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Lady Marjorie's Love

quickly directed towards the folding doors which shut off another apartment. From behind them came sounds of talking and laughter and a jingling of glass. "Mr. Bligh is not alone?" she said quickly. "No, miss. There have been two or three gentlemen to dinner. What name shall I say, if you please?" "Name?" She hesitated. Until now the propriety or impropriety of what she had done had never even remotely struck her—she had been too excited and angry for that. Now, with a suddenness that brought a rush of color into her cheeks, she realized that it would scarcely be the thing for Lady Marjorie Wynne to be announced in such circumstances as these. "I—I think," she said, faltering, "that I will not send in my name. You had better tell Mr. Bligh that a lady wishes to see him."

The man withdrew through the folding doors, Marjorie listening eagerly, and guessed that her message had been delivered. Then she heard a stir an approaching step and rose stood trembling as the folding doors opened and Loftus coming quickly in, shut them behind him. "Marjorie? You? Good heavens—what has brought you here?"

That his evening dress was as perfect as his dress always was and that he was as handsome as ever she saw in an instant, but she saw more, something that held her still in her advance and held her cold as she looked at him. She had expected him to be astonished, though not to show amazement so disconnected and blank, but mixed with his astonished look there was no light of pleasure, no warmth of welcome.

"I—I was obliged to come!" she faltered. Her hand fell to her side again; she looked with large wide eyes of bewilderment and trouble; her tongue and lips were suddenly dry. "I—I did not know what else to do, Loftus. Fenella is going away from the castle, and the Dowager is there. She says I must go with her to Ireland. I can't—I hate it! So I came away to you."

"Come away? And they let you? Is the Countess mad?" "The Countess? She—they don't know. I came away without telling them. If they had known they would not have let me go."

"Good heavens—what a thing to do!" His voice, though carefully checked, was harsh and angry. He was striding about in violent perturbation; he looked well-nigh stupefied with perplexity and dismay. "You came away from your proper guardians, and came to me! You must be mad, child."

Marjorie did not answer; she sank weakly into her seat again; unable to stand, turning colder and colder; a sort of terror and horror struck her heart. He did not want her; he was angry with her for coming, and it seemed that it was a dreadful thing that she had done. The room whirled around with her; she was faint with fasting as well as excitement and fatigue; her confused eyes could not clearly follow his figure as it moved.

"What shall I do?" He made a gesture of intense irritation and impatience, though still pitching his voice studiously low. "It is frightfully awkward, worse than awkward; it could not possibly have happened

at a worse time. I don't know what to do for the best. There are some men here dining. I wouldn't have them see you for anything that could be given me. I shall have to make some excuse and get rid of them, I suppose. And then you must go back."

"Go back?" Marjorie echoed stupidly. "Good heavens—yes. Of course you must go back. What could have induced you to take such a mad step I can't understand." Perplexity, anger made him brutal. "Surely you know," he said, "that a girl can't do this sort of thing without compromising herself? If those fellows in there were to see you, if the tale got about—it won't bear thinking of. You must go back without the delay of an hour, and I only hope that no one may be any the wiser. Wait here a moment and I'll get rid of them in there."

He opened the folding-doors and disappeared through them. Marjorie was stunned, dazed, she found herself stupidly confusedly counting the number of gas-jets in the chandelier that lighted the room. Four aight and one not; five in all, four aight and one—

She sprang suddenly to her feet, grasping her chair for support, her heart thumping, her eyes fixed upon the door by which she had entered the room. It was not closed shut, and on the stairs beyond it a voice was audible, plainly parleying with the man who had admitted her. It was not loud, but resolutely quiet, and she could hear every word.

"Engaged or not engaged, I'm going up," it said determinedly. You are making a mistake, my good fellow, if you think you are going to keep me here. As for what my business is, I'll explain that to Mr. Bligh when I see him. Now are you going to let me by quietly or am I to make you?"

The sounds that followed were a sufficient answer. An expostulatory murmur in the servant's voice died away; he could be heard retreating. Then footsteps came quickly up the remaining stair and along the landing. Marjorie had not turned her eyes from the door when it opened and Gerard Barrington came in.

CHAPTER XXIV Lady Marjorie stood still, grasping the chair, looking with wide, half-scared eyes at Gerard Barrington as he came in and shut the door. She saw at an instant that he was pale, perturbed, as she had never seen him before, and saw also the look of intense relief with which he saw her standing there. She realized that there was another who considered that she had done a dreadful thing, but that was not her first thought. His rapid glance round, his change of expression as their eyes met told her why he was there without the passing of a word, and she looked at him with wrath and defiance in her face. "You followed me," she exclaimed. "Yes," he answered instantly. (To Be Continued)

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Contrast By RUTH CAMERON "Oh, dear, why isn't it always Saturday afternoon and Sunday," sighed the Stenographer Lady, as she stopped at my gate to exchange greetings one blue Monday morning. She expressed a feeling as old and as new as life itself. Doubtless you felt it to-day as you took up your routine again (how hard it is, by the way, to pick up one's routine after any break, however short). And yet, to say nothing of the infinite joy of work itself, how much less the pleasures of idleness would be if we did not have the contrast of work. Few people realize the value of contrast. And yet what a tremendous force it exerts, and what an important part it plays in the lives of all of us.

It takes the contrast of misfortune to make us value good fortune. We drifted into a discussion the other day as to what had been the happiest moment of our lives, and one woman said promptly that the very happiest moment of her life was that in which she found a valuable ring which had been loaned to her and which she had lost. Undoubtedly there must have been moments of greater positive happiness in her life, but it was the contrast afforded by the misery of anxiety which threw the happiness of that particular moment into chief prominence. In all the gamut of pleasures which the world affords is there any more exquisite sensation than the cessation of pain? Surely there is no one who has suffered who cannot recall how blessedly happy is that golden moment of relief that comes when some terrible pain has ceased to torment. If every woman were beautiful would there be such a thing as a beautiful woman? Do the people who live in ideal climates where it is never too hot or too cool get as much pleasure out of their continual felicity as we do out of an occasional perfect day? If there were no such thing as death to enhance the value of life, would we appreciate what a wonderful thing life is? And, to hark back to the little Stenographer-Lady, how could we possibly know the richest pleasures of idleness if we did not have the blessed contrast of work. The only person I ever knew to dispute this last fact was Dr. Johnson, and I'm sure he only did it for the sake of being contrary. Boswell had said, "We grow weary when idle," and Johnson promptly retorted, "That is, sir, because others being busy, we want company; but if we were idle, there would be no growing weary; we should all entertain one another." It sounds plausible, but I don't believe it, and I don't think Johnson really believed it. Of course it is hard to realize it sometimes, but life without contrast would surely be as dull and flat as a picture without light and shade.

Ruth Cameron

FOUND THE CAUSE THE REST WAS EASY

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS QUICKLY CURED HIS KIDNEY DISEASE

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MARCHBANK, King's County, N. B., Apr. 28 (special).—After suffering for five years from kidney disease, brought on by a strain, Hudson Marchbank, Esq., the well-known farmer of this place, is again a strong healthy man, and another grand cure for Dodd's Kidney Pills has been put on record. In an interview, Mr. Marchbank:

"About five years ago I hurt my back from lifting, and it developed into kidney disease. My back pained me all the time, and I was very much troubled with headaches. My appetite was fitful; I had a bitter taste in my mouth in the mornings; I perspired freely, and my perspiration had a disagreeable odor. "I used liniments and plasters, but they did not do me any good, and as there were other symptoms that my kidneys were affected, I decided to try Dodd's Kidney Pills. After using two boxes, my back was completely cured, and my kidneys have not troubled me since."

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UNRESERVED AUCTION SALE Of Household Furniture S. P. Pitcher and Son, Auctioneers have received instructions from Miss F. Pratt to sell by public action at her residence, 229 Brock St., on Tuesday April 29th at 1.30 o'clock the following:

Parlor—Upholstered arm chair, wicker rocker, leather oak rocker, 2 wicker rockers, leather oak rocker, oak center tables, table, jardinerie and stand, parlor lamp, arch curtains. Diningroom—New oak leather couch, extension table, 6 chairs, oak buffet, rocker, writing desk, rocker, Radiant Home coal heater, drop head Singer sewing machine (new), oil cloth rug, lap spread. Kitchen—Gas heater, table, cherry table, sideboard, cupboard, clothes rack, chairs, clock, 13 1/2 yds flannel (new) dishes, tub, boiler, wringer, kitchen utensils, lawn mower, sealers.

Bedroom No. 1—Iron bed, springs and mattress, toilet set, heater, mirror, table, carpet. Bedroom No. 2—Bedroom suite, springs and mattress, walnut chest of drawers, toilet set, matting. Remember the sale, Tuesday April 29th, at 1.30 o'clock. Miss F. Pratt, S. P. Pitcher & Son Proprietors. Auctioneers

AUCTION SALE Of Household Furniture. W. J. Bragg, Auctioneer, will sell by public auction on Wednesday next, April 30th, at 76 Arthur Street commencing at 1.30 p.m. the following goods: Parlor—5-piece parlor suite, 1 couch, 1 rocker, 1 gas heater, pictures, blinds. Dining Room—1 oak sideboard, 6 chairs, 1 rocker, 2 extension tables, 12 yards linoleum, 1 eight day clock, dishes, etc. Kitchen—1 gas range, 1 washing machine, 1 wringer, 100 feet of hose, 1 step-ladder, pots, pans, and other articles. Also the contents of three bedrooms: Remember the date, Wednesday next, April 30th, at 76 Arthur Street, at 1.30 p.m. Terms—Spot cash. W. J. Bragg, Auctioneer, George Church, Proprietor.



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