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384 Richmond St.

A Lost Gem

"She's very quiet," said Lady Mary. "I don't see much to like in her, Val. I wonder what Alan Moncrieff married her for. Her pretty face, I suppose. I thought he had more sense."

"No man has any sense where a pretty face is concerned," said Lady Val, decisively. "But I think there's more than that in Mrs. Moncrieff. She must have some character, I fancy."

She did not say why she thought so; but she was thinking of that autumn day when she and John Hannington had been riding side by side towards Dunkeld, and when "the little Dundee girl" had given John Hannington the cut direct. She laughed to herself, but she set her teeth as though something hurt her even while she laughed, at the thought of John Hannington's face.

CHAPTER XVIII.

Winter came down upon the land and laid its iron grip upon the bounding streams upon the trees and flowers and mossy ground; it enveloped the hills in a winding sheet of snow, and hung a veil of hoar-frost over the casements of every house. In weather of this kind, the old and sickly were sure to suffer. Miss Jacky was neither very weak nor very aged, and yet she succumbed to the severity of the cold. A bad attack of bronchitis reduced her strength very seriously, and a heart affection, of which she had been silently conscious for many years put an end to her life just when she seemed to be recovering. In January she was carried to her last long rest, and then Stella felt herself more than ever lonely and alone.

She had failed apparently, to win Molly's trust and affection. The girl had been cold and unresponsive ever since Stella became her father's wife. It seemed as if she owed her stepmother a grudge which she could not forget or forgive, and although she was not outwardly rebellious—for she had lost some of her childish waywardness—she was neither companionable nor agreeable. Bertie was far more affectionate to his stepmother than was Molly; but Stella saw little of him, for Ralph Kingcot kept such watch and ward over the lad, that he was not often to be found save "under surveillance." The scheme for sending him to England at the New Year had to be deferred for he caught so severe a cold during the Christmas week that it was impossible for him to leave home, and Mr. Moncrieff decided that he must wait for warmer weather before any change in his manner of life was made. This fact, and Miss Reaburn's death, caused him not to press Stella to go with him to London, as he had at first intended to do; he hardly liked to take her away from home, and thought that it might be as well to defer her visit to the metropolis until Molly was old enough to go and be presented at the same time. He himself spent a few days in town, but soon returned to Torremuir, where there was a magnet, the influence of which was stronger than he knew.

It seemed to Stella that she saw very little of her husband. She had had dreams of guardianship and guidance which came to naught. She could not blame Alan, or think that he actually neglected her; he was always ready to do what she required of him, to pay calls, to drive or ride with her, to escort her with scrupulous care to balls and dinner-parties; but he did not seem to seek her society, or, if he sought it, Ralph Kingcot was always by, to offer attendance and thrust himself into their company. It seemed to her that Ralph hinted continually that Alan would be dull with her alone; that he needed a man's companionship, and that a woman could not interest him. Time after time he diverted Alan's attentions from her, or—as she had occasionally found out—misrepresented her wishes, and prevented her husband from accompanying her when she went out. Yet it was impossible for Stella to protest, to explain; if ever she tried to do so, Alan immediately suspected some attack upon Ralph Kingcot, proceeding from feminine spite and jealousy, and silenced her at once. She could only feel a vague consciousness of disappointment in her married life; she knew not why. She shielded to herself that as long as Ralph Kingcot remained in the house she could never be happy; but there seemed no prospect of Ralph's departure. Even when Bertie went away it was arranged that he should remain—to act as Mr. Moncrieff's secretary and look after the estate. His look of satisfaction whenever he had managed to allure Alan from her side used to make Stella sick at heart.

The spring came on apace, and with one of the earliest fine days Lady Valencía Gilderoy made her appearance at Torremuir. She had not visited it of late, and, in spite of Stella's want of friendly feeling for her at first sight, Lady Val's calls had been very much missed by Mrs. Moncrieff. Lady Val was so bright, so full of energy, so amusing, that Stella had been attracted half against her will. And she was unfeignedly glad, therefore, to see her visitor.

"Why, how white you look!" cried Lady Val, as she came in, rosy with exercise, her dark eyes sparkling, her riding-habit neatly tucked up in one hand. "You've been sitting indoors too much, Mrs. Moncrieff. I wouldn't allow that if I were your husband."

"Alan is away," said Stella, with a faint

smile. "And Molly and Bertie are out together somewhere. I had a headache, I believe, and wanted to be lazy."

Lady Val nodded significantly. "A headache! I've no doubt of it. I should think Molly keeps your heads full. She's a troublesome monkey. I know her of old."

The color came at once to Stella's cheek. "She is a very dear girl," the stepmother responded, warmly.

"She is a pretty one, Mrs. Moncrieff. And she looks as old as you do yourself—especially since she has taken to long dresses and elaborate coils of hair. A girl of that sort attracts admirers very soon."

Again there was that significance in Lady Valencía's voice. Mrs. Moncrieff drew herself up with a slight, unconscious air of dignity.

"I daresay," she answered, with some stiffness of manner. "And then with a relaxing smile, 'Poor Molly is hardly to blame for that, Lady Valencía.'"

"My dear creature, did I say that she was to blame?" cried Lady Val. "Do excuse me, Mrs. Moncrieff. I don't wish to be rude or to take liberties; but you see I have known Molly all her life, and I can't help feeling interested in her. I know you will hate me if I say what I came intending to say; and yet I don't know what else to do. You wouldn't rather that I went straight to Mr. Moncrieff, would you?"

Stella looked at her in dismay. "Do you mean that there is anything to be told—anything wrong?" she asked.

"It may not be wrong; it may be all right," said Lady Val. "All I can tell is, that people will soon begin to gossip, if they have not begun already. To tell the plain question—is Molly engaged to be married?"

"Molly! she is only a child. Certainly not."

"A child! Well, she's a very big child, Mrs. Moncrieff. She is seventeen, isn't she? Not much younger than yourself, you know, after all. And if she isn't engaged, it is time that somebody looked after her, for I don't think she's able to look after herself."

"You mean," said Stella, changing color sensitively, "that I am not looking after her?"

"I don't mean anything of the kind. Everybody knows that you are a model stepmother. But—do you know Tom-garrow?"

"The little half-deserted village up the hill! Yes, I go there sometimes to see old Mrs. Cameron. What about it?"

"And you send Molly up sometimes to see Mrs. Cameron, don't you?" said Lady Val, with a shrewd look. "Well, I wouldn't send her there again—alone—if I were you. That's all. I felt it my duty to give you that hint, although, as I said, I know you'll hate me for doing so."

"You must tell me more than this! I must know what you mean," cried Stella, suddenly turning very white. "It is not fair to give me a mere hint of this sort and say no more."

"Yes, it is," Lady Val answered, not unkindly. "There is, perhaps, a reason why I should say anything at all. I am sorry to make you uncomfortable, Mrs. Moncrieff, but I only want to put you on your guard with Miss Molly. Both these children want well looking after, I assure you—as, no doubt, you have found. I would not have come if I had not felt sure that the truth would be reaching your ears before long in some more disagreeable form. It is better that it should come from me."

"The truth! What truth? Oh, Lady Valencía, do speak plainly."

"I don't want to say too much," said Lady Val, rising and gathering up her skirts again, as if she wanted to get away as quickly as possible. "But I do want to say something. If pretty Molly has got a lover, there is no reason why it should be anything for you to alarm yourself about. Only in my opinion, it would be better that he should meet her at proper times and in proper places, instead of waiting behind broken walls or in plantations, and wandering about with her over the moor. Tom-garrow—that's the meeting place, Mrs. Moncrieff, and in telling you that, I am almost inclined to believe that I am doing a mean action."

"Do you know who—who it is?" said Stella in dismay. Lady Val looked at her very kindly.

(To be Continued.)

A Humorous Fact

About Hood's Sarsaparilla—it expels bad humors and cures good humor. A battle for blood is what Hood's Sarsaparilla vigorously fights, and it is always victorious in expelling foul taints and giving the vital fluid the quality and quantity of perfect health. It cures eczema, salt rheum, boils and other blood diseases.

Hood's Pills act easily, yet promptly and efficiently on the bowels and liver. 25c.

The blossom cannot tell what becomes of the odor, and no man can tell what becomes of his example, that roll away from him, and go beyond his ken on their perilous mission.

PARMELEE'S PILLS possess the power of acting specifically upon the diseased organs, stimulating to action the dormant energies of the system, thereby removing disease. In fact, so great is the power of this medicine to cleanse and purify, that diseases of almost every name and nature are driven from the body. Mr. D. Carswell, of Carswell postoffice, Ont., writes: "I have used Parmelee's Pills, and find them an excellent medicine, and one that will sell well."

Faith is found beside the most refined life, the freest government, the profoundest philosophy, the noblest poetry, the purest humanity.

All Recommend It.

Ask your physician, your druggist and your friends to recommend Hood's Cure for Consumption. They will recommend it. For sale by W. T. Strong.

There are two freedoms; the false, where the man is free to do what he likes; the true, where a man is free to do what he ought.

The Ills of Women.

Constipation causes more than half the ill of women. Karl's Clover Root Tea is a pleasant cure for Constipation. For sale by W. T. Strong.

Ovid finely compares a man of broken fortune to a falling column; the lower it sinks, the greater weight it is obliged to sustain.

Nothing impure or injurious contaminates the popular antidote to pain, throat and lung remedy and general corrective, Dr. Thomas' Eclectic Oil. It may be used without the slightest apprehension of any other than salutary consequences. Coughs, rheumatism, earaches, bruises, cuts and sores succumb to its action.

WESTERN ONTARIO.

Propheesied His Death—A Charlton Act Offense—Latest Western Happenings.

Woodstock police are after barbers who shave customers on Sunday.

Alex. Lindsay, a prominent grocer of St. Thomas, died Tuesday, aged 55. He was well-to-do.

McRossie & Co., boots and shoes, of Woodstock, have assigned to C. H. Grene, of Toronto, who is the chief creditor. The chief liabilities amount to \$11,262 24, while the assets are about \$5,000.

Rumors having been circulated that the wife of J. A. Henderson, the prisoner under sentence for murder in St. Thomas jail, had been poisoned, three doctors have testified that she died of a cancerous disease.

The Canadian General Electric Company of Toronto and Peterborough, has been awarded the contract for the motors and all electrical apparatus for the Hespeler extension of the Galt, Preston and Hespeler Electric Railway.

Alex. Reaume was re-elected deputy reeve of Sandwich East Monday by a majority of 106 over Clement Janisse. Reaume was elected in January, and was unseated because a number of persons voted whose names were not on the voters' list.

The death is announced at Winnipeg of J. H. Hacking, a newspaper man of that city. He was formerly a member of the firm of Hacking Bros., who at one time published the Listowel Banner. He was a brother of ex-Warden J. W. Hacking and Cy. Hacking, of Listowel.

Before Judge Bell at Chatham Monday a Thameville boy named John Salisbury, aged 16, was held for trial on the charge of committing an offense under the Charlton Act, his victim being a 6-year-old girl, daughter of a neighbor. The prisoner admits the act.

Prominent A. O. U. W. members deny the published statement that the order offered to give Mrs. Hartley \$1,000 as a compromise in her suit for \$2,000, the amount of the policy carried by her husband, Caleb Hartley, in the order. They did, however, offer her the amount of the policy, that the A. O. U. W. would incur in fighting the case.

Negotiations are now pending for a settlement of both the A. O. U. W. and the Home Circle claims.

Death on Sunday came to the relief of Mrs. W. M. Hacking, of Raleigh, Kent county, an old pioneer, who was known and held in high esteem throughout the entire county. Mr. Irwin was one of the representative farmers of the township, and was also a prominent member of the county council. Politically he was a Conservative; in religion, an adherent of the Anglican Church.

Thomas Gallacher, a well-known farmer, corner of the 7th concession and the Prince Albert road, in Chatham township, died at his home Monday at the age of 50 years. He had been ailing with erysipelas for about a week. He was attended by a Chatham physician. When the latter called upon him Sunday the patient informed him that he would be dead within 24 hours. The truth would be reaching your ears before long in some more disagreeable form. It is better that it should come from me."

KOMOKA.

April 22.—Mission band concert in the school house on Wednesday night, April 24.

On account of repairs being done to the Presbyterian Church there was no service of any kind on Sabbath.

Before long we expect to see a building in the shape of a new school house towering up. The trustees met last week and staked out the site.

M. L. L. intends to erect a new house on the Pender property.

INGERSOLL.

"Advertiser" Agent, W. H. Manning.

April 23.—A horse attached to the delivery wagon of Silverthorn, the bakery, ran away Monday morning while on the round delivering bread.

The animal proceeded from Thames street southwards, and met with no mishap until it arrived in front of the residence of Mr. J. R. Little, where it collided with Dundas & Minnick's wagon. The baker's rig turned a complete somersault, scattering the bread clear across the street. The horse then became detached from the wagon, and was captured a few yards further down. The wagon was considerably wrecked.

The local union of Christian Endeavor held its regular monthly meeting in the Baptist Tabernacle last night, at which there was a large attendance. The spacious edifice being comfortably filled.

The president, Mr. J. R. Little, occupied the chair. The principal address of the evening was delivered by Rev. Arthur Murphy, M.A., rector of St. James' Church, who chose for his subject the motto of the society, "For Christ and His Church." His remarks were crisp and to the point, and were listened to with deep interest throughout.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing term: President, W. Govenlock; secretary, Miss Blanche Crawford; treasurer, Miss Ella Phillips.

The Board of Health has issued its annual notice to the citizens to clean up the back yards and lanes. This is the important matter at this season of the year, and we trust that all will act upon the request of the Board of Health, as upon such action to a large extent depends the health of the community.

The death is announced of Gabriel Harp, at one time a noted character around town. He was sentenced to five years in the Central Prison by being implicated in a series of robberies committed by the Perry gang.

BUCHANAN RESPITED.

The Wife Poisoner's Day of Doom Delayed—Efforts to Secure for Him a Still Longer Lease of Life.

SING SING, N. Y., April 23.—Warden Sage, of Sing Sing Prison, has notified Dr. Rees, who is the condemned wife murderer, that Gov. Morton has granted him a respite of one week.

Upon receiving the news Buchanan's face flushed for a moment, but he controlled himself. He did not have anything to say in connection with the respite. The warden seemed more affected than the condemned man.

Buchanan's wife is expected to stop at the prison to see her husband when on her way to Albany.

Lawyer Gibbons will apply to the United States Supreme Court to have the testimony in the case reviewed.

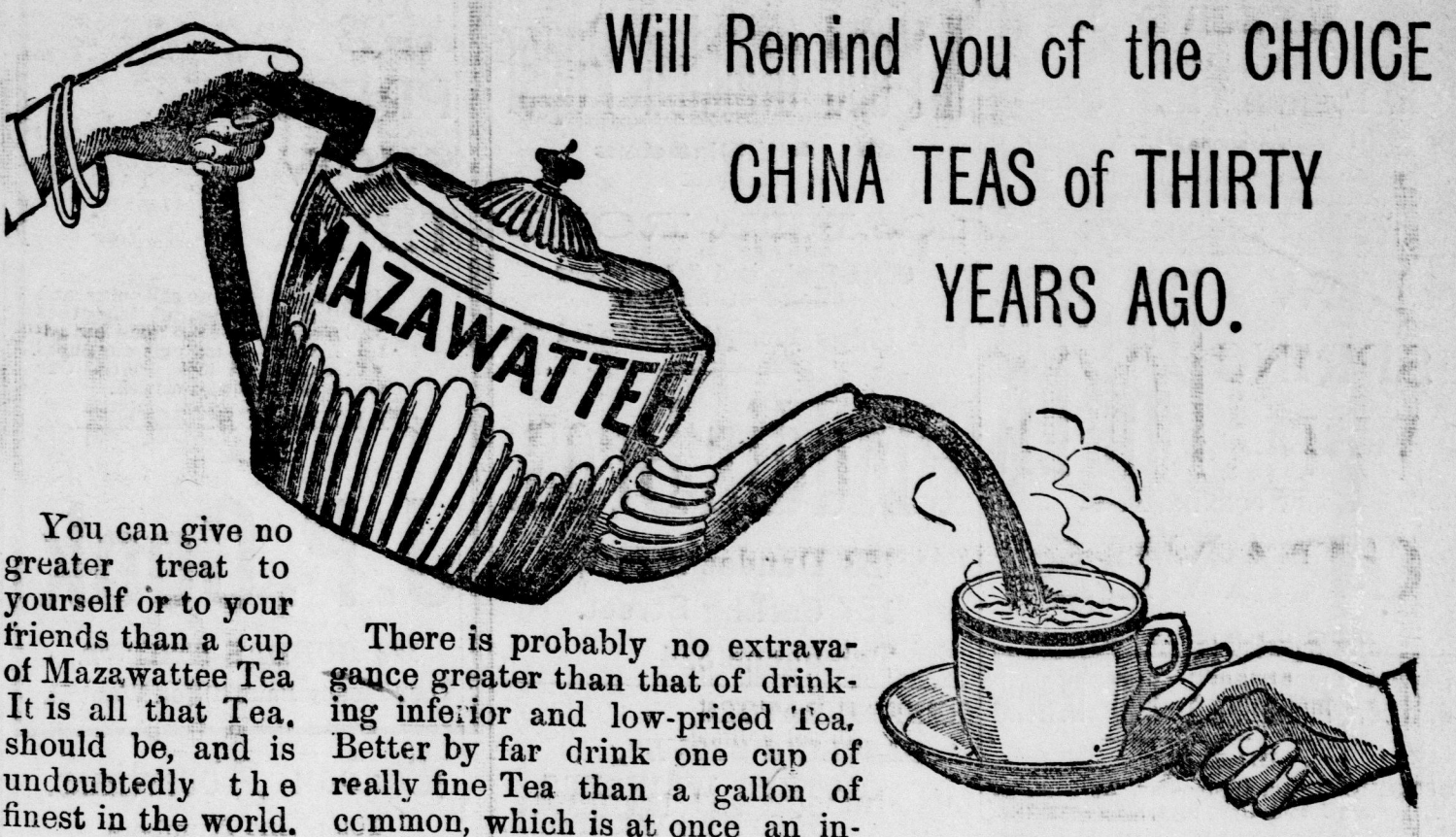
Application will be made to the Medical Society to appoint a commission of physicians to examine the evidence in the case and make a report on it.

A Prominent Lawyer Says: "I have eight children, every one in good health, not one of whom but has taken Scott's Emulsion, in which my wife has boundless confidence."

Prodigality is the vice of a weak nature, as avarice is of a strong one.

A CUP OF DELICIOUS MAZAWATTEE

Will Remind you of the CHOICE CHINA TEAS of THIRTY YEARS AGO.



You can give no greater treat to yourself or to your friends than a cup of Mazawattee Tea. It is all that Tea, should be, and is undoubtedly the finest in the world.

There is probably no extravagance greater than that of drinking inferior and low-priced Tea. Better by far drink one cup of really fine Tea than a gallon of common, which is at once an insult to your palate and a source of serious injury to your digestion.

In lead packets only, at 40c, 50c and 60c per pound, at leading grocers.

BOGUS CORPSES.

Peculiar Operations of Chinese Smugglers Exposed.

MONTREAL, April 23.—A gang of Chinese smugglers has been unearthed here, and some arrests are expected. There are said to be 30 or more of them in different parts of the country acting in collusion. The modus operandi is as follows:

The Chinamen come from Vancouver to Montreal, hence they are shipped in batches of six to Quebec, where they are dressed up as women. In this disguise they are forwarded to St. John, N. B., where they are kept in hiding for a day or two. Ventilated coffins are now provided, and into them the "corpses" are shipped to Vanceboro, Me., where they are claimed by another of the gang, who arranges for their distribution through the United States.

FASTEST ON RECORD.

Railway Train Travels 55 and 3-10 Miles in 45 Minutes—One Mile in 41 Seconds!

PHILADELPHIA, April 23.—The fastest time ever made between here and Atlantic City, and the fastest time ever made by a railroad train in this country for such a great distance, was accomplished by a special newspaper train on the Pennsylvania Railroad Sunday morning. The train pulled out of the Camden depot at 5:38 A.M., and 55 minutes later came to stop in Atlantic City. The distance by this route is 53-10 miles, and the average speed was 76-1-2 miles an hour. The fastest single mile made in 41 seconds, which is an average of 87-8-10 miles an hour. This is the most noticeable performance in railroad speed which has yet been made.

AMERICA VS. EUROPE.

NEW YORK, April 23.—A special from Caracas, Venezuela (World) says: Steps have already been taken to bring about an alliance of all the Latin-American countries against European aggression. A number of governments. It is said, have approved the plan, and a general congress may be called in July to consider the matter.



Leads the World

—Pearline. The first washing-compound ever made, and the best. Proved to be absolutely harmless to anything that is washed—both by the women who have used it for years, and by scientific tests. But the enormous demand for Pearl-line—for something that will save work and yet be safe to use, has started a host of washing powders, all imitations of Pearl-line. They ought to make women think. If you can get risky help from a poor imitation, why not get safe help from the original and the best? 407 JAMES PYLE, New York.

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Seal Brand Coffee

Universally accepted as the Leading Fine Coffee of the World.

The only Coffee served at the WORLD'S FAIR.

CHASE & SANBORN, BOSTON. MONTREAL. CHICAGO.

FURNITURE SALE!

6-piece Solid Oak or Walnut Parlor Suite..... \$28.
Oak Finished Bedroom Sets \$9.
Beautiful Mattress \$2 50.
Woven Wire Springs, best wire \$1.
Best \$10 and \$12 Baby Carriages.

All goods in stock sold at cut prices. We are selling at this sale better goods and making lower prices than any Furniture House in London. Study your own pockets and call on us.

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184 KING STREET, LONDON.

HENRY HOWARD ESTATE

—Manufacturers and Dealers In—

Special Bill Timber, LUMBER

All Kinds, Rough and Dressed. Write Us for Prices.

MILL AND YARD AT PORT HURON, MICHIGAN.

LEAVE YOUR MEASURE AND GET A PERFECT FIT.

Black Worsted Pants, \$4. Black Worsted Suits, \$20.
Fine Tweed Pants, \$3.50. Fine Tweed Suits, \$12.75.
Fine Tweed Suits, \$15.

PETHICK & McDONALD, 393 RICHMOND St., First door north of City Hall.

STEEL FISHING RODS, E. C. POWDER, GUNS & RIFLES, HOBBS HARDWARE COMPANY LONDON.

BICYCLES

Flowers, Flowers. CHEAP THIS WEEK AT WEST'S,

249 Dundas Street. Telephone 439

There is Just One Thing That the citizens of London and vicinity would do well to make a note of, that at 181 Dundas street, books and magazines of all kinds and styles are bound neatly, cheaply and tastefully.

W. J. MOFFAT, BOOKBINDER.

John Ferguson & Sons, FUNERAL DIRECTORS and EMBALMERS.

FIRST-CLASS IN ALL APPOINTMENTS. Telephone—House No. 373, Store No. 643.

F. G. RUMBALL, Wholesale & Retail Lumber Merchant

Largest stock of Maple, Basswood, Elm, Cherry, Walnut, Sycamore, Chestnut, Ash, Oak, etc., in Western Ontario. Inspection solicited. Prices on application.

Office and Yard—York Street, just west of Tecumseh House.

City Coal & Wood Yard

CHEAP WOOD. 100 cars best Beach and Maple just arrived, which is selling at \$4.50 per cord, in blocks.

CAMPBELL & CHANTLER 176 Bathurst Street.

Bargains for Saturday, APRIL 27.

GALLON TINS APPLES.....25c
2 POUNDS CHOICE APRICOTS.....25c
2 POUNDS VICTORINES.....25c
2 POUNDS PEACHES.....25c
2 POUNDS FANCY CALIFORNIA PRUNES.....25c
2 POUNDS NEW BOSNIA PRUNES.....25c
3-POUND TIN CALIFORNIA PEACHES.....25c

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