My Friend The Chauffeur.

By C. N. & A. M. WILLIAMSON, Authors of ..THE.. Lightning Conductor ..THE.. Princess Passes, ETC.

(Continued).

"I Promessi Sposi," they would say to each other in a matter-of-course way, with an accompanying nod that settled our destination without a loophole of doubt.

In Acquate itself, a tiny but picturesque old village (draped with wistaria from end to end, as if it were en fete), everything was reminiscent and commemorative of the romance that had made its fame. Here was Via Cristoforo; there Via Renzo; while naturally Via Lucia led up to the ancient grey osteria where the virtuous heroine was born and lived. We went in, of course, and Sir Ralph ordered red wine of the country, to give us an excuse to sit and stare at the colored lithographs and statuttes of the lovers, and to peep into the really beautiful old kitchen with the ruddy gleams of copper in its dusky shadows, its bright bits of painted china, its pretty window and huge fireplace.

On a shelf close by the fire sat a cat, and I attempted to stroke it; for it looked old enough and important enough to have belonged to Lucia herself. But I might have known that it would not suffer my caresses, for it's nearly always so with foreign cats and dogs, I find. The lack of confidence in their own attractions which they show is as pathetic as that of a neglected wife; they never seem to think of themselves as pets.

Aunt Kathryn would persist in talking of Innominato as "Abominato" (which was after all more appropriate), and the generous display of Lucia's charms in the pictures caused her basely to doubt that most virtuous maiden's genuine merit. "If the girl hadn't worn such dresses, they wouldn't have painted her in them," she argued. "If she did wear them, she was a minx who got no more than she might have expected, prancing about lonely mountain roads in such shameless things. And I don't want a piece of wood from the shutter of her bedroom to take away with me. I should be mortified to tell any ladies in Denver what it was; and what's the good of carting souvenirs of your travels around with you, if you can't tell people about them?"

We got back to our lakeside hotel sooner than we had thought, and the landlord prayed us to see one more of Lecco's great sights. "It is not as if I asked you to go out of your way to look at some fine old ruin or a beautiful view," he pleaded. "You have seen many of such on your journey, and you will see many more but this thing to which I send you is unique. There is nothing like it anywhere else in the world; and to go will take you five minutes."

This excited Aunt Kathryn's curiosity, but when she heard that "it" was only a wonderful model of the cathedral at Milan, exact in every smallest detail and made by ont man, she thought that she would seize the opportunity of lying down while the others went, and be fresh for our start in an hour's time.

The idea of a model in wood of such a masterpiece as the Milan Cathedral did'nt particularly recommend itself to me; but when we arrived at a curiosity shop, and been ushered into a large inner room, I suddenly changed my mind, for what I saw there was wonderful—as wonderful in its way as the great Cathedral itself.

It was the father of the man who showed us the model, and owned the shop, who had made the miniature duomo. His name was Giacomo Mattarelli, and he was an extraordinary genius, worthy of a tomb in the Cathedral to the worship of whose beauty he devoted twenty years of his life and sacrificed those which remained.

The story of his self-appointed task struck me as being as marvellous as the task's result, which stood there in the dim room, perfect in proportion and delicately wrought as ivory carved by a Chinese expert. I don't know what the others thought, but the tale as told by the artist's son was for me full of pathos and beautiful sentiment.

The man had been a cabinet-maker by trade, but he had money and could gratify his craving for art. The glory of the Milan Cathedral, seen once, became an obsession for him, and he went again and again. At last the idea grew in his mind to express his homage in a perfect copy of the great church which, as he said, "held his heart." There was no train between Milan and Lecco in his day (1840) and he used to walk all those miles to make drawings of the Cathedral. At first he meant to do the work in iron, but iron was too heavy; then he began casting plates in copper, but they were hollow behind, and he could not get the effect he wanted, so after several wasted months he began again with olive wood. Often he would work all night; and no trouble was too much for his inexhaustible patience. Each statue, each gargoyle was copied, first in drawing, then with the carving tools, and no hand but that of the artist ever touched the work. At the end of twenty-two years it was completed; not a detail missing inside or out; and then when all was done the modeller went blind.

Now his son had lighted up the model for us to see, and I was almost aghast at the thought of the incredible labor it had meant — literally a labor of love, for the artist had given his eyes and his best years to his adoration of the beautiful. And the whole thing seemed the more of a marvel when I remembered how Mr. Barrymore had called Milan Cathedral the most highly ornamented building in the world. Nowhere else, he said, existed a church so smothered with carving. Every point, every niche has its statue. There, in the model, one could find each one. Through magnifying glasses the little carved faces (hardly larger, some of them, than a pin's head) looked at one with the same expression as the original, and not a mistake had been made in a fold of drapery. Each sculptured capital, each column, each decorative altar of the interior had been carved with loving fidelity. All that, in the vast Cathedral had taken centuries and many generations of men to plan and finish, this one infinitely patient man had copied in miniature in twenty-two years. It would have been worth visiting the town to see the model alone, even if we had turned miles out of our path.

To go from there to Desenzano by way of Bergamo and Brescia was to go from lake to lake — Lecco to Garda; and the road was beautiful. Castles and ancient monasteries had throned themselves on hills to look down on little villages cringing at their august feet. Along the horizon stretched a serrated line of pure white mountains, sharply chiselled in marble, while a thick carpet of wild flowers, blue and gold, had been cut apart to let our road pass through. It was a biscuit-colored road, smooth as uncut velvet, and fringed on either side with a white spray of heavenly-fragrant acacia, like our locust trees at home. Rustic fences and low hedges defining rich green meadows, were interlaced with wild roses, pink and white, and plaited with pale gold honeysuckle, a magnet for armies of flitting butterflies. Every big farmhouse, every tiny cottage was curtained with wistaria and heavy-headed roses. Wagons passed us laden with new-mown hay and crimson sorrel; and we had one odd adventure, which might have been dangerous, but was only poetic.

A horse drawing some kind of a vehicle, piled high with fragrant clover, took it into his head just as we were side by side, that it was his duty to punish his mechanical rival for existing. Calculating his distance nicely, he gave a bound, flung the cart against our car, and upset half his load of clover on our heads. What he did afterwards we had no means of knowing, for we were temporarily extinguished.

It was the strangest sensation I ever had, being suddenly overwhelmed by a soft, yet heavy wave of something that was like a ton of perfumed feathers.

Instantly the car stopped, for Mr. Barrymore, buried as he was, didn't forget to put on the brakes. Then I felt that he was excavating me, and almost before I knew what had swallowed me up I was emerging from green and pink billows of clover, laughing, gasping, half-dazed, but wholly delighted. "You're not drowned?" as asked quickly.

"No, I can swim," I answered, and set myself promptly to help him and Sir Ralph rescue Beechy and Aunt Kathryn, which was rather like looking for needles in a haystack.

By the time we had all got our breath and wiped the clover out of our eyes, horse and cart had vanished comet-like into the horizon, leaving a green trail behind. We bailed out the car and started gaily on once more, but presently our speed slackened. Without a sigh the automobile stopped precisely in the middle of the road, and gently, though firmly, refused to go on again.

When Mr. Barrymore saw that this was more than a passing whim, he called Sir Ralph to the rescue, Beechy and I jumped out, and the car was pushed to one side. Then, with all of us standing around, he proceeded to search for the mischief. Apparently nothing was wrong. The engine was cool; the pump generously inclined, and fat yellow fireflies flew out of the sparking-plugs when they were tested. Then Mr. Barrymore remembered the cause of the Prince's first accident, and looked at the carburetter; but there was not so much as a speck of dust. For a while he continued to poke, and prod, and hammer, Sir Ralph offering humorous advice, and pretending to be sure that, if his housekeeper Felicite were on the spot, the car would start for her in an instant. The mystery only thickened, however, and to make matters worse the Prince, who had been proudly spinning on ahead, came tearing back to see what had happened. Though he pretended to be sympathetic, he was visibly overjoyed at our misfortune, which turned the tables upon us for once, and his suggestions were enough to wreck the valvular system of a motor-car; not to mention the nervous system of a distracted chauffeur.

"Perhaps the petrol's dead," said Mr. Barrymore, paying no heed to the Prince's ideas. He opened a new tin and was about to empty its contents into the reservoir, when he uttered an exclamation. "By Jove! Just look at that, Miss Destrey!" he said; and I couldn't help feeling flattered that he should appeal to me on a subject I didn't know anything about.

He was peering at the small round air-hole leading down to the reservoir, so I peered too, and in spite of my ignorance I saw what he meant. The hole was entirely stopped up with the body of a pinkish-grey caterpillar, and Mr. Barrymore explained that the poor car had simply stopped because it couldn't breathe. No air had been able to reach the petrol in the reservoir, and therefore no spirit had trickled through to the carburetter.

(To be continued).

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Send your name and address at once for a trial of this marvellous quick, sure cure. Address Pyramid Drug Co., 11,666 Pyramid Building, Marshall, Mich.

FOURTH ANNIVERSARY

Members of Loyalist Division, S. of T., and Friends Have Pleasant Evening.

The fourth anniversary of Loyalist Division, S. of T., was observed in Orange Hall, Simonds street, last evening, and was a most happy and successful affair. Robert Carson, W. P., presided and the programme consisted of solos by Miss Woods, the Misses Hawkins, Miss Bryson, Miss DeLong, Miss Newman, Miss Baird and Mr. Ross, Miss Blizzard; monologue by Dr. H. Dawson, club swinging by Messrs. Heans and Burtle, jugling by Mr. Orr, gramophone selections, banjo solo by H. Bond, recitation by John Kelley, musical duet by Messrs. Bond.

The two upper stories of the building were decorated for the anniversary, and about 175 members of the lodge and friends were present. Suppers were served and the waiters were Otty Black, Chas. Hilton, J. C. Bond, Frank Hamm, F. Logan, and W. S. Daley. The ushers were Wm. Devene and Fred Brookins. The following corps of young ladies also looked after the distribution of refreshments: Misses Brookins, Trecartin White, L. and M. Wilson, Carson and Long.

Among the speakers were Geo. Blewett, of the Temple of Honor, and James Sullivan, district scribe.

It may be of interest to state that the young men of the lodge, about twenty-five in all, and each musically inclined, have purchased a $250 piano for the use of the members in the lodge room.

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with LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they cannot reach the seat of the disease. Catarrh is a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal remedies. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces. Hall's Catarrh Cure is not a quack medicine. It was prescribed by one of the best physicians in this country for years and is a regular prescription. It is composed of the best tonics known, combined with the best blood purifiers, acting directly on the mucous surfaces. The perfect combination of the two ingredients is what produces such wonderful results in curing Catarrh. Send for testimonials free.

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A. O. H. Enjoyable Evening.

The Hibernian Knights last night held an at-home in the A. O. H. hall, 101 King street, for their lady friends and the ladies' auxiliary of No. 1 A. O. H. A very enjoyable evening was spent. Addresses were given by William L. Williams, John C. Ferguson and Captain E. J. McLaughlin; readings by Fred J. McInerney, John Stanton and Miss Agnes O'Brien; songs by Sergt. John Daley, J. George McDermott, Fred L. Barret and John Murphy of Montreal, and Misses Alice McAnulty and A. Tomney; a duet by Miss Tomney and Mrs. Campbell; Irish reels by Bart Holt, Miss A. Tomney, M. Kelly and Mrs. Peters. An impromptu dance brought the pleasant function to a close.

CANCER ITS CAUSE AND CURE.

Send 6 cents (stamps) for this little book that tells of the wonderful cures made by our painless home treatment. Stott & Jury, Bowmanville, Ont.

Geo. V. McInerney Will Speak.

Montreal, Feb. 26—(Special)—George V. McInerney, of St. John (N.B.), will respond to the toast to "Ireland" at the St. Patrick's Society banquet here March 17.

February 27, '06.

This Grand Removal Sale

Abounds In Money-Saving Reductions

The good name and long-standing reputation of OAK HALL for honest business principles, stands back of the real money-saving price-reductions we have made throughout our entire stock at our Branch Store in this Grand Removal Sale.

Don't miss it. It's a great sale. The OAK HALL quality you know --- prices speak for themselves.

Again, don't miss it! Extra salesmen to care for you.

A Hint of the Savings

Men's $ 5.00 Overcoats Reduced to -	$3.50	Boys' Ulsters were $4.00 Reduced to -	$2.68
Men's 8.00 Overcoats Reduced to -	5.85	Boys' Reefers were $3.00 Reduced to -	1.00
Men's 12.00 Overcoats Reduced to -	7.85	Boys' Overcoats were $3.25 Reduced to	2.85
Men's 6.00 Ulsters Reduced to - -	4.38	Boys' Overcoats were $5.50 Reduced to	4.35
Men's 3.75 Reefers Reduced to - -	2.98	Boys' 3-Piece Suits were $3.50 Reduced to	2.85
Men's 6.00 Suits Reduced to - - -	4.85	Boys' 3-Piece Suits were $5.00 Reduced to	3.85
Men's 8.00 Suits Reduced to - - -	5.85	Boys' Norfolk Suits were $2 50 Reduced to	1.89
Men's 12.00 Suits Reduced to - - -	8.85	Boys' Sailor Suits were $2.00 Reduced to	1.39
Men's 15.00 Suits Reduced to - - -	9.85	Boys' Sailor Suits were $1.25 Reduced to	.89
Men's 2.00 Trousers Reduced to -	1.19	Boys' Pleated Suits were $1.50 Reduced to	1.19

Men's Soft and Stiff Bosom Colored Shirts, with or without Collars, 14 to 17½ inches, Regular Prices, 75c., $1.00. - - - Sale Price, 48c.
Men's Suspenders, Regular Price, 20c. - - Sale Price, 2 for 25c.
Men's Suspenders, Regular Price, 35c. - - - Sale Price, 19c.
Men's Suspenders, Regular Price, 50c. - - - Sale Price, 27c.
Linen Collars, all styles, Regular 15c. each, - - - Sale Price, 10c.
Men's Socks in Wool, Cotton, Worsted and Cashmere, - - - - - - - - - - Sale Prices, 10c., 15c., 19c., 38c.
Four-in-hand Ties. - - - - - Sale Prices, 19c., 38c., 2 for 25c.
Hook-on Puff Ties, - - - - - - - Sale Prices, 19c., 38c.
Bows, - - - - - - - - - - 2 for 25c., 19c.

SCOVIL BROS. & CO.

MORE REVENUE FROM THE MARKET BUILDING TO BE DERIVED

Safety Board Votes to Increase Rentals of Stores and Stalls

CASE OF HISTORICAL SOCIETY BROUGHT UP

Produce Sold in Town With No Market Tolls Paid--Mr. Manchester's Position--Ald. Frink Puts Forward Need of Fire Station Near Sand Point--Want Dominion to Take Over Three Lamps.

The safety board yesterday besides taking up the city lighting matter which is told of in detail elsewhere, decided on an increase of $1,600 in the market property rentals. A committee was appointed to consider the question of utilizing No. 8 engine house in Carleton for the purpose of giving better fire protection to the freight sheds and much other business of importance was transacted. Ald. McArthur occupied the chair and Ald. Frink, MacRae, Bullock, McGoldrick, Vanwart, Sproul, Holder, Tilley, Hamm, Lewis, and Pickett were present with the director, Chief Kerr and common clerk.

Mrs. Ann MacDonald, paying a ground rent of $3 a year, asked for a 21 year lease on property on the south side of Leinster street; referred to the director to report.

Randolph & Baker, who hold leases on property fronting Mosquito Cove and the Milford road, asked for one lease to cover the whole, claiming that one property would be useless without the other.

The director said he thought he could get as much from outside parties for pasture land.

Ald. Tilley, Bullock and Holder and the director were appointed to make a report.

An application from John Sealy for the renewal of a lease of property in Leinster street at $3 was recommended.

An application from J. Steele for a seven year renewal of a lease of property, near the corner of Mecklenburg and Pitt streets was recommended at $20 a year.

Thomas Read asked for the renewal of a lease at $6 on property in the same locality. It was recommended that the rental be raised to $20 a year.

D. R. Jack, who was accompanied by D. Mullin, K. C., and Architect F. N. Brodie, was heard with reference to an offer he submitted to give the city three feet more sidewalk in Union street in return for permission to use the party wall of No. 3 engine house for a building he proposed to erect. Mr. Jack said in making excavations the foundations of the engine house had been found in very bad condition and the wall was leaning over on his property eight or nine inches. On this account he proposed to build a concrete wall four to six feet thick at the bottom, reinforced with steel rods through both walls if the council would grant permission for their wall to be used. He was prepared to set back his building three feet and widen the sidewalk to that extent if his request were granted.

After a brief discussion the matter was referred to Ald. MacRae, Tilley, Sproul and Holder with the building inspector and city engineer to report next Friday.

More Money for Market Building.

The director submitted his report on the renewal rentals for the market property. He recommended that a lease be granted to E. A. Goodwin for five years at $1,000 a year. Mr. Goodwin has hitherto paid $825.

On motion of Ald. Lewis the recommendation was carried; Mr. Goodwin to do his own repairs.

On motion of Ald. MacRae the renewal of the lease to Phillips & Co. at $500 for four years was laid on the table until Friday.

Thomas Kerr, for Havelock Lodge, L. O. A., offered $100 a year for the rooms used by the Natural History Society.

The N. B. Historical Society, through the president, J. R. Armstrong, asked permission to retain the room now used by them rent free.

Ald. MacRae said the new public library was the proper place for the Historical Society. The council paid $5,000 a year to support the library and he would suggest they go there.

Ald. Frink thought the city might contribute to the society, in which many were interested. He moved that the third and fourth floors in the building be put up to tender.

Ald. MacRae moved an amendment that the matter be referred to a committee to report.

Ald. Bullock, as one of the library committee, said he had endeavored to get the society suitable quarters there, but had always been opposed by the commissioners. He estimated that it would now cost several thousand dollars to get the roof plan of the building altered to secure the accommodation.

Ald. Hamm—"And we had a member of the council for contractor!"

Continuing, Ald. Bullock said the society was a benefit to the public and moved an amendment to the amendment that it be granted the same privilege as heretofore.

Ald. MacRae said his amendment for a committee would no doubt be able to confirm the last speaker's statements.

Ald. Lewis advised the board to be very careful. He regarded the society as a most useful institution. He had been in the rooms recently and saw many children there. On another occasion he was delighted to find many of the best people of St. John in the rooms, including a number of ladies. "And I'll tell you how I found out they were ladies," added the alderman taking the board into his confidence, "they were beautifully dressed." (Laughter.)

Ald. Bullock withdrew his amendment and the amendment of Ald. MacRae was carried. The following committee was appointed: Ald. MacRae, Bullock, Tilley and the director.

The director recommended that the rent of Kane & McGrath be raised from $175 to $200 and that on the Adison estate from $350 to $400. In reply to Ald. Bullock the director said he estimated there would be an advance of $1,600 on the present rentals.

The report was adopted.

Higher Rent for Stalls, Too.

Ald. Frink moved that the director make a report on the use of certain space in the market for the sale of flowers. He contended that the space could be better utilized as stalls. The motion was carried.

Ald. MacRae drew attention to the rental of $20 a year paid by the five and ten cent store in King street for the use of an entrance in South Market street. He contended that it was used as an exit from the store and that the rental should be raised to $100.

The director submitted a list of revised rentals for the market stalls and racks as follows: Stalls Nos. 1 to 20, $200; wholesale racks No. 1, $50; No. 2, $50; No. 3, $40; No. 4, $60; No. 5, $60; No. 6, $60; No. 7, $50. He recommended that if the present holdens were unwilling to lease these privileges another year they should be put up to public auction with the figures given as upset prices.

The report was adopted.

O. B. Akerley was heard with reference to the market tolls. He offered to lease them for three or five years at a rental of $3,800. The price paid by Mr. Akerley this year was $4,200. He said he had no objection to stalls being placed where flowers were now sold on the south side. He complained of growing practice of selling produce in the city contrary to the law.

Ald. Tilley said James Manchester, among others, sent in loads of produce and sold it without paying any toll. He considered the practice ought to be stopped.

Mr. Akerley said he had called on Mr. Manchester with reference to the matter but Mr. Manchester had replied that he would fight the case before he would pay. Dr. Walker, Mr. Akerley added, always paid him tolls. Mr. Akerley then withdrew.

After some discussion it was decided on motion of Ald. Bullock to put the tolls up to auction with an upset price of $3,800, the commission stalls at $50, the one in the weighing machine at $50 and the one in Adelaide street at $10.

Ald. Frink asked if lithographic plans of the city lots in Carleton had been prepared.

The director—"The city engineer has been rather busy, but I hope to get them soon."

Policeman O. C. Ward was recommended for half pay for five days in January and Sergt. Kilpatrick for eight days. An application from Policeman T. Burchill for full pay for six days for an injury to his leg while on duty was referred back as it had not been certified by the chief of police.

A communication from E. F. Greany complaining that boys collected near his property on the corner of Pitt and King street, east, and were a source of annoyance, was referred to Chief Clark.

D. Bradley, secretary of No. 2 Salvage Corps, notified the board of the resignations of J. W. Thorne, J. W. Corkery, P. Grannan and P. Hamm and of the election of A. E. Baxter. The action of the corps was confirmed.

Want a Fire Station at Sand Point.

David Wills, of Tower street, Carleton, offered $15 ground rent for the site of No. 8 engine house in St. John street.

The director said he had placed the ground rent at $40 when the building had been torn down.

Ald. Frink strongly urged the need of a fire station in the vicinity of Sand Point. Only yesterday morning a large quantity of straw had been set afire on the shore and placed the sheds in imminent danger. He had pulled the hook and timed the arrival of the hose wagon and ladder truck. They took six minutes to reach the sheds, and in that time the whole place might have been afire. The station was nearly a mile away and there ought to be an engine on the spot.

Ald. MacRae thought the order to tear down No. 8 engine house should be rescinded. He fully agreed with the remarks of Ald. Frink. An Engine of some kind should be there and the watchmen might be trained to handle it.

Ald. Bullock suggested co-operation with the C. P. R. and the use of a stationary pump, steam being available.

Ald. MacRae said it was absolutely necessary that the chief should be in control. The C. P. R. could not be expected to look after other property than their own.

Chief Kerr said he thought the suggestion of Ald. Frink wise; more protection for the sheds was needed.

On motion of Ald. MacRae, Ald. Tilley, MacRae and Sproul with Chief Kerr were appointed a committee to report.

The director's estimates for the fire police and lighting departments were read.

Ald. MacRae moved that $600 be added to provide for an extra man in the fire department to assist Mr. Leonard with the fire alarm and to act in other capacities as required. Chief Kerr spoke in favor of the appointment, but on motion of Ald. Bullock the matter was held until Thursday for the director to report.

On motion of Ald. Frink the department of marine will be asked to take over the three red lights at Reed's Point, which are now paid for by the city.

The director recommended that an additional electric light be placed at Kane's corner, two in Douglas avenue between Murray's mill and Bridge street, and one at the corner of Wright and Spruce streets. The estimates were referred to the treasury board.

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Parties returning from the country for winter will find excellent rooms and accommodation at this Hotel, at moderate rates. Modern conveniences. Overlooks harbor. On street car line. Within easy reach of business centre.
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ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.

CHALFONTE
On the Beach. Fireproof.
Always Open.
THE LEEDS COMPANY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Saint John Railway Company will apply to the Legislature, at its next session, for the passing of an Act authorizing the Company to make an agreement with the City of Saint John relating to the repairs of the streets and the removal of snow; also as to the extension of the Saint John Railway system. The Company and City to have the power to arrange for the payment of a fixed annual sum or a percentage of the Company's earnings in lieu of taxation.

The Company will also apply to have all Acts repealed or amended so far as they are inconsistent with 50th Victoria, Chapter 33.

January 31st, 1906.
WELDON & McLEAN,
2-1—1m. Solicitors.

ROYAL BAKERY.
(TWO STORES)
Stores Cor. Charlotte and Sydney and 423 Main St. N. E.
POUND CAKE a Specialty. Plum, Cherry, Fruit and Sponge. All kinds of pastry made from the best of butter and eggs.