NORAH CUSHALEEN

HAUNTED CASTLE.

But the disappearance of Lady Blantire was connected with something very different from what her son supposed.— After she quitted Malvrin's bed room, she spent most of the day in the seclusion of her own spartment, meditating and maturing the deadly purpose of her heart, and in preparing a dress, partly for disguise and partly for protection, in the mountain journey she was about te undertake.

dertake.

Her preparations being completed, when it drew towards evening she stealthily made her way to a room where lay many old and antique articles, and various rinds of armour, which had been worn by the ancient and warlike fords of Blantire. Opening a cabinet there, she took out a small dagger, on the blade of which lay red spots of rust, which had been gathered for generations. She looked at it for a moment, felt the point, and a grim fiendish smile disfigured her face. Then she wiped the dagger with her napkin, and deposited it in her bosom.

when the deepening twilight made objects almost indistinguishable, she stole out by a small private door at the rear of the Castle, and plunged into the thick shrubbery which at that place reached almost to the wall and skirted the whole of the north side of the park. At the extremity of the latter she entered a wood which ran by the side of several fields to the highway, on gaining which she struck into the mountain path which led by the cliffs to the ruin.

ruin. It was the same path taken by Mal-vrin some time before, and for a similar purpose. The intention of the mother was the same as that of the son, viz:— to murder Norah Custaleen should her suspicion prove correct that the latter was still alive, and lurking concealed within the ruin.

within the ruin.

As Lady Blantire ascended the solitary steep, amid frowning rocks, black gorges, and the darkness of night, she experienced no fear, and hardly felt fatigue. Her stern resolute spirit was not trammelled by the common superstitions of the district; but even had she been a believer in the supernatural, the errand on which she was bent would have placed her above it, and led her to disregard, or at least to brave the damer. For the honour of her family (she herself was a Blantire) she would dare everything, counting that above all other considerations.

Blattre) she would dare everytung, counting that above all other considerations.

She gained the top of the cliffs; and the murmuring sea as it flowed among the rocks far below, came to her ear. The night was very different from that in which Norah was decoyed to the but by her heartless betrayer. There were no clouds on the sky, no storm in the air, and no tempest on the ocean. A faint breeze floated on the heights and stirred the wild flowers and tall grass that grew in the crevices of the rocks, and the rustle of there, with the low murmur of the sea, were the only sounds that broke upon the stillness and calmases of the scene. Following the path as it turned from the cliffs, Lady Blantire whose figure was closely muffied up, toiled up the rugged and difficult ascent with unflagging energy, and in less than an hour entered the open level space in front of the ruin. All was dark and perfectly silent. No gleam of light came from any of the loop-holes, no sound of anything human was heard, either without or within.

Lady Blantire glided across the esplande and approached the low oaken door. It was closed and fastened.

'Hal there is one change, at any rate,' she mentally muttered. Malvrin told me that they had left the door open, and now it is shut and secured. That is not the doing of a spirit.'

She pressed against it, and it shook a little, but showed no signs of yielding and her ladyship felt that no strength of hers would prevail against it. She therefore turned her thoughts to finding admission by some other way.

Passing round to the north she enter-

therefore turned her thoughts to finding admission by some other way.

Passing round to the north she entered the enclosure where Mike O'Rafferty and his sons had buried Terry's boxes, but no doorway or other aparture existed an this direction, and after exploring the ruin as far as the rocks permitted she began to entertain doubts as to her ability to penetrate into the interior.

She was about to return to the low

began to entertain doubts as to her ability to penetrate into the interior.

She was about to return to the low caken door, when her quick eye noticed a dark figure approach from the path that led from the mountains to the valley of Dundarra. She instantly crouched down, and watched as a tiger watching for its prey. The dark figure paused for some moments at the verge of the esplanade, then slowly advanced to the closed door. It was an old man carrying a large bundle on his back, and he gave three-peculiar yet loud taps on the door, by way of signal.

Lady Blantire noiselessly crept forward by the side of the wall, and stood behind an abutment close to the door. I'the me, Norah, darling,' answered the old man. 'Sure you know the sound of your father's voice.'

Immediately there was the sound of stones being removed from behind the door, and presently it was pulled open.

'Oh! father,' said Norah, 'why have you come up the mountains at this hour all alone?'

'To bring mate to you, alana. I thought that maybe you wouldn't have

you come up the mountains at this hour all alone?

'To bring mate to you, alana. I thought that maybe you wouldn't have enough to serve you and the big broth of a boy you have to nurse. Heaven bless him and keep him from harm.'

'But I have plenty, father,' returned Norah; 'as much as will serve for weeks to come. However, I am glad to set you, only it is sugh a long dreary road'

'Never mind the road, darlin'. Sure and I'd come if it were tin times as far'

'Wait a moment till I bring a light. You cannot find the way along the passage in the dark,' said Norah, her voice dying away as she tripped quickly into the interior.

'Och, now, don't bother, I'll find the

'Never mind the road darlin'. Sure and I'd come if it were tin times as far'. Wait a moment till I bring a light. You cannot find the way along the passage in the dark,' said Norah, her voice dying away as she tripped quickly into the interior.

'Och, now, don't bother, I'll find the road just beautiful,' said Michael, entertering with his load, and groping his way forward.

Lady Blantire crept stealthily forward at the same moment, and entered close behind him.

Standard Syrup. Golden Syrup, HA HEAR AND WORK OF STAPLE AND FANCY

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AT JOHN A. WOOD'S.

Guelph, 3rd September, 1867.

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"Pat Malloy."
"Somebody's Darling Slumbers Here."
"Lonely Oh, So Lonely!
"Lonely Oh, So Lonely!
"When shall i see my Darling Again?"
"Sweet Pace at the Window.
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