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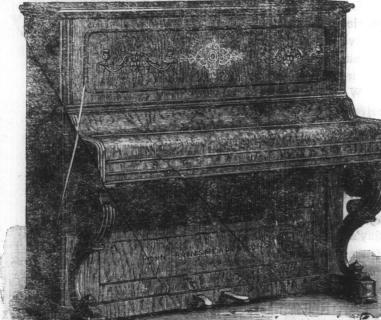
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Leather. -- -- Leather

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20 bales Medium Light Grain Leather. Split Leather. Waxed leather. 15 bales Calfskin, 5 bales Linings.

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Dated at New York, October 1, 1887.

By the Author of Dora Thorne.

(Continued.) CHAPTER XLVI.

As his eyes fell on the familiar objects, he trembled like one seized with a deadly chill. Silently and thoughtfully the girl brought refreshments, and set them before him. He could not touch them. He pured out some brandy and drank it.

'Will you bring me all the letters that you have received since your mistress went away?"

In a few minutes the girl returned bringing small bundle of Margarita's letters in her hand. She laid them down by his side.

'I hope, sir,' she said, wistfully, 'that there is nothing the matter?' Even in that hour of bewilderment and pain

se was careful of her reputation. 'No,' he said, trying to speak cheerfully. There must have been some mistake-and by

reading these letters I may find it out.' Ellen went away, leaving him with the letters in his hands.

He read them carefully, but they did not contain the least clew to the mystery. The only source of comfort was, that in them he recognized a great love of home. The directions given to the servants were minute, and he noted that they often had reference to himself-everything that he prized must be at tended to; and the letters of the latest dates all referred to her coming home and to what was to be prepared. Evidently, in her mind, there was not the least intention of staying away. Nevertheless there was no mention of where she was staying or what she was doing. An intense love of home was revealed on every page, but the only allusion to herself was-

'Send any letters that may arrive, as usual, to the General Post-office, London, and be careful to post the inclosed.

Lord Rylestone sat puzzled, bewildered, almost inclined to think that he must be in some dreadful dream. He called Ellen in and made her repeat every word that had been said over and over again.

He was as hopelessly in the dark as ever. Wither or why his wife had gone away was incomprehensible to him, he could not even ever so faintly account for it. He did not know what to do. He opened his pocket-book and took out the letters that she had written to him. Not one of them contained the name of a third person; they were filled with loving words to himself, and with earnest prayers for his return, but not one word hinted at her leaving home-yet few of them had been written at home.

She had deceived him! He could not deny that; he avowed it to himself with deepest pain. She had purposely and wilfully mislead him; and she had written those letters purporting to be sent from home, and she had not told him that she intended being absent.

What was he to think? Why had she gone? He thanked Heaven afterward that no doubt as to her fidelity had ever occurred to him.

Her absence was a terrible mystery, but it would some time or other be solved. Perhaps she had not felt quite sure about the date of his return; it might be that she would be there on the morrow.

He tried to persuade himself that it would be so-that she would come on the morrow, and would tell him all about herself, and with whom and where she had been. Perhaps at that time on the morrow they would be sitting together laughing over the mystifications. It was a cruel disappointment—a strange welcome

'Margarita,' he said to himself, softly-he wanted to hear the sound of her name- 'Margarita, where are you?'

The wind sighed and the bare branches rustled. There came no other answer. The chill of the November mist seemed to enter his soul. He sat all night in the drawing-room, saving to himself that she would come on the morrow—that she would surely come.

But that morrow, and many others, came and went without bringing any news of herwithout bringing either word or letter. Nor, try as he would for information, could he obtain more than this, that shortly after he left home his wife was absent two days. She then returned, it appeared, and made preparations for a longer absence, carefully concealing for merchantable, by selling it according to from every one whither she was going, and not ever trusting her servants with her address. (To be continued.)

WEDNESDAY, February 22nd. THE House met at half-past 4 o'clock. On motion of Hon. G. T. Rendell, the address in reply to His Excellency's speech was read a second time. The 35th rule of the House was then, on motion, suspended, and the House went into committee of the whole upon the address; Hon. James Pitts in the chair.

After some deliberation the committee rose, reported progress and asked leave to sit again. The House then adjourned until Friday next.

FRIDAY, February 24th.

THE House met at half-past four o'clock. Hon. G. T. Rendell, pursuant to the order of the day, moved the House into committee of the whole upon the address; Hon. James Pitts in the chair. Some paragraphs were adopted, and that referring to the fisheries having been

Hon. M. MONROE said he thought it would be admitted on all hands that the present condition of our fisheries demands the most careful attention, not alone of the Legislature, but of all in the colony, either directly or indirectly interested in them. More particularly is it incumbent upon our Chamber of Commerce, or Board of Trade, to give attention to that which furnishes the basis of the whole trade of the Island. Looking at the seal-fishery, we are sensibly aware that it has been rapidly declining in the last three or four years, and so far as the oil produced by it is concerned, it would

scarcely be worth the cost of outfit, even if we could count upon fair average voyages, owing to large reduction in the price obtainable for it. That drawback is largely compensated for by the enhanced value of seal-skins; but those concerned in the manufacture of seal oil and skins will admit, and the fact cannot be too strongly impressed upon the operative classes, that, by the maltreatment of our seal-skins, a great depreciation in their value is the result. Too often are they subjected to an unnecessary amount of exposure; the pelts becoming frozen and sunburnt, and by the practice, when hauling seals, of making the holes for the hauling ropes too far into the skin, their size for manufacturing purposes is largely diminished, and value lessened accordingly. He had seen skins wherein the lacing holes, by this practice, caused a reduction of not less than twenty per cent. on their value. Then long exposure upon the ice renders it next to impossible for the skinner to take off the fat without injury to the skin. These facts cannot be too strongly urged upon captains and crews of sealing vessels, so as to secure an avoidance of practices which so largely reduce the value of the voyage. As regards the codfishery, it will be remembered that last session a measure was passed in another place, and, after some consideration, assented to by this chamber, having for its object to cause an improvement in the quality and character of our staple. It was a measure to regulate the culling of fish. It appeared before this House in an unworkable form, but several members of this body took the trouble to try and lick it into practicable shape, though he believed not one of them was sanguine of successful results from it as an operative measure. Still it might have been fairly productive of benefit, in the direction intended, had all interested in it been solicitous to work for the common good of the fishery. The contrary was the fact, and buyers of codfish know the truth of the assertion he now made, that last season was an exceptional one in respect to the local sale and purchase of codfish. It would seem as though all local purchasers had made up their minds to render the Act in question abortive by buying fish talqual to a greater extent than ever before. No doubt, as regards what may be termed spring fish, handled early in the season, it is nearly impossible to purchase it in any other way, but the harmful practice extended throughout the season, and often as high a price was given for talqual as it was possible to get for "merchantable," now. He did not deny the right of those engaged in the fishery trade to act as they like in the way of buying and selling when that right is legitimately exercised, but there is a higher consideration than those of self-interest, present gain, or convenience that should animate those doing business; that is, the general good of the fishery interests, which are seriously damaged by the system of talqual purchase. It destroys all incentive on the part of the fisherman to make good fish, knowing that he can obtain as high a price for Madeira as

in dealing with a question of this kind, should