Colonel Quaritch.

Edward winced visibly at this outspoken statement.

"Ida," he said, "I make one last appeal to you; I am devoted to you with all my heart—so devoted that though it may seem foolish to say so, especially before your father, I really think that I would rather not have recovered from my accident than that I should have recovered for this. I will give you everything that a woman can want, and my money will make your family what it was centuries ago, the greatest in the country side. I don't pretend to have been a saint—perhaps you may have heard something against me in that way—or to be anything out of the common. I am only an ordinary everyday man, but I am devoted to you. Think, then, before you refuse me altogether."

"I have thought, Mr. Cossey," answered Ida, almost passionately; "I have thought until I am tired of thinking, and I do not consider that it is fair that you should press me like this, especially before my father."

"Then," he said, rising with difficulty, "I have said all that I have to say, and done all that I can do. I shall still hope that you may change your mind; I shall not yet abandon hope. Good-by."

She touched his hand, and then the squire offering him his arm, he went down the steps to his carriage.

"I hope, Mr. de la Molle," he said, "that bad as things are for me, if they should take a turn, I shall have your support."

"My dear sir," answered the squire, "I tell you frankly that I wish my daughter would marry you. As I said before, it would for obvious reasons be desirable. But Ida is not like ordinary women. When she sets her mind upon a thing she sets it like a flint. Things may change, however, and that is all I can say. Yes, if I were you, I should remember that this is a changeable world and that women are the most changeable things in it."

When the carriage had gone he re-entered the vestibule. Ida, who was going away much disturbed in mind, saw him coming and knew from the expression of his face that there was going to be trouble. With characteristic courage she turned, determined to brave it out.

CHAPTER XXXII.

THE SQUIRE SPEAKS HIS MIND.

For a moment or more her father fidgeted about, moving his papers backward and forward, but saying nothing.

At last he spoke. "You have taken a most serious and painful step, Ida," he said. "Of course, you have a right to do as you please; you are of full age, and I cannot expect that you will consider me or your family in your matrimonial engagements, but at the same time I think that it is my duty to point out to you what it is that you are doing. You are refusing one of the finest matches in England in order to marry a broken down, middle aged, half pay colonel, a man who can hardly support you, whose part in life is played, or who is apparently too idle to seek another."

Here Ida's eyes flashed ominously, but she made no comment, being apparently afraid to trust herself to speak.

"You are doing this," went on her father, working himself up as he spoke, "in the face of my wishes, and with the knowledge that your action will bring your family, to say nothing of your father, to utter and irretrievable ruin."

"Surely, father, surely," broke in Ida, almost in a cry, "you would not have me marry one man when I love another. When I made the promise I had not become attached to Col. Quaritch."

"Level pdaw!" said her father. "Don't talk to me in that sentimental and school girl way—you are too old for it. I am a plain man, and I believe in family affection and in duty, Ida. Love, as you call it, is only too often another word for self will and selfishness, and other things that we are better without."

"I can understand, father," answered Ida, struggling to keep her temper under this jobation, "that my refusal to marry Mr. Cossey is disagreeable to you for obvious reasons, though it is not so very long ago that you detested him yourself. But I do not see why an honest woman's affections for another man should be talked of as though there was something shameful about it. It is all very well to sneer at 'love,' but after all a woman is flesh and blood; she is not a chattel or a slave girl, and marriage is not like anything else—it means, as you must know, many things to a woman. There is no magic about marriage to make that which is unrighteous righteous, or that which is impure pure."

"There," said her father, "it is no good your lecturing to me on marriage, Ida. If you do not want to marry Cossey I can't force you to. If you want to ruin me and your family and yourself you must do so. But there is one thing. While it is over me, which I suppose will not be for much longer, my house is my own, and I will not have that colonel of yours hanging about it, and I shall write to him to say so. You are your own mistress, and if you choose to walk over to church and marry him you can do so, but it will be done without my consent, which of course, however, is an unnecessary formality. Do you hear me, Ida?"

"If you have quite done, father," she answered, coldly, "I should like to go before I say something which I might be sorry for. Of course, you can write what you like to Col. Quaritch, and I shall write to him, too."

Her father made no answer beyond sitting down at his table and grabbing viciously at a pen. So she left the room, indignant, indeed, but with as heavy a heart as any woman could carry in her breast.

"DEAR SIR," wrote the not altogether unnaturally indignant squire,—"I have been informed by my daughter Ida of her entanglement with you. It is one which, for reasons that I need not enter into, is most distasteful to me, as well as, I am sorry to say, ruinous to Ida herself and to her family. Ida is of full age and must, of course, do as she pleases with herself. But I cannot consent to become a party to what I disapprove of so strongly, and this being the case I must beg you to cease your visits to this house. I am, sir, Your obedient servant,

"JAMES DE LA MOLLE."

Ida, as soon as she had sufficiently recovered herself, also wrote to the colonel. She told him the whole story, keeping nothing back, and ended her letter thus:

"Never, dear Harold, was a woman in a greater difficulty, and never had I more need of help and advice. You know and have good reason to know how hateful this marriage would be to me, loving you as I do entirely and alone, and having no higher desire than to become your wife. But, of course, I see the painfulness of the position. I am not so selfish as my father believes or says that he believes. I quite understand how great would be the material advantage to my father if I could bring myself to marry Mr. Cossey. You may remember I told you once that I thought no woman had a right to prefer her own happiness to the prosperity of her whole family. But, Harold, it is easy to speak thus, and very, very hard to act up to it. What am I to do? What am I to do? And yet how can I in common fairness ask you to answer that question? God help us both, Harold! Is there no way out of it?"

These letters were both duly received by Harold Quaritch on the following morning, and threw him into a fever of anxiety and doubt. He was a just and reasonable man, and, knowing something of human nature, under the circumstances did not altogether wonder at the squire's violence and irritation. The financial position of the De la Molle family was little, if anything, short of desperate; and he could easily understand how maddening it must be to a man like Mr. De la Molle, who loved Hoxham—which had for centuries been the habitation of his race—better than he loved anything on earth, to suddenly realize that it must pass away from him and his forever, merely because a woman happened to prefer one man to another, and that man, to his view, the less eligible of the two. So keenly did he realize this, indeed, that he greatly doubted whether or no he was justified in continuing his advances to Ida. Finally, after much thought, he wrote to the squire as follows:

"I have received your letter, and also one from Ida, and I hope you will believe me when I say that I quite understand and sympathize with the motives which evidently led you to write it. I am, unfortunately—although I never regretted it till now—a poor man, whereas my rival suitor is a very rich one. I shall, of course, strictly obey your injunctions; and, moreover, I can assure you that, whatever my own feelings may be in the matter, I shall do nothing, either directly or indirectly, to influence Ida's ultimate decision. She must decide for herself."

To Ida herself he also wrote at length:

"DEAREST IDA," he ended, "I can say nothing more; you must judge for yourself; and I shall accept your decision loyally whatever it may be. It is unnecessary for me now to tell you how inextricably my happiness in life is interwoven with that decision, but at the same time I do not wish to influence it. It certainly to my mind does not seem right that a woman should be driven into sacrificing her whole life to secure any monetary advantage either for herself or for others, but then the world is full of things that are not right. I can give you no advice, for I do not know what advice I ought to give. I try to put myself out of the question and to consider you, and you only; but even then I fear that my judgment is not impartial. At any rate, the less we see of each other the better at present, for I do not wish to appear to be taking any undue advantage. If we are destined to pass our lives together, this temporary estrangement will not matter, and if, on the other hand, we are doomed to a life long separation, the sooner we begin the better. It is a cruel world, and sometimes (as it does now) my heart sinks within me as from year to year I struggle on toward a happiness that ever vanishes when I stretch out my hand to clasp it; but if I feel thus what must you feel who have so much more to bear? My dearest love, what can I say? I can only say with you, God help us!"

This letter did not tend to raise Ida's spirits. Evidently her lover saw that there was another side to the question—the side of duty, and was too honest to hide it from her. She had said that she would have nothing to do with Edward Cossey, but she was well aware that the matter was still an open one. What should she do? What ought she to do? Abandon her love, desecrate herself and save her father and her house, or cling to her love and leave the rest to chance? It was a cruel position, nor did the lapse of time tend to make it less cruel. Her father went about the place pale and melancholy—all his jovial manner had vanished beneath the pressure of impending ruin. He treated her with studious and old fashioned courtesy, but she could see that he was bitterly aggrieved by her conduct, and that the anxiety of his position was telling on his health. If this was the case now, what, she wondered, would happen in the spring, when proceedings were actually taken to sell the place?

One bright, cold morning she was walking with her father through the fields down the footpath that led to the church, and it would have been hard to say which of the two looked the paler or more miserable. On the previous day the squire had had an interview with Mr. Quest, and made as much or an appeal ad misericordiam to him as his pride would allow, only to find the lawyer very courteous, very regretful, but as hard as adamant. Also that very morning a letter had reached him from London announcing that the last hope of raising money to meet the mortgages to be paid off had failed.

The path ran along toward the road past a line of oaks. Half way down this line they came across George, who, with his marking instrument in his hand, was contemplating some of the trees which it was proposed to take down.

"What are you doing there?" said the squire, in a melancholy voice.

"Marking, squire."

"Then you may as well save yourself the trouble, for the place will belong to somebody else before the sap is up in those oaks."

"Now, squire, don't you begin to talk like that, for I don't believe it. That ain't a-going to happen."

"Ain't a-going to happen, you stupid fellow, ain't a-going to happen?" answered the squire, with a dreary laugh. "Why, look there"—he pointed to a dog cart which had drawn up on the road in such a position that they could see it without its occupants seeing them—"they are taking notes already."

George looked and so did Ida. Mr. Quest was the driver of the dog cart, which he had pulled up in such a position as to command a view of the castle, and his companion, in whom George recognized a well known London auctioneer who sometimes did business in these parts, was standing up, an open notebook in his hand, alternately looking at the noble towers of the gateway and jotting down memoranda.

"D—n him, and so he be," said George, utterly forgetting his manners.

Ida looked up and saw her father's eyes fixed upon her with an expression that seemed to say: "See, you willful young woman, see the ruin you have brought upon us."

Ida turned away; she could not bear it, and that very night she came to a determination, which was in due course communicated to Harold, and him alone. That determination was to let things be for the present, upon the chance of something happening by means of which the dilemma might be solved. But if nothing happened—and indeed it did not seem probable to her that anything would happen—then she would sacrifice herself at the last moment. She believed, indeed she knew, that she could always call Edward Cossey back to her if she liked. It was a compromise, and, like all compromises, had an element of weakness; but it gave time, and time to her was like water to the dying.

"Sir," said George presently, "it's Boisingham quarter sessions the day after to-morrow, ain't it?" (Mr. de la Molle was chairman of quarter sessions.)

"Yes, of course it is."

George thought for a minute.

"I'm thinking, squire, that if I aren't wanted that day I want to go up to Lannon about a bit of business."

"Go up to London!" said the squire; "why, what do you want to do there? You were in London the other day."

"Well, squire," he answered, looking inexpressibly shy, "that ain't no matter of nobody's. It's a bit of private affairs."

"Oh, all right," said the squire, his interest dying out; "you are always full of mysteries," and he continued his walk.

But George shook his fist in the direction of the road down which the dog cart had drawn up on the road in such a position that they could see it without its occupants seeing them—"they are taking notes already." George looked and so did Ida. Mr. Quest was the driver of the dog cart, which he had pulled up in such a position as to command a view of the castle, and his companion, in whom George recognized a well known London auctioneer who sometimes did business in these parts, was standing up, an open notebook in his hand, alternately looking at the noble towers of the gateway and jotting down memoranda.

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TO BE CONTINUED.

Administrator's Notice.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been, by the Honorable County Court, of Clackamas County, Oregon, duly appointed Executor of the Estate of John Franke deceased. All person having claims against said estate, are requested to present them to me properly verified at the office of F. O. McCown in Oregon, City Or., within six months from the date of this notice.

A. R. SHIPLEY,
Executor of the estate of John Franke, deceased.

Dated Dec. 26, 1889. 4t

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4t C. B. SMITH, M. D.,
THOMAS DARLING, M. D.

Notice

All persons knowing themselves indebted to us are requested to settle the same on or before Jan. 1st. After that date all standing accounts will be placed in the hands of a collector.

LOGES & ALBRIGHT.

Sheriff's Sale.

STATE OF OREGON, } ss.
COUNTY OF CLACKAMAS. }

Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of an execution and an order of Court issued out of and under the Seal of the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Clackamas County, dated the 17th day of December, 1889, and to me directed and delivered as Sheriff in favor of W. P. Shelley, plaintiff and against William Jennings and William H. Jennings, defendants, commanding me in the name of the State of Oregon; that of the personal property of the said defendants and if sufficient cannot be found, then out of the real property belonging to said defendants in the County of Clackamas to make the sum of $295.00 in United States gold coin now due on said judgment with interest at the rate of eight per cent. per annum, since the 12th day of November, 1889, and for the further sum of $50.00 as attorney's fees, and for the further sum of $21.60, accrued costs. Therefore, in order to make the above named sums, and for want of personal property I did on the 19th day of December, 1889, levy upon the following real property belonging to said defendants, and described as follows, to wit:

The northeast ¼ of the northeast ¼ of Section 31, T 5 S, R 1 E of the Willamette meridian, situated in Clackamas county, Oregon. I will on Saturday, the 25th day of January, 1890, at the Court House door in Oregon City, Clackamas County, Oregon, at the hour of one o'clock P. M. of said day, proceed to sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash in hand the above described property, together with all and singular the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereto belonging or in anywise appertaining. All of which will be sold to make the sums decreed in favor of said plaintiff together with the expenses of such sale.

N. W. H. SAMSON,
Sheriff of Clackamas Co., Or.

Dated this 19th day of Dec. 1889.

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SUCCESSOR TO HEDGES & WARREN.

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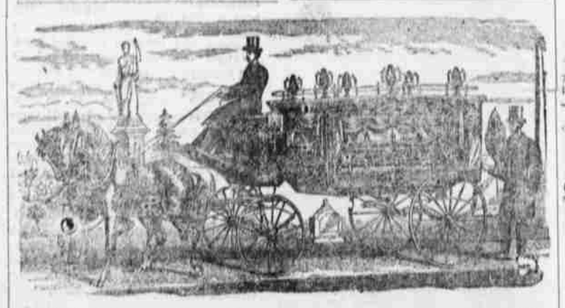

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Southern Pacific Company's line.

The Mount Shasta Route.

Time between Oregon City and San Francisco 58 hours.

CALIFORNIA EXPRESS TRAINS RUN DAILY.

SOUTH		PORTLAND AND SAN FRANCISCO		North.
4:00 P. M.	Lv	Portland	Ar	10:45 A. M.
5:00 P. M.	Lv	Oregon City	Lv	9:45 A. M.
7:45 A. M.	Ar	S. Francisco	Lv	7:00 P. M.

Local Passenger Train, Daily. (Except Sunday)

8:00 A. M.	Lv	Portland	Ar	3:40 P. M
9:11 A. M.	Lv	Oregon City	Lv	2:40 P. M
2:40 P. M.	Ar	Eugene	Lv	9:00 A. M

Pullman Buffet Sleepers.

TOURIST SLEEPING CARS,

For accommodation of Second-Class Passengers, attached to Express Trains.

The S. P. Co's Ferry makes connection with all the regular trains on the East Side Division from foot of F street, Portland.

West Side Division.

BETWEEN PORTLAND AND CORVALLIS.

Mail Train, Daily (Except Sunday.)

7:30 A. M.	Lv	Portland	Ar	6:20 P M
12:25 P. M.	Ar	Corvallis	Lv	1:30 P M

At Albany and Corvallis connect with trains of Oregon Pacific Railroad.

Express Train Daily (Except Sunday)

4:50 P. M.	Lv	Portland	Ar	9:00 A. M.
8:00 P. M.	Ar	McMinnville	Lv	5:45 A. M.

THROUGH TICKETS
TO ALL POINTS
SOUTH AND EAST,
VIA CALIFORNIA.

For full information regarding rates, maps, etc. call on Company's agent at Oregon City

KOEHLER, Manager. E. P. ROGERS, Ass't G. F. and Pass. Agent.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

LAND OFFICE AT Oregon City, Oregon, December, 7, 1889.

Notice is hereby given that the following-named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the Register and Receiver of U. S. land office at oregon City, Oregon, on Monday, February 17, 1890, viz: Reuben Fanton, Homestead Entry, No. 4626 for the E ½ of SE ¼ of Section 6, Township 4 South, R 2 East. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of, said land, viz: John Molzan, H. Phelps and A. Smith of Canby, Clackamas County, oregon; and W. Rauch, of New Era, Clackamas County, oregon.

J. T. APPERSON,
27-32—12-12-89. Register.

TIMBER LAND, ACT JUNE 3, 1878.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE. Oregon City, Oregon, October 5, 1889.

NOTICE is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 3, 1878 entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the States of California, Oregon, Nevada, and Washington Territory," Paul Madson, of Portland, County of Multnomah, State of Oregon has this day filed in this office his sworn statement No. 1746, for the purchase of the SE ¼ of Section No. 26, in Township No. 5 South, Range No. 3 East, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before the Register and Receiver of this office at Oregon City, Oregon, on Thursday the 13th day of February 1890. He names as witnesses: Howard, W. Webb and Harris of Portland, Multnomah Co., Oregon; and S. Austin of Molalla, Clackamas Co. Or.

Any and all persons claiming adversely the above-described lands are requested to file their claims in this office on or before said 13th day of February, 1890.

J. T. APPERSON,
23-108—11-14-89. Register.

TIMBER LAND, ACT JUNE 3, 1878.

Notice For Publication.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE Oregon City, Oregon, November 1, 1889.

NOTICE is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 3, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the States of California, Oregon, Nevada, and Washington Territory," J. T. Lucas of Portland, County of Multnomah, State of Oregon, has this day filed in this office his sworn statement No. 1775, for the purchase of the NE ¼ of Section No. 26, in Township No. 5 South, Range No. 3 East, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before the register and receiver of this office at Oregon City, Oregon, on Thursday, the 27th day of February, 1890. He names as witnesses: J. Maloy, C. Kuhnardt and J. Miller of Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon; S. Austen, of Molalla, Clackamas County, Oregon.

Any and all persons claiming adversely the above-described lands are requested to file their claims in this office on or before said 27th day of February, 1890.

J. T. APPERSON,
23-108—11-14-89. Register.

Notice for Publication.

LAND OFFICE AT Oregon City, Oregon, November 14, 1889.

Notice is hereby given that the following-named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the Register and Receiver of the U. S. Land Office at Oregon City, Oregon, on Monday, January 20, 1890, viz: Fred Gerke, Homestead Entry No. 5656, for the S ½ of NW ¼, SW ¼ of NE ¼ and NW ¼ of SE ¼ of Section 4, Township 3 South, Range 7 East. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of, said land, viz: S. Welch, W. Rosalsky, T. McIntyre and A. Aschoff, all of Sandy, Clackamas county, Oregon.

J. T. APPERSON
25-61—11-28-89 Register

Notice for Publication.

LAND OFFICE AT Oregon City, Oregon, November 12, 1889.

Notice is hereby given the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before the Register and Receiver of the U. S. Land Office at Oregon City, Oregon, on Monday, January 13, 1890, viz: Edward Kopper, Homestead Entry No. 5649 for the SW ¼ of SE ¼, Section 18, Township 2 South, Range 5 East. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz: F. A. Meinig, H. Fischer, H. B. Chase, and J. H. Revenue, all of Sandy, Clackamas county, Oregon.

J. T. APPERSON,
25-61—11-28-89. Register.

TIMBER LAND, ACT JUNE 3, 1878.

Notice for Publication.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE Oregon City, Oregon, November 18, 1889.

NOTICE is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 3, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the States of California Oregon, Nevada, and Washington Territory," Oliver H. Wilson, of Portland, County of Multnomah, State of Oregon, has this day filed in this office his sworn statement No. 1826, for the purchase of the NE ¼ of Section No. 26, in Township No. 2 South, Range No. 7 East, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before the Register and Receiver of this office at Oregon City, Oregon, on Friday the 28th day of March, 1890. He names as witnesses: L. C. Henrys, J. McCormick, and S. L. Berry, all of Portland, Multnomah county, Oregon; T. Geoffe of Albina, Multnomah County, Oregon.

Any and all persons claiming adversely the above described lands are requested to file their claims in this office on or before said 28th day of March, 1890.

J. T. APPERSON,
25-108—11-28-89. Register

TIMBER LAND, ACT JUNE 3, 1878.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE Oregon City, Oregon, November 9, 1889.

NOTICE is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 3, 1878, entitled "An act for the sale of timber lands in the States of California, Oregon, Nevada, and Washington Territory," William D. Pape of East Portland, County of Multnomah, State of Oregon, has this day filed in this office his sworn statement No. 1818, for the purchase of the S ½ of NW ¼ of Section No. 24, in Township No. 3 South, Range No. 8½ East, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before the Register and Receiver of this office at Oregon City, Or., on Thursday the 20th day of March, 1890. He names as witnesses: H. S. Campbell and A. W. Lewellyn and W. H. Mall of East Portland, Or.; Charles Cutting of Oregon city, Or.

Any and all persons claiming adversely the above described lands are requested to file their claims in this office on or before said 20th day of March, 1890.

J. T. APPERSON,
25-108—11-28-89. Register.

TIMBER LAND ACT, JUNE 3, 1878

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

UNITED STATES LAND OFFICE.

Oregon City, Oregon, November 4, 1889.

NOTICE is hereby given that in compliance with the provisions of the act of Congress of June 3, 1878, entitled, "An act for the sale of timber lands in the states of California, Oregon, Nevada and Washington Territory," William Stubloe of Portland, County of Multnomah, State of oregon has this day filed in this office his sworn statement No. 1830, for the purchase of the NW ¼ of Section No. 26, in Township No. 3 South, Range No. 3 East, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before the Register and Receiver of this office at Oregon City, Oregon, on Monday, the 28th day of March, 1890. He names as witnesses: Fredrich Bode of Portland, County of Multnomah, State of Oregon, has this day filed in this office his sworn statement No. 1795, for the purchase of the NW ¼ of Section No. 34, in Township No. 5 South, Range No. 3, East, and will offer proof to show that the land sought is more valuable for its timber or stone than for agricultural purposes, and to establish his claim to said land before the Register and Receiver of this office at Oregon City, Oregon, on Tuesday, the 11th day of March, 1890. He names as witnesses: Konrad Hohelsicher, Silver Bow, Washington Territory; John W. Watson and Ch. Vonbeuk of Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon; Seth Austin of Molalla, Clack