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ericton, as a district, with Dr. T. C.
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retary.

All employers of labor in said dis-
trict willing to give preference to re-
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wanting employment residing therein,
are requested to notify the secretary,
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BLACK IS WHITE

By **GEORGE BARR McCUTCHEON**
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CHAPTER III.—Brood and his bride ar-
rive. She wins Frederic's liking at first
meeting. Brood shows dislike and veiled
hostility to his son.

CHAPTER IV.—Lydia and Mrs. Brood
meet in the jade-room, where Lydia works
as Brood's secretary. The room, domi-
nated by a great gold Buddha, Brood's
father's confessor, is furnished in oriental
magnificence. Mrs. Brood, after a talk
with Lydia, which leaves the latter puzzled,
is disturbed by the appearance of
Ranjab, the Hindu servant of Brood.

sank heavily into the flesh of his
cheeks were put there not by age but
by the very vigor of manhood. His
hair was quite gray.
Frederic waited for his father to
speak. But James Brood had nothing
to say. "She is very attractive, father,"
said the young man at last, almost
wistfully. He did not realize it, but he
was groping for sympathy. Brood had
been in the house for a quarter of an
hour, after an absence of nearly a year,
yet his greeting had been cold, casual,
matter-of-fact. Frederic expected little
more than that; still he felt in a vague way
that now, if never again, the ice of reserve
might be broken between them if only
for a moment. He was ready and
willing to do his part.

Brood was studying the young man's
face with an intensity that for the
moment disconcerted him. He seemed
bent on fixing certain features in his
mind's eye, as if his memory had once
played him false and should not do
so again. It was a habit of Brood's,
after prolonged separations, to look
for something in the boy's face that
he wanted to see and yet dreaded,
something that might have escaped him
when in daily contact with him. Now,
at the end of the rather offensive
scrutiny, he seemed to shake his
head slightly, although one could not
have been sure.

"And as charming as she is attrac-
tive, Frederic," he said, with a faint
flush of the enthusiasm he suppressed.
"Who is she?" asked his son, with-
out realizing the bluntness of his
eager question.

"Who is she?" repeated his father,
raising his eyebrows slightly. "She
is Mrs. James Brood."

"I—I beg your pardon," stammered
Frederic. "I didn't mean to put it
in that way. Who was she? Where
did you meet her and—Oh, I want to
know all there is to tell, father. I've
heard nothing. I am naturally curi-
ous—"

Brood stopped him with a gesture.
"She was Yvonne Lestrang, before
we were married—Mademoiselle Le-
strang. We met some time ago at
the house of a mutual friend in Paris.
I assure you, her references are all
that could be desired." His tone was
sarcastic.

Frederic flushed. "I'm sorry I asked
the questions, sir," he said, stiffly.
Brood suddenly laughed, a quiet
laugh that had some trace of humor
and a touch of compunction in it. "I
beg your pardon, Frederic. Come up
to my room and smoke a cigar with
me while I'm changing. I'll tell you
about her. She is wonderful."

To his own surprise, and to Freder-
ic's astonishment, he linked his arm
in the young man's and started toward
the hall. Afterward Brood was to won-
der even more than he wondered then
what it was that created the sudden
desire to atone for the hurt look he
had brought to the eyes of Matilde's
son—and the odd longing to touch
his arm gently.

CHAPTER IV.

In the Jade-Room.
Lydia met Brood and Frederic at
the top of the stairs. She had re-
ceived the message through Jones
and was on her way to dress for tea.
The master of the house greeted her
most cordially. He was very fond of
his lovely, gentle daughter of John
Desmond. Into their association had
stolen an intimate note that softened
the cold reserve of the man to a
marked degree. His chief joy was to
chat with her over the work he was
doing and to listen to her frank, hon-
est opinions. She regarded herself
as his secretary—or his amanuensis
in the strict sense of speaking—but he
considered her to be a friend as well
and treated her with a freedom that
was not extended to others.

A faint gleam of astonishment
lurked in the girl's eyes as she stood
before the two men. Never, in her
experience, had there been such an ex-
hibition of friendliness between father
and son. A curious throb of joy
rushed up from her heart and lodged
in her throat. For the first time she
found it difficult to respond with com-
posure to Brood's lively comments.
Tears were lying close to the surface
of her eyes—tears of relief and grati-
tude. The buoyant expression in Freder-
ic's told a new story. Her heart
rejoiced.

"Nonsense!" said Brood when she
announced that she was going to
change her gown. "You never looked
so pretty, my dear, as you do at this
moment. Come just as you are, to
please me."

"A tea party and an autopsy are
very much alike, Mr. Brood," said
she. "One can learn a lot at either."

Still, if you'd like to have Mrs. Brood
see me as I really am, I'll appear sans
plumage."

"I'd like it," said he promptly. "I
am sure you will like each other,
Lydia."

"I am glad you did not say we would
admire each other," said she quaintly.
"You look very happy, Mr. Brood,"
she went on, her eyes bright.

"I believe I am happy," said he.
"Then we shall all be happy," was
her rejoinder.

She returned to the jade-room on
the upper floor, where she had been
at work on the catalogue. Brood had
a very large and valuable collection
of jade. The jade-room, so called, was
little more than a large closet off the
remarkable room which James Brood
was pleased to call his "hiding place,"
or on occasion, his "retreat." No one
ventured into either of these rooms
except by special permission.

Ranjab, his Indian servant, slept
in an adjoining room, and it was whis-
pered about the house that not even
James Brood had viewed its interior.
This silent, unapproachable man from
the mysterious heart of India, locked
his door when he entered the room,
and locked it when he came out. No
one, not even the master, thought of
entering. Mr. Davies, in his cups or
out of them, was responsible for the
impression that the man kept deadly
serpents there. As a matter of fact,
Ranjab was a peaceable fellow and
desperately afraid of snakes.

Lydia loved the feel of the cold, oily
lumps of jade. There were a few
pieces of porcelain of extreme rarity
and beauty as well, and several price-
less bits of cloisonne, but it was the
jade she loved. There were two or
three hundred objects of various sizes
and color and all were what might be
called museum pieces.

She had been at work for half an
hour or longer when a noise in the
outer room attracted her attention.
She had the odd feeling that some one
was looking at her through the open
door, and swiftly turned.

Except when occupied by Brood the
room was darkened by means of
heavy window hangings; the effect
was that produced by the gloaming
just before the stars appear. Objects
were shadowy, indistinct, mysterious.

The light from the jade-room door
threw a diverging ray across the full
length of the room. In the very cen-
ter of this bright strip sat a placid
effigy of Buddha that Brood had found
in a remote corner of Siam, serenely
stolid on top of its thick base of
bronze and lacquer, with a shining
shrine for a background. In the dim
edge of the shadow, near the door at
the far end of the room, Lydia made
out the motionless, indistinct figure of
a woman. The faint outlines of the
face were discernible but not so the
features. For a moment the girl stared
at the watcher and then advanced to
the door.

"Who is it?" she inquired, peering.
A low, husky voice replied, with a
suggestion of laughter in the tones.

(To be Continued.)

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Opposition Platform

The following platform was adopted at the Opposition Con-
vention held in St. John recently:
In the event of the Opposition being returned to power, we pledge
ourselves:—

NO PARTIZAN CONTROL OF CROWN LANDS.

1. We pledge ourselves to completely reorganize the Crown-
Lands Department, so that its administration shall be entirely
severed from politics and administered on sound business prin-
ciples under systematic plans by a non-partizan commission speci-
ally appointed for that purpose, responsible to the Legislature and
working in co-operation with the Dominion Commission of Con-
servation.

TAKE THE HIGHWAYS OUT OF POLITICS.

2. We pledge ourselves to take the highways out of politics,
giving the expenditure of the money collected from the people and
the control of the labor, together with the Government appropri-
ations, into the hands of supervisors, chosen by the people of each
parish, to whom a detailed and audited account must be rendered
every year at the annual meeting, and a duplicate thereof for-
warded to the Department of Public Works, the work of the super-
visors to be under the inspection of a competent provincial en-
gineer.

We also pledge ourselves to set aside the money collected
from the licenses upon automobiles and other motor vehicles, to-
gether with an equal appropriation from the revenues of the Pro-
vince each year, to pay the interest upon the bonds to provide for
permanent roads, which shall be constructed as rapidly as possible.

PROHIBITION PROVINCE WIDE.

3. We pledge ourselves at the first session of the Legislature
to pass a law prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors within
the Province to the fullest extent allowed by the Constitution, and
within three months after the passage of said Act to submit the
same by referendum to the electors of the Province, and should
the majority of votes cast be in favor of the said law, then to
bring the same into force by proclamation within one year there-
after.

ELECTION LAW.

4. (a) To amend the electoral law so as to make it impos-
sible for members of the Legislature to traffic with the Government and
still retain their seats.

(b) To make it possible for young men, when they reach the
age of 21 years, to register their names and be placed forthwith
upon the voters' lists, instead of waiting for the tedious machinery
revision as it now exists.

(c) To divide the counties into electoral districts which shall
each be represented by one member.

(d) We will also consider amendments to the election law to
prevent bribery in municipal as well as provincial elections impos-
sible.

PROVINCIAL FINANCES.

5. To obtain at once a correct statement of the financial con-
dition of the Province in order that the people may have definite
knowledge of the vastly increased public debt and the enormous
obligations of guaranteed bonds they will be called upon to pay;
and to so reduce the cost of the administration of affairs and the
number of useless officials as to avoid the necessity for direct tax-
ation now confronting us.

AGRICULTURE.

6. To give the farmers all the practical assistance that the
resources of the Province will permit, to improve agricultural
methods and the quality and quantity of the stock upon the farm;
to reduce the enormous salary list in the department, and to spend
the educational grant received from the Federal Government
without regard for political patronage.

VALLEY RAILWAY.

7. To complete the Valley Railway from a point on the Trans-
continental Railway at or near Grand Falls, to St. John, and insist
upon the Dominion Government carrying out the terms of the
original legislation and allow the Province forty per cent. of the
gross earnings thereof.

EDUCATION.

8. To always maintain and improve the educational service
of the Province and to co-operate with the Federal Government in
carrying out the recommendations of the commission upon tech-
nical education.

IMMIGRATION.

9. The inauguration of a vigorous immigration policy to
properly place before intending immigrants, whose number will
be large after termination of the war, the advantages of the agri-
cultural possibilities of New Brunswick.

McMurray's Great Xmas Sale of

-: PIANOS :-

We have on hand a splendid stock of High Grade Pianos which we will offer at
special low price at this sale. They are the Gerhard Heintzman, Gourley, Bell and
Ewing Pianos, and if you are thinking of getting a Piano this certainly is your oppor-
tunity. Call and look the stock over or write for our special prices and terms.

We also have a few Piano Cased Organs and two exceptionally fine Church Or-
gans, the very best Reed Organs made, which will be placed on this sale, and several
NEW HOME SEWING MACHINES at cost while they last.

This Sale will give you a chance to get a Christmas Present worth while, and one
that will last a life time.

Persons who cannot call through the day can arrange to see the stock any evening
by calling us up on the 'phone.

Freight paid on all Pianos and Organs to your nearest station.

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