

Grand Alliance;

OR,

Love That Knew No Bounds.

CHAPTER IV.

"Mamma!" excitedly.

"Well?" impatiently.

"In the desk that I have had since I was quite little, there is some money. I don't know who gave it to me but it's my own. May I change papa's room with it?"

"You are obstinate, Sydney," said Mrs. Alwyn, frigidly.

"But may I? Then papa will get the last of the sunshine always. Oh mother, do say yes!"

Something in the imploring tone the anxious expectancy of attitude a tiptoed, with two hands half-opened waiting to seize consent, caught Mrs. Alwyn's fancy. It is hard to rebuff a young voice that says "Oh, mother!" as Sydney said it. A most rare weakness overcame her, and, as much to her surprise as Sydney's, she yielded.

"As you like, then," she said; and the contest was closed by the victor's puffing the plaited lace upon her mother's neck with a fervent, impulsive kiss.

So upstairs the alteration was effected, swiftly and cheerily. It needed no vast *douceur* from Sydney's slender fund to secure the co-operation of Mr. Alwyn's attendant, now with him every day; and Maria, an active house-maid, entered zealously into the few hours' extra work, for the house-mistress was no favorite with her servants. "And," said this one to her kitchen confidants, "I'm right, right glad Miss Sydney's got her way, that I am. I heard 'em arguing about it till madame bid he shut to the door, and I was mortally afraid she'd only get herself sat on like the rest of us. Her ma seems to think she can harrow rough-shod over everyone's head, like she do over the poor old gentleman's, and it's time she was learned different, I says."

By a wide, west, rose-shadowed window the old lawyer sat now, day after day, delighting childishly in the change; and, as kind Dr. Dacie commented approvingly, Sydney had made his evenings brighter by hal than they used to be; the plan was capital.

"Type of herself, sir, of herself, said the father, his hand fondly upon her head, and the words emerged long after from memory, helping her along a path by no means smooth.

There was one other episode that summer wherein her mother's will and Sydney's had a smart tussle, and again the child scored a victory.

People began coming to The Dal for afternoons of tennis or of music for Leonora was eighteen now, and variety was as the very salt of the young woman's existence. The mirth of many voices would often float up ward to the west window, where Sydney was mostly with her father, and though he rarely asked about these gatherings, they always seemed to bring an extra sadness to his deep-lined face. With so many to annoy, perchance the neglect came home to him that the throng never spare him a half-hour's guest. So Sydney interpreted his sigh one day, and with her little, warm hand stroking his white hair, asked,

"Isn't there any one, papa, you would like to have come and see you some day? Any one, I mean, you used to care for before we came here?"

She had hit on the very theme of her father's thoughts. He answered instantly, though slowly, for speech was difficult to him now, and indistinct when hurried.

"Yes, there is some one who would come if I could ask him. I wish I could!"

"Who, papa?"

"You know him. Do you remember him, Sydney? Jacob—Jacob Cheene." "Remember him! Why, yes, papa!"

He used to carry me about at 'Stuarts' and keep sweeties for me in his desk! I am so glad you want him! We'll get him here!" And despite Mr. Alwyn's nervous "No, no, child, your mother wouldn't have him!" Sydney lay in wait for the first opportunity of petitioning for this vis-

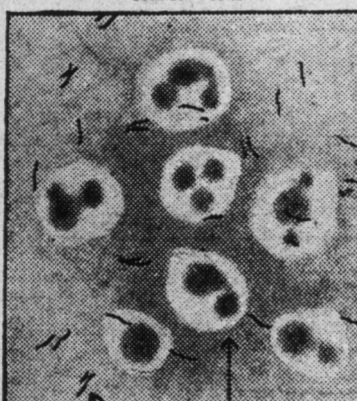
300% increase in the power of the "soldier" cells that defend the body—after feeding on Virol

Striking Evidence

An elaborate series of investigations recently conducted at a well-known sanatorium has definitely proved that the addition of Virol to the diet exercises a remarkable influence on the action of the white cells of the blood, which protect the body against germs. The experiments showed there was a distinct and progressive increase in the functional activity of the white cells in proportion to the number of weeks the patient had been fed on Virol.

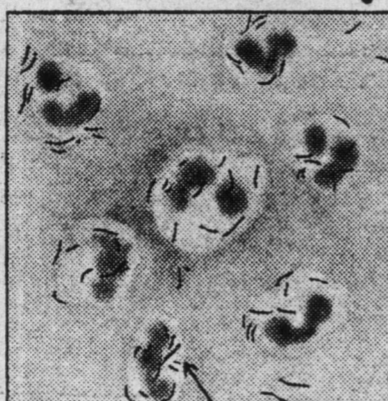
BEFORE FEEDING ON VIROL.

Photograph of the blood under a most powerful microscope, showing that the rod-like germs have not been attacked by the "soldier" cells.



AFTER FEEDING ON VIROL.

Photograph of the blood under a most powerful microscope, showing that the "soldier" cells have absorbed the rod-like germs.



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tor, only, however, to be met by most positive refusal.

"It would be no pleasure to your father, I assure you, Sydney. He can't possibly desire to see this man. He is not fit to receive any one."

"But he said he did really wish for Mr. Cheene, mamma; and," piteously, "he never has anyone at all."

"You know perfectly well he is ordered to be kept quiet. You have heard Doctor Dacie say so over and over again."

"But Doctor Dacie says an old friend's coming would not hurt him. I saw him this morning going past, mamma, and ran out to ask him."

"You take too much upon yourself, Sydney," rebuked her mother, frowning. Now, if this "old friend" were not invited, it would look as if she had negated the scheme. The Dacies' "poor Mr. Alwyn" had had a "ing in it which she had not liked of ate. There was little love lost between herself and the warm-hearted doctor or his family. "You had no right to speak of any one's coming till you had named it first to me," she pursued, irritably; "I have no room for such a visitor. He was only a clerk. I couldn't have him at my own table, and I certainly could not have him gossiping with the servants."

Gossiping with the servants! Not for her mother's table! Her father's one much-desired friend!

Sydney's temper rose with a vehement gust. A rush of angry tears filled her eyes; by nature she had every generous impulse that in former times had made John Alwyn such an universal favorite. Now she could have flashed out at her mother, said all manner of things more pertinent than pleasant, and ended, probably, with a burst of weeping and a dismissal to bed at the early hour of 6 p.m. But she recollected the old man up-

TABLE OF RESULTS

Duration of feeding with VIROL.	Average number of germs absorbed in 15 minutes by each soldier cell.
0 weeks	1.1
2 "	1.3
6 "	1.5
9 "	3.3
12 "	4.5

ted her in spite of herself. She wavered with a gesture of annoyed perplexity, and Sydney went on, sadly,

"Hills said, when I told her I was going to ask you, it would be a pity for papa not to have just this pleasure, for he didn't get much."

It was a naive addition, but it gained her cause. Mrs. Alwyn could have boxed her young daughter's ears for putting the onus of refusal so publicly upon her. No woman of any age lets go willingly her mantle of amiability, fit it never so unasily.

"Oh, the man must come, I suppose, if you are all so persistent about it," she said, testily; "and pray, Sydney, don't go leading people to suppose I wish to stop your father's pleasures!"

So, to the indescribable satisfaction of the trusty old clerk, an invitation in Sydney's unformed penmanship soon reached him; and he needed no reiteration of her "Do come, please, for papa wants you," to bring him quickly to St. Clair's."

Arriving on foot from Hedyngham, he was received by Mrs. Alwyn with a dignified "You are very good, Mr. Cheene, to travel across the country for such a doubtful pleasure as meeting poor Mr. Alwyn. A mere wreck you will find him. Kindly excuse my having many engagements, I am taking my daughter out both to-day and to-morrow. Sydney, I hope, will attend to you." Then the lady bowed herself away no whit less patronizing than of yore, and Jacob Cheene, his young hostess hovering about him in shy delight, was taken upstairs to meet once more the old employer from whom he had been parted by such ill-hap.

It was a curious reunion, fraught at first with speechless pain, when the master, fallen from his high estate of wealth, mute now with struggling emotion, clasped hands with his old clerk, and looked at him with eyes that seemed to have forgotten how to be glad—Curious and grievous. For Jacob Cheene, the once shy dependant, had to keep calm and lead the way to cheerfulness, when for thoughts of the old placid past, and sight of the shattered life before him, he could have sat down and cried like any baby.

But that was only for a little while, and later on it was good to see them both, when the ailing man's state was recognized by his guest; for then all that was bright and welcome did the clerk recall and recount, speaking more and more freely as he found—with relief—that the lawyer's memory was a mere blank on some points. So he spoke of "Stuarts," telling how well the house looked with its rich new tenants, and related much news, always pleasant, of old townfolk; and if a question were put with a touch of half-frightened recollection, about some unsafe names, why, those, it so happened, Jacob Cheene had quite forgotten, or knew nothing of but so-and-so—and then he led his listener on safer ground again!

(To be Continued.)

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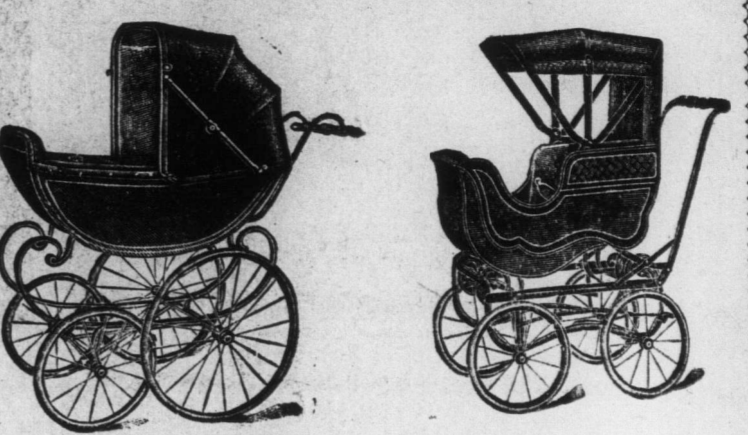
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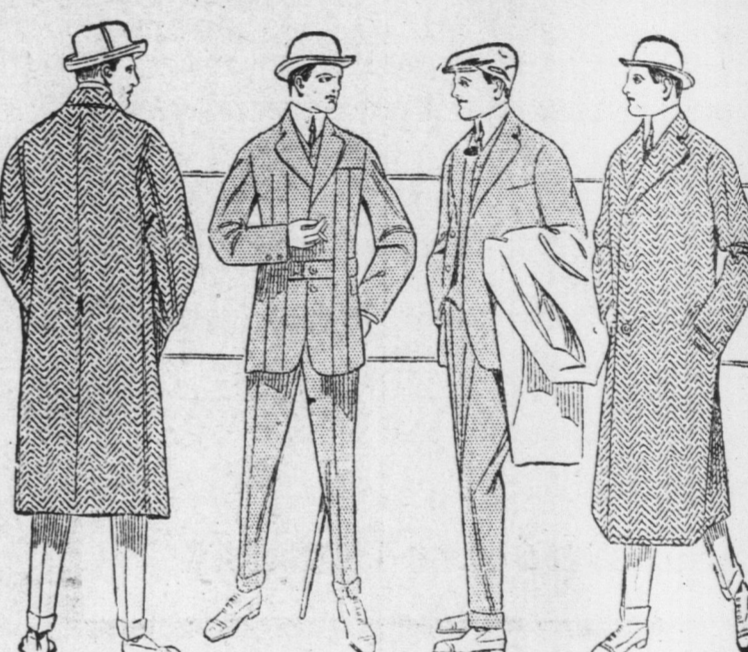


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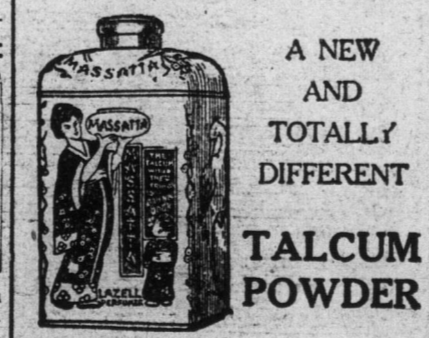


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