

H.P. SAUCE

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make a point of trying H.P. Sauce, you will be delighted with the new and delicious flavour, quite distinct from ordinary sauces.

H.P. is on the dining tables of all the principal hotels and restaurants in this district—but not in this district alone, it is enjoyed all over the world.



No well regulated home is complete without it—it is useful in so many ways.

meek suffused eyes bore eloquent testimony to the truth of the relation—that he would willingly exert a vigorous effort to meet his client's wishes, could he but see his way to a safe result. At length a ray of light, judging from his suddenly-gleaming eyes, seemed to have broken upon the troubled chambers of his brain, and he rose somewhat hastily from his chair.

"By the by, I will just step and speak to this Susan Hopley, if your lordship can inform me in what part of the lower regions I am likely to meet with her?"

"Let me ring for her."

"No; if you please not. What I have to ask her is of very little importance; still, to summon her here might give rise to surmises, reports, and so on, which it may be as well to avoid. I had much rather see her accidentally, as it were."

"As you please. You will find her somewhere about the housekeeper's apartments. You know her by sight, I think?"

"Perfectly; and with your leave I'll take the opportunity of directing the horses to be put to. I must be in London by noon to-morrow if possible," and away Mr. Ferret bustled.

"Susan," said Mr. Ferret a few minutes afterward, "stop this way; I want to have a word with you. Now tell me how you propose to expect you will ever see the money again so foolishly thrown into the bottomless pit of chancery?"

"Of course I shall, Mr. Ferret, as soon as ever Miss Clara comes to her own. She mentioned it only this morning, and said she was sorry she could not repay me at once."

"You are a sensible girl, Susan; though you did go to law with the lord chancellor, I want you to be left with me to London; and then perhaps we may get your money sooner than you expect."

"Oh, bother the money! If that is what you want me to go to London for!" Mr. Ferret replied with a grin.

"Such exceeding intelligence that Susan at once declared she should be ready to start in ten minutes at the latest."

To be continued.

The Writ of Habeas Corpus

The athletic fellow struggled desperately; but however powerful and determined, he was only one man against a score, nearly all of the bystanders being tenants or laborers on the Compton estates; and spite of his furious efforts, and menaces of law and vengeance, Clara was torn from him in a twinkling, and himself hurled with some violence prostrate on the road. "Do not let them hurt the man," said Lady Compton, as the servants placed the insensible girl in the carriage (she had fainted); "and tell him that if he had really any legal claim to the custody of this unfortunate person, he must prefer it in the morning."

Immediately on arrival at the castle, the escaped prisoner was conveyed to bed, and medical aid instantly summoned. When restored to consciousness, whether from the effect of an excess of fever producing temporary delirium, or from confirmed mental disease, his speech was altogether wild and incoherent—the only all consistent portions of her ravings being piteously-iterated appeals to Lady Compton not to surrender her to her aunt-in-law, Mrs. Brandon, of whom she seemed to entertain an overpowering, indefinable dread. It was evident she had been subject to extremely brutal treatment—such as, in these days of improved legislation in such matters, and greatly advanced knowledge of the origin and remedy of cerebral infirmity, would not be permitted towards the meanest human being, much less a tenderly-nurtured, delicate female. At length, under the influence of a composing draught, she sank gradually to sleep; and Lady

Compton having determined to rescue her, it impossible, from the suspicious custody of her relatives, and naturally apprehensive of the legal difficulties which she could not admit would impede the execution of her generous, if somewhat Quixotic project, resolved on an after sending off an express for Mr. Ferret, on whose acume and zeal she could place the fullest reliance.

Clara Brandon's simple history may be briefly summed up. She was the only child of a Mr. Frederick Brandon, who, a widower in the second year of his marriage, had since principally resided at the "Elms," a handsome mansion and grounds which he had leased of the uncle of the late Sir Harry Compton. At this decease, which occurred about two years previous to poor Clara's escape from confinement, as just narrated, he bequeathed his entire fortune, between two and three thousand pounds per annum, chiefly secured on land, to his daughter; appointed his elder brother, Major Brandon, sole executor of his will, and guardian of his child; and in the event of her dying before she had attained her majority—which she wanted, at her father's death, upward of three years—or without lawful issue, the property was to go the major, to be by him willed at his pleasure.

Major Brandon, whose physical and mental energies had been prematurely broken down—he was only in his fifty-second year—either by excess or bad service in the East, perhaps both, had married late in life the widow of a brother officer, and the mother of a grown-up son. The lady, a woman of inflexible will, considerable remains of a somewhat masculine beauty, and about ten years her husband's junior, held him in a state of thorough pupillage; and, unchecked by him, devoted all her energies to bring about, by fair or foul means, a union between Clara and her own son, a cub of some two or three-and-twenty years of age, whose sole object in seconding his mother's views upon Clara was the acquisition of her wealth. According to popular surmise and report, the young lady's mental infirmity had been brought about by the persecutions she had endured at the hands of Mrs. Brandon, with a view to force her into a marriage she detested. The more reliable authority for the truth of these rumors was Susan Hopley, now in the service of Lady Compton, who had lived for many years with Mr. Frederick Brandon and his daughter. She had been discharged about six months after her master's decease by Mrs. Major Brandon for alleged impertinence; and so thoroughly convinced was Susan that soon afterwards the alleged lunacy of Clara was but a juggling pretence to excuse the restraint under which her own vile purposes, had determined to keep her, that although out of place at the time, she devoted all the savings of her life, between eighty and ninety pounds to procure justice for the ill-used orphan. This article Susan was advised, could be best obtained of the lord chancellor; and proceedings were accordingly taken before the keeper of the king's conscience, in order to change the custody of the pretended lunatic. The affidavits filed in support of the petition were, however, so loose and vague, and were met with such positive counter- allegations, that the application was at once dismissed with costs; and poor Susan—rash tutor

for 'Justice'—reduced to absolute penury. These circumstances becoming known to Lady Compton, Satan was taken into service; and it was principally owing to her frequent-ly-iterated version of the affair that Clara had been forcibly rescued from Mrs. Brandon's son.

On the following morning the patient was much calmer, though her mind still wandered somewhat. Fortified by the authority of the physician, who certified that to remove her, or even to expose her to agitation, would be dangerous, if not fatal, Lady Compton not only refused to deliver her up to Major and Mrs. Brandon, but to allow them to see her. Mrs. Brandon, in a towering rage, posted off to the nearest magistrate, to demand the assistance of peace-officers in obtaining possession of the person of the fugitive. That functionary would, however, only so far comply with the indignant lady's solicitations, as to send his clerk to the castle to ascertain the reason of the young lady's detention; and when his messenger returned with a note, enclosing a copy of the physician's certificate, he peremptorily decided that the conduct of Lady Compton was not only justifiable, but praiseworthy, and that the matter must remain over till the patient was in a condition to be moved. Things were precisely in this state, except that Clara Brandon had become perfectly rational; and but for an irrepresible nervous dread of again falling into the power of her unscrupulous relative, quite calm, when Mr. Ferret made his wished for appearance on the scene of action.

Long and anxious was the conference which Mr. Ferret held with his magnificent client and her interesting protegee, if conference that may be called in which the astute attorney called the part of a listener only scarcely open his thin, caustic lips. In vain did his eager brain silently ransack the whole armory of the law; no weapon could be discerned which afforded the slightest hope of fighting a successful battle with a legally appointed guardian for the custody of his ward. And yet Mr. Ferret felt, as he looked upon the flashing eye and glowing countenance of Lady Compton, as she recounted a few of the previous outrages inflicted upon the fair and helpless girl reclining beside her—whose varying check and

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The body of Heron was Clapham common in January 1911. The police tried to find the murderer of Heron and the trial was a sensational one.

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