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### Better a Peasant Than a Peer.

CHAPTER XXVII. BARRIERS BETWEEN.

The girl shrank away and blushed, expecting a further rebuke which would certainly have been forthcoming, but, fortunately, some one at the outskirts of the little crowd sees a cloud of dust, a very small cloud, in the distance. "They are coming!" runs down the line, and knitting-needles and fingers stop instantly. "Yes, it is them!" repeats the first authority. "I can see the blue jackets of the postillions! See, too, they have run up the flag at Der Krone! Do you think mildred the marquis will stop for a moment? If so, what a fine view they will have at Der Krone. Yes, here they come!"

### ONE WOMAN'S EXPERIENCE

Of Interest to Childless Women.

Toronto, Ontario.—"I suffered for a long time from a female weakness, inflammation, and a terrible backache caused by that condition. One day one of your booklets was left at my door, and I read how other women with troubles like mine had been made well, so I got a bottle of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and a package of Sanative Wash, and it helped me wonderfully, and I now have the finest little baby boy that any mother could want. I want to recommend Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to any woman who has female troubles."—Mrs. JOSEPH LA BELLA, 775 Shaw Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

doing—but with respectful curiosity. All eyes are bent for a moment on the tall, handsome marquis, who, with a quiet smile and high-bred air, bends forward to reply to the landlord's "Welcome to Forbach, milord," with a suitable response in German; then, with one accord, all eyes shift their glance to the face of his wife, and a murmur of respectful admiration arises around. Rarely—perhaps never—has Forbach seen such a beautiful face as that which looks at them with a pleasant, grateful and gentle smile. And yet, it is not its supreme beauty which touches the hearts of the women; talking it over, as they do, morning, noon and night, for months, for years afterwards, they all agree that it was not altogether the beauty of the marchioness that wiled them; but something strange about her, a certain subtle kind of youthful purity about the girl's face, and an undefinable air of sad wisdom.

Quite a reception," she says, looking over at her opposite neighbor, with half-closed eyelids. "Vane is evidently a king in the land." Clarence Lane looks around with a petulant air of impatience. "They make a fearful row," he says, irritably. "Blinded by the dust, one only requires to be deafened to make the misery complete. What's it all about? Anybody would think we were a kind of lord-mayor's show!" Lady Lucelle smiles ironically. "You wouldn't object to the dust or the shouting, my dear Clarence, if it was on your account. Don't be cynical. It is very tiresome to be obliged to ride twenty miles with me, but you've had a very fair innings, and your turn will soon come again."

throws himself back with an air of weariness. As she approaches the castle, Jeanne looks thoughtfully around her. The frank-hearted smile with which she responded to the welcome of the villagers has vanished, and in its place is the half-sad, half-proud and wholly reserved look which, people say, is characteristic of the Marchioness of Ferndale. As she leans back, with her bouquet up to her face, almost hiding it, the wistful look is very marked. As a matter of fact, she is indulging in that foolish habit which too many of us are prone to. She is looking back—looking back to that day when, with Vane by her side, as he is now, she drove up to the castle, in England and learned with wonderment and delight that it was her future home. How happy, how gloriously happy she was to be; how tender, how nobly loving he was to her on that, her marriage day. For Jeanne, as she looked forward then, thought the Castle Ferndale was to be her earthly paradise, and that, if any thing, her cup of happiness would fill up and run over.

How different has been the result to what she anticipated. Since that evening Vane and she have not exchanged one word of love. To the outer world they are as other husbands and wives, but a gulf, which seems never to be crossed, yawns between them, neither has a word of anger. The most passionately fond husband could not be more attentive to his wife than is Vane; he is not only courteous, but studiously so. His tone, when he addresses her, is of studied respect, his touch gentleness itself. She has but to express a wish to find it gratified; it is at her desire that they have come to Germany a week before their time. If she had decided at the last moment not to come at all he would, without hesitation, have countermanded the preparations, and have been ready to go elsewhere. He has consulted her wishes on the smallest points, and has acceded to them with cheerful alacrity, excepting in one instance only, the choice of guests. Invitations had been given right and left; the castle was almost as large as a small town, and the list, a lengthy one, had been placed in Jeanne's hands before the formal invitations were issued. She looked it through languidly and listlessly enough until she came to Lord Lane's name; then, without looking up, she said: "Has Lord Lane been asked?" "Clarence? Yes, I think so," said Vane. "I thought he was going to Norway," said Jeanne. "He said something about it, but I don't suppose he will object to substitute Germany."

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"I was thinking of your amusement," said Jeanne, rising. "You seem to get on together, and she is—an old friend." Vane bit his mustache and turned as if about to speak, but Jeanne moved across the room, and he held the door open for her in silence. It was always thus; the Bertram side and the haughty Ferndale temper were formidable barriers. Then how was Jeanne to know that the moment the door had closed upon her he fell to pacing the room and biting his mustache, muttering: "Was she in earnest—would she have left him out? They are always together—on land and sea, morning, noon and eve. If I hear her laugh, it is at some speech of his; she never fails to greet him with a smile; and he—well, he would be stone if he did not warm under such kind treatment; the man does not exist who could resist her! If one could but wipe out that black night! High—ho!"

And how was he to know that the cold hauteur died out of Jeanne's face as she ascended the stairs, and in its place came the sad, wistful expression, which well matched the murmur: "I was right, carefully though he tried to conceal it. He would not be happy without her. Let her go with us!" If to both had been given the dangerous gift of foreseeing events, certainly Jeanne would not have added Lady Lucelle's name to the list, and as certainly Vane would not have made a point of Lord Lane's visit to the King's Schloss. And now as they approached the long road which winds between two lines of huge elms, Jeanne's face grows from wistful to eager. Vane, who has been watching it, smiles rather slyly and curiously. "We have seen nothing of Hal yet," he says. (To be continued.)

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**Lloyd George**  
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**EMPIRE STEEL CO**  
LONDON  
In an interview with Associated Press today Morden stated that the British Corporation had been on the terms of which was announced by the President of the Union Steel Corporation. Nova Scotia Steel and Iron Co. Ltd. is to be sold to the British Corporation. The sale will be completed on Monday. "The large amount of business which will be obtained on the sale of the Canadian lines Ltd., if not included in the sale, will be closely co-ordinated."

**ASQUITH OUT**  
LONDON  
H. H. Asquith, former Prime Minister, in a speech at the Munich of Deutsche Zeitung, has expressed his opinion on the proposed Bavarian disarmament. He has stated that the disarmament of the German army is a necessary condition for the peace of Europe. He has also stated that the German Government is determined to carry out its obligations under the Versailles Treaty.

**ARMED MEN STOP**  
LIVERPOOL  
A new scheme, which is believed to be intended to prevent young Irishmen from joining the ranks of the British Army, was announced on Friday night. It is believed that three immigrants, who were intended to sail on the steamer "The Victoria," were ordered to disembark at Liverpool. The immigrants were ordered to disembark because they were believed to be members of the Irish Republican Army. The immigrants were carried to the coast by the British authorities.

**GANDSI AND**  
BOMBAY  
Writing in his paper, M. K. Gandisi, leader in the Union of Communist Parties, has stated that the political purposes of the party are to bring about a revolution in India.