The Only Way

A Fascinating Romance by Alan Adair....

CHAPTER I.

"It's the only thing to do," said Alan, thrusting his hands into his pockets and looking straight before him. "Here there is nothing for me; and, as you say, there is nothing to keep me here. It was her wish besides, and yet, yet I hate leaving it."

had very little knowledge of either the usual amusements or the perplexities of life.

When he had finally said good-by to his native place his spirits began to rise within him. The world and adventure were before him. He had said good-by to the old life, but the new was there. He had never been so far as Glasgow before, and the big town with its lighted streets and the ships in the river, attracted him. After all there was something pleasing in these things. Large enterprises and wealth attracted and had charms after all. So that it was with a lighter heart that Alan Mackenzie embarked finally.

He loved the voyage. Heredity counts for something and his father had loved the sea. He felt it was his own element. When he reached Rio it was with high hopes and resolves to make his mark. He had a kind reception from Richard Dempster and here again Alan felt the charm of riches and power. Dempster's house was one of the best in Rio, his clerks were well paid, and his wife and daughters occupied a place second to none in society. Dempster wanted Alan to become accustomed to the work, and then to found another branch of the house in a mining town some hundred miles away.

Dempster had two daughters, fine, fresh, handsome girls, but no sons. The obvious thing would have been for Alan Mackenzie to have fallen in love with one of the girls, to have settled down comfortably and prosperously in Rio; but there was one thing against it. There was a little vein of romance in Alan's nature, and he disliked the obvious. Besides, he had the independent man's dislike to being beholden to his wife for his advancement. So that although he was on terms of perfect friendship with Ina and Eleanor Dempster, yet he neither sought nor wished for any stronger feeling.

The girls looked with favor on the handsome young Scotsman, who worked so hard, of whom their father had such a high opinion, and who was, moreover, always perfectly willing to be at their beck and call.

Alan soon found friends in Rio. Dempster's position was almost unique, and when it became known that he looked with favor on the young Scotsman, every one joined in making fun of him.

Most of the employes in the firm were married, and they constituted a little circle to themselves. Alan had the run of their houses and soon began to feel at home; however, amongst them there was one man to whom he never took. An Englishman, Hutchinson by name, a surly, red-haired brute, with a magnificent head for figures. He was the one man whom Mackenzie did not like, although he had never quarreled with him; but he fancied that it seemed as if Hutchinson had a particular grudge against him.

This surmise on Alan's part was well founded, for, as a matter of fact, when Dempster found him so intelligent he had thought it might be well to raise him to Hutchinson's place.

"Struck you? The brute!" cried Alan. "The detestable brute! How dare he strike a woman?"

The girl's eyes were cast down; she seemed ashamed. Perhaps she had not yet realized her womanhood completely. "He has a violent temper, sir, and perhaps I do not manage him well. I have no mother, she died years ago."

"Fortunately for her," said Alan grimly, "if your father is the sort of man who would strike a woman."

"You see," said the girl, "it seems that this is important. My father had promised my hand to a man. He is a Mexican Spaniard, and they think nothing of arranging marriages for you, but I could not marry him. I said so, and my father is not used to being thwarted. He was angry at something in business, too, so the moment, perhaps, was hardly chosen well."

"Your father is not Hutchinson, of the firm of Dempster?" said Alan. Somehow it did not seem to him likely that Hutchinson could be the father of such a beautiful girl, and yet it was not unlikely, seeing that he had found her there.

"Yes," she said.

"He should not have done it," said Alan shortly. "The coward! I can well believe it of him."

"You do not know him?" she said very anxiously. "But do not quarrel with him! It is not good to thwart him!"

"Possibly not," said Alan, "but these considerations do not affect me, you see."

Her lips quivered, but she did not weep again. "They might affect me, though," she said, timidly.

"How?"

"If he knew that I had told you. He does not like me to speak to any one. I have to bear it all alone," said the girl.

Alan looked indignant. "I shall not betray you, Miss Hutchinson," he said, "but I wish——"

"You must wish nothing," said the girl, and she colored. "You must forget that you saw me weep. I am proud, and it troubles me."

"I wish I had no cause," he answered; "but I have business with your father. I hope I may see you again."

She hesitated. "You will not tell father you have seen me?" she said. "He is strange; he does not like it to be known that he has a daughter, except to his Spanish and Mexican friends."

"I will say nothing," said Alan, "but I mean to see you again."

He lifted his hat, found his horse, and rode up to the house.

(To be continued.)

KITCHENER'S READINESS.

Was Willing to Black Lord Roberts Boots or Do Other Work.

On the steamer which conveyed him to Gibraltar, where he was to meet Lord Roberts, Lord Kitchener was accosted by an officer who introduced himself with the reminder that he had once been intrusted by Col. Kitchener with a message to the then commander-in-chief in India. Lord Kitchener recognized his old acquaintance immediately, but could not recall the message referred to. "It was 15 years ago or more," said his friend, "but I recollect it. You asked me if I had a chance to speak to Lord Roberts on your behalf and beg him to find you a job in the East near him, if possible. You told me to say you would black his boots or do any earthly thing for him then." "I've no doubt I said that," replied Lord Kitchener, "for I would black his boots or do any mortal thing for him now."—Sphere.

Singing Canaries at School.

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Money Value of Shakespeare's Fame.

The London Financial News estimates that the fame which attaches to Stratford-on-Avon because of the fact that Shakespeare was born there is worth $50,000 to that town.

The Sermon and the Boy.

Where Municipal Ownership Pays.

The annual report of Supt. John Lorenz, just issued, shows that the gas works earned a net profit, above all expenses and interest, last year, $9,975.99. The electric light plant cleared $3,219.14, and the water works, which is under a separate superintendent, is much more. In addition the properties are valued at $600,000.

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R. E. WERKMAN.

Rocking Seats for Bowing Royalty.

It is not generally known that when royal personages intend to take a long public drive, in the course of which they will undoubtedly be compelled to bow several hundred times, that a rocking seat is arranged in the carriage. Such a seat helps the perpetual bowing motion which otherwise would produce a fearful headache, if not injury to the spine. Queen Victoria used such a carriage for all her long drives in Dublin recently.

Monument at Waterloo.

M. Gerome, the French sculptor, has been commissioned by a French military and historical club to design a monument to be placed on the field of Waterloo at the spot where the last

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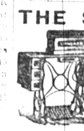

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