

DOOMED.

By WILLARD MacKENZIE.

CHAPTER XVII.

Arthur's visits to Mrs. Castleton were now of daily occurrence. He knew no rest nor happiness out of her presence. His soul became steeped in the delicious languor of sweet music.

It was about 6 o'clock when he arrived at the house. The ladies had just finished dinner. Mrs. Freeman was in the room with her niece; but after a little time that lady found an excuse to leave the lovers together.

"Now for the promise you made me last night. I have been longing all day to hear this mystery," said Mrs. Castleton.

For several reasons he felt a strong repugnance to tell her that story. But what secret can a man keep from a woman whom he loves, if that woman has once set her mind upon extracting it from him?

He told the story in an earnest, subdued tone, and with the air of a man thoroughly possessed by his subject. He had at first intended to relate to her a mere brief outline of the family legend, just sufficient to account for his superstitious repugnance to an alliance with Miss Grierson; but after the first few sentences he told it from beginning to end with the utmost minuteness of detail, largely intermixed with commentaries which the brooding thoughts of many years had engendered.

At the first mention of the name of De Soissons she started; a look of intense wonder came into her face; and she listened with a breathless interest that grew in intensity with every stage of the narrative, and rose into terror as he repeated the words of the curse. But her excitement reached its culmination when he went on to tell of that stormy night when the bodies of the woman and child were washed up at his and his father's feet as they stood upon the rocks; and how, by the dim light in the fisherman's hut, he had been struck by the resemblance of the dead child to the face in the picture, and how strangely this fancy had been seemingly confirmed by the name upon the linen.

To all this she listened with dilated eyes and parted lips. "And the woman and child—what became of them?" she cried, clutching his arm with trembling energy.

"Both were dead. They were buried the next morning in Penrhuddyn churchyard."

For a moment she stared at him with a vacant look, then passed her hand over her eyes, like one striving to focus the scattered thoughts of a wandering brain, and muttering to herself, "Am I mad or dreaming, or what can it mean?"

Then, suddenly turning her eyes upon him, she exclaimed, "Why, this child was cast at your feet just as the woman in the legend was at her husband's!"

"Precisely," answered Arthur, gloomily. "And I have often thought, had that child lived, upon her shoulders Fate would have cast the fulfillment of the curse."

"It is an awful story," she said, with a shiver. "But in what way is Miss Grierson connected with it?"

Arthur then proceeded to tell how he had discovered Constance to be a member of that ill-omened family, by seeing the name of De Soissons written upon the old French music.

"Constance Grierson a De Soissons! Great heavens; is it possible?" she almost shrieked, starting from the couch in the extremity of her wonder.

"Yes. What is the matter?" cried Arthur, staring at her in startled surprise.

"Nothing. But do you suppose I could listen to such a story of marvellous coincidences without amazement? How wonderful! How awfully strange!" she murmured, and that shiver of terror again passed through her frame.

"And I have not come to the end of these more than natural coincidences," he continued. "Miss Grierson's fortune is hampered by an extraordinary will, to the effect that if she is not married before the age of twenty, and to a man of pedigree, the whole of it, save a trifling annuity, falls into the hands of her mother's family, the De Soissons."

At those words Mrs. Castleton, who had sunk into deep thought, looked up with new wonder in her eyes. "Pardon me," she said, eagerly. "I did not hear the last sentence."

He repeated the words, imputing the strange intense interest of her look to sympathy with the story. "And to what members of the family?" she asked, in a voice trembling with eagerness.

"One-half goes to certain relatives in England, the chief of whom is one Mr. Wylie."

"And the other half?"

"Goes to another branch of the family in Brittany," he answered.

Mrs. Castleton covered her face with her hands, and sank back upon the couch, seemingly prostrated by intense excitement.

Arthur took his leave, much troubled in mind, and promising to visit her early the next morning. From the time that they had stood upon the footing of lovers she had never parted from him so strangely as on that night. As he pressed her lips she found them cold as ice. The white face and its rigid lips and wild eyes haunted him through the night, and seemed to strangely associate with some painful memory that he could not fix for a while.

Could it be a resemblance to the portrait to the dead child as he had seen it stretched out beneath the rough blanket in the fisherman's hut? The very thought made the cold dew of terror start out upon his brow. No, it was impossible; his morbid imagination would find resemblances where no shadow of such existed. A gloomy, terrible night was that to Arthur Penrhuddyn.

But for more terrible was the night passed by Mrs. Castleton. The moment Arthur had quitted her, she ran up to her bedroom, and cast herself upon her knees, and buried her face in the bed cover. The next moment she rose to her feet and opened the door like one distraught. Wild

incoherent ejaculations burst from her lips, and sobs and groans. Hour after hour passed away, and still this frenzied excitement, this exaggerated hysteria, was unabated, until exhausted nature could endure no more; and throwing herself upon the bed, she fell into a stupor of insensibility rather than a healthful sleep.

When Arthur came in the morning, she was too ill to receive him. She had not left her room; could not receive him until the next day. Such was the message delivered by Mrs. Freeman, which sent him away with a heavy heart.

Two hours afterward, however, she drove away in her phaeton to the city. Doctors' Commons was her destination—her object to examine a certain will.

When she returned to Mrs. Freeman, whom she had left in the carriage, her face wore a more composed look, and there was an expression of smiling satisfaction in her eyes. Most earnest was the conversation that passed between the two ladies on the road homeward.

During the whole of that day Arthur was like one upon the rack. The indisposition of Mrs. Castleton filled him with grief and dismay; and a vague sense of some overhanging evil plunged him into the deepest dejection.

By ten o'clock the next morning he was at Brompton. A sense of indescribable terror seized upon him as he perceived that every blind in the house was drawn down. He bounded up the steps, and knocked at the door with a trembling hand. His summons was answered by the elder of two servants. She held a



AN UNWELCOME COMMUNICATION.

letter in her hand, which she said her mistress had desired her to give it to him when he came.

He took it without a word, and broke open the envelope. It contained these words:

"Dearest Love: "When these lines meet your eyes I shall be far away. For your sake, it is better we should part. Do not doubt my love, for while I write these cruel words it is deeper than ever. Perhaps we shall never meet again. Forgive me—pardon me—I can write no more. Farewell."

CHAPTER XVIII.

The day after his visit to Curtain Road, Stafford made a call at the quarters of his old friend Jerome, which were situated in a dingy street.

Jerome was an artist of the true Bohemian class—working only when the want of money pressed him; spending one day with the most reckless extravagance, dining the next upon bread and cheese.

Jerome's studio was a garret lit by a skylight—a blank, dreary looking room, with yellow-ochred walls, broken away in places. Old canvases, old plaster casts, bits of medieval armour, unfinished sketches, lumps of whiting, palettes, and all the litter of an artist's room, lay about in the wildest confusion.

As Stafford entered the room, he could but dimly discern the figures within through the dense cloud of tobacco smoke, which, combining with puffs from a smoky chimney, formed a most salubrious atmosphere. A shout of welcome hailed the new arrival.

The occupants of the room were Jerome, Leland and one or two other artists, and a well-dressed, aristocratic looking man to whom the reader has been already slightly introduced—Mr. Parsons.

"Welcome, wanderer, back again to the sweet shades of Soho," cried Jerome, theatrically, embracing his visitor.

"Yes, boys," said Stafford, "I have come back to the regions of fog and smoke once more, and none the worse for my journey."

"Oh, by the bye, I quite forgot to do the honors," said Jerome. "Allow me to introduce you, Mr. Parsons, to an esteemed friend of ours, Mr. Edward Stafford, a brother artist."

Mr. Parsons twirled his moustache, stared, and bowed slightly. Stafford haughtily acknowledged the introduction by a curt bow.

"And you have really managed to exist for one month without gazing upon the gaslit glories of the Strand. It is wonderful what human nature can go through," exclaimed Jerome.

Stafford called Jerome aside. "By the bye," he said, "I want you to give me an exact description of that girl who sat to you for Circe—"

"Oh, I have wonderful news to tell you about her," interrupted Jerome. "I have found out who she is. My lady turns out to be a great heiress—one Miss Grierson."

"No, no; you are mistaken," cried Stafford, turning pale; "it is not she—I mean it could not be; it—What proof have you of this?"

"Proof enough to convince any judge that ever sat upon the bench. Listen!" And he told him the adventure at the Harmarket.

"A most palpable mistake," exclaimed Stafford. "You were deceived by a resemblance; such things are of daily occurrence."

"Oh! of course you must start the resemblance theory," answered Jerome, mockingly. "You are another of those who believe an heiress can do no wrong. But I have not near finished yet. Listen to the sequel. I had made up my mind to look in the 'Court Guide' next morning for Miss Heiress's address, and pay her a visit, but I was fool enough to be talked over by Mr. Arthur Penrhuddyn, who was in a dreadful state of mind at the thought of one of his swell lads being shown up. He told me that he knew the young lady; that he was going to visit her the next morning; and that he would put the question to her point blank whether she knew me or not."

"Well?" cried Stafford, eagerly.

"Well, it turned out just as I might have expected. He appointed to meet me at the 'Redford' that same night, and instead of coming sent a note of apology, saying that he had quite forgotten to speak to the lady upon the subject; was very sorry he could not see me, but was unwell, and so on. All a parcel of prevarications; and I have never set eyes upon him since."

"But what motive do you suppose Mr. Penrhuddyn should have for purposely avoiding the meeting?" asked Stafford, whose face had fallen during Jerome's last speech.

"What motive? Why, he had spoken to Miss Grierson, and the result was too favorable to my opinion to be reported to me."

"Mr. Arthur Penrhuddyn is utterly incapable of subterfuge," cried Stafford, warmly; but for all his warmth, he felt but ill at ease.

"Oh, of course—because he's an aristocrat!" sneered Jerome. "But I have not done yet. Now comes the grand tableau. Behold the group ready arranged, Leland, these other two fellows and our aristocratic friend here"—pointing to Parsons—"behold my witnesses, listen to my testimony, and then doubt if you can. Having, about a fortnight ago, run out of cash, I was seized with an inclination for work. Consequently, I had no leis-



LOG WATERING TROUGH.

ure to devote to the pursuit of my ex-animamora; but being, two days ago, the happy possessor of certain coins of the realm, the fever suddenly seized upon me. So I immediately consulted the pages of the 'Court Guide'; discovered that a Miss Grierson resided in Harley street; made inquiries in the region of funkedom, and discovered that it was a lady with golden hair; and yesterday morning, in the company of the gentlemen present, strolled down Harley street. Just as we got within two doors of the house, who should issue forth from it, to step into the carriage that was waiting at the curb, but my lady herself, accompanied by the very old fellow I saw her with at the theater. I pressed forward—she turned her head in my direction, and you should have seen the expression of her face; here's my aristocratic friend, here, was standing close at my elbow—ask him."

(To be continued.)

Heartless.

"Boss," said the fat beggar, "I ain't had no food for more'n twenty-four hours."

"Well, well!" remarked Kidder. "Dat's de truth, boss, an' when I tink how well fixed I wuz onct it makes a lump come in me froat dat way."

"Why don't you swallow the lump? That might help some."

Loud Report.

"Tommy," said the teacher, "how fast does sound travel?"

"Well," replied Tommy, "it just depends on what kind of sound you mean."

"I don't understand you, Tommy."

"Well, for instance, when ma spanks me the whole neighborhood hears it in a few minutes."

Bad Child.

"You appear to have quite a bad cold, Mr. Kloseman," said the hostess, sympathetically.

"Yes," replied the guest, with a cough, "it's settled in my chest, and it's quite tight."

"Yes," put in the hostess little boy, "pa was tellin' us you was tight-chested."

Didn't Suit.

"Didn't that new nurse come that I engaged for little Reginald?" asked Mr. Stiles.

"Oh, yes," replied Mrs. Stiles, "but she wouldn't do. She had nothing but blue dresses to wear, and blue, you know, is only for girl babies. Pink's for boys."

"Making Himself Eligible." "What's the matter with Fox these days? He's positively stupid."

"Oh, no; he's only pretending to be." "Pretending to be stupid? What's the idea in that?"

"For some reason or other he's trying to get into society."

Dark Town.

Pearl—And the novel says they "lived happily ever after."

Ruby—I don't see how that was possible when they lived in Pittsburg.

AGRICULTURAL



SHADY WATERING TROUGH.

The writer may be a crank on the summer care of animals, but at least he knows that it pays well to look out for their comfort during the heated spell. Knowing the luxury of a drink of cool water in warm weather an intelligent man realizes that an animal will enjoy its water much more if it is in a shady place where it is cool and where also there may be a little shade for the animal while it is drinking. Only in some sections do we find the old-time drinking trough hewn from a log than which nothing better has ever been devised.

On most farms it will not be at all hard to find a corner shaded by trees or vines where this trough may be located. Oftentimes an old tree will serve as a hitching post near the trough and a light chain or the rope hitched to the lower branches of the tree to hold the horse while drinking if its owner wishes to leave it a few



LOG WATERING TROUGH.

minutes. By a little care in the setting of the trough so that the lower back corner is tilted away from the side at which the horse approaches the trough the overflow may be readily conducted away from the trough and the wet stamping place avoided. A good plan is to dig out the soil for a foot in the spot where the horse would stand while drinking and fill it with coarse gravel which would surely do away with the wet spots.—Indianapolis News.

Alfalfa Seed Testing.

Directions are given by the Texas station for testing the purity of alfalfa seed and the weed seeds frequently found in it, together with seeds sometimes used as its adulterants, such as bur clover and sweet clover, are described.

In 1905 the station tested thirty-two samples of alfalfa seed obtained from the wholesale houses of the State. In these samples thirty different weed seeds were found. The percentage of sand, trash and broken seed varied from 0 to 20 per cent. Testing the vitality of the seed is also described. The results secured with the thirty-two samples showed their vitality or germinating power to vary from 49.5 to 96.5 per cent, the greater number having a vitality of over 80 per cent. The actual values of the seed samples in percentages varied from 39.6 to 98. The results in detail are given in a table.

Soil Treatment for Forcing House.

An account of investigations for the control of rosette (*Rhizoctonia* sp.) in lettuce and tomatoes, and of nematodes in crops grown under glass, is given by the Ohio station.

Experiments have been carried on for three years in testing soil sterilization with steam and formalin, and the author has found that for the destruction of fungi in the soil the formalin treatment and the steam treatment appear to be of about equal efficacy. In the case of nematodes, steaming appears to be the only effective treatment, particularly for the destruction of the encysted forms of nematodes. Directions are given for the treatment of soil with formalin and steam, and the comparative advantages and disadvantages of each are pointed out.

Soil Inoculation.

Any farmer can try the experiment of inoculating the soil with the necessary bacteria for promoting the growth of a crop. Should the soil seem unadapted to clover it will be found of advantage to procure a few bushels of earth from a field upon which grew a luxuriant crop of clover, broadcasting the earth over the field and seeding to clover, the possibility being that a good stand of clover will be obtained.

Eggs in Great Britain.

The imports of eggs into the United Kingdom during the year 1906 were valued at \$34,543,000, drawn from the following countries: Russia, \$11,398,200; Denmark, \$8,272,700; Germany, \$4,061,600; Belgium, \$4,828,000; France, \$3,023,300; Canada, \$517,800; all other countries, \$1,827,400. The United States exports eggs to a limited extent, those of 1905 to all countries being valued at only \$543,000.

Continuous Corn Culture.

In the spring of 1894, at the Rhode Island experiment station, Professors G. E. Adams and H. J. Wheeler began the study of the continuous culture of corn on an acre of soil that is partly a silt loam and partly a light sandy loam. In the first two years only chemical fertilizers were used, the maintenance of soil humus being placed upon the corn stubble remaining upon the field. The following two years half of the area was sown with crimson clover at the time of the last cultivation of corn and half to rye, in order to compare the merits of a leguminous and nonleguminous crop as a means of maintaining soil humus.

Beginning with 1898, after the experiment was in progress four years, the first quarter of the acre plot was sown to crimson clover and the third quarter to winter rye at the time of the last cultivation of the corn, while the second and fourth quarter acre received no clover crop. In 1899 the land was limed to secure the success of clover.

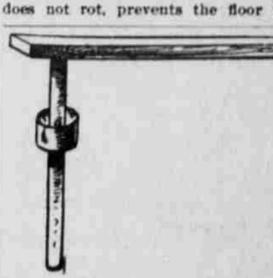
A summary of the results during the twelve years the experiment has been conducted shows the gain from using clover as a cover crop, after deducting the cost of the seed, was \$50.24, or an average of \$4.19 per acre annually, compared with \$4.28, or an average of 36 cents an acre annually from using rye.

The Early Fruits and Vegetables.

Ground intended for onions should be plowed as early as the weather will permit, as the onion crop is the first to go in. One method of producing onions is to sow the seeds in hotbeds and transplant the small bulbs later. The seeds may be sown in the hotbeds in January or February. By thus growing them there is a saving of time and less difficulty with weeds. If preferred, the onion sets may be procured of seedsmen. In fact, onion sets should now be in the ground. Plant the sets in rows, placing them four inches apart in the rows. The rows may be sufficiently wide to permit of the use of a wheel hoe. It is important to keep the grass from between the rows as well as to have the space between the rows clean. Onions can endure frost, and will start to grow almost as soon as planted.

Vermin-Proof Roost.

Get as vertical supports iron pipes two feet long, cut jam tins in half similar to the illustration. Place kerosene and water in the tins. The perches should not come within six inches of the walls. Then the red mix (sarcocopes) or tick is held at bay. Lime washing the house is not necessary, says J. A. C. F., writing from Colac, Victoria, Australia. In our country instead of using dropping boards roofing felt in sheets is used. It folds easily, does not rot, prevents the floor from



A VERMIN-PROOF ROOST.

being hollowed—cheap, everlasting. Trap nests of any sort are not known within fifty miles of this town. We are backward.

Rape for Sheep.

Every farmer who keeps sheep should try rape this year, if only on a small plot, so as to learn how it grows and what it is worth. Get the dwarf Essex variety, plant it in drills and begin to use it as soon as it is well grown. It will grow again after being cut. It may be planted in April, even later. Sow it in rows or broadcast it. Those who sow it for sheep broadcast it over the field and turn the sheep on it at any stage of growth desired. It is now considered indispensable to all who keep sheep, but, as it is also relied upon by other stock, it will be found serviceable in providing a succulent food late in the season after grass is gone. It is also excellent for all kinds of poultry.

Fruit Growings.

Fruit sometimes sells at a low price and does not pay, but the same may be said of all crops. The farmer, however, is not usually a fruit grower (except of apples), and strawberries, raspberries and blackberries are seldom cultivated on some farms. Whether grown for market or not, such fruit should be produced on every farm by way of variety and for home use. The luxuries can be produced more easily by farmers than can the regular crops of grain. It takes two or three acres of wheat to buy the produce that can be derived from a quarter of an acre of small fruits and vegetables.

Want Our Fruit.

Prof. W. A. Taylor, of the United States Department of Agriculture, says the American fruit growers have a great field abroad provided they learn its requirements and supply the sort of fruit demanded.

THE WEEKLY HISTORIAN



- 1355—Marino Fallero, Doge of Venice, executed.
- 1662—Royal Society of England incorporated.
- 1763—Georgia Gazette, at Savannah, first issued.
- 1775—Battle of Lexington, first engagement in the American Revolutionary war.
- 1806—Admiral Villeneuve, Nelson's antagonist at Trafalgar, committed suicide while a prisoner in England.
- 1806—Austrians defeated by Napoleon at Abensberg, Bavaria.
- 1841—First handicap steeplechase race run in England.
- 1842—Gen. Pollock entered Jellalabad with his troops.
- 1861—Virginia seceded from the Union.
- 1874—Mad Lucas, the Hertfordshire hermit, immortalized by Dickens, found dead.
- 1880—Afghans defeated by the British at Ahmed Khel.
- 1883—Parliament buildings at Quebec burned.
- 1889—Oklahoma land opened to settlement by presidential proclamation.
- 1890—First Pan-American conference closed at Washington.
- 1891—Czar proclaimed the expulsion of the Jews from Moscow....White Star steamship Teutonic broke transatlantic record.
- 1893—Australian Joint Stock bank failed for \$65,000,000.
- 1894—Princess Victoria Melita of Edinburgh married to Ernest Louis, Grand Duke of Hesse.
- 1895—Perry, escaped train robber, captured at Weehawken, N. J.
- 1896—International Arbitration Congress met at Washington.
- 1897—Attempt made to assassinate King Humbert of Italy at Rome....Turkey declared war against Greece.
- 1898—Spurgeon's Tabernacle in London destroyed by fire....Gen. Joaquin Crespo, ex-president of Venezuela, killed in battle.
- 1899—Resolutions introduced in Massachusetts Legislature revoking the order banishing Roger Williams in 1635.
- 1901—Severe floods at Pittsburg and Cincinnati.
- 1903—Massacre of Jews at Kishineff, Russia....Andrew Carnegie gave \$1,500,000 to erect Temple of Peace at The Hague.
- 1904—Fire in Toronto destroyed \$10,000,000 worth of property.
- 1906—Prof. Curie, discoverer of radium, killed by an accident in Paris....Large part of San Francisco destroyed by earthquake and fire.

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

The conference for education in the South held its three days' session at Pinehurst, N. C., and re-elected Robert Ogden of New York as president.

President Dabney of Cincinnati university is planning a commercial college in connection with the institution. He proposes to have the students work in banks and brokerage offices while pursuing the courses of study.

The Minnesota Legislature defeated the bill introduced by the committee on education, which aimed to take school affairs out of politics by having the county school board of five members selected by ballot, and having these boards select the county superintendents.

At a recent meeting of the general education board at New York \$625,000 was allotted out of the Rockefeller fund to five institutions. This included \$300,000 for Yale, \$200,000 for Princeton and \$125,000 to Bowdoin college in Maine, Colorado college, Colorado Springs, Colo., and Millsaps college, Jackson, Miss.

The presidents of the four classes of Harvard university appeared on the stage of the Majestic theater of Boston the other night and made formal apology on behalf of the undergraduates for the part taken by some of them in the egg-throwing and general disturbance at the first performance of "Brown of Harvard."

A paragraph in the School Journal says that the Indiana Legislature has passed a bill which gives the State board of education the right to recommend teachers' training courses to the normal schools. These schools will be entitled to use the word "approved" in their titles, and teachers will be given credit for work in these schools.

W. H. Maxwell, New York City superintendent of public schools, in a recent address before the students of Columbia university, gave it as his opinion that no nervous or excitable person should attempt to teach. The teacher, he said, "should be an athlete and a trained artisan. The strain on the nervous system is so great, and the demand upon it physical strength so severe that when it comes to managing a room full of fifty or sixty boys, only a man who has a good physique and abundant physical power can hope to succeed."