

HONORE'S FATE.

A whole hour passed before the man returned with his tidings, and that hour the two friends spent pleasantly, as two friends can spend an hour in ease and idleness, when no gaunt secret or mist of suspicion and distrust hovers between them.

"What is it?"

The servant had returned, and Lady Somerton turned her head lazily, as it seemed, for his message; yet she need hardly have schooled her face, for her eyes—lustrous, their great and speechless anxiety—were fixed only upon this possible bearer of a message from Royden Keith.

"I saw Mr. Pierce, my lady, as you wished. He was very anxious. He had sent off one of Mr. Keith's grooms to Westleigh Towers to inquire if his master was there, and another to Mr. Kirby; he himself was just coming here to see Sir Philip—even late as it is. He is alarmed, I think, my lady, about his master."

"What do you mean? What did he say—exactly?"

Honore's eyes had not stirred from the man's face; her hands were locked together in her lap, and her breath came quickly and irregularly as she waited.

"He said, my lady, that last night, just as Mr. Keith was going to start to Kensington, to Miss Craven's ball, a message was brought him, which was to be delivered specially and privately to himself, and so which, of course, Mr. Pierce did not hear."

"What did he say?"

"He said, my lady, that this message must have changed all his master's plans, for he went out at once with the messenger, never mentioning where he was going, or when he should return. The messenger was a woman, my lady, which Mr. Pierce thought very curious and suspicious; and he is sure his master intended to return directly, because he only put an overcoat on, and went as he was, in full dress. Yet he did not return, my lady—he never has returned."

CHAPTER XXXI.

In the pretty blue sitting-room, to which only a very few of Miss Craven's friends ever penetrated, Phoebe Owen sat next morning, looking out upon the passers-by, yet without noticing or studying their dress, as it had been her wont to do. In fact, she only looked down upon them by force of habit, and hardly saw them as she did so. There lay a new novel on the window-seat beside her, but for almost an hour its pages had not been turned.

Phoebe was thinking. It was a new art she had acquired, and it sat rather unfamiliarly upon her, but still the power to read her own mind, and to charm which it had never possessed while all her thought had been concentrated on her own shaking, and Phoebe could feel now how those old years had been wasted; and while she felt as she often did, that she could never be undone, she was unconsciously doing it. That regret for her own selfish and useless grinding had only fluttered regrettably through her thoughts today, for they had been centered in loving anxiety upon her cousin.

"I cannot understand it," she mused, leaning her head upon her hand, "I wish I could, and I wish I could help her. But somehow it seems as if no one could help her; while she, even in her own anxiety, seems helping us all. She never even pretended to go to bed last night—this morning, I mean, for I was late returning, though Honore had promised to wait for me at Lady Somerton's. She went to bed and fell asleep at once, never guessing that Honore was not in bed too, and that her maid says she changed her dress, and sat quite still in her own room, reading, until it was possible to send for Mr. Stafford. Does she really think that he can explain this mysterious disappearance of Mr. Keith? Why should it alarm her—for that it does I am quite sure, though she smiles and only says, 'Perhaps he was called suddenly abroad.' As if that were possible, and his valet might not find it. How I wish Honore would come in here! She said she would, so I will wait, but she is late long time. Mr. Stafford has been here an hour or more. I wish she would come; but I wish, above all things, that I could help her."

And the wish was earnest and unselfish, as few of Phoebe's wishes had ever been before, and she had little idea—as she mused of the change in Honore—of the still greater, though so different, change in herself.

"Yes, I will wait, because Honore said she would come," she murmured, and she took up her book to read, while her eyes were raised to the door every minute, and her ears were open for the sound of a light footfall.

Phoebe had said truly that the lawyer had been for more than an hour cloistered with Honore, but even when he rose to go, he had not dispelled the puzzled sadness on her face, and had gathered a great concern in his own.

"It is too long ago, Miss Craven," he said, again and again, most regretfully. "Except in the very improbable case of a confession from a possible murderer, no clue to hang suspicion on another can arise now. I have done all that can be done, so far as I may say so, but I have not met with the faintest shadow of a clue, and my fear is that I must add that I do not expect ever to do so."

"You will not cease this effort you are making?" urged Honore.

"It will not indeed," he answered, with gentle cordiality, grieved to see

Phoebe's face.

"What do you mean by that?"

"Nothing, sir; only his rows of vacant seats remind me of a famous poem called 'Tiers, Tiers, Tiers.'"

"To be continued."

COMPENSATION.

"Would you be willing to live in a haunted house?" inquired Mrs. Jackson, who had been considering the advisability of moving.

"Well, Henrietta, that was the answer, I must say it would be a good deal of a comfort to hear noises without having to go and hunt burglars."

A POETICAL REMINDER.

"Just look at all those empty seats," growled the manager, "and here it is time for the curtain to go up."

"Yes," said the leading man, "poetical, isn't it?"

"Poetical? Hang it all, man, no! What do you mean by that?"

"Nothing, sir; only his rows of vacant seats remind me of a famous poem called 'Tiers, Tiers, Tiers.'"

"To be continued."

BUT HER A RING.

A woman cannot have too many rings. A man never makes a mistake in giving one to any woman on good enough terms to permit of such a present.

The best thing for you, if you feel that your full bodily energy is lacking, is to seek the strengthening, power-producing help of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, which confers upon the digestive organs that keen zest of appetite and assimilation which transforms the food into nourishing blood, building blood, active muscular force, nervous energy and rugged endurance.

Do not wait until dyspepsia spreads into "liver complaint," and that turns into "rheumatic trouble," which finally issues into consumption. Do not rely upon the delicate stimulus of malt extracts and sarsaparilla, and only compounds, do not allow a designing druggist who seeks only his own profit rather than your health to foist any "boom" medicine upon you. Insist upon the remedy which is backed by thirty years of steadily increasing sales to attest its constant usefulness and popularity.

The experience of Mr. Val Burkard, living at 65 Mohr Ave., Buffalo, N. Y., is given in his own words. "Five weeks ago I was afflicted with a cold, and took two bottles of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, and as there have been eruptions since I finished the last bottle, I feel it is the greatest remedy on the globe for blood and digestive disorders. My appetite increased wonderfully, and I have gained flesh. I would like everybody to know the true value of Dr. Pierce's medicine, as I am confident by persistent use they will cure all ailments for which they are recommended."

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

what he thought such futile earnestness, knowing that, in spite of his great anxiety to serve her, he was powerless to do so in this matter.

"I know you will not; I know you are very kind," she said, wistfully and humbly enough to show that it was possible to be young and beautiful and wealthy, yet to have the longings of the heart unsatisfied; "and I feel that it will be possible—only so very hard—to prove at last the innocence of my cousin, Gabriel Myddleton, my cousin."

With a new curiosity in his gaze, the old lawyer looked down upon his client.

"It would be wiser, my dear Miss Craven, to let the matter rest. But as you evidently think otherwise," he added, changing his tone when he saw her eyes sadden, "I will think of it as far as I can—at any rate we will do all that is possible. One of my clerks is at Askehampton now, but as I told you, his searches and inquiries seem utterly unavailing."

She thanked him for all his help and promises, and he made a kind, vain effort to cheer her, then he went away, with his thoughts so full of the sad young face and earnest voice that he started from his long reverie in surprise to find that he had been driven two miles beyond his office door.

Alone again, Honore tried to draw her thoughts away from this haunting subject.

"I will go to Phoebe," she said, and yet she lingered in her solitude, struggling with her restlessness and uneasiness.

"You know whom alone I could ever ask to help me," she knew this, "it is you understand what a lonely life mine will be."

The words came back to her just as Royden had uttered them at Westleigh Towers nearly two years before, and she could not shake the memory of them.

She sat down to the piano and began to play, hoping that the chords of these silent chords, but some how they fitted to them all. Suddenly she rose with a sigh of pain, for her hands and throat, straining after melodies she knew—had unconsciously fallen upon the sad but exquisite funeral music of "Lucia di Lammermoor," and its pathos and tenderness were more than she could bear just now.

Covering her face with her hands, she tried to shake away these haunting thoughts of Royden. She tried to bring his before her as a man who had lived with a false character, under a false name and false pretences, but she could not live so in her mind even for one minute, and she knew that, under all her pain for him, most strong and steady, hers was the longing to see him.

"It will go to Marie," she said at last, long and pushing the hair from her white face; "she will wonder why I have not been."

Marie Verdon entered from her work when Honore rose from the seat and moved to the door, and she saw that she had now, to show, in eager gratitude, how her strength was returning to her, in her new life of ease and abundance.

A little farther again today, Marie said Honore, her own sorrows set aside, as they always were, beside the sorrow and the center of others. "It had only fluttered regrettably through her thoughts today, for they had been centered in loving anxiety upon her cousin."

"I cannot understand it," she mused, leaning her head upon her hand, "I wish I could, and I wish I could help her. But somehow it seems as if no one could help her; while she, even in her own anxiety, seems helping us all. She never even pretended to go to bed last night—this morning, I mean, for I was late returning, though Honore had promised to wait for me at Lady Somerton's. She went to bed and fell asleep at once, never guessing that Honore was not in bed too, and that her maid says she changed her dress, and sat quite still in her own room, reading, until it was possible to send for Mr. Stafford. Does she really think that he can explain this mysterious disappearance of Mr. Keith? Why should it alarm her—for that it does I am quite sure, though she smiles and only says, 'Perhaps he was called suddenly abroad.' As if that were possible, and his valet might not find it. How I wish Honore would come in here! She said she would, so I will wait, but she is late long time. Mr. Stafford has been here an hour or more. I wish she would come; but I wish, above all things, that I could help her."

And the wish was earnest and unselfish, as few of Phoebe's wishes had ever been before, and she had little idea—as she mused of the change in Honore—of the still greater, though so different, change in herself.

"Yes, I will wait, because Honore said she would come," she murmured, and she took up her book to read, while her eyes were raised to the door every minute, and her ears were open for the sound of a light footfall.

Phoebe had said truly that the lawyer had been for more than an hour cloistered with Honore, but even when he rose to go, he had not dispelled the puzzled sadness on her face, and had gathered a great concern in his own.

"It is too long ago, Miss Craven," he said, again and again, most regretfully. "Except in the very improbable case of a confession from a possible murderer, no clue to hang suspicion on another can arise now. I have done all that can be done, so far as I may say so, but I have not met with the faintest shadow of a clue, and my fear is that I must add that I do not expect ever to do so."

"You will not cease this effort you are making?" urged Honore.

"It will not indeed," he answered, with gentle cordiality, grieved to see

Phoebe's face.

"What do you mean by that?"

"Nothing, sir; only his rows of vacant seats remind me of a famous poem called 'Tiers, Tiers, Tiers.'"

"To be continued."

COMPENSATION.

"Would you be willing to live in a haunted house?" inquired Mrs. Jackson, who had been considering the advisability of moving.

"Well, Henrietta, that was the answer, I must say it would be a good deal of a comfort to hear noises without having to go and hunt burglars."

A POETICAL REMINDER.

"Just look at all those empty seats," growled the manager, "and here it is time for the curtain to go up."

"Yes," said the leading man, "poetical, isn't it?"

"Poetical? Hang it all, man, no! What do you mean by that?"

"Nothing, sir; only his rows of vacant seats remind me of a famous poem called 'Tiers, Tiers, Tiers.'"

"To be continued."

BUT HER A RING.

A woman cannot have too many rings. A man never makes a mistake in giving one to any woman on good enough terms to permit of such a present.

The best thing for you, if you feel that your full bodily energy is lacking, is to seek the strengthening, power-producing help of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, which confers upon the digestive organs that keen zest of appetite and assimilation which transforms the food into nourishing blood, building blood, active muscular force, nervous energy and rugged endurance.

Do not wait until dyspepsia spreads into "liver complaint," and that turns into "rheumatic trouble," which finally issues into consumption. Do not rely upon the delicate stimulus of malt extracts and sarsaparilla, and only compounds, do not allow a designing druggist who seeks only his own profit rather than your health to foist any "boom" medicine upon you. Insist upon the remedy which is backed by thirty years of steadily increasing sales to attest its constant usefulness and popularity.

The experience of Mr. Val Burkard, living at 65 Mohr Ave., Buffalo, N. Y., is given in his own words. "Five weeks ago I was afflicted with a cold, and took two bottles of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, and as there have been eruptions since I finished the last bottle, I feel it is the greatest remedy on the globe for blood and digestive disorders. My appetite increased wonderfully, and I have gained flesh. I would like everybody to know the true value of Dr. Pierce's medicine, as I am confident by persistent use they will cure all ailments for which they are recommended."

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

It is a fact that Dr. Pierce's medicine is the most reliable and most successful remedy for all ailments for which they are recommended.

Fought Off Thugs
With Her Hatpin.

Chivalrous Chicago Girl Rescued a Beleaguered Conductor.

Robbers Had Seized Him—Gripman Aboard at Interiors, but Sadie Williams Attacked the Two Villains.

Chicago, Jan. 12.—Lovely woman sheathing her hatpin to the belt in defense of beleaguered conductor, the essence of this tale of knight errantry turned upside down. For, bleeding from a score of wounds, the conductor of a Blue Island avenue car, having been repulsed with heavy blows by a wisp of a girl,

They did not attack her. They had not even "looked cross-eyed" at her, as she expressed it. They had merely, in pursuance of their calling, fallen upon and tried to rob the conductor of the car. And although the conductor was a total stranger to her, Sadie Williams drew her hatpin in his defense like a true knight, and, single-handed, vanquished the foe. It was 8 o'clock when she boarded the car on her way to the University City Hotel. She was alone, and there was one other woman passenger, and two men were standing on the platform. The latter had just alighted, and the conductor was standing in the car. Subsequent developments gave rise to the impression that they had intended to "load up" the conductor in the tunnel, but had been deterred by the fact that he happened to be on board the grip car at the time.

When Conductor Symington entered the car to collect Miss Williams' fare, however, they deemed the time ripe for action. They followed him noiselessly, and just as he stretched out his hand for the young woman's ticket, one of them grappled him round the waist from behind, while the other plunged his hands into the victim's change pockets.

GIRL BRAVER THAN GRIPMAN.

Symington wriggled like an eel, and, managing to wrest one arm free, pulled the bell rope. The gripman stopped the car and looked behind him. He saw Symington struggling in the grasp of the thugs, but his pluck was unequal to the task of going to his comrades' aid, and he was unable to help.

While the gripman watched the fight from afar, she played headlong into the fray. If she had been trained to do so by a matre d'armes she could not have picked her way more promptly and determination. Leaping to her feet she brandished the hatpin, and, with a single stab, she struck one of the robbers.

Feeling the puncture, the man turned to her and his eyes were fixed upon her. She was a small, dark, and nearly knocking her down. Blood trickled from her nose when she was again, piercing his neck with the pin. He sprang back with a yell of pain, and she followed him, and, with a single stroke, she struck him again, and he fell to the ground.

Feeling the puncture, the man turned to her and his eyes were fixed upon her. She was a small, dark, and nearly knocking her down. Blood trickled from her nose when she was again, piercing his neck with the pin. He sprang back with a yell of pain, and she followed him, and, with a single stroke, she struck him again, and he fell to the ground.

Feeling the puncture, the man turned to her and his eyes were fixed upon her. She was a small, dark, and nearly knocking her down. Blood trickled from her nose when she was again, piercing his neck with the pin. He sprang back with a yell of pain, and she followed him, and, with a single stroke, she struck him again, and he fell to the ground.

Feeling the puncture, the man turned to her and his eyes were fixed upon her. She was a small, dark, and nearly knocking her down. Blood trickled from her nose when she was again, piercing his neck with the pin. He sprang back with a yell of pain, and she followed him, and, with a single stroke, she struck him again, and he fell to the ground.

Feeling the puncture, the man turned to her and his eyes were fixed upon her. She was a small, dark, and nearly knocking her down. Blood trickled from her nose when she was again, piercing his neck with the pin. He sprang back with a yell of pain, and she followed him, and, with a single stroke, she struck him again, and he fell to the ground.

Feeling the puncture, the man turned to her and his eyes were fixed upon her. She was a small, dark, and nearly knocking her down. Blood trickled from her nose when she was again, piercing his neck with the pin. He sprang back with a yell of pain, and she followed him, and, with a single stroke, she struck