The New Northwest.

THURSDAY.....JULY 3, 1879.

[For the New Northwest.]

DOOMED.

SUGGESTED BY THE RECENT VISIT OF MOSES AND HIS CHIEFS TO PORTLAND.

Fair Willamette! I know thee well;
My boyhood days I've spent upon thy banks and breast.
Those fellow chieftains now were playmates then,
And oft across thy waters rang out merry jest.
'Twas thou that gave us bounteous store of glittering fish;
And where you spire which rears its head t'ward heaven
And meets th' ethereal blue now stands,
Our wigwam was; our village stood
Beneath the lofty pines, midst foliage of umbrageous hue.

O, chiefs! the axe of hardy pioneer,
Swung by strong arm, has done its work, and done it well;
The hills threw back the echo of their sturdy blows,
And Breeze' monarchs, trembling, tott'ring, crashing, fell;
And in their place a queen-like city stands,
Rears her proud head, and greets the rising sun;
Her thousands throng her streets—luxurious people, bred
To wealth, to ease, and all the world can give.
My heart grows sick; my race is doomed—is dead!

Portland, June, 1879. G. H. H.

Agnes, the Indian Girl.

BY HELEN FORREST GRAVES.

"An Indian girl!" said Helena Dickson, with a little scream. "Dear me! I never expected to see anything like this, even in the Far West."

It was a spacious, roomy kitchen, furnished with an odd intermingling of luxury, privation and make-shift. At one end a large fire of walnut and pine logs roared up the great, cavernous chimney; at the other, two or three girls sat round a table, working worsteds by the light of a solar lamp, while Ralph Davenant, the farmer, lay fast asleep on the chintz-cushioned lounge, lulled by the continuous rushing sound of the great western river that bounded one extremity of his domains.

Guy Davenant sat near the girls—a tall, splendidly molded young Apollo of the forest, with shady hazel eyes, and hair curling in black, silky rings all over his head. He looked up quickly as Miss Dickson spoke.

"Agnes Oscawanda!" he exclaimed. "In the outer kitchen? Why don't the women tell her to come in?"

"Guy!" reproved his sister. "An Indian interpreter's daughter!"

"Helena ought to see her," urged Guy. "She's as beautiful as a statue."

"But she is old Oscawanda's daughter, and she lives down by the falls."

"What then? She is as intelligent and cultivated as nine out of ten of the girls around here. Call her in, I say, or I'll go out there myself."

Julia Davenant rose with a curl to her lip, and, opening the kitchen door, beckoned haughtily to a tall, slight figure standing by the fire beyond.

"Come in, Agnes," cheerfully called out Guy, as if to atone for his sister's evident lack of courtesy, and Agnes Oscawanda entered, moving with the slow, willowy grace of a bending reed.

She was dark, but not darker than many a brunette of unblemished Saxon lineage, with liquid, velvety, soft eyes, raven black hair looped in heavy braids at the back of her head, and a delicate, oval face, with features straight and pure as the outlines of a Greek model. Her dress was of some dark worsted stuff, with a scarlet shawl folded across her shoulders, and a silk scarf twisted about her hair. She hung her head with evident embarrassment at Helena Dickson's bold stare.

"I only came to bring Mr. Davenant the baskets he ordered of my father," she said, in a low voice.

"But sit down and rest a few minutes," said Guy. "You have walked a long distance."

Agnes Oscawanda hesitated. Had Guy Davenant's sisters confirmed the request, she would have gladly rested a little. But Julia and Clara sewed on without looking up, and Helena's supercilious glance called the red blood to her dark cheek.

"No," she said quietly. "I must go."

"Then I will walk a part of the way with you," said Guy, jumping up for his hat.

"I don't think Agnes has accustomed herself to an escort through the woods," said Julia, rudely.

"Indeed I am not afraid," said the interpreter's daughter.

"Afraid! It isn't a question of fear," said Guy. "It's a lovely starlight night, and I would like the walk."

The three girls eyed each other as the door closed behind the Indian girl and her companion.

"Very polite to rush off and leave Helena in that sort of way," said Clara, "the first night of her visit here."

"Oh, *I* don't care," said Helena, giggling. "A mere matter of taste, I'm sure."

"It's just like Guy," said Julia. "Agnes Oscawanda is well enough, I dare say; but she is only an Indian girl, and it is foolish to get her into the notion of expecting the same attentions that we receive."

Meanwhile Mr. Guy was walking along the dreary forest paths with the beautiful young daughter of the Indian interpreter.

"Not that I care for Agnes, though she is pretty enough to turn any man's head," thought the willful young man; "but I'll teach those girls to treat her a little more civilly. What right have they to bully and insult her? I won't have it."

And so, although Miss Dickson had been invited to make a visit to the Western wildernesses, specially to carry out a darling design of Clara and Julia Davenant, that "a match" should be struck up—or, perhaps, "ignited" would be the proper term—between her and their brother Guy, the young gentleman persisted in treating her with nothing more than regulation civility.

"It's too mean," said Clara, pouting. "When Helena has such a nice little property of her own, too," added Julia.

And Helena herself, who was getting into the sere and yellow leaf of maidenhood, curled her hair, and anointed her cheeks with "Rose-bloom" more vigorously than ever, for Guy Davenant was a husband well worth the angling for.

* * * * * *

"But you'll ask Agnes Oscawanda to your picnic party, girls?"

"Indeed we shall not!" Julia Davenant answered, with a toss of her haughty head. "An Indian girl! What would people say?"

"Then *I* shan't come to it!" said Guy, independently.

Julia burst into tears.

"Guy, you are too hateful for anything. And Helena thinks so much of the picnic."

"Not enough, it seems, to treat a harmless, pretty girl with ordinary decency," said Guy, angrily. "She passed Agnes yesterday in the road without even speaking to her."

"Do you expect us to receive her on an equality with ourselves?"

"I do not know why you should not," was the brusque reply.

"I believe Agnes Oscawanda has bewitched you with some of her father's outlandish Indian charms," flashed out Julia.

"Perhaps she has," said Guy, laughing; "her father's or her own."

"Guy, it is no jesting matter."

"Did I say it was, Miss Spitfire? Do leave me in peace a little while now."

"But Helena wants you to go with her to gather flowers and autumn leaves."

"I shall do nothing of the sort," said Guy; and he adhered resolutely to his resolution.

The day of the much-anticipated picnic came; but Guy, instead of escorting Miss Dickson down to the slope of velvet grass, shaded by superb forest trees, which had been selected as the site of the merry-making, took his gun and started off into the woods.

"I won't be deafened by the cackle of these girls," quoth he to himself.

* * * * * *

"Dead! Oh, father, father, he is not dead!"

Old Oscawanda, the swart-browed Indian interpreter, listened with his ear against the stalwart chest of the fallen hunter, who lay among the yellow Autumn leaves, where Agnes had found him, bathed in his own blood. There had been some imperfection in the lock of the new rifle—what or where nobody ever knew; but it was blown in pieces, and Guy Davenant lay like a dead man beside it.

They carried him to the little cabin beside the rushing falls of the Matarcasca and laid him on the rude couch of the old Indian, and then he struggled his way back again to life.

"Who bound up these wounds?" he asked, with a slight shudder, as he glanced downward at bandages and wrappings, and began to comprehend the full extent of the peril from which he had so miraculously escaped.

"I did," Agnes Oscawanda answered.

"You?" His eyes rested admiringly on her calm, beautiful face. "There isn't one woman in a thousand who would have had such pluck as that. I should like to have Helena Dickson see blood without fainting away, and as for Clara and Julia—pooh!"

"Just their maneuvering!" said Julia, when she had sobbed and shrieked away her first terror at the frightful news of the accident that had happened to her brother. "Of course Agnes and her scheming old father expect to make a profitable speculation out of it. Why couldn't they just as well have brought you home?"

"They might have done so," said Guy, calmly, "but a corpse would have been all that was borne across the threshold. Oscawanda and his daughter have saved my life, and I shall never cease to be grateful to them for what they have done."

"But," lisped Helena, "mayn't we come down and nurse you, dear Mr. Guy? I am sure it would be a pleasure, and these good people, although well meaning, I dare say, cannot understand the refinements an invalid so much needs."

"Your kindness is quite unnecessary," said Guy, coldly. "I have every care and attention here."

"The bold, sly thing!" said Clara, biting her lip as the three girls walked homeward again. "I saw her eyes flash triumph when he spoke."

Helena Dickson, however, resolved not to give up the battle at this early stage of affairs. She determined to prolong her visit into the Winter months.

"Perhaps Guy will go home with me, when he recovers sufficiently," she thought; "and in that case I can easily bring him to the mark."

For Helena had unbounded confidence in her own charms and powers of persuasion.

It was a bright, frosty afternoon in late November when Guy Davenant walked up to the door of the farm-house, leaning on the Indian girl's arm. Julia rose to welcome him home.

"I will help him into the house now," she said, coldly staring the beautiful young girl in the face. "You need not trouble yourself any further, Agnes Oscawanda."

"Stop!" said Guy sternly, as his sister would have motioned his supporter away. "She has the best and only right to be at my side now."

"Guy, what do you mean?" gasped Julia, scarcely understanding what significance his words were intended to convey.

"I married her this evening," he said, with quiet exulting pride. "As my wife, she is your equal—in all else infinitely your superior. Agnes, my pearl of the forest, welcome a thousand times to your new home."

And with a sinking heart Helena Dickson saw Agnes Oscawanda, the Indian interpreter's daughter, elevated to the position she had so vainly tried to occupy.

Somebody, writing of Woman Suffrage in Kansas, perpetrates the following base slander: "The women of Kansas vote at school elections. At a recent election in Osage City one woman went up to vote, but before she got through telling the judge what a time her Willie had with the scarlet fever when he was only two years old, it was time to close the polls, and she had forgotten to deposit her ballot."

Never accept anything, if it is in the Bible, as true, which you cannot see to be true, and never accept anything in the Bible as good when it seems to be in contradiction to your moral sense; and so using the Bible it will help you a thousand times more than if you make it master and your mind its slave.—*Dr. J. F. Clarke.*

A bright little boy of four, the son of a former pastor of a flourishing church, who attends the infant class in Sunday school, received a card on which were the words, "Pray without ceasing." After his mother had explained the text, he said, "I guess I won't show this to the minister; he prays long enough now."

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"Rise, rejoice,
My poor, unmated dove," said he,
"And look henceforth for love to me."

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"Become my wife and you shall be
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