

The Rival Clansmen: A Scottish Vendetta.

CHAPTER V.

THE CATERANS OF BEN-A-SCHUI-CAMERON AND IAN PLOT MISCHIEF—FLORA ALONE WITH IAN.

"We shall—we shall," resounded from every lip. "I was certain you would," continued Cameron, grimly. "And I know you will do so the more readily when I tell you that I have a personal complaint against our prisoner, a personal insult to wipe out with his blood."

There was a fierce clenching of the hands, a grating of the teeth, and a glare in the eyes of the caterans as they heard their chief make this statement, that boded no good for Hector.

"Know this—that I have promised to give the hand of my niece, Flora Macgregor, to Ian McKenzie, and that Hector M'Leod had the audacity to attempt to carry her off to M'Leod Castle and make her his bride. I overtook him, and have, with Ian McKenzie's assistance, regained possession of the maiden. Shall he be dealt with as I wish? or would you rather deal with him according to the laws of the band? I have a special interest in seeing him specially punished."

There was a murmur from the men—a kind of bull-log-like growl—but none made answer.

Ian rose, and, gazing around with a look of secret exultation, said—"Yes, caterans, our Chief has been much injured by him whom we hold prisoner, and I have been injured; but in deference to him, I for one will forego the strict rules which bind us, and allow him to work his own revenge upon Hector M'Leod, provided this be understood—that he never leave this place alive."

"One word as a proof of my sincerity," said Cameron. "One of our rules is that no prisoner shall be permitted to come to this place without being blindfolded. The reason of that, as you all know, is because if they satisfy us with their ransom their lives are spared, and they are again set at liberty. Were it not for the blindfolding these men would be in a condition to expose us. But to-night I brought Hector M'Leod here, not blindfolded, and my reason for so doing was because I intended that he never should have an opportunity of exposing us—that he never should leave this place alive. Am I to be allowed to deal with him?"

"Yes, yes," arose on every side. Then Cameron, with a secret chuckle, sat down, exclaiming as he did so—"Then, caterans, to the hills and the glens with you. I will no longer detain my noble caterans from the spoil they pant after. See that you return with a show of work befitting the presence of your Chief."

Again did a ringing cheer almost reach the vault, and in a few minutes more the place was unoccupied, save by Donald Cameron and Ian McKenzie.

Yes, the caterans of Ben-a-chrui—a band the name of which struck terror into the heart of every honest man for a hundred miles around—were away out on their hunt for plunder. To-night, neither the cattle browsing on the meadow, the sheep on the hillside, nor the lonely traveller over the moor was safe. Whatever they could lay hands on with safety they spared not.

When this last of them had fairly gone, Cameron turned to Ian, and, with a rough, coarse laugh, said—"Again we have succeeded. We can work our plans just as we like now. These are but simple fellows after all."

"Yes," replied Ian. "They are almost unmatched for cunning; and when they once see reason to trust a man, they put almost implicit faith in him, and never seem to exercise the characteristics for which they are so famous."

"They are indeed a devoted band," responded Cameron. "I have found them ever faithful. But I tell you this—I almost regret that I did not put my claymore through that old bag we met in the glade. Our secret seems to have come into her possession, and with the hatred which she manifests towards me, if what I fear be the case, then we are not by any means safe."

"There was something strange about the woman," replied Ian, with a slight eagerness in his tone. "I had heard of the Witch of Ben Lair, but I never met her before, and know nothing of her. At you she seems to have a great animosity; can you tell me what it means?"

Both men were striving through the floor, and Cameron's face seemed a shade darker and redder as he turned to his companion, and, with a muttered oath exclaimed—"Bak! why should you ask that? Let us banish all thought of her for the present. Some other time I may speak to you of her, but we need not heed her now. She if looked upon by the country people round about as a witch; I look upon her as a maniac. It is impossible that she can know of this place; it was but a mere chance remark in the midst of her ravings. Everything she said was absurd."

But, despite this attempt on the part of Cameron to banish all thought of the strange woman, it was evident that he felt far from easy, notwithstanding his swaggering talk. For a few minutes more they paced backwards and forward, and then Ian turned towards the other and said—"But how are you to do in reference to M'Leod's sister?"

"I have just been considering. Neither of us can go to M'Leod Castle. Our lifeless bodies would be hanging from the battlements in an hour after."

"That may be true as regards me," responded Ian; "but I scarcely think you are correct as regards yourself."

"How do you think so?" queried the other.

"Because I do not think that M'Leod will take the responsibility of laying his hand upon you, if you tell him that his son is held a hostage until you return. For an instant Cameron stood and considered."

MANUFACTURE OF COCOA.—"We will now give an account of the process adopted by Messrs. James Epps & Co., manufacturers of dietetic articles, at their works in the Euston Road, London."—See article in Cassell's Household Guide.

FAMOUS VALUE.—The bound volume of Good Words, in brown cloth, gilt, 974 pages, contains the following books complete:—Plain Words on Christian Living, by J. C. Vaughan, D.D., which sells at \$1. Out of Harness, by Dr. Guthrie, \$1. Letters from Abroad, by the Dean of Canterbury, \$1.25. Oswald Cray, by Mrs. Henry W., \$1.50. Personal Recollections, by Mrs. Taylor, \$1. Evenings with Words, by the late Norman Macleod, \$1. A Year at the Shore, by Goss, \$1. 69 other papers on choice subjects, 200 pages, and 120 illustrations. The price, \$1 a Day's Book Store.

A mass meeting of the friends of the cause moved to the hall at 7 o'clock on Monday evening, the 7th.

St. Charles on Monday evening, the 7th.

See the Grand Display of Furs AT THE BRADFORD HOUSE.

The subscriber has just to hand the Largest stock of Furs ever brought into Guelph, comprising everything new and fashionable in the Trade, and will be SOLD 20 PER CENT. UNDER FORMER PRICES.

Ladies wanting Cheap and Good Furs should call and examine before purchasing elsewhere.

Also in stock a job lot of Canadian Hosiery 25c and 30c per pair; usual price 45 and 50 cents. As these goods will only last a few days, ladies should call at once and secure some of the above Goods.

GEORGE JEFFREY, GUELPH

The Cheapest House in the Dominion for Fancy and Staple Dry Goods.

2 DAY'S BLOCK.

Fresh Buckwheat Flour

NOW IN STOCK; Choice Amber and Golden Syrup a large lot.

J. E. McELDERRY.

2 DAY'S BLOCK. THE NOTED TEA HOUSE.

JACKSON & HALLETT,

Retail Grocers, etc., Lower Wyndham Street, - - Guelph.

CHOICE NEW SEASON TEAS

Consisting of 100 half chests of Choice Young Hyson, 50 half chests of Fine Gunpowder, 30 half chests and chests Choice Blacks, 50 half chests Fine Japan Teas.

FRUITS, &c. New Raisins, New Currants, Fresh Fancy Biscuits, Choice Smoking Tobaccos, Sugars broken loaf and ground, Rice, Oatmeal, &c.

ALSO, OUR OWN IMPORTATIONS Of Hennessy and Martell Brandy, Otard's & Pinet's Brandy, Hunt's celebrated Port, Vargara Celebrated Sherry, Holland and Tom Gins, Scotch and Irish Whiskies, Domestic Whiskey.

Our stock will be found well assorted. Teas are sold by used caddies of 10 or 20 lbs, at ten to fifteen cents less than the usual price. Our stock is the largest in the Town of Guelph and everything we sell we guarantee to give satisfaction or no sale.

JACKSON & HALLETT, Lower Wyndham-street, Guelph.

Guelph, Oct. 11, 1873. dwsm

INSOLVENT ACT OF 1869.

John A. McMillan, Insolvent.

The whole of the Estate belonging to the Insolvent is now being sold at a Tremendous Sacrifice.

BOOTS AND SHOES

20 per cent. less than cost.

Intending purchasers will consult their own interests by giving us a call.

NOTE THE PRICES: Men's Cowhide Boots - \$2 00 Women's Pebble Ball - 0 75 Boys' Cowhide Boots - 1 50 Women's Prunella Ball - 0 75

Country dealers treated liberally. WM. McLaren, Assignee.

Guelph, Sept 29, 1873. dw

GUELPH TEA DEPOT

For the Best Tea at the Lowest Price.

E. O'DONNELL & Co.

Has in Stock

A good Sweet Japan Tea for 25c per lb. A splendid Young Hyson Tea for 50c per lb. The best Dollar Tea by the caddy 80c per lb. A very pleasant flavored Black Tea for 50c per lb. The best Black Tea imported for 75c per lb. Gunpowder Tea, well worth 75c, for 50c by the caddy.

People from the Country can have their goods sent to the Station or Hotels and on sale of the Town we will send the goods to your houses. Give a call - We will send you away satisfied.

E. O'DONNELL & CO. Wyndham Street, Guelph.

Guelph, Oct. 10, 1873.

SMOKERS!

EACH PLUG OF THE MYRTLE NAVY Weighs 1/4 of a pound, WHILE THE IMITATIONS Only weigh 1/8 of a pound,

Thus giving you a poorer article and less of it for your money.

Each genuine plug stamped T & B

Hamilton Sept. 16, 1873

Being about to leave Guelph to seek a home in the Far West, we cordially thank the many kind friends for their continued patronage for the past fifteen years, and as he is likely to be but a short time longer in their midst, his stock will be sold at a special price. A special discount will be allowed on purchases over \$25. This sale is genuine, the proprietor having to give up possession of his store on the 1st of May next.

MR. G. B. FRASHER

Leaving Town---Bound for the West, the Great Northwest

\$15,000 worth of Dry Goods and Groceries to be disposed of in six weeks. Sale to commence on Monday, the 6th inst.

Wynndham Street, Guelph.

G. B. FRASHER,

Oct 31st

GREAT BARGAINS

IN WOOL SHAWLS

AT THE CASH STORE.

RICH'D CLAYTON

Having bought out a wholesale stock of Wool Shawls in Plain and Fancy Stripes and Checks, will offer the whole of his immense stock at 25 per cent less than Wholesale Prices.

55 Wool Squares in plain and fancy Rob Roy Shepherd Checks for \$2.50, well worth \$3.25;

Fancy Plaid Shawls for \$3, a decided bargain.

90 Wool Squares and Longs for \$3.50, which would be cheap at \$4.25.

Over 750 Wool Shawls to choose from.

A LOT OF REVERSIBLE

Paisley Squares from \$6.

LADIES—These Goods can all be seen at THE CASH STORE, Upper Wyndham Street.

RICHARD CLAYTON.

Guelph, Oct. 27, 1873.

NEW WHITE FISH

AND SALMON TROUT TO HAND.

REMEMBER THE STAND:

J. E. McELDERRY,

No. 2, Day's Block, Guelph.

"The Noted Tea House."

FIRST PRIZE BISCUITS

JAMES MASSIE,

Manufacturer of CHOICE CONFECTIONERY AND BISCUITS,

Alma Block, Guelph.

Invites the attention of the Trade to the Superior Quality of Goods now produced at his Manufactory. Having introduced many new improvements, and employing only first-class workmen, and possessing every facility, he is prepared to supply the trade with a class of goods unsurpassed by any manufacturer in the Province.

OZONGES, all flavors; DROPS, assorted flavors and shapes; GUM and LICORICE DROPS, CONVERSATION LOZENGES, MOULDED SWEETS, new patterns; SODA, SWEET and FRUIT BISCUITS, FRUIT BISCUITS, GINGER NUSS, CHEWING GUM, ROCK CANDY, LICORICE.

A Large Stock of Choice and Favorite Brand Cigars.

His Biscuits took the first prize over all others at the London Western, and his was the only place where they were entered for competition. All Goods carefully packed and shipped with despatch.

NEW GOODS TO-DAY.

Fancy Hosiery, Black Silk Velvets, low priced; Shepherd Winceys, Hop Sackings, Burlaps, Bear Duck.

General Fancy Goods.

SMALL WARES AND TOYS

AT J. HUNTER'S Berlin Wool, Fancy Goods, and Toy Store, Wyndham Street Guelph.

JOHN MACDONALD & CO., TORONTO.

Nov. 15th, 1873.

POCKET BOOK LOST. Lost, on Saturday last, the 12th inst., near the Grand Trunk Railway Station, in Rockwood, a large, black leather pocket book, containing three notes of hand, one drawn by Charles Stovel, Walkerton, for \$200, in favor of John Hever, Guelph, and endorsed by him, due the 29th day of December, 1873; one drawn by Joseph Hunter, Pickering, for \$45-\$45 endorsed thereon in favor of John Hever, Guelph, and endorsed by him, due the 19th January, 1874; and one drawn by T. M. Daly, of Stratford, for \$116-\$67 endorsed thereon in favor of Robert Cullen, Pickering. A number of other papers of no use to any person but the owner, were also in the book. The payment of all these notes of hand has been stopped, and the public are hereby cautioned against purchasing them. Any person returning the pocket book and content, to John Hever, Guelph, Great Western Hotel, or to the owner, at Rockwood, will be handsomely rewarded. ROBERT CULLSON, Nov. 15th, 1873. wt-dlan