

Diamond Cut Diamond OR, THE ROUT OF THE ENEMY.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

Geoffrey had known no rest or peace until he could devise some excuse to take him up to town.

For a week after he had seen it he had gone about like a man in a dream thinking of nothing save the vision of that woman in her grief and her mourning garments; and the more he thought of her the more he was convinced that it was no stranger he had seen, no chance resemblance that had bewildered and deluded him, but that it was in very truth Rose de Brefour herself.

And yet, though his instinct told him that it was she, his reason revolted again and again from this conclusion. To begin with, what could have brought her here, within twenty miles of his home, the old house where she had once dwelt herself? Was she not living at Riverside, settled there finally with the old man who was, as she herself had told him, too broken and too infirm for it to be safe to risk moving him again?

It was impossible that she should have done so, devoted as she was to him with all the whole strength of an unselfish and noble nature. And then those mourning garments, that wretched husband dead at last, he thought, with a strange sick sinking at his heart, and was she, thus soon after his own marriage, free at last? Free to have loved him and belonged to him, free to have crowned his existence with that great blessing of her love, for one year of which he would have given up all his life, and which he had resigned at her bidding, as a thing which God Himself had set apart from him for her? The mere suggestion of such a possibility was sufficient to madden him with despair.

He felt that, at whatever cost, at whatever risk, he must seek her out and know the truth. It seemed next to impossible that she should have done so, devoted as she was to him with all the whole strength of an unselfish and noble nature. And then those mourning garments, that wretched husband dead at last, he thought, with a strange sick sinking at his heart, and was she, thus soon after his own marriage, free at last? Free to have loved him and belonged to him, free to have crowned his existence with that great blessing of her love, for one year of which he would have given up all his life, and which he had resigned at her bidding, as a thing which God Himself had set apart from him for her? The mere suggestion of such a possibility was sufficient to madden him with despair.

Nobody could tell him of a lonely white cottage, with a laurel hedge and iron railings in front of it, a desolate common. He could not give any information respecting the direction in which it lay, nor the roads which led towards it. The night had been so dark, the country so sootily strange, that he was unable to supply a single clue that could in any way lead to the cottage.

He went to town on a rainy evening, and indeed, more than once, full of hope and certainty upon journeys that turned out to be nothing but very wild-goose chases, and he even sacrificed several good rings in order to ride away by himself along roads that seemed to wind high-banked lanes along whose windings he had plodded so wearily upon that never-to-be-forgotten evening.

At last, after a frequent disappointment, he had a new idea come upon him. He would go to Riverside and find out if she was still there. Then if he found for his reason repeated to him must be the case, that she was living in the house where he had last seen her, then he should know that that other woman of whom he had so strange and mysterious a glimpse was but a stranger with whom he had no concern, or else one of those curious and unaccountable optical delusions of which once before of late he had had a slight experience, when he had found her in the gloaming sitting by the firelight in his own room.

And in that case Geoffrey came to a very wise and practical conclusion, that he would go and consult a London doctor before he came home again.

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parlour-maid, in a white cap and ribbons, came fluttering to the door at his summons.

"Does Madame Brefour live here?" "No, sir."

"Has she left, then?" "I suppose so, sir. She doesn't live here."

"Can you tell me her present address?" "I never heard of it, sir. My master and mistress's name is Clark. We came in last week. They've gone up to town to-day. Leastways, Mr. Clark always goes every day, having business in the City, and Mrs. Clark has gone up with him to-day."

"The family who lived here last have moved?" "No, sir. The house was vacant when we took it, all but the fixtures, which Mr. Clark took on as they were, and Mr. Clark he says he got 'em dirt cheap."

There was evidently nothing more to be got out of this young woman, save further information concerning her employers. Geoffrey dropped a shilling into her hand, and went sadly away, for he had caught a glimpse of the old garden through the open door, and of the leafless mulberry tree, beneath whose drooping branches the last scene of the drama of his love had perchance been played out.

And as he walked, a small ragged urchin, carrying a broom, ran after him from the opposite crossing, and, trotting alongside of him, touched the remnant of a dilapidated cloth cap, with a frequency which at last attracted his notice, and sent his fingers wandering into his waistcoat pocket for a copper.

"Please, sir; please, sir," the little bundle of rags kept on repeating. The penny had evidently failed to satisfy him, and the shrill childish voice kept on muttering a half-inaudible string of words all in a breath.

"Please, sir, if it's the furrin lady as you was askin' for—and Mr. Bates 'e do know her, next door the baker's sir."

Geoffrey heard it at last, and stood still to listen.

"It's the furrin lady as used to give me coppers, sir, as you was askin' for over there. And little Mike 'llast took his thumb over his shoulder with an expressive pantomimic action. "And Mr. Bates 'e do know, 'e do."

"Who is Mr. Bates, my little man?" "Mr. Bates is the undertaker, sir, what did the funeral—Geoffrey gasped. It was a beautiful funeral, sir. Two coaches besides the hearse, and such a lot of flowers all over the caudfin, and six gents as walked in scarves behind it with black kids on. Oh, my! but it were a sight, to be sure! And Mr. Bates managed the 'earse, and whose funeral it was. One of those two men no doubt it must have been to whom her life was bound; but which?"

He only said briefly: "Take me to Mr. Bates, my lad, and I'll show you a whole shilling for yourself," and Mike, grinning from ear to ear, led the way.

Mr. Bates, honest agent as well as undertaker, to the town of Riverside, resided, as Mike had intimated, next door to the baker's in the High Street. He was a little old gentleman with white whiskers, and a subdued and confidential manner, such as might be supposed to be in harmony with the graver portion of his melancholy trade. In a few words he was able to supply all the information that Geoffrey desired. It was the old Count de Brefour who was dead; a sudden shock, consequent upon the unexpected reappearance of a son supposed to have been long dead, had been, so Mr. Bates believed, the immediate cause of death. Whether he had understood from the doctor in attendance at the time of the melancholy event that the old gentleman had been in a falling state for months back, then Mr. Bates, too, remarked, as little Mike had done, and with an air of modest pride, that although "he said it as shouldn't as the saying goes, yet he must own that it had been a beautiful funeral, so simple, and yet 'andsome, you know, and fitted the poor gentleman's rank."

That funeral did the great credit, sir," added Mr. Bates, with a complacent smile.

After "the last sad scene," as Mr. Bates called it, with the friction of a sigh, was over, he furthermore told his visitor that Madame de Brefour had instructed him to let the house, as she meant to leave at once, having seen the advertisement of a cottage in the country, somewhere in the West, he thought it was that she thought would suit her. She had turned out of the house in Longway Road almost immediately, and Mr. Bates had been fortunate enough to secure a desirable tenancy within the following fortnight. Mr. Bates could not say where Madame de Brefour was now, as she had left no address—it was somewhere in the country.

With this vague information Geoffrey was forced to be content. And in one way it was sufficient for his purpose. It left no doubt upon his mind that it was Rose de Brefour whom he had seen. There was nothing new for him to do but to go back to Hillshire and look for her there once more. And yet he doubted whether he could do so. Rose living with her old father-in-law was accessible to him still, but Rose once more under the protection of a husband, had presumably resumed his rights over his wife, was in a position which every dictate of honour and prudence forbade him to meddle with. He owned to himself sorrowfully and sadly that to seek her out would be unmanly and cruel, and that, both for her sake and for his own, it were better that they should never meet again on earth.

Yet his heart bled for her. The abandonment of her grief, which he had unwittingly witnessed, was no more than it would be natural for her to feel at the loss of what was not only the one human creature upon earth that had been left to her love, but also the one sacred and holy thing

DOMINION PARLIAMENT.

What the Legislators of the Country are Doing at Ottawa.

IN COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY.

The House proceeded into Committee of Supply, taking up the marine supplementaries for the current year. Sir Louis Davies set himself right in connection with an attack which had been directed against the prices of supplies to his department. The fact seems to have been that the items had been misstated in the auditor-general's report. In one place a pair of shears for cutting sheet iron was set down as a "pair of scissors." In another place bricks were interpreted as meaning fire bricks. Sir Louis Davies had been bitterly attacked for this purchase of a bucket at \$1.80. This turned out, however, to be a bucket of pickles.

On an item of 30,992 for rents, repairs, furnitures, heating, ventilation and lighting of the Dominion public buildings at Ottawa, the Opposition pressed full information as to the expenses of electric lighting throughout the buildings. The information was forthcoming that the Ottawa Electric Light Company charges \$2.25 per light, up to 3,600 lamps, and \$2 on the next 3,600 lights. Six thousand lamps are in use altogether. The Opposition thought that there were a great many more lights in the building than are being used. The chamber itself is lighted by nine hundred ten candle-power lamps, which represents six hundred and sixteen candle power.

The Minister of Finance thought that the various rates being charged to the Ottawa Electric Light Company were a great deal more than he had been renewed and is now in its second year. The item finally passed.

Lieut.-Colonel Tyrwhitt asked whether the Minister of Militia had adopted a policy of annual training. The Minister of Militia replied that he certainly favored annual drill, and that the policy had been followed to a great extent since he had taken office. This training should be made annual one to get the full benefit of the money expended.

In reply to a question by Mr. Bergeron, the Solicitor-General stated that the cost of the commission to investigate matters appertaining to St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary had been \$18,076. Being asked whether the services of convicts were availed of in these institutions to make repairs, etc., the Solicitor-General replied that it had been found a very unprofitable method of doing so. Before the destruction of the stone required for a new wall.

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ALASKAN BOUNDARY AND PACIFIC CABLE. Sir Charles Tupper requested that the government inform the House as to the present condition of negotiations in connection with the Alaskan boundary and the Pacific cable.

The Prime Minister's reply was to the effect that the question of establishing a temporary boundary on the Alaskan trail, is still in course of negotiation. The matter of establishing a permanent boundary stood just where it stood when the last statement concerning it was given to the House.

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Mr. Tarte, Minister of Public Works, replied in justification of the course which he had pursued, and frankly stated that what he had done he had done in the public interests. The cases referred to were of a nature that he had found it impossible to call for tenders. In the case of the dredging work it was

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SIZE INDICATES NOTHING.

QUALITY OF BRAIN COUNTS MORE THAN QUANTITY.

A Half-Whited Newboy Had the Largest Known Comparison Between the Gray Matter of the World's Best Men and His Worst.

The size of a man's head is no more index of his brain capacity than the case of a watch is of the quality of the works it contains.

As a matter of fact, many of our cleverest men, whose names are part of history, have had brains smaller than those of thousands of criminals and imbeciles. Take, for example, the busy and fertile brain of Gambetta; its weight was only a little over 42 ounces, or just half the weight of the brain of an imbecile newboy, who recently died in London.

Cuvier, the famous paleontologist, had the heaviest brain among great men of which there is any record; and yet Cuvier's brain, although it weighed 64 1-2 ounces, or about 12 ounces more than the average brain, weighed more than 13 ounces less than the brain of a deformed and almost imbecile Hindoo woman.

Of the inmates of our asylums one man in ten has a brain several ounces heavier than that of the average man of intellect, who in turn boasts more brain tissue than such intellectual giants as Bacon, Lord Byron and Daniel Webster.

SOME STRIKING COMPARISONS. Dr. Joseph Simons, who has made a special study of comparative brain weights, says that the average brain of 69 famous men weighed less than the average brain of men generally, and that the 10 heaviest brains of the men of genius averaged more than nine ounces less in weight than the brains of 10 idiots and criminals of the 60 selected for comparison.

In points of comparative weight the world's brain record stands thus: 1. The London newboy, with a brain of 2,400 grammes; 2. Russian, and ignorant Scandinavian peasant, 2,340 grammes; 3. A dwarf Hindoo woman, 2,240 grammes; 4. Cuvier, the largest-brained of famous men, with a brain of 1,800 grammes.

The average negro brain weighs 44 1-2 ounces, or 2 1-2 ounces more than Gambetta could boast, and the gorilla, the orangoutang and chimpanzee have brains of 11 ounces to 15 ounces.

Nothing seems clearer from these figures and facts than that the size of a man's main is no index to his intellectual capacity.

Dr. G. Gilbert, poultry expert at the Experimental farm, delivered an interesting address before the Agricultural Committee on the development of the poultry trade. He contrasted the winter laying of old hens and pullets. The latter laid the most eggs, but the product of the former were larger. Fattening experiments showed the great superiority of thoroughbred Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes and Brahmas over scrub flocks. Mr. Gilbert gave some interesting details of experiments in artificial incubation. His testimony when published cannot fail to be of great benefit to the farming community.

NOT A TRADE MARK. The bill to legalize the union label as a trade mark was shelved by the Senate Banking Committee. Mr. D. A. Bruce, according to English precedent the bill should become law.

Mr. Josias B. Jackson, Federal Registrar of copyrights and trade marks, and the leading authority on the subject in Canada, was present by invitation and asked to address the committee. He held that the union label could not be construed to be a trade mark, as it lacked the essential qualifications. He claimed that the labour organizations, not being manufacturing concerns, could not attach the union label to their product as a trade mark. The union label could not be classified as a trade mark. He advised the committee that any counterfeiting of the union label was an offence under the common law, and a person guilty of counterfeiting could be proceeded against.

Mr. Creighton, law clerk of the Senate, who had been asked at the previous meeting to report on the legal aspect of the question, said the English statutes did not contain any legislation such as was asked for in Canada.

SEEKING QUIET. Mrs. Billtops knows where she would like to go this summer. "Ezra," said Mrs. Billtops, "are anti-sanitarium quiet?" "Well, I guess, Elizabeth," said Mr. Billtops, "that that depends a good deal on the sanitarium; some are quiet and some are not."

"Well, Ezra," said Mrs. Billtops, "if you can find some quiet sanitarium where I can go this summer I want to go there instead of to the seashore."

And this was all on account of the children. The hour was 8:30 p.m., and the smaller children had just gone to bed after a day of unbroken and unflagging uproar and activity. The noise of a planing mill would have been as the buzzing of a bee in a summer garden compared with the noise the children had been making all day long. The silence fell now, cool and grateful, after the turmoil of the day, but the reaction had left Mrs. Billtops a little limp.

"I know it, Elizabeth," Mr. Billtops said, "I know it, and I wouldn't object to a little quiet myself now and then. I should like it if we could have quiet in the house after dinner; if I could smoke my cigar in peace and tranquility; but somehow the meal that makes me calmly happy seems to be the children with boisterousness and to make them noisier than at any other part of the day. Am I right, Elizabeth?"

"You are," said Mrs. Billtops, "but I hear it all day long."

"I know it, Elizabeth," Mr. Billtops said, "I know it, and I have never heard you speak of it before, I don't see how you can possibly stand it, and I'll look up some good quiet sanitarium, sure."

As they settled down on either side of the table to read, very comfortable, both, and both thankful in their hearts for the children who had been given to them, and who were now sleeping quietly.

REVIVAL OF THE LACE SHAWL. Stored in the cedar chest have an old-fashioned, square, Chantilly lace shawl, such as your grandmother wore about fifty years ago, when she dressed in her Sunday best? If you have, hasten to get it out, take it to your modist and use it for one of your Sunday best gowns this summer.

This exquisite old style of lace, with its delicate tracery of vines and flowers, is now the piece de resistance in the modish woman's wardrobe. It may be made over white, and then it is most effective, or it may be used over one of the most fashionable shades of blue, green, violet or rose.

Ill-luck is, in nine cases out of ten, the result of saying pleasure first and duty second, instead of duty first and pleasure second.—T. T. Munger.

About the DOING THE The adage that... Life is so much to be... in space of time... barred housewife... call "a lick and... tion of economic... work is as facil... pay Paul. It is... generally so, but... and often with... that was only... will look more... of the fluff and... and the deposit... of the chair, an... will have to be... the time spent... the impulsive... der from the m... ing off the poli... really time thro... the price of r... neglect must be... So with the uti... tily mended la... much less tim... sides of the rem... used up in layi... stuff under the... darning down... first time that... weak spot—rip... and the last end... than the first... perience, you p... who will give b... time spent last... work? They are... wasted as if you... hands while the... away. Indeed, t... have been a ke... the careless wh... have meant less... fore gain, while... burry, nervous... It is time the... ed the great t... nerves are too... in performing... naught. "Suppo... off" as much w... what difference... you have done... oughly and con... done all that is... do well is bett... much. Mrs. Prentiss... once made up y... of God, never to... many things, b... calmly, quietly... flurry, and the... self-growing ne... of breath, woul... sense, rule del... prayers or res... "Ah!" some o... one could do th... in many things... no time to do... oughly!" Are they all... hosts of things... in the garb of... to learn to do... which are not... sweet Leslie G... experience, "m... Let them be... ought to do. T... The problem to... and you know y... both hands eac... determination... him, the flurry... pear, and the... name. Work accept... necessity of... nervously burr... half-performed... dred-and-one o... and conscienc... tion of God, th... hand by Him, a... and do it so f... finished, he sa... The task the... twice. Complete s... including curts... spreads, and p... olive green an... with designs in... usually work... of bias white... sprawling bow... and outlines of... finished with... Other sets are... tones, chintz... Hand-made co... are taking the... of spreads. Th... with an air... with drawn bot... worker has per... permit. Border... may be insert... case, care shou... thread of the... that of the li... lined with silk... very artistic, m... using a thread... cord, and follo... like a wreath... a spray of fl... set. It may be... ribbons that c... work, if one li... cord, and is m... favorite flower... cover, and one... expressed. In making c... wicker furnitu...