

THE GUARDED SECRET

He saw a tall, graceful figure, exquisitely molded in the delicate, symmetrical curves of early womanhood. She wore a simple dark blue cashmere dress, and the round white throat rose from it with a certain stately grace and pride that was very excusable, seeing what a beautiful face shone above it like a peerless flower upon its stem. She was very pale, but her skin, like the cream-white petals of a tea-rose. Her hair was darkest brown and loosely curled; her features were exquisite; her eyes were large and of a rare violet tinge so much admired, mingled in society and had but few advantages of travel and culture. He wondered at that even more than her beauty. It did not occur to him that the heavy cross that had fallen on her life had the effect to intensify her natural grace into a grave, proud dignity, that in its silent way seemed like a mute protest against the wrongs she had sustained. The girl had looked into the woman, forced into untimely maturity and gravity by the refining power of sorrow.

She was very quiet. She did not speak to Mr. Lane unless he pointedly addressed her. She rarely met any stranger and when she did, she supposed that they knew her strange story, and despised her. She remembered always that

"One venomous word,

That struck its coward, poisoned blow. In cruel whispers, hushed and low—And yet the wide world heard."

Mr. Lane could talk very well when he would. It pleased him to converse

Advertiser Patterns

DESIGNED BY MARTHA DEAN.



4283—A DRESS, COAT AND CAP FOR MISS DOLLIE.

There is a fascination about the dressing of dolls that even grown-ups cannot resist when holiday time draws near, and the little girls all begin to beg Santa to send them new dolls. The tiny dresses are such dainty reminders of the long ago that one would fain be a child again just for the pleasure of playing with dolls. The outer garments of Miss Dollie's wardrobe are sketched here, and consist of a little French dress with low, round neck and deep bodice, a cloak having double collar, and a shirred bonnet. The patterns are simple enough for the least experienced sewer to develop, while the material required for the set is: For the French dress from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ yards of 27-inch goods; for the coat, from 1 to $\frac{1}{2}$ yards; and for the bonnet, from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ yard, according to the size of the dolls.

4282—Sizes, 12, 18, 24, and 30-inch dolls.

The price of this pattern is 10 cents.

PATTERN DEPARTMENT OF THE ADVERTISER.

Please send the above-mentioned pattern, as per directions given below, to

Name

Street Address

Town

Province

Measurement: Bust

Waist

Age (if child's or misses' pattern)

CAUTION: Be careful to inclose above illustration and send size of pattern wanted. When the pattern is sent, measure you need only mark 32, 34 or whatever it may be. When in waist measure, 22, 24, 26, or whatever it may be. If a skirt, give waist and length measure. When misses' or child's pattern, write only the figure, representing the age. It is not necessary to write "inches" or "years." Patterns cannot reach you in less than one week from the date of order. The price of each pattern is 10 cents in cash or in postage stamps.

Address

PATTERN DEPARTMENT, LONDON ADVERTISER.

with Aline Rodney. He was very gracious and affable with her, giving her no smallest hint or sign that he knew her strange story. While Effie touched the piano keys with soft, lingering chords of music, and her lover hung enraptured over her, the detective sat apart and bent himself to the task of analyzing the situation.

He did not find it very easy at first. She was shy and cold; she seemed to take no interest in his words. She kept thinking morbidly to herself:

"He knows my story, and he accordingly despises me."

But, as he continued to talk to her pleasantly, unmindful of her quiet reserve, a new thought came to her.

"This good-looking, agreeable friend of Dr. Anthony is from New York. It is not possible that the story of my trouble has reached the great city. Perhaps he does not know!"

There was inexpressible comfort and relief in the thought. Unconsciously, the tense bands about her heart began to loosen. It was pleasant to meet anyone, even a stranger, who did not distrust and suspect her. She vented to him her frank, blue eyes to his face, and when she saw how kindly he was regarding her with his attentive gray eyes, she took heart of grace to talk to him, because she believed that he did not know. Some of her old impulsiveness returned to her. She began to take an interest in his conversation.

He on his part began to see what a charming girl she might have been if this shadow of some unknown sin had not fallen on the whiteness of her life. Once or twice she even laughed aloud, and he said to himself, even though he was intensely practical, and not in the least romantic, that her laughter was as sweet as a chime of music.

He talked to her of the world, of the gay cities, of the people he had met, of the places he had visited, and she listened with delight. She had never met anyone like Mr. Lane before—anyone who had seen the world and knew it thoroughly in both its good and bad phases. She became so interested that she forgot momentarily the brooding shadow of trouble that hung always over her. Her old love of life and the world returned to her. A soft glow gleamed on her cheeks, her eyes beamed and she cried out vivaciously:

"Oh, how I envy you, Mr. Lane! You have traveled, you have seen the world, you have enjoyed life! There is nothing I would like better."

He looked at her with a smile. Her beautiful face was momentarily radiant. She was full of eager anticipation and desire.

"You would like to travel?" he said.

"Oh, how much!" she cried, clasping her shapely hands together in the earnestness of her feelings, and carried out of herself by excitement.

"Have you ever been in New York, Miss Rodney?" he inquired, with apparent carelessness.

A little laugh that was half pity and half self-scorn rippled sweetly over her lips. She was evidently amused at his entire ignorance of her traveling record.

"New York!" she exclaimed. "Why, Mr. Lane, would you believe that I have never been away from Chester in my life?"

CHAPTER XXXI.

The sweet, high-pitched voice reached every ear in the room distinctly. Everyone was surprised at the assertion; but they saw that Aline had forgotten herself, and all were wise enough not to take any apparent notice of the admission. She continued, confidentially:

"You see, Mr. Lane, we lived on a farm in the country, about two miles from Chester, while I was a child. Before I was grown up papa sold the farm, and came to live at the cottage here, and here we have been ever since—and I have never been five miles from Chester in my life."

She saw some sort of wonder on his face, and added gaily:

"I see that you are wondering at me, Mr. Lane. Perhaps I should have confessed to such lamentable ignorance of the world around me?"

"On the contrary, I am charmed to have you confess it."

"Where ignorance is bliss,

"Tis folly to be wise."

She looked at him with some little wonder. The tone of his voice was peculiar; but when she looked at his face it appeared perfectly calm and frank. After a moment's silence he continued:

"To one versed in the lore of the world as I am, it is refreshing to meet with one so guileless and so innocent of the evil of the world. I am not so envious as you think me, Miss Rodney. A knowledge of the world is not conducive to love of life."

She had been slowly gathering her thoughts together when he talked. Quite suddenly the memory of her own knowledge of the world rushed over her, and she knew that she had come too late to save her from the evil.

Her face grew suddenly pale. She recalled the admission she had made just now, "I have never been away from Chester in my life."

She grew frightened at the thought that she had almost betrayed the secret she was sworn to keep. Fortunately, this man to whom she was talking knew nothing and could make nothing of what she had said. But Dr. Anthony and the others—had they heard?

She glanced furtively around her. No one was observing her. Effie's fingers were still straying over the piano, making low soft chords, and the doctor's head was close to hers, as he whispered love's delicious nothings in her willing ears. Mr. and Mrs. Rodney were looking over the pictures in the magazine. Max had fallen asleep, as usual, on the convenient sofa. She thought, with a sigh of relief, that no one except Mr. Lane had been paying any attention to her.

"But I must be more careful next time. I shall betray everything some time if I suffer myself to relax into my old thoughtless self," she thought.

Your Liver

Will be roused to its natural duties and your biliousness, headache and constipation be cured if you take

Hood's Pills

Sold by all druggists, 25 cents.

and she became so suddenly quiet and distraite that Mr. Lane began to wonder in his mind if he had unwittingly offended her.

She did not give him a chance to find out, for just as he was on the point of asking her whether he had been so unfortunate, she made some slight excuse for leaving the room, and did not return that night.

But Mr. Lane's brief interview with her had given him material for grave reflection.

He had quite decided in his own mind that she was pure, true, and innocent, as she was beautiful.

He said to himself that her trouble, whatever it was, might have come to her through folly or waywardness, but never through deliberate sin.

He was a close reader of human nature, as his profession necessitated he should be. He knew that he had made Aline temporarily forget her trouble, and he believed that every word that she had spoken to him had been the pure, unadulterated truth. Those frank blue eyes were the very well of truth and purity. They had looked at him frankly and guilelessly, and they had no falsehood in them.

Her frank and thoughtless admission had led in such a flood of light upon his mind as would have frightened Aline indeed could she only have known it.

"I have never been away from Chester in my life," she had said, and the words rang in his hearing long after her fair, bewildering face had vanished from his sight.

If this were true, and Mr. Lane did not in the least doubt the assertion, what became of Dr. Anthony's romantic story?

The place where Dr. Anthony had been called to attend the mysteriously wounded girl, had been about five miles from Maywood, declared the physician.

"Chester is five miles distant from Maywood."

Mr. Lane repeated these words to himself, and his face began to burn, and his heart to thump against his vest-pocket.

He seized his hat and went out into the night air to cool his glowing face. Out under the cold, wintry sky, with its host of gleaming stars, he mentally shook himself.

"I have been a stupid dolt, a stark, staring idiot," he cried vehemently. "I shall never pride myself on my skill and acumen again. Only to think that I never reflected on that plain fact that Chester is five miles from Maywood. The girl has never been out of Chester, and oh, what a consummate stupid I have been!"

He was angry with himself, indeed. He accused himself of the most inexcusable stupidity. Only to think how he had scoured the country for miles around Maywood and never thought of Chester. It was the most natural mistake in the world, but he was bitterly angry with himself for having made it.

He walked along the pavement in front of the cottage, so absorbed in thought that he scarcely heeded the cold winter wind that sighed among the leafless trees and around the cottage gables. With the sight of Aline's beautiful, innocent face had come an even deeper desire to fathom the secret of that strange absence.

"I will find out this time; but will she thank me for it? Will anyone thank me?" he asked himself, soberly, and he decided that it could not hurt Aline Rodney to have the truth revealed. He did not believe that any willful guilt could hide behind that smooth, white brow and those clear, true eyes.

"She would undoubtedly reveal it herself but for the vow of silence that binds her," he said to himself. "I may even be doing her a favor by tracing out the secret and revealing it to her parents. Anyhow, I shall make it convenient to remain down here a week or two, and we shall see what we shall see."

Absorbed in his thoughts he walked on past the strip of fence in front of the cottage a few paces down the street, without observing that he was directly before the tall, imposing, gray stone mansion known as Dr. Anthony's House. It stood well back among its leafless trees and ghostlike evergreen shrubberies and cedars that showed like sober-suited sentinels in the cold, white light of the moon. The house looked gloomy enough with its closed doors and heavily shuttered windows, from whence no friendly light streamed forth to cheer the weary passer-by, but Mr. Lane did not notice it as he walked slowly past absorbed in his thoughts.

HIGH COURT RULINGS

Western Trusts Company Vs. Canadian Fire Insurance Company.

In the court of appeal, Toronto, before Chief Justice Moss and Justices Osler, Garrow, MacLaren and Meredith, ruling was given in the case of the London and Western Trusts Company vs. Canadian Fire Insurance Company.

K.C., and N. Y. Rowell, K.C., for defendants, appealed from order of a divisional court (13 O.L.R., 540), (8 O.W.R., 872), allowing an appeal by plaintiffs from judgment of Falconbridge, C.J., (8 O.W.R., 273), dismissing an action by the liquidators of an insolvent company, the owners of a dwelling house in the town of Sudbury, insured by defendants for \$1,000, to recover the amount of the insurance. After the insurance was effected, the owners leased the premises to a tenant, who, without the owners' knowledge, changed the occupation thereof, by bringing in a stock of goods, which he sold to peddlers. The divisional court held that the owners were not affected by the third statutory condition, R.S.O., 1897, ch. 203, sec. 168 (3), which requires notice of any change material to the risk, within the control or knowledge of the insured, to be given to the insurers, for being under the owner's control, while the change in the occupation was without his knowledge, and the fact that the change was made by the tenant after the making of the policy was immaterial. Defendants contend that, upon the proper construction of the policy and the condition, the judgment of the trial judge should be restored. G. C. Gibbons, K.C., for plaintiffs, contra. Reserved.

The remaining cases on the peremptory list were adjourned till next sitting, none of them being ready for argument.

Re Watson estate.—J. Follinsbee

(London), for the executrices of John W. Watson, moved for order declaring construction of his will under rule 588. Casey Wood for the Methodists Church and Mission Board. Judgment declaring that the whole of the estate, including the mortgage, goes to the Home Mission Board of the Methodist Church. Costs out of the estate.

Renton vs. G. T. R. Company.—D. L. McCarthy, first defendant, moved for order allowing amendment of statement of defense by striking out certain paragraphs and setting up other grounds. George S. Gibbons (London), for plaintiff, contra. Reserved.

CONTRACT LET FOR CATHCART SEWER

Mr. G. H. Backus Will Do the Work for the Sum of \$835.

There was very little business before the board of works last evening.

An application from the Wm. Proad Company to erect an electrical projecting sign was granted under the conditions that the company comply with the bylaw in reference to such matters.

The only tender received for the laying of the Cathcart street sewer, from not in the least doubt the assertion, what became of Dr. Anthony's romantic story?

It was decided unanimously that Mr. Backus be given the contract.

The work must be completed before the end of the month.

A communication was received from the City of London, Ontario, to the effect that Simcoe street was in very poor condition, and should be repaired, in order that shipments of fire engines might be taken over it conveniently.

The work will be temporarily fixed up so far as the present necessities of the board will permit.

The matter of laying a cement sidewalk and a sewer on Elmwood avenue, between Ridgely street and Marley Place was discussed briefly, and was favorably considered.

A wordy discussion arose over the request of Mr. J. S. Winnett that the board cooperate with London Township in filling up a large hole in front of Mr. Winnett's house on William street north. The floods of 1883 are blamed for the cavity. The work would take about two days, and Mr. Winnett agreed to supply the filling. The township had already agreed to do half the work.

A motion to do half the work was carried.

It was moved by Ald. Cooper that a running load of gravel be placed down the center of St. James street, between William and Adelaide streets. Carried.



BIANCA WEST.

In "Dorothy Vernon of Haddon Hall" at the Grand This Evening.

Paul Kester has made of it, is one that everyone should see. It is bright and happy in dialogue, rich in romantic incident, abundant in historical facts and very entertaining.

New Musical Comedy.

Cole and Johnson, the colored comedians and composers, in their new musical comedy, "The Shoo-Fly Regiment," will appear at the Grand Theatre, Monday and Tuesday matinee.

Cole and Johnson, although the authors of the production, do not monopolize the center of the stage, but give their company a chance for comedy and specialties. One of the features of the production is the original songs, several of which are reported to be the equal of Cole and Johnson's former successes, "Under the Bamboo Tree," and "Congo Love Song." Particularly pretty are the ballads entitled "Won't You Be My Little Brown Bear," "Sugar Babe," "The Gay Loretta," and "If Adam Hadn't Seen That Apple Tree."

Crocker's Educated Horses.

The degree to which horses may be treated will be demonstrated in a very remarkable manner at the Grand on Monday and Tuesday and Tuesday matinee, when Prof. E. K. Crocker's educated horses will perform. The performance is the acme of perfection and skillful horsemanship. All the tricks are carried through in a manner that reflects great credit on Prof. Crocker.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup

has been used for over THIRTY YEARS by MILLIONS OF MOTHERS for their CHILDREN WHILE TEething, with PERFECT SUCCESS. IT SOOTHES THE GUMS, ALLAYS ALL PAIN, CURES WIND COLIC, and is the best remedy for diarrhoea. Sold by druggists in every part of the world. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's."

Feather Beds, Pillows and Mattresses renovated and sterilized; also manufacturers of Feather Beds, Pillows and Mattresses. 83, Stoves, Furniture, Camp Beds, at the Feather Bed, Pillow and Mattress Cleaning Factory. J. F. HUNT & SONS, 293 Richmond street. Phone 997.

"Always the Best of Everything for the Least Money."



Two Astonishing Skirt Values For Saturday's Selling

\$6 Dress Skirts for \$3.95

Those who are in search of a sturdy, serviceable Tweed Skirt, which is at the same time attractive in appearance, will find it here tomorrow, and at a great deal less than one would expect to pay.

This lot of Tweed Skirts, on sale for Saturday only, are in both light and dark mixtures. The styles are the newest. Regular up to \$6.00 each. Tomorrow for..... \$3.95

Long, Loose Coats at \$5

Of course, this is a most unusually liberal value. A glimpse of the Coats will tell you that. 50-inch lengths, light and dark Tweeds. Saturday..... \$5.00

\$9 Dress Skirts for \$6.95

This is just another of those special Saturday offers that have made our Mantle Department, this season, the most interesting spot in town for economically-inclined women.

And like our other Saturday sales, the price is good for Saturday only. You will pay regular price for the Skirts today and next week.

The Skirts in this offer comprise the very latest styles, and are in the serviceable Poplin, Wool Taffeta and Venetian Weaves. Black, brown, navy, and green. Regular up to \$9.00 each. Just for Saturday, at..... \$6.95

Another Millinery Sale Tomorrow

Tomorrow we will endeavor to duplicate our triumph of last Saturday when we had one of the biggest millinery sales of the season. The hats will be every whit as stylish and becoming, and the values every whit as immense as made last Saturday's sale such an intensely interesting one to our lady friends. They will be arranged in three lots, as follows:

Lot One consists of 34 Hats, regular prices up to \$5.00. Saturday..... \$2.00

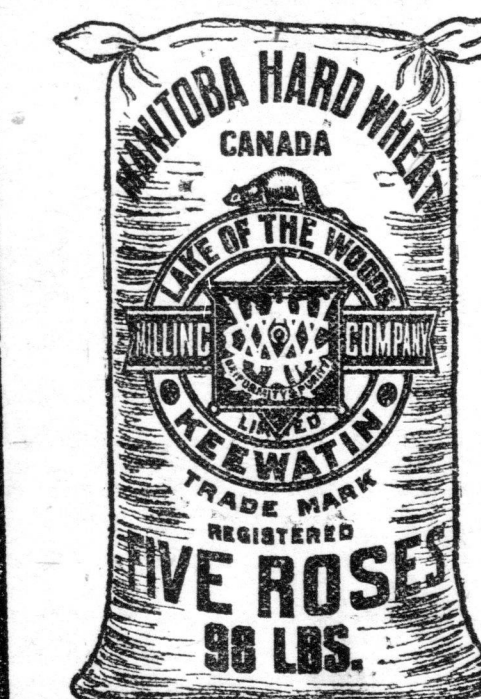
Lot Two consists of 36 Hats, regular prices up to \$7.00. Saturday..... \$3.00

Lot Three consists of 32 Hats, regular prices up to \$11.00. Saturday..... \$5.00

Felt Hat Shapes at Little Prices

Divided into three lots, at these very low prices. Each..... 25c, 50c and 75c

150 Dundas and Carling **GRAY & PARKER** 150 Dundas and Carling



Do You Eat Bread?

If so, do you not think that you might as well eat only the best? The best bread is that which contains the most nutriment and the least waste matter, and is absolutely pure. You cannot have good bread, however, unless you have good flour.

"FIVE ROSES" FLOUR

contains more gluten and nutriment, in more easily digestible form, than any ordinary brands, whilst it contains practically no cellulose or waste matter. In addition, it is more economical, as, pound for pound, it will make more bread, and better bread than the flours so-called "just as good."

Its purity is assured by the care with which it is made, and users of it can rely upon getting the best flour for bread which the world offers.

Ask your grocer for it.

Lake of The Woods Milling Co., MONTREAL.

Local Office, Canadian Bank of Commerce Chambers, London, Ont.

Acme Starr Skates

The genuine "ACME" self-fastening Skates—have our registered trademark and quality number stamped on the blade.

Don't take a poor, cheap imitation, when you can get the "real thing."

If your dealer does not handle Starr "Acme" Skates, write for free copy of 1908 Skate Book and the name of a dealer in your neighborhood who will supply you.

The Starr Manufacturing Co., Limited

DARTMOUTH, N. S. CANADA. 20

BRANCH OFFICE TORONTO, Ont.

LOCAL HIGH COURT CASES

Short Calendar To Be Dealt With by Chancellor Boyd.

Two cases have been set down for hearing before Chancellor Boyd at the weekly sitting of the high court for London next Saturday at the court house.

London and Western Trusts Co. vs. Benjamin Shaw-Wood—Motion for extension of time. Meredith, Judd & Meredith for motion. The plaintiffs are the executrices of the last will of Richard Shaw-Wood and hold a number of shares and other properties,



WHEN AND WOMEN. Use Big 48 for unnatural discharges, inflammation, irritation or ulceration of mucous membranes. Pains and not only gent or poisonous. Sold by Druggists, or sent in plain wrapper by express, prepaid, for \$1.00, or 5 bottles \$2.75. Circular sent on request.

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CREAM TARTAR

ABSOLUTELY PURE.

SOLD IN PACKAGES AND CANS.

Same Price as the cheap adulterated kind.

E.W. GILLETT COMPANY LIMITED

TORONTO, Ont.

A ton of oil has been obtained from the tongue of a single whale.