

HELEN LAFONE: OR THE FOES OF A HOUSEHOLD.

A TALE OF ENGLISH LIFE.

CHAPTER XVII.

THE MYSTERY EXPLAINED.

Alice continued to fade. Her parents, who had at first viewed the change in her with easy philosophy, were now seriously alarmed and ready to do anything the doctor recommended.

little things—glances which had been exchanged after he had spoken, and something in their manner which was not to be defined, but which had certainly done much.

The following day he received a note from Alice. It came by post with other letters, and as he looked at the address before opening the envelope he supposed it was an invitation.

"Dear Mr. Moore, Circumstances have made it necessary for me to speak to you and at once. I should prefer that our meeting did not take place here; so should be glad if you would come to my house at five o'clock."

"That is true," said Mrs. Lafone, sighing. "Though I am her mother, I must own she is at present unbearable, and makes the whole house uncomfortable."

"I am glad to hear that," said Percival. "I do not see much chance of that happening," said Percival quietly.

"I am glad to hear that," said Mrs. Lafone, sighing. "Though I am her mother, I must own she is at present unbearable, and makes the whole house uncomfortable."

"I am glad to hear that," said Percival. "I do not see much chance of that happening," said Percival quietly.

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"And—did they say nothing? Did they believe quite as usual?" The recollection of the little difference in manner which he had noticed came into his mind, but he said— "Why should they not believe as usual?"

She had seated herself upon the stone he had pointed out to her, and now leaned back against some other rocks, as though she were waiting for him to speak.

At his answer her question she made an impatient gesture and interrupted him feverishly— "They were not the same, I know. You might as well have confessed it at once. You see for yourself that I am worse since you went away. People had said things before, but I think they did not say much, because you were what they liked, and—do not look at me for heaven's sake, do not look at me while I am speaking."

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it is for a woman when people toss her name about in connection with that of some man she knows. She feels like a hunted hare; she can do nothing but look on and pretend she does not mind it. People call that 'living it down.' Sometimes she wishes she were a man. She had seated herself upon the stone he had pointed out to her, and now leaned back against some other rocks, as though she were waiting for him to speak.

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Ayer's Sarsaparilla was the first successful blood medicine ever offered to the public. This preparation is at held in the highest public estimation both at home and abroad. Its marvelous cures and immense sales show this. Ask your druggist for it.

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