# THE PAGE OF JAMES V. OF SCOTLAND. action. Suddenly he roused himself and called Moses to him. He liked the name Moses, having given it to the youth himself, and never called him by

Translated from the French by S. A. C., with

CHAPTER XIV.

any other.

ment. ' Moses,

than before.

suppose so ?'

are devoted to me, are you not ?"

" Body and soul, Your Honor."

" Pardon, my lord !" interrupted

Moses, for by that name we shall henceforth call him—" pardou ! but is it the page Owen who now speaks or Lord Francis D'Arcy?"

"Francis D'Arcy, Moses. As to Owen, he is left at Melross Castle-

here, and with you, I can bear my own

"Oh, I understand," replied the

servant, with all the quick perception of the Scottish peasant. "Oven is a Douglas in spirit, and Sir Francis D'Arcy a faithful servant who wishes to rescue his King from prison." Francis looked at the lad with amaze-

speaking — the page Owen or the young Francis D'Arcy." "But who has told you?" asked

Francis. " Nobody : but I noticed the en

honour you showed in your mat-ner just now whilst speaking to Sir George, who looked at you so fixedly, and kept his eyes on that chain which yesterday was on His Majesty's cap." "How foolish of me !" cried Fran-is bettering to empone the chain and

cis, hastening to remove the chain and hiding it in his doublet.

hiding it in his doublet. "Lord George might only have looked at it in the light of a present," continued the servant—" a very natural favor for a king to give to his

page ; but, nevertheless, it has set him thinking, and you will see that at our

return he will watch you more closely

suspicions, aroused as they are by the sight of the chain, will urge him to

spy upon us." "It is very likely, sir ; but we must

"What ! has that chain made you

Not suppose, sir, but feel sure. Yo

journey does conceal a mystery.

any fear, I give you leave to remain behind, trusting to your honor to keep

my secret." "Let us hasten our pace, sir, for we

ought to be at Edinburgh before night." was all the answer Moses made

" Very good ; you are a faithful ser-

ask a question and give you a coup

"Where are we going ?" "Into the mountains that separate

Would you, my lord, allow me to

Then, you will follow me ?"

serve me ?"

As I always have done."

Speak. The question ?"

" Everywhere."

" And

" That's true ; and I fear that his

"That is why," continued "I asked to whom I was

THE JOURNEY.

The King passed a restless night. As soon as day dawned, he rose and went to look for Francis, who slept in went to look for Francis, who slept in the antechamber. He found him up and dressed and ready to set out. "Up so soon, Sire ?" said Francis, much surprised to see the King enter. "Yes," replied James. "Come;" and he drew Francis into his room.

When they had entered the royal bed chamber, James cautiously closed the chamber, James Cautionsly closed the door, and, assuming a solemn tone, said : "Francis, my friend and loyal servant, the well-loyed companion of a life so little pleasurable, listen to me. You are about to leave me, perhap You are about to leave me, perhaps only for a few days, but perhaps, alas ! for ever. If this should prove to be a snare planned by Angus to ascertain how far your devotion towards me would lead you, it is all up with us. They will separate us from each other, and --who knows?--in his anger--for Angus is merciless in his anger--he may cause one to new for your devotion with your is mercliess in his anger—he may cause you to pay for your devotion with your life." Francis made a gesture as if about to speak, but the King went on : "I know well what you would say; I know that at the peril of your life you are determined to make this attempt; therefore I will not try to disande you

therefore I will not try to dissuade you from it. But at least I wish yo carry away with you a pledge of my affection for you; and in the event of tinued in a voice choked by tears, "you will keep it as a souvenir of me." As he spoke he unfastened my never seeing you again," he tinued in a voice choked by t As he spoke be unfastened a small gold chain which ornamented his cap, to which it was attached by a diamond clasp, and placed it himself on the cap

of his page. "It is the best thing I possess," he said. "Oh, Sire, a present such as that for me !" cried Francis, much touched. "It is nothing to what you deserve, "It is nothing to what you deserve, my generous friend," replied James " but keep it-keep it always."

" Oh, Sire, I shall always." " Oh, Sire, I shall always keep it." " That is my wish. Now you must set out; but you will need money for this journey, and Angus is not over-liberal. I have a wave with me tith with me that liberal. I have a purse with me that my mother, when she was Regent, filled my mother, when she was togeth, with gold pieces, so that I might give largesse. It is not nearly empty; take

largesse. It is not nearly empty; take it, and may God preserve you!" Francis took the purse grabefully, and then retired to finish his prepara tions. He armed himself with the little sword he had taken from his father armou. " It ary the morning he left Danbar.

"It will bring me good fortune he thought to himself, adding; "Th sword, which my poor father neve drew but in a good cause, ought to help ne in this noble undertaking.'

kno Thus armed, and ready to set out, he returned to the King to bid him fare-James wept as he said : I shall indeed be dull without you,

and I shall be so uneasy also as to your fate. Oh, come back as soon as you can

"Yes, Sire ; but take courage in the thought that I am working for you, and if we have not been deceived, your captivity will not last long. Farewell, Sire ; I must go ;" and the page tried to kiss the King's hand, but James pre-vented him, and, throwing his arms round his page's neck, embraced him.

But the horses were ready, and Moses awaited him, so he tore himself from the embrace of the young King and At the foot of the stairs he the room. At the foot of the stairs he met Lord George, who delivered to him a scaled packet addressed to the Chancellor who had succeeded Beaton. "What is the matter with you ?"

asked George, scanning his face with a scrutinizing glance. "You seem sad

and pensive." "There is nothing the matter, Cousin George," replied the youth, smiling the Lothians from Roxburgh, but first forward.

0:800.

replied Moses.

ng back

thou

raditions often speak. Francis gaze

" What enlightens the just at

"God's light," replied Moses.

" For those who have need of air,"

answered Moses, like one repeating

" Who is he who will work for this

questioned the woman. "The Shepherd of the Mountains,

who was following Moses - "st there." She then closed the door

the hut, leaving the youth outside, at

and shall not hear : they shall have a

• Enter," said the old woman, stard-back to let him pass. "Bat do u "-with a gesture towards Francis,

at his questioner, but without offering

in the thought of the importance is work, did not hear, nor could he otice the impatience of his servant. After two more hours of riding, they came to a village. Their horses scen ing a stable, stopped short and refused " Listen, Moses," he said. " You to stir.

"Our steeds can go no further, Moses," said young D'Arcy. "We must stop here. We shall find beds, " Very well, then, I can tell you all and our poor beasts can refresh them pesides, I need your help in the enter prise I have undertaken, for it is both difficult and dangerous." selves

"Impossible, sir," replied Moses, any reply, for her words were unin-telligible to him. But Moses, who had been fastening up the horses, now came trying to urge on his horse. "W have still two miles to go before w get to the place where we must put up for the night."

What are you saying, Moses ? Hav what are you saying, moses r have we received orders which we must obey, and follow a certain route a Here is an inn. Our horses are dead beat. We will stay here for the night, and continue our journey to morrow." hour ?" she again repeated, and this time in an impatient tone. "For whom do they work ?" con-tinued the old woman, still standing in "It is impossible, sir—impossible, l say again," said Moses. "Two miler further on someone is waiting for us." "Someone !" ejsculated francis in the doorway, and evidently determined not to admit them until they had fully

satisfied her. urprise. An-an old friend," answere

Moses with some embarrassment. Francis was more and more astonished, and the hesitation of his servant did

t escape him. "What does it all mean ?" he asked "By St. Francis, Moses ! you'are say ing strange things. How is it that you say someone it waiting for us on a ad where no one ought to know that

'Except those who sent for you, sir.' "Then, you know more than I do bout the matter. Yes," he continued, 'now I think of it, you made a pretence of divining the object of m journey : you gave me indirect advic as to the chain which might betray me; then you strongly insisted that we should leave Edinburgh at once; and now the embarrassment you have just shown-all that, Moses, looks suspic ious, and I do not stir, I will not conent to go further, until you have explained it all to me." "Well, sir, I will do so. But, at

least, let us move aside, and not stand right in front of the inn. The inmates have not gone to bed yet, and we shall soon attract attention." Seeing the force of the argument,

try to throw him off the scent, for I understand that we must keep our doings secret." Francis, by using his spurs, forced his horse on wards, Moses following as well as he could.

"Now, speak," said Francis, stopping will understand that, knowing you for what you are, a good and generous lord, I never even for a moment could believe short.

"Well, then, sir, I know all; J know we are bound for the Black Gorge, where the friends of our lord the King await us." the King await us." "Who has told you? How do you

know ?'

I never even for a moment could believe that in taking the name of Owen you also had the feelings of a Douglas towards the King. I know you love him. Then this sudden journey, the idea you conceived of going to Edin-burgh to amuse yourself, the royal present you received when about to set out ould this hid a mystery the object Sir," replied Moses, " I will hide nothing from you; for I see you would not consent to go on if I did, for you have lost confidence in me." ut-all this hid a mystery the object

"I do not mistrust you, Moses," re-plied Francis gravely ; " but I will not proceed until I hear how it is that you of which was clear to me, but only to me; for I alone, and perhaps the King, know you, sir, at Melrose. Everyone else believes you to be the page Owen. know all about this meeting, of which I have not spoken to you, and how you "You speak truly, Moses. This

can have had intercourse with those concerned with the delivery of the King. But it may perhaps entail dan-ger, and I do not wish forcibly to draw " It is in this way, sir : The brave gentlemen who are at this moment risk-ing their lives for the King did not feel you into peril, which, if you accompany me, you must needs share. If you have

that they could confide solely in one of your youthful years : not that they had any fears about you, sir, for they know your you your loyalty, and those who will meet you reckon on you as much as on them-selves. But knowing also that you were ignorant of the country, that you had received no instructions as to what road to pursue, and what perils to avoid, they were desirous that you should have a guide. I am not much older than you, sir ; but as they were aware of my feelings towards you, as they knew that the cause you served, whatever it might be, would be mine also, they chose me. Besides, it was the best way of securing that their in-

structions should reach you, as it was easy to conjecture that you would choose me rather than another to accompany you in your travels.'

plied his servant. " No doubt all these amazement. Her appearance and the strangeness of her question were in-deed sufficient to excite astonishment

provisions were sent here by comman of the Shepherd of the Mountains." "The Shepherd of the Mountains again !" cried Francis, with the most lively interest. "Who is this mysteri-Her long, sparse gray locks hung about her shoulders, which were covered with black hair cloth, and her lively interest. "Who is this my ous personage, that appears to pale and emaciated features, lighted up powerful, and whose name I have by the red flame of the resinous torch assumed a weird expression in the already heard several times since crossed the threshold of this hut?" bright glow. She recalled to mind one of those sorceresses of whom Scottish

"As to that, sir, you ask more than I can tell. I, like you, have heard this name pronounced, but when I inquired, as you are now inquiring, of those who gave me the instructions, they bade me be silent, and placed their finger on their lips in a mysterious way.

"It is certainly all very extraordin again exclaimed Francis. ary.'

"As to having seen him, sir," con-tinued Moses, "I have not even seen the shadow of a hair of his head; but, from what I have heard, he would seem to be the leader in the enterprise to et the King free.

"Do you really think he is a sher-herd ?" asked young D'Arcy. "Whatever he may be, sir, no one here acts except by his orders, and I believe it is to him you will be taken." "One surprise succeeds another." "One surprise succeeds another," said Francis, quite bewildered by all this mystery. "Bat this old woman-you appear to know her. Have you seen her before?"

"Once only, about three months ago, before we came to Melrose.

" And you never told me !" said Francis, rather reproachfally; the same time marmuring to herself these words : "They shall have ears, all the time I was ignorant that they were thinking of the King and of his de livery, which was my one thought. tongue, and shall not speak." Astonished at what he had seen and had orders to say nothing to you.

sir, and I felt sure you would not blam

heard, and irritated by the imperious manner of the old woman, Francis was uncertain how to act. But the old "" Well, at least this person who should have been waiting for us, and who, on the contrary, keeps us waiting for him — who is he? The old woman called him the 'soldier of the Lord,' "I have sworn, sir, not to tell you, because to pronounce his name might put our enemies on the right track, and all would be lost. Were I to name him, I should break my oath, and you would not, from mere curiosity, sir, wish me to do that : besides, in a very short time you be satisfied." will

"One more question," said Francis. before I lie down on this fern bed. What did the worls mean which our hostess used before she let us in, and why did you answer as you did ?'

"It is a formula or pass, without which no one can enter here. But the night is getting on, sir-you must take ome rest : for the day now coming will. I expect, be a fatiguing one, or I am much mistaken. Besides, I hear Peggy

magpies. They are foolish, who for useless conversation lose the time of repose given them by God. Do they know if they will get it the next day?" "Well, be at rest, good mother; I am going to lie down," replied Francis in a submissive tone, which probably pleased Peggy, for she added: "And I mension to ak the holy arcels to and am going to ask the holy angels to send

ing himself on the bracken, was soon fast asleep; whilst Moses, after taking fast asleep ; whilst mores, after taking some food, went to seek his rest in a sort of stable in which the horses had been placed. It did not seem long to Francis before he was aroused from his Francis before he was aroused from his well earned repose by a loud knock at the outer door. He rose quickly as Peggy approached, and heard her re peat the same formula, but this time without even opening the door at all. "Who enlightens the just at this hour ?" asked the old woman

voice from without. Though Peggy fully recognized who it was who had knocked, she did not let him off a single question. When all had been satisfactorily responded to, she opened the door, and a tall, soldier-ly-looking man clad in a half-military, half peasant costume entered. Under his snock he carried a two-edged sword, whilst a dagger hung at his belt, and his grayish hair was covered by a mountaineer's bonnet. In spite of this omewhat motley costume, it seen Francis that the man's face was familiar to him. But so many things had oc cupied his mind during the last six months that he could not recall when or where he had met him before. Perhaps e had been one of his father's servants The soldier soon put an end to his doubts

MARCH 2, 190

## A PATCHWON

It was on a Mu evening of fleeting su-shadows, that Betty I in her little cabin a hills. How beautiful looked as I took tha looked as I took the led across them to the been Betty's. The grasses were putting the strongly-smelling the strongly-smelling ing; and here and t inted looking sloe streak of white when breaking into flower. one of the little hill one of the fittle hit larch and fir, and lighter tints of pleasantly. A bla and whistled among robin with its head side, and now and song. All around song. All around home the yellow daff merrily in the passing said that when Betty bride not out of a bride not out of lonely and heartsich had left in another p and when, after the of a month had passe father's place, she her a cart load of  $1 \pm x_{23} \approx b_{25}$ , which It was she, too, who roses of the hardie against the south w The tiny brown bull ing into leaf as I p kitchen where a " was placing a few s

> come. "Poor Betty's aid, "God rest said. temporary hostess, to the room " before we both knelt in p draped bed. Mrs. a chair for me.

She looked up

"I didn't like to alone," she said, " dren will be read and bed. If you by yourself a bit, get them settled f alf has gone to Someone coffin. Someone now the evening's Mrs. McCartby

a pin on the wall, door. She came pointed to the bed. Betty said to patchwork one, ov dead. It doesn't a gay-colored this

but I didn't her wishes altoge and left it across 1 the handy body wi I nodded. "Sure the pat

and crocheting, at new patterns kep me." And tened away. A the little house. the wall-as was stopped, and the c cricket but in My eyes wander the ridiculously s hardly have conta It was partly fashioned out of tissue paper. A three religious p photographs of fa earthen floor of rag mats made spone small wind one small knitted curtains. a rush cross and in Ulster, thoug name is I don' work quilt to w had referred lav a feet. I had often its squares, her and its comple years of lab triamph for Bet at it industrious evenings and t

ights.

the old woman i liness of her pos had "supped son over her trouble

cricket's song, n once I became c

ous pieces in the

"It was a bit

said a six corne

a little too pr Everyone said

lucky man to g doing wife. I

for Pat. He w

time of his man heard Father D

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angular scrap o "Father Daly

buffly. " Did you kr

Egan were about Ted's sister wa

with six young

penny to keep house ? Ted'

woman and the

helpless women

dren dependin sup? Betty

father, too, v rent; and, w

him, sure Pat

pounds withou

Pat ask for

" Oh," said

married him.

there was hadn't a long

nursed him w illness. That debt."

"The very cotton, "and

I ought to kn

wiped out of l

lear. I wond

I was washe

he suffered, p Betty when t

uld Ted this

"It wasn't

' About wha

notion

grambling." The door of the inner room opened a he spoke, and the old woman appeared, saying in an angry tone: "You are just like two chattering

you pleasant dreams.

She disappeared, and Francis, stretch "The light of God," replied the

Francis eagerly ; " what do you mean?" "No, no; you misunderstood me, sir," cried Shell, quickly, hastening to explain himself. "I meant to say that I followed the example of my lord, and

when he gave up the Chancellorship, I also left the service." Ah !" replied Francis, suddenly losing the hope that had sprung up within him, for he loved the Cardinal,

who had been so good to him, and now hoped he should again see him. "Ah! you deceived me with a false hope: but what are you doing now ?" "I serve a noble and generous

master, sir, one for whom I would risk my life at any moment." "And who is this master ?" "The Shepherd of the Mountains."

"That name again !" cried Francis. Well, now, you at least can tell me

who this mysterious man is." "Forgive me, sir," returned Shell, " but I can tell you nothing. I can only faithfully carry out the order given me by my master, which is to conduct you to him. And we must make baste, for day is already dawn.

ing." "Stop there, my master, if you please," said Francis; "this is carry. ing a joke too far, and treating me like a child. Since I received a certain note appointing me a meeting in the mountains, everyone in turn seems to think he has the right to conduct and dispose of me as he wills; but now, I say, I will not go to the Shepherd of the Mountains, for I have nothing to do with him. I am in the King's service,

and obey only his orders. "But, sir," said Shell in surprise, "by acting so I tell you that you would disobeying the King's commands.

"In what way, Master Shell? My case stands thus: I must reach the Black Gorge this morning ; consequent-ly, I have not time to go and see your

epherd.' "But it is precisely to the Black Gorge that I am to lead you."

What ?" " My master awaits you there."

"But the meeting ?" "Was appointed you by him, sir ; and if our Lord the King desired you to go, you will do well to let yourself be guided there by me, for I doubt if you would ever find it alone."

"So be it," returned Francis; "1 will no longer resist, but follow you, Master Shell, though it is all mysterious.

'It will all be explained, sir, directly you see my master. Until then I beg of you not to ask any more ques-tions, for I must not answer them. If it pleases your honor, I will tell Harry to saddle the horses."

"And in case it did not please me asked Francis, somewhat nettled, "

should all the same be obliged to obey." The poor boy felt humbled at the part he had been forced to play since the preceding evening. His will was not his own; he seemed to be a mere machine which is made to act, but knows not what it does.

Shell soon returned to say that the horses were ready, and that Moses had already mounted. Francis thanked old already mounted. Peggy for her hospit lity, and tried to slip a gold coia into her hand, but she

refused it, saying: "It is not poor Peggy, my young lord, who has entertained you to night, but the Shepherd of the Mountains. You must thank him, and if you wish to do apything for me-ah well ! you may ask the holy man to rememb his prayers.

Having resolved to give himself up entirely to the guidance of his companions. Francis mounted his horse and followed Shell, who set off at a quick pace, Moses riding in the rear. Old Peggy remained at her cabin door listening to the sound of the horses' hoofs until they died away in the distance. Then she went inside, and taking up the book of the Psalms of David, "Let us see," the Psalms of David, she said, "if they will succeed in over throwing the demon who holds the angel in his chains." And following a practice in use amongst persons of superstitious habits, which consisted in consulting the book of Psalms, cpening it by chance, and, according to the sense of the verse which the eye first lights upon, finding therein a favorable or unfavorable answer, she took a knife, inserted it between the leaves. and opened the book. The verse she lighted on ran as follows : "And He saved them from the hand of them that hated them : and He redeemed them from the nand of the enemy." " Amen !" she joyfully cried, " may God verify those words of David, and I am ready to lay down my life at once." Old Peggy, quite happy, then stretched herself on her miserable pallet, and at last fell asleep.

voman, who in the meantime had learnt from Moses that Francis was the King's companion, speedily reopened the door, and, accosting the boy in a kind and gentle tone, said, " He who works for

stav

the good cause can always enter the house of those who wish for good," and forth with ushered Francis into the room, where, notwithstanding the season, a large peat fire was burning. With every indication of hearty good-will she placed a chair for him near the

fire, and hastened to prepare a supper. She laid on the table some co earthenware plates, a venison pasty, and a flask of wine.

"The young lord can see that he was expected," she said, "for no such food ever enters my poor dwelling, since those who once possessed goods of this world no longer have

anything but the hope of heaven You have had misfortunes, then, my good woman ?" said Francis Very great misfortunes.

of God lies heavy on old Peggy, as men call me now." "For God's sake !" whispered Mose

to his master, "don't get her on that subject ; we shall never hear the end of it. "Very great misfortunes," repeated

the old woman, as if preparing herself for a long relation of them ; but Moses cut her sh " There, Peggy," he said, " let the young lord eat his supper ; we haven't time at this late hour to listen to stories. Throw a few bundles of bracken in the corner there — it will serve for a bed—and then go and finish your prayers, which, I expect, we interrupted. "Prayer is never interrupted for interrupted for those who truly love God," she replied obeying, nevertheless, the orders given her. "Each action of their lives is a prayer.'

When she had arranged the bracken for the bed, Peggy drew near Francis, and, laying her hand on the table, and using the symbolic language which she affected, said : "Blessed be the one who has shared

the captivity of Babylon, and who finds rest under the roof of the poor forsaken one, so that to-morrow the Skepherd of ountains may hear that hi sorder have been executed, and that the companion of him who needs air has been well received here." She then bowed, and was leaving the room, when Moses detained her. "When will the one we wait for

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P,

gaily. "H'm," said Lord George. "You counsel." don't seem to feel the kind of joy that a young falcon does when abcut to take You look, rather, as if his first flight.

you had been crying." "Each one feels joy in his own way, Lord George. Mine prevented me from sleeping, and so, I suppose, my eyes are red; and, besides, until these im-portant despatches are delivered to the Chanceller I shall not feel happy. Then only I shall think of amusement."

"Go, then, my good page; fulfil your mission, and aiterwards \_ aiterwards I wish you all kinds of pleasure.

"Thanks, good cousin," cried Fran-s. quickly mounting his horse in cis, quickly mounting his horse in order to hide the sudden flush that dyed his cheek. Either by chance or intentionally,

Lord George had expressed his wish in such a strange tone that Francis could not help tainking that the appointed rendezvous at the Black Gorge would turn out to be a suare. Still more was he confirmed in his suspicions by the fixed way in which Sir George looked at him." Wishing to escape as soon as possible from the inquisitive gaze of his companion, he said, "Gocd-y our next meeting, good cousin, " Good-sye till then set off at a gallop, followed by Moses. As he rode on very serious re flections occupied his mind.

" If this is a trap," he thought, " no doubt but that from the moment of my arrival in Edinburgh I shall be watched. Even should this appointment in the mountains be made by the King's friends, how can I be sure that I am not watched, all the same? Sir George has always distrusted me, and it ap pears that this journey has a wakened all his former suspicions, which had n lulled for a time. Ah, now I re call how my father used to say, "When you find yourself in difficult circumstances, Francis, my son, be prudent." Poor father ! he little thought how Poor father ! soon I should have occasion to put in practice what he recommended me. will follow his advice. Most likely Sir George has already sent his spies to Edinburgh, who will be on the lookout for me, and who will follow me everywhere. I certainly must take every precaution, and shroud myself in myste

Still keeping silence, he set about wretched horses are so done up." still keeping in his own mind a plan of Francis, who was in front and absorbed

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" Von must sir, manage to deliver your despatches on your arrival this evening, so as to leave Edinburgh at once. We must sleep some miles out of the city, taking an easterly direction. This is the only way to escape the spices, if they are on the track. They will be looking for you in Edinburgh when you will already be in the mountains

" I will follow your advice, Moses for you are a sensible lad, and the six months you have spent at Court has formed your character.'

"And made me acquainted, sir, with all the tricks and ways of acting of the Lords Douglas," replied Moses with evident satisfaction. "But here we are ot the suburbs, sir. Let us keep silence, for fear lest watchful and curious ears may be wandering about the streets.

An hour later Francis had delivered his sealed packet to the Chancellor and having taken leave of the Minister he apparently directed his cours towards the King David Inn; but, fol lowing the advice given him, a threading the narrow streets of afte Cowgate quarter, where it was sit-uated, he suddenly turned to the right, and, traversing some small and isolated parts of the city, left the capital without being seen.

As you will have perceived, dear reader, it was Moses who directed Francis and influenced his actions. Moses, or Harry, who was two years older than Francis, had grown much during the last six months, and, in only sixteen, looked spite of being only sixteen, looked quite a man. Strong, well built, brave and loyal, he was a great help to Francis, who, without being aware that he was obeying him, yielded in all things For the rest. Mose to his advice. seemed himself to be acting under some strange influence. He was grave and preoccupied, and as he rode along behind his master now listened to the clocks striking the hours, now looked at the moon as she began to rise, be traving meantime visible signs of impatience, which found a vent in a half-attered words, such as, "He will be tired of waiting for us. never get there in tim We shall in time; never get these

Very true," remarked Francis.

"And," continued Moses, " as at Melrose they paid very little attention to a servant of my age, I went about the country as I liked. One day I met an old acquaintance, someone who knows you also, sir—he who at this moment awaits our coming, and no doubt chales at our delay. That person, that friend, alter sounding me, That said you would shortly be summoned to the mountains, where some of the King's friends would meet you, and he gave me the instructions which I am now following. He further gave in-structions that the day of our setting out, which is already known to those who await us, as they watched round Melrose to see us start, should find us before its close at Kirkliston, about two miles from here, where we should

be met. So now, my lord, you know why I insisted on leaving Edinbargh at once, and how it came about that I knew the object of our journey and the

road we were to follow." "But why have you not told me the but he name of the person I am to meet?" "Sir," replied Moses, " in these unhappy times no one has a name but which he wishes to have. and I know something about that. I cannot tell you his name. And now our horses have had time to that breathe, let us see if they will carry us

to Kirkliston." Proceed, then," said Francis. whose curiosity was keenly excited, and who now was convinced that no snare had been laid for him. It took our travellers over an hour to accomplish the two miles that remained, so wearied were their horses, and it was nearly midnight when they dismounted at the door of a small cabin which stood alone in the midst of the fields.

#### CHAPTER XV.

#### HOSPITALITY.

It is probable that our travellers were expected, for hardly had they reached the door of the cabin when a

light was seen moving inside, and an sing. old woman holding a pine torch in her hand opened it to them before they had able in her extreme poverty to provide us with such an excellent venison pasty? And here," he continued " is time to knock.

"What enlightens the just at this table." hour ?" she asked mysterioasly. Francis looked at the woman in

come?" he asked. "The soldier of the Lord will be here at 3 o'clock in the morning, so that you may set out early for the Black Gorge without being accompan-ied by a crowd of curious dogs, who would certainly follow you if you went towards the mountains in the full light of day. May the peace of Heaven be with you, young champions of a worthy cause." So saying, she left the two young men to take their supper and repose.

"What an extraordinary woman !" said Francis, as soon as the woman disappeared.

She is a sort of half foolish woman sir," replied Moses. "She was married to a man whose name she will never re veal. He was powerful, and, if not wealthy, at least in an easy position; was cruel, bloodthirsty, and all, impious He allied himself above all. with bandits, and became the chief of a clan, as the words she drops now and then have given us to understand. She was then forsaken by her husband, whom she had suffered all kinds of crueities, and found herself reduced to the extremity of poverty. She now de-votes herself altogether to religious duties, which her husband had entirely prevented her from practising. All these troubles have affected her brain,

and she has a great hatred for anyone bearing the name of Douglas, for it appears that it is to them she owes the loss of her husband. All this is, how ever, mere conjecture, for nothing poitive is known about her except her hatred to the Douglas, which, no doubt accounts for her being mixed up in this business.'

It is all very incomprehensible,'

said Francis; "I never expected to find a woman of this sort here. You might believe that you beheld one of those sorceresses of which the bards But how was this poor woman

pasty? And here," he continued " is wine that would do honor to a Prince's

"You need not be astonished sir," re-

"If I read your thoughts rightly, sir," he said, "you are saying to your self, 'Here is a face that I know, but I self, 'Here is a face that I know, but I cannot remember where I saw it."" "Just so," replied Francis ; "I am

trying to collect my ideas."

"But I have not forgotten you, sir, for it was through you that I took the first step towards good."

What ! "At the Pine-branch Inn. sir." "At Wedderburn ?"

"Yes, where you must have spent dreadful time." "Shell !" cried Francis suddenly-

' are you that brave soldier ?" "Yes, sir; it was I who paid such

honor to a fern stuffed bolster as to let i take your place." " My friend, my saviour !" exclaimed Francis, holding out his haud to Shell. But the man drew back respectfully, saving :

"Your hand to a poor soldier like me? How could you think of such a thing-you, the friend and companion of the King ?"

"What does rank signify? Should I be now in the position which inspires you with such respect if you have let me perish six months ago? Take it, 1 say, for between the benefactor and the one benefited there is no distance."

"Then, since you wish it, sir," said Shell joyfally, and he pressed the delicate hand of the youth in his own large

"But, my poor friend," continued Francis, "I left you in the Cardinal's service. What have you been doing since his fall ?"

"I followed the Cardinal, sir." "What! is it possible that the Cardinal is really in Scotland ?" asked

TO BE CONTINUED.

### RENAN'S CONFESSION.

NOTED APOSTATE ADMITS FEELING OF DISGUST WITH HIS PRINCIPLES.

Renan, the French apostate, once nade a confession — and that in his later years. Read it and pass it on to these whose pride forbids their sub-mission to an infallible teacher :

" Had I stayed in Brittany, I should ever have remained a stranger to that vanity which the world has loved and encouraged. I mean a measure of deftless in evoking a jingle of words and ideas. At Paris this pleased them and, perchance, to my misfortune, was constrained to continue it. \*

I see around me pure and simple men, in whom Christianity is sufficient to produce virtue and honor. Ah, God save them from ever having aroused in them that wretched faculty, that fatal spirit of criticism, which so imperiousspirit of criticism, which so imperious-ly demands satisfaction ; and which, when satisfied, leaves the soul so few sweet enjoyments. Would to God it lay with me to stifle it. \* \* Have I, therefore, lost all hope of returning to Catholicism? Ah, such a thought would be too cruel for me. No, I no longer hope to return by any rational

process ; but I have often been on the verge of a complete revolt from a guide which at times I mistrusted. The regret of my life is to have chosen for my studies a line of research which will never be quieted, and which always

endures through enticing questionings as to a reality forever varquished."