

When they considered the necessary information to be obtained, they prepared to bring matters to a close.

The plan adopted to finish their scheme was this: That they should murder the family, remove the treasure from the bank, apply the incendiary torch, and leave the country for ever; and, as Lampanas could not consider himself entirely safe in the United States, it was determined that the Atlantic should separate them from the scene of their final act of villainy.

Prudence dictated that they should be in no haste to leave Quebec after the commission of the deed, as a precipitate flight would inevitably lead to suspicion. No provision was therefore taken to secure a passage across the ocean.

Such was the plan fixed upon by *John* and *Mary Stuart*, the names which Lampanas and Lavine had assumed in Quebec. The night of the 3d of December, 1849, was fixed upon for putting the scheme into execution.

On the night of the 2d of December the Amel family retired to rest, totally free from the suspicion that any machinations had been hatched against them. At about two, or half-past two o'clock, Lampanas and Lavine proceeded to the execution of the plot. Lampanas had determined not to be foiled on this occasion, and therefore both himself and Lavine were well armed.

The first chamber entered on this occasion was that of Lord Amel. It was also thought expedient to dispense with the "*galantry of waiting on the Lady*" Amel "*first*," as her husband might prove the most dangerous in case of accident, as had occurred in the case of Lampanas' father. Lavine applied the chloroform, and Lampanas followed with the bowie. Lord and Lady Amel were successfully despatched. The sons then shared the fate of their parents, and the murder of the daughters closed the scene of assassination.

The coin from the bank, and the valuables from the house, were now removed to a place prepared by Lampanas.

The mansion was next closed, and the windows and doors bolted and barred, so that no ingress could be had from without. A lot of combustibles were then placed in the centre of the hall, and the match applied. Lampanas and Lavine now made their exit, carefully securing the door after them.

In about an hour after the application of the match, the fire was discovered: the close state of the building not allowing the flames