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A TALE

LADY GEORGINA FULLERTON.

CHAPTER V.

He pointed to a large green Morocco chair, telling her to sit down, and standing himself opposite to her with his back to the fire, he cleared his throat two or three times, and then said abruptly .-

"I have received a letter this morning which obliges me to speak to you on a subject which has never yet been mentioned between us."

Margaret took Ebro's front paws and

placed them on her lap.

"I know not," he continued, "what impression it will make upon you. Should it be unfavorable, I trust you will not let me perceive it, for I would

should it be unfavorable, I trust you want when she was somewhat it be unfavorable, I trust you will not let me perceive it, for I would scarcely forgive any ungracious feeling and an occasion.

To command graciousness is certainly not the most likely mode of obtaining it, and as Margaret bent her head down over the shaggy forelead of the Newfoundland dox, a slight seedling swelling at her heart responded to this unlikely exhortation.

"You are, of course, aware that you have a sister?"

"Haye I?" Margaret exclaimed, as her cheeks grew crimson, and her eves filled with tears, and Ebro snatched away his paws which she had unconsciously pressed too hard.

"Cannot suppose," her father sternly continued, "that your relations have kept you in gnorance on this point; and among those moral obligations, in which, as I am assured, you have been carriedly in intructed, I should hope that the duty of receiving your sister with kindness and affection, may be prominent in your estimation." The tone in which, has I am assured, you have been carriedly instructed, I should hope that the duty of receiving your sister with kindness and affection, may be prominent in your estimation." The tone in which have failed and the province of the first space, and exclaimed in a transport of delight, "Then I have a sister!" Let me see her! Let me go to her!" but her heart was welling at that moment with their matural course, she would probably have flung her arms round her father simples and been left in such as a swelling at that moment with the manner in which it had been made in the manner in which it had been made in the manner in which it had been made in the manner in which it had been made in the manner in which it had been made in the manner in which it had been made in the manner in which it had been made me feel for a moment as it had you say."

"I have always loved the meaning pain at my low the manner in which it had been made me feel for a moment as it had the made me feel for a moment as it had the made me feel for a moment a

me: but for strangers, whether related to me or not, I feel nothing but indiffer-Colonel Leslie's brow darkened, and

he answered sternly-

"I regret to find that such as your feelings; but although they may not be under your control, your actions are, and I must request you to bear in mind that on the manner in which you treat your sister, whose acquaintance you will soon make, will in a great measure depend my regard for yourself."
"I ought gratefully to accept any

means that may serve to open to me the way to your regard!" as she pro-nounced these words her emotion almost choked her, but she made an effort, an unfortunate one, for it was wounded feeling had begun the sentonce, and it was irritated temper that finished it, and added—"however un-welcome in themselves they may be." Colonel Leslie bit his lip, and said

calmly, but with bitterness,—
"Allow me to hope that these amiable by others. I suppose they are the result of the instructions which Walter Sydney

father, and he looked at her with greater

You do not perhaps know, Margaret,' he said, "that there is a foul and noxous weed which can embitter and stain the purest and the sweetest fountains. Prejudice is its name, and one drop of it will turn to gall the milk of human sindness even in the gentlest natures. Walter's prejudices have so often taken the form of virtues, that at last they have become identified with them in his mind, and if you have imbibed them, I can only lament the day when I consigned you to his friendly care."
"I could almost find it in my heart to

join in that regret," returned Margaret, "for it is perhaps dangerons to one's happiness to be loved with a tenderness which nothing can surpass, and, to see before one, day by day, the example of a goodness which throws all other merits into the shade, and which makes the coldness and hardness of the world so strange and so repugnant."
"I am sorry to hear you have found

the world so cold and so hard. Indeed,

D.J I fancied you were only just out of the schoolroom: but these perhaps are Walter's phra's; as I would fain hope that some of your sentiments are borrowed from him."

"There is a phrase of his," she returned, "which I have noticed and remembered,—"The world is to each of us that scene of action where we meet with our first sorrows, and encounter our first temptations, and that may be in the solitude of our chambers, or in the midst of our family." I have met with my world to-day."

She pronounced these last words so inaudibly that they escaped Colonel Leslie's attention, and he resumed in a dry and measured tone,

As we cannot enter into each other's feelings, we had better confine ourselves to matters of fact. However unwelcome the intelligence may be to you, I must inform you that your sister will soon arrive in England, and of course soon after at Grantley. I trust that by that time you will have made up your mind to re-ceive her, if not with affection, at least with kindness."

The cold manner in which this was said was lost on Margaret. Her face was hid in her hands, torrents of tears were forcing their way through her slight Ingers, while her breast heaved with uncontrollable emotion. "My sister!" no "distillery building will be on my sister!" she repeated two or three times, and if Colonel Leslie could have read into her heart of his weeping and another the world over a matched the world have snatched the world over the worl egitated child, he would have snatched the world over.

GRANTLEY MANOR, her to his bosom, and the icy wall which had erected itself between them would have melted in the emotion of that hour like snow in the sunshine. But Silence -Silence-that fearful engine of good and of evil,-by turns the sacred guardian of our worst passions, stood between them; and Colonel Leglie turned Author of "Lady Bird," "Ellen Middleton," &c away and left the room with a clouded

side, gazing into her face with that an-xious expression with which he always vatched every turn of her countenanca That he should be actually there at the very moment when she was somewhat poetically addressing him in her excite-

heart, on the day when I first heard of my sister. Why did you not tell me about her? I shall begin soon to think you unkind too, Walter."

"Perhaps I ought to have prepared you for this, Margaret; but your father's second marriage—"
"Stop—O yes—I understand—my head is so confused—yes, I see my father married again, or I could not have had a sister. When did he marry? When When did he marry? Whom a sister. did he marry?"
"He married very soon after your

mother's death, (a deep but quickly-suppressed sigh was breathed by Walter as he said this) and his second wife—"
"Was an Italian, was she not?" inter-

rupted Margaret; "why have we never seen her? Tell me all about it."

"We know but little on the subject, Margaret. She died two years after her marriage, and during her lifetime there was little communication between your father and any of us. You know that with the exception of one short visit, he has ever since remained constantly ab-Sent iments have been suggested to you by others. I suppose they are the result to me, or, as far as I know, to any one there, about his second marriage. I did there, about his second marriage. of the instructions which waiter sydney has so sedulously bestowed upon you!"

Margaret's eyes flashed fire at this myself that even if his daughter were still alive he had the intention of bringing her to England. As I tought you were ignorant "You do not know Walter Sydney! you can never have known him, or you could not for an instant have supposed which might have only disturbed your mind, and concerning which I felt my that any thing but what was good and true and kind was suggested by him?"

Her energy seemed to please her Her energy seemed to please her "Perhaps I do; tough I think we might

have puzzled over it together. My sister must be much younger than me." "She must be about seventeen, I think,' replied Walter; "her birth was formally announced to us at the time."

"And what is her name? do you know that?

"Ginevra, I believe. Her mother's

name was Ginevra Ferrari." "It is a pretty name. I wonder if she is pretty! I do long to see her! How d fferently I feel now from what I did when my father was speaking to me! It is like the reverse of that pretty passage in

'Cosi a l'egro fanciful progiamo aspersi Di soave licor gli orli del vasso, &c.' The bitterness was on the edge of this

cup, and the deep, deep sweetness within."

"I hope you will let your father see that you have found it so." Margaret smiled, and pressed the tip

of her tongue on her lips.
"I am afraid of tasting the bitterness again when I speak to him. But, Walter, how glad I am I learned Italian! Do you think that Ginevra speaks English? I shall be afraid of speaking Italian to her! What will grandmamma say to all this, and Mrs. Dalton who thinks, I believe. that foreigners stand between English people and monkeys, as her favorite sea-auemones between animals and vegetables? But then, of course, papa's doughter is not quite a foreigner. Is she, Wal-

ter?

What Walter answered to this was somewhat indistinct; and at that moment a servant entered to summon Margaret to the drawing-room, where some visiters had arrived, whom she hurried to receive with as much civility as was consistent with her extreme annovance at their appearance. Walter followed her; and the new-comers little dreamed, as for half an hour they made small talk to the inhabitants of Grantly Manor, that there was not one of them whose that there was not one of them shows thaughts were not as distant as possible from county balls, parish meetings, and even boards of guardians, subjects to which Mr. Thornton was seldom wholly insensible, but which were now blended with visions of orange-groves and black eyes, to him, indeed, far less attractive; but, at that moment, strange to say, more engrossing,

(To be Continued.)

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The Publishers of the Ladies' Home Magazine presents its great Bible Competition to the public of America. This Competition closes on May 3014, 1893 (15 days therenite being allowed for letters to reach us from distant points).

QUESTIONS:—1. Which is the longest bool in the New Testament? 2. Which is the shortest? 3. The longest verse? 4. The shortest?

orow and a trubled spirit, while his daughter clasped her hands together, and with passionate vehemence exclaimed—

"Sister! Sister! I have yearned for thee by day, and dreamed of thee by night! and now the thought of thee has come like a dark cloud in a sunny sky. It haunts, it bewilders, it oppresses me. Dear Walter, come to me. Speak to me—you love me, Walter; you care for me. Never leave me, Walter was by beside gazing.

"Side gazing."

"A The longest verse? 4. The shortest?

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