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The Shadow of the Future.

CHAPTER XI. A GRAND DISCOVERY.

a quick eye for other people's needs, were, alas, vain—the surplus of her light bond to feel herself always scantly provided with means to this markable response: of her nature to her mother's and sis- Sydney, to be looking after the poor have patience and listen"—for Sydney end, and in nothing was the contrast ter's more clearly shown than in this about you. He was as free as the day uttered a bewildered ejaculation matter of pounds, shillings, and pence. as long as ever he was able, and I will

not in the habit of talking about, and pounds, and for a long life for you to of leaving me to do so?" many a rueful hour it cost her to do good with it, than think that these savings were so pro- "Yours very true and dutiful friend

vokingly small. Mrs. Alwyn, however, took good care that only a very small portion of her income should be wasted through Syd-clerk mean? ney's proclivities, and so it came to pass, that the girl had to tax her native ingenuity to make the most of the

an after-breakfast inspection of last instanter. The damp, ill-drained dom- home while you stay in it." winter's garments, pondering over what could be spared to robe the convalescent Patty Peggs, and two or to a six-roomed house. The rector had a hand drop on Mrs. Alwyn's shoulder, three junior sisters, lamenting secretly his blanket club endowed, so he "I can't help being very glad. I hope that she must not venture on slicing up a suggestively useful serge, for hadn't to go begging every winter. it doesn't vex you." replace it before cold weather came inspiration—if it were true! But not a again, when Phillips entered, and ex- moment could she wait without hearclaiming, "The bag was late this morning, miss. Mistress sent this up claiming, the bag was late this morning, miss. Mistress sent this up claiming, the bag was late this contained by the bag was later than the bag was later this contained by the bag was later this contained by the bag was later than the bag was later t tight, away she went through her mohere,' laid a letter on the table.

Sydney's postal communications ther's boudoir, where she heard voices. were few, and a glance at the old- The inner door was slightly ajar. fashioned business envelope told her Mrs. Alwyn, reading aloud to Leonora from whom this came-Jacob Cheene. something the post had brought, heard

"Flatterers" Glad to receive it alone, since Mrs. Alwyn never saw the clerky superscription without appeared comments the tion without annoyed comment, she opened this missive of her father's old friend, and prepared to read it undis-

> But the first sight of its news almost took away her breath.

She always wrote to him simply and freely, more, perhaps, than she could ever speak to any one at St. Clair's, and in her last letter she had dwelt rather dolefully on the poor famished home of her choir invalid, wishing underlying Sydney Alwyn's young life she could have given the little palewas one extremely common to man- checked mortal a taste of sea-breezes; kind-want of money. Endowed with thought, as she had ended, wishes a ready hand to help them, it was no allowance would go such a little way. Now, in Jacob's letter came this re-

"It is like your own father's child, Mrs. Alwyn would nail down the make bold to say you will copy him charges of a laundress to the lowest when you take your money. Your heard all in due time if this ridiculous farthing, and travel miles, metaphor- birthday comes next month, I know. ically, to save a mite; Leonora invar- I remember when you were born as proper explanation. Mercifully, your iably had headaches on offertory Sun- well as yesterday. I wish I were not father put away a few thousand for days at St. Clair's, and, as Phillips too old a man to travel over the counwould grimly say, was never known try and bring you some trifles you, and any child or children came of age, the to give away so much as her cast-off you only, would value. But they shall interest was mine exclusively. I exfrilling, and neither lady grudged any get to you somehow, though I may plained part of this to you once before. domestic screwing which would supply never live to shake hands again with Now, when your birthday arrives, next means of external display; while Syd- my dear master's daughter. And month, you are at liberty to assume ney's economies, contrariwise, began please to memember on June the 8th control of the money six thousand and ended with herself. All she could that nobody prays more fervently for pounds. I presume you will expect to garner up went in channels she was prosperity to your six thousand lay the interest out yourself, instead

sand pounds! Whatever did the old

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growing child-

for its cleansing.

JACOB CHEENE." Six thousand pounds! Her six thou-

"Why, however much will it be mamma?" she all but gasped.

Sydney flushed up, and all her pulses "Between two and three hundred, started off full gallop at the thought but"-as Sydney barely restrained a of such wealth in her own hands. delighted note-"you must, of course, Patty Peggs was clothed in blue serge pay properly for your share of this

> "Vex me! Oh, dear no, tidings in the current of the commonter's pleasure for the hour. But it resix thousands.

thousand pounds!"

nothing of the light approaching step. ydney could not avoid catching the

"We mean no offense; but seen' one wholly laid by now, and you to end, we humbly ask a trifle now and-" "Sydney!" Mrs. Alwyn broke off, her face, in common parlance, black as a thunder-cloud, "why did you not knock? Never-never should you enter a room in that manner when people are reading letters!"

"I beg your pardon, mamma. I didn't mean to interrupt you. Is yours troublesome one?"

"Ye es no oh no! That is, n thing particular. Merely a begging letter. Is yours more important?" The girl's bearing was so wonderfully bright, for a moment Mrs. Alwyn

thought Mr. Villiers had proposed in writing and was certainly to be accepted. "It seems so to me, mamma. But it you, for once, will read what Mr. Cheene says, you can best tell me if it

down for perrusal. A suspicion of its contents came over Mrs. Alwyn, but she read it slowly through without a word, her face lowering at every line. Then she folded and almost flung it back to the owner. "Your true and dutiful friend is a most meddlesome old man!" she said,

really is." And she laid the open epistle

"Then it is true!" cried Sydney, her delight in the news not to be quenched even by this reception of it. "Where, oh, where does the money come from,

"From me. That is, if you will kindly "from the sum secured to me by marriage-settlement. You would have interference had not forestalled the

Sydney looked almost aghast at the prospect, after her very meager allowance. She felt such a person of pro-

icile which the entire family of Peggs "But that will leave me rich!" inhabited was deserted; they were Sydney, "if you take half, or even transferred by magic, high and dry, more. Oh, mamma," venturing to let The Dacies—oh! with a great joyful

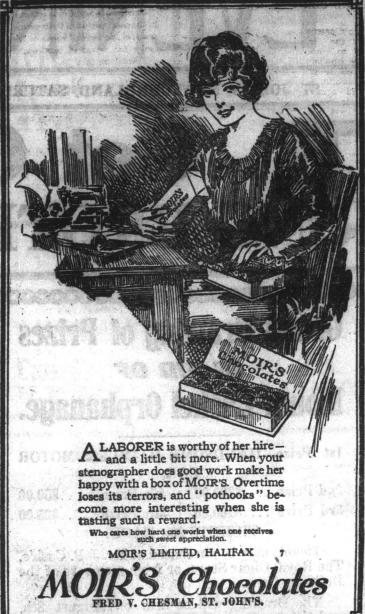
up her handsome figure as to rid herself of contact with that warm, eager exult as you do. In a certain way, rethat it has two distinct shades of has convinced the other, it is an exmember, your gain is my loss. Now," meaning. One is "to debate or discellent thing to let them drop. If with just the glimmer of a sneer, "of cuss," the other is "to contend or they involve action, make some comcourse you want to carry your news to dispute." those Dacies. Be sure and say it was merely antedated by that garrulous old man. And-Sydney," as the girl turned away, chilled, subdued-somehow she and her mother could never either rejoice or mourn together—"as band and wife who could manage alcrown's worth of stamps." Thus did fonudation for a happy home. Mrs. Alwyn merge these wondrous place, effectually damping her daughnewed itself before long, and during the May days that followed many and many a superb castle did Miss Sydney rear on the solid foundation of those

It was while the full glamour of this brilliant promise was upon her that Mr. Villiers came down again, and felt himself fairly checked by the frank innocence with which his surprise and congratulations were claimed. "I have such a piece of news to tell you," said Sydney, the first minute she was with him alone. "Something I really think you will like to hear. In quite a very small way I am actually a little bit of an heiress, Mr. Villiers. Value six

Love would have made no stumblingblock of that speech, but it put interest into a quandary. Guiltily conscious of having been very much indeed aware of the grand fact all the way through, Mr. Rupert expressed his satisfaction awkwardly and in guarded phrase (at which Sydney was sorry, having counted on his sharing her gratification more warmly; she did so want some one to be very glad at it), and the great question he had been determining to sak her somehow stuck

Holding conference with his aunt that evening, "Upon my honor," he said, with a sheepishness that was about the most creditable trait yet re-corded of him, "when a girl has just old you she is worth so much, a fellow an't decently make a dash at it all in moment. It would have been better now if I'd spoken at Christmas. As I didn't, I'll stake my luck on my next coming. I can get my holiday just about the birthday week, Aunt Helen, and bring everything to the right end

(To be continued)





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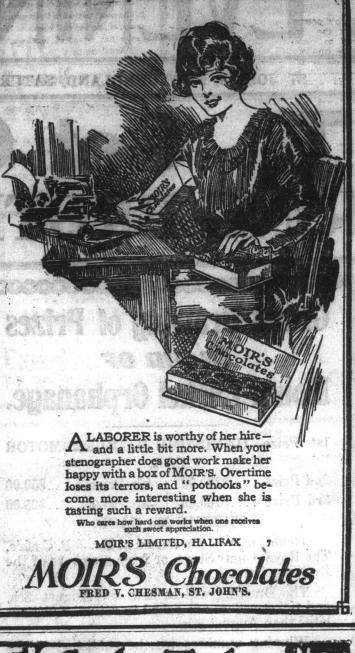
ther goopy. If she means the second kind of argument, I think the hus-

Speaking of ar- | Of course husbands and wives must guments, which I talk a great many things over and did last week, a must find that they have some differ-Letter Friend ent opinions on some of these subwants to know jects. If each can sensibly and whether I believe pleasantly explain why he feels or in arguments be- thinks as he does and make a genu-

tween husbands ine effort to understand why the other thinks and feels as he does. She says that such a discussion is of the highest she has a neigh- value in determining their relationbor who is al- ship and the course of action they shall take in the innumerable matters in which their acts affect each other.

A Time to Let Things Drop.

band so hate to hear them that they ant, reasonable and considerate of the have made a resolution never to ar- other's viewpoint when you get to discussing some subject on which you have strongly opposing opinions. Before trying to answer that ques- Therefore, I think that when these tion I looked up the word "argue" to subjects have been discussed a reaspromise as to the course of action If she means the first kind of argu- you will follow, and then let the subment, I think that the husband and ject alone. If they are simply matwife who didn't argue would be ra- ters of opinion, just each permit the other to enjoy his own opinions. Above all things, don't drag in such you pass the post-office, bring me half ways to avoid it would be laying the subjects as these when you have become excited over a discussion of





when it is fairly friendly. The extra

Especially avoid arguments at the

Also, never begin any discussion in the late evening want your sleep to rest you live happily together even it is hold different opinions on me jects, and that neither the nor your marriage need come end because you hold different califast table—for if anything does jects. Live and let live—no go wrong and the discussion becomes motte for married folks was dispute, the whole day is apt to be vised.

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