

The Foster Brother; OR The Orphan of the Wreck.

CHAPTER X. THE NEW REGIMENT—LITTLE GEORGEY SAYS "Oh!"—MATTHEW GREIGSON IS PROVIDED FOR.

"Did you notice that child?" said the latter in an animated tone. "Child—what child?" asked Nathan, without turning round. "The child standing on the other side of the stream. That is the little orphan of the wreck—the only rational survivor of all the inmates of the doomed ship."

"Oh—yes; by the bye, the newspapers did speak of a child being rescued," returned Nathan, in what seemed an indifferent tone, though he still refrained from looking round. "Was that really the poor thing. How does he come to be here?"

"Mr. and Mrs. Bruce have adopted him, and mean to bring him up as their own. He was found in the arms of a man whom the horrors of the night had turned mad, and the dead body of the mother was lying beside them."

"Just so—I read all about it," said Nathan; "and do the Bruces really mean to keep the boy and bring him up?" "That is their intention. Very noble and generous—is it not?"

"Hum—well—they can please themselves, of course. I don't see how they were called on to take charge of the boy." "No call but the dictates of their own kind hearts," returned Mathew. "No trace can be found of his friends and relations. They have been advertised for, both in this country and Jamaica, and the owners of the Eglantine caused inquiries to be made at Kingston, but nothing at all could be learned. So the boy remains with Mr. and Mrs. Bruce."

"Wasn't the parish bound to take the burden?" "Oh, yes, of course; but they could not think of casting such a handsome well-born child on the parish, to be brought up in poverty and obscurity. His relations may be found yet, and who knows but they may be great folks—who knows but the little fellow may be the heir to an estate?"

"Bah," growled Nathan, quite savagely. "A pretty likely story that is, too. Curse it, I say, is this road never to end? Are we never to get out of this infernal ravine?"

"Turn to the right at the first branch of the path, and—"

Mathew was stopped by a clear voice on the other side of the stream calling on him by name, and the sound caused both of them to look across, to behold Kenneth Bruce standing on a knoll by the water's edge.

"Would you oblige me by coming across for a few minutes, Mr. Greigson?" said Kenneth. "I have a communication to make to you."

"Certainly, Mr. Bruce," answered Mathew, and was about to make a spring across the stream when Nathan abruptly stopped him.

"You can't go," he gruffly observed. "I have no time to waste just now, and I want you with me."

"I won't be a minute," said Mathew. "I will be back in five minutes, and overtake you presently."

"I tell you, you shan't," cried Nathan, in a loud imperious tone. "You are my servant as yet, I guess, and you shall do as I require."

"Your servant—your servant, Mr. Garret?" returned Mathew, indignantly. "Of course you are—up to the moment you are paid off; so if you want your wages, you'll follow me instantly."

"Never mind at present, Mr. Greigson," said Kenneth. "The communication I have to make can be deferred till the evening. Come over at eight and have a bit of supper with us."

"Thank you, sir; I shall not fail to come," responded Mathew, and turned to follow in the steps of Garret who was now half-way up the slope.

The communication which Kenneth had to make to Mathew when he appeared at Mossgrove in the evening was a highly agreeable one to the factor. It was to the effect that he and Lucy, with the children, were soon to remove permanently to Edinburgh, where it was necessary that Kenneth should have his fixed abode, for the sake of progress in his profession, and it was now proposed that Mathew should become the farmer of Mossgrove, at a moderate rent. Nothing could suit Mathew better at the present juncture, seeing that he was deprived of the factorship of Ardgowan. It was, indeed, the rumour to this effect which prompted Kenneth to make the proposal, though it was an arrangement which would prove advantageous to both parties. Mathew would enter on a quiet, remunerative occupation, and Kenneth would secure a good tenant for his property.

When they parted that night everything was settled to the entire satisfaction of both parties, and in two weeks from that time Kenneth and his little household had removed to Edinburgh; and Mathew Greigson had entered on the tenantry of Mossgrove, at a rent of one hundred and fifty pounds a year.

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ALL GOODS WILL BE SOLD AT YOUR OWN PRICES, REGARDLESS OF COST.

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Call at the Guelph Hat, Cap and Fur Store, and See for Yourself. D. BYRNE, Guelph March 23, 1872. Wyndham Street, Guelph.

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E. O'DONNELL & Co.

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And every other article in the Grocery Line is GREATLY REDUCED IN PRICE AT E. O'DONNELL & CO. Guelph, May 15, 1872. Wyndham Street, Guelph.

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AT GREATLY REDUCED RATES

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Gentlemen will do well to leave their Orders as soon as possible.

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Through Passage Tickets, Return Tickets European Pre-paid Passage Certificates issued lowest rates.

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Guelph, May 27, 1872.

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BARGAINS WILL BE GIVEN

Until the whole stock is sold off.

The Jobbing Business will be carried on to a fuller extent than ever.

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Guelph Feb. 13, 1872.

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