

The Rival Glansmen

A Scottish Vendetta.

CHAPTER XVIII.

PLANNING A MIDNIGHT ATTACK—A TERRIBLE MOMENT.

"Ha! Cameron, right you are," exclaimed Ian, slapping his thigh. "Just before you entered, Gregor told me that we should employ cunning, and, not force against the M'Leods, and he has known and studied them long."

"Yes," put in the landlord; "you may be successful with cunning—you may surprise them and have a purpose effected before they have recovered themselves if you do it secretly; but to go against Castle M'Leod with armed men, even weakly defended as it is at present, would be no more likely to succeed than though you attempted to raze Ben-Bay to the ground."

"That is true," replied Cameron. "I took a close survey of the position the day that I was there last, and it appeared to me to be almost impregnable. But how would you suggest that we should act, Gregor?"

"I would perhaps be better able to tell you that if you told me exactly what you would be wishing to do," replied the landlord.

"Do!" exclaimed Cameron, his eyes flashing wildly, as he dashed his clenched fist heavily down upon the table. "Do! I wish to—," and he paused and looked questioningly at Ian, as he said, "Shall I say all, M'Kenzie?"

"You may wish with safety, and not only with safety, but with profit," was the reply.

"Then, hark ye, Gregor," continued Cameron, addressing the landlord. "I wish to become the possessor of the lands of M'Leod; I wish to be master of the Castle, and in possession of the same position and influence which now belong to that boy who has insulted me, and raised me up against him. Now, for a reason with which you may or may not be acquainted, it is almost necessary for my safety, and for my retaining the position though I had it, that I should accomplish my object as quietly as possible. What I desire to be done at Castle M'Leod, then, is this; to secure the person of the old Chief's sister until I can find a suitable opportunity of forcing her to marry me; to secure and carry off my niece, M'Kenzie's betrothed bride—and—"

"And I wish," interrupted Ian, excitedly, "to run my claymore through Hector M'Leod. The vow must be kept."

"A M'Kenzie's vow is sacred," said the landlord quietly.

"Then you have heard what we desire," said Cameron regarding Gregor keenly. "The two women must be carried off, and Hector must be killed. Nothing else will satisfy us; and above everything Hector must be run through—"

"M'Kenzie?"

Ian ground his teeth together as he replied—"Ay, him out of the way, and the rest will be easy; but I will know no rest till that is accomplished."

"I'll not be sure how it will be best managed," observed the landlord reflectively; and he glanced furtively out from beneath his heavy brows, as he continued—"You see there would be a great deal of danger in it, especially to such as me, were any mishap to befall us."

"Bah!" exclaimed Cameron, savagely. "Danger! Nonsense. Our plan must be so arranged as to preclude all possibility of danger occurring. Think no more of that."

"I'll not be sure," observed Gregor, cautiously, shaking his head as he spoke. "You see, I'll not mind running the risk myself; but if my head should get a hard knock, or a claymore be sent through my carcase, then my business would be at an end, and my folk would not have me to look to for support, as they will have at present."

"Ah, I see what you mean," said Cameron, covertly divining that Gregor was anxious to be recompensed before he gave any advice; "you would like to make as much by the venture as will set your folks by comfortably in the case of an emergency?"

"If it would be your good pleasure to do that," observed the landlord with a cunning leer upon his face.

"Yes, yes, it shall be done," replied Cameron, impatiently. "Speak out, and your fortune's made. Think you that Cameron of Droghdairech will deal siggardly with those who serve his purpose? Come, tell us your plan."

But wily Gregor did not seem to be so hurried as Cameron, and, without moving a muscle of his face, he replied—

"Perhaps the Chief of Droghdairech would give me fifty pounds of the King's money for my services?"

Cameron ground his teeth with impatience and anger, and a dark scowl overspread his features as he returned the answer—

"Fifty pounds! Pshaw, think you I would hesitate in giving that if the plan is good? But I must hear it first. What say you, M'Kenzie?" he exclaimed turning towards Ian, who had thought it prudent not to interfere between them.

"I'll give him fifty myself, irrespective of what you may give him," was the reply; "but, like you, I think we should first hear the plan he has to unfold."

For a second or two Gregor appeared to be considering what course to take; then looking up he replied—

"Well, I'll speak my mind, if you'll be promising to give me the money after I'll be done. You see I'll be required to assist you, and it will be better for me to have it before I'll exposing myself to the danger."

"Come on then," cried Cameron, stamping his feet. "Come on; let's have no more sticking about that."

"I'll give him fifty myself, irrespective of what you may give him," was the reply; "but, like you, I think we should first hear the plan he has to unfold."

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GEORGE JEFFREY, WYNDHAM STREET, GUELPH,

Offers the Balance of his Stock of

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Previous to Stock-taking. Everything must be Cleared Out before the 1st of March.

Remnants of Table Linens, Remnants of Prints, Remnants of Sheetings, Remnants of Towellings, Remnants of White Cottons,

TO BE RUSHED OFF AT ANY PRICE

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This is the last chance for Cheap Furs, as the balance must be disposed of regardless of cost. A few of those Cheap Dress Goods still on hand, but going fast. Remember this is the Great Remnant Sale of the Season. Parties looking for bargains should call at once.

FURS

GUELPH, JAN. 17th, 1874

GEORGE JEFFREY, GUELPH

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GOODS SELLING REGARDLESS OF COST.

RICHARD CLAYTON

IN ORDER TO CLEAR OUT THE BALANCE OF HIS IMMENSE STOCK OF

DRY GOODS

"HAS RESOLVED"

On and after Saturday, the 3rd of January, 1874,

TO OFFER FOR ONE MONTH HIS ENTIRE STOCK

REGARDLESS OF COST

THE GOODS HAVE ALL BEEN BOUGHT AT THE LOWEST CAS-

PRICES, AND IT WILL WELL REPAY ANY ONE TO

SEE OUR GOODS BEFORE PURCHASING.

NOTE THE FOLLOWING LINES:

Good Factory Cotton for 9 cents; Good Bleached Cotton for 8 cents; Horrockses Cotton for 10 cents. See them Scarlet Flannel for 23 cents. White Flannel for 25 cents. Shirting Flannels, good patterns, for 26 cents a yard, well worth 45 cents. Winceys for 9c, rare value.

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Wholesale and Retail Grocers, etc.

New Fruits, Teas, Coffees

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New Table Raisins, New Valencia Raisins, New Currants, New Figs, Almonds, Nuts, etc. TEAS, TEAS.

Choice Gunpowder Tea at 50 cents per lb. Choice Young Hyson Tea at 50 cents per lb. Superior Young Hyson Tea at 75 cents per lb. Finest Young Hyson Tea at \$1 per lb. Choice Fresh Black Teas at 50 cents per lb. Finest Fresh Black Teas at 75 cents per lb. Selected Japan Teas at 75 cents per lb.

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Also, our own importations of genuine Brandy, Wines, Scotch and Irish Whiskies wholesale and retail.

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A LARGE STOCK OF

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Felt OVERSHOES

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\$1.25 PER PAIR.

Call early, as they are going fast.

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Corner Wyndham Street and St. George's Square,

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C. E. PEIRCE & CO. Elephant Clothing Store.

OVERCOATS

In all Shades and Prices Undercoats, Pants and Vests.

Our Stock of Men's and Boys' Underwear excels anything yet seen.

ALL STYLES IN HATS AND CAPS.

Low Prices. Come and See Us.

C. E. PEIRCE & CO.,

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Manufacturer of

CHOICE CONFECTIONERY AND BISCUITS,

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Invites the attention of the Trade to the Superior Quality of Goods now produced at his Manufactory. Having introduced many new improvements, and employing only first-class workmen, and possessing every facility, he is prepared to supply the trade with a class of goods unsurpassed by any manufacturer in

OZENGES, all flavors; DROPS, assorted flavors and shapes; GUM and LICORICE DROPS, CONVERSATION LOZENGES, MOULDED SWEETS, new patterns; SODA, SWEET and FRUIT BISCUITS, FRUIT BISCUITS, GINGER NUTS, CHEWING GUM, ROCK CANDY, LICORICE.

A Large Stock of Choice and Favorite Brand Cigars. His Biscuits took the first prize over all others at the London Western '73. This is the only place where they were entered for competition. All Goods carefully packed and shipped with despatch.

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100 boxes new Valencia Raisins, first of the season, 75 splendid Ingersol Cheese, 10 hhds of Good Sugar at 13lb. for \$1. 15 sacks best Mocha Coffee, 15 sacks of the Finest Java Coffee, 18 sacks of the best Rio Coffee at 30c.

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600 Caddies of the Best Dollar Green Tea for 80c., in any quantity.

A few Packages of very fine Black and Japan Tea for 75 cents per lb. 500 Barrels of the Best Salt at \$1.20 per barrel.

It will pay anybody to look in and see the large variety of fine Teas and General Groceries at

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Suitable for the Fall and Winter.

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FOR BREAD and PASTRY.

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