

The Rival Clansmen:

A Scottish Vendetta.

CHAPTER IX.

FLIGHT OF FLORA—A SORROWING MOTHER—OVERWHELMED BY IAN.

"But, oh! cruel fate, I feel an overwhelming sense of weariness and languor stealing over me, and I much fear when my eyelids close in sleep I shall have taken my last look on earth and sky. And not of these only. These, too, oh my darling child will I have you to desert! I cannot do that. I cannot die and leave you here, perchance to perish. Alas! though I were assured you were to live, I fear to leave you battle with life alone, and I will not do so; mother and daughter will die together."

"Would-Heaven forgive the deed? Alas! I cannot answer. I doubt it much, and yet how much easier would it be for me to die did I but know that you were done with the world. And die I must."

"It will be a mercy for the child; and yet surely Heaven had another purpose in view, else why create it?"

"My brain is reeling; surely I am on the verge of madness. Heaven forgive me. How, how am I to act? Who, who will guide and direct me?"

Again she clasped the child tightly in her arms and strained it to her breast. While the deep sobs that escaped her told of the agony which was disturbing her heart.

The sun had now descended behind the western hills, and in the darkness which was closing around Flora had succeeded in leaving her place of concealment, and had approached quite close to the stranger without the latter being at all aware of her presence.

When, therefore, in the agony of spirit the poor girl had wailed out, "Who will guide and direct me?" she was startled to hear the reply from some one beside her—

"With God's help, I will."

She sprang to her feet, as she exclaimed—

"You, who are you?"

"A sorrowful girl, like yourself."

But the poor feeble girl was so weak that she did not stand, and she again sank to the ground, exclaiming as she did so—

"Oh, that I had sooner had your sympathy, and heard your kindly voice."

Sympathetic tears dimmed our heroine's eyes as she knelt down beside the unfortunate mother, and taking the child which had now awakened, in her arms, said—

"Here, my dear girl, is some food for you. I have been a listener to your soliloquy. I hope you will excuse me, but I was afraid to show myself until I was certain I had nothing to fear from you."

I am in a position in some respects similar to, yet differing from, your own. I am flying from those who ought to be my friends, and am afraid that I may fall into their hands. They wish to force me into an unholy union with a man I cannot love, knowing well that I am pledged to one whom I do love, and whom they hold prisoner. Excepting him I am without a friend in the world, and it is not yet many hours since I, too, looked on death as the only deliverance I could find from my sufferings and my trials."

But I reasoned thus, that death was preferable to dishonor, and that I would rather die than be dishonored; but so long as I was able to avoid that issue I would struggle to my utmost with adversity. If I can inspire strength and confidence enough into you to do the same, I shall be happy."

It was a pleasing sight, and reward enough to Flora to see the look of gratitude which shot across the face of her companion as she listened to her last words.

"Thank God for sending you to me," she murmured. "Encouraged and strengthened, I may yet struggle on."

She swallowed a portion of the food which Flora handed her, and after our heroine had descended to the side of the stream with her, where she quenched her thirst, she pronounced herself much invigorated both in body and mind; for, hungry, exhausted and despairing, she had struggled to this spot to lay herself down and die, and here the temptation had come upon her to deprive of life the sweet child which now nestled in Flora's bosom.

Strange, is it not, that these two poor weak girls should so strengthen each other? But it is, nevertheless, an exhibition of a phase of human nature for which we poor human mortals ought above all else to thank God. Without sympathy men and women would be useless. There is in every heart deeply implanted a strong yearning for the approbation, the good wishes of our fellows. When we are fortunate, we have it in the shape of applause and flattery; when in adversity, it is condolence and pity; and he or she who withholds commendation from those who are deservingly successful, or pity from those in distress, is lacking in obedience to that divine of all commandments—"Do ye unto others even as ye would that others should do unto you."

Flora now determined that she would not go forward on her journey until her newly found companion should be able to accompany her. She knew the danger to which it exposed her, and the additional risk that Hector was likely to run by the delay, but she could not find it in her heart to desert this poor creature—the more especially as she already believed that she was aware of her identity.

"Will you accompany me to Castle M'Leod when you are able?" she asked.

"I will go with you anywhere," was the reply of the grateful girl.

"Then we will remain here until you feel strong enough to move," said Flora.

"My little stock of provisions will start us to-morrow, and before night I think I will be able to procure something else. I brought some money with me, and if we meet a kind-hearted shepherd we may be able to obtain some food from him for the rest of our journey."

Her companion was silent.

After a few seconds she looked up and said—

"I suppose you heard all I said to myself before you came to me?"

"Yes."

"Then you understand somewhat of the trouble which I have to bear against? Before heaven I swear I am a married woman, though I can give no proof at present, and my husband has deserted me."

"Tell me," said Flora, looking steadily at her, "is your name Jeannie Gordon?"

The other started, and a look of amazement crossed her face.

"Breakfast.—Epp's Cocoa, —GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which will save us many heavy doctors' bills. —Civil Service Gazette. Made simply with boiling water for milk. Each packet is labelled —James Epps & Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, London."



Great Clearing Sale of Fancy

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AT GEORGE JEFFREY'S, WYNDHAM STREET, GUELPH.

George Jeffrey will commence his Great Annual Sale, on THURSDAY, the 27th NOVEMBER, when he will offer the whole of his extensive stock at such prices as will ensure a speedy clearance. Also, a wholesale stock of New and Fashionable Dress Goods at less than manufacturer's prices. Over 8000 yards new Serges, all new colors, at 20 cents a yard, worth from 45 to 50 cents. Over 6000 yards new Striped Serges 35 cents, usual price 50 to 55 cents. French Merinos will be sold equally low, and the balance of our Fancy French Dress Goods at much less than regular prices. FURS, FURS! Just to hand another lot of those Furs which have created so much excitement, equally low. Come at once and get a good choice. Millinery and Mantles! The balance of this department will be cleared out regardless of cost. This great sale is called several weeks earlier in order to give our customers the benefit of New Goods at a seasonable time. The stock of FANCY GOODS is the largest in the Province, so that parties in want of Christmas presents will do well to call at once as the entire stock will be reduced in price. Every Lady in Guelph and surrounding country should visit this Establishment during the sale and judge themselves.

All Goods charged During the Sale will be at the Regular Prices.

GEORGE JEFFREY, GUELPH



THE GOLDEN LION

Busy Times! Busy Times

Store Crowded from Monday morn till Saturday night.

SECOND ARRIVAL OF NEW GOODS!

50 Cases and Bales New Goods JUST RECEIVED!

150 pieces of that noted Cheap Winey at 12 1/2 c; 200 pieces of Horrock's White Cottons at 10c.

The cheapest Goods and Most Fashionable Goods is to be seen at the Golden Lion.

New Millinery Hats and Bonnets, New Dress Goods, New Stripes Shawls, 250 sets Furs, 5 bales Buffalo Robes, 20 bales Cotton Bags.

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The Largest and Cheapest Stock in Guelph.

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Guelph Oct. 31, 1873

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E. O'DONNELL & Co. Are making a noise among the Grocers

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

TEAS FINE AND SWEET

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.

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

E. O'DONNELL & CO. Guelph, Nov. 13, 1873. Wyndham Street, Guelph.

THE ROYAL CANADIAN INSURANCE COMPANY

FIRE AND MARINE! AUTHORIZED CAPITAL, - - \$5,000,000

Incorporated by Act of Parliament, having obtained License and made the Government Deposit, are prepared to insure all Descriptions of Property against Loss or Damage by Fire

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STEAM SAW-MILL FOR SALE.—On the west corner of Lot 40, Con. 3, Minto, known as Lemon & Wright's Sawmill. The mill is in good running order, machinery new. There is good supply of water on the premises. The log yard contains four acres, and is well situated on good rolling ground, and in the midst of a well timbered section of country; about eight miles from Harrison, six from Palmerston, and six miles from Fordwich, a station of the T. G. & B. R. in the centre of Howick. For terms and particulars, apply to John Livingston, Harrison, if by letter prepaid.

WILLIAM LEMON, ISAAC WRIGHT, Minto, Aug. 28th, 1873.

GUELPH Pianoforte Factory

IS NOW IN FULL OPERATION

affording an opportunity to intending purchasers of inspecting the construction of these celebrated instruments. All new Instruments

Warranted for Six Years; Tuned (if in town) free for one year. Second hand taken in exchange or repaired.

TUNING ATTENDED TO PROMPTLY

Prices lower than any imported, and quality and finish unsurpassed. Show Rooms and Office, WEST MARKET SQUARE, GUELPH, ONT.

JOSEPH F. RAIBER, Proprietor Guelph, Dec. 14, 1873

Being about to leave Guelph, I seek a home in the Far West, and as I have had a short time longer in their midst, the stock will consequently be sold off at such Bargains as will ensure a speedy sale. Goods will be sold 10 to 20 per cent. below Toronto or Montreal Wholesale prices. All goods will be packed in plain figures, and sold at cost. No second price will be made. A special discount will be allowed on purchases over \$25. This sale is genuine, the proprietor having to give up possession of his store on the 1st of May next.

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\$15,000 worth of Dry Goods and Groceries to be disposed of in six weeks. Sale to commence on Monday, the 6th inst.

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In order to clear out our Immense Stock of

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Previous to alteration of premises, we will allow

A Discount of 10 per cent. on all purchases over \$5.00.

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500 PIECES

Of New Striped Dress Goods, in Satin, Serge, Baratha, and Lustre

Which will be offered along with our magnificent stock of Dresses at the same discount.

A few pieces in Black of the New

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WHICH WILL BE Offered at 35 cents per yard, usual price 50c.

Intending purchasers will find this a rare chance to obtain first-class Goods at low prices, as every Department will be found full of the best goods in the market which must be sold previous to our great alterations

Save 10 per cent by coming direct to

THE CASH STORE,

Upper Wyndham Street. RICHARD CLAYTON.

Guelph, Nov. 4, 1873

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Retail Grocers, etc., Lower Wyndham Street, - - Guelph.

We have in store Three Hundred and Fifty half chests and chests of

CHOICE NEW SEASON TEAS

Consisting of 100 half chests of Choice Young Hyson, 50 half chests of Fine Gunpowder, 20 half chests and chests Choice Black, 20 half chests Fine Japan Teas.

FRUITS, &c.

New Raisins, New Currants, Fresh Fancy Biscuits, Choice Smoking Tobaccos, Sugars broken loaf and ground, Rice, Oatmeal, &c.

ALSO, OUR OWN IMPORTATIONS

Of Hennessy and Martell Brandy, Otard's & Pinot's Brandy, Hunt's celebrated Ports, Vergara's Celebrated Sherries, Holland and Tom Gins, Scotch and Irish Whiskies, Domestic Whisky.

Our stock will be found well assorted. Teas are sold by us in caddies of 16 or 20 lbs, at ten to fifteen cents less than the usual price. Our stock is the largest in the Town of Guelph and everything we sell we guarantee to give satisfaction or no sale.

JACKSON & HALLETT, Lower Wyndham-street, Guelph. Guelph, Oct. 11, 1873