

FOUL PLAY.

By Charles Reade.

CHAPTER XXXVI.

HE started, and rubbed his eyes, and looked again. It was no delusion. Things never did come as they are expected to come. There was still no doubtful speck on the horizon; but within eight miles of the Island—and in this lovely air, that looked nearly close—was a ship under canvas. She bore S. E. from Mount Lookout, and S. S. E. from the East Bluff of the Island, toward which her course was apparently directed. She had a fair wind but was not going fast—being heavily laden and under no press of sail. A keen thrill went through him, and his mind was a whirl. Her home with the great news. But, even as he ran, a cold, sickly feeling crawled over him.

'That ship parts her and me.' He resisted the feeling as a thing too monstrous and selfish, and resisted it so fiercely, that, when he got to the slopes and saw Helen busy at her work, he waved his hat and hurried again and again, and seemed almost mad with triumph. Helen stood transfixed; she had never seen him in such a state. 'Good news!' he cried; 'great news! A ship in sight. You are rescued!' Her heart leaped into her mouth. 'A ship!' she screamed. 'Where? Where?' He came up to her, panting. 'Close under the island. Hid by the bluff; but you will see her in half an hour. God be praised! Get everything ready to go. Hurrah! This is our last day on the island.'

The words were brave, and loud and boisterous, but the face was pale and drawn, and Helen saw it, and though she bustled and got ready to leave, the tears were in her eyes. But the event was too great to be resisted. A wild excitement grew on them both. They ran about like persons crazed, and took things up, and laid them down, scarcely knowing what they were. But presently they were sobered a little, for the ship did not appear. They ran across the sands, where they could see the bluff, she ought to have passed that half an hour ago. Hazel thought she must have anchored. Helen looked at him steadily.

'Dear friend,' said she, 'are you sure that there is a ship at all? Are you not under a delusion? This island fills the mind with fancies. One day I thought I saw a ship sailing in the sky. Ah! She uttered a faint scream, for while she was speaking, the bowsprit and jib of a vessel glided past the bluff, so closely they seemed to scrape it, and a ship emerged grandly and glided along the cliff.

'Are they mad,' cried Hazel, 'to hug the shore like that? Ah! they have seen my warning.'

And it appeared so, for the ship just then came up in the wind several points, and left the bluff dead astern.

She sailed a little way on that course and then paid off again, and seemed inclined to range along the coast. But presently she was up in the wind again, and made a greater offing. She was sailed in a strange, vacillating way; but Hazel ascribed this to her people's fear of the reefs, and made a good clearing, and so at last she opened the bay heading N. W., and distant four miles or thereabouts. Now was the time to drop her anchor. So Hazel worked the telegraph to draw her attention, and waved his hat and hand at her. But the ship sailed on. She yawned immensely, but she kept her course; and, when she had gone a mile or two more, the sickening truth forced itself at last upon those eager watchers. She had decided not to touch at the island. In vain their joyful signals. In vain the telegraph. In vain that cry of help upon the eastern cliff it had saved her, but not pleaded for them. The monsters saw them on the heights—their hope, their joy—saw and abandoned them.

They looked at one another with dilating eyes, to read in a human face whether such a deed as this could really be done by man upon his fellow. Then they uttered wild cries to the receding vessel.

Vain, vain, all was in vain. Then they sat down stupefied, but still glaring at the ship, and each at the same moment held out a hand to the other, and they sat hand in hand all the world to each other just then, for there was the world in sight abandoning them in cold blood.

'Be calm, dear friend,' said Helen, patiently. 'Oh, my poor father!' And her other hand threw her apron over her head, and then came a burst of anguish that no words could utter.

At this Hazel started to his feet in fury. 'Now may the God that made sea and land judge between those miscreants there and you!'

'Be patient,' said Helen, sobbing. 'Oh, be patient.'

'No! I will not be patient,' roared Hazel. 'Judge thou her cause, O! God; each of these tears against a reptile's soul!'

And so he stood glaring and his hair blowing wildly in the breeze; while she sighed patiently at his knee. Presently he began to watch the vessel with a grim and bitter eye. Anon he burst out suddenly, 'Aha, that is right. Well steered. Don't cry, sweet one; our cause is heard. Are they blind? Are they drunk? Are they sick? I see nobody on deck! Perhaps I have been too—God forgive me, the ship's ashore!'

(To be continued.)

Special Notices.

NOTES ON INGERSOLL.—I have for sale at Fletcher's Music Store the Rev. Mr. Lambert's crushing reply to "Bob" Ingersoll, the ablest work in defence of christianity that has appeared within the present century. Only 75 cents.—HAMILTON FLETCHER, [Jan 14] 1884

J. B. MACDONALD has a clearing-out sale of winter goods, giving great bargains. [Jan 12] ANY person having the book of historical costumes borrowed about two years ago, will confer a favor by returning it to THE EXAMINER office.—A. NEWBERRY.

ALL WOOL Horse Blankets cheap at J. B. MACDONALD'S. [Dec 29] D. A. BRUCE is selling the balance of his winter goods at cost. [Jan 10] 31 ed

ISLAND FLOUR and Cracked Oats at R. K. BRUCE'S. [Dec 27] If you want a Fur Cap cheap go to J. B. MACDONALD'S. [Dec 29]

METHODIST PREACHER'S PLAN can be had at George Carter's, Great George Street, or at G. H. Hazard's, Queen Square.

WINTER GOODS slaughtered at J. B. MACDONALD'S. [Jan 12] A SPLENDID lot of China, Glass, and Earthenware, to be sold cheap at COLWILL'S. [Aug 8] tf

The cheapest Ready Made Clothing in town is at J. B. MACDONALD'S. [Dec 29] FIVE pound tins Tea just the thing at BEER & GOFF.

DICED Herring and boneless Fish at J. KNIGHT & SON'S. [Dec 20] SKATING SHOES, the best and cheapest at J. B. MACDONALD'S Boot Store. [Dec 29]

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KENT MILLS.—The best family flour at 'Cheapside.'—HENRY BEER. [Oct 25] tf

Church Directory, Charlottetown.

ST. PAUL'S (Church of England)—Queen Square—Morning and Evening Service, every Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7 p. m. Sunday School at 2.30 p. m., Rev. David FitzGerald, Rector; Rev. Chas. O'Meara, Assistant Minister. All pews are free on Sunday evenings.

ST. PETER'S (Church of England)—Rockford Square—Sunday Services—8 a. m., 11 a. m., and 7 p. m. Daily Services—Matins—9 a. m. Evensong—5 p. m., except Friday evenings, at 7.30 p. m. Rev. George W. Hodgson, Priest Incumbent, Rev. W. B. King, Assistant Curate.

ST. DUNSTON'S CATHEDRAL.—Low Mass every Sunday at 8 a. m. High Mass at 10 a. m.; Vespers at 3 p. m. Mass at 7.30 a. m. throughout the week. Rev. Pius Carroll, Pastor.

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH—Prince Street—Service and Sermon Sunday at 10.30 a. m., and 6.30 p. m. Sunday School at 2 p. m. Week Day Services—Tuesday and Thursdays at 7.30 p. m. Rev. John Burwash, A. M., Pastor.

SECOND METHODIST CHURCH—Prince Street—Service and Sermon on Sunday at 10.30 a. m., and 6.30 p. m. Sunday School at 2 p. m. Week day service on Wednesday evening. Rev. J. W. Wadman, A. B., Pastor.

ST. JAMES' CHURCH—(Presbyterian)—Pownall Street.—Service and Sermon every Sunday at 11 a. m. and 6.30 p. m. Sabbath School and Bible classes at 2.30 p. m. Weekly Service in the Lecture Hall on Wednesday evenings, at 7.45 p. m. Rev. Kenneth McLennan, Pastor.

ZION CHURCH—(Presbyterian)—Richmond Street.—Service and Sermon every Sunday at 11 a. m. and 6.30 p. m. Sunday School at 2.30 p. m. Rev. John McLeod, Pastor.

BAPTIST CHURCH—cor. Prince and Fitzroy streets.—Services and Sermon every Sunday at 11 a. m., and 6.30 o'clock p. m.; Sunday School at 2.30 p. m. Week day services—Monday at 8 p. m., and Friday at 8 p. m. Rev. E. Whitman, Pastor.

BIBLE CHRISTIANS—Prince Street—Service and Sermon every Sunday morning at 10.30 a. m. and 6.30 p. m. Sunday School at 2 p. m. Rev. S. H. Rice, Pastor.

PRAYER MEETING in Y. M. C. A. every Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock.

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST meet in New Church House, every Sunday at 10.30 a. m. and 6.30 p. m. Elders presiding.

STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO.

AT the 57th Annual General Meeting of the Standard Life Assurance Company, held at Edinburgh on Tuesday, the 24th of April, 1883, the following results for the year ended 15th November, 1883, were reported:—

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1883-4. Winter Arrangement. 1883-4. ON AND AFTER MONDAY, 10th DECEMBER, 1883, trains will run daily as follows (Sundays excepted):—

Table with 4 columns: STATIONS, No. 1, No. 3, STATIONS, No. 2, No. 4. Lists train routes between Charlottetown, Royalty Junction, North Wiltshire, Hunter River, Bradaire, County Line, Freestown, Kensington, Summerside, Miscouche, Wellington, Port Hill, O'Leary, Bloomfield, Alberton, and Tignish.

Table with 4 columns: STATIONS, No. 5, No. 7, STATIONS, No. 6, No. 8. Lists train routes between Charlottetown, Royalty Junction, York, Bedford, Mount Stewart, Cardigan, Georgetown, Mount Stewart, Morell, St. Peter's, Bear River, and Souris.

Trains are run by Eastern Standard Time. JAMES COLEMAN, Superintendent. Railway Office, Charlottetown, Dec. 17, 1883.

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Charlottetown, Jan. 2, 1883.—17

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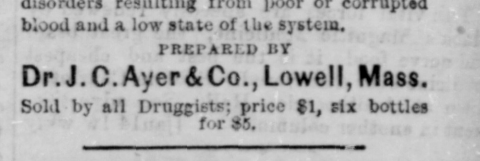
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