

HELEN LAFONE: OR THE FOES OF A HOUSEHOLD.

A TALE OF ENGLISH LIFE.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN—A TERRIBLE HOUR FOR HELEN.

As Percival progressed in his study of Alice's character he became considerably interested; for he found she had a great deal more character than he had originally supposed.

Everyone noticed it. Though Percival's close and intimate friendship had given rise to no remark, almost every word he spoke to Alice was noted, and his most superficial attentions construed into a serious purpose.

Percival was often struck by the complete way in which Helen seemed to have vanished from among them. No one appeared ever to think of her, or to wonder what she was doing.

One evening he called on his way home. He had been spending the evening at the Thwaites—people said he spent a great many evenings there now, according to forget all the mornings and afternoons he had passed there in Helen's time—and he had left early on purpose to be in time to see Helen.

So musing, he reached the doctor's house, and rang the muffled bell. The servant who answered it told him in answer to his question that her master was "about the same, and just then asleep."

"No," he replied, "do not call her." "I can wait. I will go upstairs and sit in your master's room till she comes, for I want to see her."

He went softly upstairs, pushed open the door which stood ajar, and entered the sick room. The doctor lay in bed, asleep and breathing heavily, but not in any apparent discomfort.

How quiet the room was; what a change from the richly furnished, brilliantly-lighted, and crowded rooms he had just left!

"Why did you not let me know you were here?" she asked. "The maid told me you were lying down. I would not have had you disturbed for anything."

"I could not get away any earlier. I left before anyone else on purpose to come and see you."

"Where have you been?" "At the Thwaites; they are very gay there just now."

"Never; but you know I would rather they did not come. Fancy Alice up here. She would look rather out of place."

"He always seems about the same, and each day it gets a little nearer the end. Dr. Smith told me to day that I should not be kept away from home much longer."

"Wait a little longer, just a little bit."

she pleaded. "Wait till I am at home again. I could not bear people's comments and congratulations just now, and it will not be long, Percival."

He consented, and for some little time afterwards they were silent. Percival half wondered Helen did not speak of Alice; it seemed curious that she should be blind to the ghost that she had herself conjured up.

"I should have liked to speak to him, but there seems no chance of his waking, and I dare not stay longer for your sake, child."

"How I should like a walk," she said, as they stood on the doorstep and saw the garden flooded with moonlight, and heard the sound of the sea below in the bay.

"I will send for him." She wrote a note, which she sent by one of the servants, and then came back and said what she had done.

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Dear— She paused, her trembling lips refused to perform their office. She sat silent for a moment, and then said in a whisper, "I cannot."

He saw her raise her handkerchief to her eyes to wipe away her tears, and he put his other hand upon her head, saying, "Ory, child, if you want to; it will not hurt me, rather it does me good. Let your tears come freely, Helen."

She bent her head upon the bed and sobbed as if her heart would break, and he stroked her hair gently, saying, "Poor child, poor child."

He did not attempt a word of consolation; he let her cry on, and partly, at least, ease her heart to him. Her sobs were the only sound that broke the silence; the room was nearly dark, for the sun had set and the fire was low.

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When the eyes become inflamed and sore, a... of scrofulous condition... for which Ayer's... the best remedy... vitalize the blood and expel...

How you may get the Herald... money. Bring us:— Twenty pounds of pork; or Ten pounds of pork sausage; or Two bushels of sound Irish potatoes; or Five bushels of sound turnips; or Ten goods chickens; or Ten pounds of good lard; or One bushel of good onions.

Ayer's Hair Vigor improves the beauty of the hair and promotes its growth. It prevents the accumulation of dandruff, cleanses the scalp, and restores a natural color to gray hair.

The St. Thomas Times prints a list of thirty-six eligible city bachelors and widowers for the information of the maidens of the place, whose privilege it is this year to make matrimonial propositions.

The Breath of a chronic catarrh patient is often so offensive that he cannot go into society and he becomes an object of disgust. After a time ulceration sets in, the spongy bones are attacked, and frequently, entirely destroyed.

New York, Jan. 7.—On September 5, 1884, Julius Ferrel escaped from Sing Sing prison, where he had served four months of a five years' term for forgery.

Is the way a Western man put it in expressing to a friend his complete satisfaction in the use of Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Purgative Pellets.

"If we would condescend to pay proper respect to the wonderful endowment of instinct and intelligence of the brute creation, and consider our indebtedness for food, clothing and service, we should see that their welfare and improvement is vitally important to each member of the human family.

A Michigan farmer lately found under a straw stack two shotes which disappeared at threshing time three months ago, when they weighed about 125 lbs. each. Judicious feeding "brought them round," and they will in due time course "meet the fate of all pork."

Advertisement for MacGill's Sarsaparilla, listing various ailments it treats and its benefits for blood purification.

Advertisement for Ayer's Sarsaparilla, highlighting its effectiveness for skin diseases and general health.

Advertisement for Ely's Cream Balm, describing its relief for colds, catarrhs, and other ailments.

Advertisement for Goderich Planing Mill, listing products like sash, doors, and blinds, and their availability.

Advertisement for Dr. Hodder's Burdock and Sarsaparilla Compound, detailing its medicinal properties.

Advertisement for Harper's Young People, an illustrated weekly magazine for young readers.

Advertisement for Dr. Hodder's Compound, focusing on its benefits for coughs and lung issues.

Advertisement for Harper & Brothers, New York, listing various goods and services available.