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Incomparable Quality and value are the only weapons used.

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25c, 40c, 50c, 60c.

BRILLIANTS.

PART I.
"Four poor and dead on Sunday morning," my father made this announcement at the breakfast table, looking up from an open letter, and looking at his hands, and pronouncing his obituary notice with a mild commiseration, as he was wont to be upon a railway disaster in a far-off land—the sort of comfortable commiseration in which there is no trace of personal interest.

I, his only daughter, was busy attending to the requirements of a trio of thirty brothers from behind the door. I set down the coffee pot and opened my mouth to comment upon this piece of intelligence, but, remembering that the prefix "poor" was for the first time applicable to my Aunt Jane, I changed my intention, putting a reverend bit of toast between my parted lips.

A week hence I was very glad that I had thus quietly held my tongue, for my rich—my "poor"—Aunt Anne, my dead mother's only sister, had remembered her death a niece whom in her life she had studiously forgotten. She had remembered me, I was the sole relative to whom allusion was made in her will.

"To my unknown niece, Sybil Wilmet, my only relative, who, with a claim upon my notice, has, nevertheless, left me unremunerated alike by civility or importunity. I bequeath to her, in full and final settlement, £500, free of legacy duty, with certain diamond ornaments, consisting of a heart-shaped pendant and a marquise ring."

To the undowered daughter of a poor country vicar this sum of money seemed to be a magnificent windfall. My brother's critical remarks concerning the disposal of my poor aunt's wealth were irreverent. I brushed them at least I tried to do so, but John was obstinate and would not be silenced.

"Ump! Let's all the rest to charities, has she?" said he. "Trust poor Aunt Anne to see to her own interests. Hedged, of course, and to do it securely will take a considerable sum. While she was alive she never gave so much as a smile to anyone."

"Hush, John. She is—"

"I know, I am sorry for her. She is dead, poor thing."

I shall never forget my pleasure upon the winter afternoon when Aunt Anne's diamonds came into my possession. I was alone in the house when the registered packet arrived. The drawing-room was retreating darkness. I put the fire into a blaze, and, sitting down on the fender stool, I undid my parcel.

I had never seen a diamond, save on the fat finger of a rich parishioner, who maneuvered her bare hands during my father's Sunday sermons to rays of color from the painted windows upon her sparkling rings. My attention had been attracted by her frivolous behavior. She had outraged my sense of decorum, but I had admired her genius quite as keenly as any of her own.

I need envy her no more. I had a glittering ring of my own. It was mine, here in my agitated fingers. How decorative, how transforming are diamonds! As I turned the diamond ring encircled my finger that work-a-day, commonplace hand of mine became a distinguished personage.

I had twisted the beautiful pendant in the fright, and flashed its brilliance in my eyes. I tried the effect against my hair. I was standing upon the fender stool admiring myself in the mirror above the fireplace when the junior curate came into the room. My heart-shaped pendant was fastened in my hair, the ring was upon my finger. I was excited, excited, all sorts of ambitious, unsettling thoughts had come to me in the fright with my new jewelry. My nineteen years of busy, cheerful, uneventful life had been insipid. I wanted something about me to match my diamonds. The junior curate was as commonplace as his own sister ring. There was no brilliance, nothing dazzling about the abdicating young man.

"Where is the vicar?" I did not answer the question which was the inevitable greeting of the junior curate, and no more required an answer than "How do you do?" I waved my hand slowly, floating over the scintillating points of brilliance that flashed from my jewels.

"There," I said, "look, aren't they exquisite?"

He did as I directed, fixing his eyes on my decorative hand. He lifted his gaze to my elated face.

"I don't care for diamonds," he said. "It is the most tactless remark I ever heard made."

"Don't you care for a picture by Rubens?"

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Ordinary price in large cities,
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100 DUNDAS STREET.

bens or a poem by Shakespeare?" I retorted.

"Not much," said the thick-headed curate stubbornly.

"It is wiser for people who have no cultivation and no taste to have no opinions."

He ignored my meaning, but he spoke sharply.

"You want to flash, wear paste," he said, "only an expert can detect the difference, and paste is harmless. No crime has been committed, no souls sold for love of paste."

When cold water is poured upon red-hot enthusiasm, the result is obvious, feeling fizzes. I told the junior curate what I thought of paste; I explained the difference between genuine and a sham possession. He was unconvinced, but he lost his temper.

"I hate diamonds," he said presently, "they are well enough in themselves, but I hate the sort of people who wear them. Taste is comparatively a harmless vanity; paste doesn't mean capital locked up."

"We have no tastes in common, Mr. Davey," I said, walking to the door, "for I love my diamonds and I take no interest in plumb wickets or maidens over."

Cricket may not be capital locked up, but it is waste of time, and time is money."

I got out of hearing before the junior curate had opportunity to respond and went up to my room with my legacy. I was not to be put out of conceit with my inheritance, but the junior curate's disagreeable remarks must be remembered about my memory, for that night my sleep was disturbed by a dream.

Perhaps my father's warning had something to do with the nightmare that beset me, for when he bade me good-night he looked closely at the ring on my finger.

"Look away your trinkets, dear," he said, "it would be very wrong to leave such valuables about for handy thieves."

I had done as he suggested, before I put my head on the pillow I had locked both pendant and ring in my little dressing case.

The case to which I have alluded began quite pleasantly; it was a vivid, connected, convincing vision. I drove in clouds of ease under an avenue of bare chestnut trees, through sleet and hail, to the porch of an unknown house. I was conducted from the darkness without into a hall glowing with warmth and light. A strange girl came to meet me, and she was the welcome I warmly. I felt at home and happy in this unfamiliar region.

Later my feelings changed; I was surprised among a chattering and merry party, but I was ill at ease and tired. Later still I found myself in an unknown room, in a large cold bedroom, the fire was dying on the hearth and I was seated at a writing table, trying to compose a letter with silvering fingers. I was struggling at my task, writing, rewriting, pausing, thinking.

The case was intense. I got up and went over to the hearth to replenish the fire, but there were no coals in the room. Just then I heard voices in the passage without my quarters; the last guest had long departed, but the servants must be up and about still. I rang my bell.

Almost as I rang, the door opened; the threshold stood a gaunt and old woman, whom I had not seen hitherto. I gave my order, and she disappeared.

I waited a long time, and grew weary of expecting my coals. Suddenly, noiselessly, the great, gaunt woman entered with the scullery maid, and she was looking at me, and my eyes met.

Dreamlike, in a moment, I was sick with an unreasoning terror. I felt the extinguish the live coals with the fuel. I rose to my feet; she had stepped to snatch up something from the room, which the coals had hidden, she had thrown a muscular arm around my neck. I saw a knife in her hand. I was afraid to sleep again lest the nightmare of a dream should return.

Restless, uneasy, frightened, I lay awake until the welcome dawn of the new day drove fear of dreams and burglars off.

(To be continued.)

VIRTUALLY KILLED.
The Bi-Metallic Agitation Gets Its Quiet in the Opinion of the London Press.

London, Oct. 25.—The morning papers comment at length on the correspondence in regard to the bimetallic proposals of the United States monetary commission. The Times says: "While the extent and significance of the American proposals come to be generally understood, we shall be surprised to find that the bimetallic agitation is virtually killed."

This Tells Where Health May Be Found And that is more important than making money. If your blood is impure, Hood's Sarsaparilla is the medicine for you. It cures scrofula, salt rheum, rheumatism, catarrh and all other diseases originating in or promoted by impure blood and low state of the system.

HOOD'S PILLS are easy to take, easy to operate. Cure indigestion, headache.

Caesar did not cross the Rubicon; it lay on the opposite side of the Italian peninsula and from the point where he left his own possessions and entered Italy.

THERE is not a more dangerous class of disorders than those which affect the breathing organs. Nullify this danger with Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil—a pulmonary of acknowledged efficacy. It cures soreness and lameness when applied externally, as well as swollen neck and crick in the back; and, as an inward specific, possesses most substantial claim to public confidence.

Weary Waggles—Kin I see the lady of the house? Bridget—No. She's engaged. Weary Waggles—That's what makes any difference. I don't want her marry her.

Give Holloway's Corn Cure a trial. It removed ten corns from one pair of feet without any pain. What it has done once it will do again.

Closing Day

Of the Dominion W. C. T. U. Convention.

A Series of Resolutions Adopted by the Ladies.

To Enforce Prohibition of Liquor and Gambling in the Klondike—Resolution Condemning Lady Somerset Tabard.

Toronto, Oct. 25.—The Dominion W. C. T. U. convention, at its closing, adopted the following plan of campaign, platform and resolution:

PLAN OF WORK.

The report of the plan of work, which was presented by Mrs. Thornley, was a comprehensive and elaborate correlation of suggestions whereby better and more efficient work might be done. Among other recommendations were the following: That the Dominion Government be approached with a view to obtaining such amendments to the law as will effectively prevent the importation of Chinese women and children and their sale as slaves for immoral purposes; that white ribboners and children be requested to give at least a tenth of their time money for the plebiscite campaign; that the Dominion pledges be amended so that those taking it will promise to abstain from the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, including wine, beer, ale and cider, also opium in the form of patent medicine or otherwise; and to employ all proper means to discourage the use of opium; that a simpler form of petition for equaling with men be signed by women over 21 years of age; that white ribboners prepare for the public campaign by contributing to the liberality of their means as possible towards the expenses; that efforts be made to induce one hundred women to sell a standard brand of unfermented wine; that the unions of the clothing and millinery trades be endeavored to have acts similar to the Neglected Children's Act of Ontario passed by their legislatures; that a portion of a morning or afternoon session be devoted to reading papers and discussing matters relating to work at Dominion, provincial or county conventions.

THE PLATFORM.

The report of the committee on resolutions was read recommending the adoption among others of resolutions to compose a letter with silvering fingers. Resolved, that the basis of this society is total abstinence, total prohibition of the liquor traffic and opium trade, the enfranchisement of women, purity of personal life and international peace and arbitration, and we invite all earnest women who are like-minded with us to join our organization, put on the white ribbon and become soldiers in our peaceful war.

THE PLEBISCITE.

That an emphatic protest be entered against the coupling of direct taxation for any other issue with the plebiscite on prohibition, and also against the proposal that the plebiscite shall not be considered as resulting in favor of prohibition unless more than one-half the vote on the Dominion list shall be cast in its favor.

Regretting that the effort to prevent the running of street cars in Toronto and elsewhere on Sunday was ineffective, and affirming the opposition of the W. C. T. U. to the desecration of the Sabbath in all forms, declaring for the extension of the franchise to women in the Dominion.

Regretting that the senators of the Dominion have seen fit to keep open house for the liquor traffic, and petitioning the government to prohibit the importation and sale of liquor into and forbid gambling in the Klondike.

That the government be petitioned to provide reformatories and homes of refuge for inebriate women of the Dominion, and that the department of narcotics is of growing importance.

That legislation be passed prohibiting fakirs and gambling on fair grounds, and asking the government to withdraw its grant for fairs and exhibitions where it is allowed.

That the W. C. T. U. is unalterably opposed to any and all complicity of the government with sin, and that as British subjects they strongly protest against the enactment of laws restricting the regulation of vice in the military cantonments in India, and declare such laws in all forms, declaring for the extension of the franchise to women in the Dominion.

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DOUBLED UP!
UNABLE TO WORK.
Suffering Agony Day and Night.

"For nearly two years," says Frank J. Wray, 211 Sherburn St., Toronto, "I suffered greatly with lameness and pain in my back. It often happened that my back and kidneys pained me so badly that I was

unable to work. I was doubled up and could hardly walk, except in a stooping position. Very often I was unable to work, suffering agony both day and night. I had severe pain in the lower part of my stomach, and other symptoms which proved conclusively that my kidneys were in a very unhealthy condition. My appetite was lost and my strength declined rapidly."

"I began taking Doan's Kidney Pills in March last, and after using three boxes of this medicine I was completely restored to health. I have not had the slightest pain or stiffness in any part of my back, or any indication of my former trouble, since using these wonderful pills."

"With the restoration of my kidneys to a healthy condition, my appetite was restored, and my strength returned, so that I am now strong and healthy. I make this statement of my cure by Doan's Kidney Pills with the greatest pleasure, because when I commenced taking them I did not really expect to remain a cure as they which followed their use. I am very thankful that I had upon this remedy, and gladly recommend it to all sufferers."

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ASTORIA

for Infants and Children.
The Fac-simile Signature of
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Runians & Butler, DUNDAS STREET.**London's Greatest Store.**

SATURDAY WAS A GREAT DAY AT
The Big Departmental

The crowds came from far and near. It was tramp, incessantly; there was no let up till 10 o'clock, when we were obliged to close the doors. Every town and village within twenty miles was represented in one way or other, and everybody was delighted with the Big store and its bargains. All the specials advertised will be repeated today with many others, which will make this

Another Great Week's Selling

—IN
Millinery, Mantles and Dress Goods.

For with us the success of one week is never high enough mark for the next, and we're determined to wind up October with startling sales and startling bargains. Every day this week.

New Jackets and Capes—Special.

The excellence of our Mantle Stock shows itself in the constant arrival of the latest Parisian and Berlin Novelties. The latest shipment (just passed customs) contains many rich garments of exceptional beauty and rare style.

One case of "New Norfolk Jackets," stands out in bold relief from all others, and should be seen before they are gone. They are very stylish garments, and the economical interest is established in their moderate price, viz.: \$6 50 and \$8 50, well worth \$8 50 and \$10 50.

Runians & Butler

Navigation and Railways.

BLOOD POISON

Navigation and Railways.

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