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St. John. N.B.



(BY JAMES DE MILLE.)

(Continued. Her impression was correct, and the one whom I recognize now. I don't know speaker was Girasole. He had heard the you at all. For I couldn't be bound to to trick us? Don't you know the punishsibilant sounds of the whispering, and, two men; could I, Ethel dear? Ethel did not reply to this strange knowing that Minnie could not speak Italian, it had struck him as being a very question. singular thing that she should be whis- But upon Girasole its effect was very ing. Had her sister joined her? He great. The manner of Minnie had been thought he would go up and see. So he excessively perplexing to him all through went up softly, and the whispering still this eventful day. If she had stormed went on. He therefore concluded that and gone into a fine frenzy he could have me and let me tell my story, and you will and so true-what was his fate? She had the "Italian woman" was not doing her borne it. It would have been natural, see that I am not a traitor; or, if you don't gazed with eyes of horror at that grave duty, and that Mrs. Willoughby had But she was perfectly unconcerned, and joined her sister. This he would not her only complaint was about trifles. allow; but as he had already been suffic- Such trifles. Such trifles too! He felt youbring this lady? iently harsh he did not wish to be more ashamed to think that he could have sub-

It don't pain you, said Minnie-it don't against the coffin, sending a cold chill of No, not one, I want you all. If they pain you at all. You're always teasing horror through every nerve. Already are traitors, they are deep ones. They ue. You never do what I want you to. enough earth had been thrown to cover must be guarded; and, mind you, if they You wouldn't even give me a chair. three-quarters of the lid, and at the foot escape, you shall suffer.

Alas, carissima mia, to morra you sall it was heaped up some distance. He With these words he led the way, and tried to frame some excuse to get the haf all! But dis place is so remote. the priest and Ethel followed him. After It is not remote, said Minnie. It's men away. His brain whirled; his mind these came the men, who had thrown lose by roads and villages and things. was confused; Lis thoughts refused to be down their shovels beside the grave. Why, here is Ethel; she has been in a collected. They all walked on in silence, following village where there are houses, and And now, in the midst of this, the atten- Girasole, who led the way to a place bepeople, and as many chairs as sh tention of all was attracted by a loud yond the grave, and within view of one

wants. stern voice, which sounded from some of the fires formerly alluded to. The Oh, mees, eef you will but wait an' be one near. The priest looked around. The place was about half-way between the patient-eef you will but wait an' see how men stopped shoveling, and turned to see grave and the fire. It was a little knoll tender I will be, an' how I lof you. the cause of the noise. bare of trees and from it they could be You don't love me, said Minnie, one Girasole was seen approaching, and seen by those at the nearest fire. Here

bit. Is this love-not to give me a chair?

on't care for tomorrow: I want to be

omfortable to-day. You won't let me

ave a single thing. And now you come

Let ees because she deceif me-she

ome wit a plot-she steal in here Eet

You mustn't dare to touch her, sai

linnie, vehemently. You shall leave

You are a horrid, horrid man, she ex-

never seen much of her before, and this

de one you say you are engaged-he is

And with this he fastened upon Minnie

and had an expression in them that

leep agitation, take back dat word.

the had wait, all would be well.

hat I haf to do to gain you!

esentment.

laimed. I hate you.

saw you. I hate you.

er here. She shall stay with me.

to tease me again, and frighten poor,

dear, darling Ethel.

better than some wretched promises

was already near enough to be distin- Girasole paused, and, with some final I have been standing up till I am nearly guished. Behind him followed a female words of warning to the guards, he turned ready to drop. And you have nothing figure. At this sight the priest's mind and took his departure.

> misgave him. The priest sat down upon the grass, and Girasole came up, and now the priest urged Ethel to do the same. She folsaw that the female was no other than lowed his advice, and sat down by his side. The guards sat around them so as to encircle them, and, mindful of Gira-Where is this priest? asked Girasole sole's charge, they kept their faces turned angrily speaking of course, in Italian. toward them, so as to prevent even the The priest advanced.

> very thought of flight. The priest ad-I am here, said he with quiet dignity. dressed a few mild parental words to At this change in the state of affairs the priest regained his presence of mind. the men who gave him very civil re-The cessation in the work gave him responses, but relaxed not a particle o lief, and enabled him to recall his scat- their vigilance.

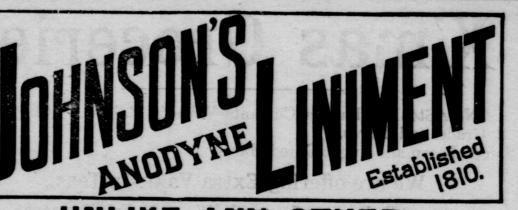
> > In the priest's mind there was still some anxiety but much greater hope than he had dared to have for some time. He remembered that the coffin was not al; covered over, and hoped that the inmate might be able to breath. The fact that the work had been so unexpectedly interrupted was one which filled him with joy, and gave rise to the best hopes. The only offset to all was his own captivity, but that was a very serious one. Besides he knew that his life hung upon a thread.

The priest made no attempt at denial Before the next day Girasole would ceror equivocation. He knew that this tainly discover all, and in that case he would be useless. He waited for an op- was a doomed man. But his nature was portunity to excuse himself, and to ex- of a kind that could not borrow trouble. plain rather than to deny. But every and so the fact of the immediate safety

> As for Ethel, she was now a prey to the deepest anxiety. All was discovered except the mere fact of Hawbury's removal, and how long that would remain concealed she could not know. Every moment she expected to hear the cry of those who might discover the exchange.

And Hawbury, so long lost so lately ound-Hawbury whom she had susp

ted of falsity so long and so long avoided



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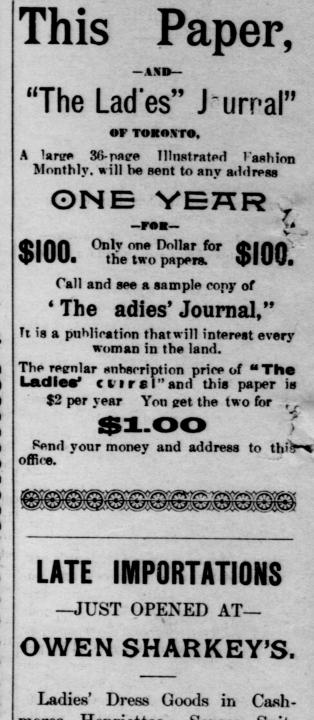
×PREMIUM LIST.× To the first person solving puzzle we will award \$100 in Cash: the next will receive Gold Watch; the third a Silver Water Service; the fourth a Silk

Dress Pattern; the fifth a BANQUET LAMP; the sixth a DRESSMAKER'S MAGIC SCALE with instructions; the seventh a SILVER FIVE O'CLOCK TEA SETT; the eighth a CRAYON PORTRAIT; the ninth a TOILET SETT; the tenth a GOLD BROOCH; the eleventh a SILVER WATCH; the twelfth PLUSH WORK CASE; to the next nine each a HANDSOME BROOCH. To the middle sender will be awarded an **Upright Piano**, valued at \$375. To the ten following, each a crayon portrait of sender or any friend. The sender of letter bearing latest postmark, previous to July 15th next, will receive a **Sewing Machine**, valued at \$40. The sender next to last will receive a **Silver Watch**; ten preceding, each a beautiful **Gold Brooch**.

**CONDITIONS**:—Each contestant must mark faces in puzzle in ink or pencil cut advertisement out and forward to us with fifty cents for a year's subscription to LADIES AT HOME. Address plainly, " Z" LADIES' COMPANION PUB. CO., 166 King St., West, Torento, Can.







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I am ver pain-on, very; but oh, my tered and confused thoughts. The men stood looking at the speakers, and listenangel-sweet-charming mees-eet ees ing, leaning on their shovels. dangaire to my lof. She plot to take you away. An' all my life is in you, Tink You were sent for? Yes. Minnie looked upon Girasole, with her And a maid? arge eyes dilated with excitement and Yes.

her off as an Italian? Oh, my angel, pleaded Girasole, with Yes.

I'm sorry you ever saved my life, said Minnie, very calmly; and I'm sorry I ever

Ethel.

Ah, you gif me torment. You do not mean dis. You say once you lof me. I did not say I loved you. It was you answer of his only served to increase the of Hawbury was of far more importance. who said you loved me, I never liked fury of Girasole, who seemed determined and attracted far more of his thoughts you. And I don't really see how I could to visit upon the head of the priest and than his own certain but remote danger. be engaged to you when I was engaged Ethel the rage that he felt at his last in-

traitors.

Why did she disguise herself?

doubt have let her pass.

Objection? She is a spy !

A spy? Of what pray?

to escape from this place?

Girasole was silent.

She might.

that she could not.

Who?

Yes; but then there is-

You are one yourself. You lie!

You brought this lady? Yes.

You put her in disguise; you pass

to another man before. He is the only terview with Minnie. Then why, cried Girasole, did you try

> ment we give to spies and traitors? I have nothing to do with spies and

I do not, said the priest, mildiy. Hear who now had proved himself so constant

so, and therefore he called to the "Italian jected to such annoyances a women whom he so dearly loved. And now he was lady and her friends arrived at my vil- could there indeed, he any hope? woman." Hallo, you woman there ! didn't I tell once more puzzled. Minnie confronted lage and claimed hospitality. They were

another?

again more imperatively. Why do you not answer me? Where This was a proceeding which he was not was the intimate friend of the captive. cause he could not do anything?

prepared for. Besides, the child-inno- and entreated me to take her, so that she are you? Is this the way you watch?

heard, and by this time knew what his ly dannted him. She seemed so fearless, and share her captivity. I saw no harm suspicion was; but she could neither do because she was so innocent. She be- in the wish. She proposed to become a came a greater puzzle than ever. He had lady's-maid. I saw no harm in that. nor say anything.

Come down here at once you hag!

But the "hag" did not come down, nor day's experience of her had actually did she give any answer. The "hag" was daunted him and confounded him. And trembling violently, and saw that all was what was the worst to him of all her to see her friends as soon possible. If lost. If the priest were only here ! If words was her calm and simple declar- you had questioned her, you would no

she could only have gone and returned ation, I hate you. Yes, said Minnie, thoughtfully, it must with him! What kept him?

Girasole now came to the top of the be so; and dear Kitty would have said of the kind. stairs; and spoke to Minnie. the same, only she was so awfully preindiced. And I always thought he was priest. Charming mees, are you awake? so nice. Yes, I think I really must be Yes, said Minnie. Ees your sistaire wit you. engaged to him. But as for you, she No. How can she be with me, I should said, turning full upon Girasole, I hate

like to know, when you've gone and put you! her in some horrid old room? Girasole's face grew white with rage Ah ! not wit you? Who are you whisand jealousy

perin' to, den? Aha! said he. You lof him. Aha! Minnie hesitated. An' you were engaged to him. Aha! To my maid, said she. Yes, I really think so. Aha! Well, listen, cried Girasole, in a before, could do much to assist a friend Does de maid spik Inglis? asked Girahoarse voice-listen. He-he-de rival- like herself in an escape?

sole. Yes, said Minnie.

Ah ! I did not know eet. I mus have dead! a look at de contadina who spiks Inglis.

Come here Italian. You don't spik his eyes that now gleamed with rage, Italiano, I tink. Come here.

might have made Ethel quiver with young lady help her friend to elude all Ethel rose to her feet. Girasole ran down. and came back horror, but she did not, for she knew that after a few minutes with a lamp. Con- Girasole was mistaken on that point. cealment was useless, and so Ethel did As for Minnie, she was not at all im-

not cover her face with the hood. It had pressed by his fierce looks. I don't think you really know what fallen off when she was sitting by Minnie, and hung losely down her shoulders you're talking about, said she; and you're from the strings which were around her very, very unpleasant. At any rate you neck. Girasole recognized her at one are altogether in the wrong when you

say he is dead. glance. Ah! said he: and then he stood think-Pead! He is dead ! I swear it ! cried ing. As for Ethel, now that the suspense Girasole, whose manner was a little toned

was over and the worst realized, her down by Minnie's coolness. This is getting to be awfully funny, you agitation ceased. She stood looking at him with perfect know, said Minnie. I really think we side you? I be a traitor? I with my calm.

What dit you come for? he asked. For her, said Ethel making a gesture don't either; does he Ethel darling?

where he lay, and had seen the men wish to listen, then question me. There is but one question. What made shoveling in the earth as she came up.

The recollection of this filled her with Flour. That is simply answered, said the anguish. Had they buried him?-how priest, with unfaltering calmness. This deep was the earth that lay over him?-

All depended on the priest. She hoped you not to let the ladies speak to one him, looking at him fixedly, without one in distress. Some of their friends had that he had prevented things from going particle of fear, with her large, earnest, been taken from them. A message came too far. She had seen him watching the

sole grew more angry still, and cried out the calm, cool gaze of some high-minded also a lady's maid. There was no stipu- inactivity mean? Was it a sign that child rebuking a young child-companion. lation about the kind of one. This lady Hawbury was safe, or was it merely be- Biscuits always on hand.

She was distracted by such fearful Still there was no answer. Ethel cence of her face and of her wrods actual. should see her friend and comfort her, thoughts as these. Her heart once more throbbed with those painful pulsations which she felt when approaching Hawbury. For some time she sat supporting her agony as best she could, and not So as to pass without trouble. She daring to ask the priest, for fear their

guards might suspect the truth, or perdidn't want to be delayed. She wanted haps understand her words. But at last she could bear it no longer.

She touched the priest's arm as he sat I would, no doubt, have done nothing beside her, without looking at him. The priest returned the touch. Is he safe? she asked in a tremulons I don't see any objection, said the

voice, which was scarcely audible from grief and anxiety. He is, said the priest.

And then looking at the man before She came to help her friend to escape. To escape? How could she possibly him, he added immediately in an unconhelp her escape? Do you think it so easy cerned tone.

> She wants to know what time it is, and I told her two o'clock. That's right isn't it?

Do you think a young lady who has About right, said the man. never been out of the care of her friends Now that was a lie, but whether it was justifiable or not my be left to others to

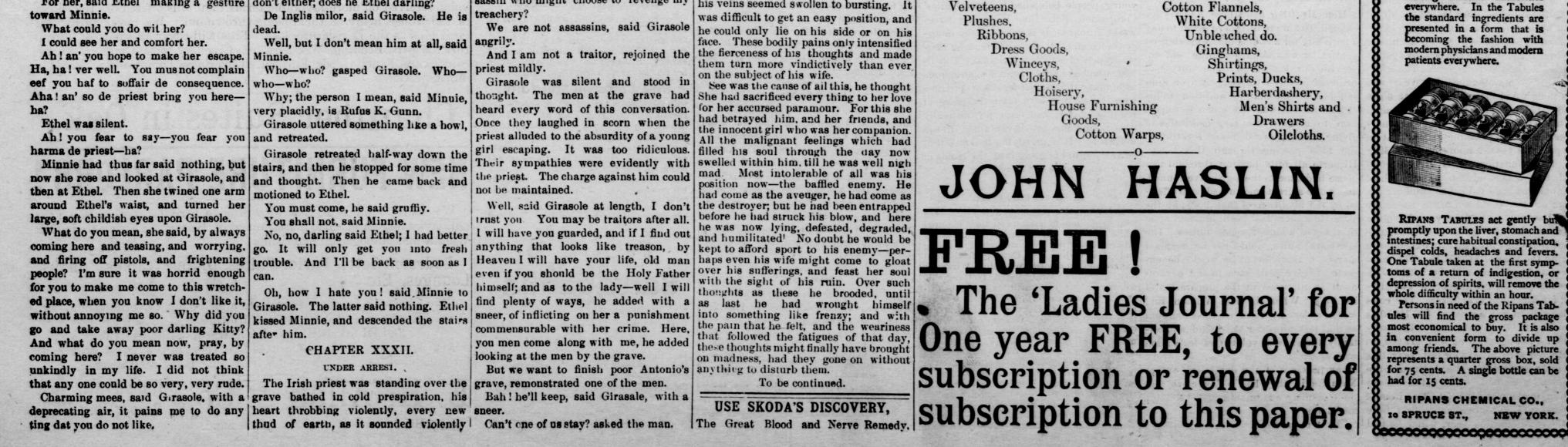
As for Ethel, an immense load of anx-iety was lifted off her mind, and she be-But how! This is not the street of a city. That house is watched, I think. gan to breathe more freely.

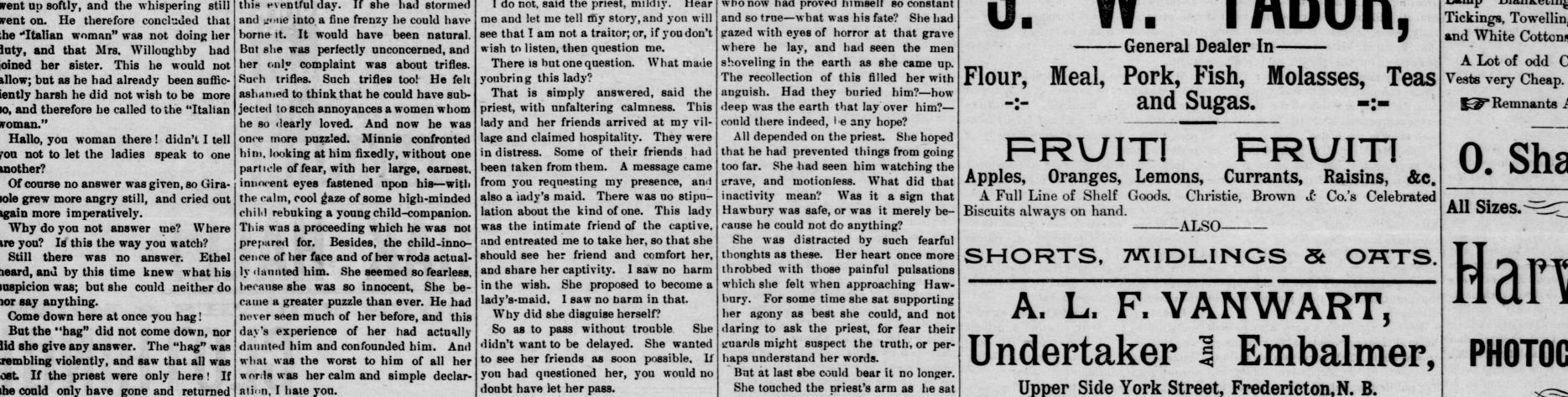
CHAPTER XXXIII. THE DEMON WIFE.

When Darces was overpowered by his assailants no mercy was shown him. His hands were bound tight behind him. and kicks and blows were liberally bestowed during the operation. Finally he was pushed and dragged into the house, and upstairs to the room already mentioned. There he was still further secured by a tight rope around his ankles after which he was left to his own meditations.

Gloomy and bitter and fierce indeed, were those meditations. His body was covered with bruises and though no bones were broken, yet his pain was great. In addition to this the cords around his Silks. wrists and ankles were very tight, and his veins seemed swollen to bursting. It

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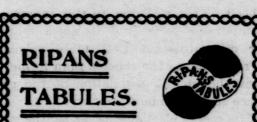
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Yourself. Myself? Yes. What of me? What do I know about your designs?

There seem to be a few men in these

woods if I am not mistaken. Could this

these guards? Why you know very well

What designs could I have? Do you think I could plan escape?

Why not? Why not? What! living here close bedon't know what one another is talking life at your mercy at all times-with my about. I'm sure I don't, and I'm sure he throat within such easy reach of any as-

sassin who might choose to revenge my