

"Eczema on My Face Completely Relieved"

Miss Winifred Ernest, Box 46, Blockhouse, N. S., writes: "Ever since I was a little child, I suffered with eczema on my face. At times my face was completely covered with large sores, and I tried nearly every kind of medicine that I heard of with no results. This lasted for over twenty years, until one day I asked the advice of my druggist, who bade me give Dr. Chase's Ointment a trial. After using the Ointment for a few days, the sores began to heal, and soon I was completely relieved of the disease."



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The Imprisoned Heiress
—OR—
The Spectre of Egremont.

CHAPTER XXII.

This time he was heard, for the music ceased entirely, and there was an interval of silence. He knocked the third time, yet more loudly. And then he heard a faint muffled sound, as of some one moving about; then a gentle footstep was heard in the anteroom; then came the sound of a key rattling in the lock, followed by retreating footsteps. Lord Ashcroft, surprised and bewildered, waited a moment, and then lifted the latch and pushed open the door. He found himself in the anteroom, which was dreary and gloomy enough to justify his fears, but the door which opened into the drawing-room was partly ajar, and he advanced and looked into it. It is needless to say that he was astonished at the modern luxury grouped within that beautiful bow-chamber, where he had expected to see only the evidences of ruin and decay. He regarded the carpet, the dark windows concealed by drapery of damask and lace, and chandelier, the gilt-framed pictures, the silken couches, &c., as if he were gazing into fairy land. He noticed the fresh baskets of odoriferous hot-house flowers upon the center-table, the new books beside them, the easy-chair drawn up comfortably, as the governess was wont to occupy it, all revealed by the low, dim light that gleamed in the hanging lamps. He did not fail to observe also the harp that leaned against the wall, as if it had just been used. But there was no one in the room. Toplift was closeted with her mistress in the apartment of the latter, and her absence accounted for the fact that Aimee had dared to transgress the standing rule, and bring her harp into the drawing-room, and play there, with the door communicating with the anteroom ajar. Had that door been shut, Lord Ashcroft would never have heard those sweet strains as he had just done, and it might have been that the youthful prisoner had had an object in leaving it so. Be that as it may, she had heard his knock, and believed it to be that of Toplift, who occasionally came up by the private staircase and demanded admittance. It has happened but once before however, that the governess had left

Lionel. The remembrance of your visit will be delightful. These rooms will become beautiful in my sight because you have been within them. But I may not ask you to stay." "You fear I will speak upon that subject which alarmed you in the gallery, Aimee?" exclaimed Lord Ashcroft, sorrowfully. "I will not, I promise you, again forget myself, or the ties binding me to another, or, above all, the respect due to you. Forgive me, Aimee, and let me be your friend and brother, since fate decrees that we may not unite our lives." He looked at her so sadly and spoke with such an accent of despair, that the girl's dusky eyes brimmed over with tears. "Lionel, you have known me such a little while," she said, eagerly, "that I am sure you will soon forget me. And you need not grieve for me, for I am not so very miserable here," and she tried to speak cheerfully. "Before I knew you I was at times sad and hopeless, and I wanted nothing so much as freedom, but now I can bear solitude very well, for I shall always have you to think of, you know. I shall think of you and Alexina as happy together, and you know I shall always pray for you, whether I remain here or go to a convent."

"Oh, can it be possible that we have come together only to love and then be eternally separated?" "Not eternally, Lionel," said the maiden, softly, and her face was lighted with a holy radiance. "No one can come between us there," and she lifted her gaze upward. "But now we must part. You may be discovered here."

"But you will meet me again, Aimee—your brother?" Aimee hesitated, blushed, and replied: "If I can, Lionel, I will meet you again in the picture-gallery some evening. It cannot be wrong, if you promise not to speak of—of love. We must not wrong the Lady Alexina, and it would grieve her to know that your heart was not hers. I know what she would suffer from imagining—"

She paused confusedly, having betrayed her heart to her overjoyed lover. "Oh, Aimee!" he cried, "listen to me—" "No, Lionel, not now. You must go. They may find you here. Oh, Heaven—" Her voice died away in a frightened whisper, the pretty blush faded from her cheek, giving place to an appalled expression, and her attitude was that of one upon whom a deadly blow was about to fall. Lord Ashcroft would have questioned her, but she put her forefinger upon her lips, commanding silence. And then he heard the sound of approaching footsteps, a cry of fear and anger as the door opening into the passage was discovered to be open, voices in altercation—voices he recognized as belonging to Lady Egremont and Toplift—and they came directly and rapidly toward the little bower.

The governess was the first to reach it. Her glances first encountered Aimee. "She is here, my lady," she said joyfully. "She has not escaped into other parts of the house—oh, have mercy!" The last words were uttered in a shriek. "What is it?" cried Lady Egremont, as her minion reeled. "Is she ill?" She rushed forward, pushing Toplift aside, and looked eagerly into the little chamber, hopeful that the prisoner might be stricken with mortal illness. But at sight of Lord Ashcroft her self-possession deserted her, and she fell heavily against the door-post, uttering a fearful cry. Lord Ashcroft was the first to recover his self-possession. "I beg your pardon, madam," he said, courteously, as if wishing to pass her. "I will retire." (to be continued.)

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Health News

THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE STUDIES INFLUENZA AND THE COMMON COLD.

The common cold is the most prevalent illness in the United States and apparently many such colds are quite contagious, says the Surgeon General of the Public Health Service, few people failing to experience at least one attack during a twelve-month period, while many persons have three or more attacks during that time. These facts are borne out by data recently secured by officers of the Public Health Service in an investigation of influenza and the minor respiratory diseases which they are conducting at the present time. That large numbers of persons have colds each year is common knowledge but just what percentage of people, as a rule, have attacks and the average number of colds per person per year have not been known, as the disease is not required to be reported by law, therefore, the morbidity records do not show that information. In a preliminary report of the investigation that is now in progress, the Public Health Service shows that, among a fairly representative group of persons, only 10 per cent. had no colds, while 90 per cent. had one or more colds during a five and one-half month period; the rate for the group as a whole for that period being 1.9 cold per person, or an annual rate of 3.7 cold per person should the same rate obtain throughout the year. The cold was found to be the predominant form of respiratory attack. The relative frequency of symptoms was shown to be very much the same for all localities, and the epidemic outbreaks occurred apparently at about the same time of year in each locality. An outbreak of colds usually occurred in all localities in October, followed by a decline until the latter part of December, at which time another outbreak occurred. It is now believed that there may be a closer co-relation between the common cold and influenza than was formerly thought to exist. There seem to be cases of common cold and ordinary influenza which are almost indistinguishable clinically, and the bacteriological findings in the nose and throat of influenza sufferers and persons having a common cold are as far as the evidence goes practically the same. As a matter of fact, even in health the bacteria found in the minor respiratory diseases are nearly always present, which at once suggests that good resistance provided by physical fitness is an important line of defense, since a lowered vitality and lowered resistance favour infection. We cannot depend upon physical fitness alone, however, as robust persons may apparently contract a cold from an infected person. The investigation now being undertaken by the Public Health Service is the first national study of influenza and colds ever made, and the final results are awaited with much interest. In the hope that further light will be shed on these affections which yearly cause much suffering, inconvenience, economic loss, and, in the case of influenza, even deaths, and which, as far as their cause and prevention are concerned, are still comparatively little understood.

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Lord Ashcroft approached her, his face beaming, and the passionate love he felt for her shining in his eyes, and said: "Yes, Aimee, I am here. It was I who knocked. I thought of you as shut up in a dark and gloomy prison, and determined to visit you and see if I could not do something for your release. But this, Aimee, why, this is a fairy bower." He looked admiringly around the little temple, with its wealth of luxurious adornings, and then his glances settled upon its priestess, and there was more than admiration in his gaze as he marked her innocent, angelic beauty. The joy with which the prisoner had heard his words gave place to a serious, half-frightened expression, and she said: "I thank you for coming to see me,

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