

THE FAIR IMPOSTOR.

CHAPTER IX.

THE LION AND THE MOUSE.

THE park was almost as deserted as the streets; the row, which only a few short weeks ago was all alive with thoroughbreds and their riders, was a lonely wilderness, through which trotted a butcher boy on a shaggy pony. All was silent, save the squealing of a baby on a passing perambulator, and the click-click of a guardsman's spurs, as he walked beside the nursemaid who had the miserable infant in charge.

He sulkily sat puffing out his cigarette, and staring so fixedly under half-closed eyelids at the row that presently it seemed to fade altogether, and in its place rose the brilliant vision of a crowded theater, with every eye turned upon a tall, girlish figure, as it moved with lithe grace across the vast stage; this, in its turn, faded, and in its place rose a cottage in a quaint street, with a girl—the same girl—standing with white face and flashing eyes, one hand clasped against her bosom, the other raised and pointed a dismissal.

What this second phantom of the brain might have developed into cannot be known, for, as if impatient of the scene, Dawson Slade sat upright, flung his cigarette away and got out another.

'Strange,' he muttered—and he might as safely spoken aloud, for all there was to hear him. 'Strange how this misery clings to me! It is very hard that I can't sit down quietly anywhere for five minutes without her face coming like a nightmare! Is it the heart, or the stomach? Indigestion or—love?' He uttered the last word with an eloquent impatience and irritation. 'Be it what it may, I can't get rid of it, and I've tried—tried hard,' he mused, a mirthless smile crossing his handsome face, as the recollection of his life during the last few months rose before him. 'Man is a strange animal,' he went on; 'give him what he longs for, and in a few short days—or weeks—or months—he is only too desirous to be rid of it! Who knows, perhaps if I had got all I wanted—if she had listened to me that night, instead of sending me out of her sight like a beaten hound, I should not have been haunted by her real face, as I am by the memory of it. Haunts me? Yes, that's the word. It sleeps with me at night, rises in the morning, mixes in my claret and hovers round the smoke from my cigar. If that isn't being haunted, I don't know what it is. And I cannot lay the ghost: that is the rough part of it! I've tried—been—' he paused, and let his fingers, upon which he was abstractedly about to tell of the various amusements and dissipations of the last few months, drop to his side.

'Phaw!' he said, abruptly. 'I'll have done with it! A Schoolboy, in

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his first love throes, couldn't have a worse attack than mine, and for what? All for a girl with dark eyes—an actress, who flung my honorable proposal in my face, and then, to escape a repetition of it, disappeared from civilization. Yes, I've done with it! he added, resolutely; but two minutes afterward he was harking back on the same strain. 'What became of her?' he mused. 'Where is she? Is she alive—or dead?' At this point of his mental question his lips twitched. 'Not dead,' he said, communingly, 'or I should know it. I feel I should know it somehow! But she might be as well dead as alive for me; and yet I stop in this cursed frying pan of a city, deserted by every reasonable creature, brooding over this fancy of mine, when all the world lies before me! Dawson, my friend, you are a consummate ass! Let the girl go and forget her! Go to the theater and fall in love with some other weep; go—oh, go so to the devil rather than stay here brooding over the miserable chapter of the past! Another pause; then: 'Yes, it's the stomach. Is it gout—suppressed gout? No; we don't get it until we're forty. It's dyspepsia. I wonder how Baden-Baden is looking? If one could only go and lose a thousand or two at the tables, as one used to be able to do before the prigs shut them up, there'd be some fun at it. But I've tried that, though,' he said, with a vague smile of recollection, 'and it didn't amuse me a bit. No; argue with and bully myself as I may, the girl's face haunts me, and I shall never know peace until I learn whether she is alive or dead, until I see her again!'

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There was no occasion to do more in the way of restoration, for with that heavy sigh by which the sleeping soul proclaims its reluctance to return to this hard life of ours, she opened her eyes, and, raising her hand to her forehead, stared wildly at him.

It was not the same he had known at a glance; it might not have been thought so strikingly like it if the two faces could have been side by side; but here, away from that never-to-be-forgotten one, the resemblance struck every chord of his nature, and set his blood tingling. For another reason than by that of self-possession, he had remained silent; he was waiting, with well-concealed eagerness to hear her speak.

Slowly, painfully, she drew her jacket round her, put up her finger to still the quivering lips, then turned her eyes—dark, almost black, and, with a world of expression in them—upon him.

'I am afraid I have fainted,' she said. Dawson Slade's lips twitched. There, again! The voice was not unlike some faint echo in it resembled that of the great actress.

'Yes,' he said, 'I am sorry to say you are right. Are you better?'

'Thank you, yes,' she replied. 'I am afraid I have given you a great deal of trouble—and annoyance.'

As she spoke she looked into his eyes questioning, ready to withdraw them, with cold restraint, if his handsome face had looked a bad one; but that was just what Slade's face did not look. No friend of his had ever for a minute deceived himself with the idea that Slade was a good man, and his enemies, to a man, were ready to proclaim him a bad one.

There were some of the latter, those of the fair sex, who had gone further, and called him a very devil. But no greater mistake can be made than that common one, which paints the father of all evil black and ugly, and imagines that his servants and followers share in his serviteness. As a rule—mark this—your bad man is good looking. It is the men with high foreheads and large mouths, broad noses and odd eyes who make the exemplary husbands and pattern fathers. It is your man with the clean-cut, Grecian type of face, with the low Roman forehead and cupid-on lips which does so much mischief in the world, and soeth up and down like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour. Only he doesn't roar, for, as a rule, his voice is soft, and sweet, and musical, and lured to destruction.

(To be continued.)

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Alexander Street	K	Chytman, Cliley. St. John's East. late schr. Olive Dalton, J. J. Dandson, Mrs. Jennie. Circular Road	L	Dawe, Miss Mary. Crosbie Hotel Dalais, F. O. Deer, Mrs. James. Boat House Lane	M	Droge, Mrs. Milley. care General Post Office Douglas, G. C. Prescott St. Donovan, James, McKay St. Doyle, Edward, card. Hoylestown	N	Dowling, Jesse (slip). G. P. O. Ducey, Miss Lillie. G. P. O. Mrs. McGottigan. Leslie St. Dunphy, Miss Nellie. G. P. O.	O	England, Mr., Cabot Street Edgar, Charles, Brazil Sq. Eaton, P. M., card. Eskiel, Nellie, retd. Escott, Mark.	P	Faley, John, card. Branch Railway Foley, William, G. P. O. Fleet, J. Fitzpatrick, Minnie, card Flynn, J. P. Foster, Robert. Foote, E. J., Gower St.	Q	Furlong, Richard, Carew St. Fitzgerald, W., Queen's Rd.	R	Grant, Wm. T. Garland, T. H., card. Cochrane Street Greenfield, J. G. Harvey, W. H. late Engloe Gillette James Gosse, Master Wm. Gosse, Mrs. T., retd. Gurrie, Wm.	S	Harvey, W. Allan Harvey, Miss Janet. Hampton, Rebecca, retd. Harvey, L., retd. Hathaway, Miriam. late New York	T	Hartney, James, York St. Herbert, S. E. Henson, Miss M. late New York Henebury, Mr. late Steam Coopers	U	Hynes, Patrick J., care General Delivery Hynes, Mrs. J. Hodder, Angus, card Howell, Treath. Hatt, Robert, teacher Howley, Margaret, retd. Hutchings, Wm., agent Hunt, Lizzie Hunt, Mrs. M. Hustin, Joseph Harris, Rev. F. F. Henry, James. Hoel, Jessie, Military Road Humby, Mrs. James. Summers' Field	V	Irons, D. McKenzie. care General Delivery	W	Jeans, Miss, Blackhead Jackson, Reg., late Halifax Jackman, Michael. Patrick Street Keeffe, Mary, retd. Keen, Michael Kennedy, Mr. A., barber Kelly, Mr., Water St. West Kehoe, Maggie, retd. King, Miss Jane. House Square	X	Kushener, D. Kennedy, Miss George Keene, Richard, retd. Lane, Mrs. Sarah. Adelaide Street	Y	Lannon, Mrs. John Lewis, C. F. Levin, Simon Leonard, Mrs. S. Loh, Thomas. late Goose Bay Branch Lucas, Mrs. John, card. George's St.	Z	Martin, Miss F. Marks, S., care Miss Butt Casey's Street	AA	Martin, Alfred. care Gen. Post Office Maher, Miss Lizzie. care General Delivery Malone, Mrs. Victoria St. Mansfield, Mrs. E. Springfield. care General Delivery	AB	Malone, J. J. Maher, L., bank Maloney, Miss Katie Mead, Miss Emma. Duckworth St.	AC	Myrden, James, card. Water Street Meadus, Mrs. Henry T. Flynn, J. P. Morgan, John. late Bell Island	AD	Molloy, Maggie. Henne Mill Road Moore John W., rtd. Murray, Mrs. Mary A. Bannerman St.	AE	Murphy, Miss Mary G. Queen Street Muggford, Miss J. E. Bond Street Mackay, Miss J. E. Bond Street Martery, Mrs., Ropewalk	AF	McLaren, G. S. McNally, Daniel McDonald, H., card McGrath, Mrs. McCarthy, Wm. Walsh's Square	AG	McNash, Mrs. F. McDougal, Ronald. York Street	AH	McArdle, Hugh McGuire, Gordon, agent McGuire, Miss Mary, card. McGuire, Mrs. Wm., Rennie Mill Road	AI	Newell, Mrs. Michael Noleman, J., card Noseworthy, Harry Noseworthy, Wm., Freshwater Rd.	AJ	O'Neill, Miss Mary. George's St. O'Neill, B., P. O. box 145 Olson, Racine	AK	Parrott, S. Parsons, Miss Janie. Parsons, P., photographer Penny, Miss Nell. New Gower Street	AL	Pearcey, Miss. care Joseph Adams Penney, Miss Annie. Battered Road	AM	Perry, George. Seaman's Mission Phelan, Miss Lizzie. care John Whelan Pike, Mrs. Bond Street	AN	Piercey, Samuel. Hagerty's Lane Pike, Hannah, card Pike, Wm. H. Blackmarsh Road	AO	Pippy, Ethel Pitcher, E., Queen St. Power, Mrs. Thos. Barron Street	AP	Pottle, Mrs. T. retd. Power, Miss Mary A. Adelaide Street	AQ	Puddister, Miss Mary Phelan, Miss. Duckworth St.	AR	Ryan, J. J., Prospect St. Ryan, Mrs. Mary. Plymouth Road	AS	Ryan, Mrs. Robert Ryan, Michael, card. late Cape Breton	AT	Rendell, Miss M. Rowe, G. A. General P. Office	AU	Ross, Mrs. Martin, card. Roberts, M. C., card. - Rosstiter, Miss Alice. Hutchings' St.	AV	Roberts, M. C. late Montreal Rose, Robert Stage, Miss Madge. McDougal Street	AW	Smitt, L. Shyne, Abraham. Duckworth Street	AX	Stevenson, F. G. late Glace Bay Stewart, Jessie H. Mrs. Sexton, Miss E., Notre Dame Street	AY	Stornburg, H. H. Sheppard, Mrs. Capt., Military Road	AZ	Smith, Mrs. J. E., cottage Smith, Mrs. Chas., Blackmarsh Road	BA	Smith, Miss Lillie, card. Smith, Miss Elsie J., New Gower Street	BB	Short, C. L., Nain Cottage Shortall, J. J., LeMarchant Road	BC	Strong, Mrs. George. late Twillingate Snow, Isaac, Barnes' Road Somerton, Elizabeth, retd. Short, C. L., York Street	BD	Soper, Mrs. Joe, slip Squires, Miss May Squires, Mrs. Wm., Rennie Mill Road	BE	Squires, B. H. Shinnott, John J., retd. Scappens, J. H. Sullivan, John. late s.s. Bruce	BF	Tarrant, C. F., card Tracey, Mamie, card. Gower Street	BG	Taylor, Bertram. late Norris' Arm	BH	Turrell, Benjamin, card. South Side	BI	Taylor, A. South Side Thomson, Miss Minnie. Colonial Street	BJ	Tillene, Phil. Tilley, Mrs. Jas. G. Barter's Hill	BK	Thomas, M. New Gower Street	BL	Thompson, Mrs. Robert. Prospect Street	BM	Turpin, William, Gear St. Tuik, Mrs. J. A. late Grand Falls	BN	Verge, Miss Mary E. Vincent, Mrs. George. Lime Street	BO	Way Archibald. Gower Street	BP	Walsh, Miss Mary. Long Pond Road	BQ	Way, Miss B., Prescott St. Way, Kenneth, care Franklin & Co.	BR	Walsh, Mrs. J., South Side Walsh, John, card. Watson, Mrs. H. A. Whelan, Miss Mary. Gower Street	BS	Webber, Arch, Field St. Webber, Mrs. J. New Gower Street	BT	Whelton, J. J., card. Wellon, J. J. Wells, James. White, A. T. Clergy House, Bonavista	BU	White, Capt. George. Young Street	BV	Windsor, John. Windsor, D. W. Whiteaway, Isaac. Plymouth Road	BW	Wilson, J. C., retd. White, C. S., South Side Windsor, Mrs. J. A. White, E. A., card. White, C. A. Woodland, Herbert. Woodridge, Mrs. Ethel. Mullock Street	BX	Woodworth, J. B. Yoe, Mrs. Thomas. Adelaide Street
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SEAMEN'S LIST.

A	Goldsmith, Charlie, schr. Albatra Shears, Parson. schr. Albatra	B	De Camba, Arthur. A. H. White	C	Wall Emanuel, schr. Bessie Jennex Francis, Alex., schr. B. G. Anderson Morris, Capt. Wm., schr. G. B. Anderson Batstone, Capt. Thomas, schr. Bonanza	D	Hopkins, Henry, schr. Dorothy Baird	E	Ryan, John Joseph, schr. Excelida Stick, J., schr. E. P. Morris	F	Bond, Walter, schr. Florence M. Smith Penny, Albert, s.s. Fiona Morris, Gerald, brig Fleetwing Atkinson, Capt. N., Favorna	G	Hibb, James J., schr. Gladys Whidden	H	Herman, Alex., schr. Gladys-Whidden Winsor, Arthur, schr. Golden Hind Mant, F. H., schr. Gladys Whidden	I	Hansen, Capt., schr. Jose Olsen, Capt. Jac., s.s. Knudsen Seddon, G., s.s. Kanawha Grandy George, schr. Kitchener	J	Barquet, Capt., schr. Madelina Heslop, Capt., s.s. Magda White, John, schr. Winnie Spencer	K	Mason, Firth, schr. Margaret May R. Nannon, Mrs. John, schr. Northern Light Mossman, Laurence, schr. Parana	L	Wiseman, Robert, schr. Reginald Anotey Bates, R., schr. Rose O'Hara, James, s.s. St. Vincent	M	Pette, Henry, schr. Toboatid Rodgers, Captain, schr. Water Lilly Keeping, Wm., s.s. Wasis
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