whom he had not seen with the others. The child came up to the table and fixed great mournful eyes, without speaking, upon his face.
'Hullo, little 'un! I didn't know you existed,' he said pleasantly. 'I thought dad had only twa children.'
The child made no answer. It walked to the wall and pointed with its finger to a spot in the paper. Major Marter jumped up.
'Why, there's nothing,' he said, cheerfully. 'What is the matter, little 'un ?' But as he was speaking the child, to his bewilderment, seemed to disappear under his very eyes.
'That's queer!' he muttered. 'I'm broad awake and the room is full of daylight. I must ask Jack about this.'
'Have you by any chance a third daughter hidden away anywhere $P$ ' he asked his host that evening over their cigars.
'Hush, for God's sake, hush!' whispered Capt. Silvertop, glancing nervously at his wife. But Mrs. Silvertop had heard.
'We had another daughter. She died a year ago,' she answered briefly. Major Marter felt a shiver run down his back. Could it be, ho asked himself, that he had come into a haunted house? He decided that he would tell Jack what he had seen when Mrrs. Silvertop had gone to bed. He told him and was astonished to find that his host had had the same experience and identified the apparition as that of the dead child.
'I daren't tell my wife. She would go mad, I think,' Jack Silvertop said desperately. 'You don't know what a strong feeling she has about people who believe in ghosts. I can't tell you the whole story now, but it was an awful tragedy, and ever since the child haunts this room. I've seen her over and over again.'
'You've seen her over and over again,' said a voice behind them, and Mrs. Silvertop, who had stolen back, stood in the room. 'Jack, why did you not tell me this before? I have seen her myself-and I took it for a sign that I was going mad.'
'You have seen her'' exclaimed the husband. 'When-wherep'
'Here in this room-twice, when I have been here alone. I dare not come here now by myself.' Cassandra's face was pale, her eyes wild, and she spoke in a nervous, hurried whisper, so unlike the voice of the real Cassandra that her husband was more frightened as he looked at her thain he had ever been by his child's ghost.
'She appeared to me in the middle of the room,' continued the unhappy woman. 'Then she glided to the wall-here-pointed to this spot-and disappeared.'
That is just what I have seen her do,' said the husband.
'And I-only this morning,' added Major Marter.
Mrs. Silvertop looked from one to the other.
'Jack,' she eried, 'there must be something here-something the child wants us to do.?
Jack Silvertop snatched up a claspknife from the table and attacked the spot on the wall. In a moment the paper was stripped off. With it there came away a bit of plaster, and behind, embedded in the wall, was a sovereign.
How the sovereign got there was never defnitely proved, but it was not difficult to conienture. One of the plasterers at work in the house at the moment had nrobably stolen it, concealed it temporarily for some reason in the plaster, and had either forgotten the spot or failed to find an opportunity of returning for his booty. At any rate, from the hour that sovereign was found the phantom of Alberta was no more seen at the manorhouse, and no one doubted that the coin found in the wall was the one which the dead ebild had been wrongfully accused of stealing:
Cassandra rarely smiles. She is a nem vous, excitable woman, and terribly anxious about her large and bouncing girls, who are capital young women, never sick
or sorry, and who think mamma fusses over them ridiculously. But they make excuses for her, 'Because one of us, you know-Little No. 2-was so delicate and died, and mother never quite got over it.' -'London Truth.'
Any one of the many articles in 'World Wide' will give three cents' worth of pleasut. Surely, ten or fifteen hundred such articles during the course of a year are well worth a dollar.
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Lord Wolseley Authebiography - Tha Bory of a Soldier's Lord Woise standard, Lonlon Extracts from 'The Story of a soldiers Lifo',
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