THE WONDERFUL FLOWER OF WOXINDON

An Historical Romance of the Times of Oueen Elizabeth.

BY REV. JOSEPH SPILLMAN, S. J.

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(CHAPTER XII.-Continued.) to surrender the conspirator to her. Gilbert Gifford belonged to one of and the king, not daring to comply the best families in Staffordshire. with her demand, yet desirous to For the sake of the Catholic faith his lence to penury, and had spent long prevent him from taking part in all lence to penury, and had spent long the intrigues set on foot in behalf of years in prison. In order to secure Mary Stuart, for the French policy a Catholic education for his son, a lad of remarkable talent, he sent him across the Channel, at the risk of game. Gifford shrewdly guessed across the Channel, at the risk of that Morgan was the chief concocter incurring a severe penalty, to the seminary founded at Douay by Dr.

Allen. The fact that the boy early Allen. The fact that the boy early he was soon in possession of importgifts, an unruly disposition, a frivolthe part of a zealous Catholic, and ous character, and an utter indifferfeign an enthusiastic attachment to ence to religion, may have determthe Queen of Scots. He even devisined the father to confide his trained a crafty plan whereby letters ing to Catholic priests. He was recould be conveyed to her without the moved by the hand of death before knowledge of her jailer. As the he had the sorrow of seeing how vain partisans of the royal captive desired had been all his care on behalf of his above all things to find some means son. In the class room Gilbert easily of carrying on a secret corresponddistanced his fellow pupils; and ence with her, Gifford appeared to when the seminary was removed Morgan in the light of an auxiliary from Donay to Rheims, he was apsent by Heaven. He furnished him pointed Professor of Philosophy with letters of recommendation to although only twenty years of age. Chateauneuf, the French ambassador His lectures were admirable, but his in London, who had hitherto refused morals left so much to be admired to comply with the request that he that after repeated admonitions and would convey the letters to the chastisements, his superiors threat-Queen of Scots. Mendoza was in ened him with expulsion from the like manner deceived : he too trusted seminary. Thereupon he ran away, the hypocrite, who simulated the taking with him a sum of money utmost devotion to the Catholic which the Duke of Guise had given cause, and whom the more cautious him as a benefaction to the seminary. Morgan had already taken into his In Paris, whither he betook himself the misappropriated money was quickly squandered in riotous living. Gifford was able to give me the Like the Prodigal, he began to be in particulars of two plots to effect the want; but he did not, like the Prorelease of the Queen of Scots, which digal, return in contrition to his was already being carried out to father saving: I have sinned before some extent. Of these one was the Heaven and before Thee, On the work of a certain Mr. Babington. contrary, the unhappy young mar who had gathered around him a few took another step on the downward young Catholic noblemen with road; he gave up his religion and whose co-operation he hoped to set plunged into the abyss of unbelief.

Such were the circumstances in which Gifford found himself, when I accidentally made his acquaintance about the new year 1586. We had Morgan and others of the exiles. But was, he had requested the host to introduce him to me, as a fellow countryman of good family. As he During his sojourn in Paris Babingwas well, almost elegantly dressed, and knew very well how to behave. I invited him to sit down at my table, near a warm fire. At first our conversation was on general topics, the state of England, the last news from the Low Countries; but presently, after easting more than once a cautious glance around him, to ascertain whether there was any one who understood English near enough to overhear us, he drew his seat closer and said he wanted to say word to me in confidence. He then offered his services to me as a spy. No one he assented, could be found better able to serve England in this capacity than himself, since he came of an old Catholic family, and had the highest references, which would ensure him admittance to the salons of the Spanish ambassador, of Charles Paget, the exiled Archbishon of Glasgow, and gain for him the acquaintance of Thomas Morgan and other partisans of Mary Stuart Ptovided, we would promise him the same remuneration which Walsingham's other spies received, we should have every reason to be content with the service he would render us,

I declared myself willing, at least, to test his ability to serve us, and singham bestowed on me great gave him a few sovereigns in advance. It was agreed between us that we should meet at the same He told me that the services I had place a week hence, for it would be rendered to Her Majesty's Governimprudent in the highest degree for him to be seen at the English em bassy, since that would awaken the than I was aware of, and that if I suspicions of Mary Stuart's party. be had then in hand to a successful We then parted. I cannot say how distasteful to me was the intercourse with such traitors. It was, however, unavoidable, for the statesmanship Her Majesty to confer upon me the of these days consisted to a great extent in the employment of these men, contemptible as they were in every respect. My uncle Waleingham himself expended enormous sums out of his private purse on these vile spies. There were more than a hundred in his pay, and the most valuable, although the most despicable of these were apostates and even fallen priests. The knowledge of this led me to form a very low opinion of the Popish clergy; do not remember the old saying: "corruptio optimi pessima;" the higher the state, the more terrible the fall from it.

To make a long story short, Gifford showed bimself to be a practised deceiver, for in a brief period he wormed himself into the confidence of the Archbishop of Glasgow and of Thomas Morgan. The latter had been a primary factor in the first scheme for liberating the Queen of in advance. If it threatens, you can difficult position. Fourteen years Scots, and Elizabeth would gladly resist : and you may overcome it. have sent him to the gallows. But he slipped through Her Majesty's fingers, and escaped to Paris. Eliza | tackle it; don't waste time. beth sent the Order of the Garter to Henry III., in order to induce him

evident appreciation of its fine flavor, spoke thus to me: "Your health. my dear Francis. It has long been my babit when I have any specially important business to consider, t drink a glass of this old port-only one glass, and that slowly. And you would do well to do the same. quickens ones pulses, and you cannot think how many fortunate inspirations I owe to it. Well, we have an important matter to consider now. You will not be surprised when I tell you, that from the standpoint of a loyal Englishmen and a ealous partisan of the Reformation consider Mary Stuart as our mos langerous enemy." him to the Bastille. This did not

With this I concurred, for since er right as the granddaughter of Henry VII. to the throne of England | Price 50c. a box or 5 for \$1.25, all dealer was indisputable, and considering Elizabeth's age it could hardly any onger be hoped that she would marry, still less have any legitimate issue, the probability was that Mary would succeed her, and thereby the naintenance of the reformed religion be imperilled. I said as much to my uncle, who listened patiently and hen replied: "I do not think there is much

cause for anxiety on that score.

Burghley's fair name should be tar-

himself beside me, and sipping from time to time the generous liquor with

nished with a plot of which-whether she is innocent or not-the English Parliament can make use for the surpose of setting aside her right, hat you consider indisputable. Our Parliament has brought more difficult things to pass than that during the last half century. No, the only chance Mary Stuart has of ascending the throne would be by a successful rising of the Catholics within the country, or through the invasion of a foreign power, in support of her claims. The first contingency is no longer to be dreaded. The case was very different eighteen years ago, when the Pope desposed Elizabeth, and the most influential lords in the North took up arms. The fate of the new Oueen and the new religion then hung upon a thread. Burghley completely lost his head, and the our of peril showed him to be nothing of a statesman, however clever he may be as intriguer. If Alba had appeared off the coast of Yorkshire at that juncture with half a dozen galleons, and landed a regiment of his redoubtable Spaniards, Mary Stuart would now be Queen, and the Smithfield fires would blaze afresh. That danger was happily averted, contrary to all expectations, and the deluded insurrectionists, by order of the Queen, who on this occassion proved herself to be a true daughter of Henry VIII., spiated their folly with their lives. Whole villages were depopulated. pince that time every year renders it ess probable that such a rising would end in aught but failure. The number of Catholics has melted away;

Thus by the beginning of March

the Queen free by some "coup de

main." The same Babington had

been in Paris in February, and had

been carrying on negotiations with

the whole thing seemed very vague.

and savoured more of a boyish ad-

enture than a serious anterprise.

ton had spent more time on the

amusements of the carnival than

preparations for a political action.

although he had been in communi-

cation with the Duke of Guise. The

other project was of far greater

moment; Philip II. was at last pre-

paring in earnest for a descent upon

England. The Prince of Parma was

appointed leader of the expedition,

and the other arrangements were

now being concluded. Mary Stu-

art's hand was promised to the

Prince, and in order to concert oper-

ations with the captive Princess, her

friends were desirous to make use of

the method of communicating with

This information appeared to me

o trustworthy and so important that

forthwith despatched a special

messenger to carry it in cipher to

my uncle Walsingham. By the

same messenger he sent me back

word to come to London, without

my departure being known, if pos-

sible, to bring Gifford with me. This

I did in the commencement of April.

CHAPTER XIII.

On my arrival in London, Wal-

praise for the wisdom I had shown

in this most important business.

ment and to the Protestant religion

in England were more considerable

assisted him in bringing the intrigue

conclusion with equal prudence and

and sagacisy, he would prevail upon

onor of knighthood and make me

member of the Privy Council.

He added that I might also reckon

confidently on obtaining the favor of

he omnipotent Lord Burgbley and

the hand of his charming daughter.

After these introductory remarks,

ne took me into his own private

cabinet, to which until then I had

out rarely been admitted, carefully

closed the door, and bade me take a

eat by the fire, in front of which he

pushed a small table. On this he

placed two finely cut glasses, filling

hem with old crushed port from a

decanter that he took out of a cup-

poard in the wall. He then seated

to fight consumption, with Scott's

Emulsion of cod-liver oil, is long

Don't be afraid; be brave. But

SEND FOR PARE SAMPLE AND THY IT.

her, which Gifford had suggested.

will be reduced to beggary. Far more cause have we for concerning the other danger that and brain troubles. hreatens us. As long as Mary Stuart is alive, our Popish fellowbring about a Spanish invasion. You emember the conspiracy of Ridolfi. I wo years ago a scheme was afloat of similar nature; now for the third ime we are menaced by the same danger, and in a worse shape than eretofore. Once more I repeat: we shall never enjoy tranquility as ong as Mary Stuart is a prisoner in

political necessity." Walsingham uttered the last word in a low tone, but with deliberation and emphasis. He then raised his glass to his lips again, and silence prevailed until I remarked:

"Uncle, you said, 'as long as she s a prisoner in England.' Suppos-

ng she were set at liberty?" "She would have been set at liberty ong ago," he rejoined, "if she would have agreed to two conditions, the surrender of her claim to the throne. nd the adoption of the reformed for her son, who certainly repays her blood and create disease. maternal affection in the most exem plary manner: the second on account of that inconceivable fanaticism which few but Papists display. You will live to see Henry of Navarre turn his back on Calvin and go piously to Mass, though he now denounces it as an abominable idolatry. If Mary Stuart had adopted the tenets of Knox. he Lords of the Covenant would have held her to be a virtuous Queen, even were she in reality guilty of her huspand's murder, which those worthy nobles laid to her charge. And if she had abjured Popery when in England, she might perchance have been raised to the throne. In a word, she has rejected the conditions on which her iberty was offered ber, and they cannot be dispensed with. If she were released and sent to Scotland, we should be placing her son, who is a

ago, when Morton was regent, the

Lords of the Covenant demanded her

surrender: they would have taken

(To be continued)



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BY ARTUR BARRY.

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Declared her clients underrate her And rob of glory meet that Saving

Called fond reliance on her aid a curse ;

Denounced sweet prayers to her as vain, or worse; roclaimed, in fine, her cult a to shun!

Refuted by the probing test of time, These falsities no longer credence One only Church preserves Christ's

faith sublime : 'Tis she who ave bath honored Mary's name. Their heirs to-day proclaim the Son

> mere man. -Ave Maria.

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of kidney complaint, use Doan's Kidney Pills. As long as a wife keeps her hus-

band's socks darned marriage is not

wholly a failure. only in Lancashire and some of the northern counties, are they a small To make money it is necessary to majority, and the nobles who still have a clear, bright brain, a cool cling to the old creed, are gradually head free from pain, and strong, being ruined by enormous liens. vigorous nerves. Milburn's Heart Very soon all the wealthy Papists and Nerve Pills invigorate and brighten the brain, strengthen the nerves, and remove all heart, nerve

Don't marry a big hearted man. ountrymen will exert themselves to He has a capacity for loving too many women at the same time.

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England. Hence her death becomes A great many people never begin trust in the Lord until they have ost their last 'almighty dollar.'

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> Minard's Liniment relieves neuralgia.



her into custody on the frontier, tried at all druggists, or will of price by

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MISCELLANEOUS

A man who says he would not tell a lie to save his own life would make a good auctioneer. A married woman can always have

her audience at home without going to the lecture platform.

LIFE.

The poet's exclamation: " O Life feel thee bounding in my veins," s a joyous one. Persons that can rarely or never make it, in honesty to themselves, are among the most unfortunate. They do not live, but exist; for to live implies more than to be. To live is to be well and strong-to rise feeling equal to the ordinary duties of the day, and to retire not overcome by them-to feel life bounding in the veins. A medicine that has made thousands of people, men and women, well and strong, has accomplished a great work, bestowing the richest blessings, and that medicine is Hood's Sarsaparilla. The weak, run-down, or debilitated, from any cause, should not fail to take it. It builds up the whole system, changes existence into life, and makes life more abounding. We are glad to say these words in its favor to the readers of our columns.

There are men in this country too tingy to give anything but advice and very stale quality at that.

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Yours truly, W. A. OKE Harbor Grace, Nfld., Jan. 8, 1898.

ng the bites from becoming sore.

MINARD'S LINIMENT is also a

good article to keep off the mosquitoes.

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