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THE FLOWER OF GALA WATER.

A LOVE STORY.

BY AMELIA E. BARR.

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CHAPTER III.
CONTINUED.

"Mr. Mowbray will feel much obliged to you. Bolts and bars cannot keep out love. Do you imagine the 'Rules' of a ladies school will be more successful?"

"You will see what I will do! Do you think I will permit a couple of silly women to break my plans to pieces?"

"There has been some excellent fooling done by silly women in all ages, Alexander. You had better not try your wit against them."

"My will is sufficient. I say that Katherine shall marry James Wintoun."

"If she wills, not unless."

Then she went out of the room and left him alone with his will. And there was a smile on her face, not like unto the smile of an obedient woman. It was more like the smile of a woman who is anticipating a controversy and is certain of victory.

CHAPTER IV.

"I MUST SEE MY DARLING."

This earth where on we dream
Is girdled round and bound by the high
Unconquered Mountains of Necessity,
Sparing us narrower margin than we deem.

ARNOLD.

"No joy so great but runneth to an end,
No hap so hard but may in time amend."

—GASCOIGNE.

Two letters arrived at the manse very early next morning. One was from Mrs. Brathous to Jessy asking her to request Mr. Mowbray not to visit Levens-hope for two or three weeks. "She was," she said, "fully resolved to stand by the promise she had made him with regard to Katherine, but she must have time to consider the kindest and best way to manage the future." In truth, the lady was much troubled and perplexed. She had, perhaps, a more affectionate feeling toward the laird than she was really aware of; at any rate, she did recognize a certain loyalty to his interests as incumbent upon her. Also Jamie Wintoun had some claim to be considered. He had won a large share of her liking. She could not remember one instance in which he had been thoughtless of her feelings or neglectful of her wishes. To injure him both in his affections and his estate did seem a little too bad; but she was in hopes that if time was taken to look at the situation reasonably, some financial arrangement favorable to Wintoun could be made. Hence, she wished Mowbray to keep out of sight, since the laird would only be irritated by his presence.

The other letter was a very intemperate one from the laird to the minister.

"DEAR SIR: I hope you will use the power given you to get the man Mowbray away from Gala Water. He is an offence to my sight and to my ear, and he has been seeking Katherine's love without word or warrant from me. I think it is your duty as a minister to keep peace in families, and I expect you to get the man over the border to his own home, and also to look well after your daughter lest she make or meddle in matters beyond her judgment and dishonor herself or you or the whole kirk. Hopefully,

"ALEXANDER LAIRD OF LEVENS."

The minister, who was a man of fiery spirit, answered his letter promptly with two words, which are better not printed, especially as Jessy pretended not to hear them. The second reply was more elaborate, but just as truthful.

"DEAR LAIRD: I have your letter, and I am sorry for it. There is no excuse for such a bit of ridiculous writing. Mr. Mowbray going up and down Gala Water is on the king's highway, and he has as much right there as you or any other man. As for my duty, if I fail in it, the Presbytery will ask me the reason why. I am put under neither laird nor master. And I will beg leave to remind you of your own shortcomings, for if all good people who offended your eyes and ears were to be banished from Gala Water, you would find yourself in a desert. You are ill to please, laird, and that is the truth; and if the truth hurts you, I am only doing part of that 'duty' you remind me of. As for the Flower of Gala Water, I see no harm in any good gentleman admiring her sweet beauty and trying to win her. Katherine Janfarie is a woman, and is, therefore, not beyond wooing and winning. I believe in love marriages, laird. I think the union of hearts is better than that of purses. And I will further ask you to remember that, though you may be laird of Levens, I am minister of Kirtle-hope; and that Levens lies within my parish and spiritual jurisdiction. You must give your own message to my daughter. I will carry all words for no man. But I have no reasonable doubt that Katherine Janfarie and Jessy Telfair will continue to make and meddle with each other's joys and sorrows, your orders and my advice to the contrary notwithstanding. For we are neither of us men to make the women of this day pay much heed to our likings and dislikings. I hope to hear tell of you soon in a more wise-like and Christian-like spirit; and so, wishing you well, I am your faithful minister,

"JOHN CAL'N TELFAIR."

Having written this letter, Doctor Telfair went up the water toward Galashiels. He thought it likely he would meet Mowbray, who was staying at the Galashiels Hotel. He was not sure that he meant to interfere at all with the young man's love affairs; he was simply in that mental condition which seeks the guiding of circumstances. He might meet Mowbray and he might not. If they did meet he might speak of Katherine and he might think it best not to do so.

A mile up the water he did meet Mowbray. The young man was riding slowly and thoughtfully toward Levenshope. He was very happy. He knew that Katherine loved him, and he did not spoil his joy by questioning and qualifying it. He was going to see her, and the sweet air, the bright sunshine and the spirit of summer were going with him. The prodigious ingratitude of a selfish lover he knew nothing of. He was carrying his soft hat, and the fresh wind was blowing his hair. The bridle lay loosely in his grasp; he was humming softly to himself a little love song.

When the minister passed him he alighted from his horse, threw the bridle over his arm and walked by his side. There was a little heaven wrangling on the white bushes, and they had still to watch its body incline toward the sun, its head thrown back, its breast swelling with ecstasy.

"He is singing to his love," said Mowbray. "The bird is enchanted! See how his wings flutter!"

"Wings! Wings!" cried the minister,

"'Wings that no hawk may see
In the noontide morning's heat'

"Oh, that I had wings like a dove!"

His face was sad; he was already sorry for the letter he had written.

"I have been angry this morning, Mr. Mowbray," he continued, "and I am out of frame with myself for I can tell you that there cannot a man be angry before he has ceased striving for the truth; and he has begun to strive for himself. I think you had better ride to the manse. Miss Telfair will have a word or two to say to you. As for me, I must talk with my own heart for an hour."

Then Mowbray understood that there was some annoyance, and the laird's behavior on the previous night gave him the key to it. So he thanked Doctor Telfair and rode rapidly forward, his joy having been suddenly turned into anxiety.

In the meantime the laird had been making every one at Levens as unhappy as possible. He was scolding about the strawberry beds before breakfast, and nothing at that meal satisfied him. The oatmeal was half boiled, the chops were burned, the rolls cold, the coffee muddy. He kept the footman on a trot between the breakfast parlor and the kitchen most of the time, and it gratified him to see the young man in a state of tears and trembling. For he was angry at the silent dignity of Mrs. Brathous and Katherine. He felt that his complaints ought to have been indorsed by them. Their non-interference was a tacit disapproval of his misconduct.

After the disagreeable meal was over, the ladies were leaving the room together. He recalled them in what he intended to be a very authoritative manner; but Mrs. Brathous detected in it that tone of bluster which is always the sign of cowardly timidity and she asked promptly

"What do you want with us, Alexander?"

"I have something very important to say to Katherine. Come here, miss. You will be married on the 29th of September. It is Jamie's birthday, and he may as well make it his marriage-day."

"You are going beyond bounds on every side, laird," answered Mrs. Brathous for her daughter. "It is the right of the bride to choose her wedding-day, and her husband also. And I doubt if you have word or warrant from Jamie for what you say. You may be laird of Levens-hope, but Katherine Janfarie is beyond your ordering."

"It is high time that I took matters in hand. Girls that are as good as married playing shuttlecock with two men's hearts! It is not respectable. I am not able to bear it. I did not sleep well last night, and to lose my sleep is as much as my life is worth. I am so nervous this morning it is really pitiful. I will not suffer in this way for any girl's vanity. Flirt, flirt, flirting, morning, noon and night!"

"Alexander, take heed what you say. You are slandering my daughter."

"I say Katherine is a flirt! She is all the same as Jamie's wife, yet I saw her making eyes at that Englishman and whispering in corners with him. I saw her!"

"It is not the truth."

"Is she not betrothed to James Wintoun?"

"No."

"Helen Brathous!"

"I say 'No,' not unless she desires the marriage. A promise made at twelve years of age could hardly be binding on a woman of nineteen, even if it had been an unconditional promise. Katherine nor I ever regarded it as anything but provisional—if she liked, if Wintoun liked, if we were both in the same mind."

"Well, women beat all! I will have no more to say to either of you. But the wedding will take place. So you make ready for it or not, just as it pleases you. It is no longer a question of women's likes or dislikes. I will take the law to my side. Just understand that, will you? For behind Alexander Brathous stands the lord chancellor and the court, and if I cannot manage my lady Katherine I will even make her a ward of chancery and put Mr. Mowbray—or whatever the fellow's name is—under bonds for good behavior. Now you may go your ways—both of you—for I am just worn out with the care and worry of another man's daughter. I lost my good sleep all night, and I have a palpitation of the heart even now, that is like enough to get worse."

"I suppose Katherine has some rights, Alexander?"

"Rights! No! She has privileges and they are all and everything that a good girl wants. She has the privilege of as fine a home as there is in Tweedside. She has the privilege of a good mother and of a guardian wise and faithful to good the common; she has the privilege of a marriage far better than she merits, for as a lot of fools have called her the Flower of Gala Water she has the very great privilege of owning many a bonnie brae and necklace by Gala Water, and of blooming her life away in them. And as sure as my name is Alexander Brathous, I will let no English body transplant the Flower of Gala Water. The man that tries it will never cross the border home again!"

"That is all gasconading and braggadocia! You are as yet like Peter, and always eat the best at the end of it."

"Madam! Madam! I will——"

"You do. You know you do. Come, Katherine," and though the laird sprang up and struck the table with his closed hand, and even mildly swore a little, the ladies went calmly out of his presence, leaving him without a single promise, and with a very positive sense of defeat.

But the opportunity to explain and defend himself was an absolute necessity of his nature, and he was sorry now that he had written to the minister. It was above all things desirable that he should have his good word and support.

"However," he mentally concluded, "I will just ride over to the manse. I will go on to my Barbary mare with my man in the Levens livery behind me. Telfair will give me a bit to that, and when I—the laird of Levens—hope—say a few words with a ring of apology in them, the minister will be glad enough to put the offense away with a shuff of the hand or a polite word or the like of that. For it is true as Gospel that the minister is just a nobody without the laird behind him."

He put on his tight-cut-sitting riding-coat and his Dent saddle-gloves, called his Barbary mare and his man Archibald, and rode proudly down the main avenue. Before he reached the big gates he met the minister's man with the minister's letter. It was blow the second and rather harder to meet than his wife's defence.

"Such a like letter," he muttered when he had read it through. "The man writes to me as if I was a very sinner. The comely humility of a Presbyter indeed! A more prelatic spirit could not be found in a High Episcopal. I am just distracted with the insult. Levens-hope in his parish and spiritual jurisdiction! Humph—h'f—h'f!" and snorting out his defiance of this truth he turned his finely caparisoned animal to Wintoun House.

He found Jamie in precisely the mood he desired. The young man was feeling hurt and wronged, and his uncle's sympathy was sweet and his promises comforting.

"It is all in your own hands, Jamie," he said, "the woman you love and the estate which it would break both our hearts to see rouped and sold."

"I will do anything reasonable, uncle, but I do not like to give Katherine pain or annoyance of any kind."

"Katherine does not know her own mind. She has no idea of what is good for her. No girl at her age has. Fathers and mothers and guardians have to watch them as if they had the death fever. At nineteen years of age the whole generations of women go demented about the man of their choice; they always have and they always will. It is a kind of crisis; get them over it and they take gratefully the sensible husband selected for them. You have been too kind with Katherine. Be more masterful. Make her take good fortune from your hands, and when she is married she will come to her senses and thank you. I had to take the mastery with her mother. I have to do so yet, Jamie. I had to do it this morning," he added, with incautious self-complacency that did not impose upon his nephew.

"I was thinking of going to Switzerland for a few months. I have heard that climbing glaciers is a cure for love."

"And leave the ground to your rival? I wish I could give you some of my spirit. On the contrary, be at Levens-hope early and late. Keep every privilege you have gained with a tight grip. Tell Katherine you want to be married in September. Speak of Paris and Rome and St. Petersburg and the North Pole, if it suits her for a wedding trip. Send her rings and brooches of all kinds. Get the whole countryside talking of your marriage; most women would rather die than have people say their wedding was broken off. Man, Jamie! If you let that fellow, Mowbray, steal your wife, you may just as well give him your estate; and if you let Wintoun slip, I am not likely to trust you with Levens-hope."

"Do not threaten, uncle; I need neither threats nor promises where Katherine is concerned."

TO BE CONTINUED.

Only Two Faults.

"Now that you have bought and paid for the horse," said the man with a self-satisfied chuckle, "I want to tell you in confidence that it has only got two faults."

"Well, what are they?"

"When he is in the field he is very difficult to catch."

"Oh, I don't mind that. I'll soon catch him. What is the other fault?"

"Why, when you have caught him he is not worth anything."—Tit-Bits.

WHITE SUPREMACY

How It Will Be Made Permanent

BY CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

A Conversation Between a Business Man and a Farmer--No Property Qualification.

[Concluded From Last Week.]

Farmer: "That seems to be so. It not only does not deny anybody the right to vote but it seems to me rather to confer upon certain persons the right to vote."

Business Man: "That is it exactly. But let us, in this connection, examine section 4. That is the only section of the amendment that bridges the negroes' right to vote, as you will see by reading it. That section does not allow any negro to vote unless he can read and write. That is a clear abridgement of the general right to vote; a clear denial of the right to vote to all negroes who can not read and write; but the denial is because of the lack of education on the part of the negro; because he cannot read and write, not on account of his race, color or previous condition. So that as seen by reading the two sections that it is not the 5th section which denies or abridges the right of a negro to vote, but it is the 4th section, and the 4th section denies and abridges his right, not because of his race, but because he does not possess certain educational qualifications, which the State has a perfect right, as everybody admits, to impose. Now then as proven that neither of these two sections violates the Constitution of the United States when taken separately. Of course, therefore, if when taken together they should violate that Constitution, the unconstitutional element would be in the combination of the two and not in either taken separately, and of course both would have to fall together."

Farmer: "Well, really, that seems to be clear from the reading of the two sections. Now, I would like to ask you if there is any propriety of the two sections taken together being held to be unconstitutional?"

Business Man: "None in the world. I am not a lawyer, but I have talked with a great many able lawyers about this matter and I have read pretty much all that has been said on it, and I find that every lawyer of any standing who has investigated the amendment has reached the conclusion that it is constitutional. I know some lawyers who thought it was not constitutional when they first read it, but on such as have investigated it they changed their minds. I understand that our amendment is a copy of the Louisiana amendment and that this was prepared by two of the greatest lawyers the South has produced, after long investigation, and that they prepared it so that it would not be open to valid constitutional objections. I know Rutler and Prichard say that it is unconstitutional. But neither of them has any reputation as a lawyer. Indeed, one of them at one time just got his license. Senator Morgan's opinion upon this subject it seems to me, ought to be accepted as settling this question. He is reckoned as the greatest man the South has produced since the war, and is the ablest lawyer in the United States Senate, and he declared in a speech delivered in the Senate a few days ago that he had carefully investigated it, and it was clearly constitutional. In fact, he said the Supreme court of the United States had already in a case from Mississippi decided practically the legal principle involved in favor of the constitutionality of the amendment. All this talk about the amendment being unconstitutional is simply to scare the people. Have not you noticed every time the people want to enact into law any great reform, the opponents of the people raise the question of its unconstitutionality? If the people were to listen to these demagogues they would never change their laws in any important particular."

Farmer: "I never took any stock in the suggestion that the Grandfather clause would be struck out of the amendment and the educational clause would be kept in, because it was always plain to me that whoever voted for one of these sections would have to vote for the other, and that if it was not for the 5th section the people would not vote for the amendment at all, and that the court would see that the people voted for the amendment with the 5th section in it, and if it should strike that out it would be forcing upon the people an amendment to their constitution, which they did not vote for and never would have voted for. But the Republicans are trying to frighten the people by telling them that the present Republican Supreme Court of this State will have the deciding of this matter, and they will decide it with the Republicans. I always thought that when a question arose as to the Constitution of the United States it was to be settled that the Supreme Court of the United States was the only court that could settle it; is that not so?"

Business Man: "Why, certainly you are entirely right about that. The decision of the Supreme Court of North Carolina on this question would not be binding. The Supreme Court of the United States alone can finally settle a question of this sort, and Senator Morgan says it has already settled it in the Mississippi case in favor of our amendment."

Farmer: "You said the Louisiana Constitutional amendment was the same as ours. Has the Supreme Court of the United States ever passed upon the constitutionality of that amendment?"

Business Man: "No, neither the Supreme court of the United States nor any other court. When the Louisiana amendment was before the people for ratification the Republicans in that talked just like they are talking here. They said it was unconstitutional, and the court would so declare it; that the 5th section would be stricken out, the court would so declare it; that sort of thing, just as they are saying here, but the people paid no attention to them down there as they will not do here, and ratified the amendment."

Farmer: "Has there been any registration under the Louisiana amendment?"

Business Man: "Yes, a full registration under it."

Farmer: "Were the uneducated white people allowed to register?"

Business Man: "Yes, every one that wanted to register."

Farmer: "Were the uneducated negroes allowed to register?"

Business Man: "No, none of them."

Farmer: "Has there been any election under the Louisiana law?"

Business Man: "Yes; not long since the election in the great city of New Orleans was held under this amendment."

Farmer: "Did the negroes cast their vote in the New Orleans election?"

Business Man: "Yes, all of them who wished to."

Farmer: "Did the uneducated negroes vote in the New Orleans election?"

Business Man: "No."

Farmer: "Then there has been both a registration and an election under the Louisiana Constitution and you say the Republicans have not taken it before the courts to test its constitutionality?"

Business Man: "No, not a single case, and it shows conclusively does it not that all their talk before the enactment of it being unconstitutional was mere wind and fury, intended to frighten the uneducated white people and keep them from the registration of negroes."

Farmer: "I am very glad to have had this talk with you. I knew you were thoroughly posted on the questions, and I wanted to find out the truth about these matters. We people in the country haven't yet awakened an opportunity to study the question as closely as you have; we haven't had as much reading matter about it as you have had, but we are going to study it like we did the great issue of White Supremacy in the last campaign and we are going to learn all about it and before the election we will know as much about it as the people in the cities of population. You know in the last campaign the country people were better posted on the election issue than the town people. This question of the amendment is an exceedingly important one to the white farmers, and I feel certain they will thoroughly understand it before they will go to the polls almost to a man and vote for it. The country people in the country are tired of the negro in politics; they don't intend ever again to be lorded by him; they never want again to have to go through the terrors which darkened their homes during the past two years of negro rule in North Carolina. It seems to me if anything as people in the country are more interested in this question than you are in the town. You can rely upon the county more white this year."

Business Man: "My friend, I am mighty glad to hear you talk that way. The white people living out in the country are indeed deeply interested in this question. The publication of the amendment means more to them, as you say, than it does to the people living in the towns, but it means great good to all of us whether we live in the country or in the town. Personally, I am going to vote for it because I believe it is a just measure; because I believe it will be better for the negro, as well as the white man, because I think the white man is entitled by right and by superiority of intellect and natural capacity to control the affairs of the State; because I do not want to see any such conditions again as we had in North Carolina in 1897 and 1898; because I believe when the negro is eliminated from politics he will become a better citizen; more docile and more industrious, and will cease to be an element of discord, constantly breeding strife and conflict between him and the white man; because I believe the adoption of this amendment will bring about a new era of prosperity; because it will draw to North Carolina both capital and immigration, which it will never see while there is danger of negro rule; because it will drive into existence a lot of mean, worthless white men who preyed upon the prejudices of the negro that they may secure offices they are unfit to fill."

Farmer: "Well, our talk has helped me mightily. I feel like every white man in North Carolina ought to put his shoulder to the wheel for this amendment. It looks to me like a mere question of white man against negro, just like it was in 1898. It seems to me that any white man who votes against the amendment will just simply be voting for the negro against his own race."

The present campaign in South Africa is practically the first opportunity the British artillery authorities have had of putting the rank corps to a real test. The cycling corps attached to the Durban Light Infantry recently covered a route of 50 miles in one day for the purpose of obtaining information of the Boer forces, doing some skirmishing on the way. The orbit in dry weather is admirable. Ideal for cycling.

Women are not permitted to be photographed in China.

The transport Manuense, which came near sinking with Major Wood, Hayes and part of his regiment has returned to Manila to San Francisco.

The "walking fish" of Santa Catalina Channel, California, is a member of the pediculati tribe and has congeners among the gulf weed of the Mexican coast. Its pectoral fins are shaped so as to serve for legs and it can rest on them so as to snap its prey. It builds a nest of seaweed.

A VILE SPEECH.

Negro Congressman White Makes a Circus of Himself.

A special dispatch from Washington gives the following account of Congressman George H. White's speech there Monday:

The negro Congressman White made another exhibition of himself in the house in reply to a question of personal privilege to reply to an editorial in a Raleigh paper (The News and Observer). He again flaunted in the face of the people of North Carolina that white women are as immoral as negro women, and that white men are more criminal than black men in criminal assaults. Among other things, after having the editorial read he said:

"Mr. Speaker, I desire to give the vile, slanderous publication the widest possible circulation. I desire that I shall go out through documents of the house that the world may see what the poor colored man in the South has to undergo from a certain class. In making this statement it is proper, Mr. Speaker, that I should exonerate a very large percentage of the white people of North Carolina, my native State. No better people live anywhere on God's green earth than some of them. But unfortunately men of the type of him who wrote that article are now in the ascendency. I unreservedly repudiate as slanderous and wilfully untrue the utterances [illegible] to me.

"I did, therefore, [illegible] the language (Mr. Linney) was employed to [illegible] a remark to the effect that the investigation would reveal the fact that the manner, as stated in the [illegible] read before a legislative committee, I had found that [illegible] per cent. of the [illegible] were women not in the [illegible] entire United States [illegible] to the attitude of [illegible] commission of assault [illegible] on white women on the [illegible] white men did the same [illegible] black women. I read that [illegible] a number of officials [illegible] women and that they were [illegible] mated by black men upon white women, but went on to [illegible] that all [illegible] upon black women, as evidenced by the government records [illegible] white persons and for the year [illegible]

A Serious Charge

Winston-Salem, N. C., Special, Dec. 8. Wesley A. White, a white man, [illegible] years old, was [illegible] Wednesday by a deputy sheriff [illegible] to jail [illegible] Guilford county. [illegible] day on the charge [illegible] and upon the [illegible] Mr. Johnson [illegible] White [illegible] placed in [illegible] and was arrested last night [illegible] home, which is [illegible] from the home of the girl [illegible] and [illegible] nothing. He claims [illegible] innocent and says he has [illegible] ever since he was a child.

News Notes.

Japan's first Anglican Bishop, Rev. Dr. Sidney C. Partridge, was consecrated on Friday last at Tokio.

Acting Secretary Spaulding has instructed the Treasury officers at Charleston, S. C., to extend the privileges of the Department to the Norwegian corvette, "Ellida," which will call there about February 18.

The Chicago Record says: "If E. P. Ingalls will soon step out of the presidency of the Big Four, and that the road will soon be absorbed by the Lake Shore."

A GOOD SUGGESTION.

Proposition to Amend the Amendment Favorably Received.

(Special Raleigh Correspondence.)

The Democrats in the Democratic [illegible] to amend the constitutional amendment by providing that it shall stand or fall as a whole has struck a popular chord. The Progressive Farmer has [illegible] favorably. "It now seems certain that the legislature at its June session will pass an amendment to the proposed Constitutional amendment, providing that in case one section is declared unconstitutional the entire amendment shall fall. The [illegible] imperative. This is [illegible] to act and rapidly crowding [illegible] forward."

A. S. Dove, of the Populist State Committee, in favor of that part of it that [illegible] and who in fact himself [illegible] the address to the people [illegible] the explanation, and all the Populists as matter how they voted in 1898, were now solidly against the amendment. The wish was father to the [illegible] Populist committeeman [illegible] Democrats will observe, however, A [illegible] bringing a snake to the ring call of the [illegible]

[illegible] Democratic majority [illegible] for this State, [illegible] of the [illegible] of negroes and [illegible]. The trend to [illegible] the Republican increase daily. This [illegible] the Populists 10,000 Republicans and all Democrats will [illegible]

[illegible] H. Mebane, the State superintendent of public instruction, [illegible] not realize [illegible] will not [illegible] it. He is not [illegible] in politics [illegible] the amendment [illegible] politics [illegible] matters, [illegible] not recall [illegible] other Populists [illegible] have felt [illegible] Republicans will have what may be termed a [illegible] headquarters [illegible] Capitol square [illegible] Democrats [illegible] Republicans [illegible] Democrats [illegible] Republicans [illegible] Democrats [illegible] Republicans