look, did ye see yon? It came ages. He would have been better to would be sure to pass when they settle't and be done wi't, but his pride him, the haughty, the aloof, force the side—then ran down to a sharp made him fight it to the hindmost! It creep among them cheek point again. It was like the coulter of has made touch the boddom of his Then his angry pride rushed t purse, I'll wager ye. Weel, weel, it'll to his aid. Was John Gourlay Suddenly a blaze of lightning flamed help to subdue his pride a bit, and tail for a wheen o' the Barbie vide, and a fork shot down its centre. muckle was the need o' that." Damn the fear o't! It was a "That," said Gourlay, "was like a Young Gourlay was seized with a

sudden fear. The prosperity of the use it as the rest o' folk! House with the Green Shutters had been a fact of his existence: it had never entered his bovish mind to ques tion its continuance. But a weakening doubt stole through his limbs. What Invested With the Order of the Ga would become of him, if the Gourlays vere threatened with disaster? He had a terrfying vision of himself as a lonely atomy, adrift on a tossing world, | night invested King Haakon of Nor

out off from his anchorage. "Mother, are we ever likely to be ill off?" he asked his mother that evening. of Windsor Castle. The investiture She ran her fingers through his hair, attended with great pomp and pushing it back from his brow fondly. He was as tall as herself now. "No, no, dear; what makes ye think ancies come, there has not been a

grand business, and I brought a hantle money to the house." "Hokey!" said the youth, "when and Victor Emmanuel, then K Ah'm in the business, Ah'll have the Sardinia. King Edward is the

CHAPTER XV.

Gourlay was hard up for money Every day of his life taught him that he was nowhere in the stress of a widening glower that enveloped the modern competition. The grand days -only a few years back, but seeming half a century away, so much had hapand pierce. Gaze at a tiger through pened in between-the grand days when he was the only big man in the locality, and carried everything with a high hand, had disappeared for ever. Now all was bustle, hurry and confued, with the wild beast glower on his sion, the getting and sending of telegrams, quick dispatches by railway, the watching of markets at a distance. rapid combinations that bewildered 'What are you doing here?" said his Gourlay's duller mind. At first he was too obstinate to try the newer methods: John's fingers worked before him: his when he did, he was too stupid to use eyes were large and aghast on his fa- them cleverly. When he plunged ther; though his mouth hung open no was always at the wrong time, for he plunged at random, not knowing what do. He had lost heavily of late There was a curious regard between both in grain and cheese, and the law Gourlay and the baker. Gourlay spoke suit with Gibson had crippled him. It was well for him that property in Bar-"Oh, just a wee while," said the bie had increased in value; the House age, both bricklayers. with the Green Shutters was to prove the buttress of his fortune. Already have 'ee? Am I to throw away gude | that security. He was now dressing to "Brodie, Gurney and Yarrowby." of "Dinna be hard on him, John," plead- Glasgow were the lawyers who financ-

pers at Goudie's office ere he touched "Me thrash him!" cried Gourlay. "I the cash. He was meaning to drive of course

thrash him, and I'll take damned good Gourlay was proud of his gig, and always kept a spanking roadster. "What a fine figure of a man!" you thought, as you saw him coming swiftly towards you, seated high on his driving cushion. That driving cushion was Gourlay's pedestal from which he looklow in hysteerics, till Dan was obliged as you might carry a dirty puppy to A quick step, yet shambling, came an outhouse. John was black in the along the lobby. There was a pause, "You damned treacherous rat!" he spue with the dizziness, said he, and cried, "that's the game John Gourlay bocked himsell."

face; time and again in his wrath as of one gathering heart for a vencried, "that's the game John Gourlay bocked himsell."

Gourlay swung him off the ground. ture; then a clumsy knock on the

"Come in." snapped Gourlay Peter Riney's queer little old face now trampled black and wet on the

face, and looked ready to bolt

Gourlay gashed himself frightfull with his razor, and a big red blob sto out on his cheek.

"Deid!" he stared. "Yes," stammered Peter. "He right enough when Elshie gae him feed this morning, but when I we lying deid in the loose box. The -it's like."

For a moment Gourlay stared the open mouth of an angry surp "Gaffer, dominie, whatever the damn forgetting to take down his razor. "Aweel, Peter," he said at last, Peter went away.

The loss of his pony touched Go lay to the quick. He had been sto and dour in his other misfortunes taken them as they came, calmi was not the man to whine and cr against the angry heavens. He neither the weaksess, nor the wid nature, to indulge in the luxury of lant roadster, his proud pacer t the streets of Barbie, touched him reavement. Coming on the heels o other calamities it seemed to make more poignant, more sinister, promp ing the question if misfortune we

never have an end. "Damn it, I have enough to thole Gourlay muttered; "surely there p no need for this to happen." And wh he looked in the mirror to fasten stock, and saw the dark strong c shaven face, he stared at it for a ment, with a curious compassion the man before him, as for was being hardly used. The hard could never have framed the wo but the vague feeling in his hear he looked at the dark vision, was:

a pity of you, sir." He put on his coat rapidly, and out to the stable. An instinct pro ed him to lock the door.

He entered the loose box. A shaf golden light, aswarm with slanted in the quietness. Tam the straw, his head far out, his unnaturally long, his limbs spraw rigid. What a spanker Tam had What gallant drives they had had gether! When he first put Tar tween the shafts five years ago. been driving his world before plenty of cash and a big way of -Now Tam was dead, and his n netted in a mesh of care.

"I was always gude to the bea any rate." Gourlay muttered, as pleading in his own defence. For a long time he stared dow

the sprawling carcass, musing, the powney," he said twice, nodding head each time he said it: "Tay powney": and he turned away. How was he to get to Skeighan plunged at his watch. The 10 train had already gone, the express not stop at Barbie; if he waited o'clock he would be late for his pointment. There was a brake. which ran to Skeighan every Tr It was a downcome, though, for who had been proud of driving be his own horseflesh to pack in a a crowd of the Barbie sprats. And he went by the brake, he would be enough the whole jing-bang of would be going with the brake nothing, shrank from the winks

conveyance; he had the same rig (To be continued.)

KING HAAKON DECORATED by King Edward.

London, Nov. 13 .- King Edward with the Order of the Garter a special charter held in the throne mony. Although knights of the are elected from time to time, as that? Your father has always had a vestiture like the one of to-day 1855, when the late Queen Victor ferred the honor upon Napole viving member of the royal

Great Britain who participated in historic event Queen Alexandra as "the Lady Order," whose predecessors enturies ago, was present robed of the nights and knig manders of the order as we ichness of the decorations of toric chamber where the ook place, made the scene brilliant and impressive of the reign. The ceremony was fo state banquet.

FATAL FIRES. Two Men Perished in Hotel-F and Son Lost Lives Their Home.

Port Chester, N. Y., Nov. 13.nen lost their lives in a fire whi stroved Weeks' hotel here early The fire is believed to have been cendiary origin. The men death were William O'Brien of age, and William Kane, 33

Two Dead. Paoil. Ind., Nov. 13.-Vince aged 55 years, and Raymond A n, aged 11 years, were death in their home last nigh other members of the family by jumping from a second s dow. They received slight in

Tewels valued at \$10,000, W tolen on October 10th from N. Y., the country home of G. van, a New York banker, hav covered. Joseph Anderson, land, Ohio, who, until a few was employed as a butler in van home, has been arrested police say he has confesse committed the crime. The je ound in a Jewish cemetery n Kisco, where it had been buri

provinces of Austria-Hungary reters are employed in the Va delegates and make them

No. 38.

S1.00 a

The Disaster

Seattle, Nov. 19.-7 Capt. P. Lermon, b to Port Blakeley, with two miles north of after 7 o'clock last 1 collided with the Capt. P. H. Mason, o Company. Forty-three passen

of the crew of the Di 86 were saved. The Dix is a total The Jeannie was

The master of the The collision occ Sound was almost as

Smooth As a

and after the boats h within sight of each er of an hour. The Jeannie was collided with the Dix as slight. The Dia of amidships, on the she listed heavily to

There was hardly t rafts or boats before entirely submerged. Passengers jumped

period, righted hersel

AND ORDERS CROW NEST

Mines Again in Opera

Men Who Left I

Now Retur Fernie, B. C., No. John Mitchell, of Workers of America Minneapolis confirming of the coal strike a ordering the men to The following is

ager Lindsay, of the Coal Company: "Minneapolis. Nov made by Burke recogn national union, and n

received by W. H. I

work. (Signed) "JOHN This telegram form chapter in a strike, w spects has been uniqu Settlement first m in good faith by the a large portion of th but the Gladstone urged by District T Secretary Biggs an against the settlem go to work. Messrs. erson went to Mir view President Mitch telegram is the result

The mines have b week, as many men being available. All dred have applied for course of a few days men available will men who left the strike are returning, with them. The co terday at Michel was steadily increased, an be up tothe standard tons per day.

M'PHILLIPS TO T He Will Likely Be Con date in the I

> (From Monday' The Times correspon writes: A meeting of th was held in the public day. There were very