

DOOMED.

By WILLARD MacKENZIE

CHAPTER XX.—(Continued.)

"Come inside the cottage," he said, handing her in. "No one is here, I think. But how came you here?"

"I had lost my way; I knocked at the door, but no one answered; then I walked in, with the hope of finding some one to make inquiries of; and just at that moment I heard your footsteps, and then your voice. Oh, what a blessed sound that was in my ears!"

"You have been wandering about here in the hope of seeing me—of meeting me accidentally? Was it not so?"

"Yes," she again answered, slowly, after another pause.

"But where are you staying?" he asked suddenly. "Are you provided with lodging?"

"Oh, yes, at Bodmin; I have been there two days."

"But that is some distance from here. How can you get there to-night? There is no kind of conveyance to be procured."

"Oh, I can walk. Your father is ill. Is he not?" she asked, suddenly.

"He is—that is why I am here."

"What would he say did he know of our love? Would he sanction it? Would he receive me as his son's wife? He would not, and you know it!" she said, bitterly, and drawing away from him. "He would think his house disgraced by such a marriage. But were I a grand lady, and ugly as sin, and stupid as an owl, he would receive me with open arms!"

"You wrong my father, dearest—indeed you do! No man has a higher respect for beauty and intellect than he has," answered Arthur, mildly.

"Yes, as adjuncts to birth!" she cried, bitterly. "Oh, why did I ever seek this meeting? Why did I not leave you in peace, and fly from you and your love?"

"No, no! It shall not be! Help me to struggle against myself! Drive me from you—let me fly from you! Do anything to save yourself from ruin!"

Her wild, passionate voice told of the struggle that raged within. She prayed for the self-control she had never practiced, and it would not come. The self-indulgence that from a child had warped her soul rendered her incapable of self-denial. She loved Arthur Penrhuddyn according to her nature. It was a selfish love, but it was too powerful for her to wrestle with—to trample upon.

"Why is this?" she went on, yet more wildly. "Until I met you, I knew nothing of such struggles; I thought only of my own happiness; but now, apart from you, I have no happiness—no life! I am like one under a spell. Ah, that is it! That is it!" and she shuddered in every limb.

"It is," he answered gloomily. "We are each other's fate! Struggle as we will, we are in the toils—we must fulfill our destiny!"

"And you will make me your wife, and I shall one day be Lady Penrhuddyn?" she murmured.

"Anything to make you mine; for I cannot exist without you," he answered, in a low, passionate voice.

"And if poverty comes," she said, "we will have it together."

"Then the die is cast," he cried, "and only death shall part us!"

Again that long, low wail of the wind, as he had heard it in the gallery, and again he felt as though a supernatural presence were about him. And this time there mingled with the blast another sound—a strange, hoarse, rattling noise, and then a gasp, as from a human throat.

"What is that?" she whispered, clinging to him in mortal terror.

It was like the hoarse rattle in the throat of the dying. His hair bristled, and his flesh crept. Something was near them. What was it?

Arthur was determined to investigate the cause of these sounds. He remembered that he had a box of waxen matches in his pocket. He struck one, and by its light saw a lantern with a candle in it standing open upon a table. A puff of wind blew out his light; but he struck another, and succeeded this time in lighting the candle. Nothing was to be seen in the room in which they were. But this opened into the sleeping room, into which Arthur had never passed but once before; and that was on the night that, as a boy, he had seen a mother and child lying cold and motionless upon the bed. Into this room he now passed—she still clinging to him.

A cry of horror burst from her lips, and she fell senseless upon the ground, while Arthur stood transfixed. Huddled upon the bed, his limbs drawn up as if with pain, his face distorted with the agonies of death, was the old fisherman, John Trevelthick. He had been seized with a fit, and died with no one by to help him.

Death had been the witness of their betrothal, and the death rattle had mingled with their vows of love—their only satisfaction.

CHAPTER XXI.

Recovering from his first stupor of terror, Arthur extinguished the light, and, taking Mrs. Castleton in his arms, bore her out into the open air. What was to be done? It was impossible for her to reach Bodmin that night. If he went into the village, there were a hundred chances to one against his procuring a conveyance. But one resource was left open to him—a startling one, but inevitable—he must take her to the Castle. He could tell the servants that she was a lady to whom, finding it impossible to procure her any conveyance to Bodmin, he had offered the hospitality of the Castle. That would be sufficient.

The cold air and the drizzling rain, which now began to fall, in a few moments revived her from the swoon. She raised her head and stared wildly around. "What is this? Where am I?" she cried.

"You are safe, dearest; come away from this place—it is raining, and you will get cold." And he began to lead her away.

"Oh, I have had such a terrible dream!" she murmured. "I have seen such an awful dead face! Was it a

dream? Oh, no, no! It was in that but where you promised to make me your wife. What a place for love, with that awful dead face close to us! Death and love—love and death! Let there be an end of it. Even from the grave we are warned against our union. Where are you taking me to?"

He told her that she must rest in the Castle that night, as it was impossible for her to reach Bodmin.

"In the Castle?" she exclaimed.

"Yes, dearest; one day you shall rest there as its mistress, I hope."

There was nothing hopeful in his tone, however; his voice sounded hollow and dreary. The scene he had just witnessed had sunk deep into his soul; to him it was another link forged in the fatal chain that bound him.

Doubtless the servant thought it a strange circumstance that Mr. Arthur should so suddenly bring a strange lady into the Castle. He requested them to serve her with refreshments, and all that she required, and ordered apartments to be prepared for her in the opposite wing of the building to that in which his own were situated. He would have taken leave of her for the night, with such courteous distance as he would have shown to a stranger; but she was not to be put off thus; and her manner, as she bade him "Good night," made the servants stare, and, doubtless, talk when they got below.

This done, Arthur directed two of the servants to go down to John Trevelthick's cottage.

Mrs. Castleton sat before the fire that blazed cheerily upon the spacious hearth

of her great old-fashioned bedroom, calling up visions of future grandeur. At times, the awful dead face thrust itself in among them, but, with a shiver, she wrenched her thoughts from dwelling upon its hideousness. Once in bed, weariness overpowered her and she did not awaken until the sun was shining brightly through the latticed windows.

She sprang out of bed and looked out upon the glorious landscape of wood and field, hill and dale, and bright blue sea. That invigorating atmosphere, flooded with golden light, quickly dissipated the superstitious fancies of the night.

"Shall I renounce the chance of being the mistress of this for the sake of a mere superstitious fancy? Perhaps I shall not come to him a beggar!" she mused.

"But I will say nothing of my hopes of fortune; and at all events he will be proud of his wife's beauty!"—and she smiled at her image in the glass.

After breakfast, a servant brought her a message from Arthur, to ask if she could receive him.

"At once," was the reply. And five minutes afterwards he was holding her in his arms, and anxiously inquiring how she had rested.

"Oh, excellently!" was her reply. "But I fear that you cannot say as much."

He looked very worn and pale, as though he had not slept all night—which, indeed, he had not; but he did not tell her so.

He would have shown her through the Castle, but discretion prompted her to refuse. She did not wish Sir Launce to know anything of her presence there; it might lead to explanations—to a rupture. Better defer such until later. And further to avoid attention, she expressed her resolution to walk to Bodmin; and Arthur arranged to accompany her.

They parted about half a mile out of Bodmin.

"Do not let us be seen together any more," she said. She had more reasons than one for this caution. "I shall return to London to-morrow. Write and let me know when you are coming up."

"That will be as soon as my father is better," he answered.

"Till then, adieu, my love—my husband," she murmured, falling upon his neck.

And so they parted. Mrs. Castleton took her way to the principal hotel. "So late!" she muttered, looking up at the church clock as she passed. "I have only half an hour to spare before the time of my appointment. I would not have been late for that on any consideration."

In her sitting room was Mrs. Freeman, looking very worried and anxious.

"Good gracious, child, where have you been? I thought that something had happened to you!" she cried.

"Something has happened to me. Something that you could never guess. I have passed the night within the walls of Penrhuddyn Castle. But I cannot explain matters now. I expect an arrival every moment."

Ten minutes afterwards, a waiter announced that Mr. Jenkins, the postmaster at Penrhuddyn, was below and desired to see Mrs. Castleton.

She sat down in the darkest part of the room, and waited his coming, nervous and agitated. He was shown in, the door closed, and then she stepped into the light.

"Father," she said, "do you not know me?"

He started back at the sound of her voice with a look of intense surprise, which almost immediately changed to one of angry sternness.

"Is it you who have sent for me?" he said, harshly. "What do you want with me? Are you not ashamed to look me in the face?"

"I have sent for you to ask your forgiveness," she answered, humbly, in a soft, pleading voice, and with a piteous, tearful look in her melting eyes.

"My forgiveness can be of no use to you," he answered. "Our ways of life are separate—we can never again be anything but strangers to each other."

He was turning on his heel to go when she clutched him by the arm and, dropping upon her knees, held him fast. Her eyes were filled with tears, and her voice shook with genuine emotion.

"Do not go without hearing me," she cried, piteously. "I am not so bad as you imagine. Truly, I have forfeited all claims, not only to your love, but even to your forbearance, by the ungrateful return I have made for all your kindness to me."

"You have," he interrupted, sternly. "If you had been my own child I could not have been fonder of you than I was from the day I found you upon the sands, and carried you home with me. I was a childless, wifeless man—my home was a lonely one—and I thought a bright little prattler, like you were then, would be a joy and a comfort to me. The people about here say that the drowning brings a curse upon those who save them. I have found it true."

"I have been most ungrateful," she moaned. "I cannot find one word to excuse my conduct—you were only too good to me."

"Everybody could see your failings but me," he went on in the same tone; "but I was blinded, infatuated by your siren face and ways, and always had an excuse upon my lips and in my heart for your willful vanity. And you so twisted yourself about my heart that I had not even the courage to set any inquiries on foot about your friends, for fear I should lose you. I placed you with my niece, who kept a grand school in my native place, in Surrey. She, too, wrote me of your

disobedience and idleness, and of your vile temper; but I still went on hoping and believing that you would mend, and be a bright woman one day. But my dream was nearly at an end now. One morning I got a letter to say that you had run away from the school, and from that hour you never wrote me a line, but left the poor old dotting fool to break his heart, perhaps you thought."

"Oh, no, no!" she cried; "I am not all heartless. Many and many an hour I have sat and thought of you with an aching heart, of all your love and tenderness; and whenever a prayer passed my lips, it was for your happiness. I would have given the world to have written to you, to have implored your forgiveness, and I dared not. Not long after I left the school I was married to a gentleman of fortune. I am his widow. More than that, I am, probably, on the eve of coming into a fortune through my father's family; and when I have it, if there is anything I can do to add comfort to your—"

"Silence!" he interrupted sternly. "If I wanted bread, I would not accept a crust from you; but I want nothing—I have more than enough for my needs. Had you kept true to me, you would not have found yourself a beggar at my death. Perhaps you might have been as well off as you are now. Have you anything more to say before I go?"

(To be continued.)

Yankees Talk on Trains.
"You may travel 1,000 miles on a railway in Europe and never a man, whether English, French, German or what not, will open his mouth to speak to you if you are a stranger," said J. W. Pike, of Philadelphia.

"For a total freezeout I accord the palm to the English. Your true Briton regards any man who has nerve to speak to him without ever having been formally introduced as reeking with effrontery and therefore to be disdained and snubbed. I want to except from these a class of Englishmen who have been about the world a good bit. I've met a few of this sort who had knocked about the world and who were not suspicious of a stranger who addressed them that he had designs on their pocketbook.

Maybe in the course of time and the process of evolution we may get the same clam-like reserve over here in America, but I don't expect to see it in my lifetime, and I am glad to think whenever I enter a parlor car for a ride to San Francisco or Seattle that though I may not know a blessed man on that train when I enter ere 100 miles have been traversed I shall be talking with some good American whom I never saw before as though we had been friends and comrades from our earliest youth."—Washington Herald.

Zero.
Gunner—Is there an exclusive circle in this town?
Guy—I should say so. The members are as cold and distant as the north pole.

Gunner—Ah, it must be something of an arctic circle.

EVOLVES NEW PLAN

Harriman Will Voluntarily Surrender S. P. Stock.

HIS ROADS ARE COMPETITORS

Attorney General Is Advised That Competition Is Killed Between Mississippi and Pacific.

New York, July 13.—Wall street was agitated late yesterday by a rumor that the Interstate Commerce commission, which has been investigating the Harriman control of the Union and Southern Pacific, will make public its report within a day or two and that it will recommend a separation of the Southern Pacific and Union Pacific railroads on the ground that they are competing lines and that their operation as one system is against public policy and a direct violation of the Sherman law.

At the office of E. H. Harriman the statement was made that Mr. Harriman had no advance knowledge of the commission's recommendation and had received no intimation as to when it would be made public.

The Wall street story declared that the commissioners had unanimously advised the attorney general to begin an action to force Union Pacific to divest itself of all its Southern Pacific stock, of which it holds 900,000 shares. According to the report, so the story went, the two systems are in direct competition from the Mississippi valley to the Pacific coast and arbitrarily fix rates in restraint of trade. The commission believes, this story continues, that there is ample law to break up this combination.

It has been known for several months that Mr. Harriman expects that some attempt will be made to prevent the Union Pacific from holding the stocks of competing lines, and it is said that his lawyers have been at work upon a plan to enable the Union Pacific to divest itself of these securities voluntarily and thereby prevent long and expensive litigation, such as occurred in the Northern Securities fight. It is said that Mr. Harriman's plan is to form a holding company similar to the Railroad Securities company, which he organized several years ago to hold his Illinois Central stock. The legality of this company has never been attacked.

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HAYWOOD ON STAND.

President of Miners' Federation Denies All Evil Deeds.

Boise, Idaho, July 12.—Rapid progress was made yesterday in the Haywood case. The cross-examination of Charles H. Moyer was completed at one session of the court and in the afternoon the direct examination of W. D. Haywood, the defendant, was carried well along through his story.

Both men have made good witnesses. They were expected to deny everything said by Orchard that connected them with crimes and they are doing so consistently, but in the admissions both make the case of the state is receiving pronounced support. When Orchard confessed it was stated in a great many interviews by these and other men connected with the management of the Federation that he knew nothing about the affairs of the organization; that they had no knowledge of him, having met him, but having no real acquaintance with him. Now they are obliged to practically admit intimate acquaintance running over a long period. Again and again they admit the correctness of Orchard's statements respecting collateral matters and again and again they reflect their intimate acquaintance with him under his various aliases.

It was noticeable that Haywood was far more at ease on the stand than he was while Moyer was in the chair. During the entire examination of Moyer, Haywood was nervous, but when the latter took the stand he was more composed and showed less nervousness than had been displayed by his predecessor. The testimony given by Moyer was characterized throughout by purpose to protect himself. Again and again in answering questions as to criminal plans or acts charged to him and others, he qualified his answers with a phrase like this:

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