

right to ask a wealthy lady in marriage, when he could, and should have been in his place, so, acting on this principle, he set to work as hard as he could while a chance presented itself.

"Well, Colonel Donald, the way you have put it before me compels me to tell you what troubles my mind as regards my future. I am only too sorry that I should have to say so, but the one I love, though never promised me, I feel that I have a right to give her my affections, but another has chosen to stand in my light. These words had scarcely been uttered, but that Colonel Donald was congratulating himself on having so far well succeeded.

"How do you mean, that he has placed himself in your light? It seems to me as though there was some lady to whom your affections had been given, and some mean wretch has tried to rob you of your heart's desire; you know what I have already told you, Merrill, and I will stay by my word.

"Colonel Donald, not only have I to thank you for the days gone by, when you have stood as a 'father' at my side, but I had looked forward to the day when I should be able to call you 'father,' but my hopes have been dashed to the ground, and Captain Merrill's face grew pale with rage.

"Ah! I see, said Colonel Donald, Mr. Edwin Hopes, our 'Lieutenant,' is in the way. My dear Merrill, I feel more sorry for one thing, that is that you should presume that I should be willing to give him my daughter's hand; if I cannot have above a bankrupt merchant's son for my 'son-in-law' I will never have any at all.

"What do you advise me to do, Colonel?

"Ask me for what you want, and perhaps advice may follow.

"I want Miss Donald's hand, I ask you for it on the grounds that she has my heart, and after a moment's pause, Captain Merrill asked the one last question, 'Is it mine?'

"I give her to you with a glad heart, and the sooner you can rid me of the burden that has preyed on my mind for so long a while the better. 'I will see you well repaid.'

"It won't be my fault if I don't Colonel, replied Captain Merrill; I will leave you for now, and see what another day may bring forth, and in this way they parted.

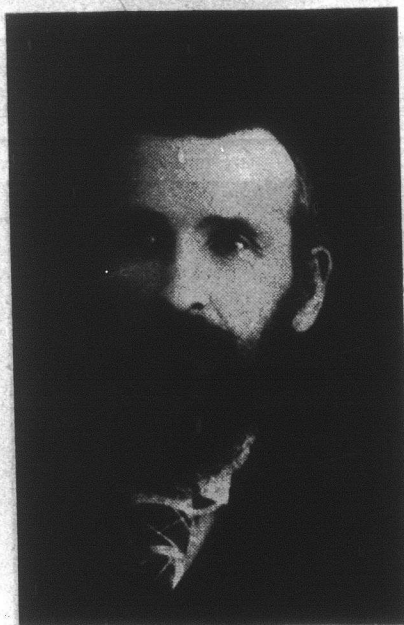
CHAPTER II.

"How lucky I should have decided on coming this way for once, it isn't often you walk up, is it?

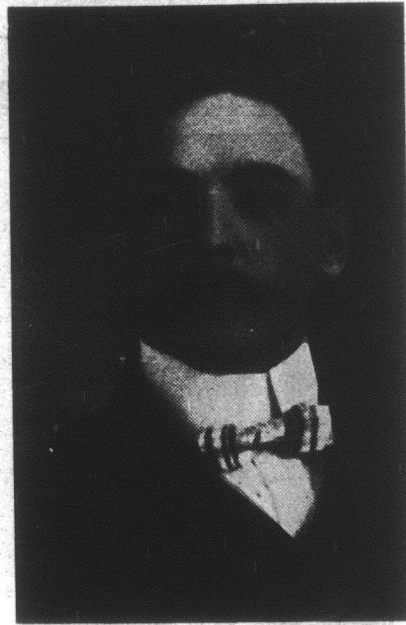
"No, not often, but I felt like having a walk, it's good for the health, once in a while.

"I have some good news for you, I was perfectly decided on not talking to you on this matter until knowing what your father would say about it.

"I know what you want of me, Captain Merrill, but I would ask of you not to even talk about it; you know I am pledged to Captain Hopes, he is the one I love, and never will I accept



R. Smith.



W. L. McQuarrie.

Messrs. Smith and McQuarrie were down for replies to the toast of 'The Ladies,' but at the request of the fair sex, cheerfully gave way, in order that there might be more time for tripping the light fantastic.

your offer, the Colonel will not rest till you are promoted to 'major,' and if I don't, he will do the same to be an obstacle to Captain Hopes, but I don't mind what he does, he will have to turn against me before that comes to pass.

"So you are perfectly resolved not to have anything to do with me, are

cowardly way, inasmuch that Miss Donald could not avoid having to fully understand that there was a strange insinuation attached to them, which she was determined at once to find out, so, straight away, decided the best thing she could do was to inform Captain Hopes on the matter, so, on arriving home, a little note was quickly



A. WESTWOOD.

R. CLEMONS.

Proprietors of the Windsor House, the hotel at which the first banquet in the City of Prince Albert took place. Mr. Westwood replied to 'Mine Host.'

you? You will still persist in entertaining the attentions of Captain Hopes; 'I hope you'll succeed.' Good morning, Miss Donald.

"These words were spoken in a real

scribbled, and the coachman was quickly hurried away with it, and had orders not to reveal his mission to anyone.

"The little note had the desired

effect, just half an hour had elapsed, when Ethel walked out to the old half hidden summer house in the shrubbery and there stood her lover. After exchanging greetings, an explanation was given for such a hasty note; Captain Hopes listened most attentively, gradually getting paler as Ethel spoke; she told him exactly what had happened.

"So he hopes I will succeed, does he? and I hope he will get out of it as easy as he has stepped into it.

"What do you mean, Edwin? You don't mean to say you are going to quarrel with him. I fear, he might hurt you, he is such a bad fellow to deal with, or at all events I should think him really treacherous, those are my only reasons for letting you know this, so that you may guard against him.

"Don't worry, my pet, he that loves you knows best what to do; I shall have to leave you now; I'm due on parade in twenty minutes, I will call on Captain Merrill this afternoon.

"Then promise me one thing, Edwin, that for my sake you will be careful what you say or do, less any harm befall you, that would hurt me more than anything Captain Merrill can ever say, so after promising to be very careful, the lovers parted, Edwin Hopes now being equally determined to know what his would-be rival meant.

CHAPTER III.

"Is Captain Merrill at home?" enquired a very plainly dressed gentleman, handing over his card to the richly clad butler who answered the door.

"Yes, sir; will you please walk in!"

"Thanks, just hand over my card; I'll wait here."

"Very well, sir," and the man hastened to inform his master on the matter.

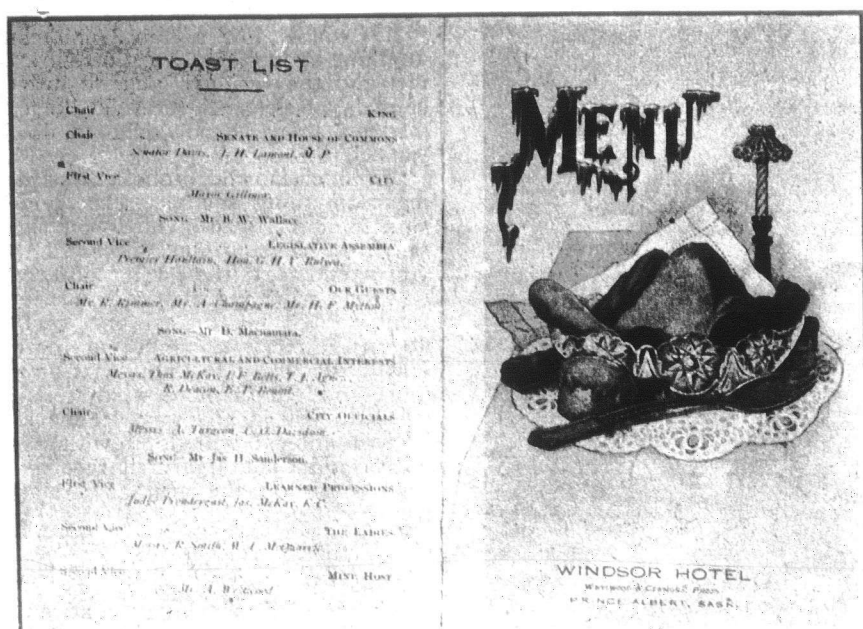
"Did you say he refused to walk in, Morton?"

"Yes sir; he said in plain words 'I'll wait here.'" At this point Morton noticed that his master's face wore a nervous, palid look.

"I don't like that at all, of Hopes' refusing to walk in, just go and ask him what is it he wishes to see me about; you shall communicate the business to me; I'm engaged just at present; report to me what he says." So Morton hurried away to dispatch his master's message.

"If it be that your master is engaged as you say he is, I will wait a while; tell him that is all I wish to say to his butler, as concerning my business; you might add that had I not a wish to see him personally I would have disposed of the matter without asking for him."

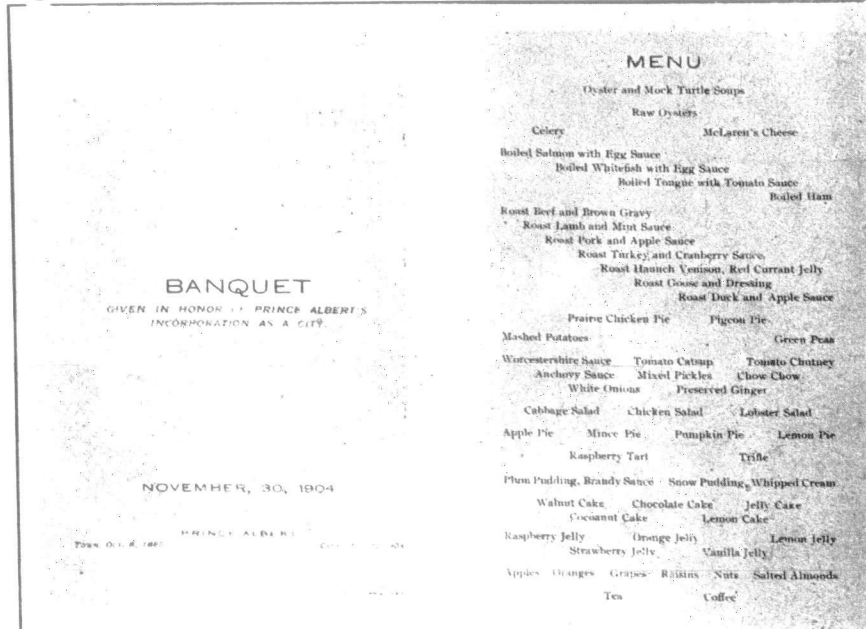
These words sounded strange to



Back.



Front.



Second Page.

Third Page.

MENU OF THE FIRST BANQUET IN THE CITY OF PRINCE ALBERT.

They were printed on cards 6 1/2 x 8 1/2, at the A. & S. office, Prince Albert. The front page was in gold, silver, red, several parts the word 'Menu' at the top was being embossed.