

**THE WAR-TRAIL!**

CHAPTER XXVI (CONTINUED).  
VOWS OF VENGEANCE.

Every point was now cleared up. There was mystery no longer, though, from an expression which Gary had dropped, I still desired a word with him in private. On further inquiry, I learned that the trappers were on their way to take part in the campaign. Some barbarous treatment they had experienced from Mexican soldiers at a frontier post, had rendered both of them inveterate foes to Mexico; and Rube declared he would never be contented till he had "plugged a score of the yellow-hided varmints." The breaking out of the war gave them the opportunity they desired, and they were now on their way, from a distant part of prairie-land to take a hand in it.

The vehemence of their hostility towards the Mexicans somewhat surprised me—as I knew it was a recent feeling with them—and I inquired more particularly into the nature of the ill-treatment they had received. They answered me by giving a detailed account of the affair. It had occurred at one of the Mexican frontier towns, where, upon a slight pretext, the trappers had been arrested and flogged, by order of the commanding officer of the post.

"Yes!" said Rube, the words hissing angrily through his teeth; "yes, flogged! a mountain-man flogged by a cussed monkey of a Mexikin! Ne'er a mind! ne'er a mind! By the 'tarnal!—an when I say that, I swar it—this nigger don't leave Mexiko till he has rabbed out a sojer for every lash they gin him—an that's twenty!"

"Hyr's another, old hoss!" cried Gary, with equal earnestness of manner—"hyr's another that swars the same oath!"

"Yes, Billee, boy! I guess we'll count some in a scrimmage. Thur's two already! lookee thur, young fellur!"

As Rube said this, he held his rifle close to my eyes, pointing with his finger to a particular part of the stock. I saw two small notches freshly cut in the wood. I knew well enough what these notches meant; they were a registry of the death of two Mexicans, who had fallen by the hand or bullet of the trapper. They had not been the only victims of that unerring and deadly weapon. On the same piece of wood-work I could see long rows of similar souvenirs, apart from each others, only differing a little in shape. I knew something of the significance of these horrible hieroglyphics; I knew they were the history of a life fearfully spent—a life of real realities.

The sight was far from pleasant. I turned my eyes away, and remained silent.

"Mark me, young fellur," continued Rube, who noticed that I was not gratified by the inspection; "don't mistake Bill Gary an me for wild beasts; we ain't that quite: we've been mighty riled, I reck'n; but fr all that, we ain't a-gwine to take revenge on weemen an childer, as Injuns do. No—weemen an childer don't count, nor men neyther, unless thur sojers. We've no spite agin the poor slaves o' Mexiko. They never did me nor Bill harm. We've been on one skurry, along wi' the Yutaws; down to the Del Nort settlements. Thur's whur I made them two nicks; but neyther Bill or me laid a finger on the weemin an childer. It wur bekase the Injuns did, that we left 'em. We're jest cum from thur. We want fair fight among Christyun whites; that's why we're hyr. Now, young fellur!"

I was glad to hear Rube talk in this manner, and I so signified to him. Indisposed as the old trapper was, with all his savageness, all his reckless indifference to ordinary emotion, I knew there was still a touch of humanity in his breast. Touched on more than one occasion, I had witnessed singular displays of fine feeling on the part of Rube. Circumstanced as he was, he was not to be judged by the laws of civilized life.

"Your intention, then, is to join some corps of rangers, is it not?" I asked, after a pause.

"I shed like it," replied Gary; "I shed like to join your company, cap'n; but Rube hyr won't consent to it."

"No!" exclaimed the other with emphasis; "I'll jine no kumpany. This nigger fights on his own hook. Yur see young fellur, I hev been all my life a free mountaineer-man, an don't understand sogerin, no how. I must make some mistake, or I mount'n like some of the regilashuns; thurfor I prefers fightin arter my own fashion. Bill an me kin take care o' ourselves, I reck'n. Kin we, Bill?—eh, boyee?"

"I guess so, old hoss," replied Gary, mildly; but for all that, Rube, I think it would be better to go at it in a regular way, particularly as the cap'n hyr would make the sogering part as easy as possible. Wudn't yur, cap'n?"

"The discipline of my corps is not very severe. We are Rangers, and our duties are different from those of regular soldiers."

"It ur no use," interrupted Rube; "I must fight as I've allers fit, free to go whar I please. I won't bind myself. I mount'n like it, an mount desart."

"But by binding yourself," suggested I, "you draw pay an rations; whereas?"

"Darn pay an rashuns!" exclaimed the old trapper, striking the butt of his rifle upon the prairie. "Darn pay an rashuns! Young fellur, I fights fur reeenge!"

This was said in an energetic and

conclusive manner, and I urged my advice no further.

"Look hyr, cap!" continued the speaker, in a more subdued tone. "Though I ain't a-gwine to jine yur fellurs, yet thur ur a favor I wud axe yur, an that is, to let me an Bill keep by you, or foller whuriver you lead. I don't want to sponge for rashuns; we'll git that, ef thur's a head o' game in Mexiko, an ef thur ain't, why we kin eat a Mexikan! Can't we Bill?—eh, boyee?"

Gary knew this was one of Rube's jokes, and laughingly assented; adding at the same time, that he would prefer eating any other sort o' a varmint.

"Ne'er a mind!" continued Rube; "we ain't a-gwine to starve. So, young fellur, ef you agrees to our goin on them terms yu'll hev a kuppel o' rifles near you, thet won't miss fire—they won't."

"Enough! You shall go and come as you please. I shall be glad to have you near me, without binding you to any term of service."

"Hooray! thet's the sort for us! Kum Billee!—gie's another snck out o' yur gourd. Hyr's success to the Stars and Stripes! Hooray for Texas!"

TO BE CONTINUED.



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- 30 boxes Nixey's Black Lead,
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- 5 casks W. Soda,
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- 5 casks Turpentine,
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- 100 lbs. and half-barrels Labrador Herring,
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- 10 cases Preserved Herring,
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- 40 pigs Soft Lead,
- 5 bars 1/2 and 1/4 Copper,
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HORACE HAZARD, Lower Queen Street, Ch'town, Dec. 21, '81—1m eod

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**Mortgage Sale.**

TO be sold by PUBLIC AUCTION, on THURSDAY, the sixteenth day of February, A. D. 1882, at the hour of twelve o'clock, noon, at the Court House in Summerside, in Prince County, under and by virtue of a Power of Sale contained in an Indenture of Mortgage bearing date the eleventh day of December, A. D. 1879, and made between Patrick Cluney of the one part, and Edward Jarvis Hodgson of the other part,—

ALL that tract, piece or parcel of land situate, lying and being on Lot or Township Number Three, in Prince County, in Prince Edward Island, and bounded as follows, that is to say: Commencing at a stake fixed in the Bank at the shore of Lot Three, at the south-east angle of the northern margin of one hundred acres of land now in the possession of the said Patrick Cluney; thence west to a line running north and south, being the east boundary of lands held by Matthew Cahill, James Ahearn, Thomas Waid, and others; thence south such a distance that a line running east to the said shore and along said shore to the place of commencing, will contain an area of fifty acres of land, a little more or less.

Also, all that other tract, piece or parcel of land situate, lying and being on Lot or Township Number Three in Prince County aforesaid, bounded and described as follows, that is to say: Commencing on the shore of Lot Three in the south-east angle of one hundred acres of land, bounding next on the south line of land now in the possession of Thomas O'Hoor; thence west for the distance of one hundred chains; thence south for the distance of five chains, or as far as a line running east to the said shore, and along the said shore to the place of commencing, and will contain an area of fifty acres of land, a little more or less, being one moiety or half part of one hundred acres of land now in possession of the said Patrick Cluney.

For further particulars apply at the office of Messrs. Hodgson & McLeod, Solicitors, Summerside. Dated this 12th day of January, A. D. 1882. EDWARD JARVIS HODGSON, [ja 13 s]—2aw tu-th Mortgagee.

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**Prince Edward Island RAILWAY.**

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

**TRAINS OUTWARD.**

STATIONS.	MIXED.	MIXED.	MIXED.
Ch'town	Dp 8.15am	Dp 3.00pm	Dp 2.30pm
Royalty Jc	" 8.38 "	" 3.23 "	" 2.53 "
N Wilsh's	" 9.29 "	" 4.15 "	" "
Hunter R'r	" 9.45 "	" 4.30 "	" "
Bradalba'e	" 10.23 "	" 5.08 "	" "
Co'ty Line	" 10.33 "	" 5.18 "	" "
Freetown	" 10.48 "	" 5.33 "	" "
Kensingt'n	" 11.10 "	" 5.55 "	" "
Summ'side	Ar 11.45 "	Ar 6.30 "	" "
Wellingt'n	Dp 1.45pm	" 2.37 "	Dp 2.53pm
Port Hill	" 3.22 "	" 4.14 "	" 3.09 "
O'Leary	" 4.44 "	" 5.36 "	" 3.29 "
Bloomfield	" 5.08 "	" 6.00 "	Ar 4.05 "
Alberton	" 5.48 "	" 6.40 "	Ar 4.15 "
Tignish	Ar 6.45 "	" 7.37 "	Ar 4.30 "
Royalty Jc	" "	" "	Ar 4.45 "
Bedford	" "	" "	Ar 4.55 "
Mt. Stew't	" "	" "	Ar 5.05 "
Cardigan	" "	" "	Ar 5.15 "
Georget'n	" "	" "	Ar 5.25 "
Mt. Stew't	" "	" "	Ar 5.35 "
Morell	" "	" "	Ar 5.45 "
St. Peter's	" "	" "	Ar 5.55 "
Souris	" "	" "	Ar 6.05 "

**TRAINS INWARD.**

STATIONS.	MIXED.	MIXED.	MIXED.
Sh'town	Ar 5.30pm	Ar 11.15am	Ar 11.45am
Royalty Jc	Dp 5.07 "	Dp 10.52 "	Dp 11.22 "
N Wilsh's	" 4.15 "	" 10.40 "	" "
Hunter R'r	" 4.00 "	" 9.45 "	" "
Bradalba'e	" 3.24 "	" 9.09 "	" "
Co'ty Line	" 3.14 "	" 8.59 "	" "
Freetown	" 2.59 "	" 8.44 "	" "
Kensingt'n	" 2.35 "	" 8.20 "	" "
Summ'side	" 2.00 "	" 7.45 "	" "
Wellingt'n	Ar 11.30am	" 11.00am	" 11.22am
Port Hill	" 9.53 "	" 9.23 "	" 10.45 "
O'Leary	" 8.31 "	" 8.01 "	" 10.10 "
Bloomfield	" 8.08 "	" 7.38 "	Ar 10.00 "
Alberton	" 7.25 "	" 6.55 "	Dp 8.40 "
Tignish	" 6.30 "	" 6.00 "	Dp 8.15 "
Royalty Jc	" "	" "	Ar 10.00am
York	" "	" "	Dp 9.20 "
Bedford	" "	" "	" 8.50 "
Mt. Stew't	" "	" "	" 8.00 "
Cardigan	" "	" "	" 7.15 "
Georget'n	" "	" "	" "
Mt. Stew't	" "	" "	" "
Morell	" "	" "	" "
St. Peter's	" "	" "	" "
Souris	" "	" "	" "

L. B. ARCHIBALD, Superintendant, Railway Office, Charlottetown, Nov. 29, 1881 [61, wkly]

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