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## THE FAMILY HONOUR.

BY MRS. C. L. BALFOUR.

Continued from page 389.

CHAPTER XXVII. MYSIR'S DESTINATION.

"Yes, yes, we know his weapon Plays about that low-roofed house Free and familiar as the light of day " AMERICAN.

We left Burke craftily eyeing Mr. Hope, who, while he was no match for his visitor in cunning, was depressed in spirit by prolonged anxiety on Norry's account, and felt, as the conscientious ofter do, included to plame homself for all that had happened unfortunately. Neither was the good man entirely free from suspicions as to Burke. He listened to the specious words repeated often-'All I want is the children's good."

"It may be so, but I don't know, Mr. Burke, that I do right in allowing your interference until

I know more."

"Alo yo then prepared, my gude sir, to take the responsibility of the lassie—the sister, and also of the brother, when he turns up? and that Il be soon enough, I warrant, when I m on his track. I'm not, like you, in a sick room thinking; I m about everywhere. I am acting, sir, and that's worth all the thinking. I'll soon drop upon my young sprig, and no mistake. But I was saying, Mr. Hope, are ye prepared to reject all assistance, and take the responsibilities on yourself, ch? or would you like to give them both up entirely?"

"I certainly should not do that without the fullest knowledge of the right of the parties who

claimed them."

"Well, ye'll not be asked, I'll venture to say." Mr. Hope, as the man spoke, revolved again the whole matter. He could not undertake the charge involved in the future education and care of the children; not even of one. However he might rally, it would not be to health. He should be, he feared, a sore tay on the energies of his daughter, Never had he felt the bitterness of poverty more than now that this man sat before him, relentlessly pressing his alternative, saying, with an implied taunt-

"On, do as you like; but remember, you prevent the girl getting education, and the boy a profession

·that's all."

"I would prevent neither, but further both," said Mr. Hope, wearily.
"Then may I ask what you have done as to

inquiries about a school for the young leddy?"

Mr. Hope pointed ton little pile of slips of paper advertisements copied out of the papers, and several open letters on the table, adding-

"These would have been decided on, but for the distress and confusion we have been in about

"Well, now I know all the particulars, I'll take upon myself all further search; and suppose that now, my gude sir, ye just went over the letters and chose."

"My daughter prefers this," said Mr. Hope, handing the circular of a lady near Winchester, "because the school is kept by a relation of Miss Webb's, and also because it is just possible that Marian may go into the neighbourhood sometimes —that is, if she accompanies her new pupil into Hampshire. The family have an estate there."

"Hampshire!" muttered Butko; "as well there as anywhere. Then decide, Mr. Hope; the schules are gathering sune. I say, Decide: Elmscroft, near Winchester, is—I'll answer for it—healthy. Decide at once, or may be you'll have another runaway."

A tap at the door told of Mysie's approach. She entered, with her face all aglow with excitement, and a letter in her hand, directed in the well-known hand-writing of a friend of Norry's.

Every incident was eagerly caught at in the hope of supplying some clue to the whereabouts

of the fugitive.

Mr. Hope tore it open with trembling fingers It contained only a few lines of invitation to some juvenilo gathering, and was, in its careless ease and manifest ignorance of all that had happened, so jarring to Mr. Hope's feeling, that he threw it down with a hopless sigh, and Mysic proved her R. WO'.THINGTON,
Wholesale and Metall Album Depot.
30 Great St. James Street, MONTREAL disappointment by bursting into tears.

Burke looked at them with a sneer, and soon after left, with the understanding that Mysic, on the 18th of January, would be sent to Elmscroft. One little incident occurred just before his depar-

Mysic, who attended him to the door, paused a moment in the passage, and said, looking full

at him-

" Pray, sir, did you know my parents?"

The directness of the question, and the carnest gazo of her innocent eyes, disconcerted the man. He hesitated a moment, and then said—
"No-o, miss 1 Why?"

"Oh, nothing, only I m glad of it."
With a relieved look, as if she could not bear to recognise him as their friend, she opened the door, and he departed.

CHAPTER XXVIII. ALLAN AND GERTRUDE.

"Young isshe, scarcely passed from childhood's years, With grave, soit face, where thoughts and smiled may play,
And, unalarmed by guilty aims or fears.
Serene as meadow flowers may meet the day,"
JOHN STIRLING.

"How is it, little True, that you are so altered?" said Allan Austwicke, leaning over the back of his sister's chair, as they found themselves alone one morning in the drawing-room of Wilton Place, shortly after the funeral of their cousin, De Lacy. "Tell me, how is it?"

To this question the young lady, who was scated at an embroidery frame, and apparently closely occupied with matching wools, replied by

another question-

"Am I altered, Allan? How?"
"Why, you're melanchely. You used to be a jolly little thing, always laughing, and saying or doing something to make others laugh; but either Aunt Honor's illness, or Aunt Honor in a normal state, which may well be, for, I'm sure, she bothers

"Allan, Allan I"

"Or," he continued, not heeding the interruption, " our being now at the top of the Austwicke tree —which is no such grand elevation, after all-has changed you into the gravest little mumchance thing,"

"Well, I've not being able to help thinking how sad and strange was the death of poor De Lacy. It seems to me every day sadder that we should in a manner seem to reioice, or

"As to rejoicing, we were all shocked at his death, and never, I'm sure, during his or his father's life time grudged them their rights. But we young ones did not know them, neither did mainma; and as to Paterfamilias, you would not have him to mourn over a nephew he was estranged from, as to be unmindful of the interests of his own children. You are romantic, little Truc."

" I am thoughtful."

"And it does not become you. A little insect like you should be bright and fluttering; then you are delightful. And do you know, I think that Miss Hope, who went out just as I came in, is just a lectle too grave."

"Poor Marian I she has a sick father; and tomorrow she parts from one who has been as a sister —an only sister—to her. Is there so much love in the world, Allan, that we should be angry with her sadness? I like her the better for it,"

"What do you know of the world, little wise-

acro? It's a very good world, as far as I see. Books and tutors, short holidays and shorter cash, have been my greatest troubles, so far; and they're not likely to be over these three years."

"You think, then, when you're of age, all your

troubles will end."

"I'm not such a noodle; but it's something to be reckoned a man, particularly when one feels oneself to be one for so many years beforehand."

A merry laugh rang out from Gertrude in

answer to her brother, who joined heartily in it,

saying-"That's right; I wanted to hear your laugh again; and now I'vo something to tell you. I'm to read with Mr. Nugent for a year, and then hurrah for Oxford 1"

"What, the clergyman of Wicke Church?" Allan nodded.

Gertrudo continued-

"Aunt Honor does not like him,"