

MARGUERITE'S SECRET

"It is a sudden misfortune, my dear madam. Only this morning I received a letter from my father, announcing the dangerous illness of my dear mother, and urging my instant return by the first homeward-bound vessel. The Venture, Captain Parke, sails for Liverpool at twelve to-day. Quite as usual, upon this evening, I replied to the young man, in a mournful voice, turning the same deeply appealing glance toward Marguerite, whose color slightly paled.

"We are very sorry to lose you, Lord William, and still sorer for the occasion of your leaving us," said Cornelia Compton. And so said all the party except—Miss De Lencie.

Lord William then arose to shake hands with his friends.

"I wish you a pleasant voyage and a pleasant arrival," said the colonel.

"And that you may find your dear mother quite restored to health," added Mrs. Compton.

"Oh, yes, indeed! I hope you will, and that you will soon visit us again," said Cornelia.

Marguerite said nothing.

"Have you no parting word for me, Miss De Lencie?" inquired the young man, approaching her, and speaking in a low tone and with a beseeching look.

Marguerite waved her hand. "A good voyage, my lord," she said.

He caught that hand and pressed it to his lips and heart, and after a long, deep gaze into her eyes, he recollected himself, snatched his hat, bowed to the party, and left the room.

Colonel Compton, in the true spirit of kindness, arose, and followed with the purpose of attending him to his ship.

"There's a coronet slipped through your fingers! Oh, Marguerite! Marguerite! If I had been in your place, I should have secured that match. For, once married, they couldn't unmarry us, or bar the succession, either, and so, in spite of all the reverend tutors and most noble papas in existence, I should, in time, have worn the coronet of a marchioness," said Miss Compton.

"And you would have done a very unprincipled thing, Cornelia," replied her mother, very gravely.

The blood rushed to Miss De Lencie's brow and crimsoned her face, as she rose in haste and withdrew to her own chamber.

"But, mamma, what do you suppose to have been the cause of Marguerite's rejection of Lord William's address?"

"I think that she had two reasons, either of which would have been sufficient to govern her in declining the alliance. The first, was that Marguerite could never yield her affections to a man who has no other personal claims upon her esteem than the possession of a good heart and a fair share of intelligence; the second, was that Miss De Lencie had too high a sense of honor to bestow her hand on a young gentleman whose addresses were unsanctioned by his family."

The next day Colonel Compton and his party set out for Philadelphia, where upon his arrival, he received from Mr. Adams an official appointment that required his residence in the city of Richmond. And thither, in the course of the month, he proceeded with his wife and daughter.

Miss De Lencie went down to pass the autumn at her own house in Winchester, where she remained until the first of December, when, according to promise, she went to Richmond to spend the winter with her friend Cornelia.

The Comptons had taken a very commodious house in a fashionable quarter of the city, and were in the habit of seeing a great deal of company. It was altogether a very brilliant winter in the new capital of a growing and constantly increasing city, and the social relations of beauties and celebrities were there assembled, but the star of the ascendant was the splendid Marguerite De Lencie. She was even more beautiful and dazzling than ever; and she entered with spirit into all the gaieties of the season. The ball and card parties, dances, and masked balls followed each other in quick succession. It was just before Christmas that the belles of the metropolis were thrown into a state of delightful excitement by the invitation, to a grand ball to be given on the ensuing New Year's Eve. Great was the flutter of preparation, and great the accession of business that flowed in upon the milliners, mantua-makers, and jewelers.

Miss De Lencie and Miss Compton went out together to select their dresses for the occasion. I mention this expedition merely to give you a clue to what I sometimes suspected to be the true motive that inspired Cornelia Compton's rather selfish nature, with that caressing affection she displayed for Marguerite De Lencie. As for Marguerite's devotion to Cornelia, it was one of those mysteries, or prophecies, of the human heart, that only the future can explain. Upon this occasion, when Miss De Lencie ordered a rich, white brocade for her own dress, she selected a superb pink satin for her friend's; and when from the jeweler's Marguerite's hereditary diamonds came, set in a new form, they were accompanied by a pretty set of pearls to adorn the bosom of Cornelia. Colonel Compton knew nothing of his guest's costly presents to his daughter. With a gentleman's inexperience in such matters, he supposed that the hundred dollars he had given "Nellie" for her outfit had covered all the expenses. And when Mrs. Compton, who better knew the cost of pearls and brocade, made any objection, Marguerite silenced her by delicately intimating a mystery, possibly, that, under some circumstances, for instance, that of her being treated as a stranger, she might be capable of withdrawing to a boarding-house.

The eventful evening of the governor's ball arrived. The entertainment was by all conceded to be what it should have been, the most splendid affair of the kind that had come off that season. A suite of four spacious rooms, superbly furnished and adorned, and brilliantly lighted, were thrown open. In the first, or dressing-room, the ladies left their cloaks and mantles, and rearranged their toilets. In the second, Governor Wood stood, surrounded by the most distinguished civil and military officers of the State, and with his unequalled, dignified courtesy received his guests. In the third, and most spacious saloon, where the floor was covered with canvas for dancing, the walls were lined with mirrors, and festooned with flowers that enriched the atmosphere with odoriferous perfumes, while from a vine-covered balcony a military band filled all the air with music. Beyond the saloon, the

last, or supper room, was elegantly set out. The supper table was a marvel of taste in that department; just above it hung an immensely large chandelier, with quite a forest of pendant-brilliant; its light fell and was flashed back from a sheet mirror laid upon the ceiling of the room, and surrounded by a wreath of box-trees and violets, like a fairy lake within its banks of flowers; on the outer edge of this ring was a circle of grapes with their leaves and tendrils; while filling up the other space were exotic flowers and tropical fruits, and every variety of delicate refreshment in the most beautiful designs.

The rooms were filled before the late arrival of Colonel Compton and his party. The ladies paused but a few minutes in the dressing room to compose their toilets and draw on their gloves, and then they joined their escort at the inner door, went in, and were presented to Governor Wood, and then passed onward to the dancing saloon, where the music was sounding and the waltz moving with great vivacity.

The entrance of the young ladies made quite a sensation. Both were dressed with exquisite taste.

Miss Compton wore a rich rose-colored satin robe, the short sleeves and low corsage of which were trimmed with fine lace, and the skirt open in front and looped away, with lilacs of the valley, from a white sarsenet petticoat; a wreath of lilies crowned her brown hair, and a necklace and bracelet of pearls adorned her fair bosom and arms.

As for Miss De Lencie, if ever her beauty, elegance, and fascination reached a culminating point, it was upon this occasion. Though her dress was always perfect, it was so much what she wore as her manner of wearing, that made her toilets so generally admired.

Upon this evening her costume was as simple as it was elegant—a rich, white brocade robe open over a skirt of embroidered white satin, delicate falls of lace from the low bodice and flowing sleeves, and a light tarsi of diamonds spanning like a rainbow the blackness of her hair.

As soon as the young ladies were seated, they were introduced. Miss Compton accepted an invitation to join the waltzers.

Miss De Lencie, who never waltzed, remained the centre of a clamorous circle formed of the most distinguished men present, until the waltzing was over, and the quadrilles were called, when she accepted the hand of Colonel Randolph for the first set, and yielded her seat to the waltzing Cornelia, who was led thither by her partner to rest.

It chanced that Miss De Lencie was conducted to the head of the set, then forming, and that she stood at some little distance, immediately "in front" of and facing the spot where Cornelia sat, so that the latter, while resting, could witness Marguerite. Now Cornelia very much admired Miss De Lencie, and thought it appeared graceful and disinterested to laud the excellencies of her friend, as she could not have done those of her sister, had she possessed one. So now she tapped her partner's hand with her fan, and said:

"Oh, do but look at Miss De Lencie! Is she not the most beautiful woman in the room?"

The gentleman followed the direction of her glance, where Marguerite was moving like a queen through the dance, and said:

"Miss De Lencie is certainly the most beautiful woman in the world—except one." With a glance, that the vanity of Nellie readily interpreted.

The eyes of both turned again upon Marguerite, who was now standing still in her place waiting for the next quadrille to be called. While they thus contemplated her in all her splendid beauty, set off by toilet the most elegant in the room, Marguerite suddenly gave a violent start, shivered through all her frame and bent anxiously to listen to something that was passing between two gentlemen, who were conversing in a low tone, near her. She grew paler and paler as she listened, and then with a stifled shriek she fell to the floor, ere any one could spring to save her.

Cornelia flew to her friend's relief. She was already raised in the arms of Col. Randolph, and surrounded by ladies anxiously proffering vinaigrettes and fans, while their partners rushed after glasses of water.

"Bring her into the dressing-room at once, Randolph," said Colonel Compton, as he joined the group.

Accordingly, Miss De Lencie was conveyed thither, and laid upon a lounge, where every restorative at hand was used in succession, and in vain. More than an hour passed, while she lay in that deathlike swoon; and when at last the efforts of an experienced physician were crowned with thus much success, that she opened her dimmed eyes and unclosed her blanched lips, it was only to utter one word—"Lost"—and to relapse into insensibility.

She was put into the carriage and conveyed home, accompanied by her wondrous friends and attended by the perplexed physician. She was immediately undressed and placed in bed, where she lay all night, vibrating between stupor and a low muttering delirium, in which some irreparable misfortune was indicated without being revealed—was it all delirium?

Next, a low, nervous fever supervened, and for six weeks Marguerite De Lencie lay away with a slow, pendulous uncertainty between life and death. The cause of her sudden indisposition remained a mystery. The few cautious inquiries made by Colonel Compton resulted in nothing satisfactory. The two gentlemen whose conversation was overheard by Miss Compton to have occasioned Miss De Lencie's swoon could not be identified among the crowd then assembled at the governor's reception, and now dispersed all over the city—without urging investigation to an indiscreet extent.

"This is an inquiry that we cannot go into, my dear Nellie. We must await the issue of Miss De Lencie's illness. If she recovers she will doubtless explain," said Colonel Compton.

With the opening of the spring, Marguerite De Lencie's life-powers rallied and consciousness declared itself. In the first stages of her recovery, while yet body and mind were in that feeble state which sometimes leaves the spiritual vision so clear, she lay one day, contemplating her friend, who sat by her pillow, when suddenly she threw her arms around the neck of Cornelia, lifted her eyes in an agony of supplication to her face, and cried:

"Oh, Nellie, do you truly love me? Oh, Nellie! love me! love me! lest I go mad!"

In reply, Cornelia half smothered the invalid with caresses and kisses, and assurances of unchanging affection.

"Oh, Nellie, Nellie! there was one who on the eve of the bitterest trial, said to his chosen friends, 'All ye shall be offended because of me.' And his chief friend said, 'Although all should be offended yet will I not,' and furthermore declared, 'If I should die with thee, I will not deny thee in any wise.' Oh! falling human strength! Oh! feeble human love! Nellie! you know how it ended. They all forsook him and fled."

(To be continued.)

ADMITTED BIGAMY.

BROCKVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL INSPECTOR ARRESTED.

James E. Anderson Deceived Minister's Daughter—Married Miss Jamieson in Renfrew While He Had a Wife Living.

Brockville, May 31.—James E. Anderson, the Toronto man arrested at Renfrew yesterday on a charge of bigamy, to which he pleaded guilty, has been public school inspector here since last September. Prior to his marriage he posed as a widower, though little was known of his past life. A few weeks ago, however, the Education Department notified the School Board that Anderson did not have the qualifications, but in order to retain his position he promised to secure them this month, and when he left here last Thursday it was presumably to Toronto to undergo the proper examinations.

During her short residence here of a little over one month his second wife, who is a handsome and accomplished young lady, met many townspeople, with whom she at once became a favorite, and the two were preparing to entertain their friends, having furnished and leased a residence. Their marriage was announced in some newspapers a month before it occurred.

A Renfrew despatch says: James Anderson, inspector of schools, Brockville, and for two years principal of the public school here, was arrested this afternoon by Detective Rogers, of Toronto, on the charge of bigamy. When brought before the Police Magistrate he pleaded guilty to the charge, and was remanded to jail to await sentence on Saturday next. He is 34 years of age, and is said to have a wife and nine children living.

To cure a cold in one night—use Vapo-Cresoline. It has been extensively used for more than twenty-four years. All druggists.

TWO MEN DEAD.

ENGINEER BOUSKILL AND R. E. CURRAN, MAIL CLERK.

Result of the Accident—The Others Who Received Injuries Doing Well—Fixed Up With Little Delay to Traffic.

Owen Sound, May 31.—William Bouskill, the engineer on the passenger train which collided with the runaway engine in the C. P. R. yards on Friday night, died from his injuries shortly after he was received at the hospital.

Another death occurred this morning. Robert E. Curran, mail clerk, collapsed very unexpectedly, and succumbed to the injuries which at first seemed to be little more than a fractured collar bone. He complained of the shaking up that he had received, and for a few moments after the collision occurred he was conscious. It was not until a few hours before he died that any serious injury was detected, and death was the result of hemorrhage and compression of the brain. He leaves a widow, whom he married less than six months ago.

Conductor McCreary has a fractured arm. Fireman Wilson and William Buidco, who had his shoulder dislocated, are doing nicely in the hospital. W. V. Dockrill, the express messenger, is more seriously injured than was at first supposed. He was scalded and burned about the head, in addition to having his back badly wrenched. The scalds and burns were received while assisting Engineer Bouskill and Fireman Wilson. The steam he inhaled has left his lungs very sore, and he is suffering from the shaking up he received. He is the son of Travelling Passenger Agent Dockrill, of the C. P. R., and his home is in Toronto.

The auxiliary had the track cleared shortly after 8 o'clock, and Saturday morning express left about 9 o'clock.

The contents of the damaged car were saved, though in a mangled condition from the water and smoke.

The only article saved from the express car was the safe, all the other articles being destroyed.

CASTORIA.

Valuable Enamels Stolen From the Sacred Edifice.

Paris, May 31.—The art lovers of France were stupefied this week when they learned that the collection of valuable enamels in Limoges Cathedral and a number of sacred vessels had been stolen by thieves. This is the latest of a series of crimes by which during the past year French churches have lost over 2,000,000 francs in church plate, pictures and other art objects. The enamels stolen from the cathedral were valued at 800,000 francs.

Sacristan Gauré said he was convinced the crime was perpetrated in behalf of wealthy American tourists, who recently had made repeated offers to purchase the treasure now stolen.

How the thieves gained entrance to the cathedral is still a mystery, but it is believed they hid in confessionals until after the church was closed and got out with false keys.

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SORE THROATS AND COUGHS. They combine the germicidal value of Cresoline with the soothing properties of slippery elm and licorice. They dissolve in warm water. See directions on box. Made by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass., U.S.A. Sole Agents, Montreal, Quebec, and all cities.

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Bargains for Tuesday

Low prices and fine styles are the two magnets that will crowd this store again on Tuesday, Saturday was one of the biggest selling days in the store's history. Thousand of women took advantage of the remarkable price reductions. Are you getting your share of the bargains this great sale event presents to you? If not, come to-morrow. The blue price tickets will be in evidence all over the store on many lines not advertised. Come.

Hurry-Out Dress Goods

A Notable Sale for June Brides
Swiss Silk and Wool Materials worth up to \$1.25, sale price 79c

Consisting of Voiles, Edingones, etc., on sale in every wanted and desirable shade in plain and fancy effects. This is a grand buying chance. Worth regularly \$1.25, sale price 79c yard.

New Fall Suitings Just Arrived
If you want a new and up-to-date Suit Length, come in to-morrow and see some of the early fall styles that are to be worn for the coming season. This is an opportunity that you should not miss. These new goods will also be reduced for you.

\$.25 Suitings, 54 inches wide, for 79c
\$.50 and \$1.75 Suitings, sale price \$1.10

Swell Sunshades

1-3 Off Regular

To-morrow we place on sale every Sunshade in stock, consisting of the finest collection ever carried by this store, and we frankly tell you that we have Sunshades to match nearly every desirable gown in color, that is being worn this season. On sale to-morrow at one-third off regular.

Special Hurry-Out Sale of Embroidered Skirtings 69c and 98c Yard

30 pieces of 27-inch Skirtings, in fine, sheer Swiss cloth, beautifully embroidered in eyelet, shadow, blind designs, 9 to 15-inch deep, greatly in demand for summer dresses, regularly \$1.00 to \$1.75 yard, on sale to-morrow at 69c and 98c yard.

Manufacturers' Sample Ends of Fine Embroideries 9, 11, 19, 25c yd.

A small shipment of manufacturers' sample ends of Embroideries, in fine, sheer Swiss and nainsook, 2 to 15 inches wide, all dainty eyelet and shadow designs, some insertions to match, suitable for fine dresses and shirt waists, worth from 15 to 40c yard, on sale 9, 11, 19, 25c yard.

3 to 9 inch Embroideries 6c yd.

Only 2,000 yards to clear of fine Caticuric Embroideries, 3 to 9 inches wide, all good, open patterns, also 1 to 3-inch insertions to match, worth 12 1/2 to 20c yard, clearing at 5c yard.

English Valenciennes Laces 4 yards for 5c

Some 2,000 yards only of fine English Val. Laces, 2 to 3 inches, in dainty floral designs, suitable for trimming underwear, regularly 5 and 8c yard, on sale, 4 yards for 5c

Hurry-Out Sale of Long Lisle Gloves 29c Pair

30 dozen of fine Milanese Lisle Thread Gloves, in black and white only, Jersey wrist, all sizes, regular 50c pair, Hurry-out 29c pair

Long Lace Gloves 39c pr.

25 dozen of long Lace Gloves, in fine lisle, come in black and white only, all sizes, regular 50c, for 39c pair

Long Silk Gloves 69c pr.

20 and 24-inch Heavy Silk Gloves, in navy grey, white, cream, champagne, heliotrope, pink, sky, black, Jersey wrist and button, regular \$1.00 and \$1.25 pair, Hurry-out Sale 69c pair

Long Silk Gloves 89c pr.

Heavy Milanese Silk Gloves in elbow length, in nice shades of tans, browns, navys, greys, greens, champagne, pinks, skies, also whites, creams and blacks, all sizes, regular \$1.25, Hurry-out 89c pair

Frame Silk Gloves \$1.49

Long Frame Silk Gloves, in white and black only, seamless hands and fancy lace arms with elastic, reinforced finger tips, all sizes, best wearing glove in a silk 1.49 pair

Hurry-Out Sale of 36-inch Black Taffeta 89c Yard

Regular \$1.35 and \$1.50 Qualities

A full yard wide black Taffeta, all pure silk in chiffon and stiff finish. The proper silk for a cool and stylish summer gown. Regular \$1.35 and \$1.50 qualities. Hurry-out Sale Price to-morrow 89c

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A good assortment of colors, including plain and fancy materials, are coats are semi and tight fitting, skirts are tucked, gored and box pleated, regular \$18 and \$20, Hurry-out Price 8.49

Shirtwaist Suits \$1.98

Light and dark colors in Wash Materials. These suits are in assorted colors, nicely tucked and trimmed, all new styles, regular \$5.50, Hurry-out Sale Price 1.98

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Exceptional Values and Dependable Qualities

Bleached Damasks

Exceptional values in Bleached Damasks, pure linen, choice designs—Regular \$1.25 value for 85c
Regular \$1.10 value, for 85c
Regular 90c value, for 69c

Bath Towels 39c

Striped Linen Bath Towels, extra size, heavy, absorbent weave, 50c value, Hurry-out price 39c

Sheeting Specials

Bleached Sheet, 2 yards wide, heavy, close weave, 35c value, for 27c

Unbleached Twill Sheet, soft finish, bleaches easily, 35c value, for 28c

Towel Special

75c Hemmed Huck Towels, good size, firm, absorbent weave, a splendid Towel for hotel or boarding house use, worth \$1.60 dozen. Hurry-out price 1.37

Hemstitched Towels

Pure Linen Huck Towels, hemstitched, heavy, absorbent weave, large size—50c, worth 60c pair.
55c, worth 70c pair.
69c, worth 85c pair.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS?

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TAKEN TO THE JAIL.

Creighton Removed From Hospital at Owen Sound.

Owen Sound, May 29.—James F. Creighton, the self-confessed murderer of his wife and his two stepdaughters, on Tuesday morning, was removed from the hospital in the General and Marine Hospital, where he had been under treatment for the self-inflicted wound in his face, to the county jail this afternoon. The transfer from the one institution to the other, on the opposite side of the town, was quietly effected by Chief of Police McAulvey and another member of the police force. The conveyance used was a closed cab, and the prisoner stood the ride without complaint.

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