

An Adventure with a Madman

A volume could be filled with the strange delusions entertained by madmen—the remarkable pertinacity and cunning they display in carrying out the whims of their disordered minds. In their wild freaks, maniacs frequently evince a method in their planning, an adroitness and coolness that would do credit to the shrewdest sane person. We give below a thrilling incident which actually occurred as related, one of the parties to it having been a prominent army surgeon.

When my regiment was disbanded I bade adieu to my old comrades and to the army, and commenced business in the flourishing town of L—.

As I was starting from the supper-table on the evening of the third day after my arrival, the door bell rang violently, and soon the boy came in and said that a man wanted to see the doctor. The visitor was standing by the fire when I entered. He was a tall powerful man—a perfect giant compared to my "five feet six," and his great and bushy black hair and whisker were well fitted to the monstrous form.

"If you are at liberty, doctor," said he "please come with me. It is but a few steps, and you will not need a carriage."

I put on my coat and hat and followed him. It was my first call in L—, and I fondly hoped it was the forerunner of many others.

The man strode ahead of me all the time, notwithstanding my endeavor to keep at his side, and spoke not a word, not even answering my questions.

Stopping before a substantial-looking residence in one of the principle streets he applied the latch key, and led me into a pleasant little room on the second floor (a study I thought it), hung about with good paintings and elegant chromos, and lined with books of every description.

"Take a seat, doctor," said the man; "I will step out a moment. Take this chair by the fire; it's a bitter cold night."

The chair was a great unwieldy thing, but exceedingly comfortable. I threw my feet upon the fender, and leaned back on the cushion, well satisfied to warm myself a little before seeing the patient.

I heard the man approach the door, which was directly back of where I sat, and I heard the door open and shut again. I supposed he had gone out but did not look around to see. Indeed I had no time, for a stout cord was thrown over my wrists and across my breast, and a handkerchief bound over my mouth so quickly that I could not prevent it.

When I was perfectly secure, my conductor stepped in front of me and looked with much interest at my vain attempts to free myself.

"Good stout cord, isn't it?" he asked. "It has never been broken, and many a stouter man than you has tried it. There, now, be quiet a while, and I will tell you what I want."

He went to a cabinet that stood in the corner of the room, and taking a long knife from one of the drawers, ran his thumb over the edge, and felt the point, all the while talking in the most commonplace manner imaginable.

"I have for years studied the art of guessing," said he. "I can guess anything; that is my guessing chair you are sitting on now; and I take great pleasure in imparting my knowledge to others. This is what I want of you to night. I did intend to make you guess that, but I have thought of something better."

He had become satisfied with the edge and point of his knife, and was pacing up and down the room, giving me a full history of the world, interspersed with facts relative to the art of guessing, at which times he always stopped in front of me.

"Did you ever study it, doctor?" he asked. "I know you haven't. I am the only one that ever reduced it to a science. Since I left my noble veterans I have devoted my whole time to it; and now I am about to initiate you into its mysteries, if you are worthy."

He was standing before me so very calm, that I did not think he intended to harm me; but when I looked into his eyes, burning with the fire of insanity, I felt that my situation was desperate indeed.

"I must test you," he said. "I must see whether you are naturally gifted or not, before I waste much time with you. If I remove the handkerchief will you answer my questions?"

I nodded an affirmative, and he removed it.

"Now, my dear doctor, you are an entire stranger to me. Without doubt you have often heard of me, but it will be a hard task to distinguish my name from all the other great men of the time. You may guess it, doctor. What is it?"

(Conclusion in our next.)

A parrot that was always plunged into cold water as a punishment for swearing, happened to see passing his cage one rainy day some dripping, drenched chickens, and called out, "You miserable fools, been swearing, eh?"

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Nov. 26—3m wed & sat



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Charlottetown, Oct. 4, 1878.—2aw mon thur wkly

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Ch'town, June 18, 1878.

AUCTION!

To be sold by PUBLIC AUCTION, on TUESDAY, the Twenty-fourth day of DECEMBER NEXT, at the hour of Twelve o'clock, noon, at the Court House, Charlottetown, under and by virtue of a Power of Sale contained in an Indenture of Mortgage, bearing date the Third day of February, A. D. 1873, and made between John Henesy, of the one part, and Francis Kelly, of the other part—

ALL that tract of land and premises situate, lying and being as follows, that is to say: Commencing on the north side of the Port Augustus Road, at the south-east angle of a farm of land in the possession of Thomas Ceerley; from thence north fifty chains, or to the northern boundary of the said John Henesy's land; thence east five chains; thence south to the said road, and from thence west to place of commencement, containing by estimation Twenty-five acres, a little more or less, and being part of Lot or Township Number Thirty-six, in Queen's County, together with all rights, members and appurtenances there-to belonging.

For further particulars apply to Messrs. HODGSON & McLEOD, Solicitors, Charlottetown.

Dated this Twenty-seventh day of November, A. D. 1878.

FRANCIS KELLY,
Mortgagee.

Dec. 2, 1878—law t sale

Prince Edward Island.

IN CHANCERY.

SILAS BARNARD,

Executor of the last Will and Testament of James Coles, deceased, Complainant,

—AND—

THOMAS REILLY,

CATHERINE REILLY and MARY G. REILLY, by her Guardian, Hannah Reilly, Defendants.

In pursuance of a decree made in this suit by His Honor the Vice Chancellor, bearing date the nineteenth day of November, instant, A. D. 1878, there will be sold by PUBLIC AUCTION, on Monday, the twenty-fourth day of February next, A. D. 1879, at twelve o'clock, noon, in the Supreme Court House in Charlottetown, in Queen's County—

ALL that Tract, Piece or Parcel of Land being part of Town Lot Number Eighty-nine in the third hundred of Town Lots in Charlottetown, commencing at the northeast angle of said Town Lot, on the southeast edge of Kent Street; thence, following the course of the same, westwardly for the distance of eighty-six feet and eight inches; thence, by a right-angle line with said Kent Street, south-eastwardly for the distance of forty-eight feet and six inches; thence, by a line parallel with said Kent Street, eastwardly for the distance of thirty feet; thence, by a right angle there with, north-westwardly for the distance of six feet; thence by a line running north-eastwardly to the southwest angle of the dwelling house; thence, by a line at right angles with the course of Prince Street, eastwardly thirty one feet to the westward edge of said Prince Street; thence, following the course of the same, north-westwardly thirty-one feet to the place of commencement; together with the buildings and improvements thereon and the appurtenances thereto belonging.

Dated this Twentieth day of November, A. D. 1878.

T. HEATH HAVILAND,
Master in Chancery.

NEIL McLEOD,
Solicitor for Complainant. { nov 22 law t s

AUCTION.

MORTGAGE SALE!

To be sold by Public Auction, at the Court House, in Charlottetown, on Tuesday, the First day of April, 1879, at the hour of Twelve o'clock, noon, under and by virtue of a Power of Sale contained in an Indenture of Mortgage bearing date the 16th day of December, A. D. 1876, and made between Pierce Lacey, of Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, blacksmith, and Margaret, his wife, of the one part, and Daniel Hodgson, of the same place, Esquire, of the other part—

ALL that Tract, Piece or Parcel of Land, being part of Lot Number Seven in the first hundred of lots in said Town, bounded as follows, that is to say: By a line commencing on Water Street, at the southeast corner of Town Lot Number Six, in the same hundred, and from thence extending, on the eastern line of Lot Six, eighty feet; thence running north-eastwardly parallel with Water Street forty-one feet; thence eighty feet to Water Street by a line parallel with the aforesaid line of Lot Six; thence along Water Street westwardly, to the place of commencement, together with all rights, members and appurtenances thereto belonging.

For further particulars, apply to Messrs. HODGSON & McLEOD, Solicitors, Charlottetown.

Dated the Fifteenth Day of November, A. D. 1878.

(Sg'd) DANIEL HODGSON,
Mortgagee.

Nov. 15—4m law

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THE Subscriber, having obtained the Contract to remove night soil from the City, no one else is authorized to do so.

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Charlottetown Royalty, } 3m wed & th

Nov. 13, 1878. } n e pat m & tues

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May 25, 1878—