The Braes of Yarrow

Historical Tale of the Lixteenth Century.

'You know my name?'
'Yes, and I know too that you were a brave squire to the bravest knight in your late King's service.'
'Our late King—are you sure he is dead?'
'The world says so.'
Gilbert turned sway his head breathing heavily, and the Chevalier pressed his hand as if in sympathy with his grief.
'But we will not speak of him now,' continued the latter, with a slight tremor in his woice. 'Tell me of your family.'
'I have none. All that I am I owe to Sir Walter Spens, who found me friendless, and became almost a father to me. All that I hope to be I will owe to a strong arm and a good sword.'
'And a generous heart. Well, perhaps I

hope to be I will owe to a strong arm and a good sword.

'And a generous heart. Well, perhaps I will be able to help you forward more than you think. We shall see. For the present I will secure the aslety of the child. What other need have you?

'Procure me a horse.'

'There is one at hand.'

'That is all I seek. For the rest, I will rescue Lady Spens or die. Stay, there is one favor more.'

'Let me know it.'

'Should I fail to return here in three days, or to send for the child, will you get her conveyed to the Queen?'

The Chevalier started, but instantly resumed his quiet imperturbable manner.

till we meet again.'
'That may be soon.'
'I pray that it may be, for then my lady will be safe.'

"I pray that it may be, for then my lady will be sate."

There was a timid knock at the door, and when it was opened Andrew Howie, loooking pale and frightened, entered hesitatingly.—

He was acquainted with the reputed character of the woman who dwelt here, he was al armed by the singular appearance of the Chevalier Night, and nothing but his dread of being bewitched or cursed in some way prevented him refusing bluntly to leave Aly in such daugerous keeping. As it was, he mumbled a good deal in a shy scared way.—

He wished to stay, and yet he wished to accompany Gilbert, for he had seen Tushielaw and his party passing down the Yarrow side with the captured lady. At length he decided to accompany Gilbert, and the two speed-ily set out upon the expedition, leaving little Aly to the care of the Chevalier in the house of Kirsty Hyslop, who was known as the Witch of Merlin's Cairn.

CEMPER N.—THE REVELAT TUSHIELAW.

CHAPTER V .-- THE REVEL AT TUSHIELAW.

Hark the loud revel wakes again To great the leader of the train. Behold the group by the pale lamp By what strange features vice hath known To single out and mark her own—Rokeby.

By what strange features vice hath known To single out and mark her own **Rokeby**. Rising upon a declivity from the banks of the Ettrick water at its junction with the Raukle Burn stood the tower of Tushielaw. A grim, bare, and strong fortress, every stone of which might have borne testimony to some special outrage.

Had light and noisy mirth been capable of conferring any degree of geniality upon the tower, there was enough of both upon the second night after the raid of Halstaneto have given it as hospitable an appearance as ever weary wayfarer might wish to see.

The raid had been a lucky one, and so revel ran high in the greet hall of Tushielaw.—Fatted oxen had been roasted whole, and with the help of Selkirk bannocks had formed the substantial portion of a rare feast.—Then good strong ale flowed freely, the dice rattled, the joke passed, and the laugh rung loudly against the walls. Louder than the loudest rang the hoarse laugh of Gilpin Horner, as, perched upon the table, with lega crossed tailor-wise, he watched the play between Dina'-doon, Eddie Craig and Yetholm Will.

The dwarf, being allowed considerable

ner, as, perched upon the table, with legs erossed tailor-wise, he watched the play between Din-a'-doon, Eddie Craig and Yetholm Will.

The dwarf, being allowed considerable freedom of speech, was never slow to make a jest at the expense of any of his comrades; but he seemed to take special delight in turning the laugh against the chief's foster brother. Little men generally envy tail ones their height; and possibly Hornie felt most pleasure in attacking the glant because he had a spite against his superior height. At all events, the two were always quarrelling, or rather, Hornie was always goading Ding-a'-doon into a passion.

With a slow, surly, drunken air Ding-a'-doon threw the dice, and twice the had lost. 'Eh, what a big bead and what awfu' wes wits,' erosked the dwarf,' I wouldna gie ye muckle for your share o' yesterday's wark, my braw big Pate.''

Big Pate scowled at him, but said nothing until he lost again, when he gave vent to his waxation in an oath.

'Haw, haw, haw,' roared Hornie, 'let me play for ye, man, or y'll no hae a bodle's worth lett.'

'I'll ding the head aff ye if ye speak again,' growled Ding-a'-doou.

It's nae muckle better than yer ain that ye'd maybe like the lent o't.'

Pate was in a rage, and what with his losses and the laugh his comrades took at his exaense, he had some cause. So he up with his sledge-hammer fist and aimed a blow at his tormentor. Whereupon Hornie, with an impish skirl of glee, threw up his legs, received the blow on the softest part of his body, and rolled heels over head from the table to the floor, his gymnastics affording merriment to the company, and still further energing his gignatic enemy.

'Hoots, man, let the deil mind his ain beim,' suggested Yetholm Will, 'and ye come and finish our game.'

Salkily the offended Ding-a'-doon complied with the request of his friend; and presently becoming interested forgot the dwarf.—The latter had remained singularly quiet under the table, and those who observed the circumstance concluded some mischief was going forwa

ecordingly,

'He's no playing fair,' shouted Hornie, those big head just appeared above the oard as he was standing on the floor.

Pate started at the sound of his tormentor's

voice.
'Haud your chaff, Hornie, or I'll clip the tongue o'ye, though I would nae like to mar sic a puir wee wretch.
Here the dwarf was hit upon his vulnerable part, for, singular enough, the one thing he could not bear to be jested about was his

deformity.

**Big Pate would hae stuck i' the Tarass
**Big Pate would hae stuck i' the Tarass
**Big Pate would han pitied him and
pu'ed him out, puir soul, for his legs dinna
carry muckle wit.

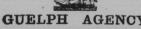
**Pate shook his fist at him.

**Giff get my hands on ye

**Would ye fecht?—come on. TO BE CONTINUED

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