[illegible] satisfied her scruples, as to Mrs. Cecil Wellington and the carriage, by an encomium on her beauty, a reiterated assurance of what he powered *this*, and a present, which, first having received—secondly, having admired—thirdly, and lastly, she did not know what to do with.

'I don't think Agnes would let me wear such a beautiful brooch; and I am sure she would not permit me to take a present from you, Harry.'

'You need say nothing about it.'

'But *Agnes* might see it.'

'Then tell her you found it.'

Breathlessly did Agnes Hoskins wait for the reply, but she heard it not—the lovers had passed the window and walked on. Almost on the instant Her husband entered the room, with an air of boisterous glee, and, as if he had forgotten the *clergyman's visit*, rallied his wife upon the seriousness of her looks; she felt too much, and too deeply, to reply even with her usual smile. He took no notice of her change of manner—probably from a wish to avoid a recurrence to what he knew must have given her much pain—but fondled and kissed his child, and, taking it in his arms, was leaving the apartment, when Jessy quickly passed the door. 'Stay, Edward; sister, come here!' exclaimed Agnes. Jessy did come, with a flushed cheek and downcast eye.

'What have you this moment put into your bosom?' enquired Agnes; adding, without waiting for a reply, 'I will not oblige you to utter the falsehood you have been directed to—where is the brooch that young Hinton gave you but now under this window? You tremble—you turn pale; Jessy, my sister Jessy!—when you crouched beside the heather and the harebell at our father's feet, while the sun was sinking amid the hills of our own Scotland—there at the cottage-door, when our aged parent taught you to lift up your *then* innocent hands to the Almighty in prayer and praise—I little thought you would have so soon forgotten his precept!'

The thoughtless girl burst into tears, and Edward whose good nature was an active not a passive quality, kindly took her hand, and looked at his wife.—'Do not be so angry, Agnes; if she is receiving a love-token, Harry means no harm—that I'll answer for; surely if he is to be her husband,—'

'*Her* husband!' repeated Agnes, with an energy that startled both Edward and Jessy;—'the husband of Jessy Grey! I would rather shroud Mrs *for* her coffin than see her married to a man devoid of religious and moral principle.'

'You are strangely prejudiced against poor Harry, and a thousand times more Methodistical than ever, Agnes,' observed her husband.

'I am not Methodistical, Edward—I am not changed—it is you who think differently; and, as the change has marred our happiness, you cannot wonder at my disliking him who has wrought it. You were independent, industrious, and happy; you talk of the wealth of your *superiors*; you say it is wrong for them to possess so much, and yet you covet more; Edward, now you seldom smile—or smile so that I would rather see you weep; if you attend the village church your eye and mind wander from your devotions, and you rejoice at the conclusion of the service. The flowers in our garden are neglected—'

'Stop, Agnes!' interrupted Hoskins, 'you have lectured me pretty sharply, I think, for nothing! I have I ever suffered you to want?—have I ever treated you unkindly?'

'Oh, no!—no Edward, not unkindly—not that yet.'

'Nor ever will, my own Agnes! I will be more with you, and show you how much you have wronged me, and Jessy too, by these misunderstandings.'

'I will speak to my sister apart, Edward—give her the infant—there Jessy, do not weep.'

Jessy left the room in tears. 'Now, in truth, Agnes,' said Hoskins, when the door was closed, 'your prejudices are amusing to me; there is not a better-hearted fellow in the world than Harry, or a more clever—I own that he thinks a little too freely, and you women don't understand that: the people are improving.'

'Would,' ejaculated Agnes, 'that they felt Christianity to be their best legacy, and inherited the virtue of their ancestors!'

'The very thing Harry says; he vows the landlords grow worse and worse; and unless the people take them in hand there'll be no end to their tyranny!'

'Did you ever experience any tyranny, Edward.'

'Never, Agnes.'

'Did Hinton?'

'No—but yes he did, poor fellow, and that no later than last week. 'Squire Nicol's fox-hounds and the whole hunt went right through his barley, but that is not the worst of it—when he lived near Chester, his sister ran off with and was deserted by his landlord's eldest son.'

'I am not surprised at that,' replied Agnes, coolly, 'if he instructed his sister in the principles of equality, the rights of women, and Mr. Owen's Morality. *She* only practised what *he* preached.'

Agnes then proceeded to state to her husband the conversation that had passed between Jessy and Harry Hinton; but in natural and forcible colours she portrayed the danger of his principles, aided by his fascinating manner; and concluded with a request that Edward would at once relinquish so dangerous an acquaintance. Hoskins was much shocked at the idea that Hinton should have breathed such notions into the ear of the innocent girl, whom he loved with all the warmth of brotherly affection; he promised his wife that he would speak seriously to him on the subject, and unite with her in endeavouring to break off his connexion with Jessy Gray, when Agnes declared she would send on a visit to an aged relative of her friend Mrs. Middleton, who dwelt near the Scottish border.

'I think your plan is best; absence and time will soon put love out of her head,' observed Edward.

'It *may* do so, and I hope it most fervently,' was the wife's reply—and again she entreated her husband, even with tears, to avoid Hinton.

'I promise you faithfully so much, Agnes; but circumstances, which I cannot explain, will oblige me to see him occasionally; in fact, I am in his secrets, and it would be ungenerous to desert him when I know my friendship is of value to him; he may judge wrongly, at times; but I know him to be both clever, and as good hearted a fellow as ever lived.'

Agnes shook her head unbelievingly, at the refuge of good heartedness, under which such a multitude of sins shelter; and pleased at having at the hoped, lessened his influence over her sister, and resolved upon a plan of action with her dated, she retired for a time forbore to allude to what at first so bitterly grieved her—Edward's deputation from truth.

Bitter were the tears of Jessy when told that she must leave Mossgate for a season, her sister refused to tell her destination. Once and once only, did Harry Hinton speak on the subject to Edward Hoskins. But Edward firmly told him in that matter he would not interfere; Jessy was his wife's sister, and consequently Agnes had the best right to determine how she was to be suited. 'My wife says,' he continued, 'that when Jessy comes of age she may do as she pleases; but till then she will act towards her as her father would have done had he lived till now.'

Hinton made no reply, and turned moodily away, muttering curses not loud but deep. Agnes, almost immediately after, journeyed to London, and placed Jessy under the care of a respectable family of her acquaintance who was going to Berwick. It was for first without many tears that the sisters parted; tears of reproachfulness and bereaved on the one side, and of affection and anxiety on the other. When Agnes returned, in the evening, to her cottage, she felt it very desolate; a female girl whom she had hired for the purpose some months upon the [illegible], when her boy's gayness drew her attention towards the road. She was somewhat surprise at observing a woman whose tattered dress and red cloak gave her the appearance of a gipsy, forcing her way through the hedge, approaching her at an uneven but hurried pace. If she had been struck by her boldness, her attention was riveted by the expression her wild and restless eye, which both watched and wondered. She appeared young, and perhaps, under other circumstances, would have been called pretty; her figure was slight, and her hair of a light auburn, fell in profuse but unarranged tresses over her face. She was without shoes, and the blood streamed from a wound in her foot so as attract the notice of the little boy, who pointed to it with one hand, while he wound his arm tightly round his mother's neck.

(To Be Continued)

The Chronicle.

Saint John, N. B., May 22, 1856.

FROM OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

LONDON, May 9.

The result of the large majority in favor of ministers in the House of Commons on the Kars question is quite evident, and I may say has given a new aspect to parliamentary life. We find gentlemen of the lower house much improved in tone and appearance, the probability that Lord Palmerston will be able to carry on a little longer having wonderfully revived them. A fortnight ago and it was impossible to conceive a more melancholy body of men than we met at the clubs, grumbling and vacillating, and condemning their chief. Palmerston's fun, however piquant, was not relished, for his followers, with the fear that his lordship was "drifting" them towards a general election, could not force even a sickly smile at his sallies. The crisis came and the premier triumphed.

Pathetically got up for the occasion, "attired in deep mourning," as the papers tell us, our wary statesman put aside his "Coppatt style and moustache, as buttoned his costume, the worst of humanity in his party, and talked the reluctancy members into such perfect good humour that they found themselves laughing as loud as usual, and Palmerston was again "a jolly good fellow."—Thus things passed on and people not behind the scenes are expected to believe that all is made up and that no more dollars will be recorded against Her Majesty's Government. However "bide a wee." The Derbyites seem for the moment to be paralyzed, while the Premier looks around him with a consciousness that at the moment of trial he can command the support of the largest section of the House; whether this is real strength, or owing to special circumstances, is a great question. There is for instance a great desire not to interrupt the regular course of this most promising of metropolitan seasons; and then the question was one which had so many varied bearings—that an expression of censure against government would have been a dangerous thing.

On the 5th the question of the Treaty of Peace was brought forward by ministers in both houses, and on the 6th, after a debate of two nights, an address to Her Majesty, indicative of "joy and satisfaction" therein, was carried without a division. One or two points, in which the public were somewhat in doubt, were explained during the debate. Russia is not prohibited by the treaty from rebuilding the forts on the eastern coast of the Black Sea, and Nicholaieff is not to be disturbed; at the same time Count Orloff pledged himself that Russia would build no vessels of war other than those allowed by the treaty. As far as the treaty is concerned, it is perhaps as much as we could expect or were entitled to, and no complaint is made by the general public on that head,—the fact is John Bull is disgusted with the war. Alas! the enormous expenditure incurred, and the magnificent fleet which has been prepared, it is perhaps somewhat galling to think that our exertions appear to have been without result, *may appear*, for there can be no moral doubt, that Russia was well informed of all that was going on in England, and this knowledge doubtless made her somewhat anxious to conclude a peace while she could do so with an appearance of honour.

On the 6th a vote of thanks to the army, navy, and embodied militia was proposed in both Houses and carried by acclamation, leading men of all parties expressing themselves in the most laudatory terms, as to the exertions of all ranks to bring about the satisfactory result just arrived at. A message from the Queen was also communicated, stating that she had conferred the dignity of Baron on General Williams, and further recommending that a pension of £1,000 per annum should be conferred upon him; both statements were received with the greatest enthusiasm.

A notification from the Treasury was this day made public, stating that the government intended contracting a loan of five millions, to be raised in consolidated 3 per cent. annuities, the biddings to be made at the Treasury on the 19th.

We shall have further debates on the subject of the war, and quite right that it should be so.—Her Majesty's opposition" cannot do a more useful service to the State than look after the holders of office with watchful jealousy, and make them, as often, as required, render an account of their stewardship. The peace is not popular in England and never will be; but the people well know that it was not Palmerston who sought the peace, that he was hardly in a position to refuse it when it sought him. Now that the whole treaty and the accompanying protocols are before us, there are few so blinded by faction as not to allow that our ministry has amply sustained the reputation of the country. Our diplomatists have not failed on this time, and have they allowed any advantages that we had gained in the field to be filched from us by chicanery in the cabinet. Clarendon acquitted himself well at the Conference, and he amply earned a step in the peerage, which, however, he has gracefully declined.

It is worthy of remark, while upon the subject of the peace, that in London, upon the proclamation through the streets, throughout the whole ceremony not one cheer could be raised, such was the apathy of the London people. An attempt was made to raise the cry of "God save the Queen" near Chancery-lane, but this was very faintly responded to.

Scarcely has Clarendon got the Russian war off his hands when he must re-open the American squabble, and though this is very small game, he has entered into the question in a despatch of great length and great ability, and it may be hoped that all apprehensions of any disturbance between the two branches of the Anglo-Saxon family will now speedily vanish. The American ambassador at our Court tells us he has not, and is not authorised to have, any animosity towards us; and Clarendon assures the Americans that he cannot believe that either country is desirous of war, and we trust to be able to settle the matter in a friendly manner. It is the Government of the United States, if we mistake not, that must now step forward to make the first advance towards friendly feeling; it is known that Her Majesty's Government are willing to meet the Government of the United States, in a spirit of perfect fairness, and we trust that the Government of the United States will meet us in the same spirit