

A Cardinal Sin.

CHAPTER XXIII. JUST IN TIME.

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made up his mind that at six o'clock it should be all over. His fingers were stealing furtively toward the breast of his coat. He was wondering, with a horrible curiosity, whether one shot would suffice. Then he looked across at Frances and saw a change in her face.

Her eyes met his vacantly, but she shuddered a little. Then she pressed her hand to her head. "What did you ask me to promise?" she inquired. "I have forgotten."

"It's no good asking now," he replied, sulkily, "the time has passed for promises." "Yes, but you told me I should go the moment I promised. I must get back to-night. Tell me what to say."

She spoke in a bewildered way, and Manders knew that to let her leave the house in such a state would be fatal to him. His hand crept to his breast-pocket. "Dazed as she was," he saw the action; and caught the true meaning of the words. Quick to catch the spring to her feet and rushed into the next room; it was but two steps there, and her movement was such an unexpected one that the villain, although he drew the pistol from his breast, had to time it. Besides, why should he run the risk of being caught? She was and power apparent. It was now thirty hours since he had eaten anything—since anything save that water had passed his lips. Yes, in very short time she must give in, less even now than before. There was another thing which made Frances long for freedom. To-night she was to sing. What would happen if she did not make her appearance as announced? She must be back in London in time to keep her engagement. But how was she to be freed? If free, would she have strength to do her duty? Oh, why did Allan not come?

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was very low, Frances could easily step out. He had no time to think what her last words meant, for Digby was in a sitting posture, and looking wildly around.

"Get up as soon as you can," said Allan, covering him with his own pistol. "Don't come a step toward me, or you're a dead man."

After a while the fellow struggled into a chair. He gave Allan a look full of hate, but, as he did so, he saw the determination on every feature of his face. Stunned as Manders felt, he knew his game was up; indeed, he believed Allan would shoot him.

He winced as he saw the muzzle of the pistol held upon him. He tore his hand from the hammer which was at full cock, and knowing his own weapon, was aware that in that condition—the trigger was a hair-trigger—that the slightest, perhaps unintentional, pressure of Allan's finger would send the bullet into his heart.

"Turn that pistol away," he said. "I don't want to move." "Thinking a man would be unable to speak collectedly in such a situation, Allan complied; and Manders breathed more freely in consequence.

"Now, then," he said, sulkily, "what are you going to do? Do you mean to kill me?" "I think so," answered Allan, with a promptitude and grimness of manner which made his listener's flesh creep.

"Your only chance," he continued, "is to make a clean breast of it. Tell me why you induced my wife to come down here—why you have kept her here?"

Manders, although recovering from the effects of Allan's blow, was scarcely in a state to discourse connectedly.

"Let me think," he said, "for a few minutes. Keep that pistol away."

He leaned his head upon his hands, and waited until he felt able to decide what to do. He cursed his half-hearted conduct. Why had he not formed his murderous resolution last night! He cursed Allan for having traced his wife.

GENERAL BUSEINSS. SHERIFF'S SALE. To be sold at Public Auction, on Thursday, the 17th day of December, next, in front of the Court House, Chatham, between the hours of 12 o'clock noon and 2 o'clock p. m. the right, title and interest of Henry A. Mainbray, in and to the following lands and premises:

Miramichi Foundry AND MACHINE WORKS, CHATHAM, MIRAMICHI, N. B. Manufacturers of Steam Engines and Boilers, Gang and Rotary Saw Mills, Gang Edgers, Shingle and Lath Machines, and all kinds of Machinery for Horse and Steam Power.

Miramichi Advance. Beginning with the issue of November 6th, 1890, when the ADVANCE entered upon its Seventeenth Year of Publication!

One Dollar a Year! It is particularly understood that all outstanding subscription accounts due after November 6th, 1890, are to be settled on the old terms, viz., \$2 per year, the advertised rate.

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Chatham Foundry ESTABLISHED 1852. Iron and Brass Castings a specialty for Mills, Steamboats, Railways, etc. T. F. GILLESPIE, Proprietor.

CANADA EASTERN RAILWAY. WINTER 1891-1892. ON and after THURSDAY, DEC. 17th, until further notice, trains will run on the above Railway, daily (Sundays excepted) as follows:

General Business. NOTICE. Notice is hereby given, that application will be made by the applicants hereinafter named, to His Honor the Lieutenant Governor in Council, for a grant of Letters Patent under the provisions of the Patent Act and Act in amendment thereof, for the purpose of incorporating and constituting a company to be known as the 'New Brunswick Electric Light and Power Company.'

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Residence to Rent. The two-story dwelling and premises with barn situated on the corner of Water Street and St. John Street, in the Town of Chatham, is for rent on the 1st day of February, 1892.

Wholesale and Retail. In store, the following reliable Brands of Flour—"Neve," "Daily Bread" and "Empress."

TIN SMITH. Galvanized and Sheet Iron Worker. The Peerless Creamer. ROCHESTER LAMP. The Success OF STEOVE.

Hotels. EARLE'S HOTEL. Cor. Canal & Centre Streets, NEAR BROADWAY, NEW YORK. The best Hotel in the lower part of the City for Tourists, Professional and Business Men, Commercial Travellers, Agents, Etc.

Hotels. The Normandie, BROADWAY & 37th STREET, European Plan; Restaurant Unsurpassed. The Adams House, ADJOINING BANK OF MONTREAL, WASHINGTON ST., CHATHAM, N. B.

Hotels. Canada House, Corner Water and St. John Streets, CHATHAM, N. B. Largest Hotel in Chatham. The Revere House, Near Railway Station, Campbellton, N. B.

J. N. Gardner & Co. Wholesale Commission Dealers in Fresh Fish, Lobsters, Country Produce &c. NO. 16 T WHARF, BOSTON, MASS.

MACKENZIE'S MEDICAL HALL. FRESH THIS WEEK: K. D. C. BURDOCK BLOOD BITTERS. SCOTT'S AND ESKY'S EMULSION. PLEASANT VOM SYRUP. CHILD'S CONSUMPTION CURE. WILD CHERRY COUGH SYRUP (WARRANTED). SYRUP OF FIGS, FRESH DULCE.