

A SKELETON IN THE CLOSET.

BRANDON COYLE: ARE YOU MAD? She had stolen up behind him noiselessly. She had snatched the loaded pistol from his desperate hand and was about to open the door to the bay window. And not one instant too soon to save him from the one instant of self-destruction.

He whirled around upon her, and they stood facing each other with eyes flaming defiance. How like, yet unlike, were these fierce, beautiful creatures—twin sister and brother.

She, with her slender, well-rounded, lissom form; with her small, fine features and clear, deadly-pale yellow face, darkened by great, deep, hollow black eyes; the whole overshadowed by heavy, lustrous auburn curls.

He, somewhat taller, fuller, and more supple, like another human snake, of a little larger growth, with a paler complexion, darker eyes, and darker hair.

They were the orphan niece and nephew of Christopher Coyle, Esquire, an old bachelor living on his own paternal estate of Cleveland in the north of England.

Now they stood glaring at each other a full minute in silent menace. Then both spoke at once: "Aspirita!"

"Brandon!" "How dared you raise your hand against your own life?" "I dare do what I please," he answered, sulkily.

"So do I—except—except to rush from the death from the known to the unknown!" she retorted solemnly. "There can be no more perfect perdition than I suffer now! Why did you stop me?" he cried, with a groan of anguish.

"Because I would not have you destroy yourself for the sake of a Jewish girl, Cousin Brandon. Rouse yourself! Do be a man!" she exclaimed. "I cannot live without Arielle!" he wailed.

"What a mooncalf you are to be crying after a girl! If you cannot live without her, why don't you live with her?" scornfully demanded the girl. "Live with her?" You know she is to be married to Valdimir Desparde tomorrow," replied the young man, impatiently.

"She is to be married to-morrow; but this is her day; and there's many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip—but provokes are vulgar, and you know what I mean." "I do not!"

"You must stop the marriage, Brandon!" "Stop the marriage? I wish I could! Stop the marriage! How am I to do that, I pray you?"

"Hush, Brandon! Come and sit down here on the sofa by me, and tell me what you do to win the bride for yourself, much as she is now devoted to her affianced lover," whispered the girl.

The suicidal phrenzy in him was laid for the moment, even though it might return. "Now attend to me, Brandon. Before he became your successful rival in the favor of Lady Arielle Montjole, Valdimir Desparde was your most intimate friend, and he is not?" inquired Aspirita.

"Of course he was," exclaimed Brandon, frowning his teeth. "You were in his entire confidence?" "Yes."

"You have often heard him regret, deplore, the unfathomable mystery that hangs over his own and his sister's childhood?" "Oh, to be sure. Haven't I told you so often enough?"

"And he never resents his guardian's (Lord Beauveure's) reticence on this subject?" "Yes, yes; but what has all this to do with the question of this detestable marriage?" exclaimed Aspirita impatiently.

"What do you mean, Aspirita?" "I will explain presently. But go on and tell me all Valdimir Desparde has told you of his early life, Brandon."

"Let me think. Oh! He remembers living with his mother and his sister in very poor conditions, in a narrow street of a great city, whose name he has forgotten, even if he ever learned it."

"Was it in this country?" "No, for he crossed water to come here." "In France, then?" "No, for they were English-speaking people who inhabited the city, and they had black servants. He thinks it may have been New York or New Orleans, or some other American city."

"New Orleans probably, if they had many blacks. But go on, and tell me the name of the city, and even of the country, is lost to him in the morning mist of his dawn of memory."

"There was something concerning his father, the elder Valdimir Desparde, whom, I have seen again. She used to cry over him and his sister, and pray to the Lord to take them out of this world and save them from the evil to come."

"Ah!" gasped Aspirita, as she listened to the words of this little story. "At length the mother took to her bed, from which she never arose again. One day a minister came and sat by the bed and wrote a letter for her, which was sent away. After that she grew weaker. Another day a gentleman arrived, and she afterwards declared to be Lord Beauveure."

tion would have been treated with contempt. Then Aspirita is the heir of the Barony of Beauveure, but she must be so through her mother, for he cannot be so through his father, since the name of Desparde is not to be found in the Beauveure genealogy," said Aspirita, sententiously.

"It is probably through his mother, whoever she was, since Beauveure is one of those hereditary falling male heirs, descended to the female. But I know nothing about it," replied Brandon testily. "Do you know that he really is the heir?"

"Yes, because it is so set down in the Peerage. Under the tabular list of names, sent me, with their titles and names, sent me, under the heading of this entry: 'Beauveure, Baron; Family name, Beauve; Seat, Clondland, in—shire; Heir-Presumptive, Valdimir Desparde, Esq.'"

"Ah! Just now you alluded to this young man's father as Valdimir Desparde the elder. So that he now bears the exact name of his father?" "Yes, the exact name of his father."

"He knows that, does he?" "Yes, he knows that; but that is absolutely all that he does know of his father."

"Then we will try to enlighten him," exclaimed Aspirita, with a blaze of malignity from her big black eyes. "You do not know something, then?" cried Brandon, starting.

"Yes, I do. I know that Lord Beauveure is merciful in leaving Valdimir Desparde in his ignorance, and that he would have been more merciful to have left him in obscurity," said Aspirita, solemnly.

"Sister! What do you mean? What discovery have you made?" exclaimed Brandon, in great excitement. "One that I intend you to reveal to Valdimir Desparde. And when he shall have done so, should he then release Lady Arielle from her engagement to him, and he will fly to the uttermost parts of the earth rather than wed with her?"

"What is this discovery? Explain your self!" impatiently demanded Brandon. "Aspirita put her hand in her pocket and drew forth a folded newspaper, yellow and faded with age, and so worn all around its edges that it threatened to fall to pieces on being opened."

"What is that?" demanded Brandon, reaching forth his hand. "Don't touch it yet. It is the New Orleans Courier of sixteen years ago. Uncle then sent me up some documents which he described to me. That was this morning, while the billiard was here. Well, I went up to his secretary in the library and unlocked the upper drawer, but had not time to pull it out. When I did, it fell to the floor, and I pulled it too far, and it fell to a crash."

"For Heaven's sake, get on!" impatiently exclaimed Brandon. "And the jar, or something, touched or started the spring of a secret space at the back of the drawer that now opens, and this paper tumbled out. There was nothing else in the hiding-place but this paper. Oh! you will call it fate—it falling into my possession in this way!"

The young man eagerly seized the paper. He looked at the lines and indicated until his eyes grew pale and his chin fell—against his horror! "Oh, this is terrible! terrible!" he exclaimed, when at last he could speak for emotion.

"What is so terrible in your eyes that mad it be his?" whispered Aspirita. "The worst, indeed! Oh, this is worse than the worst that could be imagined!" he muttered.

"He—Valdimir Desparde—ought not to be permitted to marry Lady Arielle Montjole," whispered Aspirita. "Ought not? He must not and shall not! Oh! that Lord Beauveure could have known this and kept it concealed!" bitterly exclaimed Brandon.

"He did it in mercy to Valdimir and Vivienne!" "But what sort of mercy, or even justice, has he shown in his dealings with Lord and Lady Altouffe and Lady Arielle Montjole?"

"Perhaps he thought this secret would never come out to injure them. But he was not so fortunate. He thought it would be light just in time to save the young lady from ruin and her family from dishonor. I will take this paper to the Earl of Altouffe this morning and lay the case before him!"

"No, no! Do not do that!" "Why not?" "Because, if you do, the Earl will stop the marriage for Lady Arielle's sake, and then all Lady Arielle's sympathies will be with her betrothed lover, and she will remain faithful to him, and perhaps—even clope with him!"

"That is true! What, then, would you advise me to do?" "Take it to Valdimir Desparde! Remind him of his oft-expressed desire to penetrate the mystery of his own early life, and of his constant wonder at his guardian's reserve on the subject. Then tell him that you have accidentally discovered the secret, and you feel in honor bound to reveal it to him. Then show him the paper."

"Oh, Asp! Asp! what a serpent you are!" exclaimed Brandon, half in admiration, half in dread. "Stay," she murmured. "I hope that Valdimir does not suspect that you ever revealed to the land of Arielle?"

"No. He has not that master of triumph over me. It was while he was on his 'grand tour' that I made a fool of myself, and I have not seen him since her rejection of my suit."

"And she has never told her betrothed of your offer, you presume?" "Who? Arielle? Arielle another of her conquest of one man to another man? I have heard of women who do such things, but Arielle—never!"

"I would be better. Then your way is clear, do you see? You are to tell him of the strength of your old national affection, and tell him, with as much seeming hesitation and delicate sympathy as you can assume, of the discovery you have just made, and of the uncompromising sense of duty that constrains you to communicate it to him. He will by the country I leave he will, but he will come to bid me good-bye first; I know that, too. And then if I do not secure a treaty of consoling and ease my name is left Aspirita Coyle!"

"Oh, Asp! Asp! So this is your game, is it?" "That is my game, as you call it, Brandon. You thought I had your happiness only in view? Pooh, pooh, brother! We are egotists all. You love the hide-elect. I like the bridegroom expectant. We work together for our mutual interest. Behold all this!"

"But, Aspirita, would you marry a man who did not think himself good enough for Lady Arielle Montjole? A man in his exceptional circumstances?" inquired Brandon, while Lord Beauveure stood, with Vivienne in his arms and Valdimir by his side, promising to give the best of references. "I am Aspirita Coyle, the orphan, dependent on my bachelor uncle, whose estates will all go to you. Besides, I love him," added the bold beauty, without a woman's hesitation.

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light of triumph dilating her dark eyes until they seemed the mouths of caverns leading down to the abyss of her darker soul, as she muttered to herself: "Now, Valdimir Desparde, you shall be able to work an angle. The above-mentioned publication of this story will be found only in the N. Y. Ledger. Ask for the number dated August 17th, which can now be had at any news office or bookstore. If you are not in reach of a news office, you can have the Ledger mailed to you for one year by sending the dollar to Robert Bonner, publisher, 180 William Street, New York."

A WIFE'S REZERT.—The Indianapolis News of Thursday says: "In one of our Indiana towns a lady remarked to a female friend, with perfect nonchalance, 'I am sorry my husband's creation did not accept his first offer of matrimony, but I have cleared eighteen thousand dollars!' No wonder our business-men look upon the present law as a premium on a man playing the rascal."

"They [the Greenbackers] would substitute the rick-packer for the miner, the paper-mill for the assayer's office, and the printing press for the circulation by being paid as usual to all poor men and women who work on public jobs. The currency thus supplied must, in their view, become the revivifier of life-blood of transmutation, that is to pick up drowning industries, and restore to health no more of compulsory idleness, no more hard times, no more scarcity of money. Paper money is to become the solace of all existing woes and ills, and all private and public malady."—New Orleans Picayune.

Just before the public schools in New Haven closed for the vacation a lady teacher in one of the departments gave out the following for her class to spell. After it was spelled, as was her custom; she asked the meaning of it. No one knew. The teacher then told the class she had one, and was the only person in the room who did. It is a little while ago, and is so sufficient to cover the names of the children provided for by said decree: "What is that?" demanded Brandon, reaching forth his hand.

"Don't touch it yet. It is the New Orleans Courier of sixteen years ago. Uncle then sent me up some documents which he described to me. That was this morning, while the billiard was here. Well, I went up to his secretary in the library and unlocked the upper drawer, but had not time to pull it out. When I did, it fell to the floor, and I pulled it too far, and it fell to a crash."

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large bankrupt stock of FRESH AND SEASONABLE GOODS at 232 Broadway, N. Y. The sale will be held on the 10th inst. at 10 o'clock A. M. and will continue until the 15th inst. at 10 o'clock P. M. The whole is disposed of, and will be sold in the afternoon of the 10th inst. at 10 o'clock A. M. and will continue until the 15th inst. at 10 o'clock P. M. The whole is disposed of, and will be sold in the afternoon of the 10th inst. at 10 o'clock A. M. and will continue until the 15th inst. at 10 o'clock P. M.

WEDNESDAY, 7th inst. instant, a full line of the best BLACK AND COLORED SILKS, CASHMERE, AND FINE BLEND GOODS, in the market, for sale at a low price, at the store of J. B. COOK, No. 22 West Marshall Street, New York, 7th inst.

AT AUCTION.—Four HOGS, taken up by the street police, will be sold at auction on TUESDAY MORNING, at 10 o'clock, at No. 22 West Marshall Street, JOHN POE, JR., No. 6-11, Chief of Police.

SALE OF SALT-SULPHUR SPRINGS OF MONROE COUNTY, WEST VA. By virtue of several decrees, rendered by the United States District Court for the District of West Virginia, held at Charleston in the month of May, 1877, in the case of the heirs of the late William Ewing, dec'd, and others, against the undersigned, special commissioners, who were appointed to sell the public lands and the highest bidder.

ON THE 6TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1878, at the White Sulphur Springs, in Greenbrier county, West Va., that valuable WATERING PLACE known as the SALT-SULPHUR SPRINGS, containing about SIX HUNDRED AND FIFTY ACRES OF LAND, with the BUILDINGS, HOTELS, OUT-HOUSES, SPRINGS, &c.

connected therewith. Under the requirements of said decrees, the property will be first sold to exclude from said offer 200 acres of the same, and two tracts containing 200 acres each, and a tract of 100 acres, in the rear of the same, and the balance of the property, to the highest bidder, on MONDAY, September 12th, at 12 M. in the Court House of the County of Hancock, lower part of Richmond city, the following-mentioned parcels of land, to-wit: 1. A TRACT OF LAND adjoining the lands of the late J. B. COOK, and containing 100 acres, more or less, in the County of Hancock, lower part of Richmond city, the following-mentioned parcels of land, to-wit: 2. A TRACT OF LAND adjoining the lands of the late J. B. COOK, and containing 100 acres, more or less, in the County of Hancock, lower part of Richmond city, the following-mentioned parcels of land, to-wit: 3. A TRACT OF LAND adjoining the lands of the late J. B. COOK, and containing 100 acres, more or less, in the County of Hancock, lower part of Richmond city, the following-mentioned parcels of land, to-wit: 4. A TRACT OF LAND adjoining the lands of the late J. B. COOK, and containing 100 acres, more or less, in the County of Hancock, lower part of Richmond city, the following-mentioned parcels of land, to-wit: 5. A LOT OF LAND adjoining the north-west corner of the late J. B. COOK, containing 50 ACRES, more or less.

THE TERMS OF SALE are: Twenty per cent. of the purchase money to be paid in cash on the day of sale, and the balance in three equal installments, to-wit: one-third on the day of sale, one-third on the 1st day of October, and one-third on the 1st day of January, next. Bond and security required for the deferred payments. A man of the property will be exhibited at the sale. The improvements upon this property are of the most durable character, and are capable of accommodating a large number of persons. The property has always had a high reputation as a watering place, both on account of its location and its value as a watering place. It is situated on the banks of the Kanawha River, and is one of the most beautiful spots in the State. It is well adapted for a large number of persons, and is one of the most desirable places in the State for a summer residence. The improvements upon this property are of the most durable character, and are capable of accommodating a large number of persons. The property has always had a high reputation as a watering place, both on account of its location and its value as a watering place. It is situated on the banks of the Kanawha River, and is one of the most beautiful spots in the State. It is well adapted for a large number of persons, and is one of the most desirable places in the State for a summer residence.

FOR RENT.—\$8 TO \$50 PER MONTH. 507 West Grace Street (new brick), 12 rooms. Chinese restaurant, 8 rooms. 218 West Sixth Street (new brick), 8 rooms. 201 West Grace Street (new brick), 8 rooms. 914 West Sixth Street (large yard), 8 rooms. 112 West Fifth Street (new brick), 8 rooms. 726 West Sixth Street (new brick), 8 rooms. 416 West Marshall Street (new brick), 6 rooms. 1214 West Clay Street (new brick), 6 rooms. 41 West Third Street (new brick), 6 rooms. 41 West Third Street (new brick), 6 rooms. 201 West Cherry Street (new brick), 5 rooms. 201 West Cherry Street (new brick), 5 rooms. SMALLER HOUSES, from 2 to 5 rooms in other localities. Real Estate Agent and Auctioneer, J. B. COOK, No. 22 West Marshall Street, New York, 6-11.

FOR RENT, THREE DESIRABLE ROOMS at 213 East Main Street.

FOR RENT, THE VERY DESIRABLE STORE AND DWELLING, No. 623 Broadway Street. It is situated on one of the best squares in the city, and is well adapted for a store or for a dwelling. For particulars apply to WILLIAM H. ADAMS, No. 623 Broadway Street, New York, 6-11.

FOR RENT, THAT DESIRABLE STORE AND DWELLING, No. 623 Broadway Street. It is situated on one of the best squares in the city, and is well adapted for a store or for a dwelling. For particulars apply to WILLIAM H. ADAMS, No. 623 Broadway Street, New York, 6-11.

LOST, STRAYED, AND FOUND. LOST, on SATURDAY EVENING, between 12 and 1 o'clock, a pair of black and white saddle-bags, containing a pocket-book, a watch, and other valuables. The owner will be glad to reward any person who will bring them back to him. Address, J. B. COOK, No. 22 West Marshall Street, New York, 6-11.

PRINTING-HOUSES. DISPATCH PRINTING-HOUSE. GOOD WORK. LOW PRICES. Having one of the LARGEST AND BEST-EQUIPPED JOB OFFICES IN THE SOUTH, combined with skillful mechanical talent, we are prepared to execute promptly in the very best style and AT LOW PRICES, every description of BOOK AND JOB PRINTING.

BUSINESS-CARDS, VISITING-CARDS, PROFESSIONAL-CARDS, WEDDING-CARDS, CIRCULARS, MANIFESTS, BILLS LADING, RECEIPTS, BILL-HEADS, LETTER-HEADS, NOTE-HEADS, ACCOUNTS SALE, NOTICES, CHECKS, NOTES, DRAFTS, DRUG-LABELS, TAGS, ENVELOPES, PAMPHLETS, ARGUMENTS, BRIEFS, &c., &c. RAILROAD AND STEAMBOAT WORK, &c., &c. SPECIALTY.

WE have all the NEWEST STYLES OF TYPE and execute work in a manner that cannot be surpassed. We also do all kinds of BINDING and RULING. Orders from the country promptly filled and delivered by express or mail. We will cheerfully furnish estimates and send samples when required. L. M. COVARDIN, D. D. S., Assistant, 919 MAIN STREET, my 28-cod.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR CLAIMS. EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, OFFICE OF STATE DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D. C. NOTICE. The following persons appear as creditors on the books that represent the claims of Revolutionary War claimants, in the case of the late J. B. COOK, dec'd, and others, against the undersigned, special commissioners, who were appointed to sell the public lands and the highest bidder.

JUD. B. WOOD, D. D. S., M. D. DENTAL OFFICE. OVER MESSRS. MEADE & BAKER'S, 919 MAIN STREET, my 28-cod.

DR. GEORGE B. STEEL, DENTIST, 723 MAIN STREET, my 17-cod.

WINE, LIQUORS, &c. SUMMER WINES—CLARET, SWEET AND DRY CATAWAS; OLD BLACKBERRY WINE AND BRANDY; CHAMPAGNE—GOUTE, VEVE, CLOUET, and MAMMIS; DRY VERMONT; AMERICA; EXTRA DRY VERMONT; and all the best of the above, at the lowest prices. CHRISTIAN & WHITES, 12-21-cod.

DR. W. G. WATKINS, COWS, &c. FRESH COWS FOR SALE.—I have a supply of COWS and CALVES, which I will sell cheap, or exchange for dry cows. Doves sent in for inspection. Apply to W. G. WATKINS, No. 21-cod.

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AUCTION SALES—THIS DAY. By J. Thompson Brown, Real Estate Agent and Auctioneer, 1113 Main Street.

FIRST-CLASS THREE-STORY BRICK RESIDENCE, FRONTING ON MARSHALL PARK (LIBBY HILL)—LOCATION THE MOST BEAUTIFUL ON THE HILL—NEAR EAST CORNER OF TWENTY-NINTH AND MAIN STREETS.—FOR SALE AT AUCTION.

At the request of the owner I will sell at public auction on TUESDAY, 13th of August, at 6 o'clock P. M. that truly and most beautifully-located RESIDENCE on Church Hill, now owned and occupied by the late J. B. COOK, and which was built by the late Captain Libby, who, owing to its elegant location, spared no expense in making it all that could be desired, both in its comforts and durability. It has brick-work on all sides, and is built on a high and elevated location in the city. The premises, and a bath-house; and a fine brick stable and carriage-house, both of which are fully equipped in every respect. The lot is 50x132 feet, and is an alley street on the west side, and is well situated on one of the best locations in the city. The view of the city and river obtained from this location is unsurpassed in any location in the city.

TERMS: One-fourth cash, balance in six, twelve, and eighteen months, with interest added, and secured by a trust-deed. J. THOMPSON BROWN, Auctioneer, 1113 Main Street.

By W. Goddin, Auctioneer and Real Estate Agent, corner of Eleventh and Bank Streets.

TRUSTEE'S SALE OF SIX THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-TWO ACRES OF LAND, situated in the County of Hancock, lower part of Richmond city, the following-mentioned parcels of land, to-wit: 1. A TRACT OF LAND adjoining the lands of the late J. B. COOK, and containing 100 acres, more or less, in the County of Hancock, lower part of Richmond city, the following-mentioned parcels of land, to-wit: 2. A TRACT OF LAND adjoining the lands of the late J. B. COOK, and containing 100 acres, more or less, in the County of Hancock, lower part of Richmond city, the following-mentioned parcels of land, to-wit: 3. A TRACT OF LAND adjoining the lands of the late J. B. COOK, and containing 100 acres, more or less, in the County of Hancock, lower part of Richmond city, the following-mentioned parcels of land, to-wit: 4. A TRACT OF LAND adjoining the lands of the late J. B. COOK, and containing 100 acres, more or less, in the County of Hancock, lower part of Richmond city, the following-mentioned parcels of land, to-wit: 5. A LOT OF LAND adjoining the north-west corner of the late J. B. COOK, containing 50 ACRES, more or less.

THE TERMS OF SALE are: Twenty per cent. of the purchase money to be paid in cash on the day of sale, and the balance in three equal installments, to-wit: one-third on the day of sale, one-third on the 1st day of October, and one-third on the 1st day of January, next. Bond and security required for the deferred payments. A man of the property will be exhibited at the sale. The improvements upon this property are of the most durable character, and are capable of accommodating a large number of persons. The property has always had a high reputation as a watering place, both on account of its location and its value as a watering place. It is situated on the banks of the Kanawha River, and is one of the most beautiful spots in the State. It is well adapted for a large number of persons, and is one of the most desirable places in the State for a summer residence.

FOR RENT.—\$8 TO \$50 PER MONTH. 507 West Grace Street (new brick), 12 rooms. Chinese restaurant, 8 rooms. 218 West Sixth Street (new brick), 8 rooms. 201 West Grace Street (new brick), 8 rooms. 914 West Sixth Street (large yard), 8 rooms. 112 West Fifth Street (new brick), 8 rooms. 726 West Sixth Street (new brick), 8 rooms. 416 West Marshall Street (new brick), 6 rooms. 1214 West Clay Street (new brick), 6 rooms. 41 West Third Street (new brick), 6 rooms. 41 West Third Street (new brick), 6 rooms. 201 West Cherry Street (new brick), 5 rooms. 201 West Cherry Street (new brick), 5 rooms. SMALLER HOUSES, from 2 to 5 rooms in other localities. Real Estate Agent and Auctioneer, J. B. COOK, No. 22 West Marshall Street, New York, 6-11.

FOR RENT, THREE DESIRABLE ROOMS at 213 East Main Street.

FOR RENT, THE VERY DESIRABLE STORE AND DWELLING, No. 623