

THE WAR-TRAIL!

CHAPTER LXXXVII—(CONTINUED.)

The worst feature of the new scheme was the increased risk of being brought in contact with the friends of the warrior of the red-hand—of being accosted by them, and of course expected to make reply. How could I avoid meeting them—one or more of them? If interrogated how shun making answer? I knew a few words of the Comanche tongue, but not enough to hold a conversation in it. Either my false accent or my voice would betray me! True, I might answer in Spanish. Many of the Comanches speak this language; but my using it would appear a suspicious circumstance.

There was another source of apprehension. I could not confide in the Indian horse. He had endeavored to fling Stafield all along the way, kicking violently, and biting at his rider while seated upon his back. Should he behave in a similar manner with me while entering the camp it would attract the attention of the Indians. It would lead to scrutiny and suspicion.

Still another fear, even should I succeed in the main points, in entering the camp, finding the captive, and wrestling her from the hands of her jailers—how after? I could never depend upon this capricious Mustang to carry us clear of the pursuit—there would be others as swift, perhaps swifter than he, and we should only be carried back to die. Oh! that I could have taken my own steed near to the lines of yonder guard—oh! that I could have ridden him there.

It might not be; I saw that it could not be, and I was forced to abandon all thought of it.

I had well-nigh made up my mind to risk all the chances of my assumed character, by mousing the Indian horse. To my comrades I imparted the idea, and asked their counsel.

All regarded it as fraught with danger. One or two advised me against it. They were those who did not understand my motives—who could not comprehend the sentiment of love—who knew not the courage which that noble passion may impart. Little understood they how its emotions inspire to deeds of daring—how love absorbs all selfishness, even life becoming a secondary consideration, when weighed against the happiness or safety of its object. These men had never loved as I. I gave no ear to their too prudent counsels.

Others acknowledged the danger, but saw not how I could act differently. One or two of them had, in their lives' course experienced a touch of the tender feeling akin to mine. These could appreciate; and counselled me in consonance with my half-formed resolution. I liked their counsel best.

One had not yet spoken—one upon whose advice I placed a higher value than upon the combined wisdom of all the others. I had not yet had the opinion of the earless trapper.

Oh, how I longed to hear him speak—reflective—taciturn—brave and sagacious Rube! I felt as if his assent or dissent would decide my wavering—for his judgment was ever clear, cool, and calculating all the chances of success, or danger of defeat.

CHAPTER LXXXVIII.

RUBE CONSULTING HIS ORACLE.

He was standing apart from the rest—leaning I should rather say, for his body was not erect but diagonal. In this attitude it was propped by his rifle, the butt of which was steadied against the stump of a tree, while the muzzle appeared to rest upon the bridge of Rube's own nose.

As the man and the piece were about of a length, the two thus placed in juxtaposition presented the exact figure of an inverted V, and the small close-capped skull of the trapper formed a sufficiently tapering apex to the angle. Both hands were clasped round the barrel near its muzzle his fingers interlocking while the thumbs lay flat, one upon each side of his nose.

At the first glance it was difficult to tell whether he was gazing into the barrel of the piece, or beyond it upon the Indian camp.

The attitude was not new to him, nor to me. It was not the first time I had observed him in a posture precisely similar. I knew it was his favorite pose, when any question of unusual difficulty required all the energy of his "instincts." He was now, as often of yore, consulting his "divinity," presumed to dwell far down within the dark tube of "Targuts."

After a time all the others ceased to speak, and stood watching him. They knew that no step would be taken before Rube's advice had been received, and they waited with more or less patience for him to speak.

So true is it, that among no class of men is such deference paid to sagacity and courage as among the trappers and hunters, who are compelled to rely so much upon their "gifts" or "instincts," as they term them—which is certainly a misnomer, as they are not attained save by years of experience and study in the school of woodcraft.

Full ten minutes passed, and still the old trapper neither stirred nor spoke. Nor lip nor muscle of him was seen to move. The eye alone could be detected in motion, and these small orbs, scintillating in their deep sockets, were the only signs of life which he showed. Standing rigid and still, he appeared not a statue but a secret spy propped up by

a stick, and the long, weather-washed rifle did not belie the resemblance. Full ten minutes passed, and still he spoke not. His "oracle" had not yet yielded its response.

TO BE CONTINUED.



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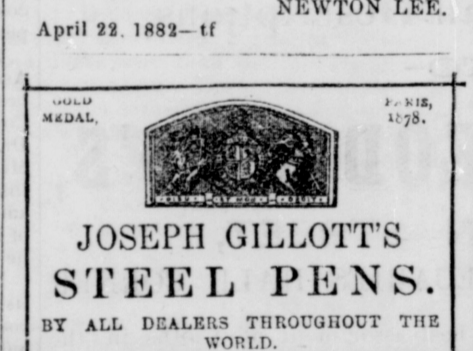
NOTICE. HAVING rented the premises lately occupied by C. F. HARRIS, the subscriber begs to intimate to the public that he is carrying on the TINSMITH BUSINESS in all its branches. Orders punctually attended to. A call respectfully solicited. L. W. HARRIS, Upper Queen St. Feb. 8, 1882.



Royal Insurance Co of England. Assets \$25,000,000.00. Unlimited Liability of Shareholders. JOHN MACEACHERN, Agent. March 2, 1882.

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WILL stand at "The North American Hotel" on May 11th, 12th, 25th and 26th, June 8th, 9th, 22nd and 23rd, and July 6th, 7th, 20th and 21st. This will be continued throughout the season, health and weather permitting. For further particulars see posters. NEWTON LEE, April 22, 1882—tf



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Opposite the Railway.

FOR SALE the premises now occupied by me, being a Dwelling, Stable and large Warehouse. This property fronts 170 feet on Water Street and 100 on Weymouth, directly opposite the Railway Station. D. O'M. REDDIN. March 27, 1882—1m, 2aw

To Lobster Packers

FOR SALE.— 171 Ingots Tin, 33 Pigs Lead. PEAKE BROS. & CO. March 7, '82—3aw

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WHAT Freehold Property, with a front of eighty feet on Pownall Street and eighty four feet on Sydney Street, the House containing 16 large rooms and two Kitchens. Can be turned into one Dwelling by unlocking a door. Apply on the premises to MRS. BOSWALL. March 19, 1881—4f

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Prince Edward Island RAILWAY.

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

TRAINS OUTWARD.

Table with 4 columns: STATIONS, MIXED, MIXED, MIXED. Rows include Ch'town, Royalty, N. Wiltshe, Hunter R'r, Bradaiba'e, Coby Line, Freetown, Kensington, Summ'side, Wellington, Port Hill, O'Leary, Bloomfield, Alberton, Tignish, Royalty Je, Bedford, Mt. Stew't, Cardigan, Georgetown, Mt. Stew't, Morell, St. Peter's, Bear River, Souris.

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THE Valuable Property

CHARLOTTETOWN ROYALTY. T. E. R. will be offered for sale by PUBLIC AUCTION, on THURSDAY, the 22nd day of June next, 1882, on the premises in Charlottetown, P. E. I., at the hour of twelve o'clock, noon.

ALL that tract, piece and parcel of land bounded as follows, that is to say: Commencing at a square stake fixed at the south east angle of Pasture Lot Number Forty-two, lately the property of Hammond J. Ineson, now deceased, on the West Edge of a Royalty Road; thence by a right angle line with said Road westwardly for the distance of twenty chains or until it strikes the line dividing Pasture Lot Number Thirty-four from Pasture Lot Number Thirty-three; thence by a right angle line therewith southwardly for the distance of twelve chains, until it meets the north boundary of Pasture Lot Number Nineteen; thence along the same eastwardly for the distance of five chains and fifteen links, or until it meets the line dividing the property of the said Honorable James College Pope and that of Richard Heertz, Esquire; thence along the same southwardly six chains; thence by a right angle therewith eastwardly for the distance of fourteen chains and eighty-five links to the said Royalty Road; thence following the course of said Royalty Road northwardly for the distance of eighteen chains to the place of commencement, containing thirty-three acres, one rood and twenty-two perches of land, a little more or less, including a right of way of twenty feet along the north boundary of Pasture Lot Number Thirty-four, in the Royalty of Charlottetown, save and except such portion thereof as has been appropriated for the Prince Edward Island Railway as appears by the plan annexed to the Mortgage hereinafter referred to.

The above land will be sold pursuant to a Power of Sale contained in an Indenture of Mortgage, bearing date the 28th day of December, A. D. 1876, and made between the Honorable James College Pope, of Ravenwood, in Charlottetown, P. E. I., of the one part, and the Trustees under the Marriage Settlement of Robert Bruce Stewart, Esquire, of the other part.

The above land shall be sold either as a whole or in parcels, as the Trustees may at the time of sale stipulate. If the said land, or any part thereof, should not be sold by Public Auction, on the day above mentioned, then the Trustees will sell the same after such day, by private contract.

Terms and conditions of sale made known at time of sale.

Dated at Charlottetown, this 12th day of April, A. D. 1882.

HENRY J. CUNDALL, LOUIS H. DAVIES, Trustees and Mortgagees

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L. B. ARCHIBALD, Superintendent Railway Office Charlottetown, May 23, 1881

MORTGAGE SALE.

TO be sold by PUBLIC AUCTION, on TUESDAY, the second day of May next, at the hour of eleven o'clock, in the forenoon, at the Court House in Charlottetown, under and by virtue of a Power of Sale contained in an Indenture of Mortgage dated the twenty-sixth day of April, A. D. 1881, and made between Albert Duchemin and Jesina Duchemin, his wife, and Edmund Duchemin and Emily Duchemin, his wife, of the one part, and Edward Jarvis Hodgson and Neil McLeod of the other part.

ALL that tract, piece or parcel of land situate, lying and being in the City of Charlottetown, in Queen's County, in Prince Edward Island, and being part of Town Lot Number Twenty-six in the second hundred of Town Lots in Charlottetown aforesaid, commencing at the corner of Prince and Sidney Streets, and running southerly along Prince Street the distance of eighty-six feet, or until it reaches the northern boundary of land in possession of Thomas Alley; thence at right angles with Prince Street easterly along the said boundary eighty-six feet, or until it meets the division line between Town Lots Twenty-six and Twenty-seven; thence along said division line parallel with Prince Street northerly eighty-six feet, or to Sidney Street aforesaid, and thence westerly along Sidney Street eighty-six feet, to the place of commencement.

For further particulars apply at the office of Hodgson & McLeod, Solicitors, Charlottetown.

Dated this 28th day of March, A. D. 1882. E. WARD J. HODGSON, NEIL McLEOD, ALBERT DUCHEMIN, EDMUND DUCHEMIN.

The above sale is postponed till TUESDAY, the 6th day of June next, 1882, then to come off at the same time and place. Dated the 2nd day of May, 1882. EDWARD J. HODGSON, NEIL McLEOD, ALBERT DUCHEMIN, EDMUND DUCHEMIN.

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