

## CHAPTER III.

eighteen, and just through her first sea- latter's marriage.

eighteen, and just through her first sea-son. She was small, but perfectly sym-metrical; it was only envy that prompted people to say sometimes she was nothing but an animated wax doll. There was an arch impression in her pretty face that sketch gives the reader no idea of what a charming bewitching little fairy she was. Still, as it is an important duty towards the fair sex in general to bestow some motice on the landmarks, such as the shade of eves and hair, we will endeavor ant mass of wavy golden hair, gray eyes, not large, but full of brightness and vi-for gaze? Surely the proud Miss Cham-indiscrete; but I have been led to believe vacity, long penciled eyebrows and eye- pion would not have acted thus if she had that you and Mr. Vane are more to each other lashes, several shades darker than her hair the most piquant of noses, and a full curv. her credit for scheming, nor imagine that Miss Champion opened her blue eyes upon the most piquant of noses, and a full curv-ed mouth, the lips slightly apart, and showing two dainty little rows of pearls--a perfect figure, full and rounded. Every one admired and liked her, and she liked every one in return. She was the life and every one in return. She was the life and was convinced of it by the open annoy-soul of a party, with her quick wit and ance she betrayed when he interrupted a think he would be quite as much amused at keen sense of the ridiculous; and if she *tete-a-tete* between them. And Mr. Vane think he would be quite as much amused at the idea of there being anything more between was a little malicious sometimes, it was was miserable, because he loved her so impossible to be angry with her, she was dearly. It was not her fault, he argued, if us as I am."

she found now that she loved another man always so eager to atone for it. As opposites frequently attract each better; her falseness was not intentional. Lord Harold, eagerly. other, she was at the present time engag-ed in a desperate flirtation with Colonel promise. He had not liked to ask her to upon him, "why?" ed in a desperate flirtation with Colonel Ivers d'Aguilar, a tall, dark, melancholy-looking man (albeit decidedly handsome) who was very much in love with her. He had been all through the Indian war, and on his return to England, looking very thin and worn, he was made quite a hero of by all the women, and looked his part extremely well. There was courteous gentleness in his manner to women that gentleness in his manner to women that insensibly flattered them; and he was nothing had come of them. gracefully indolent in a way that the Some women were capricious by nature, gracefully indolent in a way that the weaker sex admire vastly when they have reason to know that the man who assumes these negligent airs is in truth no carpet-knight, but molded from that sterner in the second difference in the second differen stuff of which heroes are made. It was cuses for the women who had no more Mr. Clayton, and said, smiling :

onel d'Aguilar had done in the mutiny; than she would have had in brushing a ton-or is it too damp?" but he never opened his lips to speak of troublesome fly from her path. He had "Decidely too damp, I should say; there is been too pertinacious lately. She con- a very heavy dew falling," answered the genthat terrible time himself. When he first came home, and the sidered it was all very well for him to dis- tleman appealed to, with a malicious delight

better match-not only of nobler family, nature like Miss Champion s, was irterbut of considerably greater wealth. Eve-lyn Vane had nothing now, and would Her unwelcome reflections were broken not be a rich man even when his old father died; but Lord Harold had inher-ited his mother's fortune, which was con-''You here still, Miss Champion?'' he siderable, and it was generally believed exclaimed, in affected surprise. "] that his aunt would bequeath her estate thought you were wandering through the to him, as he was the favorite nephew, labyrinths of the rose-garden." and the old lady was very desirous of see- "I did not care to go alone," Flora aning the handsome property reunited, swered, pettishly, "and no one seemad which had been divided between herself anxious for the honor of escorting me."

At the time we write Fee Alton was and her only sister on the occasion of the "Indeed," he answered, "I was about to join you, but a more fortunate aspir-

shade of eyes and hair, we will endeavor upon? and had she not often, when he Indeed, I prefer the monotony of my own to transcribe them faithfully. An abund. pressed her hand and looked into her company to the tediousness of his."

"Then I trust you will at once divest your mind of such an absurd idea. Evelyn Vane

And Miss Champion laughed gayly. "I am so glad to be assured of that." said "Are you ?" asked Flora, looking languidly

"I was afraid of catching cold," answered Flora, without reflecting.

well known what brave, daring acts Col- compunction in embittering his youth "Do you think I might venture, Mr. Clay-

ours?

Champion?

said quietly :

Flora hesitated for a moment: then she

hand, at

NOTICE.

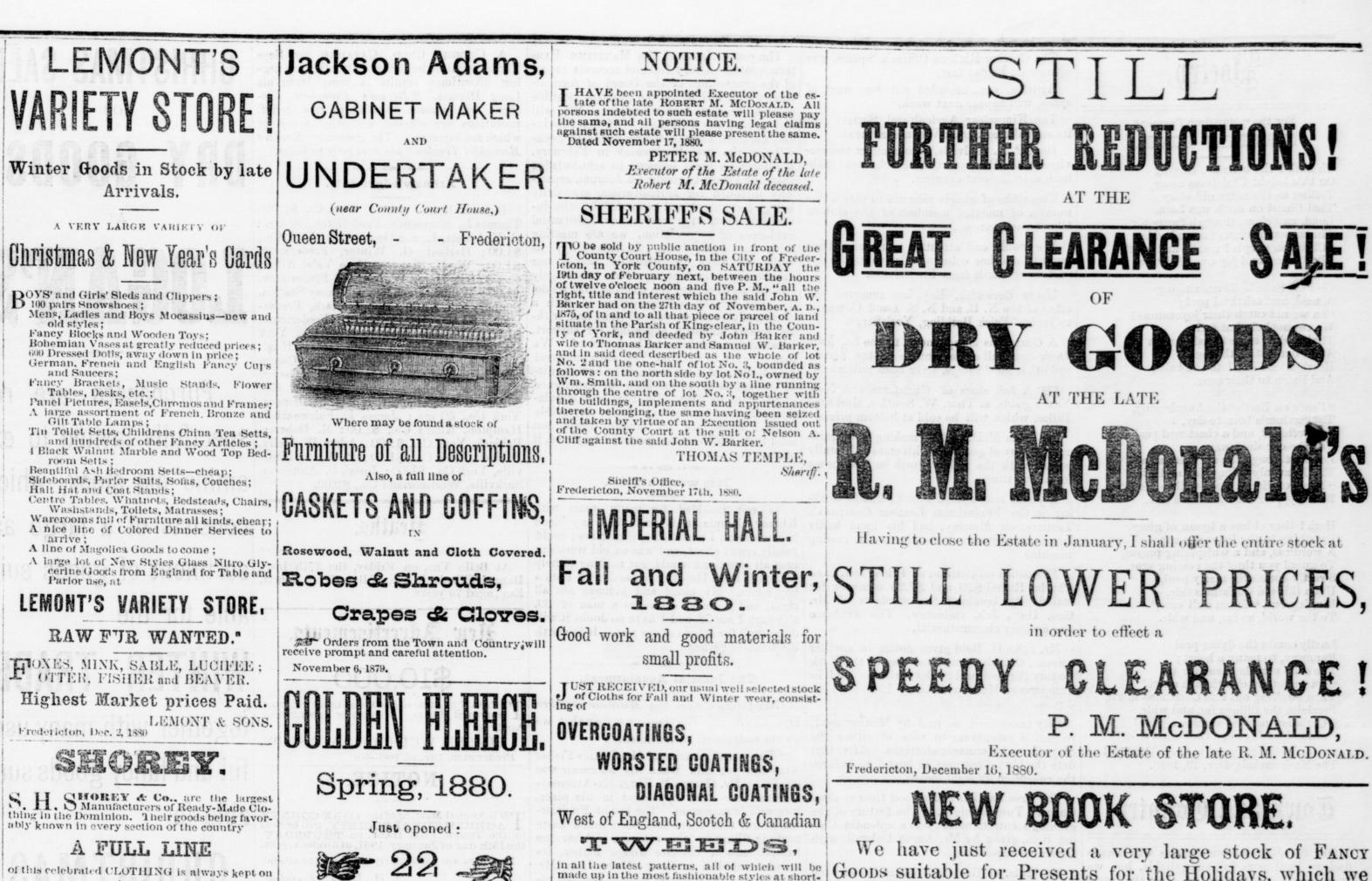
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THE subscriber has justificeeived a large and JOHNSTON

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vomen wanted to lionize him and ask play his devotion when it amused her, in spoiling sport him for details, he said, very gravely and and there was no one else she cared for; but now it was becoming really too much, doors," said Miss Champion lightly; but de-

courteously: "Please ask me no questions. If a man who has seen many a battle-field and many a scene of horror without quailing, turns sick with anguish at the recollec-tion of such a time, it would be no story for the hearing of gentle, sensitive wo-men." And they never asked him again. I suppose that if two men from the op-posite poles had been brought together under one roof, they could not have dif-

the contrary, she disliked and despised the contemplation of a cluster of magni- ways declaring is my want of tact. him; but it was something to have a man at her feet whose indifference to women "Are you no "Are you not coming into the garden?" was proverbial. An additional incentive he asked, softly. to Mr. Clayton's attentions was the delight he took in annoying his rival, whom he hated intensely. Mean creatures alher back upon him Evelyn could not fail to see she was anways fear and hate those they are forced to recognize as something nobler and noyed with him "I have offended you, Miss Champion. greater than themselves. Colonel d'Aguiou are angry with me. lar, in his heart, did not feel the slightest "I do not know what right you have to jealousy at his lady-love's flirtation with the rich man. He scorned the idea of a say so, Mr. Vane.' "You were going into the garden, and clever, pretty, fascinating creature like fairy Miss Alton caring for such a cold, when I turned to bear you company, you relinquished your intention.' false-hearted man (he could scarcely bring "Then if you know your society is unhimself to call him a man) as Francis welcome, why force it upon me?" Flora Clayton; the notion was simply absurd. He thought he knew her too well to becold blue eyes upon him lieve for an instant that she would sell herself, for his money, to a man whom she

could not respect. hands a handful of the delicate exotics here "Ah!" he thought, sadly, "I shall never be able to ask her to marry me. that stood beside him, and flung them on How would a luxurious, delicately nurtured little creature like that bear bar- Flora looked upon his vexation with exous anger, he colored and turned away. rack life with me on eight hundred a ultant feelings. She did not care what year? I would rather die than see her she said, so that she prevented him from he ejaculated. "I am the most curious fellow married to such a wretch as Clayton; but troubling her in the future. I think if some good-hearted, straightfor-ward fellow wanted to marry her-a man "Flora," said Evelyn, coming nearer, "dear Flora, in what have I offended who could afford to give her the luxuries you? she has been accustomed to-I could find it in my heart to say, , Take her, old fel-

"Mr. Vane," replied Miss Champion, coldly, "I have no reason to assign for low, be good to her, and God bless you my indifference to your presence. A hint "Will you assist my memory by telling me are requested to render the same, duly attested, of TRIMMINGS. both! A man like Vane, for instance. so broad as I have been compelled to give when and where? He may not be overburdened with brains, you this evening would in general be con-



