





laying a new line of pipe... Cr. Stewart gave notice to move at next meeting that the resolution be adopted.

Cr. Stewart gave notice to move at next meeting that the resolution be adopted. AFTER OTHERS FAILED. I use Chamberlain's Pain Balm for sore throats and for all other ailments.

For comfort, style, protection from the biting south winds, warmth and service, you will appreciate the perfect combination of these essential qualities of a winter garment in The New and Warm Sports Coats.

SPORTS' COATS VALUES. Fancy Colored Sports' Coats, nice Shades, 12/6. Two Tone Mixed Yarn Coats, special, 21/.

WARM COATS CHEAP. Ladies' Tweed Coats, 22/6, 25/ 27/6. Ladies' Black Scalette Coats at special prices.

THEO. W. SCHLICHT, Auctioneer, Stock and Station and Financial Agent, BEAUFORT & SKIPTON. AGENT FOR—

BEAUFORT, TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 1914, 2 P.M. THEO. W. SCHLICHT, under instructions from the Executors of the late A. M. HANNAH, deceased, will offer by Public Auction, for Unreserved Sale, at his Office, on above date—

HOPE EXTENDED G.M. CO., No Liability, Trawalla.—A CALL, the 16th, of threepence (3d) per Share, has been made on the capital of the above-named Company, due and payable at the registered office, Lydiard street, Ballarat, on Wednesday, 10th June, 1914.

THEO. W. SCHLICHT, Auctioneer, of Beaufort, having received instructions from SERGEANT ROHAN, who has been transferred to Benalla, will sell by Public Auction the whole of his valuable Furniture, consisting of Piano, almost new, by Wiegand; Piano Stool; Bamboo Music Stand, Drawing-room Suite (Saddlebag), 3 Bamboo Whatnots, 2 Round Tables, Settee Couch, 3 Cane Chairs, Drawing-room Carpet, 16ft. square; Hearthrug, Fender and Irons; Overmantel, 4 Water Colour Pictures, Lamps, Hall Carpet, Hall Linoleum (new), Hall Stand, 2 Hall Chairs, Flower Stand, 5 pairs Curtains, Dining-room Linoleum, Morocco Leather Dining-room Suite, Dining Extension Table (Blackwood), Tablecloth, Sideboard, 7 Pictures, Dining-room Overmantel, Fender and Irons, 2 Armchairs, 2 Case Flower Stands, 2 Bed Room Suite (8 pieces, Ash), Bedroom Ware, Toilet Set, Bedroom Linoleum, Hearthrug, Overmantel, 3 Double Bed Mattresses, 3 pairs double Blankets, Pillows, etc.; 5 Dormers, 2 Chests of Drawers, Cedar Dressing Table, Cedar Washstand, Bedroom Ware, Bedroom Linoleum, 2 Clothes' Racks, Hall Carpet, Poles, Meat Safe, 2 Easels, Pastry Board, Rolling Pin, Pie Dish, Leather Bag, Meat Cover, Boot Trunk, 3 Kitchen Tables, Kitchen Safe, Sewing Machine (in splendid repair), 4 Kitchen Chairs, Kitchen Linoleum, Kettles, Pots, Pans, Buckets, quantity of Glass Dish, Cookery, Cruets, Cutlery, Rugs, Office Linoleum, Axe, Spade, Garden Rake, Hoe, 40ft. Hose (2-inch, new), 3 Roller Blinds (new), Portmanteau, Bicycle, quantity of Books, Washboard, Paraffin Lamp, 2 Ash Pans, 2 Saws, Buggy Jack, quantity Tools, Sundries, etc.; also bay Pony (5-year-old), Glig, and Harness.

Your Overcoat. If you wanted a better made and more serviceable Overcoat at the price, we could not supply it, because these Overcoats we have just bought from a world-famous Manufacturer are the essence of the New Style—warm, snug, perfectly made and finished in a manner past criticism.

IS THE PRICE YOU WANT TO PAY SHOWN HERE?— WE HAVE YOUR COAT. Men's Tweed Chesters, 21/ 27/ 35/.

WINTER NECESSITIES FOR MEN WHO WANT WARMTH AND COMFORT. Men's Tweed Suits, well cut, 27/6. Men's Tweed Suits to Measure, 35/.

LADS FOR FARM WORK. TO FARMERS, PASTORALISTS, DAIRYMEN, ORCHARDISTS, AND OTHER COUNTRY EMPLOYERS. LADS, numbering about 200, are arriving on the 14th June from Great Britain, who are desirous of obtaining country employment at wages from 10/- per week and keep. Employers are requested to make immediate application to the Immigration Bureau, 665 Flinders Street, Melbourne.

HAWKES BROS., GENERAL HARDWARE AND—TIMBER MERCHANTS, BEAUFORT. Large Stocks always on hand of FENCING WIRE, Black & Galv. BARBED WIRE, WIRE NETTING, DROPPERS.

Beaufort Pharmacy. G. WOOD desires to intimate that he has taken over the management of the above Pharmacy, and will keep a full supply of Druggist's, Sundries and Patent Medicines.

Emulsion of COD LIVER OIL. With HYPOPHOSPHITES OF LIME & SODA. An excellent NERVE FOOD RESTORATIVE. Price, 1/6 per bottle. Only the Best Material stocked, and we invite you to inspect before purchasing.

Secret Island. A Story of a Strange and Exciting Adventure.

By W. Murray Graydon, Author of "Matthew Quin," "The Curse of the Cardeus," etc., etc.

CHAPTER XLIII. MONTEJO'S ESCAPE.

The Russian proved as good as his word. He led his companions across the open space adjoining the prison, and then went tortuously through the darkest and narrowest streets that could be found. To reach Government House without encountering people on the way was, of course, impossible; but the daring course, trusting to the excitement and to the fact that their faces were partly concealed, pushed on calmly and swiftly. At every few yards they met armed men hastening towards the lower town, or pouring out of their houses. And the tumult that rose on all sides baffled description. Children crying, women shrieking and sobbing, voices questioning in tones of wild alarm, the clanging of bells, the distant rattle of musketry and roar of conflict—these things made a most terrifying and confusing din.

"Muting, mutiny!" yelled a man as he rushed past. "They've broken out in the lower town!" Others took up the cry, and it spread like a wave. "They've been quick to guess at the meaning of the row, Valentine," said Captain Volborth, "and from the way they are responding to the alarm, the passage won't be easily forced. But the marines will turn the scale when they close in from the rear."

"Unless they find other work out for them," replied Dick. "I hope I'm wrong, but I can't help thinking Gore will hold a reserve force in the neighbourhood of Government House, and if he does," interrupted Volborth, "it won't be a large one."

"A man, checking his headlong rush at the sight of the fugitives, hawled lustily: "Whither bound, comrades? This is the way. The mutineers are breaking into the upper town. You're badly needed."

"We'll join you directly," the Russian exclaimed. "As soon as I take my sister to the shelter of Government House."

"Be quick, then. There's hot work out for us." With that the man turned, and continued his eager course.

"Where is Gore?" Volborth shouted after him. "Don't know. I reckon he's in the thick of it," was the almost inaudible response.

"He wouldn't be anywhere else," muttered Dick. "He's worth a score of men himself, the old ruffian. I say, Volborth, do you hear that? The row is getting nearer. Our fellows are well inside the town."

"They ought to be by this time," cried the Russian. As he spoke the clamour increased, and the straggling rifle-voileys turned to a steady fusillade that was like the snappy voice of a machine gun. The brazen-throated alarm-bells pealed furiously.

utes after the explosion—they are at least five minutes overdue." "They have a pull by water," replied Volborth, "and a stiff climb over the wall." "They could have done it twice over," persisted Dick. "It is possible, my friends," he said, hoarsely, "that the explosion failed to open a passage."

"God forbid!" exclaimed Dick, turning pale. "No, no, heaven cannot be so cruel!" whispered Lucille. "They will come—I feel it in my heart. And we must be ready to join them—to give them warning of the danger that waits yonder. Follow me. I shall take you straight to the room of Mary Ferris. At any moment the opportunity may be lost."

"The senorita is right," Volborth said. "Yes, we'll do that first," added Dick. "Lead on, Lucille."

The Spanish girl glided into the doorway. Her companions followed like shadows, watching, listening, and holding their weapons ready for instant use. But none barred the way, or raised an alarm. Through a seemingly empty house they advanced, threading a long corridor, and ascending a broad flight of granite steps. At the top a straight passage with curtained doorways on either side, confronted them, and they had no more than gained it when a shrill scream broke the silence.

"Mary's voice!" gasped Dick. "Just in time!" exclaimed Lucille. "This way—quick, quick!" They dashed along the passage, the girl leading slightly. She passed five doors, and stopping at the sixth she fung it wide open. And from the threshold, looking into the moonlit room, Dick and Volborth saw a startling sight—Mary Ferris struggling in the brutal embrace of Montejo!

The recognition was mutual, and as swift and sudden was the Spaniard's action when he saw in a flash that he was detected and baffled. It was too late to draw a firearm, if he had any. Without a second's hesitation he dropped the girl to the floor, and made a leap for the low, open window.

As he sprang through it, stamped darkly and briefly against the luminous space, Volborth levelled his rifle and fired. The report was followed by a light noise like the drop of a cat, and then about after short rang on the night air.

"Missed!" exclaimed the Russian. "He's giving the alarm! The whole crew will be upon us directly!"

CHAPTER XLIII. IN THE NICK OF TIME. Scarcely a second after he fired Volborth was at the window, which faced north from very nearly the middle of the house. Lucille joined him as quickly, and thrusting their heads out they saw Leon Montejo running like a deer—he was evidently not hurt—towards the right-hand angle. He reached it, and disappeared, though his excited voice could still be heard; and at the other side of the house a clamour had already broken out.

Dick, meanwhile, had stooped and lifted Mary from the floor. She was greatly agitated as she clung to him and between hysterical sobs she gasped: "Where is he! Did you shoot him, Dick? Oh, thank God that you came when you did!"

"Compose yourself," Dick answered, hurriedly. "The scoundrel is gone—and worse luck. We must leave here at once to join the marines who are on their way to help to take the town. And on whom you know, Mary—an old friend of both of us—will be leading them!"

"Who?" the girl asked, breathlessly. "Tell me, Oh, Dick, you surely don't mean Geoffrey!"

which could not drown the rattling volleys of firearms which told of the battle that was raging near the junction of the two towns. In front, whence the reinforcements should long ere now have come, was only solitude and silence. Where were Lieutenant Grenville and the marines? "The explosion has failed!" the Russian groaned.

"No; they will come—they must come!" cried Dick. "Faster, faster! We are nearly half-way across." "As he spoke a gun went off. Crack! Crack! More shots followed, and the fugitives heard the ringing of bullets. "They see us," said Volborth. "They are firing at us from the windows! Ah, some are leaping to the ground to pursue—some issue from the doorway!"

Dick, glancing over his shoulder, saw that the Russian was right. From their windows red flames came simultaneously, and the fugitives were leaping out. And just then, round the angle of Government House, surged the main body of the enemy, numbering nearly a score. Scattering a little, they gave hot chase across the square.

"We are lost," said Lucille. "Hope is gone!" "Press on with the English girl, senorita," urged Volborth. "Does not time, Valentine, and I will protect your retreat as long as we are able. We will sell our lives dearly!"

"No; there is still a chance," Dick cried. "Forward! We are close to the gardens—yonder is the gate. If we can gain that—"

"We won't, Valentine; but have your way." They sped on faster than ever, their shadows dancing before them. Several shots were fired, and the bullets sang close. Then, above the noise of pursuit, Montejo's voice was recognized in shrill and angry tones: "Stop firing, you fools! I don't want them hurt, you understand—take them alive. They can't escape us!"

"Do you hear?" gasped Dick. "We are sure to reach the gardens, at all events." "It will be a close race, my friend, at any rate," muttered Volborth. The Russian spoke truly, for he knew that the pursuers were running like deer. Already Mary and Lucille showed signs of fatigue, and so the fugitives lost ground. They headed straight for the wicket gate in the wall, drawing nearer and nearer until they could see, through the iron bars, the moonlit vista of trees and shrubbery. Just across the garden was the North Gate. If Grenville's band had reached it, all might yet be well.

Still nearer the goal. Now the clamour of the volley of feet seemed to be almost at the heels of the fugitives. Dick glanced over his shoulder, and was startled to see that Montejo and his men were within twenty yards.

"We must open fire and check them, Volborth," he cried, "else we won't have a chance to secure the gate on the inner side and gain the shelter of the trees. Quick! Are you ready?"

With one accord the two stopped and whirled round, leveling their weapons. Mary and Lucille, though urged to press on, knelt on the stone flagging behind their protectors. Crack, crack, crack! spoke Dick's revolver. Bang, bang! went the Russian's rifle. Three of the enemy were seen to fall, and cries of agony mingled with yells of rage. Dismayed by the sudden attack, the party wavered and halted. Montejo was unharmed, for Dick dared not aim at him in the presence of his sister.

"Senor, surely you will let us kill the dogs!" demanded a burly ruffian in the front. "No, no; I forbid it!" shouted the Spaniard. "I want them alive—they shall die by torture! Cowards, do you fear to take them? Forward, men!"

At this point Dick and Volborth, having each fired three shots, turned and ran on. With hoarse cries, led by Montejo, the enemy dashed in pursuit.

Dick, staggering forward, clasped the other half made a break for one of the narrow side streets, and a portion—forty or fifty men—escaped by that way, the greater part of the remainder yielding sullenly to the sailors and the marines who cut off the exit. The battle was won, and complete success crowned the well-laid conspiracy. In two short hours the island empire was wrested from the man who had defied the Powers of the world to crush him.

But the final act was yet to be played. Over in a corner of the square, in an angle formed by two steep walls of granite, where they had been hemmed in beyond hope of escape, stood at bay Jason Gore, the Senor Montejo and half a dozen desperate ruffians. There, with clubbed rifles, and drawn pistols, they met an onset of marines led by Grenville, Dick, and Volborth.

"Surrender!" cried the young lieutenant. "I promise you a fair trial." "It's no use to hold out," shouted Dick. "The fight is over."

Gore and Montejo answered with savage oaths, with looks of defiance and hatred, as they fired together, killing one of the marines and wounding another. But the men who were with them turned craven at the last. Seeing only certain death if they resisted, and thinking that possibly there was a chance for their lives, they dropped their arms and darted forward with a rapidity that showed how much they dreaded Jason Gore's vengeance. The old pirate witnessed the desertion with a scornful curl of his eyes.

"Come and take me," he cried, as his enemies wavered and hung back. "Cowardly dogs!" hissed Montejo. "I want him alive," said Grenville to his men. "I'll give you another chance," he shouted. "Think better of it, and surrender yourself."

Bang! Gore fired at Grenville and missed him by an inch. Bang! Volborth reeled slightly, and stared stupidly at a red splash on his left arm. "Curse you, die!" snarled Montejo, pointing his pistol straight at Dick.

But just then some of the marines, seeing the situation, aimed and fired quickly. The Spaniard dropped his undischarged weapon, and fell forward on his face. Gore, hit both in the thigh and shoulder, stood as erect as ever. With a mocking cry he levelled a revolver at Grenville, who had dashed towards him.

"This is my critical moment, when the young Volborth's fate seemed to be sealed, Grenville snatched a pistol from his belt, and discharged it at the pirate. Gore was shot through the chest, but he fired at Grenville and missed. Then his face turned an ashen hue, and he came down like a log on the body of Montejo. He had fought to the end with bulldog pluck, with a stubbornness that drew admiration from his enemies.

A surgeon was with the landing party, and he beat over the stricken man. "He lives," he said. "He has a frame like iron, and he may last the night."

"It's a thousand pities he couldn't be taken unhurt," cried Grenville. "It was your life or his," said Dick. "Volborth saved you."

"I know that, and I am grateful," replied Grenville. "There was no other way." He turned to the surgeon. "Let the man have every attention possible," he added. "And revive him if you can—he may wish to speak."

"Every word. But he can't be moved now." The pirate was half-conscious, and blood was oozing to his lips. His head was propped up on the Spaniard's breast, and he lay there breathing heavily, the wreck of what had been a superb specimen of manhood a few moments before. The surgeon gave him a drink of brandy and water.

The last shot had now been fired, and the echoes of the terrific struggle lived only in the groans of the wounded. A party of the marines had been despatched in pursuit of those of the enemy who had escaped, and the rest were fraternising with the excited and victory-fused conspirators. Archbold was dead—killed in the light—but Traak and the other leaders stood in a group with Dick and his companions, jubilantly talking of the night's work. The surgeon turned up to them.

"The pirate is fully conscious," he said. "He is asking for you, Mr. Grenville. He heard you called by name, and he says that if you are Lieutenant Geoffrey Grenville, he wishes to see you, and he has also inquired for Mr. Valentine."

The two designated went quickly over to the spot where the wounded man lay. The moonlight giving a ghastly, bluish tint to his face, attracted by curiosity, a number of others drew near. Gore looked up.

"I have a story to tell, Valentine," he said, hoarsely. "You must hear it. And you, sir, if you are the son of Henry Grenville."

"He was my father," replied the young officer. "I thought as much," the pirate went on. "It can't be far from the truth, and I cannot hope to see to-morrow's sun rise. The approach of death softens my heart—before I die I must make what atonement is possible. I have no hard feelings, though the work of a lifetime has been crushed at one blow. I know there is a God. Only His hand could have done this. It is strange that you, whom I have so bitterly wronged, should have been made the instrument of retribution."

"He was silent for a moment, and the surgeon put some brandy to his lips. "I'll speak briefly, while I have the chance," he continued. "I was a young boy, but that is not my real name, nor will it ever be known. Others will tell you how I turned pirate thirty years ago, stole the ship Wanderer from the port of Sydney, and took for my first prize the British Queen, bound from Hong Kong for London. Then I found this island—I dreamed of a little empire and kept secret hidden from the world—I built it up year by year."

"But I am off the track. Listen, this is what I would narrate. On board the British Queen, with her two young sons, was the wife of a Hong Kong merchant, Mrs. Malcolm Claiborne; she had left her husband in China, and was travelling to England. I hated her, for ten years before she had spurned my love, and I had sworn to be revenged on both her and her husband. I scuttled the ship, and she went to the bottom with the rest of the crew and passengers. But the two boys I saved, with the intention of bringing them up to be as evil as myself."

Now see how fate thwarted this wicked design—worked my own undoing thirty years later! My first mate was Robert Halliday—to call him by his assumed name—an Englishman of good family who had gone wrong. He was not utterly bad, as I shall show you, and from the first he met have secretly resolved to save Malcolm Claiborne's sons. His opportunity came a few months later. We had anchored for water on the Peruvian coast, some distance south of Truxillo. In the night Halliday took the boys and fled to shore in a boat. I followed with a party, and chased him through the forest. We pressed him closely, but in the end he got clean away, and we returned to the vessel."

Gore asked faintly for more brandy, and Dick and Grenville waited breathlessly for him to resume. "Now for the sequel," he went on, "which I learned two years afterwards from a spy whom I sent to Truxillo for that purpose. He brought back a strange report. It seems that Halliday, when we were nearly upon him at one time, was compelled to drop the elder boy in the bushes. He evidently remained under the impression that the child fell into our hands, but in some manner we missed it. Halliday was known to have sailed for England with the other boy, and there my knowledge of him ended. During the years that followed I put my agents on his track—but of that I shall speak subsequently. I was handicapped by the fact that I was ignorant of his true name or of his birth-place."

"The other boy perished, then?" asked Dick. "No," replied Gore. "On the following day he was found by some Indians, who took him to an Englishman that owned a gold mine near Truxillo. He tried in vain to trace the matter, and finally he adopted the child. Twice, while he remained in Peru, I sent him mysteriously large sums of money, bidding him use it for the boy, who, I revealed to him, was of good family; and I advised him not to undeceive the child as to his parentage. My purpose was to make some amends for my crime, which I had long since repented. The Englishman carried out my wishes, as I took pains to learn. At last he returned to England a rich man, and subsequently died there. And his name was—"

"Henry Grenville!" the young officer cried, in an agitated voice, while every trace of colour fled from his face. "You have guessed it," the pirate replied faintly. "My God, is this true?" he gasped. "He was not my father? And you murdered my mother? Monster, monster!"

"Flush, you will hasten his end!" interrupted the surgeon. "He has not finished."

"No, I have not finished," he said, sharply. "There is more to tell. Do you not suspect the truth? Listen, Richard Valentine. Listen, Geoffrey Grenville! You are Malcolm Claiborne's sons—you are brothers!"

Stunned and bewildered, they looked at each other with questioning eyes; they turned helplessly to the dying pirate. Could this strange thing be? Did a stronger tie than that of friendship of old cement them? No, it was impossible—it was some mistake.

"It is true. It is true. I swear it!" declared Gore, reading their doubt. "I only knew yesterday, Valentine. I found a report from one of my English agents—it had been filed away unopened. It revealed the fact that Robert Halliday went from Peru home to England, taking with him and giving to his own name. His people were dead, and he found money and an estate waiting for him. He assumed his rightful name of Valentine, and settled down at Heron Court, in Surrey. And Malcolm Claiborne's sons have avenged their dead mother—have dealt me this blow! But it is God's will. It is retribution—a just punishment!"

Overcome by the effort of speaking, his eyes closed, and his head dropped back. And Dick and Grenville, convinced that they had heard the truth, embraced each other with incoherent words, with a new-born brotherly affection in their hearts.

"The ways of Providence," Captain Volborth said, solemnly, "are indeed most wonderful."

The events of some months may be compressed into a small compass. Jason Gore died at daybreak, and was interred in a separate grave as was Leon Montejo. The other dead pirates were buried in long trenches beyond the walls. Meanwhile the inhabitants of the lower town gladly accepted the altered situation. The prisoners were confined in the gaol, and Mary and Lucille returned temporarily to the Government House, where they had a long and blissful interview with their lovers. The Spanish girl wept on learning of the death of her brother, but he had treated her so basely that her grief was not of long duration.

The pirates who escaped from the square at the close of the fighting, enjoyed but brief liberty. A few who knew the secret of the island separated from their companions, found Gore's hidden steam yacht, and set out to sea through the mysterious passage leading from the lagoon;

and they were never heard of afterwards. It is supposed that they perished in a storm which raged a day or two later. Of the rest, some surrendered, and some were captured. By this time the naval commander had formally taken possession of the island in the name of her Britannic Majesty.

The promise made to the conspirators was not disregarded. They and the captured pirates were taken to England in the Atlanta, on which vessel also sailed Dick and Grenville, mately the conspirators received their share of the gold brought from the island, and scattered to different parts of the globe. Captain Volborth, of course, going to America to join his wife and child. Of the prisoners, some were tried by fresh tribunals, and some were freed on the grounds of insanity; but those who had sailed in Jason Gore's ship were sentenced to lengthy terms of imprisonment.

Dick reached England shortly in time for a last interview with his adopted father. Robert Valentine, on his deathbed, but before he had made a full confession, corroborating the pirate's story; and he had drafted certain old papers—sent secretly from the British Queen—proving indisputably that Dick and Geoffrey were the sons of the Hong Kong merchant.

"I loved you as my own son," the dying man said. "This is my last wish, and I beg that you will reveal the truth, and also because I cannot reveal it without leaving my name open to a charge of betrayal. I have tracked Malcolm Claiborne's wife to England, and she has confessed, corroborating the pirate's story; and he has drafted certain old papers—sent secretly from the British Queen—proving indisputably that Dick and Geoffrey were the sons of the Hong Kong merchant."

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The world still has the story of the pirate's life, and the story of the world's shipping.

THE FARM. ENGINES ON THE FARM. It will be very interesting to the agriculturist to know that the following engines have been shown at the Agricultural Exhibition at London.

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NO MORE INDIGESTION. WONDERS ACHIEVED BY NEW METHOD. It seems reasonable to suppose that the old style of medicine, such as opium, belladonna, etc., which after all are only poisons in their effects, are rapidly being discarded in favor of a simple and natural method of treatment. The result that physicians have been led to believe is that the stomach is not so very surprising as it is often represented to be. It is now possible to obtain from the stomach all the acids, etc., which are necessary for the digestion of food. The new method is a simple and natural one, and it is the only one that has been found to be successful in all cases of indigestion.

STREATHAM. A farewell social and presentation to Mr and Mrs Flynn, of the Streatham hotel, took place on the 5th ult. About twenty were present, and there would have been more had it not been rumored that Miss Flynn was to play the organ at her usual talented style in her own parlour. Miss Flynn (Skipton) sang very sweetly, and Mrs. Flynn sang "The Rose Tree" and "The Rose Tree." Mr. Jack Mckay sang two songs in good style, and so did Miss Roberts and Mr. Kemp. Miss Miss I. Brown sang and played her own accompaniments. Mr. T. Meek played. Messrs. Russell, Jack Lister, H. Lane, Causey, Prendergast, Meek all spoke in the highest praise of Mr and Mrs Flynn, and did they were much missed. Charitable efforts and sporting parties as Mr Flynn took an active part in every meeting in the district. Mr Meek then presented them with a handsome silver teapot and coffee service, suitably inscribed on a massive solid silver tray. Miss Lizzy Tadley had been presented with a silver teapot and coffee service, suitably inscribed on a massive solid silver tray. Miss Lizzy Tadley had been presented with a silver teapot and coffee service, suitably inscribed on a massive solid silver tray.

WONDERS OF A JOURNALIST. A correspondent at the Agricultural Exhibition at London, writes that the following engines have been shown at the Agricultural Exhibition at London.

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AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Members attended the annual meeting of the Beaufort Agricultural Society at the Beaufort Hall on Friday evening last. Mr. W. R. Glover was elected president...

Mr. Glover warmly welcomed the new president to the chair, and Mr. Cushing suitably responded. The remaining officers were elected as follows: Vice-presidents, Messrs J. George and J. Miller...

Mr. D. R. Hannah moved that a special meeting be called for a Saturday afternoon before the end of June to fix the date of the show...

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FOOTBALL.

The first round of the Ararat District Junior association's competitions opened on Saturday. Beaufort journeyed to Warrak, where a one-sided contest took place with the local club...

At Buangor the local team defeated Ararat Stars by 9 goals 14 behinds to 1 goal 5 behinds; and at Ararat Holy Trinity won against Miners by 8 goals 20 behinds to 5 goals 10 behinds.

The following matches will be played this (Saturday) afternoon: Ararat H. T. v. Warrak, at Ararat; Ararat Stars v. Ararat Miners, at Ararat; Beaufort v. Buangor, at Beaufort.

The team to represent Beaufort in the football match against Buangor in the Beaufort Park this (Saturday) afternoon will be chosen from the following: Kenny, Berg, Noonan, Maxwell, Barrett, Glover, Willis, Driver, Lloy, Tromp...

Mr. Sinclair said the members should be given to understand that the special meeting would consider holding the show in Spring or Autumn. The secretary said that he would make it explicit on the notice paper.

Mr. D. R. Hannah gave notice to move at the special meeting that the show be held about March, 1915.

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QUICKLY DISAPPEARED.

All last winter I had very bad colds, says Mr. Archbold, No. 1 Baker Street, Lewisham, S.E. Having heard from a friend about Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, I bought a trial, with the result that the cold quickly disappeared. I have since bought a bottle and I am giving him Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, and there is already a cough in my throat.

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IN POSSESSION OF GOLD.

Edward Daniel Ferguson, a young man, appeared before Mr. D. Barriman, M.P., at the Police Court yesterday, charged with having been found in possession of 6 oz. of gold and failing to satisfy Constable Crisfield, of Bendigo, that he lawfully came by the same.

Ernest John Hemmende, bank manager, of Talbot, said he received the parcel of gold produced about 23rd April from Mrs. McDonald of Amherst.

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WANTED, one or two GOATS, in full milk. Apply T. DERRICK, Beaufort.

Friends and Subscribers are requested to meet SERGEY ROHAN at the SHIRE HALL on MONDAY evening next, at 8.30. R. A. D. SINCLAIR, Chairman.

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THE A.N.A. BALL AT MIDDLE CREEK.

On FRIDAY, 19th JUNE, 1914. Good Music. Waiving Competition. Prize, £1 11s. Gents, 3s. I. B. I. deHUGHAN, Secretary.

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V.D.-388

For comfort, style, protection from the biting south winds, warmth and service, you will appreciate the perfect combination of these essential qualities of a winter garment in The New and Warm Sports Coats.

If ever one garment jumped into tremendous popularity quicker than another it is this Season's Sports Coats. And no wonder! They are the essence of Winter comfort—they fit every shape of figure—stout, slim, thin, without tightness or "baggy" looseness.

They are made from materials that keep the cold out and the warmth in—they keep you warm and snug on the coldest of cold days. And they are made well, look well, and wear well. In fact, they leave nothing to be desired. And they are cheap, as the following prices will prove.

Table with 2 columns: SPORTS' COATS VALUES and WARM COATS CHEAP. Lists various coat types and prices.



V.T.-1031

Your Overcoat. If you wanted a better made and more serviceable Overcoat at the price, we could not supply it, because these Overcoats we have just bought from a world-famous Manufacturer are the essence of the New Style—warm, snug, perfectly made and finished in a manner past criticism.

They are Distinctively Cut after the ideas of the fashion designers for this season's wear. And their make is such as will ensure the Overcoat Keeping its immaculate Shape far longer than any coat you have had before.

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IS THE PRICE YOU WANT TO PAY SHOWN HERE? WE HAVE YOUR COAT.

- Men's Tweed Chesters, 21, 27, 35. Men's Garbircord Coats, special, 57 6. Oilskin, Waterproof, Canvas, and Rubber Coats, 15 to 35.

J.R. Wotherspoon & Co. BEAUFORT AND BUANGOR. Large advertisement for the firm's services.

THEO. W. SCHLICHT, Auctioneer, Stock and Station and Financial Agent, BEAUFORT & SKIPTON.

IMPORTANT SALE OF FURNITURE. SATURDAY, 13th JUNE, 1914. AT POLICE STATION, BEAUFORT.

THEO. W. SCHLICHT, Auctioneer, of Beaufort, having received instructions from SERGEY ROHAN...

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NOTICE. PRIME CHAFF, delivered in any part of the district, by bag, ton or tons, 2 3 per cwt, 22 5/8 per ton.

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Hawkes Bros., GENERAL HARDWARE AND TIMBER MERCHANTS, BEAUFORT. Large advertisement for hardware and timber.

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MINING NEWS.

Mr. Rankin reports: Level extended 36ft. Top level—South-west end of No. 3 shaft, 6ft. 6 in. south in 35ft. good payable...

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BALLARAT STOCK MARKET.

District Sales—8 crossed wethers, Mr. W. Roberts, Middle Creek, 25/10, 20 lambs averaging 15/9; 31 lambs, Mrs. Fay, Middle Creek, averaging 16/1; 1 crossed ewe, Miss Hall, Snake Valley, averaging 16/1; 3 lambs, Miss D. Gardner, Snake Valley, to 41/2/9; 16 light-weight bullocks, Mr. R. G. Chirnside, Carranballac, averaging 49/2/2; 1 calf, Mrs. Clark, Skipton, 42/9; 1 ram, Mr. R. Ward, Lake Goldsmith, 19/6.

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GENERAL POLITICS.

corner. The anomaly in the rates for fire insurance was discussed, the rate being considerably higher in the Hampton than in the Ripon portion of the township. It was decided to write to the Associated Insurance Companies on the subject.

At a meeting of the committee of the Mechanics' Institute the request of the ladies' committee for a grant of £15 towards the preliminary expenses of the forthcoming bazaar was granted. The use of the hall was also granted free to the bazaar committee, and the building fund committee, who are running a series of euvre parties during the winter months.

The Linton to Skipton Railway Construction Trust met here on Friday, 12th inst. the chairman, Mr Oman, M.L.A., presiding over a full attendance of members. Petitions for and against the reconstruction reserve being utilised as the railway station site were considered, and it was determined to support the site selected by the Railway Department in the reserve. It was considered, however, that there was no need for the line to cross the Skipton to Lismore road for the dead ends, and the chairman was requested to bring this opinion before the department. A large number of landowners whose properties have been taken for the line attended, and in the majority of cases a satisfactory settlement of compensation claims was effected.

THROAT AFFECTIONS AND HOARSENESS.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of "Brown's Bronchial Trochies." These famous "lozenges" are now sold by most respectable chemists in this country. People troubled with a "choking cough," a "slight cold," or bronchial affections, cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious Pulmonary and Asthmatic Affections. See that the signature of JOHN T. BROWN & SONS is on every wrapper. Prepared by JOHN T. BROWN & SONS, Boston, U.S.A., "European Depot," 33, Farringdon Road, London, England.

AN OLD NURSE FOR CHILDREN.—"Mr. Winslow's Soothing Syrup" for Children's Teething, Should always be used for Children while Teething. It Soothes the Child, Softens the Gums, Always All Pain, Cures Wind Colic and is the Best Remedy for Diarrhoea. Directions for Using Mrs. Winslow's SOOTHING SYRUP.—For a child under one month old, give 10 drops three or four times a day. For a child one to four months old, a teaspoonful six or eight times a day. For Diarrhoea, repeat the above dose every two hours, until the character of the discharges is changed for the better. Sold Everywhere.

End-owner throughout the Miboe district are much dissatisfied with the unimproved valuations placed on their lands by the Government valuer for State land tax purposes. Many farmers are preparing to test their cases at Court. A few instances may be given of the manner in which the valuations have been carried out. The value put on the unimproved valuation on one block at £8 per acre, but the owner sold the block a few weeks ago at £7 10 per acre. All improvements, while the adjoining block the unimproved valuation is put down at £7 an acre. Farms eight or nine miles out are for sale at about half the price at which the value has estimated as the unimproved value.

ADVANTAGEOUS BUYING. You have heard of the man who buys his ice in winter time and his coal in the summer time—such a purchaser invariably saves money. The principle involved is to buy when the other fellow is most anxious to sell, and to sell when the other fellow is most eager to buy. Those who would take full advantage of market conditions in the buying and selling of household necessities, live stock, machinery, etc., are constantly on the look-out for opportunities presented in the local advertising medium. Are you alert to the opportunities which the advertising columns of the "Riponshire Advocate" present?

A NURSE FOR 20 YEARS. NURSE EVANS of Tasmania and Victoria, writes her opinion of CLEMENTS TONIC.

"I have been nursing for twenty years in Tasmania and Victoria, so my experience covers a lengthy period. When patients are weak and low, a nurse must know the best medicine to give a patient. Some I have never had been so ill I never could have taken their case only I knew Clements Tonic would quickly restore them to health. What I am writing is founded on experience that amongst all medicines Clements Tonic is first. It is the nurse's friend, a reliable medicine that will restore the sick to health." NURSE EVANS.

Always keep this medicine on hand and you will keep healthy. If you get it YOU WILL GET RELIEF FROM LOSS OF SLEEP, WEAKNESS, AFTER-ILLNESS, CONSTIPATION, INDIGESTION, POOR APPETITE, WEAK NERVES, and BILIOUSNESS. All STORES and CHEMISTS SELL IT.

HARRY HUNTER, PAINTER & PAPERHANGER, CO. 11, ST. GEORGE'S NEILL ST., BEAUFORT. Estimates free. Call or write.

GEO. SMITH'S SPECIAL SEEDS. MY Hardy Cold Climate FRUIT TREES, Rose Plants, Shrubs, etc., Grow vigorously when transplanted to milder districts. SMITH'S SEEDS AND PLANTS are Sold G. HONOR. TRY THEM. Cash Orders Delivered, FREIGHT PAID to any Railway Station. CATALOGUES Free on Application.

GEO. SMITH, SEED AND PLANT MERCHANT, BALLARAT. Est. 1864.

WE MAKE THE BEST BRIDAL PORTRAITS IN THE STATE. Therein lies our claim to your patronage. Of the thousands of Brides who have sat to us for their Bridal Portraits, we can safely say that not one has been dissatisfied. Neither will you be dissatisfied, so don't hesitate about writing to us, making the appointment. Bridal Veils, Wreaths, Bouquets, Buttonholes, &c., always available. Four lovely dressing rooms to avoid delay. ENLARGEMENTS. We make enlargements from any old or faded photograph, and give them that modern "touch" which makes them doubly attractive. Size of Photo. Size of Mount. 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IF YOU ARE SUFFERING from any such disease as ECZEMA, SCROFULA, BAD LEGS, ABSCESS, ULCERS, GLANDULAR SWELLINGS, BOILS, PIMPLES, SORES OF ANY KIND, PILES, BLOOD POISON, RHEUMATISM, GOUT, &c., don't waste your time and money on useless lotions and messy ointments which cannot get below the surface of the skin. What you want and what you must have to be permanently cured is a medicine that will thoroughly free the blood of the poisonous matter which alone is the true cause of all your suffering.

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WORTH £5 A DOSE. The result of a sword thrust in the back, she could not get him to leave her side. She had all at last he died, and the wound has completely healed. She told me that often after a long march she has written in agony and often fainted. When they were leaving to go to another station he came on purpose to say good-bye and thank me. He said he'd never forget me for being the cause of his trying it, and that it was worth £5 a dose. I think these cases are conclusive enough, and they are just as stated.—Yours truly, (Mrs.) M. Cousins, 187, Twyford Avenue, Portsmouth, England.

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STEVENSON BROS., BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS. HAVELOCK STREET, BEAUFORT. Estimates submitted for all work building line. Printed and published by the Proprietor, ARTHUR PARKER, at the office of the Riponshire Advocate newspaper, 14, Renwick Street, Beaufort, Victoria.

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HEARNE'S BRONCHITIS CURE. Those who have taken this medicine are amazed at its splendid healing power. Sufferers from Bronchitis, Cough, Croup, Asthma, Hoarseness, Difficulty of Breathing, Pain or Soreness in the chest, experience delightful and rapid relief, and to those who are subject to Colds on the Chest it is invaluable, as it effects a complete cure. It is most comforting in allaying irritation in the Throat and giving Strength to the Voice, and it neither allows a Cough or Asthma to become chronic nor Consumption to develop. Consumption is not known where "Coughs" have, on their first appearance, been properly treated with this medicine. No house should be without it, as taken at the beginning, a dose or two is generally sufficient, and a complete cure is certain. Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors.

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Australian Natives' Association THE Fortnightly Meeting of the Beaufort Branch, A.N.A., will be held in the MECHANICAL INSTITUTE on TUESDAY Evening, June 22, at 8 o'clock sharp. D. LINDSAY, Secretary. PROGRESS TENT, I.O.R., 43. THE Fortnightly Meeting will be held in the Societies' Hall on Tuesday next, at 8 p.m. GEO. PRINGLE, Secy.

BEREAVEMENT CARD. MR. and MRS. J. T. PARKER sincerely thank their many kind friends for sympathy shown them in their recent sad bereavement, and particularly the Rev. A. J. Stewart.

IN MEMORIAM. BAKER.—In memory of my dear husband and our dear father, William Baker, who died June 15th, 1907. Though lost to sight, To memory ever dear. —Inserted by his wife and children.

The Riponshire Advocate. Published every Saturday Morning. SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 1914.

The friends of Messrs G. Cromwell and J. Skilton, of Beaufort, will regret to hear of their indisposition. Ordinary correspondence bearing a late fee may be posted within 15 minutes after the time of closing the mail at the post office.

Mounted-constable Evans is temporarily in charge of the Beaufort police station. Sergeant Rohan, who left for Benalla, ceased duty on Monday. Senior-constable Hunter, of Camperdown, is to succeed Sergeant Rohan at Beaufort, the latter having been promoted to Benalla.

Mr. Mitchell, who has been stationed as a ganger at Beaufort for some considerable time, has been transferred to Kildare.

We are sorry to state that Mr. and Mrs. John Thomas Parker, of Eurambee, suffered a sad bereavement on Tuesday evening of last week, the death of their only child, a young son, aged 7 months and 2 weeks, from purpura hemorrhagica, from which she had suffered for about three months. The remains were interred in the Beaufort Cemetery on the 15th inst., a funeral being largely attended. The coffin-bearers were Messrs F. Jess and T. Caulfield. The Presbyterian burial service was read by the Rev. A. J. Stewart, Mr. A. H. Sands, undertaker, at Beaufort, carried out the mortuary arrangements.

For Cast Shares, all makes, Plow Chains, Harness, American Plows, Seed Drills and other Implements, you should try HAWKES BROS., The Ironmongers, Beaufort.

At a meeting of those interested in the formation of swimming baths, held at the Shire Hall on Thursday evening, it was decided to accept the offer of the land, and to recommend that the reserve opposite the Shire Hall was the most suitable site. One townsman remarked that perhaps the bathers would be up to the neck in water, whereupon a small voice suggested that perhaps the man who lived next to the reserve would consider having the bath next door to him as he was having the place used as a temporary resting place for the "midnight express."

The funeral of Mr. Chas. Trompf, which was largely attended, took place on Saturday afternoon, the remains being interred in the Beaufort Cemetery. The Rev. W. H. Chapman, Methodist minister, of Beaufort, conducted the service at the grave. The deceased's four sons—Messrs F. W. Trompf, H. A. Trompf, E. Trompf, and G. Trompf—and Mr. Wm. Chelwell, acted as coffin-bearers. The pall-bearers were Messrs R. A. D. Sinclair, W. Halpin, H. A. Trompf, G. P. Pringle, T. Sande, J. B. Cochran, A. A. Trompf, and G. H. Cougle. Messrs F. W. Barnes and Son, of Ballarat, had charge of the mortuary arrangements.

It is to be regretted that Mr. W. W. Pringle, who was elected to the office of Commonwealth electors, is advised to make certain they are enrolled, before it becomes too late. Enrolment ceases automatically at 6 o'clock of the day upon which the writs for the elections are issued. It is, of course, impossible to say what date that will be, but electors will be wise not to postpone the matter. The issue of the writs may come suddenly, and they have forfeited their right to vote. There is also the fact that those not enrolled are liable to be fined, unless they can show that they have notified the changes of address, can be obtained from any post office, or Commonwealth electoral registrar, or returning officer.

Mr. MARCHANT, Consulting Optician, of Geelong, will visit Beaufort on Friday, June 26th, till 10 a.m., and may be consulted at Welsh's Hotel.

A meeting of the Beaufort school committee was held at the Shire Hall on Monday night. Present—Messrs McKeich (chairman), Muntz (secretary), Seager, Driver, Noonan, Westendorff, Hannah, Tunk, Booth, E. Davis, T. Grace, B. Barrett, F. Ashman, G. Gordon, F. Maxwell, R. Bates, W. Morrissey, Johns, and W. Saddler. The main item on the agenda was the school, and that they would be forwarded as soon as practicable. From same, stating that no funds were available for either sloyd or cookery centres.

Received. The secretary stated that Inspector Hurley had informed Mr. Seager and he that there would be no difficulty in getting the classes if they provided a building. The chairman said they did not let it die out, but could consider it later. The secretary stated that one year and a half's rent had been received for the children's playground, and the school allowance there was a balance of £4 4/9 to spend. It was decided to expend about £3 in providing cupboards for 40 children's lunches at the school, and also to visit the school on Wednesday, 1st July. Mr. Acton, secretary of the Empire Day celebration committee, read a building plan for the school, which had amounted to £17 1/6, and the expenditure to £14 17/5, leaving a balance of £2 4/1, which was received and adopted. It was decided to vote £1 to the Beaufort Brass Band, £1 for scientific apparatus to the Beaufort school, and 4/1 to the Main Land school.

Mr. J. H. ROBERTSON, plumber and tin-smith, Windmill erected and repaired; stoneware gas installed. All sizes tanks on hand, or built to order. 100, 40, 60, 80 gallons. —Neil Street, opposite Bank of Victoria.

"COAGULINE," "KLEIN," "TENSABITINE." Comests for brucine, manufacturing purposes, etc.

FOOTBALL.

There was a good attendance of the public at the Beaufort football match on Saturday afternoon, when the local and Beaufort football clubs met in the first round of the Ararat district junior competition. The visitors were the Beaufort team, and the home players were in charge of J. Glover (captain) and B. Barrett (vice-captain). Mr. Battye was a fair and impartial umpire. For the first half the game was fairly fast and even, but in the last two quarters the Beaufortites did practically all the scoring, running out winners by 6 goals 4 behinds to 2 goals 6 behinds. The Beaufort team had a rather large "tail end," and there is ample room for improvement in the personnel of the combination. The first quarter opened with give and take play, and the centre and wings. Beaufort were the first to score, a goal being snapped by N. Dunn. Beaufort attacked strenuously, the ball being for times bound from a free kick Westendorff had a good chance for goal, but only sent up one flag. Following even play, Westendorff was awarded a free kick, and he was unsuccessful in getting the ball back to their end, and J. Meadows, from a free kick, notched a goal. Westendorff secured a free kick and passed to Westendorff, who found the opening for Beaufort. The oval, however, was touched by one on the wing, and a point scored. After fruitless play on the left wing near Beaufort's goal, time was called. The scores were then—Beaufort, 2 goals; Beaufort, 2 behinds; Beaufort, 2 goals. Beaufort, with a brisk attack, twice sending the ball out of bounds near goal. Beaufort then took charge, but Beaufort were not long in renewing the attack, and the Beaufort flag three times in succession. Some nice passing of the leather by Kenniburg, Hannah, and Westendorff resulted in Davis securing a mark, a goal being scored, and raising the two flags for Beaufort. A strong attack by Beaufort was successfully stayed off by Kenniburg. The blues soon returned the leather, only to be kept close to the sticks. Shortly afterwards G. Lees took a fine mark near goal, and added a major point to Beaufort's score. Beaufort, however, were unable to score, half-time was called. Scores—Beaufort, 3 goals; Beaufort, 1 goal 5 behinds. Beaufort put the wearers of the blue and white on the defensive, and the goal of the third term. From a long kick N. Dunn found the opening for the attackers, but the ball was touched and only a minor point registered. Beaufort, however, were aggressive, and pressed their opponents hard. Kenniburg secured the oval from Glover and snapped Beaufort's mark on the wing, and a goal was scored. Beaufort, however, were unable to score, half-time was called. Scores—Beaufort, 3 goals; Beaufort, 1 goal 5 behinds. Beaufort put the wearers of the blue and white on the defensive, and the goal of the third term. From a long kick N. 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MESHES OF FATE.

OR, THE CURSE OF THE BLUE DIAMONDS.

By Hedley Richards, Author of "The Mine Master's Heir," "Time, the Avenger," etc., etc.

CHAPTER I. A THIEF WHO DIDN'T CALL HIMSELF A THIEF.

"Thank Heaven!" The words were spoken by a tall, gaunt man of about thirty, who carried a pickaxe, spade, and a bundle, as he paused in front of a rough wooden shed.

He had walked many miles, and the sun was blazing as only an Australian sun can blaze, and the wayfarer who had worked many weary months at a claim and at last given it up in disgust, then set off hoping to find a spot that would give him some return for his toil.

But the place to which he was bound was still many miles distant, and he was weary and footsore, therefore the sight of this unexpected shelter caused him to exclaim with thankfulness.

It was not often he thought or spoke of the Almighty, not being a God-fearing man or a swearer, and the words were almost a surprise to himself.

"There's some one in the hut," he thought, as he pushed the door open and entered.

It was a small place, but some attempt had been made to make it comfortable. A rough cupboard stood in one corner, and there was a shelf and a few nails, on which hung a coat and hat, a fire was kindled on the earthen floor, with a hole through the roof as an exit for the smoke, a couple of stools, and a camp bed.

Joshua Wedmore had taken in all these details, though his gaze scarcely seemed to wander from the bed on which a man lay, evidently stricken with fever. His face was flushed, and his wide-open eyes had a wild look in them, as he flung his arms about restlessly, looking at him, the newcomer drew from his appearance, in spite of his unkempt beard and voice, that he was a gentleman—probably an aristocrat come from the old country to try his luck, which had evidently not been great, or he would not have lain there sick unto death, in the flush of his manhood.

"So you've come, Leonard. I hope you'll look after May and the boy. Why do you stand staring there? Can't you answer? I tell you May must be looked after," he said, in an excited tone.

"I'll look after them both, so be easy," said Joshua Wedmore, in a soothing tone, as he went towards the cupboard, where he found a decent stock of provisions and some whisky.

"I must get some water," he said; and laying down his pickaxe and bundle he took a can and set off in search of water. Looking round, he saw what seemed to be a track, and following it he came to a spring, and having filled the can he returned to the hut.

Thinking that the poor fellow was in need of a drink, he filled a cup with water, and raising his head he gave him some. As he did so he noticed that underneath the pillow, which was made of an old rug, was a revolver and a canvas bag.

Placing the empty cup on a stool, he drew the bag and the revolver away, then laid the man gently back and going to a corner of the hut he undid the string which was wound round and round the mouth of the bag. In another moment he had poured the contents on to a table, and at the sight of diamonds he uttered an exclamation of surprise. Perhaps the sound of the stones as they fell in a little heap aroused some memory in the sick man, as he put his hand under the pillow, and not finding what he wanted he began babbling about diamonds and May, while his hands were restlessly seeking the treasure. Joshua Wedmore did not take any notice of him; he was too busy contemplating the stones that lay on the table in front of him in the sunlight which flooded through the one window that had been roughly made by the owner of the hut.

The bag under the pillow had prepared him to find treasure. Nuggets of gold he had anticipated; but of diamonds he had not dreamed, and such wonderful blue diamonds!

There were a number of them; there was a marvellous blue diamond of uncommon size, and Joshua Wedmore told himself that it was worth a great deal of money. The little heap of stones that lay on the rude deal table was worth a fortune—probably a couple of hundred thousand pounds.

"What were nuggets of gold in comparison to this? A mere bagatelle. And the man lying on the bed had found all those. Where had he got them? What good would they do him now? His chances of recovery were small; it was not likely he would need them. The most probable thing was that he would die, and the person who found him would appropriate the diamonds."

These thoughts passed through Wedmore's mind in rapid succession, while his eyes remained fixed on the stones.

"If any one but the finder had to have them, why not he?" was the next thought. "Of course, there was a chance of the man recovering, but it was only a chance, and it seemed folly to leave them for the next comer," so he argued.

It was characteristic of Joshua Wedmore that he tried to make the best of a thing that he knew to be wrong. He was aware that he was taking rather a risk, but he was so greedy of gain that he was willing to take it, and he was so confident of his own cunning that he was sure to get away with it.

along. He had no objection to stealing if he could do it without being found out, but he disliked being called a thief. He wasn't honest even in his wickedness.

Having cheated himself into believing that the man on the bed was going to die, and that consequently he had a better right to the diamonds than any one else, he put them back into the bag, which he put them firmly, and after which he proceeded to mix himself a glass of whisky and water; then, taking some establishments out of the cupboard, he made a hearty meal, while the sick man talked in an incoherent fashion of May and the boy, and begged Leonard to sell the diamonds and give him the money.

At last Wedmore rose. He had rested and was refreshed with food and drink, so he prepared to sleep; but as he declined to give him another drink, then placing a cup of water on a stool by the bedside, he left the hut, fearing lest the invalid had a mate, who might on his return, discover that the diamonds had disappeared.

Walking at a rapid pace, he had soon put some miles between himself and the owner of the diamonds, and at dark he lay down to sleep in a rough hut under his coat, which served for a pillow. At sunrise he came to a store, where by good luck the people had a horse to sell, and buying it, he was soon riding swiftly towards Melbourne.

A day or two later he arrived there, and having sold the horse for what he could get, he took a second-class passage to England, and after day Mr. Hetherington grew weaker, and at last the food was nearly all eaten, save a few biscuits and a couple of oranges. The water, too, was almost all used, so it happened that one night, when his companion was sleeping fitfully, Josh settled down to think while he let the boat drift.

Starvation faced them. In a day or two all the provisions would be gone and beside hunger there would be thirst. If there was only some food and water, and Josh had a few dollars, he would have been able to buy some. But he had no money, and he was in a predicament.

"Well, how are you feeling?" The dying man smiled.

"I'm satisfied. I know my time's nearly up, and I'm not sorry to go. Life has been something of a disappointment to me, but I've tried to do my duty, and now I'm going to join those who have gone ahead. But before I said good-bye to the world, I had to make my will. The captain drew it up and it has been properly witnessed. I don't think you'll have any trouble about stepping into your inheritance."

"My inheritance!" exclaimed Josh. "I have left you everything—my estate and all the money I have saved, after the legacies to the servants are paid. I don't feel that by doing this I am wronging any one. My two nearest relations are second cousins, both wealthy men, who have married rich women. They don't need my money, and never expected it would come to them. My nephew would have had all, but it pleased God to take him, and I want to reward you for your kindness to me. Moreover, I should like to give you a chance of making something of your life. You didn't succeed at the diggings, but I think you have it in you to be a useful man—one who will make his mark. I want you to settle down at Wynthshay Hall, and look after the estate and the tenantry, then you might take a part in public life. Josh, you have energy and ability; you are a man of resources. I'm giving you a chance, and you are not married, must mate with a woman in the position that will be yours."

Here Mr. Hetherington paused exhausted, and Josh gave him a drink of weak brandy, and water that stood on a table near. After a moment he went on:

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"While I stood there, feeling almost stupefied with the revelation, not realising that I was eavesdropping, I heard the man propose that she should get on with me, and I was so shocked that I became my wife's enemy."

"The difference that the weather had changed, and there was a steady downpour of rain, which did not seem to trouble Wedmore, who was greatly troubled by the rain, and looking more civilised than he had done when he and his companion were picked up; in fact, he looked altogether different from the man who had gone on board the Fairy Queen at Melbourne. In the first place, he was wearing a well-cut suit of dark blue serge, that had been part of the captain's wardrobe, and being a tall man, his clothes fitted Josh fairly well, also he had shaved both his moustache and the long straggling beard, and was now clean shaven, which made a complete alteration in his appearance, giving him a smarter look."

"Mr. Zetman, Mr. Hetherington wishes to see you. I have drawn up a will at his request, and he has just signed it in my presence and that of the two mates. I don't think he can last long, poor fellow."

"Yes, I was a clerk in the old country, and I thought I should find gold, but—"

"But you haven't been very successful, I see," replied his companion.

"What makes you think that?" Mr. Zetman smiled.

"Because you were a second-class passenger, and a man who has made his pile usually likes to spend lavishly, and let the world know of his success."

Josh chuckled.

"You are about right there," he said; but as he spoke he thrust his hand inside the bosom of his shirt, and fingered the bag of diamonds lovingly.

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"Mr. Zetman, Mr. Hetherington wishes to see you. I have drawn up a will at his request, and he has just signed it in my presence and that of the two mates. I don't think he can last long, poor fellow."

"Yes, I was a clerk in the old country, and I thought I should find gold, but—"

"But you haven't been very successful, I see," replied his companion.

"What makes you think that?" Mr. Zetman smiled.

"Because you were a second-class passenger, and a man who has made his pile usually likes to spend lavishly, and let the world know of his success."

Josh chuckled.

"You are about right there," he said; but as he spoke he thrust his hand inside the bosom of his shirt, and fingered the bag of diamonds lovingly.

Day after day passed, and each day Mr. Hetherington grew weaker, and at last the food was nearly all eaten, save a few biscuits and a couple of oranges. The water, too, was almost all used, so it happened that one night, when his companion was sleeping fitfully, Josh settled down to think while he let the boat drift.

Starvation faced them. In a day or two all the provisions would be gone and beside hunger there would be thirst. If there was only some food and water, and Josh had a few dollars, he would have been able to buy some. But he had no money, and he was in a predicament.

"Well, how are you feeling?" The dying man smiled.

"I'm satisfied. I know my time's nearly up, and I'm not sorry to go. Life has been something of a disappointment to me, but I've tried to do my duty, and now I'm going to join those who have gone ahead. But before I said good-bye to the world, I had to make my will. The captain drew it up and it has been properly witnessed. I don't think you'll have any trouble about stepping into your inheritance."

"My inheritance!" exclaimed Josh. "I have left you everything—my estate and all the money I have saved, after the legacies to the servants are paid. I don't feel that by doing this I am wronging any one. My two nearest relations are second cousins, both wealthy men, who have married rich women. They don't need my money, and never expected it would come to them. My nephew would have had all, but it pleased God to take him, and I want to reward you for your kindness to me. Moreover, I should like to give you a chance of making something of your life. You didn't succeed at the diggings, but I think you have it in you to be a useful man—one who will make his mark. I want you to settle down at Wynthshay Hall, and look after the estate and the tenantry, then you might take a part in public life. Josh, you have energy and ability; you are a man of resources. I'm giving you a chance, and you are not married, must mate with a woman in the position that will be yours."

Here Mr. Hetherington paused exhausted, and Josh gave him a drink of weak brandy, and water that stood on a table near. After a moment he went on:

"I am going to tell you a secret. It is one I have carried over twenty years, but when you have heard what I have to say, you will understand why I am telling you."

"Years ago I was a young fellow between twenty and thirty. I was engaged to a very lovely girl. She was the niece to our vicar, and had been brought up in Italy by her mother, who was a widow, and being an Italian, at her husband's death she had decided to settle in her own country. When she died, Lucille came to England to live at the vicarage. Three months after she was promised to me, and I believe I was the happiest man living during our brief courtship. The only thing that marred my happiness was Lucille's extreme variability. Sometimes she was radiantly happy, some-times moody and depressed. I could not understand what troubled her, and begged her to trust me, but it was useless. She always laughed, and told me there was no reason for her moods."

"One evening it was moonlight. I had been to see an old friend who was ill, and returning through a wood, which led to a field path, I was startled by hearing the voice of Lucille. She was speaking in Italian, which I understood well enough to learn that she was talking to a man to whom she had been married while in Italy. She had found out too late that he was a villain. Afterwards she heard that he was dead, and believed herself free to marry me again. But the report of his death was false, and he had followed her to England, and hearing in the village of our engagement, he contrived to have a letter delivered to Lucille, asking her to meet him in the wood."

"While I stood there, feeling almost stupefied with the revelation, not realising that I was eavesdropping, I heard the man propose that she should get on with me, and I was so shocked that I became my wife's enemy."

"The difference that the weather had changed, and there was a steady downpour of rain, which did not seem to trouble Wedmore, who was greatly troubled by the rain, and looking more civilised than he had done when he and his companion were picked up; in fact, he looked altogether different from the man who had gone on board the Fairy Queen at Melbourne. In the first place, he was wearing a well-cut suit of dark blue serge, that had been part of the captain's wardrobe, and being a tall man, his clothes fitted Josh fairly well, also he had shaved both his moustache and the long straggling beard, and was now clean shaven, which made a complete alteration in his appearance, giving him a smarter look."

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THE FEDERAL ELECTIONS.

THE FEDERAL ELECTIONS. ENROLMENT NECESSARY TO BE ABSENT VOTERS... The fact that the enrolment may be very short, there is no reason to suppose that the rolls now being put up will be any more than the usual number of the electors...

BEAUFORT A.N.A.

Mr. J. B. Prentice (president) occupied the chair at the fortnightly meeting of the Beaufort branch, A.N.A., on Tuesday night. Sixteen members were present. The general secretary wrote forwarding statement of Government stock and interest for half-year, and also in regard to registration of members' wives...

FOOTBALL.

BEAUFORT V. ARARAT TRINITY. BEAUFORT PARK. THIS AFTERNOON. ADMISSION, SIXPENCE. J. B. STRAUGHAN, Secy.

MINE MANAGERS' CERTIFICATES.

THE Board of Examiners will hold sittings in Melbourne and the various mining districts shortly to deal with applications for first and second class certificates of service as Mine Managers of Metalliferous Mines...

HOW TO NEUTRALISE DANGEROUS STOMACH ACIDS.

The people who are troubled with indigestion, flatulency, and other ailments of the stomach, will find relief in the use of a certain preparation...

ELECTION NOTICES.

MR. J. HUME COOK, THE SELECTED LIBERAL SENATE CANDIDATE, WILL ADDRESS A MEETING OF THE ELECTORS OF BEAUFORT AND SURROUNDING DISTRICTS IN THE HALL, BUANGOR, AT 8 P.M., AND SOCIETIES' HALL, BEAUFORT, AT 8 P.M., ON FRIDAY, JULY 3RD.

SENATOR BARNES will ADDRESS THE ELECTORS ON SATURDAY, 27th JUNE, 1914, at 4 p.m., at WATERLOO MECHANICS' INSTITUTE; and at SOCIETIES' HALL, BEAUFORT, at 8 p.m.

AUSTRALIAN MUTUAL PROVIDENT SOCIETY. Victoria Branch: 459 Collins Street, Melbourne.

NOTICE.—It is the intention of the Society, after one month from this date, to issue under the Companies Act, No. 1074, a Special Policy, in place of Policy No. 30787, on the life of Thomas Walker Hamish.

FOOTBALL. BEAUFORT V. ARARAT TRINITY. BEAUFORT PARK. THIS AFTERNOON. ADMISSION, SIXPENCE. J. B. STRAUGHAN, Secy.

MISS M. E. ROWLAND, UNIVERSITY CERTIFICATED STUDENT, Will receive Pupils for Piano (practical, theory), Singing, and Painting. NEILL STREET, BEAUFORT.

Religious Services.

SUNDAY, JUNE 28th, 1914. METHODIST CHURCH.—Beaufort, 11; Chute, 3; Raglan, 7.—Rev. W. H. Chapman. Beaufort, 7.—Mr J. Stringer. Raglan, 3.—Mr G. Boyd.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR A MINING LEASE.

THE UNDERSIGNED, hereby give notice that, within ten days from the date hereof, I will leave with the Warden of the Mining Division of Beaufort an application for a lease, the particulars whereof are hereunder set forth:—

GRAND ANNUAL CATHOLIC BALL & POULTRY SUPPER.

IN SOCIETIES' HALL, BEAUFORT, ON WEDNESDAY, 1st JULY, 1914. Dancing at 8.30 p.m. Cards. Efficient M.C. First-class Orchestra engaged. DOUBLE TICKET, 7/6; EXTRA LADY, 2/6. T. J. RODGERS, Hon. Secy.

SHIRE OF RIPON.

NOTICE is hereby given that at a meeting of the Council of the Shire of Ripon, held at the Shire Hall, Beaufort, on Monday, the 22nd day of June, 1914, the said council did agree to the following resolution:—

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The "Catch" of the Season. It's the event every economising housekeeper has been waiting for, because she knows from past experience that our Bargains are Genuine, our Goods and Garments new and up-to-date, and that we offer every inducement to help us clear out every vestige of our Winter Stock.

OUR BIG WINTER SALE. affords the biggest and best opportunity of the Season for you to buy your Winter Wear at rigorously reduced prices. The Goods are marked in plain figures, and you can see for yourself how mercifully we have cut into the original prices.

BARGAINS IN COSTUMES. Navy Serge Costumes, 27/6, 35/. Tailor made. Ladies' Sports' Coats, 9/6. Ladies' Coats and Girls' Ulsters, under cost.

BARGAINS IN EVERY DEPARTMENT.

J.R. Woltherspoon & Co. BEAUFORT AND BUANGOR.

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The "Catch" of the Season. Illustration of a man in a hat holding a large fish labeled "BIG BARGAINS".

BARGAINS IN DRESS MATERIALS. Cotton Cashmeres, 5d. Heavy Striped Tweeds, 5/11 dress. Navy and Cream Serges, 1/6 yard. Choice Shades in Velveteens, at 10/3d.

BARGAINS IN MEN'S WEAR. Men's Tweed Overcoats, good patterns, 15, 17.6. Men's Tweed Suits, to measure, 35. Fit guaranteed. Men's Fashion Shirts, good patterns, 2/6, 3/6.

HARRY HUNTER, PAINTER & PAPERHANGER, C/O. MISS M'CAE, NEILL-ST., BEAUFORT.

THEO. W. SCHLICHT, Auctioneer, Stock and Station and Financial Agent, BEAUFORT & SKIPTON.

W. H. HALPIN, AUCTIONEER, HOUSE, LAND, STOCK, GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT & VALUATOR.

W. H. HALPIN, Auctioneer, has been favored with instructions from Mr THOMAS FETTER and the SANDHURST and NORTHERN DISTRICT TRUSTEES, EXECUTORS AND AGENCY CO., LTD., of View Street, Bendigo.

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It's Sale Time! At last the Gong has sounded, and the Store resounds with the Lucy tread of Fager Bargain Hunters. There's a host of Bargains in Every Department—none of this Season's Stock is to be carried over till next season.

EVERY PRICE REDUCED. Men's Tweed Overcoats, good patterns, 15, 17.6. Men's Tweed Suits, to measure, 35. Fit guaranteed. Men's Fashion Shirts, good patterns, 2/6, 3/6.

EVERY PRICE REDUCED. BARGAINS IN MEN'S WEAR. Men's Tweed Overcoats, good patterns, 15, 17.6. Men's Tweed Suits, to measure, 35. Fit guaranteed. Men's Fashion Shirts, good patterns, 2/6, 3/6.

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Hawkes Bros., GENERAL HARDWARE AND TIMBER MERCHANTS, BEAUFORT. Large Stocks always on hand of FENCING WIRE, Black & Galv. BARBED WIRE, WIRE NETTING, DROPPERS.

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