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LADY OLIVIA'S OPALS.

A Lady's Maid's Reminiscence.

I can't say I ever took to my Lady Olivia, though I lived so long with her and, after her own fashion, she behaved well to me. She was one of your flashing, dark-eyed beauties, haughty as an express, expecting all around to worship and obey her, and caring no more for human love—aye, not so much as the great mastiff at her father's gate did, and yet winning it almost without an effort, if one were to judge by the crowd of suitors that sprang up wherever she went.

—some fear that might bring about a rupture with Lord Hubert Berris, and I felt that it had connection with her dead husband. I kept my own watch. I had heard no carriage drive up, and no bell, though the dressing-room was in the front of the house. To my surprise, too, instead of being in her pink satin and diamonds, as I had last seen her, my lady was dressed in a morning walking dress, particularly unpretending-looking. She came up to me quietly.

hand, and I saw that one of the fingers was missing. "Your crime was cleverly planned, Olivia, your hypocrisy was perfect, and had it not been for my friend's love and fidelity, my beautiful and affectionate wife would have consigned me to my living tomb effectually."

Household. Household Routine. Every housekeeper will testify that it is not the steady routine work which goes on day after day which endangers the health and rouses the temper, but that it is the unexpected occurrences which make such inroads on the time and patience of the busy and orderly housewife.

PLAGUE AND HEROISM. The Terrible Forest Fires in the West—Heraldism of Engineer Root. The plague of fire which has visited Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan utterly defies, so far, all attempts at estimation.

THE WORLD'S WHEAT YIELD. Statistics Given in the Annual Report of the Hungarian Minister of Agriculture. Budapest, Sept. 1.—The annual crop-estimates issued by the Hungarian Minister of Agriculture have just been published, the delay in their issuance having been due to the care bestowed upon the revision of the report.

Old World News. The typewriters have at last worked their way into the House of Commons, the Committee on Accommodations having lately voted to devote a room to them. As part of the defence of the lower Thames, a boom is soon to be stretched across the Medway at Sheerness.