

THE WAR-TRAIL!

CHAPTER XXXVI.—CONTINUED.

Presently followed a calmer interval, and I began to discuss the probability of my suspicions. What motive could she have to plot my destruction? Surely not from any feeling of love for her country, and hatred towards its enemies? From all I had learned, no such sentiment existed in her mind, but rather an opposite one—a truer patriotism. She was a woman of sufficient aim and intellect to have a feeling one way or the other; but had I not good grounds for believing her a friend to our cause; a foe to the tyrants we would conquer? If otherwise, I was the victim of profound deception and unparalleled hypocrisy.

Perhaps, however, her feeling was personal, not national. Was I alone the object of her hatred? Had I done aught by word or deed to call forth her antagonism—to deserve such cruel vengeance? If so, I was sadly ignorant of the fact. If she hated me, she hated one who loved her, with his whole soul absorbed in the passion. But no, I could not think that I was an object of hatred to her. Why should she hate me? How could she?

I could think of but one motive why she should make herself instrumental in the accomplishment of my ruin. It was explicable only on the presumption that she was attached to Ijorra—that Rafael Ijorra was the lord of her heart. If so, he could easily bend it to his will—for this is but the sequence of the other—could influence her to whatever act.

As for Ijorra, there was motive enough for his hostility, even to the seeking of my life. The insult put upon him at our first meeting—the knowledge that I loved her—for I was certain he knew it—with the additional fact that I was an enemy—one of the invaders—of his country. These were sufficient motives though, doubtless, the two first outweighed the other: with Rafael Ijorra, revenge and jealousy were stronger passions than patriotism.

Then came consolation—thoughts of brighter hue. In the face of all was the fact, that the white steed had been found, and captured! There stood the beautiful creature before my eyes. There was no deception in that—there could be none—no scheme could have contrived a contingency so remarkable.

Ijorra might easily have known of the expedition without her agency. Its result he would have learned from the returned vaqueros. He had time enough then to collect his band, and set after me. Perhaps she even knew that he was a leader of guerrillas? I had heard that his movements were shrouded in mystery—that mystery which covers the designs of the adventurer. He had served in the school of Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna—fit master of deception. Isolina might be innocent even of the knowledge of his acts.

I re-read Isolina's letter, weighing every word. Strange epistle but natural to the spirit that had dictated it. In its pages I could trace no evidence of treason. No; Isolina was loyal—she was true.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

ELIJAH QUACKENBOS.

While these reflections were passing through my mind, I was standing, or rather leaning, with my back against the boulder, and my face towards the wall of the mesa. Directly in front of me was a recess or indentation in the cliff, carried groove-like upward, and deepening as it approached the summit. It was a slight gorge or furrow, evidently formed by the attrition of water, and probably the conduit of the rain that fell upon the table surface of the mound. Though the cliffs on each side were perfectly vertical, the gorge had a considerable inclination; and the instant my eyes rested upon it, it occurred to me that the precipice at this point could be scaled!

Up to this moment, I had not thought of such a thing; for I had been under the impression—from what my companions had told me—that the summit of the mesa was inaccessible.

Rousing myself to more energetic observation, I scrutinized the cliff from base to summit; and the more I regarded it, the stronger grew my conviction that, with great difficulty, an active climber might reach the top. There was knob-like protuberances on the rock that would serve as footholds, and here and there, small bushes of the trailing cedar hung out from the seams, that would materially assist any one making the ascent.

While scanning these peculiarities, I was startled by observing several abrasions on the face of the rock. These marks appeared quite fresh, and evidently made by some other agency than that of the elements.

After a short examination, I became convinced that they were marks made by a human foot—the scratches of a strong-soled shoe. Beyond a doubt, the cliff had been scaled!

My first impulse was to communicate the discovery to my companions; but I forbore for a while—in order to satisfy myself that the person who had made this daring attempt had actually succeeded in reaching the summit.

Twilight was on, and I could get only an indistinct view of the gorge at its upper part, but I saw enough to convince me that the attempt had been successful.

TO BE CONTINUED.

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FRED. W. HYNDMAN, Ch'town, Jan. 18, '82—wky 2w

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BETHUNE & LEITCH, Solicitors for said Company, Montreal, January 17, 1882—1m

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BANK OF P. E. ISLAND NOTES taken at their face in exchange for Dry Goods, at the London House GEO. DAVIES & CO. Dec 7, '81.

The DAILY GAZETTE, containing full Telegraphic Reports of the proceedings of the Dominion Parliament from our own special Reporters, together with Daily Letters by Telegraph from our Correspondent, will be sent to any address from now to the end of the coming Session for One Dollar. WEEKLY GAZETTE, One Dollar a year. RICHARD WHITE, Managing Director, Gazette Printing Company, Montreal, (Feb 4 '82)

GRAND Gift Enterprise.

THE Committee for the above enterprise of that, in consequence of a large number of tickets yet remaining unsold, and a number of agents not having made returns, they are compelled to postpone the Drawing until FRIDAY, the 3rd March next. The Committee feel that the ticket-holders would prefer to submit to this further postponement rather than that a large reduction should be made in the Prizes.

LAMBERT P. DISNEY, Sec'y to Com. Ch'town, Jan 13—4w eod wky pd

53 Queen Street.

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E. W. SMITH, Ch'town, Dec. 5, 1881—eod

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IT having been brought to the notice of the Directors of the Gas Light Company that there were persons desirous of consuming gas, who were occupying stores and dwellings unprovided with the requisite fittings, the Board have resolved that in such cases the Company will bear the first expense of putting in the necessary pipes &c.

Persons desirous of becoming consumers of gas can employ any fitter they choose, and having certified the bill as correct, the Company will pay the same; the consumers reimbursing the Company by twelve equal instalments, payable monthly. That all consumers may participate in the great advantage of using Bray's Patent Burners, which, with the same consumption of gas, will give twenty per cent. more light than other Burners, the Company will supply them at the nominal sum of ten cents each. Ch'town, Dec. 7, 1881—1m eod

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THE undersigned offers for sale the LOBSTER FACTORY and PLANT, TRAPS, BOATS &c. AT DESAULE, lately the property of Joseph Bots and Donald K. Currie, of that place. This Factory was erected last spring and is in good condition. If not disposed of before the 1st March next, it will then be sold at Public Auction. Further particulars may be had on application to the undersigned, FRED. W. HYNDMAN, Trustees of the Estate of Joseph Bots and D. K. Currie, Ch'town, Oct. 8, '81—oaw 1f

TENDERS!

Canadian Pacific Railway. Bridge Over Fraser River, B. Columbia

TENDERS addressed to the undersigned will be received on or before the 10th day of February, 1882, for furnishing and erecting a Bridge of Steel or Iron over the Fraser River on Contract G, C. P. R. Specifications and particulars, together with plan of site, may be seen at the office of the Chief Engineer, at Ottawa, on or after the 10th of January inst. Contractors are requested to bear in mind that tenders will not be considered unless made strictly in accordance with the printed forms. An accepted bank cheque for the sum of \$300 must accompany the tender, which sum shall be forfeited if the party tendering declines to enter into contract for the work, at the rates and on the terms stated in the offer submitted. The cheque thus sent in will be returned to the respective parties whose tenders are not accepted. For the due fulfillment of the contract, satisfactory security will be required by the deposit of money to the amount of five per cent. on the bulk sum of the contract, of which the sum sent in with the tender will be considered a part. This Department does not, however, bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender. By order, (Signed) F. BRAUN, Secretary, Department of Railways and Canals, Ottawa, January 5, 1882. \$101aw

Prince Edward Island RAILWAY.

TIME TABLE NO. 17. WINTER ARRANGEMENT. To take effect on the 1st Dec., 1881.

TRAINS OUTWARD.

Table with columns: STATIONS, MIXED, MIXED, MIXED. Rows include Ch'town, Royalty Jc, N. Wiltch's, Hunter R'r, Bradalbe's, Co'y Line, Freetown, Keusing'tn, Summ'side, Wellington, Port Hill, O'Leary, Bloomfield, Alberton, Tignish, Royalty Jc, York, Bedford, Mt. Stew't, Carligan, George'tn, Mt. Stew't, Morell, St. Peter's, Bear River, Souris.

TRAINS INWARD.

Table with columns: STATIONS, MIXED, MIXED, MIXED. Rows include Ch'town, Royalty Jc, N. Wiltch's, Hunter R'r, Bradalbe's, Co'y Line, Freetown, Keusing'tn, Summ'side, Wellington, Port Hill, O'Leary, Bloomfield, Alberton, Tignish, Royalty Jc, York, Bedford, Mt. Stew't, Carligan, George'tn, Mt. Stew't, Morell, St. Peter's, Bear River, Souris.

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