

WOODSTOCK, N. B., APRIL 12, 1905.

## ROMANCE OF THE CORNET.

The Strange Case of Lady Primrose.  
(Bristol 'Times and Mirror'.)

Among all the romances of the peerage, for which the reading world is indebted to the erudite researches of the late Sir Bernard Burke, none is more marvellous than that in which figures the Lady Primrose, granddaughter of that Earl of Loudoun who, under Charles I., narrowly escaped the block on account of his sympathies with the Covenanters. So marvellous is it indeed that it is necessary for me to promise that Sir Bernard certifies it to be a 'genuine fragment of family history,' and that it was familiar to Walter Scott, to whom it suggested the tale which he entitled 'My Aunt Margaret's Mirror.'

The lady's husband, Viscount Primrose, was a man of dissolute habits and brutal temper, who gradually came to feel towards the wife whom he neglected and grossly wronged a sentiment of malignant hatred. One night, stung by a song of a baron bold who well could rule full four score men, who could not rule his wife, he went home with his mind made up to murder her. It was a wicked resolve, dictated by a conscience perverted; it was because he had treated his wife basely and cruelly that her presence had become to him intolerable, and since he had it not in him to mend his life, he determined, in an excess of half drunken frenzy, to rid himself of his victim. He reached home in the early morning, just when his wife was sitting at her toilette. Suddenly, to her terror, she saw in the glass, beside her own features, the face of her husband, 'swollen to blackness,' to quote from Sir Bernard Burke's pages, 'with the intensity of evil passions.' So gently had he entered that she had not heard his footfall, and it was plain from the slow, stealthy manner with which he still crept on that he was totally unaware of her watching every movement of his reflected in the mirror. Always rapid in decision, she at once saw and embraced the only means that could possibly save her; high as the window was from the ground, no other chance of escape remained; and, jumping from it with the boldness of desperation she alighted safely on her feet below, and fled for refuge to her husband's mother. This was the end of things between Lady Primrose and her husband. That he had so narrowly escaped adding to the tale of his sins the crime of murder brought him to no better mood, as it might have done had his conscience been less seared. By this time he had broken with his own class and before long he went abroad. What became of him there, no one knew. Some believed that he had died; others would have it that he had changed his name and begun a new career.

Some years after his disappearance, there established himself in the Canongate at Edinburgh a foreigner who was credited not merely with the power of second sight, but with the faculty of enabling less gifted mortals than himself to see what friends of theirs in whom they were specially interested might be doing at a distance. To this wizard Lady Primrose, accompanied by a lady friend, one night betook herself. She found him, says Sir Bernard Burke, a tall, muscular man, dressed in black garments of a foreign and unusual fashion, and of singularly stern and forbidding features; yet there was nothing mean or vulgar either in his face or manners; on the contrary, his carriage was dignified, and a habit of command showed itself in the lofty forehead and iron features. His complexion was a deep olive, and a pair of large black eyes burned like two live coals from under the massive brow that overhung them.

The ladies were startled to find that the magician was expecting them, and, drawing Lady Primrose aside, he uttered a name which showed that he clearly knew the errand that had brought her there, and the nature of which the reader will have no difficulty in divining. Lady Primrose alone was allowed to enter the chamber in which the mystic rites were to be celebrated, her friend, much to the lady's alarm, being left alone in the ante room, while Lady Primrose was ushered into a large attic, the windows draped with dark cloth, a large mirror suspended at one end, and before it a brazier full of something that gave forth a low, blue flame, the only light with which the room was provided.

## AN UNCANNY CEREMONY.

The necromancer began the uncanny ceremony by lighting at the brazier a yellow wax taper, which he carried to a corner of the room and fixed against the wall. This done, he bowed before the taper thrice, and uttered an incantation. Not long had he and his visitor to wait for response. Plaintive sounds were heard flitting about the room; and thus encouraged to proceed, the magician scatter-

ed red powder over the fire. Instantly the flames became crimson, and were of sufficient volume to be reflected in the mirror. Then clouds of smoke rolled over the face of the mirror, breaking into flashes of light and form as they reached the frame-work. Next came a sharp cracking sound, and the smoke began to resolve itself into 'a sort of distant picture, representing the interior of a church, the light and shadows of the scene fluctuating every instant, and the colors being now faint and now again vivid, like clouds wreathed in fantastic shapes about the setting sun, and perpetually changing under its influence from the palest to the brightest crimson.'

Presently a priest appeared, with his attendants, at the altar, and a wedding train stood before him. Suddenly the whole scene seemed to be lighted up, and, as the figures showed in bold relief, what was Lady Primrose's astonishment to recognize in the bridegroom her own husband! At this moment one came hurrying into the church, his face partly hidden by a cloak; and at the moment when the priest mentioned to the bridal pair to join hands he rushed forward. As he did so Lady Primrose saw that he was the very image of her brother, who was then travelling abroad. His intervention threw everything into confusion, swords were drawn, and the whole drama was so real to Lady Primrose that, clasping her hands together, she exclaimed, 'Gracious heaven! my brother will be killed!'

By this exclamation the spell was broken. The scene began to dissolve until the mirror was once more naught but a plate of reflecting glass, and the taper in the corner of the room went out with a hissing sound.

When Lady Primrose had recovered from the shock of the vision, so pregnant with significance for her, she carefully wrote down so much of it as she could recall, together with the date, and even the hour, at which it had come to her, sealing the document in her friend's presence, and depositing it in a private drawer. Some time afterwards the brother whom she had seen in the mirror returned from his travels, and, without assigning her immediate reason for seeking the information, she asked him whether he had heard anything of her husband. At first he evaded the question; but, pressing it home, she learned that he had not merely heard of Lord Primrose, but had seen him.

Plied with further questions, he related that when at Amsterdam he was requested by a rich merchant of that city to be present at the marriage of his only child to a fellow-countryman of his; that he promised to join the party in church if some business which he was obliged to transact was over in time; that on entering the church he recognized in the bridegroom the man who was already the husband of his sister, and, beside himself with rage at the spectacle of such villany, he had drawn his sword and called upon the scoundrel to defend himself. Before blood could be shed they were parted, and next day, when he would have carried the matter further, he found that his antagonist had vanished, nor had he heard anything of him since.

'Do you recollect the date of the occurrence?' asked his sister. 'I recollect it well,' was the reply, 'from its connection with the other business I have mentioned, and have set it down in my pocket-book.'

The date was given, and was found to correspond with that of the document which recorded Lady Primrose's vision.

I may add that some time after the brother's return authentic news of Lord Primrose's death reached his widow. The celebrated Lord Stair, succeeded by a ruse in inducing her to depart from her resolution to remain a widow to the end of her days. Him also she survived, dying in 1759 at Edinburgh, where she had no lack of suitors, one of whom, was a well known figure in high life.

## PEOPLE'S BANK OF HALIFAX.

Terms of Agreement for Sale to the Bank of Montreal.

By the Memorandum of Agreement between the People's Bank of Halifax and the Bank of Montreal for sale of the former to the latter.

'The consideration for such sale and purchase shall be as follows:

'The purchasing Bank shall pay to the selling Bank the sum of \$1,150,000 as follows; the sum of \$1,012,000 in 4,000 fully paid-up shares of the purchasing Bank, at the price of \$253 per share, such stock to carry interest from the 1st June, 1905, at the same rate as the purchasing Bank's stock already issued, and the sum of \$138,000 being the balance of said price paid in cash.

'The selling Bank may declare and pay out of its assets a dividend of 2 per cent. on 1st June, 1905.

'The purchasing Bank shall pay, satisfy, discharge and fulfil all the debts, liabilities,

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body—deposits some into the joints—leaves some to inflame the nerves and set them aching. So its weak kidneys after all that bring Rheumatism.

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cure Rheumatism because they cure the kidneys. They build new tissue in the kidneys—neutralize the Uric Acid—give the kidneys new strength and vigor—help them to do their work properly. There can be no Rheumatism with healthy kidneys. "Sun" Kidney Pills make kidneys well. Cure your Rheumatism with "Sun" Kidney Pills.

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contracts and engagements of the selling Bank, and shall indemnify the selling Bank against all proceedings, claims and demands in respect thereof. It is expressly agreed that the purchasing Bank shall assume and pay the notes of the selling Bank issued and intended for circulation outstanding and in circulation.

'This agreement shall have no force or effect until approved by the Governor in Council, as provided by the Bank Act Amendment Act, 1904; but when so approved the selling Bank shall execute and deliver to the purchasing Bank such formal and separate conveyances, assignments and assurances for registration purposes or otherwise as are reasonably required to confirm, or evidence the vesting in the purchasing Bank of full title and ownership of all the property, assets, and premises comprised in the sale.

All books of the selling Bank to be delivered the purchasing Bank.—Insurance and Finance Chronicle.

Colds Become  
Pneumonia

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Nearly everybody knows that pneumonia results from neglected colds and yet there is scarcely a newspaper you pick up these days but contains the report of some fatality from this deadly disease.

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Such ailments as croup, bronchitis and asthma are quickly relieved and entirely cured by this treatment.

There is, we believe, no medicine so well suited for family use as a cure for coughs and colds, and as a safeguard against the deadly ailments which so frequently arise from them.

Dr. Chase's Syrup of Linseed and Turpentine, 25 cents a bottle; family size, three times as much, 60 cents, at all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Toronto. To protect you against imitations, the portrait and signature of Dr. A. W. Chase, the famous receipt book author, are on every box.

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## Record for 1904

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Life Assurance Company.

Policies Issued.....\$6,530,825  
An increase over 1903 of \$645,935.  
Insurance in Force.....\$35,630,188  
An increase of \$3,005,085.  
Income.....\$1,504,063  
An increase over 1903 of \$122,700.  
Payment to Policy Holders.....\$601,136  
An increase over 1903 of \$137,918.  
The financial position of the Company is unexcelled.  
A good Company for both Policy-holders and Agent.  
Applications invited for Agencies and unrepresented districts.

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CROCKERY and CHINA.

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The goods are all new and will be sold at BARGAIN PRICES.  
Those who come early will have a great variety to select from.

First Door Above Carriisle Hotel.

L. A. VANWART.

Father.  
AN OSLERISM.

(With apologies to Danny Deever).

"Dr. Osler said among other the that when a man reaches the age of 60 years his days of usefulness are over and he might better be painlessly put to death by chloroform."—Public Press.

What's that. What's that, that smells so strong the eldest daughter prayed.  
It's chloroform, it's chloroform, the grim-faced doctor said.

What are you going to use it for? the eldest daughter prayed.  
To kill your Pa, to kill your Pa the grim-faced doctor said.

For they're chlorforming Father, he is passing sixty-one.  
And it's time, says Doctor Osler, that his Heavenly life begun.

We're anaesthetizing him you see, before another sun,  
And we're chlorforming Father in the morning.

He's a hale and hearty business man, the eldest daughter prayed.  
He's got to die. He's got to die, the grim-faced doctor said.

He bought me all my toys and things, wailed Willie from the bed.  
He's sixty-one, He's sixty-one, the grim-faced doctor said.

For they're chlorforming Father, he has given us to life,  
And he's saved us all from trouble in the wicked world of strife.  
But Osler says in sixty years, a man should join his wife,  
So they're chlorforming Father in the morning.

When mother died, we hoped he'd live, the eldest daughter prayed.  
He's lived enough, He's lived enough, the grim-faced doctor said.

Where shall I get my spending mon, the son at

college cried.  
He's useless now, He's useless now, the medico replied.  
We are chlorforming Father, and he tries his best to stay.  
His breathing's getting stertorous, it's hard to make him lay,  
But we've got to make the best of it; we'll break the will today.  
For we're chlorforming Father in the morning.

"Well," said Mr. Titewad, putting down his paper, "that woman who got all that money from those bankers certainly was shrewd. Seems like a woman can always get money from a man, no matter how cautious he is." "She can," remarked Mrs. Titewad, "so long as she isn't married to him."

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