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The Canadian Post. LINDSAY, FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 1888. COUNTESS NARONA.

(Continued from last week) CHAPTER XXIII. Agnes stopped him there. "Why do I hear this morning that the countess and Mrs. James are one and the same person?" she asked indignantly.

"You forget that you had accepted the exchange of rooms before I reached Venice," Henry replied. "I felt strongly tempted to tell you, even then—but your sleeping arrangements for the night were all made; I should only have inconvenienced and alarmed you. I waited till the morning, after having written to my brother that you had yourself seen to your security from any intrusion. How that intrusion was accomplished it is impossible to say. I can only declare that the countess's presence by your bedside last night was no dream of yours. On her own authority I can testify that it was a reality."

"On her own authority?" Agnes repeated, eagerly. "Have you seen her this morning?" "I have seen her not ten minutes since."

"What was she doing?" "She was busily engaged in writing. I could not even get her to look at me until I thought of mentioning your name."

"She remembered me, of course?" "She remembered you with some tenderness. Finding that she wouldn't answer me on any other terms, I questioned her as if I had come direct from you. Then she spoke. She not only admitted that she had the same superstitious motive for placing you in that room, which she had acknowledged to Francis—even owned that she had been by your bedside, watching through the night, to see what you saw, as she expressed it. Hearing this, I tried to persuade her to tell me how she got into the room. Unhappily, her manly script on the table caught her eye, she returned to her writing. 'The baron wants money,' she said, 'I must get on with my pen. What she saw, or dreamed, while she was in your room last night, it is as impossible to discover. But, judging by my brother's account of her, as well as by what I remember of her myself, some recent influence has been at work which has produced a marked change in this wretched woman for the worse. Her mind is, in certain respects, unquestionably deranged. One proof of it is that she spoke to me of the baron as if he were still a living man. When Francis saw her, she declared that the baron was dead, which is the truth. The United States consul at Milan showed us the announcement of his death in an American newspaper. So far as I can see, such sense as she still possesses seems to be entirely absorbed in one absurd idea—the idea of writing to Francis to bring out to his theatre. He admits that he encouraged her to hope she might get money in this way. I think he did wrong. Don't you agree with me?"

"Without hesitating the question, Agnes rose abruptly from her seat, and said: 'Do me one more kindness, Henry,' she said. 'Take me to the countess at once.' Henry hesitated. 'Are you composed enough to see her, after the shock that you have suffered?' he asked. She trembled, the flash on her face died away, and she said faintly: 'You have heard of what I saw last night?' she said, faintly. 'Don't speak of it!' Henry interposed. 'Don't uselessly agitate yourself.' 'I must speak! My mind is full of horrid questions about it. I know I can't identify it—and yet I ask myself over and over again, in whose likeness did it appear? Was it in the likeness of Ferrarri or was it not? She stopped, shuddering, and the countess knows, I must see the countess! I must see her! Whether my courage fails me or not, I must make the attempt. Take me to her before I have time to feel afraid of it!" Henry looked at her anxiously. "If you are really sure of your own resolution," he said, "I agree with you. You remember how strangely she talked of your influence over her, when she forced her way into your room in London?" "I remember it perfectly. Why do you ask?" "For this reason. In the present state of her mind, I doubt if she will be much longer capable of realizing her wild idea of you as the avenging angel who is to bring her to a reckoning for her evil deeds. It may be well to try what your influence can do while she is still capable of feeling it."

ing me now? at last! How you enjoy to know me back, through the eyes of the past, to the secrets of the dead?"

"She turned again to the writing table, without waiting to be approved. Her opposition to the looking at her old self over more as she spoke. It was only for a moment. The old ardor and impetuosity were newly wrought. Her head sank; she signed heavily as she looked at a desk which stood on the table. Opening a drawer in the desk, she took out a letter, folded, covered with faded writing. Some words of address were visible, were still attached to the leaf, as if it had been torn out of a book.

"Can you read Italian?" she asked, handing the leaf to Agnes. Agnes answered silently by an inclination of the head. "The leaf," the countess proceeded, "once belonged to a book in the old library of the palace, while this building was still a palace. By whom it was torn out you have no need to know. For what purpose it was torn out you may discover for yourself, if you will. Read it first—at the fifth line from the top of the page."

Agnes felt the serious necessity of composing herself. "Give me a chair," she said to Henry, "and I will do my best." He placed himself behind her chair so that he could look over her shoulder and help her to understand the words on the leaf. Rendered into English, it ran as follows: "I have now completed my literary survey of the first floor of the palace. At the centre of my noble and gracious patron, the lord of this glorious edifice, I next ascend to the second floor, and continue my catalogue of description of the pictures, decorations, and other treasures of the period contained. Let me begin with the corner room at the western extremity of the palace, the statue which support the mantelpiece. This work is of comparatively recent execution; it is a bust of the English king, and it reveals the corrupt taste of the period in every part of it. Still, there is a certain interest which attaches to the mantelpiece; it conceals a cleverly constructed hiding place between the floor of the room and the ceiling of the room beneath, which was made during the last few days of the reign of King Charles, and which is reported to have saved an ancestor of my gracious lord pursued by that terrible tribunal. The machinery of this curious place of concealment has been kept in good order by the present lord, as a species of curiosity. He consented to show me the method of working it. Approaching the two Caryatides, rest your hand on the forehead (midway between the eyebrows) of the figure which is on your left as you stand opposite to the fireplace, then press the head inward as if you were pushing it against the wall behind. By doing this you set in motion the hidden machinery in the wall which turns the heartstone on a pivot and discloses the hollow place below. There is room enough in it for a man to lie easily as full length. The method of closing the cavity again is equally simple. Place both your hands on the top of the figure; pull as if you were pulling it toward you—and the heartstone will revolve into its proper position again."

"You need read no further," said the countess. "Be careful to remember what you have read." She pushed back the page of volume in her writing desk, looked it and led the way to the door. "Come!" she said, "and see what the mocking Frenchman called 'The beginning of the end.'"

Agnes was barely able to rise from her chair, she had fainted from head to foot. Henry caught her up in his arms, and she was nothing; he whispered: "I shall be with you in a moment." The countess proceeded along the westward corridor and stopped at the door numbered thirty-eight. This was the room which had been inhabited by Baron Rivar in the old days of the palace; the countess had lately moved over the bed chamber in which Agnes had passed the night. For the last two days it had been empty. The absence of luggage in it when they opened the door showed that it had not yet been let.

"You see," said the countess, pointing to the carved figure at the first place; "you know what to do. Have I deserved that you should tempt justice with mercy? He went on, in lower tones. "Give me a few more more to myself. The baron wants money—I must get on with my pen."

CHAPTER XXIV. Henry and Agnes were left alone in the room of the Caryatides. The person who had written the description of the palace—probably a poor author or artist—had correctly pointed out the defects of the countess. Bad taste, exhibiting itself on the most costly and splendid scale, was to be seen in every part of the work. It was, nevertheless, a very admirable piece of ignorant cleverness of all classes; partly on account of its imposing size, and partly on account of the number of variously colored marbles which the sculptor had contrived to introduce into his design. Photographs of the mantelpiece were exhibited in the public rooms, and found a ready sale among English and American visitors to the hotel.

LOCAL MATTERS. LINDSAY TOWN COUNCIL. ANNUAL MEETING—COMMUNICATIONS—RECOMMENDING BONUSES—LEGISLATIVE ACTION FOR THE TOWN.

The town fathers met in adjourned session on Thursday evening last, at eight o'clock, in the council chamber. Present: Mayor Walters, Rev. H. Walters, Deacons: B. Bryman and T. Williams, Councilors: Winters, Grandell, Connolly, McGilroy, Fisher, Brown and McAlpine. The minutes of the Lindsay board of health of 30th January last were read by the clerk.

COMMUNICATIONS. From J. C. Green, barrister, asking for removal of the water works, made when vote on post office site was taken.—Referred to finance committee. From E. G. Gassner, chairman of central railway committee, thanking council on behalf of committee for their recommendation passed at a previous meeting.

From Robt. Hunter, applying for the position of fire warden and sanitary inspector at salary of \$200 per annum. An account sent by Frank Tremblay to the board of health was referred to the finance committee. SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT. A report from H. Hughes, temporarily engaged as sanitary inspector by the chairman of the board of health, was read by the clerk and laid on the table.

A MATTER CONCERNING BONUSES. A communication was read from Mr. J. W. Bowley, chairman of a special committee of the municipal council, dealing with the question of taking a vote on municipal council the power of granting bonuses to manufacturers. LEGISLATIVE ACTION FOR THE TOWN. Mayor Walters made a verbal report to the council regarding a recent visit to Toronto in the interests of the town, and a resolution applied for by the town; and described the nature of the changes asked for.

FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT. The finance report, recommending payment of accounts, was read by the clerk. WINTERS in the chair. Mayor Walters, on motion of the report was adopted. MORE BY-LAWS. On motion of Coun. CONNOLLY, seconded by Coun. WINTERS, a resolution was passed, and passed by-laws to extend the time for the return of the collector's roll; to appoint a sanitary inspector; and to amend the by-laws relating to the collection of rates.

A NOTICE OF MOTION. Coun. WINTERS gave notice that he would at next regular meeting bring in a by-law to amend by-law No. 153. WHO SHALL "PAY THE PIPER." Moved by Coun. Grandell, seconded by Coun. McGilroy, that his worship the mayor and Messrs. Walters and Winters be a committee to interview the county council or memorialize the provincial government for such relief as may be deemed advisable in the matter of disbursements made by the corporation of Lindsay for one Hugh Graham, a patient sent from the north to the town while suffering from an attack of diphtheria.—Carried. The council then adjourned.

LINDSAY BOARD OF TRADE. Annual Meeting—President's Report—Council Minutes. The adjourned annual meeting of the Lindsay board of trade was held Thursday evening of last week. The president, Mr. John Dobson, occupied the chair and submitted the submitted report.

more in many other places, but in consequence, large quantities of such produce find a ready market here.

These farmers obtaining a supply of pure water for the inhabitants of this town, made as soon as possible, so as to be able to furnish the supply in abundance at a moderate expense.

Reports are prevalent that the mines within this county are rich in gold, silver, and other valuable metals, which would justify the investment of capital in their development. It is to be hoped that some of the gentlemen who are now engaged in the exploration of these mines will be able to furnish the public with reliable information on this matter.

The annual central fair for the County of Victoria being held in this town, should meet with the greatest success, and the inhabitants of Lindsay and the farmers of the surrounding townships, at this fair, will generally an excellent exhibition of the products of the soil and stock raising, and the progress of agriculture in this county. It is to be hoped that the fair will be a success, and that the public will be able to purchase the goods at a moderate price.

The Lindsay board of trade has been very cordially supported by the town council in every matter which concerned the public interest, and it is to be hoped that the council will continue to support the board in every matter which concerns the public interest.

Whereas the amount and quality of the ores already developed in the mines of the County of Victoria are such as to justify the investment of capital in their development, and the government is equitable in all such cases, as the development of mining or the smelting of metals will add to the value of the public domain; and

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WALL PAPERS. Here you have them. Every conceivable design, and prices to suit every pocket; all neat and most of them handsome, from 5c. as high as you wish to indulge.

SCHOOL BOOKS. Don't forget the fact that my shop is known as the School Book Emporium for Victoria County. All the standard books kept in stock at lowest prices.

G. A. METHERELL. Machine Oil. U.S.F. GOLDEN STAR MACHINE OILS. COPPERINE. FINEST IN THE LAND. ALONZO W. SPOONER, Manufacturer, Port Hope, Feb. 9th, 1888—23 Ann.

Miscellaneous. MEMORIAL CARDS.—A very choice set getting at The Post Printing Office. Call and see them.

DESIRABLE HOUSE FOR SALE. House, six rooms and kitchen, Frame quarter acre or ground, nice shade trees, on Lindsay street, near the railway. Possession 1st of April if desired. Apply to E. GLEASON, on the premises. Lindsay, Feb. 14th, 1888—31-4.

GILLETTE'S POWDERED SOAP. 99 PER CENT PUREST, STRONGEST, BEST. Ready for use in any quantity. For making Soap, Softening Water, Dishes, etc. Sold by all Grocers and Druggists. E. W. GILLETTE. - TORONTO.

THE LARGEST SCALE WORKS IN CANADA. OVER 100 STYLES OF HAY SCALES, GRAIN SCALES, FARM SCALES, TEA SCALES, IMPROVED SNOW CASES, MONEY DRAWERS, AND BUTTER SUPPLIES. Access in full. Write for terms. G. WILSON & SON, 53 ESPERANDE STREET EAST, TORONTO, ONT.

EXECUTORS NOTICE. Pursuant to the Revised Statutes of Ontario Cap. 107, as amended by Act of Victoria, Cap. 3, the creditors of WILLIAM COON, late of the Village of Nanaimo in the County of Victoria, are hereby notified to present their claims to the undersigned on or before the 2nd day of February, 1888, at or before the 16th day of March, A. D. 1888, to and sent prepaid to Messrs. BARRON & CAMPBELL of the Town of Lindsay in the County of Lincoln, Ontario, who are the executors of the said deceased, their Christian names and addresses, and the names of the full particulars of their claims and the nature of the securities (if any) held by them. The said executor shall after the said day of March, 1888, be at liberty to distribute the assets of the said deceased, and any part thereof among the parties entitled, without regard only to the claims of such creditors as may have been presented to him on or before the said day of March, 1888, or the time of the distribution thereof, or a part thereof, as the case may be, to any person whose claims such executor has not had notice of at the time of the distribution thereof, or a part thereof, as the case may be.

Castoria. Castoria cures Colic, Constipation, Sour Stomach, Diarrhoea, Eructation, Wind Worms, gives sleep, and promotes digestion. It is a safe and reliable medicine. W. L. CHAMBERLAIN, Proprietor, 221 No. Oxford St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

J. B. Weldon—Little Britain. GREAT BARGAINS. Having got settled down to business we are now prepared to give Bargains in Tweeds, Worsteds, Shirtings, Prints, Cottons, Cottonades, Table Cloths, Towellings, Ladies' Dress Goods, etc., etc.

The balance of our stock of READY-MADE CLOTHING and GANSEYS will be sold very cheap. Look out for our new stock of GENERAL DRY GOODS, Ladies', Gentlemen's and Children's SPRING HATS coming this week. CALL AND BE CONVINCED. J. B. WELDON, Little Britain, Feb. 9, 1888—23. LITTLE BRITAIN, James Keith.

THE KARN ORGAN. I have received the agency for Victoria county for the Celebrated Karn Organ, manufactured at Woodstock, Ont., received the only silver medal, highest award over all manufacturers, at the Dominion Exhibition, 1883, St. John, N.B. This was the last medal ever awarded Organs in the Dominion of Canada.

The Karn Organ also received the last medal awarded Organs at the Toronto Industrial Exhibition, Toronto, 1882. Those in want of a good Organ should call at my store and see for themselves. I intend to sell cheap, as I keep no men and horses on the road, therefore I don't want any profits on men and horses.

JAS. KEITH, SEED STORE, WILLIAM ST. Miscellaneous. THE OLD RELIABLE BRICK YARD.—Established 1870—I have now on hand in my yard at Cannington a choice quantity of BRICK which I will sell at the yard or deliver at the Cannington station or Woodville station. My brick for color and quality cannot be beaten. JOHN W. ALEXANDER, Cannington, Dec. 3, 1887—74-17.

ORGAN, PIANO, VOCAL MUSIC and Piano Tuning. MR. RICHARD HUMPHREYS, Organist of the Methodist Church, Lindsay, will give lessons for the Organ and Piano, and will tune and repair pianos at short notice. Residence: Wellington street, four doors east of Cambridge. Lindsay, Nov. 16, 1887—71-15.

300,000 Railway Ties, 300,000. The undersigned will pay cash for the above quantity of Ties delivered in lots on track of Midland Railway and on the Gull River and Burnt River waters. Ties to be Hemlock, Tamarack or Cedar; to be 6 in. thick, 7 in. least face and 8 feet long, and to be sawn square at both ends. They must be smoothly hewn and piled in good dumps so they can be inspected. Payments made every month. For prices enquire of F. TRADY, Kinmount, the Section Foreman, or JOS. E. GOULD, Uxbridge. Oct. 3, 1887—66-11.

E. Gregory. A YOUNG STALLION FOR SALE. The property of McEACHERY BROS. is a beautiful built horse of fine proportions. Color, dark bay. He will be three years old on May 11th. Kinmount, the Section Foreman, or JOS. E. GOULD, Uxbridge. Oct. 3, 1887—66-11.

NEW GOODS. Odor Cases, Toilet Sets, Fancy Thermometer, Manicure Sets, Smelling Bottles, Choice Perfumery, Covering Bottles, Library Lamps, Parlor Lamps. A Choice Assortment. Corner of Kent & William Sts., Lindsay. Lindsay, Nov. 30, 1887—78.