

Literature.

The Adopted Daughter.

CHAPTER V.
THEIR COMPANION NOTES.

The next morning after her arrival at Courtney Hall, Blanche Longley entered upon the execution of her duties. She came down to breakfast in a long flowing robe of white, profusely adorned with frills of rich lace, and its waist of color relieved by a knot of the ribbon which she daily wore. Her golden hair rippled away from her blue-veined temples, and fell in a shower of curls around her neck.

"I don't doubt but I shall win one or the other," said Blanche, complacently. "You were successful enough," remarked Jasper. "You were successful in yourself," rejoined Blanche. "You were successful in making me your confidant," returned Jasper.

To his surprise Blanche turned scarlet and seemed greatly confused. "Successful in Paris?" she asked. "What do you mean?" "I mean that you were quite a belle there when I visited you," he replied, pretending not to notice her emotion, although he was full of curiosity as to its cause. "Both French and English seemed to admire you greatly."

"I have begun by making my admirer my musical genius and scholastic attainments natural, so that one would have found it hard to believe that every coquetical turn of the head had been studied before, that every trial of laughter that came from her lips had been rehearsed, and that every again before it had acquired its ringing melody."

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After breakfast she led her over the Hall, at Blanche's request, and afterwards showed her the flower-garden, the fountains, the park, and the great interest which her great look great interest.

In fact, Blanche looked over these things as their prospective mistress. The more she saw of the Courtney estate, the more she longed to be mistress to reign over it as the bride of its owner.

She noted, with a keen eye, with what respect Amber was treated by all the dependents of Sir John; how the gardeners doffed his hat to her, while his face glowed with pleasure; how the men working here and there in the park grounds brightened up as she kindly inquired after the families, and looked after her as she passed by with glances of respectful affection.

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But Miss Longley never lost sight of her great object—the fascination of Sir John. She dressed herself in the most bewitching toilets; she flattered his little weaknesses; she betrayed with apparent unconsciousness that she thought him the most elegant of creatures; and she declared one day that an elderly gentleman was her beau ideal of a husband, and then blushed violently as Sir John's gaze rested upon her, and seemed overwhelmed with confusion.

But the good, simple baronet did not perceive the drift of these manoeuvres. To him, Blanche seemed a very pretty and very interesting girl, and he was in dress, perhaps, and not inclined to discourse on serious subjects, but beyond that opinion his thoughts did not go.

The idea of making a comparison between her and Amber never entered his mind. He saw little difference between her and Amber's garments, and as his plain mind his adopted daughter's simple speech and straightforward manner were infinitely preferable to what he termed "Blanche's Frenchified ways."

And so the days lengthened into weeks, and Blanche had the mortification to see that the baronet's blue eyes beamed more tenderly upon Amber than herself, and that his manner to her, becoming lover-like, was only paternal.

"I'm almost discouraged, Jasper," she declared to her brother, on his entrance into her little parlor, "but I believe I'm making my progress at all with Sir John."

"I don't believe you are, either," he returned, coolly. "I'm sure I try hard enough," said Blanche, discontentedly. "I've flattered him, humored him—done everything, in fact, but make a downright proposal for the honor of his hand. What shall I do next?"

served Jasper with a smile. "But it is utterly futile to build up any hopes on such contingencies. No, Blanche, you must use the charms nature has given you, and win wealth and a husband at one stroke. Other ladies, less beautiful than you, and in the midst of fashionable society, carry on the game of husband-hunting with success; but you have the advantage of them in having a roomy old mansion in the country as the scene of your efforts, and with opportunities to see the object of your attentions fifty times a day."

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"You have performed your part so far, like a thorough woman of the world," said Jasper, "and you have no cause for despair. I think I can give you even a few suggestions, however—"

"What are they?" "Don't be quite so impatient, my dear sister," returned Jasper, leaning back on the sofa. "The work requires time. I don't think you have duly considered the fact that you wish to marry a baronet, and to work to ensure Sir John's choice, you must trap you would use for his son, who is an entirely different bird. Instead of charming costumes and juvenile airs, becoming to the young and gay, you must adopt a more dignified and more manly appearance. I am sure I don't see how he can resist you."

"They had no motives of humanity, Amber, in allowing him to do so. They exact as a ransom for him ten thousand pounds, which my mother begs me to give, and win wealth and a husband at one stroke. Other ladies, less beautiful than you, and in the midst of fashionable society, carry on the game of husband-hunting with success; but you have the advantage of them in having a roomy old mansion in the country as the scene of your efforts, and with opportunities to see the object of your attentions fifty times a day."

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Ralph thought of Amber as a homely child, and then flitted before his mental vision a picture of Blanche Longley, with her gold-tinted hair and soft blue eyes, as she had appeared to him in the drawing-room.

"I had not fallen in love with Blanche at first sight, however. He had soon for women in his student life, and those few were of a vastly different type to this fairy, bewitching Blanche, and involuntarily he felt a strong interest in her, and a desire to know her better."

"Throughout the evening she had absorbed his attention, to the almost exclusion of Amber. "I do not mean to disappoint you, father," he replied. "I will try to love Amber, since her affections are enlisted; but it seems to me that, at her age, she should be thinking of books instead of a husband."

"That is my fault, Ralph, if fault it is—" "I shall endeavor to please you, father, in my choice of a wife, and I dare say I shall soon get to love Amber as she deserves."

"I don't doubt it, my son. I shall leave home with a light heart as regards you and Amber. I shall go early in the morning, and hope to return within a fortnight, accompanied by your uncle William. You will pay a great deal of attention to Amber in my absence! She is very sensitive, Ralph."

"I will do as you desire, father," said the young man, affectionately. "I will study Amber, and endeavor to love her, since your heart is so set upon our marriage."

"The baronet smiled with delight, "Then the matter is all arranged," he said, pressing his son's hand. When I return, I shall expect you to meet with a demand to hasten your marriage day. But you are tired, and I shall need a great deal of rest before undertaking my journey. Let me show you up to your old rooms."

He conducted his son upstairs, and then retired to his own chamber.

(To be continued.)

A Wide Range of Usefulness. The great household remedy so popular with the people—Hazard's Yellow Oil—is alike valuable for external and internal use, curing rheumatism, colds, sore throat, croup, frog bites, burns, bruises, and all lameness and soreness of the flesh.

Captain Longley's children? I never saw them, but I heard of their can't get on with their mother. They must be grown up by this time."

"They are. But here we are in full view of the Hall. In a moment more you will see Amber."

The great iron gates swung open, and the carriage rolled swiftly up the lime-shaded avenue to the mansion.

Jasper Longley was standing upon the steps, and his father and son slightly, he rushed forward to greet the new arrival.

The baronet introduced the young gentleman to each other, and then, drawing his son's arm in his own, he led him into the mansion to the drawing-room.

Amber, flushed and agitated, stood in the center of the apartment.

"Amber, this is Ralph," said the baronet, quietly, although his face glowed with pride in the young couple. "I will leave you to greet each other, while I apologize to Jasper for deserting him just now."

"He left the room."

Ralph took the girl's hand, and greeted her kindly, but he did not kiss her, as he would have done had he not been aware of his father's wish for him to marry her. His manner was most respectful, and full of interest in her, yet it was not free from embarrassment.

NEW BRUNSWICK RAILWAY.

(Operating 443 miles.)

WINTER TIME TABLE.

All trains are run on Eastern standard time, which is 20 minutes slower than Saint John actual time.

COMMENCING DECEMBER 18, 1883. Trains will run as follows:

St. John Division.

DEPARTURES.

8:00 A.M.—From Water Street, St. John—Passenger and Mail Express for points West, and for St. Stephen, St. Andrews, Frobisher Bay, Woodstock, and all points North and South, and all points North and South, connecting by Branch Line at Gibsons to all points North.

11:00 A.M.—From Carleton, with all local and through freight.

3:30 P.M.—From Water Street, St. John—Accommodation for Fredericton.

8:30 P.M.—From Water Street, St. John—Night Express for points West, and for St. Stephen, St. Andrews, Woodstock, Frobisher Bay, and all points North and South, connecting by Branch Line at Gibsons to all points North.

6:25 A.M.—From Fredericton.

9:00 A.M.—From Fredericton, for points West, North and South.

7:00 P.M.—At Fredericton.

10:10 A.M.—At St. John, Water Street—Through Accommodation from Fredericton and local stations.

1:00 P.M.—At Carleton, with through freight.

5:40 P.M.—At St. John, Water Street—Express from points West, and from St. Stephen, St. Andrews, Woodstock, Frobisher Bay, Fredericton, and all points North and South of Meadville.

4:35 P.M.—At Fredericton from points West, North and South.

7:00 P.M.—At Fredericton.

10:10 A.M.—At Fredericton.

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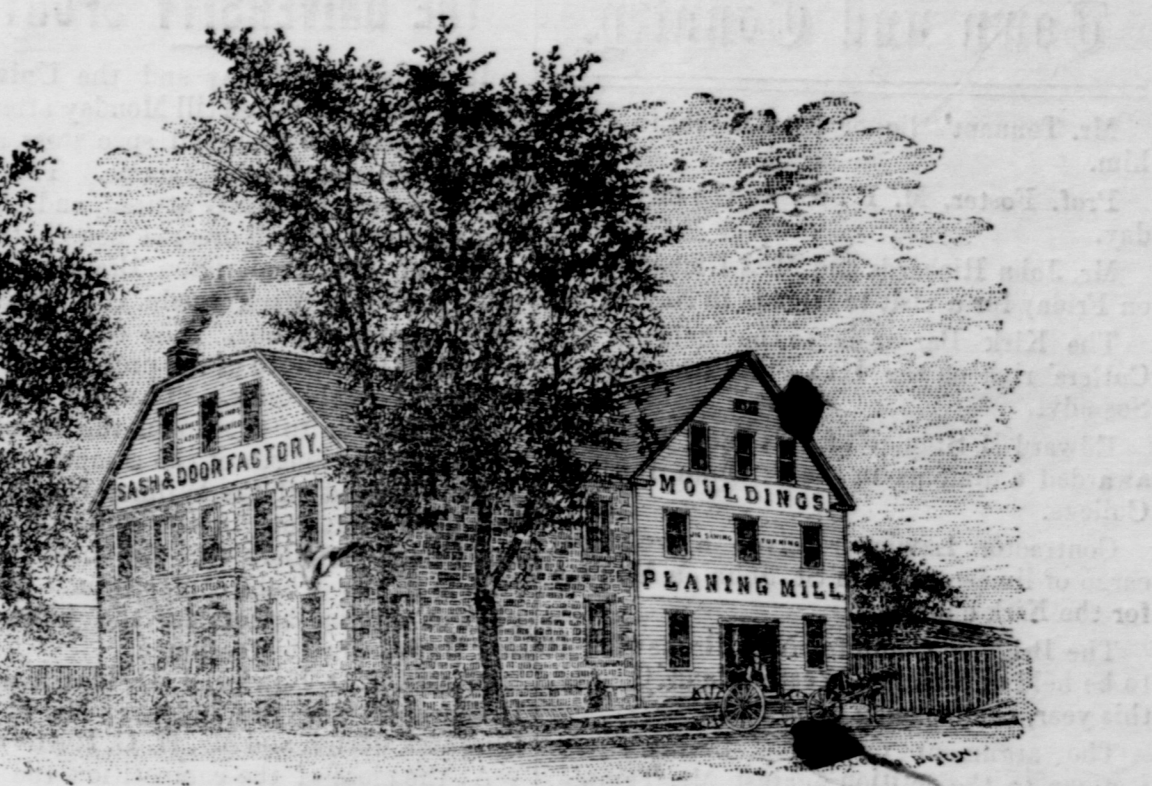
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J. C. RISTEEN & CO.,

MANUFACTURERS OF—

DOORS, SASHES, AND BLINDS,

FURNITURE.

Moulding, Jig Sawing, Planing and Turning done to order.

Dressed Clapboards, Flooring and Sheathing constantly on hand

Corner Queen and Smythe Streets, Fredericton, N. B.

NEW MUSIC STORE!

WE HAVE NOW ON HAND A FINE STOCK OF

ORGANS and PIANOS!

which we will sell at low prices and easy terms.

CALL AND SEE THEM BEFORE PURCHASING, or write for PRICES.

Organs from \$60 upwards.

We have been appointed agents for the celebrated Chickering & Sons, and the Hallett and Cunston, and an number of other makers of Pianos, which we will sell on easy terms. Call and try them at the store.

J. F. McMURRAY.

IMPORTER OF

British and Foreign Woolen Manufactures, &c.

Now in stock, a large and varied assortment of

GENTS' SUMMER SUITINGS, WORSTED COATINGS, SCOTCH TWEEDS, SERGE SUITINGS, MELTONS, CHEVIOTS, SAXONY TWEEDS, &c., &c., &c.

WEST OF ENGLAND BROADS, CANADA TWEEDS, WEST OF ENGLAND CASSIMERES, HARVEY HOMESPUNS, WEST OF ENGLAND DOESKINS, OXFORD HOMESPUNS

Gents' Furnishings, &c.

First Class Cutter, First Class Suits, Lowest Hard-pan Prices.

Goods sold from the Piece or Made to Order as may be desired.

T. G. O'CONNOR,

Next below Barker House, Queen St., Fredericton

B. Laurance's Spectacles!

From Hon. Judge Wetmore.

My Dear Sir,—From the flattering notice of your Eye Glasses and Spectacles, I was induced to purchase a pair of each, and am happy to say they have proved quite equal to your recommendation and have given entire satisfaction.

FREDERIC