

# LILIAN, THE HEIRESS.

"Not gone!" says Lilian, wickelily: "how disappointed I am to be sure! I fancied my lions an hour more to see them than they really are. But, Guady, why don't you hurry?" She says this with the prettiest affection of infantile grace, accompanied by a coquettish glance from under her sweeping lashes, that creates in Florence a mad desire to box her ears.

"You forget it will not hasten the train five seconds, Guy's leaving this sooner than he does," she says, snubbingly. "To picture him sitting in a draughty station could not—I should think—give satisfaction to any one."

"It could," willfully—to me. It would show a proper anxiety to obey my behests. Guady," with touching concern, "are you sure you are warm enough? Now do promise me one thing—that you will leave of the crossing; they say any number of old men come to grief in that way yearly, and are run over through deafness, or short sight, or stupidity. General. Think how horrid it would be if they sent us home your mangled remains."

"Go in, you naughty child, and learn to speak to your elders with respect," says Guy, laughing, and putting her lobby inside the hall-door, from whence she trips out again to wave him a last adieu, and kiss her hand warmly to him as he disappears round the corner of the laurel-tinted box.

And Sir Guy drives away full of his ward's fresh girlish loveliness, her slender lissome figure, her laughing face, the thousand tantalizing graces that do make her what she is, forgetful of Miss Beauchamp's more natural charms—her white gown—her honeyed words—everything.

All day long Lilian's image follows him. It is beside him in the crowded street, enters his club with him, haunts him in his business, laughs at him in his most serious moods, while she, at home, scarce thinks of him at all, or at the most, vaguely, though when at five he does return she is the first to greet him.

"He has come home! He is here!" she cries, dancing into the hall. "Have you escaped the crossing and rheumatism? and your old enemy lumbago? Good old Guady, let me help you off with your coat. No. Positively, he is all here—not a bit of him gone—and none the worse for wear!"

"Tired, Guy?" asks Florence, coming gracefully forward, lest by unseasonably haste she would disturb the perfect fold of her train, that sets off her figure to such advantage. She speaks warmly, appropriately, as one's wife might after a long journey.

"Tired not he," returns Lilian irreverently; "he is quite a gay old gentleman. Nor, hungry either. No doubt he has lunched profusely in town, 'not wisely, but too well,' as somebody says. Where are my sweeties, Sir Ancient?"

"My dear Lilian," rebukingly—"if you reflect you will see he must be both tired and hungry."

"So am I for my creams; I quite pine for them. Sir Guy, where are my sweeties?"

"Here, little comarant," says Guy, as fondly as his darts, handing her a gigantic bonbonniere in which chocolates and French sweetmeats fight for mastery; "have I got you what you wanted?"

"Yes, indeed, best of guards, I only wish I might kiss my thanks."

"You may."

"Better not. Such a condescension on my part might turn your old head. Oh, Tally, with an exclamation, "you have been greedy! you! you have taken half my almonds! Well, you shan't have any of the others, for punishment. Auntie and Florence and I will eat the rest."

"Thanks," draws Florence languidly; "but I am always so terrified about toothache."

"What a pity!" says Miss Cheney. "If I had toothache, I should have all my teeth drawn instantly, and false ones put in their place!"

"To this Miss Beauchamp, being undecided in her own mind as to whether it is or is not an impertinence, deigns no reply. Cyll, with a gravity that belies his inmost feelings, glances hard at Lilian, only to acknowledge her innocent desire to offend.

"You did not meet Archibald?" asks Lady Clotilda of Guy.

"No; I suppose he will be down by next train. Cheney is always up to time."

"Lilian, my dear, where is my fourth knitting needle?" asks auntie, miffily; "I lent it to you this morning for some purpose."

"It is upstairs; you shall have it in one moment," returns Lilian, moving towards the door and Sir Guy, muttering something about getting rid of the dust of travel, follows her out of the room.

"At the foot of the stairs he says—"

"Lilian."

"Yes?"

"I have brought you yet another bon-ton. Will you accept it?"

As he speaks he holds out to her an open case, in which lies a pretty ring composed of pearls and diamonds.

"For me? Oh, Sir Guy!" says Lilian, flushing with pleasure, "what a lovely present to bring me! Then her expression changes, and her face falls somewhat. She has lived long enough to know that young men do not, as a rule, go about giving costly rings to young women without a motive. Perhaps she ought to refuse it. Perhaps auntie would think it really of her to take it. And if there is really anything between him and Florence—? Yet what a pretty ring it is, and how the diamonds do glitter! And what woman can resist diamonds without a struggle?"

(To be continued.)

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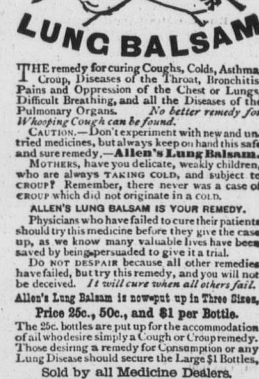
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3:20 P. M.—For Fredericton Junction, St. John and points East.

10:20 A. M.—From Fredericton Junction and St. John.

2:40 P. M.—From Fredericton Junction, Bangor and all points East.

5:00 P. M.—From Fredericton Junction, St. Stephen, Houlton, Woodstock, and all points North.

7:30 P. M.—Express from St. John.

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St. John, N. B., Oct. 6th, 1885.

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