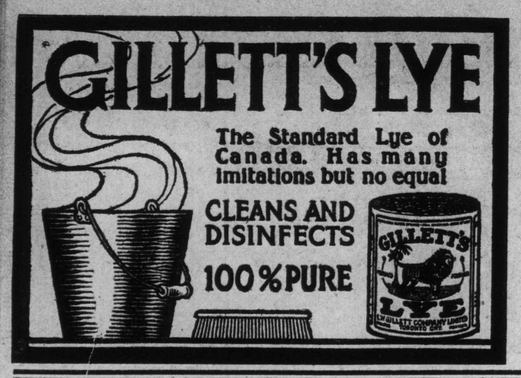

A Millionairess;

— or, —

Countess Westerleigh.

CHAPTER XI.

(Continued.)

One day, having Nora and the Witches' Caldron on his mind—and they were seldom out of it, by the way—he ventured a question about the smuggling.

He was sitting on the ruins of a truck, smoking his pipe, the men grouped about him, smoking also, to a man. They had been talking readily enough until he said:

"Do any of you know anything about the smuggling along the coast here?"

Then, with one accord, they all seemed to dry up and stiffen into reserve and suspicion.

An old miner answered at last.

"What should we know about it sir?" he said. "We're a goodish bit from the coast. Besides, they do say as it's all done with, and that there ain't no such thing nowadays."

Vane saw that, whether they knew anything of it or not, he was not likely to get any information from them, and he changed the subject.

That afternoon, while he was there talking with the men, the squire came up.

He was well dressed in his well-worn corduroys, and mounted on a small Exmoor pony, which Vane knew was as tough as a rock and as swift as the wind.

He eyed Vane and the men curiously, spoke a few words to the foreman, then rode off, without having addressed Vane.

The men looked at each other, and one emitted a kind of grunt.

"Old squire in one of his fits ag'in," he said shortly.

"Ay," assented the other.

"Is my uncle subject to fits?" asked Vane. "Or do you mean that he has a bad temper? Because, if so, I think you are mistaken. I don't believe a better-tempered man exists."

"That's right enough, sir," said the man who had just spoken. "The squire ain't a bad sort. He's free with his coin, and a good master, as times go. No, it ain't temper as we mean. Perhaps you ain't noticed—haven't been here long enough to notice—that at times, every now and then, he gets an absent-minded fit, and a gloomy one. It's only natural. I reckon he's thinking—going back—over the sad times at the Hall. He ain't likely to forget them."

Vane looked up from one to the other, and was about to ask what they meant, but it struck him that it was scarcely honourable to pry into his uncle's private history; and getting up, he nodded to the men and strolled away.

It was an extremely quiet life for such a man as Vane Tempest, and exceedingly unlike that which he led in London, but he enjoyed it after a fashion.

He seemed to have become completely severed from his past fashionable—and it must be written—frivolous existence; and the spell which had been cast upon him by his strange experiences in the Witches' Caldron still clung to him.

Every now and then during the day, and always when he was undressing, he was reminded by the shilling of Nora Trevanion, and there existed a very strong desire within him to pay a visit to the Caldron. But his promise prevented this.

He had promised to say nothing of the two women, and not to attempt to revisit them; and with Vane a promise was sacred. He felt assured that nothing had happened to them, because he must have heard of it from some of the men on the estate. Once or twice he rode to Trelorne by a longer and circuitous road. He saw nothing of them—in fact he met no one. A week passed away during which there was comparatively fine weather, and Vane got out each day, shooting or riding. He and the squire rarely met except at meal times, and then the old man, though civil and hospitable enough, seemed to keep him at arm's length, so to speak.

Then it began to rain. When it begins to rain in the west country, it does not appear to know when to leave off, and Vane got wet through two or three times a day regularly. So did the squire, but he seemed to be indifferent to the weather, and even to prefer a drenching.

One afternoon, having changed his clothes twice, Vane thought he would amuse himself looking up the guns and ammunition, as is the fashion of your true sportsman, who, when he can not go out killing something loves nothing better than to furbish up his guns or arrange his fishing tackle.

It was a dark afternoon, and Vane, remembering that the gun-room was not well lighted, lighted a small hand lamp which stood in his room, and carried it with him. He got some wash-leather and other things which he required from James, the servant who attended him, and who now offered to assist him.

"No, thanks. Tell the squire where I am, if he should ask for me," Vane said; and taking down the guns, he began to overhaul them.

Like everything else at the Hall they were of first class workmanship and of the best makers, and Vane soon got absorbed in his task.

He had pulled a Manton to pieces and was polishing it up with the leather, when suddenly he heard a deep sigh, the kind of sigh that just stops short of a groan.

Vane looked up and around the room. The sound seemed so near that he almost expected to see some one standing beside him. He waited a moment, and was proceeding with his work, half convinced that his fancy had been playing tricks with him, when the sigh smote upon his ears again.

He put the gun down, and went into the passage into which the room opened; but there was no one there, and all was silent.

The house was, in part, at any rate, a very old one—one of those west country mansions which are not considered respectable or worth living in unless they are haunted; and Vane smiled to himself as he thought how good a story for a Christmas party could be made out of this mysterious sigh.

He went back to the room, and lighted his pipe. The match almost dropped from his hand, for he heard the sound of footsteps—heavy footsteps—as of some one pacing up and down, and the sound came from some spot immediately behind him.

He took up the lamp from the table and examined the wall behind which the noise had seemed to proceed.

The room was called the gun-room, but in addition to sporting-weapons, guns, fishing rods, salmon spears, otter-traps, and so on, there were some book shelves filling two sides of the room.

Vane was now examining one of these sides. He passed his hands along the books, and was much astonished to find that they were not movable, but fixtures—astonished, because he knew nothing of libraries, and was not aware that it was usual to mask doors with dummy books, or, rather, the backs of books, pasted on so that the appearance of continuity may not be broken. He was really touching one of those skillfully concealed doors, and presently, his hand having unwittingly pressed the spring, the door gently opened.

Vane paused at it for a moment, hesitating whether to go through the opening or to close the door again, and mind his own business; to wit, the cleaning of guns.

Mr. Vale had asked him to ask no questions, and to curb his curiosity respecting anything he might see at Vale Hall; and here, certainly, was an excellent opportunity of exercising his self-denial. But as he was on the point of closing the door again, he heard the footsteps and another sigh, and this decided him.

No human being would sigh like that unless he was in great distress, either mental or bodily. The person, whoever it was, might be in need of assistance, and it was Vane's duty to go and offer it.

Holding the lamp above his head, he passed through the door-way, and found himself in a long, broad passage. It was so large, and his lamp so small, that for a moment or two he could distinguish nothing. Then, as his eyes grew accustomed to the semi-darkness, he saw that the place was a kind of lumber-room. Old oak chairs, with spiral rails, great tables turned legs up, packing-cases, and discarded furniture of various descriptions, were littered about. In one place, gleaming whitely in the dimness, was a big rocking horse, and lying on the floor beside it, a doll's house, with the mistress of the mansion sprawling on her back. The place had a pathetic look which appealed to Vane, though he was no poet or sentimentalist but a remarkably, healthy, light-hearted young man.

He ran his eyes rapidly over the place to see the cause of the sound he had heard; then suddenly started and stared with an amazement beyond description at a large picture which hung in the center of the faded wall. It was the picture of an extremely lovely woman—a good portrait evidently, for the lips, the eyes, seemed to speak.

But it was not the beauty of the face nor the excellence of the painting which startled Vane, but its extraordinary resemblance to some one he knew he had seen.

He was so absorbed in trying to remember who the person was, that he had forgotten all about the footsteps and the sigh.

Suddenly it flashed upon him, as such recollections always do.

The beautiful woman whose portrait hung in the lumber-room of Vale Hall was like Nora Trevanion.

It gave him a shock. He went nearer to the picture, holding the lamp above his head, to examine the face more closely. As he did so, a gust of wind swept through the room, and out went the lamp.

At the same moment he heard the sound of footsteps coming toward him. He held his breath and stood on the defensive, and ready to receive any attack—for who could be prowling in that disused part of the place?—and feeling for his match-box, struck a light.

As the match flickered and the flame rose, he saw the squire standing beside him. With a quick movement the old man stepped forward and pulled a curtain before the picture, then turned and sternly confronted Vane.

(To be Continued.)

A WONDERFUL REMEDY

Orange Lily is daily curing the most obstinate cases of Female Disorders, Failing of the Womb, Leucorrhoea, Painful and Suppressed Menstruation, etc., etc., are all of them relieved from the start by its use, and a few weeks' or months' treatment accomplishes a complete cure. This remedy is a positive, scientific preparation, and is based on the discoveries of Pasteur and Lister. It is an applied treatment; that is, it is not taken internally, but is applied direct to the suffering parts, and it, therefore, acts with all the certainty of the known laws of chemical action. As it comes in direct contact with the diseased tissue, its antiseptic and nerve-food properties cannot help have a beneficent influence. I receive from 10 to 50 letters daily, speaking of the benefits and cures it is performing, and so sure am I that it will do what is claimed for it that I will send, absolutely free, a 25c box to every suffering woman who will write for it. Price, $1 per box, which is sufficient for one months' treatment. Address, MRS. FRANCES E. CURRAH, WINDSOR, ONT.

For Sale by Leading Druggists Everywhere.

CRITICAL TIME OF WOMAN'S LIFE

From 40 to 50 Years of Age. How It May Be Passed in Safety.

So. Wellington, B.C.—"For a year during the Change of Life I was all run down. I was really too weak to walk and was very despondent and thought I was going to die, but after taking Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and Blood Purifier my health and strength returned. I am very thankful to you and praise your medicine. I have advised several women who suffered as I did to try your remedies. You may publish this if you wish."—Mrs. DAVID R. MORRIS, South Wellington, Vancouver Island, B. C.

No other medicine for woman's ills has received such wide-spread and unqualified endorsement. We know of no other medicine which has such a record of success as has Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. For more than 30 years it has been the standard remedy for woman's ills such as inflammation, ulceration, tumors, irregularities, periodic pains and nervous prostration, and we believe it is unequalled for women during the period of change of life.

If you have the slightest doubt that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound will help you, write to Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co. (confidential) Lynn, Mass., for advice. Your letter will be opened, read and answered by a woman, and held in strict confidence.

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MADE BY THE VILLAGERS IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

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The workers have a beautiful collection of Collars, Hankies, Ties, Fronts, Sets, Yokes, Stocks, Plastrons, Jabots, &c., from .30, .50, .75 up. Berthes, Five o'clock D'Oyleys, &c., and everything that can be made in Lace. Yard Lace and insertion from .10, .20, .25 up to $2.50 per yd.

Our Laces were awarded Gold Medal at the Festival of Empire and Imperial Exhibition, Crystal Palace, 1911.
STOCK COLLAR, 35 cents (half)

Booklet entitled "An Interesting Home Industry," illustrating over 100 designs of Pillow Lace, post free to any part of world. The lace-makers are very glad of any orders however small.

BUCKS Hand-made PILLOW LACE outwears any other.

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Back Was Lame For Two Years

Stomach Troubles and Weakness of Kidneys Cured by Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills.

There is an enormous amount of suffering from liver and kidney derangements and stomach troubles that could easily be avoided by using Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills. If you could only realize the scores of everyday ills that arise from a sluggish condition of the kidneys, liver and bowels you would not be long in giving this medicine a trial.

Mrs. Edward Stewart, New Richmond West, Que., writes: "I want to tell you how thankful I am for using your Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills for stomach troubles and backache caused by weak kidneys. I was unable to wash any clothes for over two years on account of my back being lame. I read the Almanac and began using these pills. Two boxes made a complete cure. I can do my own washing and other work now, and want to say to lady friends that they do not know how much I appreciate Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills."

25 cents a box, all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Ltd., Toronto.

Stafford's Liniment.

Question No. 1.—Why is it that **Stafford's Liniment** has obtained such a large sale?

Answer No. 1.—Because every person who has used it say it is one of the best Liniments that they ever used, and they tell their friends about it, and the consequence is that the demand is obtained.

Question No. 2.—Why is it that **Stafford's Liniment** is recommended and guaranteed by the people who handle it.

Answer No. 2.—Because the people who handle it know by facts and statements that they can thoroughly recommend and guarantee it to the utmost. Several persons have such confidence in it that they tell their customers, that after using it, they didn't find it as good or even better than some other kind they used, they would give them their money back. If this isn't confidence enough what is it?

Question No. 3.—Why is it that **Stafford's Liniment** cures Rheumatism, Lumbago, Neuralgia, and all kinds of Aches and Pains?

Answer No. 3.—Because when you are suffering from Rheumatism, Lumbago, Neuralgia, or any kind of an ache or pain, you bathe affected parts in very warm water (nearly hot) for about five minutes. Dry well and apply **Stafford's Liniment** freely, you will find instant relief. Now there is no doubt about it but **Stafford's Liniment** has obtained a large sale, and the orders being received nearly every day would convince you. You can see them if you wish by calling at our Drug Store, Theatre Hill. Isn't this plain enough for you. We publish nothing but straightforward facts, and challenge any person or persons to contradict them.

The Liniment is prepared only by Dr. F. Stafford & Son, St. John's, Nfld.

Manufacturers of the 3 specialties:
Stafford's Liniment.
Stafford's Prescription "A."
Stafford's Phoratone Cough Mixture
sept9,tf

The Minstrel Maids A Great Success.

Another crowded house at the old reliable show shop, to witness the Minstrel Maids. Tommy LeVan is becoming a prime favorite. He is one of the real old time comedians that can make a laugh out of anything. He is a very fine buck and wing dancer. The numbers are very novel and interesting, the scenery and costumes splendid. Mr. Shaw in his Italian recitation shows great dramatic talent and his turn brought down the house. All the children should go and see the little Baby Queen in Whistling Jim. She is as pretty and graceful as a fairy. The songs, dances and choruses and comedy are splendid.

Minard's Liniment Co., Limited.

Dear Sirs,—I had a Bleeding Tumor on my face for a long time and tried a number of remedies without any good results, I was advised to try MINARD'S LINIMENT, and after using several bottles it made a complete cure, and it healed all up and disappeared altogether.

DAVID HENDERSON.
Belleisle Station, Kings Co., N. B.,
Sept. 17, 1904.

Here and There

Girls' Friendly Society Sale, British Hall, Wednesday, October 1st, at 3.30 o'clock.—s13,2i,s

Dr. Jones will be away from Avondale for a short while. His practice will be looked after by Dr. Chisholm during his absence.—sept13,1i

REACHED GLASGOW.—The barqt. Lake Simcoe has arrived at Glasgow with a cargo of seal oil which was brought from Harbour Grace.

ICE.—Order your daily supply of Ice from J. W. CAMPBELL, Ltd.—june4,tf

TAKES UP SERVICE.—The S. S. Hawk which was engaged up to this year whaling, will take up the St. John's-Bell Island service next week. She is now taking coal aboard at Bowring's premises.

SERGEANT BETTER. — Sergeant Oliphant who has been ill for some time past resumed his work in the Magistrate's Court yesterday. During his absence Head Sparrow did the court work in a most satisfactory manner.

Stafford's Liniment, Prescription "A" and Phoratone Cough Cure is sold every night at Stafford's Drug Store, Theatre Hill.—aug29,tf

SHOOTING CONTEST.—The shooting contest between the City team and eight representatives from H. M. S. Cornwall did not come off yesterday owing to unfavourable conditions. The shoot will take place this afternoon and a good contest is assured.

WEEK-END SPECIALS.

Ladies' Fleece Lined Underwear, 35c. a garment. Ladies' All Wool Hose, special 28c. pair. Boys & Girls' Fleece Lined Underwear, 20c. a garment up. Infants' Asstd. Cashmere Hose, 18c. pair. Boys' Woollen Hose, special 22c. up.

THE WEST END BAZAAR,
sep12,2i 51 Water St. West.

C. C. C. DANCE. — The C. C. C. Boat Club are now completing arrangements for their big dance which takes place in the British Hall on Monday night next. The fact of the Corps' band furnishing the music is sufficient assurance of an enjoyable time.

SOLID GOLD GEM SET RINGS,

High Quality, Attractive Prices.

We illustrate here a few designs picked from a large and beautiful stock of Gem Set Rings. They are all Solid 10k Gold, and while very moderate in price, are made with the same strict regard to the settings and finish as more expensive ones.

A Ring is a gift that the recipient will treasure—and remember the giver by. Do not overlook this selection when choosing yours.

Send for Ring Size Card—it's free.

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The Reliable Jewellers.

CHESLEY WOODS.

As per our Ad.

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In tierces and barrels; also,

BRIGHT WEST INDIA SUGAR.

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"Molassine" Meal

is as useful in Summer as in Winter.

"MOLASSINE" MEAL helps all animals to get greater nourishment out of their other foods and digest them.

Worms cannot exist in animals fed on "MOLASSINE" MEAL. It is therefore a necessity during the grazing season.

Good for:	HORSES	SHEEP
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