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THE PANGS OF REMORSE
— OR —
A COMPLICATED TANGLE.

CHAPTER XIII.

All inquiries were made, the police put on the scent, the authorities duly notified, but no trace of Clarence Clifford's whereabouts could be found. The public curiosity, a few days after, was set at rest, but not those of the doctor and the lady who knew of his recovery—by the matter-of-fact announcements in the papers that Clarence Clifford had been shot in a duel on Calais Sands, and that the cause thereof was the inevitable woman—as usual.

"Send for Harry Besant," said Lillian Melville, after receiving the blow which had slain the whole romance of her life.

And Sir Ralph in a day or two did send for him.

He was ready enough to come and clattered in his usual noisy way over the stones of the courtyard and the mosaic of the hall.

But he was startled in the change in the woman whom he was desirous to woo and wed.

She was a woman now, with all a woman's composure and a woman's soberness.

She took his hand without a blush, without even a tone of confusion, and asked for Lady Besant's and his own health with well-modulated voice.

Mr. Besant was perplexed, but he very wisely remained quiet and bided his time.

He called the next morning, had an interview with Sir Ralph in the library, and then sought Lillian in the drawing room.

"Lillian," he said, advancing and taking her hand, "I have been talking to Sir Ralph."

"Yes?" she said, lifting her clear, pure and calmly attentive eyes to his face.

Mr. Besant faltered under that calm regard. "And—and—in short, my dear Lillian, he says that you have changed your mind—that you have thought better of—of my proposal and are willing to say—yes."

She turned her face to the window again, but did not withdraw her hand.

To anyone but this man, who was determined to have her at any price, the gesture would have been fearfully eloquent.

He stammered on unblushingly, however:

"Yes, we shall be very happy, my dear Lillian. Rivershall is near the Towers, and—and—I hope you will look a little more cheerful."

She turned to him with a quiet but dignified gesture.

"You would not have me play you false?" she said. "I cannot assume cheerfulness if I do not feel it. You must give me time—Harry!"

It was the first time she had called him by his Christian name and he flushed at it.

"Take all the time you want," he said, exultingly. "Be mistress of the Towers and my wife, Lillian, and I will leave all the rest to fate."

"So be it," she said, still looking at him. "You know what I have to give. I will be mistress of the Towers and your wife, Harry. You do not ask me for anything else?"

A shade crossed his brow, but he laughed it away.

"Oh, time enough for that," he said. "Love will come after we are married. I am not a difficult fellow to get on with. Time enough."

She inclined her head, and by way of showing his possession he proposed a drive.

"Yes," she said, as calmly as before, and he drove her in his new phaeton to within view of the Towers, thinking perhaps that the sight of the grand place might strengthen her in her good resolve.

"Come, you are looking better already, not so pale," he said, as they were driving home again. "There, now, you have gone as pale as ever—why, what's the matter?"

"Who is that gentleman standing there?" said Lillian, looking in the direction of the new doctor, who stood looking towards them.

"Oh, that is Dr. Bromwell," said Mr. Besant, raising his hat in answer to the salutation of the gentleman.

"Dr. Bromwell?" she repeated.

"Yes," he said, "a clever fellow from abroad; he's been working wonders down here—curing the people right and left. Little Morecroft is quite mad about him—says he's a wonderful man—and that in any difficult case he should ask him to act in conjunction."

Lillian looked dreamily about.

This new doctor was beginning to haunt her.

"Dr. Morecroft likes him?" she asked.

"Oh, yes, thinks no end of him—Hush! here is Miss Lucas," he broke off to exclaim, as that invaluable lady came along the footpath with her silent, stealthy sort of walk.

Lillian smiled at her—one time she would have kissed her hand, but many of the girlish ways had gone now—and then, as if a sudden idea had struck her, she said to Mr. Besant, gravely:

"Will you drive rather slowly toward the bend of the road? I want to look back."

"I'll pull up," he said, "at once."

"No, no," she replied, quietly, "that won't do. Drive slowly."

He did as he was bidden and she turned her head and looked back.

Now, if Miss Lucas knew the strange doctor, if it was the same man she had gone from the rosery to meet, she would recognize him by look or gesture.

Lillian was puzzled. The tall figure just glanced at the young governess with casual interest and looked to the road again.

Miss Lucas, for the present, passed him with eyes demurely cast down without the slightest sign of recognition.

The beautiful girl sighed.

If this man at her elbow had her confidence, he would have had her confidence, but he got neither.

They reached home, and Lillian sought her father, who was sitting by the fire, his head upon his hand, listening to Dr. Morecroft, who, at Lillian's entrance, broke off in the middle of a sentence and greeted her with marked affection.

"And how do you feel to-day?" he asked, smilingly, feeling for his snuff-box.

"We feel well, I hope," said Lillian, with a smile. "Too well to be physicked, dear doctor."

He nodded, laughed and felt her pulse, laughed again, but rather uneasily.

"So, so! been for a drive with Mr. Besant. Ah, plenty of fresh air, plenty of fresh air; that is the thing. And now I am going, Sir Ralph. Good-by, Miss Lillian. Plenty of fresh air and—ahem!"

And with a fresh pinch of snuff he toddled off, leaving a shadow between Lillian and Sir Ralph, for she had distinctly heard him utter Dr. Bromwell's name as she opened the door.

Mr. Besant stayed to dinner.

Mr. Besant came the next morning and accompanied Lillian in her ride. He stayed to dinner again.

He came the next, and the next, and the next, and so kept Lillian in eternal remembrance of her promise toward him, thereby doing

Secret of Keeping Young

Why is it that some women look older at thirty-five than others do at fifty? Why is it that so many women are always run-down, weak, pale, nervous, irritable and unhappy? Health, vitality and freedom from pain and disease alone can prevent the signs of age from fastening themselves upon women. All over this country women are awakening to the fact that the ill, aches and pains of women may be relieved by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and the result is renewed life, energy and the glow of health. In fact, the secret of keeping young is to ward off all internal ailments that cause premature old age, which is easily accomplished by this remarkable root and herb remedy.

The Curse of Obituary Poetry

A correspondent suggests that there should be some means of protecting the distinguished dead from the imbecilities of obituary poet who send their effusions to the daily newspapers. The motive of newspapers in printing them is rather difficult to determine. Are they published to please the family of the deceased, or to gratify the poets themselves, or merely to amuse scooters? As our correspondent points out the poets have an extraordinary way of dragging in "metrical red herrings" into the simplest forms of verse; and the ideas they promulgate with regard to the departed and his reward in the hereafter are sometimes appalling.

For instance, a newspaper of high standing lately printed a poem on the late Col. George Taylor Denison, which after presenting considerable biographical detail wound up as follows:—

Warrior, author, all will mourn him,
Magistrate, whom all did love,
We know a higher post awaits thee—
In the Courts of God above.

The late Col. Denison was a just man, who, for more than forty years rendered sterling service as police magistrate of Toronto, but those who knew him will feel that could he come back from the tomb he would be inclined to send the metrical eulogist down for ten days. The idea of the Almighty as a great Justice of the Peace, summoning Col. Denison to a seat on the bench in the great beyond is about as unique a flight of the imagination as we have encountered even in obituary poetry. Are we, as our correspondent suggests, to assume that Rev. H. F. Lyte's famous hymn should read:

"Pleasant are Thy (Police) Courts above."

Motor Vehicles Took 899 Lives

NEW YORK, July 1.—The National Highway Protective Society reported to-day that motor vehicles took a toll of 899 lives in New York State during the first six months of this year, as compared with 947 deaths during the same period in 1924.

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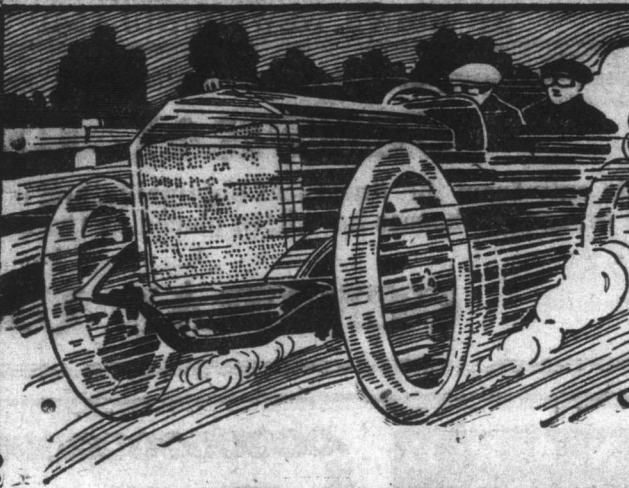
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Sizes 6 to 8. Special Price, \$1.00

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English Railways Urge Wage Slice

ACCEPTANCE OF 5 PER CENT. CUT WOULD SAVE £6,000,000 ANNUALLY.

DARLINGTON, ENG., July 2.—(C. P.)—While the centenary of the British railways was being celebrated here to-day proposals were submitted by the railway companies to the railway trades unions for a combined self-denying ordinance, in an endeavour to relieve the present perilous condition of affairs as between the employees and the companies.

A uniform cut of five per cent. in the fees of the directors and in the salaries of the management and clerical staffs and in the wages of the other employees was proposed by the railway companies who in return would arrange that all workshops, now partially idle or working short time, should be restored to the normal working week. The sliding scale of wages covering the cost of living should continue, according to the companies' proposal, which proposals must be conditional on all present wage claims being in abeyance.

If the companies' proposals are agreed to such agreement shall continue in force for 12 months, the railway companies state.

A most important point which the railway companies have failed to touch upon in their proposals is the contention of the unions that railway stockholders should submit to a voluntary reduction in their dividends. The unions point out that the companies having to find a huge debenture interest makes it impossible for the men and companies to pull together an incubus.

The whole position of the railway companies and the men will be discussed at a conference of the railwaymen's unions in Southampton next week.

It is doubtful if there will be a final decision before the end of July.

The companies assert that the acceptance of their proposals would mean a saving of £6,000,000 annually.

Household Notes.

Fruit stains on linen should be removed with camphor, before water is used.

Scraps of left-over meat can be sauce.

ground and used for stuffing capers.

The shells of cup cakes can be used with ice cream, and topped with

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