FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME JOURNAL, WINNIPEG



1152

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had first called for a decanter of Cognac, which is never mistaken, though their and when it was brought to him he contact be but for a second of time : it suddenly thrust it back and would not anticipates the strong grasp of love taste it. "He would not drink even which will ere long embrace body and Jove's nectar in the Manor House, he soul in adamantine chains of a union Jove's nectar in the Manor House, he sout in the bebroken even by death, said; but would go down to the villagt not to be broken even by death, where Satan mixed the drink for If Pierre Philibe retained the hand said; but would go down to the vinage If Pierre Philibe retained the nand where Satan mixed the drink for If Pierre Philibe retained the nand thirsty souls like his! Poor Le Gar- of Amelia for one second longer than deur!" continued Felix, "you must mere friendship required of him, no one perceived it but God and themselves. Discrete felt it like a revelation — the ing, mademoiselle !"

tion. She hastened at once to seek her unwillingly, to his manly grasp. He brother, whom she found walking im- looked in her face. Her eyes were patiently in the garden, slashing the averted, and she withdrew her hand heads off the poppies and dahlias within quietly but gently, as not upbraiding reach of his riding-whip. He was equip- him. ped for a ride, and waited the coming of the groom with his horse.

face with a smile, exclaimed, "Do not regard for the other. go to the village yet, Le Gardeur! Wait for us!'

petite. I thought a ride to the village would give me one.

"Wait until after breakfast, brother, when we will all go with you to meet our friends who come this morning to Tilly, coming to see you and Pierre Philibert; you must be there to welcome her, gallants are too scarce to allow her to spare the handsomest of all, my own that moment that Amelie de Repentigny brother

Amelia divined the truth from Le Gardeur's restless eyes and haggard look that a fierce conflict was going on in his breast between duty and desire, ---whether he should remain at home, or go to the village to plunge again into he did not dare to give himself the sweet the sea of dissipation out of which he assurance of it, nor did Amelie herself had just been drawn to land half-drowned and utterly desperate.

Amelie resolved not to leave his side but to cleave to him, and inch by inch to fight the demons which possessed him until she got the victory

Le Gardeur looked fondly in the face of Amelia. He read her thoughts, and was very conscious why she wished him not to go to the village. His account that his companions were so feelings gave way before her love and tenderness. He suddenly embraced her and kissed her cheeks, while the tears stood welling in his eyes. "I am not worthy of you, Amelie," said he; much sisterly care is lost upon me !" "Oh, say not that, brother," replied

she, kissing him fondly in return. would give my life to save you, O my

Amelie was greatly moved, and for a time unable to speak further; she laid her head on his shoulder, and sobbed audibly. Her love gained the victory where remonstrance and opposition would have lost it.

You have won the day, Amelie !" said he; "I will not go to the village except with you. You are the best and truest girl in all Christendom'! Why is there no other like you ? If there were, this curse had not come upon me, nor this trial upon you, Amelie ! You are my good angel, and I will try, oh, so faithfully try, to be guided by you ! If of the arbors with books and conver-you fail, you will at least have done all cation: they would ride in the forest,

Founded 1866

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Monsieur Le Gardeur had just ordered sending the blood to her cheeks. There his horse to ride to the village. He is a magnetic touch in loving fingers

ag, mademoiselle !" Pierre felt it like a revelation — the Amelie was startled at this informa- hand of Amelie yielding timidly, but not

That moment of time flashed a new influence upon both their lives : it was Amelia ran up, and clasping his arms the silent recognition that each was with both hands as she looked up in his henceforth conscious of the special

There are moments which contain the whole quintessence of our lives. - our "Not go to the village yet, Amelia?" loves, our hopes, our failures, in one replied he; "why not? I shall return for breakfast, although I have not ap-misery. We look behind us and see that our whole past has led up to that infinitesimal fraction of time which is the consummation of the past in the present, the end of the old and the beginning of the new. We look for-- our cousin Heloise de Lotinbiniere is ward from the vantage ground of the present, and the world of a new revelation lies before us.

Pierre Philibert was conscious from vas not indifferent to him, — nay, he had a ground of hope that in time she would listen to his pleadings, and at last bestow on him the gift of her priceless love.

His hopes were sure hopes, although as yet suspect how far her heart was irrevocably wedded to Pierre Philibert.

Deep as was the impression of that moment upon both of them, neither Philibert nor Amelie yielded to its influence more than to lapse into a momentary silence, which was relieved by Le Gardeur, who, suspecting not the 'cause, - nay, thinking it was on his unaccountably grave and still, kindly endeavored to force the conversation upon a number of interesting topics, and directed the attention of Philibert to various points of the landscape which suggested reminiscences of his former visits to Tilly

The equilibrium of conversation was restored, and the three, sitting down on a long, flat stone, a boulder which had dropped millions of years before out of an iceberg as it sailed slowly out of the glacial ocean which then covered the place of New France, commenced to talk over Amelie's programme of the previous night, the amusements she had planned for the week, the friends in all quarters they were to visit, and the friends from all quarters they were to receive at the Manor House. These topics formed a source of fruitful comment, as conversation on our friends always does. If the sun shone hot and fierce at noontide in the dog-

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your duty towards your erring brother." "Le Brun !" cried he to the groom

who had brought his horse, and to whom he three whip which had made such havoc among flowers, "lead Black Cæsar to the stable again ! and hark you ! when I bid you bring him out in the early morning another time, lead flattered herself that she would quite him to me unbridled and unsaddled, with only a halter on his head, that I may ride as a clown, not as a gentle-

grooms in the stable, he believed his blood in the clear pool. young master had gone mad.

Amelie, overjoyed at her victory, tripped gaily by the side of her brother Tilly. He saw the water standing in and presently two friendly hands, her eyes, when a consciousness of what the hands of Pierre Philibert, were must be her feelings seized him; he extended to greet her and Le Gardeur., grew her to his side, asked her forgive-The hand of Amelie was retained for mess, and wished fire were set to the a moment in that at Pierre It.

or embark in their canoes for a row up the bright little river; there would be dinners and diversions for the day, music and dancing for the night.

The spirits of the inmates of the Manor House could not help but be kept up by these expedients, and Amelie succeed in dissipating the gloomy thoughts which occupied the mind of Le Gardeur.

They sat on the stone by the brook-Le Brun stared at this speech, and side for an hour, conversing pleasantly finally regarded it as a capital joke, or while they watched the speckled trout. else, as he whispered to his fellow- dart like silver arrows spotted with dart like silver arrows spotted with

"Pierre Philibert," continued Amelie, teased Amelie in playfully criticizing "is down at the salmon pool. Let her programme, and, half in earnest, good morning once more at Tilly." Amelie, overloved at her victory and to these of the Manor House of Le Gardeur strove to be gay, and ant to those of the Manor House of a moment in that of Pierre Philibert, Palace and himself in the midst of it !