

The Rival Clansmen

A Scottish Vendetta.

CHAPTER XXI.

A DARK DEED—A WELL-KNOWN VOICE—A LONG JOURNEY—THE WITCH OF BEN-LAIR IN DANGER.

There was also, of course, less danger of his being exposed to them here, although he had to keep in mind that he would be visible to them where they were quite invisible to him, as they were between him and the now slanting rays of the moon, and as he was still in the open and they were close to the base of the mountain.

But suddenly, as if the Fates were with him, a dark mass of clouds sailing across the sky suddenly obscured the light, and taking advantage of the opportunity he darted forward quickly to the right, in which direction he had seen them turn.

He was now so near that he heard the sound of their voices, and among the soft snow he felt that he could approach quite close without his footfalls reaching their ears; and this he was anxious to do for two reasons—the first being that he would then discover whether Cameron was one of them; and the second, that he would be likely to gather from their talk whether the object of their journey concerned him.

In a little he had succeeded in getting within fifty yards of them, and then he was certain of one thing, that neither Cameron nor Ian was before him. The voices were voices of strangers!

Hector was annoyed at this discovery. He had all along believed he was following one or the other, if not both; and now he was vexed when he came to realize that he had been upon a wild goose chase. And it was more aggravating when he reflected that the other figure which he had seen pass round by the end of the inn must have been Cameron. For he never questioned that it was Cameron's voice he heard when he rushed out of Murdoch McDonald's hut. He almost stamped his feet with annoyance, but still, as if bound by a strange fascination to follow them, held on after the two men, who had by this time entered a gorge in the side of the mountain up which they were proceeding.

Little did he imagine that what annoyed and grieved him so much was rather cause for rejoicing, and much rejoicing, as the sequel will show. He had, by choosing to follow the two men rather than the one, escaped from Murdoch McDonald's at almost the only moment possible for him to have done so, and in that manner had for the time been successful, although unknowingly, in eluding the vigilance of his foes, keenly as they watched for him. And for other vital reasons was it well that he had chosen as he had done—indeed, it seemed as if a Providential wisdom had directed his steps. But of this we need not speak now; anon it will become apparent.

It required all M'Leod's caution, as he walked up the rugged gorge after those who preceded him, notwithstanding that he kept steadily in their track, to keep his feet secure, and follow so that his presence would not be detected. It was hard, toiling work, and now those in front were breathing hard and speaking little. Suddenly one halted and grasping his companion, speaking in Gaelic, exclaimed—

"I say, Donald M'Kenzie, will we not be near the old hag's yet?"

The other made a grunting sound with his mouth, and then replied—

"Do you remember what I told you? At the top of this gorge."

"But I say, Donald, I was wondering whether there might be anything about the place worth carrying away after we have done our work. Do you think there will be any money?"

"The Witch of Ben-Lair money! I wonder, Rory, where you think she would get money?"

As he spoke Donald again walked forward, Rory following.

M'Leod was astonished. These men going to the Witch of Ben-Lair's, and speaking of carrying away her money. What could it mean? Could it be murder? He scarcely liked to frame the word. But he had heard sufficient to create a fresh interest in him, and all his annoyance and vexation were forgotten. He was eager to learn their purpose, nor was he long left in doubt.

The Ontario Legislature.

March 12.

After disposing of some routine business the House went into Committee of the Whole upon the remaining clauses of the Ballot Bill. A clause was added declaring that the Act should not take effect until the dissolution of the present Assembly.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole upon the Bill relating to the Solemnization of Matrimony.

The Superannuated Teachers' Fund Resolutions were then considered in Committee, and reported.

The House then went into Committee on the School Bill, and having disposed of the several remaining clauses, resumed.

On the order of the day being read for going into Committee of Supply.

Mr. M. C. Cameron brought up the Central Prison affair and Mr. McKellar's conduct in relation thereto. He moved an amendment in terms which declared the action of Mr. McKellar to have been a misappropriation of the public money as well as an improper interference with the freedom of election, and deserving of the censure and condemnation of the House.

Mr. McKellar said that the evidence before the Committee did not sustain the charge formulated in the amendment. There had been no interference, coercion or pressure of any kind on his part or by his authority. The simple question was, whether it was proper to give the men a half holiday. He had himself been a working-man, and sympathized with that class of people, and, with perhaps too little reflection, had granted the hands at the Central Prison what he believed to be a customary indulgence. He went on to vindicate his course by British precedents of recent occurrence.

Mr. Fraser quoted a large number of British precedents to show that it was not unusual or improper for a Minister of the Crown to grant a holiday to Government workmen at the Government expense.

After recess a number of private Bills were advanced a stage, and the debate was resumed.

Mr. Sinclair regretted Mr. McKellar had written the letter. Reformers should not only avoid doing wrong, but be above suspicion. But he did not believe there was any corrupt intention on the part of the Commissioner. Mr. McKellar's public and private character had been the subject of the most remorseless and unjust attacks. Especially in connection with the Immigration Department, Mr. McKellar had been grievously injured. The same remark applied to the Proton slander and the Elgin Association business. It was not to be tolerated that an



NEW SPRING DRESS GOODS

GEORGE JEFFREY, WYNDHAM STREET, GUELPH,

Has just received the first of his Spring Importations per steamship Corinthian, consisting of

- 3 Cases plain Dress Goods ;
- 2 " Striped Dress Goods, something new ;
- 1 case Plain Silks, all new colors ;
- 1 case Striped Silks, cheapest goods in town.

ALSO, A BEAUTIFUL ASSORTMENT OF

Real Thread Laces and French Kid Gloves from the best makers in the World

To be sold at reasonable prices.

GEORGE JEFFREY, GUELPH

Direct Importer, Guelph.

THE LION



THE LION

LARGE ARRIVALS OF SPRING GOODS FROM BRITAIN!

1000 pieces of Prints at 12½ cents,

Worth 16c,

AT THE GOLDEN LION:

J. D. WILLIAMSON.

Golden Lion, Wyndham Street, Guelph.

estimable public man should be driven from public life for given a few workmen a half holiday.

Mr. Paston said that the Commissioner was the only member of the Cabinet who had been a working-man, and it was his knowledge of their feelings and opinions that made him so willing to consider their wishes.

The Attorney-General pointed out that after all the time spent in the Public Accounts Committee and the House, obting thousands of dollars, the only result was the charge that \$204 had been spent, and that, too, divided between two and three hundred people. The trumpety character of the accusation showed how little real cause the Opposition had for all their clamour. The Reform party, he was proud to admit, had educated the people to hold high principles of public morality, and he accepted fully the compliment paid to their aims by their opponents. He delivered a warm tribute to the high and self-sacrificing character of Mr. McKellar, than whom no one stood higher in the estimation of the country. He twitted Mr. Cameron with making a grievance out of the fact that he had been hooted and hissed by the crowd, and traced his subsequent course of action to that annoyance. Mr. McKellar, when this matter was brought up, had placed his resignation in his (Mr. Mowat's) hands, but he had not accepted it, and in declining to do so, was sure he had acted in accordance with the feelings of the House and the country.

After a long discussion the debate was adjourned, and the House rose at 1:15 a.m.

The girls from one of the schools in Pittsburgh were out for a walk the other day, going two by two, when turning into a street on which saloons do much abound, all at once there was a clatter as of one universal *feu-de-piote* of small arms, caused by the sudden clapping of the window-shutters of all the saloons. The supposition was that the women's temperance movement was inaugurated, and in five minutes not a saloon but was closed and ready for prayer and praise.

Mr. Thomas McEwan, of Portland, Maine, is dead. His name is widely known all over Canada and the United States, as pioneer in the fish-curing trade, his first attempt at this business being made in Montreal.

To Business Men.

The circulation of the Mercury and Advertiser being nearly five times that of any other paper published in the County of Wellington, business men and others would study their own interests by advertising in the Mercury and Advertiser.

FACTS FOR ADVERTISERS.

In this, as in everything else, the best papers will command the best prices. It is cheaper to pay 5s. for inserting your advertisements in a journal having a circulation of 5,000, than to pay 2s. for one that has only a circulation of 1,000. Of this you may be sure, that any journal that inserts advertisements too cheap, is, in fact, an almost worthless medium. If it were really a good one, it would have no need to lower its prices, for its sheet would be better filled without the sacrifice. You may lay it down as a rule that every journal knows its value, and that if it adopts low prices it is because it is conscious that it has a low circulation in number or respectability.—Wilson's Hand-book for Advertisers.

RAILWAY TIME TABLE.

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY.

Trains leave Guelph as follows:

2:17 a.m.; 9:45 a.m.; 1:50 p.m.; 6:00 p.m.; 8:33 p.m. To London, Goderich and Detroit. To Berlin.

—EAST—

8:05 a.m.; 8:10 a.m.; 11 a.m.; 4:12 p.m.; and 8:33 p.m.

GREAT WESTERN—GUELPH BRANCH

Going south—6:40 a.m.; 1 p.m.; 2:30 p.m.; and 4:38 p.m.

Going north—11:35 a.m. for Southampton; mixed 1:15 p.m. for Palmerston; 6 p.m. for Fergus; 9:30 p.m. for Fergus.

ALTERATION OF PREMISES

GOODS SELLING

REGARDLESS OF COST.

RICHD 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 CASH 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.

Dress Goods in Endless Variety at any price.

MANTLES AND SHAWLS WILL BE SOLD TO SUIT EVERY ONE.

BLANKETS, LACE CURTAINS, BREAKFAST SHAWLS, SHEETINGS, WINDOW HOLLANDS, CROSSOVERS, QUILTS, CLOUDS, &c. &c. &c.

Ladies, the above Goods can all be seen by calling at

THE CASH STORE,

Upper Wyndham Street.

No goods advertised but can be seen. Give us a call.

RICHARD CLAYTON,

UPPER WYNDHAM STREET

Guelph, Jan. 3, 1874

Co-Operative Store.

ARRIVAL OF NEW GOODS

OUR NEW TWEEDS

Were selected from six different houses, therefore we have a choice lot to choose from. We employ a Tailor.

NEW COTTONS

Horrockses Bleached Cottons, soft finish; also, Linen finished Cottons, all prices. Dundas and Lybster Cottons in stock.

NEW PRINTS

Hoyles & Ashton's Fancy Prints will be offered at 12½ cents per yard.

NEW BOOTS AND SHOES

For style, finish and durability will be found superior to former years. Ladies' Prunella Boots 75c per pair.

J. C. MACKLIN & Co.

GUELPH, March 2, 1874

12lbs. of Good Bright Sugar for \$1.

CHOICE IMPERIAL

New Crop Teas 50c. per lb

J. E. McELDERRY:

2 DAY'S BLOCK,

THE NOTED TEA HOUSE

FRESH FISH

RECEIVED DAILY PER EXPRESS.

- Fresh Cod, Fresh Haddock, Fresh Flounders,
- " Lobsters, " Herrings, " Salmon Trout,
- " Speckled Trout, Fresh Oysters, cans full.

HUGH WALKER,

Wyndham-st., Guelph.

Guelph, Feb. 19, 1874