Virgie's Inheritance.

Sir William Heath listened in painful silence to this recital, and then in turn related all that he knew regarding that terrible misunderstanding and the mystery attending it.

"It looks to me very much as if there was a conspiracy in the matter, and a desire on the part of some one to separate you and your wife," Dr. Thornton remarked, thoughtfully, when the young husband concluded.

"A conspiracy!" repeated Sir William.

"Yes: the fact that all letters, on both sides, have been intercepted, seems to point to such a suspicion. Have you any enemies who from interested motives, would try to create trouble between you and your wife?"

"Not that I amaware of," the young man replied, but looking deeply perplexed. "My family, to be sure, were not very well pleased with the idea of my marrying an American; but I can think of no one person who would have accomplished anything like what has occurred. It seems to me that in order to intercept letters there would need to be conspirators on both sides of the Atlantic who were interested in the project."

"Not necessarily. Any person determined to separate you might have robbed the mail of all letters at either end of the route. It is certainly very mysterious, and, mark my words, you will some learn that an enemy has been at work. But, Sir William," the clergyman continued, smiling genially, "you have relieved my mind and established my faith in you by this explanation. I confess I had set you down as a miserable scamp, and I have suffered a good deal on that beautiful young woman's account."

"I cannot blame you for thinking the very worst of me," returned Sir William, with emotion; "but I haue loved—I do love my wife with a love that can never die."

"I do not doubt it now. Of course I gave her the paper she desired, and also a copy of the certificate which I presented to you on your marriage day, and told her to command me at any time and I should be at her service to testify to the legality of her claims upon you."

"Thank you, sir. I am truly grateful to you for your kindness to my poor darling," said the baronet, tears springing to his eyes.

"But can you give any idea regarding her plans or movements?"

"No, I cannot, I am sorry to say," returned Doctor Thornton. "I asked her what course she intended to pursue, and she said, in the saddest voice I ever heard, 'I do not exactly know yet; I simply desire to establish the rightful claim of my daughter as the heiress of Heathdale.'"

"That looks as if she meant to go immediately to England!" cried Sir William, starting excitedly to his feet. "If she should do that all will be well—everything will be explained, and we shall be happy once more."

"I cannot say that such is her plan," returned the clergyman, thoughtfully. "She looked scarcely able to endure such a journey. Still, it may be that such was her intention."

"Oh, if I only knew! Just think, sir, I have never seen my child!" cried Sir William, greatly agitated.

"It is certainly very said. It is greatly to be regretted that you were recalled to England as you were," said Doctor Thornton.

"Indeed it is. Why did I ever leave her? It was wrong! I fear I was negligent of my duty toward her in so doing. I do not know what to do now. If she has gone to England, we have passed each other, and I would desire to retrace my steps thither at once. If she is still here on this continent, I should be in despair to go home, and only find it out on the other side of the ocean."

Doctor Thornton pitied the young husband sincerely.

"You are in a very trying position, I must acknowledge, and I do not like to advise you either to go or stay. You might wait here a while, and notify your friends to cable you in case Lady Heath should go direct to England; then it would be comparatively easy to join her there."

Sir William determined to act upon these suggestions. He would cable to Heathdale to be notified if Virgie should make her appearance there: meantime he would do his utmost to find her here.

He thanked the clergyman for his kindness, and bade him farewell, feeling much relieved regarding his wife, yet still very sad at heart at the mystery surrounding her.

He determined to search for Chi Lu, believing that he alone, who had always been so devoted to her, could tell him something definite as to her movements. He had an idea that he might be even now in her service.

CHAPTER XXI.

NOTHING BUT DEATH SHALL BREAK THE TIE.

Sir William went directly back to New York, fired with something of hope by Doctor Thornton's suggestions. He determined to search the passenger lists of the different steamer lines, hoping to find Virgie's name among them.

He half believed that, armed with the strong proofs she had secured to substantiate the legality of her marriage, she would go directly to England to assert her position there as his wife.

He realized that underneath her habitual quiet and sweetness there lay a dignity and strength of character that would stop at nothing legitimate to remove the stigma she believed was resting on her fair fame.

But while he gave her ample credit for resolution and energy, he did not make allowance for the sensitive pride which had been crushed to the earth by the cruel blow which had been dealt her. He did not stop to consider that it would never allow her to force herself upon him as an unloved and rejected wife when she had believed a more fortunate rival stood in her way.

But he found nothing in any of the booking offices of the different steamers to tell him that Virgie had sailed, or was intending to sail, even though he haunted them daily for three or four weeks.

Almost discouraged at the end of that time, he cabled to his sister the fallowing message:

"I have missed my wife—perhaps crossed her path. If she arrives at Heathdale let me know at once."

Lady Linton was somewhat startled upon receiving this message, for it told her that her brother had some reason for thinking that Virgie might be on her way to Heathdale, and, remembering Mrs. Farnum's account of her threats to claim her position, she had began to fear that she had underrated the girl's spirit, and that she might make her appearance at any moment and demand to be received as the mistress of the house.

This of course, would make matters rather complicated and awkward; but, as long as her brother was not at home, she trusted with her own craft to deal with her and make her only too glad to give Heathdale a wide berth should she show herself there.

After cabling, Sir William went again to the Pacific coast, in the hope of finding Chi Lu. He spent several weeks in San Francisco, thinking perhaps those he sought might hope to lose themselves there among the multitude.

He thought right for once, had he but known it, and had he possessed a little more patience, been a trifle less restless and feverish in his search, he might have succeeded in his quest.

But he was so wretched, so worn and discouraged with his constant and fruitless seeking, that he could not remain in one place long at a time, and so wandered here and there, until months having elapsed, he had been in nearly every State in the Union, reaping only disappointment and anguish of spirit.

Then there came again a summons for him to go home—his mother had been stricken with another shock, and, with a heavy heart, a feeling as if all the world were against him and his whole life ruined, he went back to his desolate home and the sick one there.

Ladg Heath only lived a few days after the second return of her son. He reached Heathdale just in season to see the sands of her life run out, and to close her eyes in their last long sleep; then they laid her in the family vault, and Sir William felt as if he had nothing now to bind him to his home.

"I cannot stay here—I must go away again," he said one day, in despair, to his sister, and her heart sank at his words.

"Well, I hope you are not going to America again, whatever you do," she remarked, with some impatience.

"If going to America would result in finding my wife, I would go a thousand times over," Sir William responded, sternly, and then added, with a note of agony in his voice: "Oh, where can my darling have hidden herself! Miriam," turning suddenly upon his sister, "can you suggest any reason for this terrible misunderstanding?—who could have intercepted all of our letters—who could have conspired, for it seems like a conspiracy, to separate us?"

For a moment Lady Linton turned faint and sick with the fear that he had discovered something to arouse his suspicions against her; but second thought told her that such could not be the case.

"What could I suggest?" she demanded, assuming an expression of surprise. "You forget that I know nothing of this woman who lured your heart from us, save what I have been told. She may have a rustic who is seeking his revenge by trying to separate you—a lover who has poisoned her mind against you, and perhaps won her allegiance back to himself."

"What utter nonsense you are talking, Miriam!" the baronet interrupted indignantly. "How little you appreciate the refinement of the girl whom I have married! True, you have never seen her; but one look at the face that I have shown you ought to have told you that she could have been won by no rustic."

Lady Linton shrugged her shoulders expressively.

"As for your letters," she said, flashing a swift, keen glance at him, "if you think they have been tampered with on this side of the Atlantic, I advise you to question Robert, since he has the exclusive charge of your mail-bag."

(To be Continued.)

Rev. Sylvanus Lane.

Of the Cincinnati M. E. Conference, makes a good point when he says: "We have for years used Hood's Sarsaparilla in our family of five, and find it fully equal to all that is claimed for it. Some people are greatly prejudiced against patent medicines, but how the patent can hurt a medicine and not a machine is a mystery to me."

Little Dot—Sister gave me her brass ring. Little Dick—How do you know it's brass? Little Dot—'Cause she gave it to me.

Perfect Satisfaction.

Gentlemen,—I have found B. B. B. an excellent remedy, both as a blood purifier and general family medicine. I was for a long time troubled with sick headache and heartburn, and tried a bottle, which gave me such perfect satisfaction that I have since used it as our family medicine.

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"I am very anxious to play by note," said the young man who gave the professor an I. O. U. for piano lessons.

Bordering on Consumption.

When a cold is neglected it frequently develops a condition bordering on consumption. No other remedy will so quickly relieve and cure cases of this dangerous kind as Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup, because no other remedy possesses such perfect curative powers as does this prince of pectoral remedies.

"I call that setting me a bad example," said the schoolboy when his teacher told him to divide 7-19 by 6-47.

Carter's Little Liver Pills must not be confounded with common Cathartic or Purgative Pills as they are extremely unlike them in every respect. One trial will prove their superiority.

In a warped board the convex side of the curve is always toward the heart of the tree. The warping is due to unequal shrinkage, and it is easily understood therefore why the middle plank is less subject to this trouble than cuts from the other parts of the log.

The great lung healer is found in the excellent medicine sold as Bickle's Anti-Consumptive Syrup. It soothes and diminishes the sensibility of the membrane of the throat and air passages and is a sovereign remedy for all coughs, colds, hoarseness, pain or soreness in the chest, bronchitis, etc. It has cured many when supposed to be far advanced in consumption.

A shield-shaped cap of snow and ice, having in some places a thickness of 6,000 feet is spread over the interior of Greenland. In that section, having a winter of six months, the thickness is still more.

Worms cause feverishness, moaning and restlessness during sleep. Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator is pleasant, sure and effectual. If your druggist has none in stock, get him to procure it for you

Prof. Dewar claims that water can be made solid by the evaporation of a quarter of its weight.

A man's wife should always be the same especially to her husband; but if she is weak and nervous, and uses Carter's Iron Pills, she cannot be, for they will make her "feel like a different person," at least so they all say, and their husbands say so too.

A famous Roman always wore gloves at a feast so he could handle the hot meat sooner than the other guests.

Among the pains and aches cured with marvelous rapidity with Dr. Thomas Eclectric Oil, is ear ache. The young are especially subject to it, and the desirability of this Oil as a family remedy is enhanced by the fact that it is admirably adapted not only to the above ailment, but also to the hurts, disorders of the bowels, and affections of the throat, in which the young are specially subject.

AMONG THE PRESBYTERIANS.

Interesting Meetings of the Stratford and Huron Presbyteries.

PRESBYTERY OF STRATFORD.

The Presbytery of Stratford met in Knox Church, Mitchell, on the 17th inst. Rev. A. Stewart, of North Easthope, was appointed moderator for the current six months. A call from Burns' Church and Brookdale was presented in favor of Rev. J. D. Ferguson and was sustained by the Presbytery. Mr. Ferguson having intimated his acceptance of the call it was agreed to hold an adjourned meeting in Burns' Church on the 31st inst., at 1 p.m., for his induction, Mr. Pike to preside, Mr. McLachlan to preach, Mr. Tully to address the minister and Mr. Campbell the people.

Rev. A. Henderson presented a call from Listowel in favor of Rev. J. A. Morrison, B.A., which was sustained by the Presbytery. Mr. Morrison had intimated his acceptance, and it was agreed that the Presbytery meet in Listowel on the 3rd of February at 1 p.m. to hear his trial discourses, and if these are sustained to proceed with his ordination and induction, Mr. Henderson to preside, Mr. Ferguson to preach and Mr. Morrison to address the minister.

The report of the Presbyterial W. F. M. Society, which was read by Mrs. R. Hamilton, showed gratifying progress both in membership and work done. Mrs. Hislop read the financial report, showing that $1,444 89 had been raised this year.

Messrs. Henderson and Grant were appointed to convey the greetings of the Presbytery to the society.

Knox Church, Mitchell, asked and obtained leave to sell their present church site and purchase another on which to erect a new building.

The report in re evangelistic services was presented by Mr. Campbell. It was agreed that each congregation should make their own arrangements. The committee appointed to visit Granton and Lucan reported.

The Presbytery then adjourned to meet again at 7:30 p.m. on March 13 in Knox Church, Tavistock.

A public meeting of the W. F. M. S. was held in the evening, when the large congregation present was addressed by Messrs. Henderson, Grant, Leitch and Cameron. The reports of the society were read by Mr. Tully. Excellent music was furnished by the choir, and altogether the meeting was one of the most successful ever held by the society.

PRESBYTERY OF HURON.

The Presbytery met in Goderich on the 17th inst., Rev. R. Henderson moderator. Moderations in calls were granted to Egmondville and to Bayfield and Bethany. After hearing delegates from Leeburn, Union Church, Goderich township, Bayfield and Bethany the contemplated union of Leeburn with Dungannon, was for the present abandoned, and the congregations above named are to continue their present relations.

The annual report of the Woman's Presbyterial Foreign Mission Society was submitted and action thereon taken. The report shows an increase in the membership. The total sum raised for the year is about $1,200, besides clothing to the value of $400 sent to the Northwest Indians.

Rev. R. P. McKay, secretary of the Foreign Mission Society, was present and gave a rousing address in the evening to a large meeting. The assembly's choice in its foreign mission secretary is a very happy one. Mr. McKay is intensely in earnest, and carries his audience with him. If spared he will infuse life into our foreign mission societies.

The Tea Table.

A pretty bouquet of summer flowers, a nice china tea set with the fragrant aroma of the finest Ceylon tea coming from every cup, some good bread and creamery butter, and a plate covered with nice light tea biscuits baked with Pure Gold Baking Powder is sufficient to make the rich as well as the poor rejoice and be thankful.

Zinc miners at Webb City, Wis., have noticed lately that a shaft they were digging has been growing hotter. At a depth of 163 feet, the other day, they had to stop work, as flames burst through into the shaft.

There is no virtue in doing what we have to do, for even the devil will behave himself when he is chained

A Man Made Happy.—GENTLEMEN,—For five years I have been a great sufferer with Dyspepsia; the pain in the pit of my stomach was almost unbearable and life only seemed a drag to me. When I would go to sleep I would have horrible dreams, and my life became very miserable, as there was no rest either day or night. But with the use of only two bottles of Northrop & Lyman's VEGETABLE DISCOVERY this unhappy state has all been changed and I am a well man. I can assure you, my case was a bad one, and I send you this that it may be the means of convincing others of the wonderful curative qualities possessed by this medicine, that are specially adapted for the cure of Dyspepsia. A lady customer of mine had the Dyspepsia very bad, she could scarcely eat anything, and was troubled with pains similar to those I suffered with; and she cured herself with two bottles of Northrop & Lyman's VEGETABLE DISCOVERY. I wish you success with your medicine, as I am fully convinced that it will do all you claim for it.

Signed, MELVILLE B. MARSH,
Abercorn, P. Q. General Merchant.

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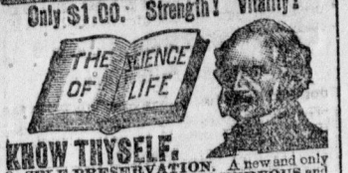

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