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P. C. LARKIN & CO., 25 Front Street East, Toronto, and 378 St. Paul street, Montreal.

The Secret Out.

"I don't know," came in a confused stammer from the woman's own lips. "This gentleman tell me to come, and say you will be good to me. I know, ma'am, you did not like me. I didn't want to tell anything to anybody. But what I see, I see, and the gentlemen ask me more and more and then I tell him everything."

"What is she talking about?" cried Genevieve, dropping her air of wonder and assuming that of cold severity. "Let her speak plainer if she has anything to say. I do not understand these allusions."

The detective looked at the woman. "Tell your story," he commanded, with a quick gesture.

Whereupon the woman glanced round her a little.

"I am sure I didn't think what it would come at all to," she began, lifting her eyes for a moment to Genevieve's face and instantly dropping them. "It's wrong, I know, but I was always looking in through keyholes and listening. Most of all I wanted to find out about the girl you let come so often to your room when you let nobody else come. I wanted to know so much that I used to stay longer in the room than you wanted me to, just to see if she would take off her veil."

And when you caught me that time looking over your shoulder, I was only trying to find out if you were writing to this girl. It didn't seem right, but none of it was right. She was a dressmaker, and ladies like you don't put up with dressmakers' girls, keeping them in their room all alone for hours. I can't tell why I did what I did. I only want to say how it is I came back after you sent me away, ma'am, just to see if you were married all right, and if that girl was let come into your room at the last, as she was all alone."

"All of which means," the detective here dryly interposed, "that she was in the house unknown to anyone but the servants, on the evening, at the time you were married."

"Ah!" Genevieve's cold, curling lip seemed to say.

"She did come, ma'am, that you know, and when I saw her go up, I sat so mad and sad down on the back stairs and cried. Then I got awful mad."

"Celia was not looking at her old mistress or she might have found it difficult to proceed, and when I heard you all go down I just ran up to see if she was left to look over the rail, at the people below, because I didn't see why you wouldn't let her do that when you have done so much for her before."

"You mean," again broke in Mr. Gryce's cool voice, "that you thought it a good opportunity to steal a sight of her face?"

A red flush answered him. "I thought so, but I didn't do it for she was in the hall; and then I wondered what she could be doing shut up in that big room, when she could be seeing all the people downstairs. Then I felt I must say in. You see I tell the truth, ma'am, for you'll not like me again any more."

And when I found the door locked I couldn't think of anything, but how to see into that room and see what that girl was doing all by herself. So I went to the room next by yours. I got out of the window on to the roof, and tried to look into the window which is in the alcove."

"Why do you stop?"

"Was it Genevieve speaking? Even her husband did not know her voice. As Celia had only stopped for her breath, she looked at the lady with eyes of wonder; then went on as if no interruption had occurred."

"For I saw from the street that your shade was a little up, so that I could look in. When I tried to look I could not see the girl, and I got mad, and then because the window was not locked, I pushed it up and couldn't see her yet and couldn't hear her, too. Then I got in the window and walked in the room. She was not there."

Celia paused. Did she realize that she had reached a dramatic climax? I think not; she was only feeling a little uncomfortable; for Mrs. Cameron's eyes were fairly burning now upon her face, and in a way the most callous of mortals must have felt.

"Not there," she said, shifting her gaze and looking somewhat uncomfortable. "And I was so much afraid I felt faint-like and ran to get out of the room. But the door was locked. Then I went to the alcove window, and there I got an awful fright—oh, awful. For right there by me on the floor where a lot of dresses lay, there was a hand sticking out, and it was white and cold and—oh—"

She gave a little scream and turned pale at the recollection, while Mrs. Cameron half rose to her feet and then sat down, inert and stricken, finding it difficult for a moment to breathe, such terror seemed to pass over her at the circumstance and picture thus presented to her.

Her husband, who had been seized with a shudder, too, walked straight up to the detective.

"This is an incredible tale," cried he; "have you reason to believe it a true one?"

"Let us hear it out," was the calm response. "Afterwards we will talk." And he motioned to the woman to finish her story.

"I hear that some people say that an awful dreadful scream was heard when the wedding was downstairs. It must have been a dreadful scream. I

was alone with that dead hand pointing at me. I was so much afraid that I got stiff and did not know what I must do. All I think then was that I must go away and say nothing to anybody about the hand. For I know I had no right in your room, and if I got into trouble nobody in this house would help me out. But I was awful afraid because I got to step over that body if I got out of the window. When I was again in the hall I was fainting with the stars, got out of the house, and nobody saw me. And I ran all the way and didn't say a word for a long time. And how that gentleman found that I have seen the dead woman in your room, she confronted me. 'Are there any questions you would like to ask her?'

"That will do," quietly put in the detective. "You have heard this girl's story," he now declared, turning to Mrs. Cameron with a polite bow. "Are there any questions you would like to ask her?"

The great lady stirred looked as if she had awakened from some terrible nightmare, and murmured "No."

"She can be dismissed, then?"

"Yes."

Mr. Gryce bowed again, and addressed himself to the doctor.

"Will you be good enough to see that she is suitably disposed of while we have a few more words on the subject?" he was courteously said, but the doctor, and his wife, too, flushed with suppressed indignation, for it was apparent that from these words he did not feel sufficient confidence in them to leave them together alone while he crossed the room. But sharp as were the feelings thus aroused, they did not interfere with the doctor's complying with the visitor's request; and Celia was conducted across the road, and shut up in the doctor's office with as much care and deliberation as if there was no tumult in his soul and not a nerve of his proud nature had been disturbed.

In the interval not a word was uttered, not a look interchanged between the lady and the detective. But the moment Dr. Cameron returned, a sudden change took place in Mrs. Cameron, she rising, she confronted Mr. Gryce with a frank and grateful air, that lent quite a new aspect to her ever-changing countenance.

"You are very kind," she declared, in a grateful tone, that was in itself a shock to both her hearers. "Knowing this frightful tale; seeing as you must have done that, if true, Mildred Farley did not die after I went down stairs, but before, you have come here stairs, and without scandal to hear what I have to say about the matter and give an opportunity to explain myself. I shall never forget this consideration, sir, and as a proof of gratitude I will at once tell you what I can about this poor unfortunate's death, hoping that you will see the matter as I did, and understand in a measure at least how I was driven by my fears to keep back my knowledge of this frightful secret, even from my mother and husband, till it was torn from me shred by shred, as you have seen. And now for the truth. This girl whose death you consider such a mystery committed suicide. She committed it in my presence just a few moments before I went downstairs to be married. It was a terrible shock and a great surprise to me. I had been dressing, and was thinking of anything else than tragedies or death. Nor do I think she meant to die then and there. But she was desperate. She had had a talk with her intended husband and had been disappointed. She did not want to see him again, and the contrast expressed by his bridal attire and the dreariness of her own outlook maddened her. I suppose, for in a moment, as it were, she seized upon that bottle and turned it to her lips, and the deed was done, and she was dead before I got over the terror which held me breathless and immovable at her side. I was in my bridal dress and had been delayed, and I was momentarily expecting the summons to descend. Should I mar the happiness of the whole company by revealing what had occurred? I thought not, in the moment of my despair. So I just drew the poor girl into the alcove, and in grief and terror enough, God knows, covered her over with some dresses I had brought from the closet and then pulled down the floor. I had barely done this and readjusted my veil, when the knock came and I had to descend."

(To be continued.)

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by gaining the \$500 reward offered by Dr. R. V. Pierce to any person finding a mineral poison or injurious drug in his "Pleasant Pellets"—for there's no such thing in them. But you can get well—and health is the first step towards fortune—by taking the "Pellets" whenever troubled with indigestion, constipation, indigestion, jaundice and other derangements of the liver, stomach and bowels.

No man is free who is not master of himself.

THERE IS NOT a more dangerous class of disorders than those which affect the breathing organs. Nullify this danger with Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil—a pulmonary acknowledged efficacy. It cures soreness and lameness when applied externally, as well as swollen neck and croup in the back; and, as an inward specific, possesses most substantial claims to public confidence.

We are sure to get the better of Fortune if we do not grapple with her.

DYSPEPSIA AND INDIGESTION. C. W. Snow & Co., Syracuse, N. Y., write: "Please send us ten gross of Pills. We are selling more of Parmelee's Pills than any other Pills we keep. They have a great reputation for the cure of Dyspepsia and Liver Complaint." Mr. Charles Smith, Lindsay, writes: "Parmelee's Pills are an excellent medicine. My sister has been troubled with severe headache, but these pills have cured her."

Tags—Do you understand French? Wages—I do when I speak it.

A LIFE SAVED.—Mr. James Bryson Cameron, states: "I was confined to my bed with inflammation of the lungs, and was given up by physicians. A neighbor advised me to try Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil, stating that his wife had used it for a throat trouble with the best results. Acting on this advice, I procured the medicine, and less than a half-bottle cured me. I certainly believe it saved my life. It was with reluctance that I consented to a trial, as I was reduced to such a state that I doubted the power of any remedy to do me any good."

Painless extraction of teeth. Gold and porcelain crowns. Dr. ZIEGLER, 122-124 Dundas street. ywt

LOW WATER IN ONTARIO.

Causes of Dry Weather Explained by Prof. Wiggins.

Electric Wires Said to Millitate Against Rainfall.

An Ottawa correspondent writes: "The interest and possibly alarm arising steadily decreasing water level in the great lakes aroused, and the severe drought that has recently been experienced in Western Canada have not escaped the notice of Prof. E. Stone Wiggins, who for several years has been giving this question his study. When asked today his opinion as to the perceptible falling off in the water of our great lakes and rivers, he said: There is abundant evidence that the great rivers and water basins that empty into the St. Lawrence, and the severe drought that has recently been experienced in Western Canada have not escaped the notice of Prof. E. Stone Wiggins, who for several years has been giving this question his study. 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