

OR BLINDFOLD ON THE BRINK OF PRECIPICES

CHAPTER III

I did not meet my reverend master until the next morning at prayers. How revolting long-winded orisons now sounded in my ears! After prayers, he went through the process of examining the boys. What a vile mass of hypocrisy all this seemed to me by the way of my ears! I was broken upon me. Judith was not present, her father said she was too unwell, and would have to offer up her devotions in private that morning.

Her devotions! I felt that my manner was embarrassed, and I could not endure to meet his eye. He remarked upon my pale looks, he had not slept a wink all night. He asked, rather sharply: "What ailed me?" "I have a headache; I had a bad night's rest last night," I stammered. "Oh! we will soon set that all right; you shall breakfast with me this morning, and you must drink tea will soon kill the headache."

At the table, I was treated more like a guest than even a member of the family. He asked me to eat and drink of all. Martha, who was waiting, could scarcely contain her wonderment. "You have taken my place well during my absence," he said in a fawning tone. "I am only just beginning to discover the treasure I have in you. Oh! you must study it is to know that the seed I have sown will yield so goodly a harvest! Well, I am getting old, and I shall soon want a successor and comforter. Ah, if I had such a one, I must not repine; for I am blessed with the best of daughters! You two must be brought more together than you have been, for you must study pair. Have you ever noticed Judith, Silas! A fine girl, though I say it, and gifted with that celestial beauty which makes a woman more attractive even than the beauty of the spirit. If she were to go forth into the sinful world she would have scores of lovers, and the children of the heathens would flock to ask her hand in marriage. But such is neither my wish nor hers; I would see her bound in the holy bonds of wedlock to some sober, pious youth."

At last, with many blessings, that sounded in my ears like bans, he dismissed me to the school room. To get away from his presence, I hid myself in a closet, and I felt as if I were emerging from the fetid atmosphere of a sick room into the pure air of heaven. Business which had been pending since my absence kept him from home all day, and until late in the evening. When I got to bed that night I tried to collect my thoughts, and to look upon my situation with a philosophic eye. I found myself beyond the walls of the only home I had ever known? I was nervous, timid, utterly devoid of energy—why, I should not wonder, for I had been so long forced into a marriage against my will. If I persisted in saying no, what could he do? He might treat me harshly, but that was my duty. Then I was not altogether friendless in the house; I should have a staunch defender in Martha.

How contemptible all this will read to men of the world—a youth, of nearly nineteen, to depend on a woman's defence rather than upon his own courage! From that cowardly thought, I sent my mind to phrase it, I began to derive a little secret comfort, when there came back upon my memory those strange words which I had heard him say, "ever that might have been, and to some mysterious power connected with it. In a vain endeavor to think out some clue to these words, I fell asleep.

The next day Judith appeared at dinner, for the first time during several weeks. She looked exceedingly ill. No person was such a judge of the merits and demerits, moral or physical, of each other, as those who are constantly together; indeed they seldom think of forming any judgment in regard to each other, except in some striking circumstance places one in a strongly favorable light, or brings him or her into a new, or closer position to the eyes of the world. For the first time, we began to ask ourselves what is so-and-so like—good-looking or plain, of a good disposition or otherwise. Thus it was with myself in regard to Judith.

The first result of these observations was to show me that my idea of her physical appearance was decidedly false. She was not ugly. Her figure was tall, thin, but very well proportioned, and somewhat graceful in its carriage; well dressed it would have been admired as that of a fine woman. Her hair was red—it could not, by any stretch of courtesy be called golden or Auburn—it was uncomprehensively red; her complexion was fair, her eyes were peculiarly red; her nose was straight and well shaped; her lips full, but ripe and handsome; her teeth remarkably white and regular; her forehead too high for beauty; her eyes full of a bluish-gray color, hard, cold, and bright, as though they had been cut out of steel. There was a peculiar severity about their expression which I shall mention hereafter.

Up to this time, they had never given me a full glance, and I had never experienced their strange power. Mr. Porter's manner to me was marked by the ingratiating demerit, or that stammering, nervous, stammering idea of a cunning hyena turing me into his den for the sake of making a meal of my body. Unsuspecting as I was, I could perceive the palpable attempts he made to induce his daughter to assume the same line of conduct. Hints which she occasionally furnished herself into following, but with unmistakable repugnance.

faint resistance, I had made inspired me with new confidence. I felt that I was no longer a schoolboy, but verging on manhood; that it was cowardly and disgraceful to yield a slavish obedience against my conscience to such a man as had no more shown himself. The first resolution I formed consequent upon this better and firmer state of mind, was that I would make a clean breast to Martha of all I knew, and then be guided by her superior worldly wisdom as to what I had better do. Feeling much relieved, I went up to the schoolroom to superintend the afternoon tasks.

THE MODERN MOTHER

Has Ways of Caring for Baby that Our Grandmothers Never Knew.

Many almost sacred traditions of the nursery have been cast aside by the up-to-date mother. Even the once essential cradle is now seldom found in the house blessed by baby's presence. The modern baby is not fed every time he cries, and the clock announces the proper time. The doctor approves of this and baby is better for it, but despite regular hours for feeding, nearly all the disorders of infants are caused by the derangements of the stomach and bowels. Mother's greatest problem is a treatment for these ills that will be gentle but effective, and above all, safe. Mrs. J. W. Bailey, of Head Lake, Ont., writes from the fullness of experience when she says: "I have used Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for my six-month-old baby who was troubled with indigestion. The results were beyond my expectations. Words cannot convey to you the relief my baby has received from these Tablets. I will never again use any other preparation for the baby, as I am convinced by mother as good as Baby's Own Tablets."

These Tablets are a gentle laxative and comforting medicine for infants and children. They are pleasant to take and are guaranteed to contain no opiate. If your druggist does not keep Baby's Own Tablets send 25 cents to the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont., or Schenectady, N. Y., and a box will be mailed, post paid, to your address.

FAST EATING. Eating rapidly, according to the testimony of a specialist in the kind of trouble caused by that breach of good table manners, is very much commoner than it used to be. And it is on the increase. "I was remonstrating with a friend the other day about the manner in which he was gobbling his food," said this specialist, "and he told me that he had deliberated, I learned to eat rapidly because it was necessary in self defence. He told me that he had clung to his own habit of eating slowly as long as possible, but he had eventually to give it up because he was always the last person to finish at dinner. He told me that he had learned to eat as rapidly as the other persons he knew."

"One of the things which ought to be avoided by slow eating is so great that I don't believe any sane person who knew of them would eat quickly. He told me that the people who complain of indigestion are usually eating in a hurry will suffice. If the food is eaten slowly, it satisfies, whereas large lumps of rapidly consumed food do not gratify the appetite, but stimulate it."

CRAVING FOR MORE FOOD. "Another merit that comes from slow eating is the effect on the complexion. For one who eats rapidly a clear skin is out of the question. The most common cause of a sallow complexion is the rapid way that most persons do nowadays. If a person is found who does eat rapidly, it is because he has a sallow complexion, and it will be found that this person usually eats so little that there is no possibility of indigestion. "There are two other advantages of slow eating which ought to be appealed to everybody's vanity. I have not mentioned more serious discomforts, such as confirmed indigestion, this habit and no other. But to keep from getting too fat and to insure a clear complexion seems to me a sufficient reward for slow eating to make it worth while."

GRAINS OF GOLD. Generosity is the flower of justice. Diligence is the mother of good fortune.—Cervantes. There is a limit to which forbearance ceases to be a virtue. There is no index of character so sure as the voice.—Disraeli. Want of care does us more damage than want of knowledge.—Franklin. Laughing cheerfully at the disadvantages of one's position is a light on all the paths of life.—Richter. Discontent is the want of self-reliance; it is infirmity of will.—Emerson. The most amiable people are those who least wound the self-love of others.—Byron. It is always an item in supplying water to small chickens to arrange under the feet of the chickens in some way to prevent them from getting into the pans.

POULTRY NOTES. Stunted chickens had best be fattened and eaten. Hens should not be mixed with the poultry flock. Keep everything dry in the poultry house but the drinking vessels. If the fowls are too fat an over-rich diet of oats will reduce them. The chickens that eat the most oats are usually in the best condition. Oats are good producing but should be alternated with bran. Geese and ducks should not be kept in the house. Coal shavings should not be used in the dust bath until sifted. Keep the fowls healthy by supplying all their natural demands. Under ordinary conditions fowls are as many as should be kept in one room. While mixing the food for chickens be sure that they are well mixed. Water and especially milk on the bodies of the chicks causes the feathers to check their feet. The dust around the neck and breast and the chicken will not thrive.

BITS OF DAILY WISDOM. The first great care in the management of the dairy is cleanliness. If the cows are kept in a filthy stable the milk will become tainted and the taint will affect the cream and butter. The milking should be done with

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clean hands. Each milker should wash and dry his hands before he begins to milk. The finger nails of the milkers should be cut close. Every milker should put on a clean milking suit. The milk should be strained immediately to the dairy and strained in the creamery cans or put through the separator. The creamery is used the milk should stand twelve hours at a temperature of about 45 degrees. If the butter does not come properly, put a handful of salt in the churn. The cream should then be taken from the milk and it should be ripe (a little sour) and ready to churn in full particulars at once to the Dominion Knitting Co., Drug-Gists' Corporation Bldg., Toronto, Canada.

SEVEN YEARS IN BED. NOTHING LIKE IT HAS EVER BEEN HEARD OF IN NEWFOUNDLAND. Where the Story Concerns a Man Who Has Created a Profound Sensation. Cotter's Cove, New Bay, Newfoundland, Oct. 27.—(Special)—This part of the island has been thoroughly aroused by the most miraculous cure of a man named Joseph Brown. For eight years this man had been ailing and for seven years of this time he was unable to work. He had tried every remedy known to man, but he had been treated from time to time by several doctors and although he always carefully attended to their several prescriptions exactly as ordered by them, he got no relief, but was slowly growing worse.

Finally he went to the hospital where he remained for seven months, but only to be sent home as an incurable case. He has tried every remedy he could hear of, electric belts, liniments, oils and ointments, but all of them were in vain. No one ever thought he could ever be well again. However, one day he picked up a newspaper containing an advertisement for Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. He was cured of Lumbago by Dodd's Kidney Pills. After reading this he bought a box of the Pink Pills and he was cured of Lumbago by Dodd's Kidney Pills. After reading this he bought a box of the Pink Pills and he was cured of Lumbago by Dodd's Kidney Pills.

SOME MISFIT NAMES. You must not think that turkeys came from Turkey, for they are natives of America. Nor that Irish potatoes came from Ireland, for they are American. And the Turkish cigarettes, which you see in every shop, were first made in the hump-backed quadruped. They are mostly named after the various nations of the world, but they are not made from porpoises at all. Cork legs are not made of cork, and they do not come from Cork. The material used in making them is a kind of paper, and they are made in America. The Turkish cigarettes were first made in the hump-backed quadruped.

A VISIT FROM ROYALTY. King of Savage Island Visits a Man-of-War. Nine, more commonly known as Savage Island, lies one thousand miles north-west of New Zealand and three hundred miles south-east of Samoa, in the loneliest spot in that part of the Pacific. It is a small, rocky island, and its only inhabitant is a man-of-war. The king of the island, who had never been on board a man-of-war, asked if he might visit the ship, when it was time to take a visit. His request was granted. Mr. Thomson describes the visit.

Nurses' Experience. Medical men say that a good nurse in a difficult case is better than medicine, but when we can get a good nurse and good medicine, the patient stands a much better chance of recovery. A few words of advice given below by nurse Eliza King, are well worth the attention of all readers: "I have constantly used St. Jacob's Oil in the various situations I have occupied as nurse, and have invariably found it excellent in all cases requiring outward application, such as sprains, bruises, rheumatic affections, neuralgia, etc. It is a most valuable remedy in every household."

AWKWARD FOR THE MAID. The two young men reached the door at the same time. "Is Miss Walsingham in?" they asked. The maid looked at them and shook her head consolingly. "She is in to wait as you are out to the other," she said at last; "but the two of you coming together has got me so tangled I'm blind if I know which is written. But come right here, both of you, I'll ask her to come down on a 'pick you out.'"

Maud (who has answered the door bell herself)—"George, you must not come into this house to-night. If you love me, darling, fly at once. I have not told my father that you are here, but he will find out in your presence," George (tragically)—"Oh, Maud, my darling! What serpent has entered your Eden to wreck our happiness? Speak, girl, I beg you to tell me who it is. I will precede him, and hand her boots down after her."

MINARD'S LINIMENT. An admirable food for maintaining robust health. EPPE'S COCOA IN GOLD OLMATES.

No other possesses the exquisite flavor of the genuine. CEYLON BLACK TEA. APPLES and POULTRY. We can handle any quantity of properly packed Apple. Also any quantity of Poultry (dead or alive). Write us. THE DAWSON COMMISSION CO., Limited, TORONTO.

VERY ARTFUL OF MOSES. A celebrated physician of Vienna once received a telegram from the Oracov, requesting him to repair thither with all haste, as Moses Abrahamson was very ill, and required advice. This Moses was known to start at once, and he saw a troop of cavalry, headed by a man of short stature mounted on a curvetting grey horse. He was riding slowly on, as if in a dream, looking straight ahead and paying no heed to what went on about him. The girl learned on the same evening from her relatives, when she finally reached home, that the rider was Napoleon. Mme. Giron is remarkably active, and is particularly proud of her eyesight, which, she says, is only 72, sits down to sew, and never threads the needles for her. The old woman has five children, and her descendants number ninety-two.

HAUNTS OF FISH AND GAME. It is the title of a new publication issued by the Grand Trunk Passenger Department for the information of the hunter and angler who desires to visit that "Sportsman's Paradise," the "Highlands of Ontario," and other points along the line of the Grand Trunk. It is profusely illustrated, and is a very handsome folder. Copies sent on application to principal agents, or J. D. McDonald, District Passenger Agent, Toronto. Mr. Joseph Hume, M.P., who sat for Weymouth some years ago, is said to have had the largest head of fish ever taken in England. He required an 84 lb.—7 being the ordinary British size.

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh that contain Mercury. As mercury will surely destroy the action of the ointment, it is better to use a remedy that does not contain mercury. Little Boy (who has been chased out of the farmyard by a turkey)—"All right. I'll just wait till Christmas and I'll knock the stuffing out of you!"

FOR A SILENT TALKER. "I don't like the man," "Why not?" "I have just talking to him five minutes before he said 'I was an idiot.' 'Why the delay?' " "Lifebuoy Soap—disinfectant—is strongly recommended by the medical profession as a safeguard against infectious diseases. A turtle was killed a few years ago on the Atlantic coast of South America which was 7 feet long. The shell weighed nearly 1,900 pounds, and was 15 feet in circumference. It was of the kind known as spheniscus.

Minard's Liniment Cures Catarrh. The first temperance society in England was formed at Bradford in February, 1830. Minard's Liniment for sale everywhere. The Professor—"Yes, a caterpillar is the most voracious living thing. In a month it will eat about six hundred times its weight. I know of an Old Lady—"Whose boy did you say he was?"

THE MOST POPULAR DENTIFRICE. CALVERT'S CARBOLIC TOOTH POWDER. Preserves the teeth. Sweetens the breath. Strengthens the gums. "Uncle," said little Johnny, "tell me how you charged with your war-horse up the Potomac river. Dr. King, you are a good man. 'Well,' said the battle scarred veteran, "I mounted the fiery animal, drew my sword from its scabbard, and I have not since." "Forward!" and said the spurs deep into the quivering flanks of my gallant steed!"

Minard's Liniment Cures Burns, etc. "John," said the wife tenderly, "pray rise up, you see, we frequently taken away you will never marry Nancy Tarbox." "Certainly, Maria," replied the husband reassuringly. "I know you are a good girl, and I will have you three times when I was a much handsomer man than I am now."

WABASH RAILROAD. During the months of September and October, will sell one way second class tickets to California, Washington, Oregon, Utah, Montana, British Columbia and other Pacific Coast points. Tickets will be sold at reduced rates, and the route is the shortest, best and quickest route from Canada to the above points. Finest equipped passenger trains in America. Rates, time-tables and all particulars from any ticket agent, or J. A. Richardson, Dist. Passenger Agent, N. E. Corner King & Yonge Sts., Toronto, and St. Thomas, Ont.

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