

TRIAL FOR LIFE

"Doctor, you are a Christian gentleman—you believe in effectual prayer and in providential guidance. Go home and reflect on all that I have told you. Put away all worldly thoughts and conventional ideas. Think only of justice and mercy. Pray to the Lord for freedom; and to-morrow, when you visit Cassinove, you will know what to say and do," replied Laura Elmer, with sweet gravity, and she arose as if to close the interview.

part of a Sister of Charity to a lonely prisoner so zealously as to leave her no time to bestow upon her friends," said Cassinove, regretfully. "Something like that, indeed. But I consider such duties as sacred as fully to exonerate Miss Elmer. I fully expected to find her here, and I am glad to have found her."

"I am here every day, dear Rose, to lighten as much as possible these dreary prison hours. But I am here to-day for an especial purpose. Therefore, I am pleased that to-day, of all days, you should be present," said Laura Elmer, gravely.

The young duchess looked from one to the other for an explanation. "You are here involuntarily to witness a marriage," said Laura Elmer. "Rose looked more perplexed than before."

"Miss Elmer does not wish to be called as a witness on my approaching trial. To prevent this, she is about to bestow upon me her hand. Tell me, madam, for you are a disinterested judge, am I not doing a great wrong to accept so vast a sacrifice?" said Cassinove.

"But I do not understand," said Rose. "She would immoderate herself for the bare chance of saving my life," began Cassinove; but Laura gently placed her hand before his lips to stop his further speech, and turning to the duchess, briefly, and in a low voice, explained the urgent necessity for the immediate marriage.

"You are right, dear Laura; I feel that you are quite right, although not one in a hundred would think it right, and not one in a thousand dare to do it even if they thought so," said Rose, earnestly.

"I am pleased that you agree with me, dear," replied Miss Elmer. "And I am very pleased that I happen to be here to support you, dear Laura! You required a woman's presence, now, did you not? Say so, to please me, dear Laura."

"I can say with great sincerity, sweet Rose, I did, indeed, need the presence of some woman friend, and I am most happy to have yours," replied Miss Elmer.

Once more they were interrupted by the opening of the cell door and the entrance of Dr. Clark and Mr. Watson, who were ushered in by the turnkey, who immediately withdrew.

Dr. Clark recognized the Duchess of Beresleigh with surprise and pleasure, bowed, and presented the Rev. Mr. Watson.

The little party quite filled up the narrow cell.

"The officers of the prison seem to think that you are holding a levee this morning, Cassinove, and are probably wondering what it is about. I did not think proper to volunteer an explanation," said Dr. Clark, cheerfully.

"Young lady," said the minister, approaching Miss Elmer, and speaking in a low voice, "is this step that you are about to take well considered?"

"Yes, sir, it is well considered," answered Laura Elmer, gravely and firmly.

"In the name of heaven, then, I must proceed. Stand up, if you please," said the minister, opening his book.

Cassinove arose and led Laura before him.

Dr. Clark took his place beside Cassinove, and the young duchess stood by Laura Elmer's side.

The marriage ceremony was commenced with the usual formulas. When they came to the question, "Who giveth this man to be married to this man?"

"I do," said the venerable Dr. Clark, taking the hand of the bride and placing it in the hand of the bridegroom.

When they reached the point where the ring was required, there was no ring forthcoming. Good Dr. Clark had entirely forgotten that little necessity.

But the young duchess, hastily drawing a circlet of diamonds from her finger, offered it for the purpose, saying: "Keep it, dear Laura, it is the emblem of truth."

The ring was placed upon her finger; the vows were made, the prayers offered, the benediction bestowed, and the marriage ceremony concluded.

After the cordial clasping of hands, and earnestly breathed good wishes, their friends departed, leaving the newly-married pair together.

At the usual hour for closing, Laura took leave of Cassinove, and returned to her lodgings. She had soon good reason to know that her marriage had not taken place one hour too soon.

The next morning, while she was preparing to come out, a sheriff's officer was shown into her room, who served her with a document that proved to be a subpoena, addressed to Laura Elmer, spinster, and ordering her, under penalty of certain pains and penalties, to appear upon a certain day at the Criminal Court, Old Bailey, as a witness on the part of the prosecution in the case of "The Crown versus Ferdinand Cassinove, charged with the willful murder of Sir Vincent Lester, baronet."

Laura read it, and returned it, saying: "This does not concern me. My name is not Elmer, neither am I a single woman."

"Then will you be good enough to tell me where I can find Miss Laura Elmer?" "Nowhere, I presume; I, who once bore that name, have now another."

And there was a general rising and craning of necks to catch a glimpse of the baronet's widow, as she moved from her seat among the witnesses and went forward to take the stand, where her stout, black-robed, deeply-veiled form stood revealed to all eyes.

After hearing the oath duly administered to her, she was requested to look at the prisoner, and turned to meet the full, dark eyes of Cassinove fixed with a look of anxious inquiry upon her.

This was the first time she had seen him since the night of the murder, and his expression of countenance evidently surprised her.

Cassinove and Laura both wondered what Lady Lester would have to testify in regard to the murder, when they knew that her ladyship had slept soundly through the whole of the tragic scenes of that fatal first of October. It was known when she began to speak.

"I am the widow of the deceased. I know the deceased and the prisoner; the situation of the latter at the time, and resided in our house for nearly twelve months."

"Can your ladyship inform the jury what seemed to be the state of feeling between the deceased and prisoner?" inquired the counsel for the crown.

"At first the deceased and the prisoner seemed to entertain for each other a cordial friendship as could possibly exist between persons of unequal rank and age. Gradually, but evidently, that friendship cooled, until, at length, it changed to a bitter enmity."

"Will your ladyship tell the court how this enmity exhibited itself?"

"In many daily acts of mutual annoyance; in many looks, words and deeds of hatred."

"Your ladyship will please be specific and instance some of these stated acts of mutual annoyance?"

"In the first place, Sir Vincent Lester very much disliked the attentions paid by Mr. Cassinove to a young person residing in the capacity of governess in our family. And though Mr. Cassinove was well aware of Sir Vincent's disapprobation, he not only persisted in those attentions, but augmented them."

Here a titter ran through the crowd, mingled with murmurs of "very natural," "Quite right," etc.

The cried cried "Silence!" and the examination of Lady Lester proceeded.

"This was one of the ways in which the prisoner annoyed the deceased. Will your ladyship tell us now, in what manner the deceased annoyed the prisoner?"

"By throwing every obstacle he could in the way of Mr. Cassinove's conversation with the governess."

"What motive do you suppose the deceased had for this course of conduct toward the prisoner?"

"This question was challenged, objected to, and ruled out."

The counsel put it in another form, and inquired: "What was the cause of this hatred between the prisoner and the deceased?"

Here, even the cold, calm Lady Lester reddened, and replied: "I can testify with certainty only to the enmity; the knowledge of its cause belongs only to Him who seeth the secret heart of man."

"But what then does your ladyship suppose to have been the cause?"

"This question was also objected to and ruled out. And after a close cross-examination, that elicited nothing more than a reiteration of the first testimony, Lady Lester was permitted to withdraw."

Sir Ruthven Lester was now called to the stand, and duly sworn. After which he corroborated the testimony of his mother, but added nothing new.

(To be continued.)

Sir Walter Raleigh caught the enthusiasm, and he organized the costly series of expeditions to that section of the Spaniards vaguely bounded "flowery land" which he christened Virginia. For a time there was a likelihood that the Elizabethans whom Raleigh sent thither might plant their seeds of an English empire. But the settlers were unable to hold their own. Those who voyaged forth to dwell there disappeared and eluded all efforts to rescue them.

PLANTING A FOREST.

ON EASILY WORKED SOIL—"HEEL-ING IN"—HOW TO DO IT.

In planting trees in a forest plantation, three things absolutely necessary to attend to are: 1. Keep the roots of the trees moist. 2. Spread the roots well when placing the trees in the ground. 3. Tramp the earth firmly around the roots. In order to keep the roots of the trees from drying, they are carried in baskets and covered over with moss; or they can be carried in pails, partly filled with water, or, better still, very thin mud.

If the trees arrive at a time when they cannot be planted immediately, they should be "heeled in." For this purpose select a shaded spot which the sun and the wind cannot get at, and here dig a V-shaped trench, with the sides sloping at quite an angle. Now take a pair of other vessel and in it put water and earth, so as to form a thin mud, or simply dig a hole in the ground and pour some water in it. Take the seedlings and dip them in this thin mud, then place them in the trench, crowding them pretty closely (but not too close), throw the earth back over the seedlings and tramp it down thoroughly; then put another row of seedlings, and so on. The seedlings will keep all right in this condition for two weeks or more; but it is not wise to keep them thus for a longer time, on account of the danger of injury to the roots when they are finally moved.

If the ground is soft and easily worked, the planting may be done with a spade. A spadeful of earth is taken out, and in the hole thus made a tree taken from the basket or pail is placed. The roots of the tree should be well spread out. Then the earth is put back and well tramped down. The tree should be placed in the earth about an inch deeper than it was in the nursery bed, in order to allow for heaving of the soil by frost, etc.

Some prefer to plough furrows as far apart as the rows of trees are intended to stand. Then the planters go along the furrows and at the required distances put down the tree, hold it in position and throw some loose earth about the roots, then tramp this earth down thoroughly, and then on to the next tree. The earth may be thrown back into place by another furrow ploughed alongside of the first one.

The rate of planting will vary a great deal in easily worked soil six men ought, after some practice, to be able to plant about five thousand trees per day. It is best to have some men do the actual planting, while others carry trees to them. One man or boy can often carry trees to supply two men planting.

The number of plants per acre will depend on the spacing. Planting four feet by four feet, 2,725 trees will be necessary; for planting five feet by five feet, 1,750 trees, and for planting six feet by six feet, 1,210 trees.

A RHEUMATIC WRECK.

After Hospital Treatment Failed Dr. Williams' Pink Pills Cured Him.

"I suffered the greatest agony from rheumatism. Leading physicians prescribed many medicines, but with unsatisfactory results. I was compelled to go to a hospital, but even the treatment there failed. Then I took Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and to-day I am a well man."

These words were spoken by Clifford L. Forbes when interviewed at his home in Port Maitland, N.S. Mr. Forbes is nearly 60 years of age, but is very healthy, until some three years ago while fishing off Newfoundland he was seized with a very severe attack of rheumatism. In his own words he says: "I was fishing on the Grand Banks in the spring of 1903, when I was stricken with rheumatism. I could not work or sleep, and the pain was almost unbearable. My case became so serious that I had to be landed and for weeks I lay in a Cape Breton hospital as helpless as a cripple. The hospital doctors prescribed different remedies, but they did not cure me. I then left the hospital and was taken home with rheumatism apparently completely fastened upon me. Day and night I suffered. Nothing I did for the trouble seemed to help me and I became despondent and down-hearted. Then a friend advised me to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. I was skeptical, but my friend praised the pills so highly that I determined to try them, with the result you see to-day. I am fully cured and have not since had even a twinge of that dread affliction. I cannot say too much in favor of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and I urge all rheumatic sufferers to try them."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills cured Mr. Forbes because they struck straight at the root and cause of his crippling rheumatism. They don't act on the mere symptoms like ordinary medicine. They don't act on the bowels. They do only one thing, but they do it well—they actually make new blood. In that way they cure like anemia, headaches and back-aches, rheumatism, sciatica, neuralgia, and the secret ailments of girls and women who suffer unspeakably when the richness and regularity of their blood becomes disturbed. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are sold by all dealers in medicine, or sent by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50, by writing the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

NORWAY AND LIQUOR TRADE.

How the Traffic is Regulated Under the Samlag System.

The Samlag system in Norway gives power to municipalities to grant all the retail spirit licenses which it deems necessary to a company which would bind itself to carry on the traffic in the interests of the community with a fixed annual return of not more than 5 per cent. on its paid-up capital. In establishing the system the question of compensation does not appear to have, pre-lag was introduced two kinds of licenses, or for a term not exceeding five years the first no compensation whatever was paid to those dispossessed of their annuity equal to the average yearly profits for the three years preceding the suppression of the license. This provision is still in force.

With these provisions the aims and

DRUGGING CHILDREN.

All so-called "soothing" syrups and most of the powders advertised to cure childhood elements contain poisonous opiates, and an overdose may kill the child.

When the mother uses Baby's Own Tablets she has the guarantee of a Government analyst that this medicine contains no opiate or narcotic. They can be given with absolute safety to a newborn baby. They cure indigestion, constipation, colic, diarrhoea, and the other minor ailments of children. Mrs. G. Collins, Hirkkolla, Man., says: "Baby's Own Tablets are the most satisfactory medicine I have ever used for the minor ailments of children. I always keep the Tablets in the house." Sold by medicine dealers, or by mail at 25 cents a box from the Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Brockville, Ont.

SEED TIME.

IT IS SOMETIMES LATE, BUT WE ALWAYS HAVE HARVEST.

Seeding operations in some portions of the Northwest have been delayed by cold weather. From private sources it is learned that some of the farmers can only sow in the afternoon when the sun has thawed the ground. The frost at night and during the forepart of the day is too severe to permit of sowing. However, a good deal of sowing has been done in the afternoons, and the prospects are that the crop will be all right. The following table, taken from the official figures at the Experimental Farm, at Brandon, Man., gives the date of the beginning of seeding and harvesting, and the yield per acre in the several years of the period 1895-1904:

Table with 2 columns: Year and Yield per acre. Rows include 1895-Sown April 10, ripened August 27; 1896-Sown May 8, ripened September 4; 1897-Sown April 26, ripened August 19; 1898-Sown April 20, ripened August 25; 1899-Sown May 1, ripened August 28; 1900-Sown April 10, ripened August 21; 1901-Sown March 5, ripened August 22; 1902-Sown March 4, ripened August 28; 1903-Sown April 24, ripened August 22; 1904-Sown March 4, ripened September 7.

PA'S HOUSECLEANIN'.

When the April sun's a-shinin' hot an' things is nice an' fresh, cossels an' the blackbirds in the bush, an' pa come in fer noont' an' the floors are at a wash, an' then it's 'Laws-a-massy on us! Your ma's cleanin' house!'

Then me an' Jim is sure to find rag carpets in the sun, an' when we'd planned to go a-fishin' fer the suckers in the run; but while pa takes his noont' an' the hoses at their cracks, us boys can beat them carpets while we're restin' our backs.

An' then next day pa's certain sure to have to go to town; but he always leaves us orders, "Help to put them carpets down." An' at night, when he gets home again, you'd think to hear him groan About the hardship of it, that he'd done the job alone.

Poor ma! She has it awful hard, she'll work until she drops, an' pa pound her thumb nails half way off, an' wet her feet with slops; she'll get so hoarse that she can't speak, an' sore at every bone; but pa, he says if it was him he'd let the house alone.

An' when that night the kids is sick an' has to have a drink, an' ma she can't get up because her back's in such a kink, if pa should bang the furniture whilst groppin' in 'er the cup, you can feel him getting mad enough to fairly eat her up.

So me an' Jim was sayin', if the time should ever come When pa and ma should change their work an' pa should stay to bum, I wouldn't like to be a boy, but just a little mouse.

To hear what things pa would say if he was a cleanin' house, -William Futey Gibbons in Woman's Home Companion for April.

A woman is glad if she doesn't look her age; a man if he doesn't feel it. Straw hats are always en vogue when strawberry shortcake is de trop.

That hacking cough continues Because your system is exhausted and your powers of resistance weakened. Take Scott's Emulsion. It builds up and strengthens your entire system. It contains Cod Liver Oil and Hypophosphites so prepared that it is easy to take and easy to digest. ALL DRUGGISTS: 50c. AND \$1.00

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS. THE GREAT KIDNEY DISEASE CURE. BRIGHT'S DISEASE. RHEUMATISM. GRAVEL. NEURALGIA. BRONCHITIS. ASTHMA. GOUT. CALCULI. Drops, 25c. per bottle. Sold only in London.