

"Flatterers"

The Shadow of the Future.

CHAPTER XVIII. "COURAGE MOUNTETH WITH OC CASION.

To her nature, delighted always keen pleasure to feel herself the chan- be kind to, as the whim took her. Now nel of interest from the book's pages she missed her, hugged her conceit too echo of this report, donned her black to the man's mind. That obtrusive closely to confess it, and took umher) obscured the subjects with ly reminded her of the girl's absence, past days, became, as week merged in- upon herself by promoting it. Sufferto week, less omnipresent. Theories ing under this condition, described by which drove Miss Hurst into gentle her servants as "bein', so nobody dozes grew fascinating to the scholar couldn't please her with nothin," the trained by Robert Vaughan beyond malaise of Mrs. Alwyn pervaded the school-girl standard. A hard knot over household, and set ever-widening cirdiffering opinions set Sydney reading cles of gossip astir. slewly once, with long pauses at fullstops. "This is dull for you," Mr. have let you go on. Pray leave off."

"I should be sorry to," she answered; "I only wanted it clear to myself. I wish I knew the bare elements of all this better."

"You do?" he exclaimed. "Then you shall. There's a book"—getting up impetueusly, only to seat himself again, just as well as the other." might tell you what you want to

"That would, indeed, be better. But it would trouble you." "Not the least."

ways felt, so entirely his infirmity was angry puckers. lost sight of in the expressive mobility of the other features, he gave her the essence of much reading in few min- be long." clew to investing it with brightness. At every stage she needed explanation. This he had always ready, from books from memory, or by and by from manuscripts of his own, and life began to lose, for him, its dreariness.

"person," Miss Hurst noted a change quarreled with her, hev they?" in her brother, complacently appro while time and distance, though no close as a nut, and Miss Leonora don't utes as if focused for a model of midpriating it as a personal compliment, whit diminishing Sydney's fond regard say a word to such as we. But my adfor all she held dear at St. Clair's, stilled the oppressive whirl she had gone through and left her healthily tired maybe, but little disposed to brood over Mr. Villiers' defection, or over her stepsister's chances of becoming a countess presumptive.

About which it is our duty to return to the Dale, and see what goes on.

CHAPTER XX. ALWYN UNDERSTAND EACH

OTHER. It was a great misfortune, or she felt it so, that Mrs. Alwyn's conscience. worn fine under roughish usage, still keep her extremely irritable for some time after her younger daughter's de-

Mrs. Alwyn now acknowledged that the child of her second marriage had some rare endowments of brain and soul, and the notion that she had so worked them as to get no social credit thereout, but had let them go into palmore in giving than receiving, it was had that youngest-born to carp at, or "ego," which at first (small blame to brage at all whose questions constantvisions of lost hopes, past struggles, and the entanglement she had drawn

> It was on one of June's last days when Hills appeared at the glass-door mistress or Miss Villiers would tell him what color Miss Sydney wished "they stocks grafted. He'd promises of General Jacks and Madame Nomores, but was not sure which miss wanted." "Either will do," Mrs. Alwyn answered, from her writing-table; "one

But Hills was not going to be choked off in that summary fashion. Miss will. Asleep, is she? Then when she Sydney interested herself in his flowwakes, or, if it would do as well, I ers, and he determined to pay the compliment of consulting her taste.

"I know miss lean one way or other," he persisted, "so shall I wait for her views, ma'am, till she come back?"

"Oh, wait and welcome!" replied "Werry well, ma'am. But as the san's

be back in a fortnight or so, miss?" "No." said Leonora, "I really

sulkily, to take counsel of Phillips. "I've bin askin' 'em in there," with a jerk toward the ladies' room. "when Mightily pleased at her discrimina- they look for Miss Sydney, and neither on 'em 'll tell me. They hevn't took an'

> "Goodness knows what they're up to," returned Phillips. "Missus is as

as you please." "Then ain't she a-comin' at all? cried honest Dan Hills, discomfited. "You leave me to find out, and when

know I'll tell you." So Phillips took her turn at investigating matters, and inquired respectfully next day of her mistress when Miss Sydney's room was to be set in order. She didn't wish to be behind LADY COMYNGHAM AND MRS. with it, and it would take a whole fore-

"Do it when I tell you," said Mrs Alwyn, shortly, an angry gleam at the back of her eye. And Phillips answer-

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The Captain and

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Petroleum Jelly

liable to the effects of exposure, and provision should on every vessel, for the proper care of such cases. "Vaseline" preparations designed to relieve all the

"Oh, very well, 'm," with such meek ss that her mistress scented suspice on in the obedient syllable.

"Oh the whole, though," she said with a good assumption of second con sideration, "I think the room had better be thoroughly turned out. Help Walters with it to-morrow. Then it ! will be ready for Miss Sydney, if she returns next week."

"And for any one else if sh doesn't!" commented Phillips, acutely, on this order. And added, borrowing the phraseology of a game-keeping parent, that nobody was quicker at louble than her mistress, but she Phillips, was not to be took in by no doubles, and it was her belief Miss Sydney was gone for good.

This disquieting opinion soon spread in St. Clair's. Reaching Patty Peggs, With the common perversity which of whom, as of all her pupils and penvalues what is lost or flung away, sioners, Sydney had dared take no leave, it furnished her with courage to go bobbing, like a cork afloat, to Mrs. Alwyn the next Sunday, with "Please, mum, ain't Miss Sydney a-comin' to learn us our singin' no more? Mother an' me du want to know bad." And old try paid servitude, was wormwood to Mrs. Hills lay in wait at her door, like her. For one-and-twenty years she had an anxious spider, to catch the lady from the Dale with the same question; and even Mrs. Dacie, disturbed by some silk, and went over to Sydney's old home, determined to come at the truth, one way or other,

But the doctor's easily disposed of.

"To an old friend like yourself, Mrs. Dacie," said Mrs. Alwyn, meeting inquiry with an overawing malancholy, "I confess that Sydney has disappointed me-oh! sadly-me and others -me grievously. She is best away till -till it has blown over. Excuse my saying more. It is too painful. And are of the morning-room, asking if his you really stronger? And how is the kind doctor? Et cetera, et cetera.

Mary's simple-minded mother went away, after a most affable half-hour, convinced that her favorite's banishment was only the outcome of a difference on matrimonial plans, and volunteered the opinion cheerfully that "her own notion always had been that Sydney was far too good for dieworthy of her. How nice it would be if he came over again, and they two made a match of it, wouldn't it?"

This call, however, left Mrs. Alwyn deeply disturbed. One mysterious sent- 20 or 30 yards wide, while the cliffs on ence, "Neither of your young ladies to be getting married, after all we'd ex- heights of 50 and 60 feet. In such a pected," strengthened a grewsome dread which had stolen lately into her toward her, looking at her, as she al- Mrs. Alwyn, with lips drawn into mind. Leonora coming in found her mother perturbed past explanation.

"This state of things distracts me!" the elder lady cried. "I can't keep up the enemy, 200 strong, made a most the farce of that unfortunate child careful reconnaissance, succeeded un-Sydney being out on a visit forever, the subject started, Sydney had the liers pointedly. "Could you say if she'll And I will not be compelled to publish the truth. I keep staving matters off lying hid above the river bed, among couldn't, Hills." And the man went off gets—settled—for you—my poor Leo-

does happen." "But it may, my dear. Oh. it must!"

"It's exactly three weeks and three

vice is, Hills, bud your roses as fast so unstrung, her patience so exhaust- source he collected his men, dashed up ed, that a decisive step she must take, the precipitous cliff, and got in touch whether right or wrong. As it happened, she took the wrong "Ring the bell, Leonora!" she ex- he then led the attack against his unclaimed, flushed with rising determina- seen foe, whom it was difficult to lo-

tion, "and order the pony-carriage, cate, owing to the baffling echoes of Tell Phillips she must help me to the firing in the cavernous neighbourdress. For"-kissing her daughter-"I hood. While leading the attack this am going to Oakleigh Place."

ily careful toilet. (To be continued)



Heroes of N. W. Frontier STIRRING TALE OF BATTLE IN

PASSES. Particulars have already been puly lished of the ambushing of a party of Indian troops in the passes of the N. W. frontier of India. Details have now come to hand showing how a desperate position was retrieved by consummate leadership and valour. A convov proceeding from Jandola to Haldari Kach travelled along the Shahur river bed, which for three miles passes Tangi. This gorge country is a serried mass of precipitous rocky mountains, ranging from 3,000ft. to 4,000ft. The gorge itself is a rock-strewn track running now beside and now intermingled with the Shahur river, which like all its kind, is rapid and shallow with occasional deep pools, and hills narrow places. Thus, two days before the fight, the spate at the narrows had actually reached a point 27ft. above the bed of the river. For some anknown reason Shahur Tangi is superstitiously regarded by the tribes and never before had they ventured on an attack there, although the nature of the ground is peculiarly suitable to attack was made the river bed is only both sides rise abruptly to the sky, in heights of 50 and 60 feet. In such a locality complete reconnaissance by Fashion protecting troops is impossible, and reliance is placed on permanent pickets, who can only supervise the most like

observed in creeping into position the night before, and, at daybreak, were something happens something the rocks on both sides, as an advanced guard of 40 men under Lieutenant T. B. Vickers, sappers and "Ah!" said Leonora, "but nothing miners, reached a narrow spot where the gorge is merely a gush in the hills.

first volley. By all the rules of war, Lieutenant Vicker's party should have with 100 men of the 2nd Grenadiers. who were coming to his assistance: gallant officer was killed. Meanwhile Some thirty minutes the lady de- reinforcements from Haidari Kach and 21/6 yards of 36 inch material. voted up-stairs to a more than ordinar- Chacmalai had been sent out, including a Stokes mortar, which, under Lieutenant Butler, came dashing into action from the river bed. The enemy still held their ground and inflicted silver or stamps. further casualties, among them being Surgeon Harris, who while calmly ending the wounded under a murderous fire was caught by a bomb and killed outright. However, Lieutenant Young and a platoon of the 28th Punjabs performed a daring feat. Guessing the probable position of the enemy, he and his men climbed to a ledge overlooking the narrows, and, by taking the pins out of their bombs, converted them into hand grenades, which they lobbed over the edge, thus obtaining air-bursts. This perilous expedient was partly successful. The convoy received orders to turn back, and with its escort was safely withdrawn, while parties scoured the narrows covered by rifle and bomb fire. vercome by this plan, the enemy roke off and dribbled away, says a correspondent of the Times, being aught in the process by our artillery, which was waiting patiently but is cut in 4 Sizes: 2, 3, 4 and 5 years. hitherto had been unable to come into A 4 year size will require 2% yards of which was waiting patiently but action. The casualties were 20 killed and 17 wounded. Surgeon Harris
shortly before he was killed had, with
the assistance of Sergeant Hicks,
carried into safety a wounded Indian action. The casualties were 20 killofficer under heavy fire.—News of the

Household Notes.



JUST HALF OF THAT, PLEASE. randmother says when I pass her the

"Just half of that, please." and be the dessert a rice pudding And I pass Grandma's share she sure to reply, With the trace of a twinkle to light up

've cut down her portions she tells me: "Just half of that, please Though scarcely a mouthful "Just half of that, please."

If I pass her the chocolates she breaks one in two, There's nothing so small but a smaller And she says, perhaps fearing she's taking from you:
"Just half of that, please."

When at last Grandma leaves us the angels will hear: "Just half of that, please." When with joys for the gentle and brave they appear: "Just half of that, please."

And for fear they may think she is selfish up there, Or is taking what may angel's share. She will say with the loveliest smile she can wear:

"Just half of that, please." Although France lost a million before the war. The same returns aug19,tf raine, the number of births in France last year were 834,411, compared with 790,355 in 1913, while the deaths last 441 in 1913. The marriages last year were 623,869, as against 312,036 in 1913.

Plates.

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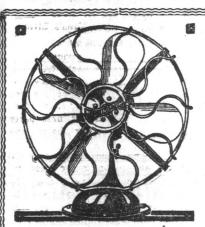
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