

A FAIR INVALID

"I am fond of you, Miss Vane," was the dignified rejoinder—"there is no pretence. I beg of you to leave the woods, at least before the mist rises."
 "I will. Now leave me in peace."
 "Miss Vane," continued the maid, after a short pause, "you told me that you wished to be made acquainted with all the cases of distress that should come to my knowledge."
 "Certainly I did, Lewis."
 "I know of one now—that of an elderly woman, whose living is derived from the produce of a small garden and from the sale of milk. Her cow has died, and she is asking for help toward buying another."
 "How much does a cow cost, Lewis?"
 "I do not know, Miss Vane—fifteen pounds, I should imagine."
 "Fifteen pounds," repeated the sweet voice—"that is not much. Is it possible that one's happiness or misery may depend on fifteen pounds?"
 "Hers does, Miss Vane; it seems a trifle to you—it is everything to her. Shall I do anything toward assisting her?"
 "Certainly—give her the money."
 "All of it?"
 "Yes; but remember, it must be sent to her secretly, quite secretly—I do not wish anyone to know what I waste."
 "It is not waste, Miss Vane—it makes people happy."
 "Happy?" she repeated, and in the emphasis she laid on the word there was a volume of meaning; it indicated a dreary sadness and hopelessness which impressed me strongly. "Happiness! Is there such a word, Lewis?"
 "I cannot discuss such matters with you, Miss Vane. I will send the money as you wish, quite privately, to-night or to-morrow."
 "You have only to take care that the woman does not know from whom it comes. I should never expect thanks or gratitude—rather a curse than otherwise. Who is always the first to prove treacherous and ungrateful? The one you have most warmly befriended. Who is first in the ranks of your bitterest foes? The one you have loved best."
 "Heaven help you, my dear," said the patient woman. "That is a bitter view to take of everything. I cannot help saying 'my dear.' I wonder if you will ever recognize the merciful goodness of heaven again."
 "I fear not. There is a funeral pall about me—that grows thicker, and deeper, and darker as time goes on. Now go away, Lewis. I shall be at home long before the sun sets."
 The woman turned away obediently, and the graceful head drooped against the tree, while once more the white hands fell listlessly on the black dress.
 "I must steal away in silence," I said to myself.
 I knew now who had sent money to the rector. What else should I learn of this strange, eccentric Huldah Vane?
 CHAPTER IV.
 For many long months after my last glimpse of the tenant of the River House I hunted the banks of the stream in vain.
 Huldah Vane was again lost to sight. Our neighbors had ceased to discuss her. In the spring of the fourth year of her residence at the River House I was destined to see more of her. I went one morning for a row on the river. What a morning it was—the air clear, sweet, balmy, filled with the odor of spring flowers, the hedges all blooming with pink and white hawthorn, the trees a tender green!
 I rowed down the stream, past the River House, to a favorite spot of mine—a bank that was literally covered with wild hyacinths. I sat on one of the stones, looking at the picturesque waters, when I heard a faint sound, as of some one moaning in pain. I listened attentively, although thinking that I must be mistaken, and I presently heard it again quite plainly. Was it a wounded animal, or had some child fallen over the huge stones?
 I stood up and looked around. At first I could distinguish nothing, but, shading my eyes from the bright sunshine, I soon discovered, close to the water, what in the distance looked like a heap of black drapery. I hastened toward it. My heart beat fast when I saw a white hand clinching a portion of the dress. I knew the hand—I recognized the drapery. It was Huldah Vane. I stood quite still for a second or two, and then hastened to her. The graceful figure was bent as though in deadly pain—her face was turned from me, and drooped toward the ground.
 I knelt down by her side and touched her gently—the feeble moan changed into a startled cry. "Are you hurt? Are you ill?" I asked, gently. To my surprise she turned from me and made no reply.
 "Do not turn from me, my dear child," I said—"I may call you 'dear child,' for I am many years older than you." Still no answer came. "I do not wish to distress you, but common humanity will not allow me to go away and leave you here."
 Still there was no word. Such a strange, constrained silence it was that I raised her head, and saw that she had fainted and lay in a deadly swoon. I threw back the black veil that covered her face, and was compelled to cry aloud in wonder at its marvellous loveliness. Great heavens! what did it all mean? This child, so young, so tender, so lovely, living alone, shut out from her kind, talking as I had once heard her talk of preferring death to life—what did it mean? She looked about twenty, certainly no more; and she was beautiful as a dream.
 I took off the bonnet with its long, disfiguring black veil, and then I laid the beautiful head, with its wealth of shining dark hair, on the cool grass. Presently I raised it again, and pilled it on my breast. I kissed the lovely face in a perfect passion of yearning pity, and then dipped my handkerchief in the flowing water and moistened her brow. He revived her, and soon afterward two dark eyes were looking mournfully into mine, so dark, so sweet, at once so proud and tender, with such deep sadness in their rich depths, that they haunted me with their sweet imperiousness and proud beauty for days afterward.
 They were young, so tender, so lovely, so beautiful before I quite recovered myself. I saw by their vague, dreamy expression that Miss Vane was only half-conscious. "Was I almost dead?" she asked, in a strange whisper.
 "Not quite," I replied, hardly knowing what to answer.
 "Lay me down, turn my face to the river, and let me die," she said; and then fuller consciousness returned to her. "Who are you?" she asked.
 "I am Mrs. Neville, of Neville's Cross,"

STORE OPENS 8.30 A. M. AT R. MCKAY & CO'S., SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 1909 STORE CLOSSES 10 P. M.

Look for the Clover Leaf Price Tickets

To-morrow is the last day they will appear. They will denote to you some great bargains in just the goods you want

A Most Important Sale of Suits and Coats At Reduced Prices Apparel for the Well Dressed Woman



Now is the time to purchase your Spring apparel. Our stocks are at the high water mark. New garments have been pouring in daily, and even if you have no definite idea of what you want, a visit to our department of Suits, Coats and Dresses will soon help you to decide. All the correct styles moderately priced.

Tailored Suits at \$18.50
Made different models for women, smartly tailored with many points of exclusiveness, correct style features and best possible workmanship, of plain serges, worsteds, Bengaline cloth and English novelty fabrics, in stripes and checks, all the new spring colorings, trimmed with self button and beautifully tailored, regular \$23.50, excellent value at \$18.50

Silk Coats \$14.00
A splendid assortment of styles in box and semi-fitting coats, beautifully braided and appliqued, three-quarter and seven-eighth lengths, regular \$20.00, on sale Saturday at \$14

Walking Skirts \$2.49
Navy, brown, green, black and fancy checks and stripes, a good assortment of styles to select from, all walking lengths, regular value \$3.50, sale \$2.49

Cloth Coats \$5.95
Colored and Black Cloth Coats, in semi and tight fitting styles, beautifully tailored garments, regular \$7.50, on sale Saturday at \$5.95

Clover Sale Summer Hosiery--Big Bargains

50 DOZEN LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S Cotton and Lisle black and tan Hosiery, plain and lace and drop stitch, also Maco sole, all full fashioned, seamless, extra spliced feet, worth up to 35c, sale price only 15c

Black Gauze Lisle 35c
Black imported Gauze Lisle, guaranteed, yarn dyed, well reinforced, toe and heel, seamless, fashioned, regular 50c, sale price only 35c

Ladies' Summer Vests 10c, Regular 25c
Manufacturers' clearing summer Vests, Cotton and Lisle, short and no sleeve, fancy tops and button fronts, a limited quantity, over size, worth regularly up to 25c, clearing sale only 10c

Knitted Corset Covers 10c, Regular 25c
Ladies' Knitted Corset Covers, no sleeve, neatly finished, regular 25c, sale 10c

Briggin Underwear 35c, Regular 50c
Ladies' Vests, short sleeves, knee, knee length drawers, lace trimmed, French Balbriggan, regular 50c, sale 35c

You will be Right in Clover Here—Shop at 8.30—At 10c

Frilling 10c Box, Regular 15c
Wash Collars 10c, Regular 25c
Pretty Wash Belts Reg. 25c, Sale Price 10c Each
15 dozen White Embroidered Wash Belts will be forced out to-morrow morning, have pretty pearl and gilt buckles, worth regular 25c, sale price 10c each

Paris Hat Pins--Sale Price 10c Each Worth Regularly 35c

10 dozen Hat Pins, with colored stones, in a tremendous sale to-morrow, worth regularly 35c, Clover Day sale price 10c each

Black Jet Brooches, Reg. 25c, for To-morrow 10c Each
Shop at 8.30 for this great bargain, something new in Black Jet Brooches, out they go at, each 10c

Beautiful Brilliant Hat Pins, Reg. \$2 Values, for \$1.00 Each
Beautiful Brilliant Hat Pins, set in silver, on sale at one-half regularly, worth regularly \$2.00, sale price \$1.00 each

Clover Day Bargains at the Drug Counter

Easter's Oriental Paste
Easter's paste for the toilet. It will remove wrinkles, pimples and all defects of the skin. It is the only preparation that contains no grease and will not fill the pores. Saturday on sale at 25c jar

Talcum Powder 9c Box
Talcum Toilet and Baby Powder to soften and preserve the skin for babies and adults, positively pure. A regular 15c line. Saturday sale price 9c box

Sanitol Tooth Paste and Powder. Regular price 25c, Saturday sale price 10c

Hair and Cloth Brushes
Pure Bristle Brushes. This is a regular 25c brush, Saturday sale price 12 1/2c each

The Time for Wash Goods Great Reductions To-morrow

White Shadow Persian Lawn, in variety of dot patterns, very fine, sheer quality, mercerized finish, regular 25c yard, Clover Leaf price 10c

Motor Suiting, in stylish shades of blues, tans, black and white, grey, blue and Nile, fashionable stripe effects, full yard wide, good, firm material, regular price 25c, sale price 10c

White Vesting, in firm and lighter weaves, fancy conventional, dot and stripe designs, extra nice quality, good width, imported material, worth 20c yard, on sale 10c

Black Check and Plaid Gingham, with white, suitable for mourning, good variety of patterns, regularly 12 1/2 and 15c, this sale 10c

THE LAST DAY OF OUR GREAT CLOVER SALE

Greater Bargains than ever for the last day of this successful sale--Shop Early Read the Price Bulletins and be here on time so that you might share in some of the greatest bargains ever offered, even by this store.

Immense Bargains in Blouses and Underskirts for Our Last Day of Clover Sale

THIRD FLOOR

\$2.50 Waists for \$1.19 **\$4 Waists for \$2.98**

Dainty Persian Lawn Waists, Elaborate Silk Waists, made with made with Swiss allover embroidered yoke, back and front tuck and trimmed with insertion, tulle, clover, pointed cuff, edged with lace, worth regular \$2.50, Saturday's Clover Day Sale price \$1.19

\$5 Silk Underskirts for \$3.49
Black Chiffon Taffeta Silk Underskirts, superior quality, made with deep shirred flounce and percaleine dust flounce, worth regular \$5, Saturday's Clover Day Sale price \$3.49

Clover Day in Baby Goods

\$1 Hats for 59c **Children's Drawers for 19c**

Children's Straw Sailor Hats, just Black Sateen Drawers, made with the thing for school and trimmed tucks and trimmed with embroidery with ribbon, worth regular \$1, Saturday's Clover Day Sale price 59c

Children's White Cotton and Black Sateen Drawers, made with tucks and trimmed with embroidery, sizes 1, 2 and 3, Saturday's Clover Day Sale price 19c

Clover Sale of Plain Wash Silks 25c

To-morrow we will place in this clearing sale 2,000 yards splendid quality Wash Silk in white, ivory and cream shades. A perfect silk for washing and just the thing for summer dresses and foundations, full 22 inches wide; Clover Sale price to-morrow 25c yd

2,000 Yards Plain French Taffetas 39c, Worth 75c and 85c
Two thousand yards of Pure Silk Taffeta in plain colors, including black and white. All good quality and beautifully finished. Qualities that are worth 75 and 85c yard. Clover Sale price to-morrow 39c

Big Selling of Women's Kid Gloves

Long Mesquiterie Kid Gloves, best quality, Trefousse and Perrin makes, in all the latest shades.

12-button length, regular \$2.75 and \$3.00 pair \$1.59
16-button length, regular \$3.25 and \$3.50 pair \$1.69
12-button length Black Suede, Trefousse, regular \$2.25, for \$1.29
16-button length Black Suede, Trefousse, regular \$2.50, for \$1.49
Elbow length Mercerized Lisle Thread Gloves, 2 dome fasteners, in tan, brown, black and white, 75c quality, for 29c
2 dome French Suede Gloves, Trefousse; colors grey, tan, brown, black and white, regular \$1.25, for 89c
2 dome Kid Gloves, Perrin and Rouillon makes, white, regular \$1.00, for 79c
Boys' Tan Kid Gloves, 1 dome fastener, regular 75c, for 49c
Misses' Kid Gloves, navy and green, regular 75c, for 49c

EXTRA SPECIAL

By coming to this store to-morrow you will find scores of other equally important bargains not advertised bearing the Clover Day Sale tickets. Come and come early in the day for you will fairly revel in the going.

Clover Day in Men's Department

The greatest bargains ever offered in the history of R. McKay & Co. Clover Day will sell Men's Balbriggan Underwear, sizes from 32 to 44, at 29c. These are worth regularly 50c.

Men's Working Shirts, with neat black and white stripes, all sizes; the regular price is 50c, Thursday sale price—listen 39c
10 dozen Boys' Braces, leather ends, Saturday will sell at 8c a pair. Three pairs to one customer. The regular price 15c.

Men's Fancy Black Cashmere Socks, summer weight. These are worth up to 40c. Saturday will offer at 19c
Men's Summer Fancy Vests. These are worth up to \$2.50; Saturday sale price 90c. We consider this a great reduction.

Men's Pure Linen Handkerchiefs, good size; the regular price is 15c. Saturday will sell, 10c, or 3 for 25c

Clover Day Specials at Notion Section

Bargains in little things that one wants for every day needs. You can save very greatly by taking advantage of the following specials. Shop early.

Hat Pins, regular 10c, Saturday sale price 5c card
Bone Hair Pins, regular 15c, Saturday sale price 10c dozen
Wire Hair Rolls, regular 25c, Saturday sale price 19c each
Hooks and Eyes, on sale 1c card
Bone Collar Buttons, regular 10c, Saturday sale price 5c card
Something doing at the Jewelry Section.

Ribbons on Sale

25c, Regular 35c
4 inch Satin Duchess Ribbon, extra firm quality in white, cream, black, grey, coral pink, navy and all the leading shades. Regular 35c, for sale Saturday at 25c per yard.

25c, Regular 35c
5 inch Dresden Ribbon in the latest colorings and floral designs. Worth 25c per yard, Saturday sale price 25c per yard.

19c a Belt
Parisian Ribbon Beltings, worth 25c, 35c and \$1.00 per yard, to clear Saturday at 19c a belt.

15c per Yard
Black Moire Ribbons, worth regular 25c, 25c and 35c, to clear Saturday at 15c per yd.



Regular \$10 Trimmed Hats for \$4.98

Handsome large and small shapes, all this season's newest styles, especially trimmed in our own workroom, with flower wreaths, foliage, ribbon, wings, etc., regular price \$10, for \$4.98

Pretty Hats in assorted colors and designs, trimmed with quills, ribbon, flowers, foliage, etc., regular price \$7.00, for \$2.98

All our imported Parisian millinery reduced to half price.

Great Sale of Rich Quality Dress and Suit Trimmings

Regular Value Up to \$2.50, Sale Price 49c

Tremendous selling will follow this announcement for the last day of our Clover Sale. Remember, all our best style trimmings included in this sale, such as beautiful combination colors of applique, straight bands and insertions. Home dressmakers should take advantage of this great sale event and secure some of the prettiest dress and suit trimmings ever offered in Hamilton, even at sale prices; worth regularly up to \$2.50 Clover Day Sale price 49c Yd.

Landslide in Housefurnishing Values

For Saturday this Clover Sale will be a record breaker in point of splendid housefurnishing values. Every item advertised is in demand, and the goods are first class and up to date in every respect. Don't fail to see them.

\$1.15 Double Thread Curtains 88c pr. **Great Offer White Wool Blankets**
All sample pairs, received in the past month. Some beautiful fines. To clear at once, have marked at a nominal figure from \$2.68 pair up bedrooms, etc.

\$1.75 Double Thread Curtains 1.17 pr.
Grand, strong, sturdy, effective Curtains, new, bright designs; great for bedrooms, etc.

\$7 Swiss Lace Curtains \$4.87 Pair **\$1.75 White Bed Spreads at \$1.18**
These beautiful Curtains for parlors cannot be beaten. A grand choice to choose from. You'll be charmed.

65c and 75c Madras Muslins 44c Yard **Largest Flannelette Sheets \$1.44 Pair**
In beautiful color effects, also in white, cream and blue, double width, greatly in demand.

50c Window Shades 35c
Full size, good spring; creams, white, green, etc.

Sale of Feather Cushion Forms
Ready to cover. Filled with feathers, soft and full.

18 inches square, 50c, for 38c each
20 inches square, 65c, for 47c each
22 inches square, 85c, for 63c each
24 inches square, \$1.00, for 78c each

Dainty Little Fireplace Screens
Suitable for blackened fireplaces, dull corners, etc.

\$1.50 former price, sale 88c each
\$2.50 and \$3.00 former price, sale 98c each

Single Line Bargain Brieflets
Crepe Drapery, for kimono, etc., 30 and 38c, for 22c yard
Cretomnes, regularly 18 and 20c, yard, sale 9c yard
White Curtain Muslin, regularly 18 and 20c, sale 9c yard
Brass Extension Rods, complete 4c each
Cushion Covers, all ready, silk brocade, corded, \$2.25, for \$1.38 each
Cushion Covers, all ready, soft silk, frilled, 75c, for 58c each
Cushion Covers, both sides cretonne, frilled, 75c, for 58c each
Art Sateens, for comforters, cushions, etc., 25 and 30c, for 18c yard
Art Sateens, lovely finish, high class, 35 and 40c, for 28c yard
American Art Silkoine, for drapes, etc., 18 and 20c, for 12 1/2c yard

R. MCKAY & CO.

(Continued on page 3.)