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Which Was The Heir?

CHAPTER XLII. (Concluded.)

WHILE Geoffrey and Ronnie were sitting in the cottage in the wood, Geoffrey full of joy at the recovery of his boy, Cottie all a-quiver with love and shame and doubt for the consequences of her secret; while these two were playing the game of cross purposes, the god of circumstance was striding towards them with a firm and certain step, befitting a god.

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mate curse. The latter was not tangible, but the notes were; and Lane chuckled with satisfaction as he counted them and stowed them away with the precious packet. This money was the first fruits of his sharpness and cunning, and as he patted them lovingly, he could almost feel the fifty thousand pounds, to say nothing of the thousand a year, which would follow them.

Being in funds, it occurred to him that he would take a little holiday; but first, he thought he would like to see his daughter. There is always one spot in every villain, however black he may be, and a sudden affection had sprung up in his bosom for the daughter whom he had never seen, and whom, until lately, he had

ACCIDENTS

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scarcely given a thought to. The paternal impulse surprised himself; but it was there all the same. He went down that evening, unobserved, to Mrs. Farren's cottage, and asked her for the address of the training college at which they both thought Rachel to be.

'I suppose she's grown into a smartish girl by this time?' he remarked as he took down the address. Mrs. Farren sighed, and replied in the dull, repressed tone in which she always spoke to the man: 'Yes, I'm told she's pretty. I can't say—I haven't seen her—but they say she's pretty; that she's got her mother's golden hair—my girl had the most beautiful hair.'

'You haven't got a portrait of the girl about?' he asked. 'Yes,' she replied, 'there's some somewhere about. I daresay you'll find one in the drawer there in the cupboard.'

Lane went to the drawer and found several portraits, large and small. He recognised them by their likeness to her mother.

'Yes, she's like,' he said, gazing at the latest one with a pride which sat oddly and grotesquely on his mean face. 'Pretty! I call her beautiful! She's like me—a little. She's a fine girl. By George! she's a girl who might marry anyone! And she's at a college, is she? She little thinks of the future that's before her.'

With the portrait in his pocket he went up to London the next day, and making his way to the college, inquired of Miss Lane.

The official who received him eyed him with some surprise. 'Miss Lane's not here,' she said. 'She's not been here this term—in fact, she's not been back since her holidays some months ago.'

The 'fond father' was staggered, and sank into a chair, staring suspiciously at the lady. 'Why, where is she, then?' he asked, when he had recovered from his astonishment.

'Are you a friend of hers—a relation?' enquired the superintendent. 'I am a sort of relation,' stammered Lane. 'I want to see her. Can't you tell me where she's gone? I have some news for her from—from her father.'

'Indeed?' said the superintendent. 'I was not aware that she had a father. I am afraid I cannot give you any information; but I will ask the teachers and some of the pupils. I thought she was at home with her grandmother, at a place called Starborough.'

'She's—she's not there. She may be on a visit somewhere,' he added, cunningly, and with an affectation of ease; but he covertly wiped the sweat from his brow as the superintendent went to make her enquiries. Rachel's name was not mentioned. 'Where else could she have been all these months?'

A vague dread assailed him, and long hands opened and shut and the edge of his coat. The superintendent came back, with the irritating placidity and calmness of the official.

'I have made enquiries,' she said, grimly; and, by a strange chance, I am able to give you some information. One of our pupils lives at Brighton, and she says that she saw Miss Lane there. She did not speak to her, for she was driving in a carriage. And the young lady thinks that Miss Lane must have been staying at Brighton on a visit, or may have obtained a situation there. I think the latter is

the more probable conjecture. Many of our pupils obtain situations without, I am sorry to say, consulting us. 'Yes, that's it; no doubt that's it,' said Lane, jumping at the explanation. 'I shall say that she's the sort of girl I mean young lady—to get a situation easy enough.'

'Just so,' assented the superintendent. 'I think that she might have written to me or consulted me; but Miss Lane was always somewhat—irresponsible.'

Lane glowered at this, but thanked the superintendent civilly enough, and got outside. He went straight to the station and reached Brighton in the afternoon. He had no clue to the girl's where-

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about; but that did not trouble him very much, for he knew that he should probably meet her in one of the places of public resort, and he knew that he would recognise her by the photograph. He went to a second rate hotel and had his dinner, then he set out on his search, scanning the face of every woman on the crowded parade and pier; but he met no one resembling her.

Tired with his search, and irritated by his gnawing impatience, and yet unable to rest, he turned into the theatre, taking a seat in the pit. The performance had commenced, but he paid little heed to that, his small

eyes wandering round the crowded house in search of the girl. Presently a curtain was slightly drawn back from a private box, a lady was seen for a moment, then disappeared behind the curtain again. It was only for a moment; but he caught sight of her, and he knew her. The emotion of recognition was mingled with that of amazement; for Rachel was in gorgeous evening dress, with jewels shining upon her white neck and arms and in the red hair which had helped him to identify her.

He sprang up in his place; but the indignant cries of 'order!' and 'Sit down!' brought him to his seat again. The perspiration stood on his forehead; he was all of a shake. Could that indeed be Rachel, his daughter, that Richly dressed Lady, to be sitting there, gorgeously attired, she who had no money, and had until recently, been only a pupil at a training college? All sorts of horrible fears attacked him; he could scarcely retain his seat until the close of the act.

Rheumatism Cured In 3 Weeks

By Father Morrissy's "No. 7" Tablets. Mr. James LeB. Johnstone, a prominent member of the Citizen's Band, of Chatham, N.B. writes: "I contracted Rheumatism by exposure five years ago, and was ailing for two months and in great pain all the time. I got Father Morrissy's No. 7 Tablets, and took them for about three weeks, when the Rheumatism all left me, and I have had no return of the pains since."

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He went outside and got a drink of brandy at a public-house; then he returned to the entrance of the theatre and waited in the shadow until the audience should come out. While he was thus waiting, two men emerged from the entrance to the upper boxes. They were both solidly built, dressed in blue serge, and Lane glanced at them, absently and, at first, without any interest; then suddenly he started, and, gliding quickly behind one of the advertisement boards, crouched down, his face white, his eyes fixed on the men.

They came close up to his hiding-place, and one of them, as they stopped to light their cigars, said: 'Sure you're right?'

'Oh, quite certain,' replied the other. 'I thought I spotted him in the pit when I came in, but I wasn't quite sure then; but he jumped up in the middle of the play for some reason or other, and I saw him quite distinctly; it's not the kind of face you're likely to forget; and I caught sight of him several times in Melbourne.'

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In the Matter of the Estate of Catherine Stewart, late of Berkshire, England, Widow, Deceased.

ALL persons claiming to be creditors or who have any claim upon or affecting the estate of the above-named Catherine Stewart, are requested to send particulars of same in writing duly attested to Donald M. Browning, K. C., of St. John's, Administrator, de bonis non cum testamento annexo of the Will of the said Catherine Stewart, or to the undersigned Solicitor for the said Administrator, on or before the 30th day of June, A.D. 1901; and notice is hereby given that after said date the said Administrator will proceed to distribute the assets of said estate amongst the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which he shall then have had notice.

Dated at St. John's this 12th day of May, A.D. 1901. JAS. F. BLACKWOOD, Solicitor for Administrator. Address: Temple Building, Duckworth St., St. John's, N.F. -my17,24,31,37,42,21.

UNCLAIMED LETTERS REMAINING IN G. P. O. to MAY 31st, 1901

Table with columns A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z. Lists names and addresses of individuals with unclaimed letters.

SEAMEN'S LIST.

Table with columns A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z. Lists names and details of seamen.

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