the summons from May.

nies in her own

e in season?'

pirth and the deathbed of her father

Christy and Winnie were in the same train with Mrs. Whitney. They

were going to the farm in answer to

A hurried exclamation, a rustling

of silks, a waft of perfume, and Mrs.

Granc Whitney floated down the steps

of the car, and stood upon the plat-

form at Riverbrook, with one of

'You are going there?' she asked.

She did. Do you think we shall

'It would have been better to have

gone two years ago, Belles; but I hope

God will restore his reason to him

long enough for him to know that

we stand beside him, replied the

Mrs. Whitney made no answer to

(To be continued.)

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the remark, but said to Winnie:

'Yes. Did May write you?'

who had been so cruelly neglected.

### THE MIDNIGHT MEETING.

(Concluded.)

'Yes; cold and sick. Let us re turn to the house. Half an hour later this brother and

sister returned to the mansion, having agreed to write to each other and meet as often as possible.

'He cannot help me to gain possession of my boy,' sighed Mrs. Grant, after Jean had admitted her once once more to her room.

'Did you speak to me?' asked the 'No; I was speaking my thoughts. Did Major Grant call at the door

during my absence?' 'Yes. He came softly to the door and asked in a whisper if you were asleep. I told him that you would soon be asleep if nothing occurred to bearing only these words: disturb you, and he went disconsolately away. I heard him close the door

'I wish to caution you once more in regard to secrecy about to-night's adventure,' slowly said Mrs. Grant. 'I have been lady's maid for fifteen

moment after.'

years,' was the significant reply. 'And hold many family secrets,

responded Mrs. Grant. 'If you only knew what I know cried the little maid.

Mrs. Grant held her hands before her as if the very thought of secrets was like the coming of evil, and the

'I serve my employers. It is no my business to ask if they do well or ill. You command me to keep the secret of your visit to the old willow to-night. No torture could force me to speak of it to any person.'

'And yet it was only the meeting of two long-separated relatives,' was the half-audible reply.

Jane glanced half incredulously across the table before which her

She had been lady's maid too long to believe that relatives met by stealth after midnight. But it mattered little to her; women of of wealth and posi tion would have secrets, and it was no business of hers to pry into them.

There was a general inquiry for Mrs. Grant at the breakfast table the following morning, and Major Grart assured the family that she was rapidly recovering from the attack of the previous evening.

After breakfast, Mr. Mellen cour selor and attorney at law, took his de parture from Laurel Glade.

Mrs. Whitney begged the lean of the earriage in which to accompany her brother to the station.

and the horses were already in the sisted in ruling her household.

along, Mrs. Whitney hastened their departure, lest Mrs. Grant should sud- from a dearly loved friend of Major denly appear and wish to ride with Grant's school days. them, or her husband decide to accompany his brother-in law as far as

the railroad station. Grant Whitney was too indolent to exert himself in the morning, and Mrs. Major Grant felt ill-inclined to meet her brother this morning, and so they departed alone for the station

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with biliousness and sick headache.' writes Mr. A. K. Van Wyck, Park Hill, Ont., "and as all the doctors' medicines and prescriptions latted to do me any permanent good, I had lost faith in all medicines. It was by ac-cident that I came to use Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, for it had been recommedicines and prescriptions failed mended for Mrs. Van Wyck and did

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### CHAPTER XXV THE SUMMONS.

There had been a change for the worst in the health of Mr. Mellen. Doctor Brown had been called, and he candidly informed the patient watcher beside her father's couch of suffering that his days were number

'Farmer Mellen can live but a few days at the most,' he said to May after a careful examination of hi-

expecting this announcement that she had thought herself prepared for it but after all it came like a sudde shock to her

After Doctor Brown had taken h departure, May went to her litte writing desk and wrote two letters. one directed to Mrs. Grant Whitney

'Father is almost gene Dor o leading to his own private bedroom a

> er Mellen, was a faithful outpouring of her bleeding heart, and covered four pages. This letter Christy found waiting for him upon his return from Laurel Glade.

During the ride from that place to the station, Mrs. Whitney had brought all her evidence to bear to prove to her brother that Major Grant's wife was their sister.

Had Christopher been other than a shrewd lawyer that he was, he would never have been able to convince her that she was totally a fau t, and that Mrs. Major Grant had never been Goldie Mellen.

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ALL DRUGGISTS

rode back to Laurel Glade with a half-penitent feeling because of her steady persecution of the Major's Major Grant graciously assured her wife, and for a while hostilities ceasthat her wish had been anticipated, ed, although Mrs. Grant firmly per-

The next morning after the de darture of Christy, the mail brought this opportunity to see her brother two important letters to Major Grant's mansion. One was from the South

> The friend was dying, and his son had been requested to write to his father's nearest and dearest friend outside of his own family, and asked

him to come to his home. Added to the father's request was an urgent note from the son, who

was well known to Major Grant. After reading this letter in 'silence Major Grant passed it across the table to his wife, who glanced down

its page and absently asked: 'Shall you go?'

'I cannot refuse this last request of my old friend, although I regret being obliged to leave you for a few days. You will not miss me much,

'Indeed I sha'l. You must take me with you,' replied Mrs. Grant, now quite recovered from her slight

'Not to the house of death,' grave-

responded her husband. 'I should have known better than to have thought of such a thing. But

you will be soon home again?' 'Probably less than a week will suffice for my journey, was the reply. A slight seream from Mrs. Whitney attracted all attention to her, She obtainable through your dealer within a had received a letter by the morning's reasonable time, send 25c (in stamps) mail, and had delayed opening it un- to us for any article you require til this mement. It was the letter

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from May, and for an instant Mrs Whitney was thrilled with remorse for her long neglect of her kind fath Then came the thought that she

would use this letter as a final test Brown says he can live but a few to determine whether Mrs. Gran had any interest in the name of

'What is it, Belle?' asked Grant Whitney, extending his hand for the 'My father is dying!' she replied

fixing her eyes upon Mrs. Grant' That lady bore the penetrating glance well, and as no one made ar

in a thrilling tone, at the same tim

reply, she said : 'Of course you will go to him a once, and I shall be left almost alone will assist you in getting ready,

Her voice was calm and passionless as she spoke, and that had never called Mrs. Whitney by her christian name before.

'I know that Christopher was right and I was wrong,' thought Mrs. Writney, as she left the room. Paung in the doorway, she said: '1 nust go out to the farm this after noon. Will you go with me, Grant? Grant Whitney shifted his feet from ne position to another before he re-

'Can't possibly, Belle. Should be glad to do so; but, you see, if the Major goes South, somebody must be here to look after the place. I'll carry you over to depot, and meet you there when you return if you let m

'Enough! I thought you might like to go. I can get along as well

without you.' If you insist upon it, Belle.' 'No, indeed! Now I think of il, my brother told me that father was of excited by the presence of strangers. I could not consent to take you there Kingdom.

if your presence would be likely to cause trouble. I will go alone.' With these words Mrs. Whitney went out and closed the door.

That afternoon saw Major Grant and Mrs. Whitney start from Laure Glade-the one for the sunny South

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