

Mrs. Edney decided that her daughter must have caught some infectious complaint in the cottage where she had been visiting; and though the doctor, who was instantly summoned, pronounced this, he pronounced his patient to be in such a high state of nervous excitement that she must be kept in bed and exceedingly quiet.

So for the next two or three days only Mrs. Edney came near her, and by the time Alice was pronounced well enough to sit up for a few hours, she had schooled herself into patient endurance of her wrongs.

She had not acquired fortitude enough to read the notes from Morrie that were brought to her daily, but slipped them under her pillow, and took the first opportunity of burning them unopened; neither could she help shuddering and closing her eyes to shut out the sight of Nellie Jervas' pretty face when first it bent over her, beaming with the most affectionate solicitude.

But she resolutely conquered this feeling. Was it fair to blame Nellie for being irresistible bewitching? Her own attractions were so few, that how could Morrie help loving this charming little creature far better than he had once fancied he loved her?

"Once admitted into the sick room, it would be difficult to exclude her again. She made herself too useful to Mrs. Edney, who, suspecting nothing amiss, gladly gave over the task of amusing and waiting on Alice to her willing visitor. And Nellie was in her efforts till the evening, when she seated herself on a stool beside the invalid's easy-chair and sank into a long reverie.

"Do you feel able to listen to a confession, *m'amie*?" she said presently, when the blaze of the fire had sunk into a ruddy glow, and the room was almost in darkness. "May I tell you what has happened, and will you promise not to blame me too much if—"

But Alice could not bear this yet. "Not now!" she gasped. "Give me time to get stronger, and then—"

"You are tired," said Nellie, tenderly. "I have let you sit up too long. Let me help you back to bed. You must try and sleep soundly, for we want you downstairs to-morrow. It is your mother's birthday, remember, and the home circle will not be complete without Alice to grace it."

"Yes!" Alice mentally exclaimed. "I will be brave, and take my old place without further delay. My dearest mother shall never know what I have suffered in losing Morrie's affections. For her dear sake I will overcome my regrets, and appear happy if I do not feel so."

And Alice kept her word. She came to the breakfast table on the morrow, paler and more hollow-eyed than her parents liked to see her; but with a smile on her lips even for Merric Granard, who had ridden over to bring fruit and flowers from his father's hot-houses in honor of this anniversary.

In spite of her efforts to avoid him, he drew her aside as soon as the meal was over.

"My dearest, how you tremble!" he cried. "Has the effort to come amongst us been made too soon?"

"No," she replied, as firmly as her faltering voice permitted, "you have something to tell me. Let me hear it at once."

"Ah, yes! You mean with regard to this," and opening a case he drew from his pocket, he displayed a very neat bracelet made of hair set in silver, with exquisitely-wrought clasps of the same precious metal.

"Did you miss one of your bonnie chestnut locks?" he asked. "Nellie Jervas stole it for me that we might have it made into this bracelet for your mother. We knew we could not give her a birthday gift that would please her more than this."

"By the by, Miss Nellie has made a conquest, hasn't she? But here she comes, anxious, I can see, to receive your congratulations. She isn't a bad sort of girl when one comes to know her. I'll give her half an hour, and then you must let me take you for a drive."

"Darling Alice," whispered Nellie, gliding into his place beside her startled, bewildered friend. "Don't say I shall do wrong in accepting Mr. Ellington; I know I am not half good enough for such an excellent man, and I could hardly believe him when he said he wanted me to be his wife."

"Mr. Ellington, of the Grange? He is nearly twenty years your senior!" "And twice twenty my superior in mental gifts and goodness of heart! I refused him point-blank—I know Pris Relton and everyone who thinks with her would say I was mercenary, and only wedded him for his money—but oh! Alice, he is so good, so generous, he has won my heart entirely. If I were not so poor, so utterly unworthy such noble affection as he proffers—"

Here Nellie broke down, and laid her head on her friend's shoulder.

"And so this was your secret; and the bracelet was Merric's. How foolish I have been!" ejaculated Alice.

"You are never foolish!" averred Nellie, "and I mean to be guided entirely by your advice."

Whether she was or not, it is certain that, to the horror and astonishment of Priscilla Relton, Squire Edlington led to the altar "that flirting Nellie," who has proved a pattern wife, and numbers amongst her most faithful friends Morrie Granard and his fair wife Alice.

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1889. A. No. 3011.  
**SHERIFF'S SALE.**  
IN THE SUPREME COURT.

EDWIN GILPIN, Plaintiff,  
Between—  
and  
JAMES FRASER, Defendant.

To be sold by the Sheriff of the County of Halifax, or his Deputy, on Wednesday, the 23rd day of October, 1889, at 12 o'clock, noon, at the Supreme Court House, in the City of Halifax, pursuant to an order of foreclosure and sale made in the above action on the 17th day of September, 1889, unless before the day of sale the defendant shall pay to the plaintiff, or his solicitor, the amount due to the plaintiff for principal, interest and costs on the mortgage ordered to be foreclosed herein.

All the estate, right, title, interest, and equity of redemption of the above named defendant, and of all persons claiming by, through, or under him, of, in, to, upon, or out of all that certain lot, piece or parcel of

**LAND,**

situate in the north suburbs of the City of Halifax, being lot number seventy-six on the plan of the sub-division of Jennings' Field, filed in the Crown Land Office at Halifax, and described as follows: Commencing at the north-west corner of lot seventy-seven, thence northerly along the east side of Union Street fifty feet, thence easterly at right angles one hundred feet, or to the rear of lot number eighty-three, thence southerly along the rear line of lot number eighty-three fifty feet, thence westerly at right angles one hundred feet to the place of beginning.

Terms—Ten per cent. deposit at time of sale, remainder on delivery of the deed.

**DONALD ARCHIBALD,**  
High Sheriff County of Halifax.  
**WALLACE McDONALD,** Solicitor of Plaintiff.  
Dated at Halifax the 18th September, 1889.

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**LAND,**

situate on the west side of Hollis Street, in the City of Halifax; bounded on the east by the said street, and there measuring forty-four feet, more or less, on the north by a garden lot, now or lately of Stephen Newton Binney, and there measuring one hundred and forty-eight feet, more or less, on the west by land of Robert Boak, junior, and there measuring forty-four feet, more or less, and on the south by land lately belonging to the heirs of Peoples, and there measuring one hundred and forty-eight feet, more or less, being the southern moiety of a lot conveyed to Charles Twining by The Honorable Alexander Stewart and others, by deeds of lease and release, dated respectively the fourteenth and fifteenth days of November, A. D. 1845, and registered at Halifax, aforesaid, Libro 85, Folios 305 to 308.

Terms—Ten per cent. deposit at time of sale, remainder on delivery of the deed.

**DONALD ARCHIBALD,**  
High Sheriff County of Halifax.  
**WALLACE McDONALD,** Solicitor of Plaintiff.  
Dated at Halifax the 18th September, 1889.

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