

THE WONDERFUL FLOWER OF WOXINDON.

An Historical Romance of the Times of Queen Elizabeth.

BY REV. JOSEPH SPILLMAN, S. J.

PUBLISHED BY PERMISSION OF E. HERDER, ST. LOUIS, MO.

(Reproduced from the Montreal True Witness.)

CHAPTER XXXIII.—Continued.

"It is my conviction that they all speak the truth on that point, I rejoined.

"What?" exclaimed my uncle angrily. "Have we not her letter and Babington's, both of which prove the contrary?"

"It may be so if you have other letters of which I know nothing, in addition to the long letter of the 17th of July, and I conclude you have, from what I have heard you say to the Queen on the terrace at Windsor. That letter of the 17th of July certainly contains nothing to incriminate the writer," I replied.

My uncle gave me a searching look. "I hope, Francis," he said, after a moment's pause, "that you do not mean to infer that I intended to mislead the Queen on that occasion."

"Certainly not willingly," I replied, "but the wisest man may be deceived by a rogue. But I will not call in question the sagacity and knowledge of the world for which you enjoy so widespread a reputation. Doubtless you possess other documents besides those to which I refer."

"And supposing we had no other written evidence save that letter and Babington's answer, what should you assume that you were the appointed counsel for the Queen of Scots—allege against it?" asked my uncle, in a half contemptuous, half angry manner.

"In the character of counsel for the Queen of Scots, I should naturally first of all request to see the letters on which the whole charge against her rests.

My uncle rose, and unlocking a strong box, he took out two letters written in cipher, together with a deciphered transcript in Philipp's hand. These letters he showed me, retaining them in his possession the whole time; then he deposited them again in the place whence he took them, locked it, and put the key in his pocket. "One cannot be too careful in preserving documents of such importance," he said. "But here are faithful copies, whose accuracy can be tested by a court of law by comparison with the originals. Now I must beg the learned counsel to note the passages in both letters which are marked with red ink, and tell me what can be said in his client's defence."

Walsingham threw himself back in his chair, and occupied himself apparently in watching the dancing flames and the expiring embers on the hearth. I applied my whole mind to the examination of the letters in Babington's there were two very unfortunate passages. After speaking of Parma's meditated incursion, and of Mary's release, he mentioned as a part of the scheme "the despatch of the usurping competitor." Another passage, also marked by my uncle, ran thus—the words are deeply impressed on my memory—"Myself, with ten gentlemen of quality, and a hundred followers, will undertake the deliverance of your person from the hands of your enemies, and for the despatch of the usurper, from obedience to whom, by the excommunication of her, we are made free, there be six noble gentlemen, all my private friends, who for the zeal they bear the Catholic cause and your Majesty's service will undertake the irregular execution."

On reading this, I was compelled to own, that if this letter was, indeed, as alleged, genuine, Mary Stuart must at any rate have been privy to the murderous design. I then took up the letter which she had written in answer. If this copy, placed by Walsingham in my hands, were as accurate as he considered it, she not only knew of it, but approved of and sanctioned it. In Philipp's transcript mention was frequently made of "the undertaking of the six noble gentlemen." For instance, one of the questions she put to the conspirators was: "By what means do these six gentlemen deliberate to proceed?" Further on there was a request that the six gentlemen were not set to work until the affairs were prepared, and forces in readiness within and without the realm; finally a long passage to the intent that it would be well for the said gentlemen to have always at Court sundry stout men provided with good horses to bring tidings with all diligence to Chartley as soon as the design is executed, that she might be apprised of it and set free, before her keeper should have warning of the existence of the said design. And the reason given for this request was, that there could be no certain day appointed when the plan could be carried out at Court, and that it was imperative that she should be set at liberty immediately after its accomplishment.

couriers should be despatched to Chartley by divers ways, at the same time it would be needful to endeavor to cut off the ordinary post, etc.

It was quite possible that the more general mention of a design on the part of the six gentlemen might have escaped me when the deciphered copy was made at Barton. But this latter passage was not of a nature or of a length to be overlooked; it almost filled a whole page in Philipp's transcript. Nor was a word of it to be found in the original draft. There could be no doubt that the whole passage was a forgery. And when I compared it with the context, I wondered that my uncle's keen eye had not immediately detected so clumsy a deceit. His eager desire, on political ground, to connect Mary Stuart with this plot, must have led him to heed nothing but the passages marked, I said to myself. But the suspicion forced itself upon me, was he not aware that he was making use of a forgery? May it not even have been by his orders that the interpolation was made? I know that politicians were often unscrupulous as to the means they employed, but I did not like to believe that my uncle would resort to such unworthy expedients. Still the whole matter must be expounded to him; no agreeable task at the best, for no man would like the fabric he has carefully constructed, and on which so much depended, to be overthrown like a house of cards. However there was no help for it, since the honor and the life of an innocent person were at stake.

"You have been a long time deliberating," Walsingham said at length. "What is the verdict? Not very favorable to her Majesty of Scotland, to judge by the funeral eulogium of her counsel."

"It is decidedly favorable for Mary Stuart," I replied.

Walsingham leant back in his chair with forced composure. "You surprise me," he said. "I am anxious to hear what can be urged in defence of the accused; forwarded, forwarded, you know."

"To me it appears most simple and obvious. I can prove the falsification of both letters," I answered.

My uncle turned pale, but otherwise betrayed no emotion. Looking sharply at me, he said: "I must either be deceived or a deceiver. Neither opinion is flattering; but let me hear your proofs."

"I believe I can give direct and conclusive proof that the Queen's letter has been falsified; in regard to Babington's the evidence is only presumptive. But if the Queen's letter is not genuine, the same will probably be true as his."

"It may possibly be so," Walsingham remarked. "This I concede, that finding the one spurious greatly weakens the evidence of the other. But now give me your proofs that the Queen's letter is falsified, and mind, the proofs must be incontrovertible!"

"The evidence is both internal and external," I resumed. "This long passage that you have marked is the one on which everything turns, and it is plainly an interpolation."

My uncle interrupted me. There are other passages marked, which taken in connection with Babington's letter, clearly prove Mary Stuart's guilt."

"Undoubtedly," I replied, "supposing Babington's letter to be genuine, but if it is spurious, as I believe I can prove it to be, then the expression, the design of the six gentlemen has no special significance. It would simply mean the deliverance of the captive. I do not hesitate to affirm that this long passage is a forgery, for it is directly at variance with any other part of the letter. Listen to this."

I then read aloud the portion of the prisoner's letter wherein she gives strict directions that immediately after the accomplishment of the design upon Elizabeth's life, couriers should be sent to Chartley, and then, but not until then, her release be attempted. "This I begged him to compare with the following words, which occurred somewhat later: 'If you take me out of this place, be well assured to set me in the midst of a good army, or some very good strength, where I may safely stay until the assembling of your forces, and of the said foreign succours. It were sufficient cause given to the Queen, in catching me again, to enclose me in some hold, out of which I should never escape, if she did use me no worse, and to pursue with all extremity those that assisted me, which would grieve me more than all the unhappiness might fall upon myself.'" "How," I asked, "are we to reconcile this passage with the one which precedes it? Mary directs that, on the successful accomplishment of the design, the news of her rival's death is to be the signal of her release from prison. A few lines further on, she commands that precautions were taken, lest the Queen—who has been assassinated, mark you—should catch her again, and treat her worse than before! If this is not a contradiction, I never saw one; one of the two passages is distinctly a forgery. Strike out the one that is marked, and it will appear perfectly natural that Mary Stuart should be anxious to be protected from the Queen's anger until the landing of Parma's troops."

Walsingham had listened to me with growing uneasiness. He could not contest the force of my arguments, so he tried to set aside with a sneer. "Not unless it was written from beginning to end by the forger, I remarked."

"Do not interrupt me," Walsingham said, angrily knitting his brows. "Moreover, an apparent contradiction in a woman's letter by no means proves it to be a forgery. Some word is probably omitted, overlooked by the decipherer, which would entirely alter the sense. Besides, logic is not a woman's strong point."

"The letter before us bears every mark of forethought and deliberation. But listen to my other proof. Amongst the papers belonging to Mary Stuart that were seized, there was, happily for her, a draft in her own handwriting of that very letter to Babington. There is not a word of all that in it. I brought the letter in a separate envelope. Here it is." I detached the precious document from the pocket, and handed it to my uncle (To be continued.)

The Spirit of Winter. The Spirit of Winter is with us, making its presence known in many different ways—sometimes by cheery sunshine and glistening snows, and sometimes by driving winds and blinding storms. To many people it seems to take a delight in making bad things worse, for rheumatism twists harder, twinges sharper, catarrh becomes more annoying, and the many symptoms of scrofula are developed and aggravated. There is not much poetry in this, but there is truth, and it is a wonder that more people don't get rid of these ailments. The medicine that cures them—Hood's Sarsaparilla—is easily obtained and there is abundant proof that its cures are radical and permanent.

NEWS FROM THE YUKON. Dawson advises of the 17th, say—The Territorial Elections caused some surprise in Dawson district. Clark leads and Dr. Thompson is second of two members. Many of Clark's supporters came from the Creeks. In Klondyke district Rev. John Pringle leads and Max L. Anderson is second by a good clear lead. While Horse has not yet been heard from. The respectful element in Dawson are disgusted over Clark's election. In two districts several candidates lost large deposits. A big vote was polled. A desperate character named Grimsey, from Seattle escaped from the guards yesterday in the fog while working. Every effort was made to re-capture him. When sent up for theft, he made a threat that he would burn the city. He had concealed weapons when arrested.

TO NATIONALIZE COAL AND TRANSPORTATION. The chairman of the Judiciary Committee of the United States House of Representatives has introduced a resolution that the Committee be directed to investigate and report the opinion of the committee as to the power of Congress to declare the necessity has arisen for taking possession of all the coal beds and coal mines in the United States, and all lines of transportation, agencies, instruments and vehicles of commerce necessary for the transportation of coal.

RUT'S

The walking sick, what a crowd of them there are: Persons who are thin and weak but not sick enough to go to bed.

"Chronic cases" that's what the doctors call them, which in common English means—long sickness.

To stop the continued loss of flesh they need Scott's Emulsion. For the feeling of weakness they need Scott's Emulsion.

It makes new flesh and gives new life to the weak system.

Scott's Emulsion gets thin and weak persons out of the rut. It makes new, rich blood, strengthens the nerves and gives appetite for ordinary food.

Scott's Emulsion can be taken as long as sickness lasts and do good all the time.

There's new strength and flesh in every dose.

We will be glad to send you a few doses free. Be sure that this picture in the form of a label is on the wrapper of every bottle of Emulsion you buy. SCOTT & BOWNE, Chemists, Toronto, Ontario. 50c. and \$1; all druggists.

MILBURN'S

LAXA LIVER PILLS

Are a combination of the active principles of the most valuable vegetable remedies for diseases and disorders of the Liver, Stomach and Bowels.

CURE CONSTIPATION

Sick Headache, Jaundice, Heartburn, Catarrh of the Stomach, Nausea, Blisters and Pimples.

CURE BILIOUSNESS

Dyspepsia, Sour Stomach, Water Brash, Liver Complaint, Biliary or Muddy Complexion.

CLEAN COATED TONGUE

Sweeten the breath and clear away all waste and poisonous matter from the system. Price 50c. a bottle or \$1.00. All dealers of The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

SPEAK THE GOOD WORD.

It isn't the thinking how grateful we are

For the kindness of friends come to bless

Our sorrow or loss

'Neath the weight of the Cross; 'Tis telling our gratefulness.

It isn't the love that they have in their hearts,

And neglect or forget to reveal,

That brightens the lives

Of husbands and wives;

It is telling the love that they feel.

It isn't the thinking of good to mankind

That comes as a cooling drink

To the famishing ones

Of Earth's daughter's and sons;

It is telling the good that we think.

It isn't the music, asleep in the strings

Of the lute, that entrances the ear,

And brings to the breast

The spirit of rest;

It is only the music we hear.

Nor the roses we keep as our own,

That are strewn at our feet

By the angels we meet

On our way to the Great White Throne.

It isn't the silence of hope unexpressed

That heartens and strengthens the weak

To triumph through strife

For the great things of life;

'Tis the words of good cheer that we speak.

WILLIAM J. LAMPTON.

Milburn's Sterling Headache Powders contain neither morphine nor opium. They promptly cure Sick Headache, Neuralgia, Headache, Headache of Grippes, Headache of delicate ladies and Headache from any cause whatever. Price 10c. and 25c.

"Boys," said the professor, "when I am endeavoring to explain to you the peculiarities of the monkey I wish you to look straight at me."

Worms affect a child's health too seriously to neglect. Sometimes they cause convulsions and death. If you suspect them to be present, give Dr. Low's pleasant Worm Syrup, which destroys the worms without injuring the child. Price 25c.

Littlegrate—No, I never read novels. I write 'em.

Synned—I don't blame you for having a prejudice against them.

Used internally Haggard's Oilcures Sore Throat, Hæmorrhages, Gouty Pain in the Chest, Gout, etc. Used externally cures Rheumatism, Siff Joints, Contracted Cords, Sprains, Strains, Burns, Scalds, Cuts, and Bites of Insects.

Softleigh (to the girl's small brother.)—I say, Bubbles, what are you aw-going to be when you grow up to be a man?

Bobby—Oh, I don't know. What are you going to be?

The breath of the pines is the breath of life to the consumptive. Norway Pine Syrup contains the pine virtues and cures coughs, colds, bronchitis, hoarseness, and all throat and lung troubles, which, if not attended to, lead to consumption.

Minard's Liniment relieves neuralgia.

BURDOCK BLOOD BITTERS

MAKES PERMANENT CURES

Of such severe diseases as scrofula, running sores, salt rheum or eczema, shingles, erysipelas and cancer, as well as boils, blotches, pimples, constipation, sick headache, dyspepsia, and all disorders of the stomach, liver, kidneys, bowels and blood.

Burdock Blood Bitters always does its work thoroughly and completely, so people know that when B.B.B. cures them they're cured to stay cured.

MILBURN'S HEART AND NERVE PILLS FOR WEAK PEOPLE. They regulate the action of the heart and invigorate the nerves. They build up the run-down system as no other remedy will do. They cure Nervousness, Sleeplessness, Brain Fag, Palpitation of the Heart, After Effects of La Grippe, Pains or Dizzy Spells, Anæmia, General Debility and all troubles caused by the system being run down. They have cured others. They will cure you. 50c. per box or \$1.00. All dealers of The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

Minard's Liniment Cures Garget in Cows. Old Lady—Does this parrot use any bad language? Bird-Dealer—No'm; but he's a young bird and easy taught.

MISCELLANEOUS

TAKE NOTICE

During the year the space devoted to advertising MINARD'S LINIMENT will contain expressions of no uncertain sound from people who speak from personal experience as to the merits of this best of Household Remedies.

Wife—You don't seem to enjoy the dinner, dear. What is the matter.

Husband—I was wondering if there weren't some typographical errors in that cookery book of yours.

Minard's Liniment the best Hair Restorer.

British Troop Oil Liniment is without exception the most effective remedy for Cuts, Wounds, Ulcers, Open Sores, Rheumatism, Bites, Stings of Insects, etc. A large bottle 25 cents.

"What were you about to remark?" she asked.

"Oh, it's of no consequence," he returned.

"I know that," she retorted, "but what was it?"

GOOD HEALTH IS IMPOSSIBLE

Without regular action of the bowels. Laxa-Liver Pills regulate the bowels, cure constipation, dyspepsia, biliousness, sick headache, and all affections of the organs of digestion. Price 25 cents. All druggists.

He—That rural play we saw had a yoke of oxen and several other farm animals in it?

She—Did it? Well, I suppose, that's what they call a stock company.

Minard's Liniment Cures LaGrippe.

Mrs. Greene—I called on the Venners this evening. Mrs. Venner sang for us. Her husband seemed surprised; he said she never sang for him when he was courting her.

Mr. Greene—Evidently Mrs. Venner is a woman of tact.

Minard's Liniment Cures Diphtheria.

Dumleigh—Do you know, I'm afraid I am going to lose my mind about this thing. I never was so worried in my life.

Stringer—Oh, I wouldn't mind. It isn't as though it was something you could see.

Keep Minard's Liniment in the House.

Backaches of Women. Not one woman in twenty has a strong back.

Backache is the cry of Weak Kidneys for help.

Backache is the warning note of much more serious trouble to come, if not attended to immediately.

Backache can be cured quickly and permanently by using

DOAN'S KIDNEY PILLS.

The great and well known Kidney remedy. They have cured thousands of women. They will cure you.

Mrs. R. L. Lane, Mapleton, N. B., writes: "I was greatly troubled with Backache and pain in my side. I saw Doan's Kidney Pills advertised, so thought I would give them a trial. After the first box I began to feel better and I took two more to make a complete cure. I consider Doan's Kidney Pills a good, honest, reliable medicine for all kidney troubles and can highly recommend them."

50c. per box or \$1.00. All dealers of The Doan Kidney Pills Co., Toronto, Ont.

Strayed.

There has been on the sub-urban premises since the 15th of November, a year and a half old Bull, color red. Unless claimed by January 15th, 1903, he will be sold by auction on the premises to pay expenses. CHAS. W. LEARD. Riverton, Lot 52, Dec. 24, 1902—3.

Read This.

50 per cent. off.

We have a few of Tuck's celebrated Calendars left over from our big sale, to be cleared out to day at exactly

Half Price.

Now here is a snap. Some of the most beautiful ones are left. Office and pocket diaries for 1903—a nice stock, low prices, The Canadian Almanac for 1903, the only one published in Canada now on sale. Peloubet's Notes on the International S. S. Lessons for 1903.

Geo. Carter & Co.

Quaker MARMALADE

This is a new brand of

ORANGE MARMALADE

put up in

One Pound Glass Jars.

It is a Very Superior Article

And gives splendid satisfaction whatever used.

Try a pot of it from

BEER & GOFF, GROCERS.

!SAY!

If you want to buy a SATISFACTORY pair of

BOOTS or SHOES

or anything else in the

FOOTWEAR

line, at the greatest saving price to yourself, try—

A. E. McEACHEN, THE SHOE MAN, QUEEN STREET.

JOHN T. MELLISH, M. A. LL. B., Barrister & Attorney-at-Law, NOTARY PUBLIC, etc. CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. ISLAND Over London House Building.

Collecting, conveyancing, and all kinds of legal business promptly attended to. Investments made on best security. Money to loan.

JAMES H. REDDIN, BARRISTER-AT-LAW, NOTARY PUBLIC, &c. CAMERON BLOCK, CHARLOTTETOWN. Special attention given to Collections MONEY TO LOAN.

INSURANCE.

Fire, Marine, LIFE and ACCIDENT.

HYNDMAN & CO. Agents.

Stoves! All kinds of Stoves at LOWEST PRICES. Ask to see the "HOTBLAST." Fennell & Chandler

Suits. WE KEEP Right to the Front IN THE Tailoring Trade; But we do not charge high prices for our Goods—just enough to make you feel satisfied that you are getting the best value in town.

Tweed & Worsted Suits FROM \$14 UP. JOHN McLEOD & CO., Merchant Tailor.

One-Third Off everything in Men's

Furnishing Goods - - AT - -

GORDON & MACLELLAN'S, Men's Outfitters. Upper Queen Street.