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ALD BUT TRIUMPHANT. was only a governess in George ord's house, and a nursery governess

A pretty, lady-like, quiet little creature, whom his own motherless children dearly

though she were only a governess. He gave me cause to think he cared for me, yet"—anxious to excuse and screen him— "yet that may only have been his kind-ness, and I have deceived myself. It cer-tainly is so, since he is engaged to you. I. have no wish to reproach him, only let me go away at once. Spare me the pain of meeting him again—this man whom I thought the yery sonl of honor, but who. go away at once. Spare me the pair of meeting him again—this man whom I thought the very soul of honor, but who, it seems, could trifle with a friendless girl even while he was vowed to another woman. Oh, let me go at once !" Nothing could have suited Mrs. Vane so well Between you and me, dear reader, before their father had been home from his travels many months he was in danger of

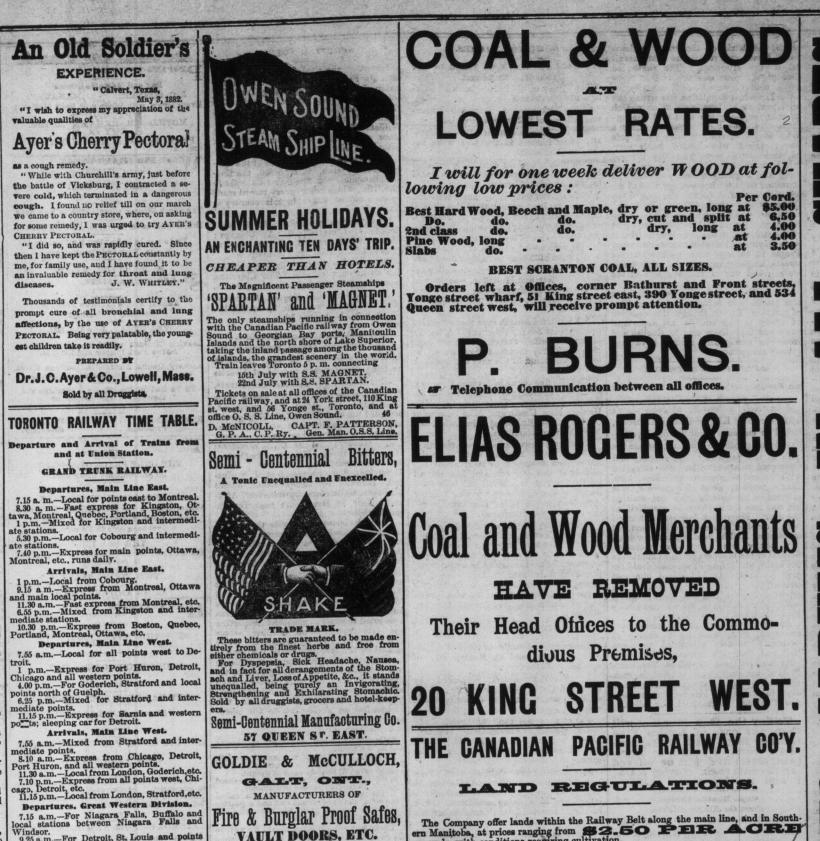
following their example. so well. "I shall place no restraint upon you, my dear," she said. "I see that I can trust your honor. But where will you go?" Not that she cared at all, except as matter Mrs. Vane saw that. She was a widow; handsome, haughty, poor, and with a pair of fine black eyes that were unusually

keen and wide-awake for all that con-cerned the wealthy widower. For he was her cousin, and she had kept house for him since his wife's death—two years ago with the decided intention of ultimately and permanently supplying her place and consoling him for his bereavement. She watched him now with a clouded face as he sat at the open window, paying less attention to the morning paper in his hand than to the merry group in the gar-den, whose silvery voices and happy laughkeen and wide-awake for all that con-

Iess attention to the morning paper in his hand than to the morring group in the garden, whose silvery voices and happy laughter reached him where he sat.
"How happy they seem, and how fond the children are of her !" he said at last, parsuing his own thoughts. "But why does she always wear black? Do you know for whom she is in mourning, Helen?"
"Her mother, I believe," Mrs. Vane was in the best of humors, her plans having succeeded so well. Her victim had offered no resistance and expressed no doubts.
"And only let me get her out of the way," she thought, "he will forget her, and the field will be clear befors me." So Lily packed her one little trunk, preparing to leave by the 5 o'clock train that same evening.
Mr. Wilford had said that he should not be home that night, and the poor girl's one anxiety now was to leave without again seeing him.

"It is only natural that he should take pleasure in watching his own children. Surely it cannot be this girl?" But it was "this girl? in spite of her. She thought she would put it to the test, and so went quietly out of the room and sent the housemaid to summon Lily Dean to her presence. "You are a supervised of the section of the sec

But it was "this girl" in spite of her. She thought she would put it to the test, and so want quietly out of the room and to her presence. "You are so skillful at this kind of the blushing, fluttering girl. 'I should be grad if you would mend it as soon as pos-sible." And she looked with strong disfavor at the fluttering form and rosy blush. The same came in from the garden, and he knew what the blushes meant. The same ale no remark, however; but when she went down again to the room where she had left her cousin she found him standing aimlessly in the middle of the room as if uncertain what to be about. "The children loved their gentle friend and playfellow, and their father made no secret of the pleasure her presence and sweet companionship afforded him. "While as for Lily—though she was "only a governess"—it was plain that an ou



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