

could find no other place that pro- ceeded to suit us equally well, a large room was quickly struck, and three days later ourselves and baggage were comfortably installed in our new home. The house, to be sure, was far too large for the requirements of my myself and wife, and our little girl, Mim, 8 years old, my wife's sister, and two stout Breton laasas to wait upon us; but we put such of the rooms as we did not require under lock and key, and feminine tastes soon gave the others a comfortable home-like appearance.

Our life at Maison Oris was, of necessity, a very quiet one, many people might have called it a dull life, but we did not find it so. Our mornings were variously occupied - my wife in looking after the needful domestic economies; Laura's in settling into Mim's mind some of those multifarious items of knowledge which form the sum of a modern young lady's accomplishments; while I worked on steadily at my great picture, growing more in love with it from day to day, as, bit by bit, the idea I was striving to work out took shape and color under my brush. Our afternoons were spent mostly on the sands; and music, chess, and reading charmed the evening hours. We had brought a tolerable box of books with us, and an intermittent shower of newspapers and periodicals kept us from stagnation, and told us how the busy world was wagging.

I had chosen one of the best apartments in the house for my painting room. It had been the dining saloon once on a time, and had a large multi-paned window fronting the north, consisting of small diamond-shaped panes set in lead, with thin iron bars running across at intervals, and having the family lozenge lot in, high up, in painted glass. After the fashion of the period from which this window dated, a small easement opened out of its middle compartment; but the hump of this easement being defective, Mim had found out a ready way of opening it from the outside by means of a bit of crooked wire; and sometimes when I was busy with my brush and palette, the mimic would cease from trundling her hoop in the garden, and wait with her nose pressed against the window for the encouragement of a nod or a half-smile; taking which as a permission, she would manipulate for a few moments with her bit of crooked wire, which she kept on the sill beside her, and, as the easement, till the hump yielded, and the easement opened, when she would creep demurely through, and steal on tiptoe to my side. Two doors opened into this room; one from a corridor which ran through the lower part of the house, the other from a corner of the verandah which led by a descent of two or three steps into the garden. Why I am thus particular in my description of this room, will appear by and by.

My great picture, as I have called it, and which I had fully determined in my own mind should be an advance on all my previous efforts, was a scene from "The Lady of Shalott," where the boat, which the poor lady has found under the willows, is floated by the tide, with its silent burden, into "many-towered" Camelot; and "knight and burglar, lord and dame" crowd on to the wharfs, marvelling who this may be. But besides this, I had another picture on hand, to which I could turn for relief when the necessity for change came upon me. This second picture was a commission of my friend, Sir Richard Thornfield, at whose house in the Peak I had been staying a short time previously; and had reference to a rather singular legend which had been current in his family for several centuries; for the Thornfields were quite ancient enough to have an apparition of their own, and I never lightly might see to regard it as a mere fancy. It was never noticed before, that the old house looked older and grayer, showed the scars and bruises of age more clearly by that cold half-light of early morning than when seen at any other time, even under the bright sun of mid day. As I stepped under the verandah, I saw with some surprise that the door in front of me was shut. It was a swing-door that shut of its own accord unless fastened back, and on leaving it overnight, I had propped it open with a chair; but the chair was now gone, and the door closed. Wondering a little by what means this had come about, I pushed open the door, and went in. As I entered the room I mechanically let go the door, which swung to, and shut me in; and the same instant I felt, rather by intuition than by the action of any more positive sense, that I was shut up with something that had no business there - with something terrible. I had but one brief instant to look round; but next, my wondering gaze fixed itself upon two great blazing eyes staring balefully at me from a dusky corner of the room; but in that one second of time my mind took to the fallen chair, the great oval glass in the center of the room, my easel in one corner, a broken doll of Mim's on the floor; while other familiar objects further away in the big room stood glared indistinctly through the dim gray light creeping slowly through the thick panes of the old window; when the eyes took me, and in the first awful shock with which the sight of them thrilled me, I think that I could hardly have turned my head away even to

save my life. They glared at me unwinkingly from the semi-obscure of the corner with a sort of concentrated ferocity in their glare which chilled my very heart's blood. To what strange monster crouching there, those busy orbs belong? Not long was I left in doubt. With a snarl, loud, deep, and ferocious, with an arching and bristling of its massive back, with its mouth ginning murder, with one crouching step backward, as if to give itself more leverage for a spring; and with one mighty rush, the Tiger was upon me. I fell as though smitten by a thunderbolt, a blood red light danced for an instant before my eyes, and then came a darkness as of death. My senses came back but slowly. I awoke by degrees to a consciousness of life.

Where had I been, and what had happened to me? Ah, the tiger! I remembered everything now. In that first moment of semi-consciousness, after opening my eyes, I awoke slightly, and tried to turn over; but scarcely had I stirred a limb, when the tiger, which was crouching on the floor close by my shoulder, put forth his paw again, as though afraid I was going to escape him, and brought it down on the upper part of my right arm; at the same moment his claws slid from their sheaths like so many lightning bolts, and penetrated through the thick cloth of my shooting coat deep into my flesh. A shriek of anguish involuntarily escaped my lips, to which the beast responded with a muffled roar; and then, for the second time, I fainted.

My poor scatered wits, on dragging themselves painfully together for the second time, seemed intuitively cognizant of the danger that beset me. Every nerve and fibre in my body seemed to whisper "Beware!" I was conscious of the presence of my terrible adversary before I opened my eyes; I felt that to move even an arm or a leg might be my death-warrant; I lay there like one dead, slowly gathering my energies to meet the ordeal still before me. At length, I ventured to open my lips a little way, and to take a silent observation of the enemy, and of my own position. The tiger was still crouched at full length within a couple of feet of my right shoulder, one paw protruded a little further than the other, ready, doubtless, to grasp at me again, in case of any sudden movement on my part. He was a splendid brute, full grown, to all appearance, and gaily striped, after the immemorial fashion of his family; and under almost any other circumstances, I should have admired him hugely. Every quarter of a minute or so he gave his huge tail a slow, solemn whisk, bringing it down with a dull thud on the uncarpeted floor. It seemed to me, but perhaps I was too selfish, that there was a look of quiet satisfaction, of grim enjoyment about him, as he lay thus, gazing at me through contracted lids with eyes of yellowish green, that never wavered or turned away for a single instant. He seemed to feel himself so thoroughly master of the situation, that he was in no hurry to proceed to extremities. Perhaps it was gratifying to his feelings to find one of the hated race of men so completely in his power. Occasionally, he opened his mouth to its fullest extent, and yawned silently; and it makes me shudder even now when I remember the terrible array of teeth visible at such times. Once and again, he would give his lips an anticipatory lick with his great red tongue, while his whiskers quivered like those of a cat that is watching a bird.

It was broad daylight by this time, and such of the familiar features of the room as I could see without stirring my head were just as they had been at last night. The tiger, which I could only conclude to have escaped from some menagerie, had doubtless come prowling about the house in search of shelter, and finding the studio door invitingly open, had walked in, overturning the chair in his passage, and had made for himself a snug lair on some discarded drapery in one corner, till roused by my entrance. But for my carelessness in leaving open the door of the painting-room, I should never have found myself in this perilous position. Instead of being close to the door by which I was standing when the tiger sprang upon me, I now found myself lying on a square of Persian carpet, and in close proximity to the second door, which opened out of a corridor in the house, immediately opposite to me, on the other side of the room, was the large old fashioned window of which I have already spoken, towards which the tiger's back was now turned. In a direct line between the tiger and the window, supported by two wooden uprights, and covered with green baize stood the oval glass, behind which the window was partly hidden, one side only of it being visible from where I lay. At the same time, I had been gathering up my energies to meet the fate that loomed up so imminently before me with whatever of courage and composure was possible to me. My chances of escape seemed very faint indeed, but none the less did I keep revolving one scheme after another in my brain - never more subtly active, never throbbing with fuller life than in that hour of my extremity - only to reject them one by one as utterly hopeless. Alas! for me there seemed no help on earth.

A dull vague despair, in spite of my efforts to the contrary, was beginning to settle down over my soul, when, bringing my eyes to rest once more on the brute beside me, I saw a thrill of hope, that his unwavering eyes had closed at last. He was asleep, with one paw laid against my shoulder, ready to grasp me should I stir. A sudden matter truly, to cause me to thrill with hope, and I could not help accepting the fact, trifling as it was, as an augury of good promise. Lightly and delicately the tiger slept as lightly as any maiden dreaming of her lover, and waiting for his coming. I ventured to open my eyes a little wider, and a moment afterwards, a slight mist my gaze which stirred my soul to its very depths, and would have drawn from me some cry or movement of surprise, had not the painful lesson of a few minutes before been still so fresh in my memory.

What I saw was the white agonized face of my wife peering in through that corner of the window not hidden by the oval glass, and Laura's face, so severely less anguish-stricken, gazing over her shoulder. They had discovered my dangerous position; would they be able to help me? My wife's eyes and mine met in a long, yearning, heart-felt gaze across the little space that kept us asunder. I had scarcely had time to breathe before their dear eyes were before me, and their meaning was plain to me now. They told of love and pity in a way that no words could have done, and yet breathed, wild, a spirit of hope and consolation almost divine, as though wishing me not to forget that both her fate and mine were, in the hands of a merciful Power, with whose permission not even a ground can fall to the ground.

Suddenly, Laura whispered something in my wife's ear, and a flash passed over the faces of both. Then Laura held up her hands in a way that made me grasp her idea in an instant. She was going to communicate with me by means of the manual alphabet - called by some people "the deaf and dumb alphabet" - with which I was both well acquainted. One by one she spelled out the words as she formed them, letter by letter, with her fingers. Her first communication ran thus:

"Courage we are praying for you with our hearts, and working for you with our hands. We are trying to devise some means of rescue, and do not despair of success."

Then they both kissed their hands to me, and went back out of sight. I knew they would come again in a little while; that they had merely left me in order to talk over some scheme of escape. And what chance of escape was there indeed for me? None, none that I could discern.

Presently they returned, and Laura had Mim in her arms whom she lifted up to look through the window at poor papa. The child was frightened when she saw the great brute beside me, and turning away, put her arms around aunt's neck and burst into sobs. A low growl from the tiger warned us all that the least disturbance might be fatal to me. Laura took the child away to my wife remained by the window, her hands clasped one in the other her head drooping against the stonework, gazing at me through the panes with tearless despairing eyes. In a little while, Laura and Mim came back; and Mim, no longer terrified, now looked through the window at me, and smiled and kissed her hand. Then came another message, worked out by Laura's nimble fingers:

"We have thought of a plan, which, with Heaven's help, we hope will succeed. Lie perfectly still, and do not be surprised at anything you may see or hear. God bless you!"

A minute or two later, my ears, preternaturally alive - detected a faint rasping sound, which I had heard many a time before, only this time it was fainter and more cautious than usual. It was the noise made by Mim when she opened the casement from the outside by means of a piece of crooked wire. Fat as the noise was, the tiger pricked up his ears, and gave utterance to another low, deep-throated warning. The noise ceased for a little while, to commence again about a minute later; and this time the beast did not deign to notice such a petty interruption of the prevailing quietude. In a little while the noise ceased, but whether the casement was now open or shut, I had no means of judging - hidden from view as that part of the window was behind the oval glass. But even if they had succeeded in opening the casement, in what way could that fact conduce to my deliverance? Had I even possessed of the tiger's permission to use such a mode of exit, the casement was far too small to admit of my passing through it.

Laura coming back to the window, telegraphed to me for the third time with her fingers:

"All is prepared; wait and be silent. Our hearts are with you."

Dear ones! that their hearts were with me, I never for one moment doubted; nor that whatever womanly wit, sharpened by the most devoted love, could do for my deliverance, could be accomplished by those two!

My wife, Laura and Mim were now all gone, and I was left alone with the sleeping tiger. A short space of the most intense silence followed, and then my ear, hungrier anxiously for some sound, detected a faint rustling in the direction of the window, but so faint, so like a whisper of silence itself, that

I could not be sure of its being anything more than the rustling of a leaf, or the falling of a feather. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before. I waited in vain for a second sound, but the rustling ceased, and I was left in the same state of suspense as before.

### Scoff and Cough.

The man who scoffs at friendly advice to "take something for that cough," will keep on coughing, until he changes his mind or changes his earthly residence. Singular, isn't it, how many stubborn people persist in gambling, with health as the stake, when they might be effectually cured of cough, cold, or lung trouble, by a few doses of

### Ayer's Cherry Pectoral.

This testimonial will be found in full in Ayer's "Cure-book" with a hundred others. Free. Address: J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

In any ordinary mood it would not have reached my senses at all. Although his eyes were still closed, and he was to all appearances asleep, I saw, by a slight pricking of the tiger's ears, that the noise had not been unnoticed by him. It was with a sort of sickening anxiety, which I vainly should try to describe, that I awaited whatever might happen next. Suddenly my heart gave a great bound, and I felt that there was some one in the room beside myself. There had been no noise, no movement, further than the one of which I have just spoken, and yet all at once I knew that I was not alone - knew by some delicate intuitive sense, by some subtle, spiritual affinity between myself and the intruder, which is as much a mystery to me now as it was then. The tiger, too, seemed to have had his suspicions aroused. First, his whiskers twitched nervously; then he half opened his heavy lids, and gazed at me with his yellow-green eyes, in which there was a smouldering ferocity that might leap into a blaze any moment; while his tail began to curve uneasily, and from his cavernous throat there issued a muffled growl of menace, long drawn but. Oh, the soul-wearing anxiety of those few moments! Even now I shudder when I recall them.

With half-shut eyes, I watched and waited. The intense silence of the room was unbroken. At once, with out any warning sound or intimation of what was coming, I saw a white hand and slender white arm protruded from behind the chequer glass. "Great Heaven!" I cried to myself, "that is the hand and arm of my darling Mim!" and my eyes blurred over with tears, and all my heart went forth in a great cry to Heaven to protect and save my child.

When I could bear to look again, the hand and arm were gone, but the object for which so much had been ventured was safely accomplished. Fastened to the curtain of green baize which covered the chequer glass were two brass rings, and to one of these rings Mim's little hand now succeeded in hooking a thin cord. So much I at once discovered, although for what purpose the cord had been thus attached, I was utterly at a loss to conceive. I was, however, far too anxious just then regarding Mim's safety to give more than a passing thought to any other subject, however strange. But so cautious, as well as brave, was my little darling, that not the faintest sound betrayed her presence, till, as I was afterwards told, she had reached the casement, and was about to be drawn through it by her aunt, when her foot slipped, and her head coming in contact with the stonework of the window, she gave utterance to a low cry of pain. That cry thrilled through me; but no sooner did the tiger hear it, than he started up with a roar that seemed to shake the room, and the same instant the claws of his right foot buried themselves in my shoulder, only to be withdrawn the next moment, so as to enable him to turn himself round, which he did with one sudden swing of his huge body, standing now with his face to the chequer glass and the window, from which point he evidently sniffed danger. Fortunately he did not attempt to go near the window, otherwise poor Mim's fate must have been sealed before she could have escaped through the casement. As it was, the brute contented himself with standing directly over my body, and giving utterance to a series of terrific roars, such as might well have made the stoutest heart in my position quail with fear. Did some instinct dimly apprise him that he was in danger of losing his prey - that the dainty dinner of man flesh which he had made his own so easily and over which he had luxuriated for the last hour or two, dwelling in imagination on the delicious feast to come, was about to be spirited from him? Be that as it may, the tiger was quiescent no longer; the crisis of my fate, either for salvation or destruction, was evidently at hand.

Mim was safe by this time; I had a glimpse of her white face as the Breton nurse hurried with her past the window; and I could now afford to turn my mind to the consideration of my own danger; and truly my prospect of deliverance seemed at that moment a faint one indeed. The tiger's suspicions were thoroughly aroused. He had now taken to walking round and round me in an unending circle, sniffing at me from time to time, and growling to himself, while I

lay with shut eyes stimulating death as closely as possible. Suddenly he stopped in his walk, and fell back a pace or two from me; and at the same instant there burst from his throat a loud, snarling yell, half of rage and half of fear. The cord hooked on to the ring by Mim had been pulled from outside the window; the sheet of green baize had fallen away from before the chequer glass, and the startled beast, turning at the sound, saw reflected therein another tiger and another man. With him to see and to act were one. His tail lashed his sides once or twice as he stood gazing for a moment at this intruder on his territory; then, still snarling viciously to himself, with contracted body, and all his huge muscles quivering with excitement, he worked his way backward almost to the door, so as to give himself more room for his spring; then all at once curving his body into an arch, and bringing his grinning muzzle nearly to the ground, he shot over like a flash of yellow light, aiming straight at the reflection of himself in the glass. Carried by the immense impetus of his spring, he shot clean through the glass and the woodwork behind it, coming out on the other side, bleeding and partly stunned, and quite as much frightened, I suspect, as either. But at the first sound of shattered glass, and before the soared beast had time to recover his presence of mind, the door behind me was suddenly opened, and my two good angels rushed in, seized me as I lay, and with strength which at any other time would have astonished themselves, they lifted me lightly up, and swung me out of the room. It was the work of a moment. Laura's bold device had succeeded, and I was saved.

The rage of the tiger was something fearful, when he found out how he had been tricked, and that his prey had escaped him. Later on in the day came the caravan people, from whose custody he had escaped on the previous night shortly after feeding time, and in such a quiet, cunning fashion, owing to one of the keepers having imperfectly fastened a small grating at the top of his den, that his departure was not discovered till daybreak. He had subsided into a fit of sulks by the time the keepers reached Maison Gris, and neither cooking nor threats could stir him out of the corner in which he had taken up his quarters, and there was no keeper bold enough to venture into the room to him. Ultimately, he was captured by a tempting skin of seal fixed in an iron cage, which he was obliged to enter before he could get at it, and once inside the cage, his liberty was gone.

I was very ill for a long time, and nearly a year elapsed before my arm and shoulder were sufficiently recovered to enable me to use brush and pallet again. The scars I shall carry as long as I live.

Mrs. Celeste Coon, Syracuse, N.Y., writes: "For years I could not eat many kinds of food without producing a burning, excruciating pain in my stomach! I took Parnello's Pills according to directions under the head of 'Dyspepsia or Indigestion.' One box entirely cured me. I can now eat anything I choose, without distressing me in the least." These Pills do not cause pain or griping, and should be used when a cathartic is required.

It is not love that steals the heart from love; it is the hard world and its perplexing cares, its petty selfishness, its pride, its low ambition, and its paltry aims.

A DINNER PILL.—Many persons suffer excruciating agony after partaking of a hearty dinner. The food partaken of is like a ball of lead upon the stomach, and instead of being a healthy nutrient it becomes a poison to the system. Dr. Parnello's Vegetable Pills are wonderful correctives of such troubles. They correct acidity, open the secretions and convert the food partaken of into healthy nutriment. They are just the medicine to take if troubled with indigestion or Dyspepsia.

All mental discipline and symmetrical growth are from activity of the mind under the yoke of the will or personal power.

Wash Uttered Pills Sent Free. John Simon, Nelson, Auliville, Ont., had Salt Rheum so severe that he could not wear crossed gloves. He writes: "I used a quarter of a box of Chase's Ointment. It cured me. No trace of Salt Rheum now." Chase's Ointment cures every irritant disease of the skin, always itching instantly, and is a sterling remedy for piles. Avoid imitations. 60c. per box.