The address slip pasted on the top of this paper has a date on it, if the date of the paper is later than that on the slip it is to remind the subscriber that he is taking the paper without paying for it. See Publisher's announcement on Page

MIRAMICHI ADVANCE.

VOL. 24. CHATHAM, NEW BRUNSWICK, MAY 12, 1898. D. G. SMITH, EDITOR & PROPRIETOR

TERMS—$1.00 a Year, in Advance

BUSINESS NOTICE.

The "MIRAMICHI ADVANCE" is published at Chatham, Miramichi, N. B, every THURSDAY morning in time for despatch by the earliest mails of that day

It is sent to any address in Canada, or the United States (Postage prepaid by the publisher) at ONE DOLLAR A YEAR, payable invariably in advance.

Advertisements, other than yearly or by the season are inserted at *eight cents* per line nonpareil, for 1st insertion, and *three cents* per line for each continuation.

Yearly, or season advertisements, are taken at the rate of $5 00 an inch per year. The matter, if space is secured by the year, or season, may be changed under arrangement made therefor with the publisher.

The 'MIRAMICHI ADVANCE' having its large circulation distributed principally in the Counties of Kent Northumberland, Gloucester and Restigouche, New Brunswick and in Bonaventure and Gaspe, Quebec in communities engaged in Lumbering, Fishing and Agricultural pursuits, offers Superior inducements to advertisers. Address Editor Miramichi Advance, Chatham, N. B

Robert Murray,
BARRISTER-AT-LAW,
Notary Public, Insurance Agent,
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We have just received a large supply of
PATENT MEDICINES,
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Prices range from $2.50 to $5.00 per pair.
Special:—Our 7 lb. all wool blankets at $4.50 per pair are splendid value.
W. S. LOGGIE CO. LIMITED.

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Letter Heads, Note Heads, Bill Heads, Envelopes, Tags, Hand Bills.
PRINTING FOR SAW MILLS A SPECIALTY.
We print on wood, linen, cotton, or paper with equal facility.
Come and see our Work and compare it with that of others!

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BATH GLOVES AND MITS.
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A Beautiful Line of
TOILET SOAPS
from five cents to one dollar per cake
JUST ARRIVED
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May 18, 1896.

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The Insurance business heretofore carried on by the late Thomas F. Gillespie, deceased is continued by the undersigned who represents the following Companies:—
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ALLIANCE,
PHŒNIX OF LONDON
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JAS. G. MILLER,
Chatham 29th Nov 1893.

HEAD QUARTERS.
THE HEADQUARTERS FOR DRUGS, PATENT MEDICINES AND TOILET ARTICLES .. .. IS AT THE .. ..
NEWCASTLE DRUG STORE.
We have on hand now, as usual, a
LARGE & FRESH SUPPLY
of the different Mixtures, Liniments, Cough Syrups, Tonics, Dyspepsia, Rheumatic, Kidney, Asthma and Catarrh Cures.
ALSO A LARGE STOCK OF
TOOTH BRUSHES, HAIR BRUSHES, COMBS, TOOTH POWDERS AND PASTES
PERFUMES & SOAPS.
Our perfumes and soaps are the finest in town, and as we have a very large assortment of Soaps, we will offer them at special prices.
We also call your attention to our Cigars, Tobaccos, Pipes, Tobacco Pouches, Cigar and Cigarette Holders, etc.
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SHIP BROKERS AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS.
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Just arrived and on Sale at
Roger Flanaan's
Wall Papers, Window Shades,
Dry Goods,
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Hats, Caps
Boots, Shoes &c. &c
Also a choice lot of
GROCERIES & PROVISIONS.
R. FLANAGAN,
ST JOHN STREET CHATHAM

EQUITY SALE.
There will be sold at Public Auction, in front of the Law Chambers so called, in the town of Chatham in the County of Northumberland, on Tuesday, the Fifteenth day of March next, at the hour of twelve o'clock noon, pursuant to the directions of a decretal order of the Supreme Court in Equity, made on the Twenty-First day of December, A.D. 1897 in a certain suit therein pending, wherein Robert C. Boyes and James S. Fairley Executors of the last will and testament of Scott Fairley, deceased, are Plaintiffs and William McDougall is defendant, with the approbation of the undersigned referee in Equity for the County of Northumberland, the lands and premises directed to be sold by the said decretal order and therein described as all that piece parcel or lot of land situate lying and being in the Lockstead Settlement, Parish of Blackville, County of Northumberland, granted by the said William McDougal as by reference to the grant will more fully appear and bounded as follows to wit. Beginning on the eastern side of the road from McLaggan's to Renous River at the northwest angle of lot number one hundred and nine purchased by Isaac Waite, in Lockstead Settlement, thence running by the magnet along the said road north five degrees and twenty minutes, west twelve chains and fifty links to a stake, thence north eighty four degrees and forty minutes east eighty chains, thence south five degrees and twenty minutes, east twelve chains and fifty links and thence south eighty-four degrees and forty minutes west eighty chains to the place of beginning—containing over a hundred acres more or less, and distinguished as lot number one hundred and twelve, in Lockstead Settlement.
Together with all buildings and improvements thereon and the appurtenances to the same belonging or in anywise appertaining.
Terms of sale—Cash. For further particulars apply to Plaintiff's Solicitor.
Dated the fifth day of January, A.D. 1898.
L. J. TWEEDIE, Plaintiff's Solicitor. ROBT. MURRAY, Referee in Equity.
For the want of purchasers, above sale is postponed till Tuesday, the 19th day of April next, at the hour of 12 o'clock noon, then to take place in front of the said Law Chambers.
Dated this 15th day of March, A.D. 1898.
ROBT. MURRAY, Referee in Equity.

B. R. BOUTHILLIER.
MERCHANT TAILOR,
CHATHAM,
Keeps constantly on hand full lines of Cloths of the best
British, and Canadian Makes,
Trimmings, etc.
GENTLEMEN'S GARMENTS
al kinds cut and made to order on the premises, with quickest despatch and at reasonable terms.
LADIES' COATS & SACQUES
ent to order
Satisfaction Guaranteed.

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for Summerside Work," will be received until Tuesday, 15th day of March, 1898, inclusively, for the construction of a breakwater at Summerside, P. E. I., according to plans and specification to be seen at the office of Mr J. B. Hegan, at Charlottetown, P. E I., at the office Mr. C. E. W Dodwell, Resident Engineer Halifax, N. S, at the office of Mr. W. J. McCordock, Supt. of Dredging, Custom House, St. John, N. B. and at the Department of Public Works, Ottawa.
Tenders will not be considered unless made on the printed forms supplied, and signed with the actual signatures of tenderers.
An excepted bank cheque, payable to the order of the Minister of Public Works, *for ten thousand dollars* ($10,000), must accompany each tender. This cheque will be forfeited if the party decline the contract or fail to complete the work contracted for, and will be returned in case of non-acceptance of tender
The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.
By order,
E F. E. ROY, *Secretary*
Department of Public Works, Ottawa, 21st Feb 1898.
Newspapers inserting this advertisement without authority from the Department will not be paid for it.

FLOUR AND FEED DEPOT.
At The Old Stand Cunard Street.
SHORTS,
BRAN,
CORNMEAL,
CRACKED FEED
HAY AND OATS,
E. A. STRANG.

BUSINESS
Is Now Rushing!
COME EARLY AND BRING YOUR ORDERS!
Now is the time to order your printed forms for Winter and Spring business. Send your orders to
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—FOR YOUR—
LETTER HEADS,
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TAGS, ETC.
A full stock of paper, envelopes, tags and printers' stationery on hand. Come or send to
THE LEADING JOB-PRINTING OFFICE.
D. G. SMITH, CHATHAM.

EQUITY SALE.
There will be sold at Public Auction in front of the Law Chambers so called in the Town of Chatham in the County of Northumberland, on Tuesday, the fifteenth day of March next, at the hour of twelve o'clock noon, pursuant to the directions of a decretal order of the Supreme Court in Equity, made on the Twenty-First day of December, A.D. 1897, in a certain suit therein pending, wherein Robert C. Boyes and James S. Fairley, Executors of the last will and testament of Scott Fairley, deceased, are Plaintiffs and Joseph Grady and Charlotte Elizabeth Grady are defendants with the approbation of the undersigned referee in Equity for the County of Northumberland, the lands and premises directed to be sold by the said decretal order and therein described as all that certain piece or parcel of land situate lying and being in the Parish of Blackville, in the County of Northumberland and Province of New Brunswick, bounded as follows:—Beginning at a stake standing on the northern side of the road from the Dungarvon River to McLaggan's, at the southwest angle of lot number two, purchased by John McKenzie, in the Bradalbane Settlement, east, thence running by the magnet north eighteen degrees east sixty-seven chains, thence south seventy-two degrees, east fifteen chains to a spruce tree, thence south eighteen degrees, west sixty-seven chains to a hemlock tree standing on the northern side of the aforesaid road, from Dungarvon River to McLaggan's, and thence along the same, north seventy two degrees west fifteen chains to the place of beginning containing one hundred acres more or less, and distinguished as lot number one in the Bradalbane Settlement east, granted to the aforesaid Joseph Grady, as by reference thereto will fully appear.
Together with all buildings and improvements thereon and the appurtenances to the same belonging or in anywise appertaining.
Terms of sale—Cash. For further particulars apply to Plaintiffs Solicitor.
Dated the fifth day of January, A.D. 1898.
L. J. TWEEDIE, Plaintiff's Solicitor. ROBT. MURRAY, Referee in Equity
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Dated this 15th day of March, A.D. 1898.
ROBT. MURRAY, Referee in Equity.

MACKENZIE'S
QUININE WINE AND IRON,
THE BEST TONIC AND
BLOOD MAKER
50cT BOTTLES
WE GUARANTEE IT AT
Mackenzie's Medical Hall,
CHATHAM, N. B.

NOTICE.
SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed, "Tenders for Stocks" will be received at my office, Millerton, until 18th May next, 1898, for the whole or part of the stocks of the late Robt. Swim, Doaktown, consisting in part of Dress Fabrics, Prints, Cottons, Cottonades Ready-made Clothing, Shelf-Hardware, Crockery, Smallwares, Groceries, Window Frames, Doors, Sashes, Lumber, &c.
Stock list can be seen at the office of E. P. Williston, Esq, Newcastle.
Terms: Cash, or approved joint note at 3 months.
The undersigned does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any tender.
JAMES ROBINSON,
Executor of R Swim estate.
Millerton, April 21, 1898. 5-12-98.

LOOK, LOOK!
The Subscriber is prepared to furnish Sashes and Frames and Doors and Frames, any size and any quantity at lowest prices for spring delivery. Call on, or address
R A. RUSSELL
Black Brook, Chatham, N. B
4. 28. 98.

DERAVIN & CO.
COMMISSION MERCHANTS
ST. KITTS, W. I.
Cable Address: Deravin
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NOTICE TO HOLDERS OF TIMBER LICENSES
CROWN LAND OFFICE, 24 JULY, 1896.
The attention of all holders of Timber Licenses is called to Section 19 of the Timber Regulations which reads as follows;—
'19 No Spruce or Pine trees shall be cut by any Licensee under any License, not even for piling, which will not make a log at least 18 feet in length and ten inches at the small end; and if any such shall be cut, the Lumber shall be liable to double stumpage and the License be forfeited'
and all Licensees are hereby notified, that for the future, the provisions of this section will be rigidly enforced
ALBERT T DUNN,
Surveyor General

BOOTS! SHOES!
If you want a
First Class Article made to Order
come to the shop of Samuel Johnson.
The driving-boots that all the Lumbermen are looking for are made at this establishment, and a stock of them is now on hand.
All Hand-made work and Warranted.
Repairs made promptly.
Prices reasonable all round.
SAMUEL JOHNSON.
Building adjoining the Post Office, Chatham.

Z. TINGLEY,
HAIRDRESSER, ETC.,
SHAVING PARLOR
Benson Building
Water Street, - Chatham.
He will also keep a first-class stock
Cigars, Tobaccos, Pipes,
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MARK YOU!
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Best Photographs.
Whether our patrons be RICH or POOR we aim to PLEASE every time.
IF YOU WANT PICTURE FRAMES,
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TINTYPES
COME AND SEE US AT
Mersereau's Photo Rooms.
Water St., Chatham.

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"The inner chamber!" screeched the guide. "The inner chamber, my lord! May God and the holy prophet protect me!" he added to himself, tragically. "Surely I shall be burned alive for this and never taste the bliss of the faithful. Never were the sanctities of the harem and our holy religion so profaned before!"

Suleiman, in another mood, was using unhallowed language in front, because we were again in a maze of deep darkness, from which there appeared to be no outlet.

"Perdition seize thee, where art thou now, thou varlet of the bedchamber?" he called, angrily, to Baruk. "By the prophet's sword, this dagger quivereth for a fleshy sheath. Thou shalt never escape alive if there is more trouble or delay."

"Surely, my lord, I know these passages as a blind man knoweth the way to his mouth," answered Baruk, promptly. "The press is lessened. I will lead."

"Let me take hold of thy skirt then, for I have not the eyes of a cat," said Suleiman. "Thou feelest that point—yea, that shrinking answereth for thee. Now, my gazelle, get us on if thou wouldst not be in the hall of Eblis this night."

We passed on through suffocating waves of perfume, past rustling curtains of inestimable value, over Persian rugs that were like deep beds of moss under foot—upstairs and downstairs and around more corners than Christian architect ever dreamed of. Another door flew into splinters, and we found ourselves in a gorgeously decorated apartment illumined by swinging lamps that emitted a delectable odour and full of sturggling men and women. Crumpled, disheavelled embroideries, torn fans, broken musical instruments, and various articles of toilet were strewn about the floor, for the ladies and their attendants, not suspecting the fate of their lord, had been taken by surprise in the midst of music, gossip, and needlework.

A few of the women were negro slaves, in coarse, scanty raiment, but the majority were delicately-clothed ladies of the harem, whose manifold charms were an eloquent testimony to Amood's appreciation of diverse kinds of female loveliness. Fair Circassians there were, and tawny Egyptians, and thick-lipped Ethiopians, and black-eyed Arabs, with other belles of indefinite hue and varying attraction. Most of them were young, indeed some were mere girls, and all were plump and fragrant as a musk-ox.

They were in sad plight and disorder, poor things, their veils being rudely torn from their faces, their gauzy robes made into ribbons by men who respected not the sacredness of Amood's domestic circle. Occasionally the elder ones fought with their captors, displaying no small skill in the use of their claws, but the younger ones, to whom the mere sight of strangers was pollution, strank into alcoves and corners, panting like captured does, and were easier prizes.

To an unoccupied spectator the details of the scrimmage would have been comical enough. Sometimes two men strove for one woman, and sometimes one man tried desperately to secure two ladies. Generally speaking, however, one lady was as much as the boldest could well manage, and, in the case of the older vixens, at times more.

Suleiman cast a swift, appraising glance about the room.

"The queen—which is the queen?" he demanded of Baruk.

"She is not here, my lord," answered the quaking Baruk.

"Not here, thou dog! And wherefore are we here? Wouldst thou have thy blood spilled ere thou art a minute older? By this red blade, I will have none of thy tarrying and wavering."

Baruk took a step forward in quivering trepidation. Nor did he tremble without cause, for some of the women spying him were at him like tigresses, screeching that he had betrayed them.

"This is unseemly," said Suleiman, intervening. "Ye do your loveliness wrong."

"The wretch is a traitor," they clamoured. "He hath betrayed us. We will have his eyes out for the dishonour."

"Nay, nay, my charming ones," said Suleiman, with the most gallant air in aginable. "Ye do him injustice. Never was keeper of beauty so faithful to his trust. He hath conducted us hither, O lights of our souls, on the sharp compulsion of steel. Unreasonable man, to deny us entrance to such a paradise! I protest I nearly slew him at the thought of what he would withhold from us. Far and fast have we ridden on unmatchable ones for the heavenly joy of looking up you, and now we prostrate ourselves at your feet."

In spite of their rage, the ladies could not help smiling at the insinuating sweetness of Suleiman.

"Be comforted, ye who are as the stars in glory and brightness," he went on. "This guardian of your angelic slumbers hath not been false. But the times are strange, O peerless princesses! Men are not masters in their own houses. Even the mighty Amood Sinn hath tasted defeat and is no longer able to rule his palace."

Such of the ladies as were disengaged clasped their hands, turned their eyes to heaven, and with one accord, screamed.

"Slay me for causing you pain, ye adorable ones," pleaded Suleiman. "I vow we deserve death for thus disturbing your meditations. Yet must I ask one question. Is the beauteous flower, the queen, within? Business brooketh no delay, else would we tarry to sip honey off your lips, O ye enchantresses."

Jealousy is an ever active fire in the harem. There was probably not one among them who would not have rejoiced in her heart to see the reigning beauty cast from the window, but deceit knows how to be discreet. Never would they permit unhallowed strangers to pollute their beautiful queen by looking upon her, not so long as they had breath to defend her. Intimating this, as many as were free bolted through an inner door, slamming and fastening it behind them.

"Make haste," said Suleiman. "We must not lose them. They will guide us to the queen."

Easily forcing the door, we dashed in pursuit. Along the dark tripping ways we flew, guided by cries and vanishing skirt-tails, round innumerable angles, through countless doors, till we came upon a long, straight passage. At the farther end, through a dim vista of muslin, we got a glimpse of two women, whom we had not hitherto seen, disappearing at their utmost speed with flying tresses that told of distress.

"'Tis she, 'tis she!" cried Baruk, excitedly. Then to himself, though loud enough to be audible to all:—"Glory be to heaven, she will escape! She can hide!" But suddenly remembering the position of affairs, he called again:—"My lord, make haste. She is thine; so also is her companion, the Indian princess of fabulous wealth. That is a tale of wonder. I would tell it to my lord, but there is no time. The holy prophet preserve me!" And he groaned as if taken with a sudden pain.

Suleiman bounded past the shrieking bevy we had first met, the rest of us following as best we could. Sudden cries of terror rose in front and echoed shrilly in many recesses.

"She is captured," said Suleiman, leaping faster. "She must be ours. Close up, my men."

In an instant we were round the corner, to find our prizes in the arms of three men, who were already setting about binding them.

"Varlets, let go," shouted Suleiman, drawing his crooked sword and rushing upon the group. Two of the men turning quickly drew a pair of long, thin daggers, and out themselves in a posture of defence; the third catching the women by the wrists dragged them screaming into an adjacent room.

We crowded to Suleiman's aid, and the business would have been over in a jiffy had not the women who were behind come up and flung themselves blindly among our weapons. Suleiman growled at the interruption of the sport; his resentment being the fiercer possibly that his adversaries, profiting by the diversion, took to their heels without so much as a cut upon them. The fellow who tugged at the queen and her companion, seeing battle was hopeless, dropped his hold and fled after his comrades.

Thus released, the two women fled on afresh in a worse agony of fright than ever, and we, getting unceremoniously rid of the others, went in hot pursuit. We gained on them, and they separated, leaping out of sight on either side of a passage, as I have seen hunted rabbits disappear among whins and ferns. Suleiman, with half the company, darted after the one, I, with the rest, going on the track of the other, who proved to be the Indian princess.

We had almost overtaken her, when, sudden as a tiger from his native jungles, a man sprang out of ambush, seized her, and before she could so much as cry, had her into a curtained recess. There were two men trying to gag and bind her, but they never accomplished the operation. One went down, wreaking his vengeance on the spear that pierced him, and the other shot out of sight, leaving the rope twisted about his victim's arms. Faint with fatigue and fear, the lady gave a little peculiar cry, staggered and fell back, as it happened, right into

The lady gave a little peculiar cry, staggered and fell back.

my arms. Cutting her fetters with my sword, I led her quietly to a divan that chanced to be near, the Bedouins crowding close about, but chivalrously keeping hands off her.

"Be not afraid," I said, as gently as I could, when she had recovered a little. "We will do thee no harm."

She answered something in broken Arabic, which I did not understand, and presently, professing herself quite restored, she was escorted back the way we had come. The Bedouins, whispering among themselves, appraised the value of her rich attire of silk and gold and jewels, but as for me I was speculating what the trembling creature was and how she could have drifted there. Meanwhile Suleiman had captured the queen, who, as he privately informed me, was worth more than all the rest put together.

CHAPTER XXIV.

THE INDIAN PRINCESS.

There was still much to be done and need of haste in doing it, but Suleiman's first duty was to provide for the safety of the prizes he had taken.

"Ye shall come with us, ye lovely ones," he said, addressing the ladies with the grand air of a born cavalier, "and we will make you secure from the fury of man. Far have we come to deliver you from ruthless hands and ignoble bondage."

"And who instructed thee in our condition?" demanded the Circassian, flashing with queenly eyes. "They deliverance, methinks, will be slavery—thy care a perpetual evil."

"Sweet rose of the garden," replied Suleiman, "it becometh not thy beauty to be in a tempest. Thy lord is far from hence, my beauteous one, and his return to thy lovely bosom is uncertain. Wherefore shouldst thou tarry here to be abased?"

"There can be no worse abasement than going with thee," she snapped. "Leave us to such chances as fate may bring and get ye gone, for ye are but portionless Bedouins of the desert."

"Nay," answered Suleiman, more insinuatingly than ever. "We cannot leave what has enraptured our eyes. Make thyself old and ugly, my charmer, and we will fly from thy presence. But while thou puttest the rose and lily to shame thou must blame Heaven, not us, if we refuse to go from thy side. And now, my adorable, there is business going on in which I must bear a hand. Will my queen, therefore, deign to accompany us to a place of safety, where she may be guarded from harm?"

The lady would have broken out again, but Suleiman had no more time to waste on words. "Conduct thy mistress, the queen, and her fair companion, the gem of India, whither we lead," he said, turning sharply upon Baruk. "Is there a spot of safety about this nether pit?"

"It is as my lord seeth," answered Baruk.

Suleiman considered for a moment, then turned again to the ladies.

"Have the lights of Amood's eyes any possessions they would fain carry with them?" he inquired, with a courtly smile. "Trinkets, jewels, costly robes? Methinks they must have. And we will ourselves help them to collect their riches. Ye stay here while we search."

Accordingly, although the queen declared vociferously she had no wish but to see the last of us, the ladies were consigned to the care of a strong guard, of which I was one, while the rest, under the guidance of Baruk, went in search of valuables. They returned after a little with many sparkling caskets full of precious gems, loads of various stuffs of richness unsurpassed—camel's hair cloaks elaborately inwrought with gold, Indian silks of manifold dyes and patterns, Khorassan brocades, bundles of rugs and shawls and sashes enough to furnish ten regiments of sheiks, and, more important than all, two more of the principal ladies of the harem."

"Just one thing more ere we depart," said Suleiman, gleefully. "There is enough of the wine of Shiraz to float a thousand ships, and, by the prophet's beard, we go not without a share of it."

They went off again, presently coming back laden till they groaned with skin bottles of many sizes full to the brim of wine.

The burdens were set down, and Suleiman looked with joy at the pile, and from the pile to the ladies, and from the ladies back to the pile.

"It is good," he remarked. "Said I not that Amood was a mighty benefactor of his kind? There is enough here to make the black tents merry for a year."

But it was a hard question how to get all this plunder away. We had won it by force, and by force might lose it, for in such adventures as looting castles property changes hands with unreckonable quickness.

Suleiman stepped to the latticed window, sent it into shivers, and looked down. We were on the outer wall of the castle, and our beasts could not be far off. Suleiman's brow cleared.

"There be ropes where riches so abound, my gazelle," he said, turning to Baruk.

"Yea, my lord."

"Take him and bring a rope, Ali," said Suleiman to a man at his side. "Two, if thou canst find them, and make thy best speed."

Ali and Baruk were out of sight in a moment, and Suleiman went on with his instructions.

"And thou, Ibrahim, my trusty right hand, take with you three others, cleave your way down to where we left our horses, and tell our fellows to bring them under this window. The matter will be easy. Get camels, too, if thou canst lay hands on them, and our fair ones would ride the easier in litters. I will swing a lamp in the window as a signal to thee, and forget not, good Ibrahim, to make haste."

"I will not forget," said Ibrahim, choosing his companions.

In a few minutes Ali and Baruk were back with two stout ropes, which were made fast to two spearheads, driven into the floor.

"We will slip down these quicker than the angels came down Jacob's ladder," remarked Suleiman, throwing the loose ends out of the window. "Now, my good Ibrahim, do not tarry."

Ibrahim did not tarry. Even sooner, I think, than was expected by our impatient leader, there was a sound of grunting and snorting, and low voices in the darkness underneath that made him smile.

"Art thou there, Ibrahim?" called Suleiman, softly.

"I am here," answered Ibrahim, in the same tone.

"And four camels, by the memory of the great Saad. (A notorious Arab freebooter.) How didst thou find them, my gay one?"

"By taking their keepers unawares and sending them swiftly to the prophet's bosom," replied Ibrahim.

"Malec will scethe thee in fiery brimstone for thy good deeds, Ibrahim," chuckled Suleiman.

Chattels and ladies were lowered, the latter not without difficulty, for three were timid and the fourth rebellious, but Suleiman, who was experienced and expeditious in such matters, had soon the whole four, as he expressed it, in Ibrahim's bosom below. Then slipping down ourselves and hurriedly forming a circle about our spoils we thrust and cut a way to the comparative quiet of an orchard, where the goods were loaded and the ladies provided with litters. This care was taken that they might depreciate as little as possible in value.

We had not finished when dense volumes of smoke were seen ascending from the castle.

"What the Bedouin leaves the flames will have," remarked one of the men a minute later as a great blaze lit up the sky.

"Idiots!" growled Suleiman, who intended to go back for more plunder, and in the next breath, "Mother of the prophet, listen to the roaring and rushing! Our kindred will be about us like clouds of hornets. It is time to be away."

If we wished to hold our own, it was time. So, mounting in the light of the burning pile, we made off with all speed.

It was not easy to escape from that whirlpool of destruction, and keep our plunder intact. At the start we had to fight our way step by step, and at times the handling was so rough and the odds so heavy, that it seemed we must lose all we had captured. But we kept well together, and partly by strategy, partly by a free and active use of steel, we got out at last with no more serious mishap than the loss of a little blood. To that we were by this time accustomed, and it did not hurt our spirits, though one man, evidently a recent addition to the band, made much ado about a couple of broken ribs till he was laughed and bullied out of his complaints.

We made straight for the desert as our safest retreat, never drawing rein till the sun was well up and we were once more alone. Then we halted to refresh ourselves with some of the good things provided by Amood Sinn. But before there was either eating or drinking Suleiman drew up the band and made a little speech.

"We have with us four princesses, as beautiful as the morning and as soft as the dove," he said, making a salaam toward the litters. "We value the gifts of Heaven, and my purpose in speaking is to let it be known that, by my life, the man who layeth a profane finger on these fair ones shall die the death of a dog. Yet is there much to comfort us. We shall feast, my merry ones. Yea, eat and drink in honour of our victories. There is a sweet savour already in my nostrils. Here are rivers of the wine of Shiraz, and bread baked in the ovens of Amood. Heaven protect him in his adversity!"

The company applauded, and fell merrily to eating and drinking; the men squatted on the ground beside their horses, the women chastely withdrawn in their litters and attended by the obsequious Baruk.

The meal was not over when Suleiman and Ibrahim were discussing our next movement. Much was said in a low voice about pilgrims and caravans and the pecuniary value of ladies such as we happened to possess, and, though I did not hear all, yet by putting two and two together, I understood that more robberies were in the wind. In short, the pious of the Moslem world were then making the annual pilgrimage, and we were bent on relieving them of some of their superfluous wealth.

Continued on 4th Page.

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