MIRAMICHI ADVANCE, CHATHAM; NEW BRUNSWICK, APRIL 5, 1883.

YOLANDE.

By WILLIAM BLACK, AUTHOR OF "SHANDON BELLS," "MACLEOD DARE," "WHITE WINGS," "SUNRISE," ETC.

> (Continued.) CHAPTER IX. CLOUDS.

Next morning, quite unconscious that she had dealt any deadly injury to any one, Yolande was seated all by herself on the hurrricane-deck, idly and carelessly and happily drinking in fresh clear air, and looking away over the wastes of golden sand to a strip of intense dark blue that was soon to reveal itself as the waters of a lake. She was quite alone. The second officer had brought her one of the ship's glasses, and had then (greatly against his will) gone on the bridge again. The morning was fair and shining; the huge steamer was going placidly and noiselessly through the still water; if Yolande was thinking of anything, it was probably that she had never seen her father so pleased and contented as on this long voyage; and perhaps she was wondering whether, after all, it might not be quite as well that he should give up Parliament altogether, so that they two might wander away through the world, secure in each other's company.

Nor was she aware that at this precise moment her future was being accorately arranged for her in one of the kept all her dances for you-" cabins below.

"I confess I don't see where there can be the least objection," Mrs. Grahame was saying to her husband (who was still lying in his berth, turning over the pages of a novel), as she fixed a smart mob-cap on her short and pretty curls. "I have looked at it every way. Papa may make a fuss about Mr. Winterbourne's politics, but there are substantial reasons why he should say as little as possible. Just think how h has worked at the improving of the estate-all his life-and with scarcely any money; and just fancy Archie com ing in to complete the thing! I know what I would do. I would drain and plant the Rushen slopes, and build a nice lodge there; and then I would take the sheep off Allt-nam-ba, and make it a small forest; and it would let for twice as much again. Oh, Jim, just fancy if Archie were to be able to buy back Corrievreak!" Her husband flung the book aside, and put his hands under his head. His imagination was at work. "If I were Archie," he said, with his eves fixed on vacancy, "I would make Corrievreak the sanctuary; that's what I would do. Then I would put a strip always going to be a pretty doll to sit of sheep up the Glenbuie side to fence off Sir John; do you see that, Polly ?-And then I would take the sheep off Allt-nam ba, as you say, only I would add on Allt-nam-ba to Lynn. Do you see that? What made your grandfather | looks at any one else." part with Corrievreak I don't know .--Fancy having the sanctuary within two miles of a steamboat pier; it's a standing temptation to all the poachers in down to the deck Mrs. Graham caught the country! Now if you take in Alltnam-ba, and make Corrievreak the sanctuary, and if you'd hold your hand for a year or two in the letting, you'd soon have one of the best forests in Scotland. But letting is the mischief. her brother should hear, but he had Those fellows from the south shoot anything on four legs they can get at. Forty years ago the finest stags in Inverness-shire were found round and in town-" about Corrievreak; the Fort Augustus lads knew that, they used to say. Oh, no one by. I quite agree with you. I think it would be an uncommon good match.-And then Archie would have a house in town, I suppose; and they might put | favor? Dare I ask him ?" us up for a week or two in the season. Tit for tat's fair play. He has the run of Inverstroy when there isn't a bit of rabbit-shooting left to him at Lynn." "Well, but there's just this, you know, Jim," his wife said, with an odd kind of smile. "We know very little about what kind of girl she is, and Archie knows less than we do."

"Where is Miss Winterbourne ?" she said, inadvertently, and without reflecting that the question was odd. "On the hurricane-deck," said he. "I daresay you will find half the officers of the ship round her."

There was something in his tone which caused his sister, with considerable sharpness, to ask him what he meant : and then out came the story of his wrongs. Now Mrs. Graham had

not been too well pleased when her husband and everybody else sang the praises of Yolande to her ; but no sooner was the girl attacked in this way than she instantly, and with a good deal of warmth, flew to her defense. What right had he to suppose that Miss Winterbourne ought to have singled him out as different from the others ? Why should she not dance with whomsoever she pleased ? If the ship's officers showed her some little ord nary courtesies, why should she not be civil in return ? What right of possession

the wages of t. e groom included.

time.

to Miss Winterbourne.

ike a man who can fight.'

tion in her eyes. "Why-"

favors, said he.

somewhat suffly.

cry.

Jone.

had he in her? What was he to her in any way whatever ? "You said yourself she was a flirt, her brother retorted.

"I?" she said. "I? I said nothing of the kind ! I said that the preposter ous innocence that you discovered in her was more like the innocence of a confirmed flirt. But that only shows me that you know nothing at all about her. To imagine that she should have

"I imagined nothing of the sort," he answered with equal vehemence. "But I imagined that as we were travelling together as friends, even a small amount of triendliness might have been shown. But it is no matter."

whether they were to get through to "You are quite right, it is no mat-Suez that evening was really very imter," she interrupted. "I have no portant. It did not much matter to doubt Miss Winterbourne will find ner. She was more interested in In plenty to understand her character a little better than you seem to do. You seem to think that you should have everything-that everything should be made smooth and pleasant for you. suppose, when you marry, you will expect your wife to go through life with her ball-room dress on. It isn't her womanly nature that you will be thinking of, but whether she dresses well enough to make other women envious." list ?

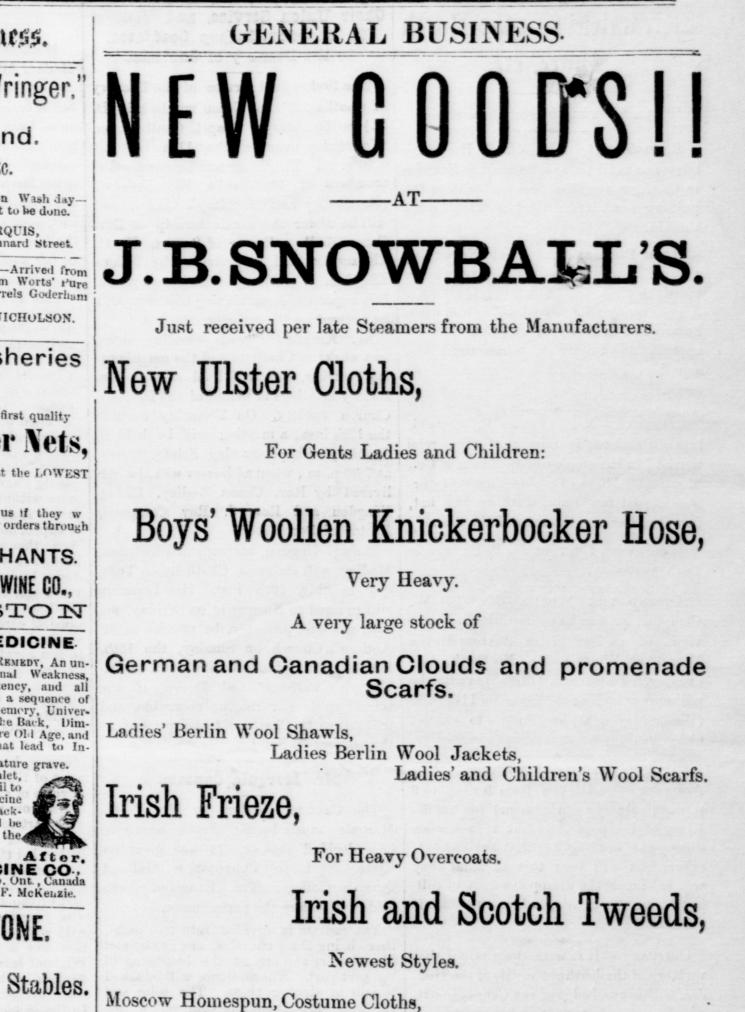
But after breakfast, as it turned out, with all their strange features of Eastern life-the mud-built villages among the Master of Lynn was nowhere to be the palms; herds of buffaloes coming found. Yolande wondered that he did down to wallow in the river; oxen not as usual come up to the hurricanetrampling out the corn in the open; deck to play "Bull," or have a promencamels slowly pacing along in Indian file, or here and there tethered to a ade with her ; but thought he was pertree; strange birds flying over the interhaps writing letters in the saloon, to be minable breadths of golden grain .posted that night at Saez. She did And of course, when they reached not like to ask ; she only waited. She Cairo, that wonderful city was still played "Bull" with her father, and got more bewildering to European eyessadly beaten. She had a smart promthe picturesque forms and brilliant cosenade with Colonel Graham, who told tumes; the gayly caparisoned donkeys, ridden by veiled women, whose black her some jungle stories ; but she was thinking of the Highlands all the time. eyes gleamed as they passed; the bare-She began to be impatient, and set to legged runner with his long wand clearwork to devise letters, couched in such ing the way for his master on horsebusiness phraseology as she knew, reback; the swarthy Arabs leading their questing a firm of livery-stable keepers slow-moving camels; and side by side CLOCKS, state their terms for the hire of a with the mosques and minarets and dog-cart and horse for three months, Moorish houses, the French-looking

cafes and shops, to say nothing of the There was no need to hurry. There French-looking public gardens, with had been some block in the canal, and the European servant-maids and chilthe huge bulk of the ship was now lydren listening to tinkling music from ing idly in the midst of the Great Bit- the latest Parisian comic opera. ter Lake. All around them was the

Then they got them to a large hotel. wide plain of dazzling blue-green water fronting these public gardens, the and beyond that the ruddy brown strip spacious hall and corridors of which of the desert quivered in the furnacewere gratefully cool, while outside there like h.at; while overhead shone the was such a mass of verdure-flowering pale clear sky, cloudless and breathless. shrubs and palms, wide-leaved bananas, Yolande as usual, wore neither hat nor and here and there a giant eucalyptusbonnet ; but she was less reckless in as was exceedingly pleasant to eyes long venturing from under shelter of the accustomed to only the blue of the sea awnings. And some of the old Anglo and the yellow-white of the deck. Indians were hoping that the punkah-Moreover, they were in ample time for wallahs would be set to work at dinnerthe table d'hote ; and every one, after the dust and heat, was glad to have a The Master of Lynn had not shown thorough change of raiment. up at breakfast ; but he made his ap-When the guests assembled in the

pearance at lunch, and he greeted Yulong and lofty dining saloon (there were lande with a cold "good-morning" and not many, for most of the spring toura still colder bow. Yolande, in truth, ists had already left, while many of the did not notice any change in his man-European residents in Cairo had gone ner at first, but by-and-by she could away, anticipating political troubles), it not fail to perceive that he addressed was clear that Mrs. Graham and her the whole of his conversation to Colonel younger companion had taken the Graham, and that he had not a single opportunity of donning a shore toilette word for her, though he was sitting Mrs. Graham's costume was certainly right opposite to her. Well, she striking; it was a deep crimson, of thought, perhaps this question as to some richly brocaded stuff ; and she had some red flowers in her black hair. Yolande's was simpler : the gown a muslin of white or nearly white ; and the only color she wore was a bit of verness than in Suez ; and among the light salmon-colored silk that came most prized of her possessions was a round her neck, and was fastened in a long list of things necessary for a shoot- bow in tront. She had nothing in her





"Oh, she's well enough," said the stout soldier, carelessly. That was a subsidiary point. What his mind clear- he may have no trouble or delay ; that ly grasped was the importance of hav-

All this was somewhat incoherent but there was a confused recollection in her brain of what she had been saying to her husband, and also perhaps .

vague impression that these words were excuplating herself from certain possible charges.

"You don't consider whether : woman is fit to stand the test of suffering and trouble : do you think she is at the head of your dinner table? You think you know what Yolande's nature is; but you know nothing about it. You know that she has preity eyes. perhaps ; and you get savage when she She turned quickly away : Yolande had at that moment appeared at the top of the steps. And when she came

her with both hands, and kissed her. and still held her hands and regarded her most affectionately. "Dear Yolande, how well you are

looking !" she exclaimed (meaning that walked away). "Dissipation does not harm you a bit. But indeed a dance on the deck of a ship is not like a dance

Yolande glanced around ; there was

"Dear Mrs. Graham," said she, "I have a secret to ask you. Do you think your brother would do me a great pected we should make such a pleasant and friendly party." "Why, yes, of course," said the

other, with some hesitation and a little surprise. "Of course he would b delighted.'

She could see that Yolande, at least. knew nothing of the fires of rage or jealousy she had kindled. "I will tell you what it is, then.]

wish my papa to think that I can manage -oh, everything !- when we go to the house in the Highlands. I wish that

lodge, apart from the supplies hair, but the light falling on it from which she was to send from the Army above was sufficient, and even glorious, and Navy Stores. She felt she was no adornment. For jewelry she had two ionger a school-girl, nor even a useless small earrings, each composed of minute and idle wanderer. Her father shou'd points of pale turquoise ; perhaps these see what she could do. Was he aware only served to show more clearly the that she knew that ordinary blacking exquisite purity of her complexion, was useless for shooting boots, and that where the soft oval of the cheek met she had got "dubbing" down in her the ear.

"By heavens," the Master of Lynn said to himself the moment he had "Archie," said Mrs. Graham to her seen her come in at the wide door brother the first time she got hold of that girl is the most beautiful crea him after lunch, "you need not be rude ture I have ever seen !

He was startled into renewed admira-"I hope I have not been," said he, tion of her. He could not keep his eyes away from her; he found himself "You treated her as if she were an listening with a quick sympathy and absolute stranger at lunch. Not that 1 approval when she spoke ; and as her suppose she cares. But for your own face was all lit up with excitement and ake you might show better manners." gladness because of the strange things " I think you mistake the situation," she had seen, he followed her varying said he, with apparent indifference. expressions, and found himself being " 'Do as yon're done by' is a very good helplessly drawn under a witchery motto. It is for her to say whether we which he could not, and did not str.ve are to be friends, acquaintances, or much, to withstand. She spoke mostly strangers, and if she chooses to treat -and she was pleasantly excited and talkative this evening-to her father you on the least-favored nation scale, 1 and to Mrs. Graham ; but sometimes. suppose you've got to accept that ! It is for her to choose. It is a free counperhaps inadvertently, she glanced hiway as she spoke, and then he eagerly

agreed with what she was saying, befor "I think you are behaving abominahe knew what it was. She, at le st. oly. 1 suppose you are jealous of those had no covert quarrel with him or with young officers ; men who are not in the any one else. Delight shone in her army always are; they know women eyes. When she laughed it was like music. Even her father thought that "Fight ! Smoke eigarettes and play he was looking unusually bright and sixpenny Nap, you mean. That's happy ; and so that made him very about all the fighting they've ever contented too ; but his satisfaction took the form of humorous grambling ; and " Do you say that about Jim ?" said ne declared that he didn't know what the young wife, with a flash of indignashe was made of-that she should be making merry after the long day's heat "I wasn't aware that Graham was and dust, that had nearly killed every a candidate for Miss Winterbourne's one else.

Cornmeal,

AND

IN STORE,

DIRECT IMPORTANT

Provisions

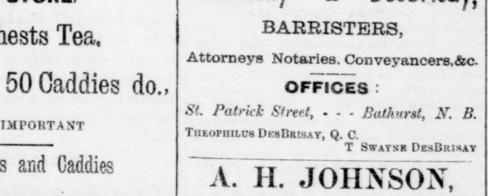
After dinner they all flocked into the reading-room, anxious to have a look at "Well, now," she said, "you are the English papers-all except the making a fool of yourself, all to no pur-Master of Lynn, who left the hotel, and pose. If you are jealous of them was absent for a little time. When he won't you be rid of the whole lot of General Groceries. eturned he went into the reading-room. them to-night, supposing we get to Suez ! And we shall be all by ourand (with a certain timidity) went up selves after that ; and I am sure I exto Yolande

"Miss Winterbourne," said he. not very loudly, "wouldn't it be pleasanter 150 Half Chests Tea, for you to sit outside and see the peo-"But I am quite willing," said he. ple passing? It is very interesting; and 'If 1 meet Miss Winterbourne on they are playing music in the gardens. terms of her own choosing, surely that It is much cooler out-of-doors. is only leaving her the liberty she is

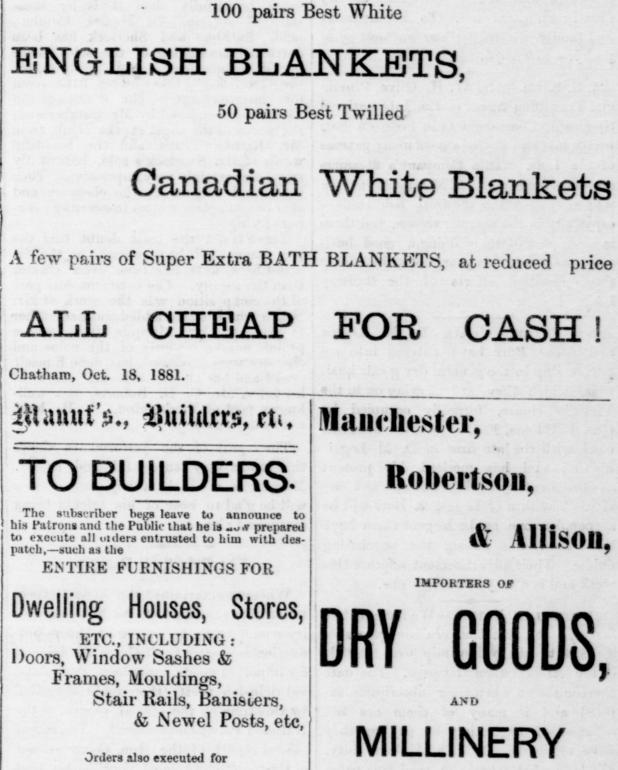
"Oh yes," sald Yolande, without the entitled to. There is no quarrel, Polly. least hesitation; and instantly she rose Don't be aghast. If Miss Winterbourne and walked out, just as she was, on to wishes to be friendly, good and well; the terrace, he modestly attending her. if not, good and better. No bones He brought her a chair; and she sat down by the railings to watch the "I tell you this at least," said his picturesque crowd. She spoke to him ister, as s parting warning or entreaty, just in her usual way.

that she is perfectly unconscious of "Miss Winterbourne," said he at having given you any offense. She has length, "I have got you a little case of been anxious to speak to you all day, attar of roses; will you take it? When

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everything should be quite ready and ing Corrievreak made the sanctuary of quite right. Always he has said ; 'Oh. the deer forest. you are a child ; why do you want a

" Already ?"

to ask you for a favor. Sue wants you to hire a dog-cart and a spring-cart for them when you go to Inverness. If

asks me.'

will be broken."

musual in his manner, or whether that tem in her list of preparations had for

" No-not at all."

you get home, if you put it in your wardrobe, it will last a long time; and it is sure to remind you of Cairo."

> rather sadly. "I have no home. do not understand it. I do not under stand why my papa should not have a home as other people have."

Allt-nam-ba?' said he. "That will be your home for a while.'

face brightened up.

it. If it is only for three months, still your sister has been very kind to me. And there is another thing, if I make mistakes at the beginning-well, I believe my papa does not know how to be angry with me."

think not indeed !" said he, as if it were quite an impossible thing for anybody to be angry with Yolande.

