

THE PEOPLE

The Monday

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The Monday

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Monday

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The Sound of Wedding Bells

Won After Great Perseverance!

CHAPTER VII.

Meanwhile Dulcie has been listening to Lady Falconer's questions, and replying to them—when she likes. They are generally harmless ones. Does she like fancy needlework? Can she do the new crewel stitch? Does Mrs. Fernor knit? What is the present fashion of dress on the Continent?

All these questions Lady Falconer puts in her clear, thin voice, her eyes—they are gray, like Hugh's, but keener and darker—are fixed on the flushed, beautiful face.

"I can't do any fancy work," Dulcie admits; "I don't know the crewel stitch, and the dress—oh, they dress just as we do," and she looks round helplessly, like a strange, wild, beautiful animal caught and immured in a cage with tame ones. Is this the sort of thing that is to go on for six months? If so, certainly she will die of ennui, or scream, or do something dreadful.

Fortunately, Sir Hugh does not take long "to clean" himself, and appears in proper evening costume—Dulcie will never see him in evening clothes without remembering that evening when she met and told him the story of the will in the salon of the Hotel de Vincennes—and eager for his dinner.

A bell is rung, though for what reason, seeing that all who intend to dine are there together in the drawing-room, no one knows, and Sir Hugh offers his arm to his mother.

"They cross the hall and enter another long, low-roofed room, paneled in oak, and hung at intervals with tapestry—as old as the house itself. It is more like a cathedral than ever, and Dulcie feels that it would be no

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meet the duchess?" Then she stops and almost blushes at the slip, but Dulcie is not abashed.

"The duchess?" she says, in her clear voice, that seems actually loud in comparison with those of the others. "No, I was not in the way of meeting anything so high and grand. Aunt and I stayed at an hotel where most of the people were plain misters and missesses. Oh! we had one baronet, though, but he didn't come until just as we left—Sir Archibald Hope," and she smiles as she thinks of the golden hair and blue eyes of poor smitten Sir Archie.

"Archibald Hope," says Lady Falconer. "Oh, he is an old friend of ours. And you met him?"

Dulcie nods, and as she looks up she beholds Sir Hugh's eye fixed on her, and to her great annoyance the color persists upon coming to her cheeks. The vision of that struggle in the streets, upon Sir Archie's arm, and what these precise people would think of it all, rises before her.

"Yes," she says. "We saw—something of him!" Oh, Dulcie, when he was at your heels and sitting in your pocket all day! "He was very nice."

Lady Falconer smiles indulgently. "Oh, yes, Sir Archibald was always a great favorite of ours. Did you see him, Hugh?"

Sir Hugh nods.

"Yes," he says, curtly.

Lady Falconer laughs tartly. "And what is he doing in Rome? Falling in love, I suppose, as usual?"

Sir Hugh makes some kind of inarticulate sound, and carefully avoids Dulcie's eyes, which are fixed on the cloth, her face crimson.

"Poor Sir Archie!" goes on Lady Falconer. "You must know," she adds, looking at Dulcie, who has mastered her color by this time, "he is one of the most impressionable of men. It is said of him that he falls in love regularly every week."

Dulcie looks up with a sudden flash.

"Does it hurt him very much?" she asks, quoting from a popular song.

Lady Falconer, never having heard the song, is, naturally, a little startled, but she is too well-bred to look even confused, though Miss Maud's placid eyes open a little wider than usual.

"No," she says; "that is the best of it. It doesn't seem to hurt him at all. If he falls in love on Monday he falls out of it on Saturday, and is quite ready to begin on Monday again."

"Taking Sunday as a rest," says Dulcie.

Lady Falconer looks rather taken aback.

"Y—es," she says, and touches her lips with her lace pocket-handkerchief. "When is he coming home, Hugh? Perhaps we could persuade him to pay us a visit."

"I don't know," says Sir Hugh.

"Oh!" says Dulcie, with a smile, as she remembers Sir Archie's plaintive appeal. "He won't require much persuasion. He was saying when we left that he hoped you would ask him."

There is a moment's silence at this candid statement, but Lady Falconer recovers herself, and smiles calmly. "That was very nice of him. We shall be very glad indeed. I will write to him."

"Oh, no, no! it was very interesting," says Dulcie, remorsefully; "it was indeed; I like it very much—when some one else is doing it! I always sympathize with the gentleman who declared that the most exquisite pleasure in life was to sit on a sunny bank by the road-side and watch another man break stones."

At this appalling confession there, falls an intense silence, broken suddenly by Hugh's rare laugh.

Eddie's classical performance comes to an end at this moment, and Lady Falconer's voice is heard in the distance.

"Are you too tired to play for us, Miss Dorrimore?"

(To be Continued.)



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Imperial News

Messages Received Previous to 9 A.M.

BRITISH STILL HOLDING IMPORTANT POSITIONS.

British Front in France and Belgium, Sept. 21.—This morning British still holding strong strategic positions which they have taken from the Germans. The fighting process is effective, and the preventing the Germans from regaining their reserves is going on. Importance of the new ground lies in the fact that it was held and, taking in the ridge in the Anzac's flag now flies and extends southward and constituting the stone of the German advance. Yesterday swept with irreparable loss. Aside from a local operation at the northwest of Gheluvelt, the British of the Anzac stronghold was changed. The Germans had left this front during the night, showed considerable activity, immediately to the north and west of St. Julien the enemy had evening for a counter attack. The British turned heavy rifle and machine gun fire into their ranks and dispersed them with heavy losses. Fighting yesterday was very important. The enemy set out immediately to hold this position, when once forced from the line they were defending, continued to fight the attack in an effort to capture the British. During the day no less than counter attacks were delivered on front north of Anzac, but each were the assaulting troops were repelled back. Throughout this day the British continued to improve their position, reaching out here and there to occupy a position which would give

