

THE HIRLS OF DENLEY WOOD

By Florence Warden

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SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTER.

Mrs. St. Quintin, a wealthy young Englishwoman, sees a beautiful young man named Miss Denley, who is a carefully designed accident, and she is attracted to him. She is attracted to him because of his beauty and his air of mystery. She is attracted to him because of his beauty and his air of mystery. She is attracted to him because of his beauty and his air of mystery.

(CONTINUED FROM LAST)

CHAPTER XIII—Continued

UNDER the footman who opened the door, looked pale and worried. He was more than a little surprised to see the young man standing there. He was more than a little surprised to see the young man standing there. He was more than a little surprised to see the young man standing there.

"It's of no use indeed, sir. They cannot see you today, neither of them. If you'll write a note for me to Monsieur Leblanc when he comes back."

But St. Quintin had caught the sound of Miss Denley's voice, and that of a man coming from the direction of the drawing room. He made straight for the door without another word. The footman placed himself before the door, however.

"It's as much as my place is worth, sir, to let you go in, or any visitor, against my master's orders," he said.

"What is the matter? Ah, Mr. St. Quintin, it is you! How glad I am to see you! You are not receiving today?"

"Your servant did his duty, Monsieur Leblanc, and told the lady that she was not to be received."

"It's nothing to do with Mrs. Mortimer," cried St. Quintin, who, with James Ince's warnings fresh in his mind, was taking quite openly an attitude of suspicion toward the Frenchman. "Once for all, do you intend to let me see Miss Denley, or shall I bring my friend Ince back here to deal with you?"

Monsieur Leblanc's face changed to a deadly color when the name was mentioned. "Ince! Back here! He has been here!" he said fiercely, under his

breath. St. Quintin was silent. He was in a dilemma, not knowing what had passed between Ince and the member of a household. However, he was pleased to see the effect his words had produced, and he merely bowed his head without saying any more.

Monsieur Leblanc threw a stealthy glance at the window, another at the door, a third at the young visitor himself. Then he said: "Ah, bah! It matters not! I will have none of you here! I will not receive him or you. I will not be dictated to, nor my niece either. I do not like your bluff English ways. We marry with whom we please. We are not to be bullied, no, no!"

St. Quintin's manner suddenly changed, and became very quiet. If the Frenchman really meant that he was never to see Marie again, that he had yielded his toll in the shape of the diamond watch, and was now that he began to prove untrue, to be discarded as dangerous, then indeed all Ince's fears and his own suspicions were proved justifiable and well-founded.

"Am I to understand, then, that you deny me the right to see your niece?" "As a right, yes, I do deny it. It is not true that you are engaged to her yet. That may come, I hope will come, when Mr. Williams has bargained Give me his address, and I'll settle that difficulty without delay."

"Do you mean to raise his voice, speaking angrily and with impatience, Monsieur Leblanc dragged him hastily away from the drawing room door, and thrusting him inside the dining room, closed the door, and faced him, frowning.

"You are behaving in a very singular fashion, Mr. St. Quintin. You surely cannot think you have a right to try to bully me, accepting you as a suitor for my niece!"

unusual state of agitation, he was quite sure that the solution of the mystery would prove to be unfavorable to Monsieur Leblanc. He therefore abruptly decided to take fresh counsel with his friend as to making the acquaintance of Captain Darnall, and turned to the door.

"Perhaps, monsieur, you are right," he said. "I can make Captain Darnall's acquaintance on a future occasion, if you feel disinclined to receive me now."

"And he was opening the door and leaving the room, with no other farewell than an inclination of the head, when

himself wedged in between the two elderly ladies, while Captain Darnall was left with Marie, and Monsieur Leblanc hovered about, the only person standing, like an evil genius over the assembly.

"Before you go, Mr. Ince, I should like you to see a little invention of mine that I am trying to perfect, something which will, I think, bring me into some prominence with the scientific world."

James Ince, looking strangely agitated, rose quickly at the words. He was exceedingly anxious to cut short the unpleasant visit they were making, as he feared that St. Quintin's patience would not hold out much longer.

"We shall be delighted, monsieur," said he, frowning at St. Quintin, who still seemed reluctant to make a move. "Come, if you will be late for your appointment," he added sharply.

"The young man rose in his turn, but still kept his eyes turned in the direction of Marie, who, suddenly breaking away from her goal, ran across the room and held out her hand to him.

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"Don't look so wretched," she said. "I can't help myself."

CHAPTER XIV

IT WAS with the deepest interest and excitement that St. Quintin watched the meeting of his friend and Monsieur Leblanc, and he saw at once that the two greeted each other with a sort of bravado, not as if they had recently met, indeed, but as if they had just learned something undesirable each about the other. That was strange by the impression obtained by St. Quintin as he watched their gait and smiles, and saw their hands touch and immediately let the other go.

The ladies helped greatly to prevent the gathering from being awkward and uncomfortable. Madame Leblanc chatted and laughed, and Miss Stanley, walking up from her usual lethargy, backed her up with an energy which did more for her zeal than for her powers of interesting conversation. Marie's share in the entertainment was a more passive one. Seated beside Captain Darnall, she had to listen to him when he talked, as he did in a low, confidential voice, lending his head to look into his face in such a manner that St. Quintin longed to kick him.

Captain Darnall did not condescend to pretend that he took an interest in any particular subject except Miss Denley, and all the weak and timid efforts she made to join in the general conversation were checked by his determined stare, and the air of authority with which he monopolized her attention.

St. Quintin was about to suggest that the lady's views were the most important factor in the case, but he wisely decided to be satisfied with having gained his point, and said nothing. Monsieur Leblanc went on: "You say your friend, Mr. Ince, is outside? In which direction? I will send a servant out to ask him to join us. We cannot let him wait outside for us. We could not be so inopportune!"

To this St. Quintin agreed, wondering very much how these two could meet each other, and whether he should be able to find out by their demeanor what had occurred on Ince's first appearance. The next moment Monsieur Leblanc answered the bell and told Saunders, who was sent to look for Mr. Ince, and to ask him to come in. He thus avoided the danger of allowing the two young men to consult together before being introduced into the society of the ladies. Then Monsieur Leblanc led St. Quintin across the hall into the drawing room, where Marie was sitting, with her aunt and Miss Stanley and Captain Darnall.

This new acquaintance proved to be a tall, thin, pallid young man, slightly bald, and with a long, thin, dark nose. He had rather offhand manners and wore a single eyeglass.

St. Quintin's face cleared a little. "Well, let him know you do not mean to have anything to do with him," he said quickly, in a low voice. "Tell him you're engaged to me."

"I don't say that," she whispered. "You know I'm not free to decide altogether for myself."

"Aren't you engaged to me?" said St. Quintin, dictatorially. "But before she could answer, Monsieur Leblanc, in the nearest manner, thrust himself between the two with an air of easy gaiety, and sending Marie back to her aunt with a smiling wave of the hand, put his hand through St. Quintin's arm, and, beckoning to Ince, who was shaking hands with Madame Leblanc, led the way out of the room.

AFTER THE SET

Boards of Trade Line Organize Benefit. The representatives of trade on the Acrol extension met in the afternoon on Wednesday afternoon, misunderstanding as to the meeting was not as was anticipated. The meeting resulted in being enthusiastic in and adopting a scheme to advance the line. The object of this to form a joint association of the districts along this line. Delegates were present Howard, Creelman and all were unanimous in proposed organization were delivered by Messrs. Robinson of Toronto, and Youngblood of the from such a scheme.

The following are the meeting which give of the work done. W. G. Robinson was the chair and state the meeting, this he did at proceeded to form an association of the Acrol extension of the C.P.R. for the purpose of promoting the interests of the districts tributary to the Carried.

Moved by A. D. McLeod that the officers be president, and secretary treasurer president of each board the several towns with comprise the executive Carried.

Moved by T. C. Yeoward be secretary. Moved by J. M. Adams be president. Moved in amendment Leod that T. E. The president.

Moved in amendment that J. M. Adams be secretary. On ballot Mr. Adams elected. Moved by C. R. Yeoward be secretary Carried.

Moved by C. R. Yeoward that the annual meeting be held on Wednesday in January Carried. Moved by A. D. McLeod that the annual meeting be held on Wednesday in January Carried.

Moved by J. M. Adams that matters left to the executive to act as they see fit general meeting. Moved by C. R. Yeoward that each of the boards of all particulars of the that we adjourn—M Star.

Social Union (By Rev. Charles At a sociological recently, a speaker tion that during the years social unrest three fold. He said that during the church had increased ratio. Therefore, he church had been active in keeping down social unrest. Then he against the church be parent failure. Granted that his church and social un granted that the church starded the growth there is yet another The speaker seemed it is the business o keep down every pro present social wrong is altogether wrong, opposite true. It is the church to create And the church is darkest Africa. Missionaries who will create it. The to the nation their physical, mental and will then show them of Jesus Christ, an attain to the splendor the better life. Na