AY, FEBRUARY 22, 1902.

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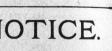
nt of Canada at its preawrence Ship Canal Com an act declaring the corowers of the Company I force and extending the the competion of the conof the Canal and amend-Company's Act in such remay be necessary for its

JOIE & LACOSTE. Attorneys for the Company. al, Feb. 8th, 1902.

NOTICE.

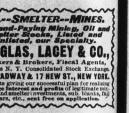
ontreal & Southern Counties Company will apply to the ent of Canada at its pre-ssion, for an act extending ay for the construction of way, enabling the Company ny motive power; to make ons with other railways on nd of Montreal and elseo make agreements with mpanies; to construct, mainoperate vessels, vehicles, and other buildings, and to of the same, and amending pany's Act in such respects be necessary for its pur-

JOIE & LACOSTE. Attorneys for the Company. al, Feb. 8th, 1902.



will be presented to the Legislature, at its next sesmodify the charter of the gnie Hypothecaire" (56 h. 76), by translating the the Company in the English into "The Mortgage Comand by defining the costs of ation mentioned in Article 72 charter

eal. 25th January, 1902.

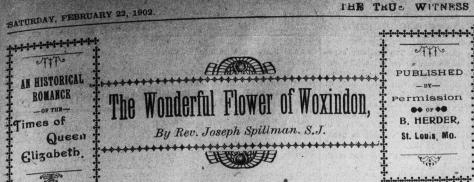


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----this did not put Topcliffe in a better temper. After he had given a pull to Windsor's moustache to ascertain whether it was due to na-ture or to art, he left him alone, night. but made a rush at Uncle Remy, exclaiming loudly: You were stand-ing at the window of the "Three Tuns" beside the Jesuit this morning. You must surely know where is. I know for certain that he rode away in your company. And if he you do not instantly tell me, you shall be thrown into the Tower tomorrow morning, and before tomorrow evening you shall make acquaintance with the rack, and perhaps get a foot or so added to your length as you lay."

Give me time to get my breath again, Master Topcliffe," my uncle answered with perfect good humor "I am chocking; and no wonder, for, upon my word, never did I see a more able valet-de-chambre than you have proved to my friend Windsor,will not deny that I was in the 'Three Tuns'' this morning, and that I witnessed from one of the windows, the shameful conduct of your underlings and your preachers. Somebody may have stood by me in a green doublet; they are common ough in London, and until I heard that to wear that color was high treason by Act of Parliament - for nothing of the sort is too preposterous in these happy times, under the blessing enjoyed under the new Gospel-I shall not pay great heed to color of a man's doublet. Of this much I can at any rate assure you, and I am prepared to assert it upon my oath, that no one else was with me when I rode out of London this afternoon except my good friends, these gentlemen here pre sent. Your spies have either been misled by the dress Mr. Windson happened to be wearing, or else they have put you on a false track, because they considered the price of blood you offered them to be insufficient pay.'

Topcliffe would most probably have proceeded to ransack the house after his wont, knocking holes in the walls, upsetting all the furniture, plundering the storehouse and cellar, going off with his men after two days without having made any discovery, but not without a good deal of stolen booty, if something quite unanticipated had not occur red, namely the sudden seizure of my father with a mortal sickness During the judicial examination of our guests, and the war of words which ensued, our attention had. I am grieved and somewhat ashamed to say, been diverted from my good father, who sat bent down in his arm-chair. All at once I heard him draw a deep breath as if in pain. and looking round, I saw the ghast ly hues of death gathering on the face I loved so well, while his hand was pressed convulsively to his left 'Look at father, look at father!" I ejaculated, throwing myself on my knees at his feet. "He is dying!" Anne exclaimed. Grandmother and the others also knelt down to hea by his side and began to pray death.

It may well be imagined that all | After that, Windsor said we must | serving-men had assassinated a felput my father to bed, and hot poulsy at that very spot, and had been tices and mustard plasters must be hung as the punishment of put on, and renewed during the crime, on the oak that stdod Then a truly diabolical thought suggested itself to Topthe crossways. Since that time the cliffe. He had been looking on with place had been haunted; on moon light nights two black dogs with rather a shamefaced mien while we were engrossed with the invalid eyes like glowing coals, had ' been seen chasing one another round the now he came forward and said if Mr. Bellamy required our attention stem of the oak, till the castle-clock continually that night, he would not interfere, but he must be alstruck one, when they instantly disappeared. Whether this lowed to choose the room which he idle talk, and the two dogs were really village curs at play in the was to occupy. We all believed this moonlight; or whether, as old Boswas an act of hateful tyranny only done for the pleasure of annoying grave, and many persons, whose us, and Uncle Remy spoke sharply opinion was worth more than hers sserted, the souls of the 1wo unto him about it, saying he wonde happy serving-men wandered about ed that he could take such a liberty in the presence of sickness, under that form, is a question which threatening to lodge a complaint I cannot decide. But one thing I will say, that nothing could have induced me to go by night and against him before the Privy Coun-

cil. But . Topcliffe persisted what he had said, treating my in alone to that uncanny spot. cle's threats with the utmost con-Now Frith was only ten years old tempt. And when we asked him so no wonder the poor little fellow's since he took it upon himself to behair stood on end, when just as he have as master of Woxindon, where stepped on to the cross road, and was his pleasure that my father caught sight of the old oak in the should be taken, to our surprise he moonlight, he beheld a great black named the upper chamber, where dog not ten feet in front of him. We tried to persuade him afterthe wonderful flower grew in the ceiling. Former researches wards, that it was nothing more made him intimately acquainted than the shadow of a large with every in and out of our man thrown across his path, but he persion, and we had no doubt at all, sisted that it was a real dog, not a shadow to which his own fears gave that he had his reasons for selecting that chamber for the sick room the form of a phantom. I will not but what those reasons were. I was assert that he was mistaken, at a loss to devine. it is quite possible that the evil However, for the present, there as Father Weston declared, one, might have tried to frighten little

was nothing to be done but to make up a bed for father in the room indicated. As soon as all was in readiness, Uncle Remy took up his prother in his stalwart arms and carried him up the two flights tairs like a child. There we laid him on the bed prepared for him, exactly under the spot were the wonderful flower grew.

CHAPTER V.-Before proceeding to narrate the occurrences of that night, I must say a few words about the adventures little Frith met with. I have already said that the boy let himself down from a casement in the hall into the garden below. The jump did no harm, the distance was only a few feet, he had often jumped as far or farther. He then ran nimbly along the terrace and behind the yew hedges which border the way to the gate. It must have been through an inspiration of Providence that he went over the soft earth, not on the hard gravel, otherwise his footsteps would have been heard by the guard which Topcliffe had stationed at the garden gate. The pursuivants had taken old Thomas, the porter, by surprise, as they did once before, and set a watch at the gate, believing it to be the only means of egress, before Topcliffe and the rest of his party slipped into the house. This they could not have done without being observed, had not almost all the servants been assembled in the ball, to hear the account of the martyr's

little Frith get Now

THE THUS WITNESS AND OATHOLIO CHRONICLE

ATTO

.....

YAY'

legend was

branch

since

Frith, in order that the priest

might fall into the hands of the pur-

suivants. However, that may be.

fast as I could. Not so Frith; he

voked his guardian angel and the

Blessed Mother of God, then laying

his hand on the little cross he al-

fragment of the true cross, with the

ran towards the ghostly dog, or

whichever it was, though he trem-

bled from head to foot. His bravery

was rewarded, for as he went for-ward the phantom slunk away

mong the undergrowth and vanish-

Just then a cloud covered the face

of the moon, and under the trees it

was so dark that the boy, who was

confused by the fright he had had,

could not find his way. In his per-

plexity he knelt down and said an

Our Father; scarcely had he finished

the last word when he heard horses

hoofs approaching through the wood,

and then voices, one of which he recognized as that of our old servor

John. He hastened in the direction

whence they came, and met the rid-

ers at no great distance from the

crossway. The old serving-man was

much startled at hearing a child's

darkness, and blessed himself in the

old-fashioned way, with the words

next moment convinced him that it

was no apparition, but his young

But the

voice calling to him out of

"All good spirits, etc."

ed in the darkness.

sweet name of Jesus on his lips, he

ways wore, and which contained a

know I should have run away

showed wonderful courage; he

apartment he struck a light. lit a small oil lamp that stood in a deep recess in the wall, drew his panion's attention to a bed of dried leaves in the corner, showed him a kind of cupboard contrived in th masonry, which contained some provisions, and finally entreated not to quit this hiding place, until through the boy or some trusty messenger, he received tidings of Top cliffe's departure. This done, John left the vault, pushed the stone back carefully over the entrance, and told •]•]•]•]•]•]•]•]•]•]•]•]•]•]•]•]• Frith they should now make, their way back to the main road, and to gether ride straight up to the garden gate, as if they had just come from London. He also said that he meant to behave as if he his taken a little too much, for the sake at of deceiving the guard, and getting

See .

out much ado. This was no sooner said than done. Frith mounted the priest's horse, a gentle animal, which trotted along behind old John, who as he neared the gate, began to sing snatches of drinking songs live a man in his cups, so that Topcliffe's men heard him coming from afar. Nor were they long in giving him admittance, with a good laugh at his expense. But the captain could not refrain from rebuking, in a few forcible words from Holy Scripture, the old popish sinner who was so intoxicated that he could hardly keep his seat in the saddle.

himself and the horses home with

had

Such had been the adventures little Frith had met with. I need hardly say that he did not tell me all this that same evening, but cnly came to my side when father was being carried upstairs, and pulled my sleeve, whispering : "It is all right." And even this one word, which took at least one load off my mind, nearly got me into fresh trouble; for Topcliffe, who had eyes before and behind flew like a have upon the boy, asking him what was all 'right, and where he had been Frith did not let himself be put out of countenance; he boldly replied In the hall, had he not seen him there? and with this answer he got off. for just at that moment Topcliffe's attention was diverted to something else.

When we had put my father to bed in the spacious room upstairs, beneath the very spot, as I already remarked, where the wonderful flower grew, Topcliffe took Windsor aside, and put a few questions to him. Immediately after, he announced his intention of quartering himself upon us, with all his men. For the latter beer was to be served in the hall, with bread and meat, or whatever else we had in the house: for himself, as he was tired out, he would sleep upon a sack of straw upstairs, it would be time enough next morning to make a thorough search in the house. Uncle Barthy, good old soul, volunteered to play the to our unbidden guests, while Uncle Remy took the young gentlemen to his own apartments. Grandmother and Anne withdrew into the adjoining chamber, to which there was no access except through the sick-room, where some easy chairs and cushions had been brought for their accommodation. At Windsor's request the door of communication was left open so that they might be called a moment, should any change in take place in his patient's condition I was to remain with my father during the first half of the night, to help to nurse him and heat the poultices which were to be renwed upor his chest every quarter of an hour I must acknowledge that the quiet,

told him his condition was most critical.

'Now I see through that wretch's sign," I went on. "Listen to me design He suspects that the priest whom he wants to seize, is somewhere in the neighborhood, or perhaps concealed in the house. He feels pretty certain that we shall risk everything for the sake of getting him for my father, that he may receive the last sacraments and be prepared for death, and he thinks he will thus entrap his victim. That is why he chose this room, which is quite at the top of the house and which there is only one door, for the sick chamber; he means it to be a regular trap, and I have no doubt while some o. his party are carousing in the hall, he has taken care to station others on the stairs, and is lying in wait himself close by, like a lynx on the watch for an unwary oebuck. You may be sure that the reason why he would not allow to take my father to his own apartment, which has three doors, is in communication with a and back staircase! I could not under stand it at first, now it is as clear

as day." Windsor listened to me attentively and asked me a few question, he acknowledge I was then right. He went to the window, to ascertain, as far as the darkness would allow, at what height it was from the ground, asking what the rooms were below. I answered they were my grandmother's, my sister's and my own. "That is fortunate," he remarked. "And under them?"- "The library." " That again is well. The height from the ground will be at most some 35 or 40 feet," he continued, asking me did I know whether there was a ladder of that length on the premises? I replied that there was one at the stables which would reach up to the roof. But why all these questions? We could not tell the servants to bring the ladder and put it against the house, still less could we send them to fetch the priest. - At the mention of the priest, Windsor asked if he was perhaps hidden somewhere in the house, where one might get at him without attracting the notice of the pursuivants. I answered, no; he was most probably lying hidden in the old castle, not more than five minutes walk from here; my little brother Frith knew the place exactly.

After questioning me in this wise Windsor paced up and down the room a few times without speaking. Then he stopped and said to me in a low voice : "Miss Bellamy, I have made a plan, a somewhat venturesome one, but not, I think, impos sible. In such a case as this one must be a little daring." He then asked me if I would help to get the priest into the house in defiance of Topcliffe, and this I promised to do most willingly, not indeed for the sake of defying Topcliffe, but for my poor father's spiritual benefit and consolation, provided the scheme was not too impossible of execu-He replied that the only, o tion. at least the chief difficulty that he foresaw was that of getting out of did I perhaps know whether there was a rope or a clothes line of surficient length anywhere on the pre mises? I told him there was a clothes line hanging up in the laun dry, and the laundry was not one of the outhouses, but under the roof, close to the kitchen. He begged me o endeavor to get the line, and bring it upstairs concealed under my frock, for if I could succeed in doing o, the first step would be taken in the accomplishment of our design. My little brother Frith could gently lowered to the ground by modest behavior of the young docmeans of the rope; he could cauto th tiously conduct the priest to the priest was being brogst could get house, and it would be easy for his I feel sure that the boy could get Beverance to get into the room by downstairs past the guard and out tiously conduct Reverence to get into the room by means of the ladder, and administer extreme unction to the sick man. I made all manner of objections to this scheme. First of all I said that it was out of the question for the priest, with no assistance but Frith's, to drag a heavy ladder to this spot, still more to plant it against the wall, while to wake the servants and get them to help Rould be incurring too great a risk. Windsor said he would himself slip down the rope and help the clergy. man .- But what, I asked, was to be done if Topcliffe persisted in demand-ing admittance to the chamber ing admittance to the chamber whilst the priest was in it?-" Then Windson we must bolt the door," replied, "until he had got down into the garden again, and the ladder was remoyed." One must trust mewhat to the help of Providence and of the good angels. The priest rould not be many minutes at his work, for under exceptional circum-stances such as these the sacrament could be administered in a few brief words.

he had taken into consideration the fact he would be making himself accessory to an action punishable by law with the severest penalties, im-prisonment or even worse? He looked up at me with a loyal, generous expression in his eyes, saying that were he condemned to eternal death for such a deed of Christian charity, he should rejoice to have been able to render this service to my father in his last illness. All my hesitation was now at an end : I forthwith took a lamp, to go down into the kitchen and fetch the rope, trusting to the divine protection. Windsor gave me some good advice as to what I should say if I met either Topcliffe or one of his myrmidons, and down stairs I went, although with a beating heart.

11

As I opened the door I fancied that the door of the opposite side moved slightly. As it was unoccupied, it struck me that Topcliffe or one of his men might be on the watch there, so I stepped up to it quickly, closed the door, locked it, for the key happened to be outside, and put the key into my pocket. Then I went on my way, as if it were the most natural thing in the world just to turn a key in a lock. On reaching the lowest step of the stairs, I all but stumbled on one of the pursuivants, and in my fright I uttered a scream, and nearly let my amp fall. The man who had been placed there to watch got up onto his feet, and asked me very crossly what I wanted there. I replied that I was obliged to go down to the kitchen, to fetch something the sick man needed, but what business had ne to be sleeping on the staircase at night? I could find a more easy couch for him than that. He told me I had better ask Topcliffe, whom must have met upstairs, what business he had to be there; then with a muttered oath he resumed his seat on the stairs, and leaning his head against the balusters, went off again into a heavy sleep, for he had evidently been drinking deeply. Thus I discovered that my suspicions were well founded. Topcliffe was, in fact, guarding the approach to the staircase and the sickroom with the design of seizing the priest in the act of administering the last sacraments. Had he not also stationed sentries outside the house as well? ' Certainly he might not consider that necessary, since he believed the priest to be already in the house. Yet it was possible, so I determined to step out of the kitchen door, which opened on to the garden, and just run round the castle I perceived nothing unusual, so I went upstairs again, after I had secured the rope and fastened it beneath my dress. For appearances' sake, I carried with me a jar of electuary, and this time I managed to pass the sleeping guard without disturbing his slumbers. As I went by door which I had locked, thought I saw the handle turned, as if some one were endeavoring to open it from the inside. It will readily be imagined that I was not disposed to assist him in this at-

tempt. Having got back in safety to the sick-room, my first question natu-rally was about my father. Windsor said his pulse was weaker, and his general condition such as not to justify us in putting off the anointing until the next night. I told him what I had done, and asked him whether it would not be the easier way to fetch the priest and bring him upstairs while the guard was asleep? After a few moments' liberation he said that if. as was probable, Topcliffe was the individual I had locked in the adjacent room, he would make a very devil of a noise when he heard steps to and fro on the stairs, and knew the of the doors to summon the Father if he went barefoot and took no light with him? We concluded that it would be best to let Frith himself answer this question: accordingly I went into the next room, where I found grandmother wide awake, while Anne and the boy had fallen fast asleep After telling grandtheir chairs. mother what we meant to do, I tried to wake my brother. This was no easy task, for as soon as I got him to stand up, he almost fell down, his eyes were so heavy, and not till they had been bathed with cold water, could we make him up-derstand what we wanted of him. But then a fresh obstacle presented itself, for it was impossible to per-suade Frith to go alone and in the middle of the night to the old cas-tie. The poor child began to cry, and tell us about the black dog with fiery eyes which he saw at the cross-ways. I must acknowledge that a cold shiver ran over me on hearing this uncanny story, yst for my fa-ther's sake I did not heitate to of-fer to accompany Frith on his mis-sion. But Windsor, who saw from my face what an effort this would cost me, declared he would go with Frith, and to this my grandmother agreed. him to stand up, he almost

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bed and cried as' they gathered round, making a scene that would have moved the stoniest heart compassion We had no doubt that excitement had brought on anthe other stroke, which the physician had warned us would probably prove fatal. In fact, we thought all was over, for my father gave no signs of consciousness, and lay back in the arm-chair like a corpse. We poor women did not know what to do; one called for the physic, another for the physician, a were third uttered the prayer for a parting soul. Then young Mr. Windsor stepped forward and took my father's hand, saying that he had studied medicine, though he had not yet had much practice, and might be of some use in this emergency. He at once informed us that my father was not dead, only in a iny father was not dead, only in a swoon, from which he hoped, please God, to awaken him. The young man appeared to us like an angel from heaven, and under his dirac-tion we busied ourselves in rubbing the sick man's limbs, and by the ap-plication of cold water and strong essence and an and strong n the lethergy. When his respir on again became perceptible, Mr deor succeeded, though not with difficulty, in getting him to large drame of some time

the gate, he heard the men talking together, and perceived before it was too late that they were not our own people. So he crept back in the shade of the yew-hedge - it was three weeks after Easter and the moon was out of its first quarter-till he reached the cherry tree, tnen in full bloom, one of whose branches hung over the wall. He knew this tree well enough; only the year before he had climbed it without permission, before the cherries fully ripe, and father had giv en him a scolding, and a beating, too, for it. Now he got into the tree, and slid along the branch until he was beyond the wall; til he was beyond the wall, then grasping one of the smaller branches with both hands, he let himself drop to the ground. He fell a good height, but thanks to his guardian angel, he was not much hurt. Pick ing himself up, he ran along th the way through the wood leading past Woxindon from London to Harrowon-the-hill. Here, however, his heart failed him, for he had to pass the roads, where the way to the stle turns out of the main Id cashe turns out of the main oad, and a gruesome ghost story which old Bosgrave had lataly told in, just then came into his mind. The story ran that more than a The story ran that more than a entury ago, before the old fortress bit into ruins one of the Knight's

aster in bodily form; and when he tor did not fail to make a good imand his companion heard the tidings the child brought, they gave thanks to God, - who had thus delivered them from falling into their enemy's clutches. They then held consultation as to what should be done; the priest wanted to conceal himself in the wood until daybreak, and then ride on further, for fear of bringing his entertainers into trouble. But John would not hear of this; he assured the priest that there was a capital hiding place in the old castle, only a little way off him.' the main road, which communicated with our house by a secret way. He said it had often afforded a refuge to priests, and Father Weston would be safer there than anywhere else for the night. After a mo-ment's deliberation, Father Weston consented, and well it was, as we shall hear presently, that he did so. The old servor lifted Frith up unto his horse, and they rode on towards the ruin, the durkness did not matthe run, the darkness did not mat-ter, for he knew every step of the way, and guided the horses with unerring hand to the foot of the square tower. Then he alighted, and after pushing aside a mose-grown slab of stone, he crept through a pustice spectrum interthrough a narrow aperture, vaulted chamber, half-filed rubbish, whither he beckoned with

sion upon me, and he soon won my confidence. I plucked up courage to ask him, when my father appeared to have fallen asleep, what he thought of his condition? He shrugged his shoulders and looking at me very gravely, said : " Miss Bellamy, the first words I speak to you shall not be calsulated to deceive you, therefore my answer must be this : all things are possible to the God whom we serve, but medi-cal skill can do nothing more for

These words, which struck sorrow to my heart, were said in so kind a manner that through the tears that filled my eyes, I looked gratefully at the young man. As soon as I could control myself, I asked how long he thought my father might live.

"A few days, perhaps even longer," he replied. "But he may go off much sooner, if he has a fresh attack, as I fear he will." "Then he is in immediate danger of death, and if it were possible, we ought to have him anointed?" I in-quired.

He nodded as thought struck me. "Did that man-that Topcliffe ask you about my fa-ther's state?" I said.

"He did; " was the reply, "and I

I was slient for a few minutes, thinking over the plan in my own mind. Then after an "Ave Maria," said in secret, I inquired whether

(To be continued.)