GRANTLEY MANOR.

#### A TALE BY

LADY GEORGINA FULLERTON,

athor of "Lady Bird," "Ellen Middleton," &c

#### CHAPTER VI. (Continued.)

"You are wrong; you can neither trust me in this matter, nor can I trnst myself to speak upon it. Put whatever construction you choose on my words. care not what you infer from them, but I will not listen to one word on a subect on which I am not able to do justice to you, to myself, or to others."

As he said this, he snatched the book from the table, and hurried into the flower-garden, where, on her knees on drinking tea together, as to the dissipa- Seventh half-Yearly Literary Competition the mould, Margaret was tying up some China-asters, which had hitherto braved the nightly frosts, but whose drooping heads hung down as if fereboding their approaching fate.

"Walter," she cried, "help me to fasten these supports into the ground."

"It is of no use; you will catch cold: come in: leave those dying flowers lone."

"Poor thing !" she said, lifting up their heads once more, and then letting them fall again: "They were looking so bright and so strong when I planted them three months ago. Walter, I wish time would stand still or go back, or do and she had always met him with anything but go on.

"I thought I heard you wish exactly the contrary yesterday; you said, it never seemed to you to go fast enough." "Don't quote me against myself, Wal-Wer; there is nothing so annoying. 'You said the other day !' and 'Did I not tell You so?' are the most erovoking sentinces in the world, and you are always

As Walter looked grave and did not As Walter looked grave and did not Answer, she continued with increasing tritation. "Nobody can be expected to be always in the same mind, and to weigh every one of their words before weigh every one of their words before peaking, unless they are very old, and methodical, and precise, and tireome too."

As she spoke she sat down on the tone steps, and began twitching off the beads of the unfortunate asters which a noment before she had so much pitied and tended.

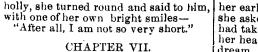
You will make yourself ill, Margaret, you stay here any longer. Pray come

"I am not cold, thank you. Pray don't tay with me if you find it cold." Her flushed cheeks did not belie her sertion. After a pause, Walter said-"I pity your friends Margaret, if they are to share the fate of those flowers. So

nuch kindness at one moment, and such tarshness the next." "I have behaved ill to you, Walter ave I not ! Oh, now I am quite miser-

Margaret, for you know that is the only bing I cannot do."

The tears sprang into Margaret's eyes; the held out her hand to Walter, and urned her head away. When he again Pressed her to come home, she answer-d gently,—"No, dear, dear Walter, let ne sit here a little while. The house is tifling—my head aches, and the air does me good." In a moment Walter head herem the herem the here the had brought from the house a large fur bloak, and wrapped her up in it, with the same care as if he had been dressing baby; tying the strings under her chin, baby; tying the strings under her chin, but the outside lamps cast an uncertain and clasping the collar so tight, that she cried for mercy, and then laughed; and then, when Walter said.—"Well, it is pleasant to see you laugh again," she features. His hps were moving rapidly as if he was speaking to himself, and in between Walter and besself as the set was producted by the set of the set of the set of the petween Walter and herself as the set of th broat. It seemed so very chilkish, so Very foolish, she said; and there came Shother half-smile across her face, and feet muttared a curve or the borses. bot know how I can dare to speak so and the hall door thrown open. The Spenly to you, but you know, Walter, drawing-room was full of people, and it how used I have been to tell you every took about five minutes for everybody thing: and when you ask me in that to shake hands with everyboby, and for kind manner what vexes me, I feel bbliged to speak the truth." "Always do so, my own Margaret. It sacting kindly by me, as well as justly by yourself. And may God give me strength always to deal kindly and girls of about the same age could easily



# A few days after the conversation that

closed the last chapter, Colonel Leslie and Margaret were engaged to dinner at Lord Donington's, whose house was about twelve miles distant from Grant-

Walter and Edmund were to dine ley. there also, and Margaret lookod forward with great pleasure to this rather unusual occurrence; as, since her father's arrival, there had been very little intercourse between her and her neigh-Lord Donnington's daughters bors. were her only friends, and there was between them that sort of intimacy which usually takes place when girls of the same age have been in the habit during their schoolroom years, of look-

ing forward to spending the day, or tion and excitement of their otherwise monotonous existence. Maud and Lucy Vincent had been absent for some months from Donington Castle, and had only returned a week ago from a tour in Italy. Margaret, who had not seen them yet, was very impatient to renew an intercourse which had hitherto been her greatest pleasure in life; and in her present state of uncertainty with regard to Edmund Neville's feelings regarding herself, she was not sorry to have an opportunity of observing him

in more general society than her own home ever afforded. Frederic Vincent Lord Donnington's eldest son, had been as well as his sisters, a favorite com-panion in all her childish amusements, pleasure in his successive holidays, even when, as an Etonian of fourteen, he was reckoned by his sisters the torment of the house and the plague of their lives. He had maintained his place in her good graces chiefly by his praises of her horsemanship, and h:s instructions in the management of the numberless pets to which she afforded her protection. This Frederic Vincent, now a

or as it would be fair to suppose, any deliberate intention of exciting Ed-mund's jealousy, but, that some idea of the sort had floated vaguely in her mind, it would perhaps be safe positi-vely to deny. As she finished dressing

ave I not! Oh, now I am quite miser-sple. I hate myself, and only wish that verybody would hate me too." "That is still more unkind to me, more smartly dressed than usual; and

scious victim without any sense of the extremity of fashion imposed upon him. Then it was also intensely cold. Wal-ter's eyes were red and his nose blue; and, above all, he was resigning himself to his unwonted dissipation with a meek endurance, which would have provoked Margaret's laughter if her eyes had not at that moment rested on Edmund's countenance. The carriage was dark, but the outside lamps cast an uncertain light within, which revealed such an expression of gloom and ill temyer as she had never before observed on his extremity of fashion imposed upon him. at that moment rested on Edmund's moment he drow

her earliest friends, for one short instant she asked herself if the new feeling that had taken such tyrannical possession of her heart, might not, after all, be a mere dream which an act of volition could

dispel. She found herself sitting at dinner by Frederic Vincent, and she immediately entered into an animated conversation with him, having first, by a rapid glance, ascertained that Edmund was exactly opposite to her, and was seated between Maud and Lucy. She had that peculiar talent which some people possess, of appearing wholly absorbed in conversation with one person, while they can watch the proceedings of half a dozen others; and while she was questioning her neighbor about his travels, and laughing at his view of the hardships of family-travelling with four carriages and a fourgon-far more severe, he said,than

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In accordance with their usual custom for some years past, the publishers of that old and reliable publication, The Canadian Agri-culturist, now presents its seventh Great Hali-Yearly Literary Competition for the winter of 1888, to the people of the United States and Canada. This competition will close May 30, 1893, (15 days thereafter being allowed for letters to reach us from distant points).

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the sort had floated vaguely in her mind, it would perhaps be safe positi-vely to deny. As she finished dressing on that day, and looked at herself in the glass with some degree of compla-terency, a smile struggled out of the cor-ners of her forcibly-compressed lips, which told of pleasant thoughts and agreeable anticipations. When she found herself in the carriage, and by the faint light reflected from the lamps outside, glanced at the faces of her three companions, she was struck by the pottate of meek resignation. "Dear ter, who sat opposite to her, looked the picture of meek resignation. "Dear world as above. They will also give a FHEE TRIP to the World's Fair and return (without to the first person sending fity words will be given \$5.00 in cash towards paying ex-penses to the World's Fair; to the first send-ing forty words will be given \$25.00 in cash towards paying expenses to the first ensending fity words will be given \$5.00 in cash towards paying ex-penses to the World's Fair; to the first send-ing forty words will be given \$25.00 in cash, and to her own radiant state of mind. Wal-picture of meek resignation. "Dear world sas above. They will also give a struck by the picture of meek resignation. "Dear words as above. They will also give a struck by the picture of meek resignation. "Dear words as above. They will also give a struck words. To the first person sending fity words will be given \$5.00 in cash. towards paying ex-penses to the World's Fair; to the first send-ing forty words will be given \$25.00 in cash, and to each of the first fire sending thirty words will be given \$5.00 in cash. Only one prize will be awarded to the same person. Write your name on list of words will be given \$5.00 in cash. Only one prize will be awarded to the same person. Write your name on list of words will be given \$5.00 in cash. Only one prize will be awarded to the same person. Write your name on list of words will be given \$5.00 in cash. Only one prize will be awarded to the same person. Write your name on

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smally, "and, as long as you consider me mouth was so small that it seemed as if as a friend, and a—"

was about to use; but the readiness with which she suggested it, caused him a features, which, had her figure been less pang; but that pang was conquered, and the continued— "I shall not complain of my little tall, slight, high-shouldered, and red-Warwaret or scold her for wighing hor.

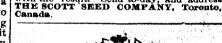
which water Sydney had yet achieved; maud. Both received margaret in the and the triumph was entire when he boked kindly at the little beauty, as wanding on tiptoe on the highest step of the flight, and dragging down to her overjoyed at meeting her again; and, wel the coral-studded branch of a tall

The longed to tell him - that she tried to which indicated anything but repose of tell him - but the words stuck in her mind, whatever ease of body that posi-A few more big tears rolled down her theek. At last, with her eyes on the ground, and drawing patterns on the sonly that Mr. Neville said to Mrs. Dalton, before me, that he never would marry a short woman, and—and—I sup-pose I am short." When she had said this, the color rushed into her cheeks. few more big tears rolled down her feet, muttered a curse on the English **Travel** with his stick, she murmured, "It is only that Mr. Neville said to Mrs. Dalton, before me, that he never would marry a short woman, and—and—I sup-pose I am short." When she had said this, the color rushed into her cheeks, and she exclaimed with impetuosity, "Do not laugh, Walter, do not laugh. I tamust seem to you. I suppose you think it is all childish nonsense. Some-times I hopeso myself," she added, with sigh, "but it makes my heart ache wask, compated with were week, computed disagreeable they all are!" With this charitable thought, "Bon week, computed disagreeable they all are!" With this charitable thought, "Bon week, computed disagreeable they all are!" With this charitable thought, "Bon week, computed disagreeable they all are!" With this charitable thought, "Bon week, computed disagreeable they all are!" With this charitable thought, "Bon week, construct disagreeable they all are!" With this charitable thought, "Bon week, construct disagreeable they all are!" With this charitable thought, "Bon week, construct disagreeable they all are!" With this charitable thought, "Bon week, construct disagreeable they all are!" With this charitable thought, and the self-approbation which accom-panied it, she also resigned herself to For much, whatever it is." Had she looked into Walter's face, she would meditation in the corner of the carriage. woked into Walter's face, she would have seen that it was unnecessary to warn him asainst laughing. She con-finued in a moment with increasing motion, "It is wrong, perhaps, to eknowledge this sort of feeling—to let you see my folly, my weakness. I do not her anathetic companions. In a few you see my folly, my weakness. I do not her anathetic companions. In a few you see my folly, my weakness. I do and the hall door thrown open. The

The strength always to dear analy and part is of about the strength always to dear analy the strength always to dear always the strength always to dear always the strength always it could scarcely open wide enough to

"Father," she cried, and pressed his admit a common-sized cherry. She was hand to her heart. It was the word he indisputably pretty; but yet there was

"I shall not complain of my little tail, slight, light-blockoutou, and rea-Margaret, or scold her for wishing her-haired; you would have said she was elf as tall as even her favorite maid, Marian." The gayety with which this was said, ible to see a sweeter countenance. This was the most complete victory over self one was Lucy, and the short one was which Walter Sydney had yet achieved; Maud. Both received Margaret in the

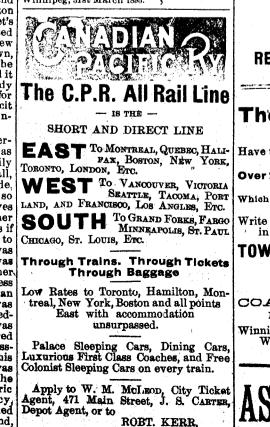




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