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E. N. HUNT

190 DUNDAS STREET.

A Lover's

GERALDINE:

Romance.

"How dare you sneak into this house again, after the mischief you have done in it," she demanded, rising, her cold eyes flashing, her voice low, but harsh with anger.

"I came to see whether you had recovered from the effects of sitting up all night nursing your brother," replied Lindley softly. "I did not know that I should find you so pleasantly employed. Charles is well enough to have sent you to look for something, perhaps—for some paper of interest and importance? Or are you hunting on your own account?"

"Leave the room and leave the house or I will have you turned out."

"Very well; turn me out. Go and ring the bell."

She could not do that without leaving him in possession of the bureau, he thought; but he under-rated the woman's audacity. Carefully glancing at the papers upon which her hands were lying, she replaced them coolly in one of the little drawers of the bureau, locked it, touched the handles of two or three of the other drawers, to see that they were securely fastened, and then, putting the keys into her pocket, she walked to the fireplace and rang the bell sharply.

"Bravo!" said Lindley.

Elizabeth looked at her cousin again, but this time not with anger—that had no effect upon him—but with searching inquiry. What did he know? There was something portentous in the permanence of his serene insolence. He was a man without guile, and at the mercy of fortune, good or bad, she felt that he must be on the smooth waters to be so confident, and insensitively her manner changed. Watching each other keenly as they were doing, no faintest relaxation of feature was lost upon Lindley, who asked himself in his turn:

"Does she guess anything? What does she know at the bureau; but, after occupying herself for a few moments with the loose papers lying on it, she raised her head and said, shortly: 'Sit down, Lindley.'"

He accepted the abrupt and somewhat ungracious invitation without outward comment; but his curiosity was raised and increased by the unexpected appearance, instead of the threatened order to show him out, his cousin merely uttered the words:

"Bring me some sherry."

Lindley appeared to take no notice of this change of tone, but, with a scarcely crossed upon the rail of his chair and eye-glass up, sat looking out into the park, waiting in silent silence for the next move.

She said nothing until the sherry was brought; and then, signing to him to help himself, which he did, liberally without hesitation, she began in a quiet, business-like tone, drawing upon a blotting paper in front of her and very intent upon that work:

"Look here, Lindley, if you have any thing of real interest to tell me, as well worth your while to tell me as to tell Sir Charles."

"Worth my while, Elizabeth?" dropping his eye-glass from his eye in his wounded surprise. "I don't understand you."

"Don't you really? Well, I will explain. The gratitude you expected from Charles for the information you had imparted to him may take an even more substantial form in my hands than his."

"Really, Elizabeth, if you think that I am a person to be bribed, especially in a matter where the honor of the family is concerned, you make a great mistake," said Lindley, putting down a large piece of paper, which he had cut for himself, in order to be more free to express the proud indignation he felt at her suggestion.

He was so sternly incorruptible that she felt he mistrusted her powers to fulfill her implied promises.

"Oh, the family honor is concerned, is it?"

"Yes," he replied, taking up his cake again.

"Ah!" she ejaculated incredulously. When Lindley began to talk of the family honor he lost weight directly.

"I came here," he continued, with dignity, "on a mission of justice, have been the victim of so much injustice myself throughout my life—partly, perhaps, through a certain recklessness of the opinion of others, which may be a fault in my character—that I can feel

A Contented Family.....

Fathers, mothers, sons and daughters will enjoy their breakfast if they have

RALSTON

Breakfast Food

—AND—

Pancake Flour

If you wish to enjoy pancakes without suffering from indigestion try Ralston's formula. We have the freshest and best.

Fitzgerald,
Seandrett & Co.,
169 DUNDAS STREET.

for other victims of injustice, and exert myself for them as no one has ever exerted himself for me. When the victim is a woman, my charity comes to the aid of my indignation, and then I do not care to what misrepresentations I may myself be, my endeavor to obtain justice for her."

"And in this case justice means—"

"Charles' acknowledgment of his own child."

"Or of yours as his own?"

"Your suspicions are unworthy of your discernment. What motive could I have for such a suggestion?"

"A very good one, or at least one quite good enough for—your purpose. Charles has no heir. If he were to acknowledge this girl as his legitimate child, he would leave all he possesses to her; and it may have occurred to you that it is better to be the unacknowledged father of a child, than to be the acknowledged father of a girl without a penny."

"I repeat, Elizabeth, that I am not the father of the girl in question at all. You don't seem to know how old she is, to begin with. Charles' daughter is 22 or 23, at least."

"And you are 48 or 49, at least, Lindley, though I acknowledge that you don't look it by this light."

For he had changed his seat, and was now sitting with his back to the windows. This shaft struck home; his plump, well-shaped hands twitched and trembled as they lay upon his knees, and he moved him strongly. When he spoke again, it was in a softly argumentative tone.

"Do you think, Elizabeth, that it was anything less than a statement of vital interest to him which had such an effect upon Charles as to strike him down with paralysis?"

"No, I do not," she answered, coolly; then, after a pause, "You struck a little hard; you made your statement a little interesting; for, if anything, were to die, as the doctors fear, without recovering power enough to speak, you see all your efforts in the cause of the victim of injustice will be thrown away."

"I hope not—I may say I am sure they will not be. Charles has in his possession written proofs—and he looked at her fixedly—of the truth of the story which, if anything, were to happen to him, I should repeat to his executors; and then even if it were too late for her to benefit pecuniarily by the establishment of her true position, at least the poor girl would be released from a different source of anxiety."

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"Perhaps he told me; perhaps I found out from a different source. At any rate, I can produce other proofs in support of them. Besides," continued Lindley, "the matter is settled, and I am still here, still here that Charles will recover, at any rate sufficiently to acknowledge his child."

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OVER 150 MILES IN WIDTH.

The United States steamer Mississippi is making its annual tour of inspection. The first terrible signs of the devastation and havoc wrought by the waters were seen fifteen miles above Cairo. On the Illinois side, as far as the eye could reach, there was a mass of water, broken here and there by patches of woods and farm buildings. Beyond this was a shanty town, and a few houses were scattered along both sides, most of them deserted, as the debris of some bridge, or a whole house floating on its side with mayhap, a human being wildly waving its arms for help, reaches back into the country for 40 or 60 miles.

Where the White River debouches from Arkansas into the Yazoo comes in from the plantations of the Mississippi, the flooded districts cover tracts of land.

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The experiences of these boys is similar to that of hundreds of people in this district of suffering. The food lost will never be known, nor can any accurate estimate be made of the number of the sufferers, for the greater part, consist of "squatters" and in many instances of "shanty men," who subsist by fishing, hunting and stealing.

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LONDON'S GREATEST STORE

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WILL BE RECEPTION DAYS FOR...

Millinery, Mantles and Dress Goods.

The opening of this Big Store on the departmental plan, with entirely new stocks, has been an event of more than ordinary importance to thrifty buyers, and this, our first

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will give pleasure to thousands who have been waiting to welcome us. And we respectfully request the ladies of London to consider this a personal invitation to visit the new store on the above days, when we promise special attractions and novelties in abundance.

The fact that our stock is all new, the most of it having passed customs during the last few days, means later styles, brighter ideas and more exclusive goods than you'll likely find anywhere else, with beauty and variety to suit every taste.

In Cloaks and Capes

We'll show the latest productions from Paris and Berlin, and ample variety to suit the requirements of every class.

In Silks and Dress Goods

Every possible need has been anticipated and this department is really great in every point, from Parisian novelties to medium-priced, and down to cheaper lines, and at prices below the level of real worth.

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NEVER FAIL

MEDICINE, NOT A DRINK, CONTAINS Hops, Buchu, Mandrake, Dandelion, And the Purest and Best Medical Qualities of all others.

Cures

All Diseases of the Stomach, Bowels, Blood, Liver, Kidneys and Urinary Organs, Nervousness, Sleeplessness, especially Female Complaints.

\$1,000 IN GOLD

Will be paid for a case it will not cure or help, or for anything impure or injurious found therein.

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Wholesale Hardware Merchants.

Window Glass, Paints, Linseed Oil, Spades and Shovels, Garden and Harvest Tools, Lawn Mowers, etc.

Full line Spring Goods. Closest prices to the trade. Prompt shipment guaranteed.

SEE THE CELEBRATED Crescent Bicycles.

UP-TO-DATE DUNLOP TIRES, BALL BEARINGS, TWO-PIECE CRANK AXLE. Equal to any wheel on the market. Call and compare prices before purchasing.

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SHELL OYSTERS

NEW YORK BLUE POINTS. 25¢ per doz. (dressed) 30¢ per doz. (undressed) 30¢ per doz. (undressed) 30¢ per doz. (undressed)

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Mammoth Livery. Hack, Convey, Landaus, Busses and Light Livery. Saddle Horses, Sale and Boarding Stable. Open day and night. Phone 100.

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"Bird's Point, just opposite Cairo, is all a dreary waste of water. Here are about 15 houses, occupied by the men and women, and other employees. The settlement is in a grove, and consists mostly of story-and-a-half cottages. The water is ten to twelve feet above the level of the ground. Nearly all the houses are deserted. The inhabitants were first driven to the second stories, then as the water continued to rise, they fled to Cairo. One large brick house on board none of the wooden houses are floating about. Should a strong wind arise, half of the houses would be blown down the Mississippi."

FAMILY OF FIVE RESCUED.

Joseph Collier, his wife and three children, were rescued from an isolated house about a mile from Bird's Point. They had no boat, and were unable to get away or attract any assistance all day yesterday. A friend of Collier organized a rescue party, and took the unfortunate family away. The saddest feature was the death of a 3-month-old babe of Mrs. Collier, as a result of the exposure. The family was unable to leave the house for the first 24 hours. A few miles above Island 10, information came to the Mississippi that there were 50 families in what is known as "Little Egypt," in a low-lying area with no power on earth can save, as not even a rowboat can pass through the dense banks of cane, shrill cries proceeded from the houses, and the men in what seemed to be a thick fog. It was so dark, however, that nothing could be seen until the search-light was used. Two little colored boys, about 12 years old, were seen, perched on the roof of a log cabin, but so near by submerged that their legs and the knees were in water.

TWO BOYS ON A ROOF.

A thrilling rescue was accomplished a few miles above Bird's Point. It was just at dusk. While passing down between dense banks of cane, shrill cries proceeded from the houses, and the men in what seemed to be a thick fog. It was so dark, however, that nothing could be seen until the search-light was used. Two little colored boys, about 12 years old, were seen, perched on the roof of a log cabin, but so near by submerged that their legs and the knees were in water.

THE RESCUE.

The swimmer carried another rope and it was the work of but a moment to fasten this about the two brothers, who were yanked to the boat, which was now only a few yards away, floating slowly down under "back water."

The swimmer pulled on the rope, and the two boys were hauled up, and were given the first food they had eaten in three days.

The experiences of these boys is similar to that of hundreds of people in this district of suffering. The food lost will never be known, nor can any accurate estimate be made of the number of the sufferers, for the greater part, consist of "squatters" and in many instances of "shanty men," who subsist by fishing, hunting and stealing.

THE LOSS INCALCULABLE.

To attempt to name the loss would

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