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WHAT'S BRED IN THE BONE.

CHAPTER VI.

(Continued.)

'Jessie,' he said, coming into his wife's bedroom when I was reading the morning paper to her, 'here's a wire from Cathcart about that tin-some Lucas business! I'm afraid I shall have to be off to London by this evening's mail. There seems no chance of escape, does there? handing her the paper. 'Of course, I don't expect you could all be ready to start at nine hours' notice, but I hope to be able to return on Tuesday night or Wednesday morning to escort you home.'

She took the paper languidly, then said, after a few moments' pause:

'Yes; I suppose you'll have to go. I would make an effort to be ready, but I'm afraid it would be of no use; I feel so thoroughly knocked-up somehow this morning. My head is heavy as lead.'

'Don't try to think of it, dear child,' he said, hastily. 'Don't do anything about moving until I return; which will be on Tuesday if I possibly can, on Thursday at the latest.'

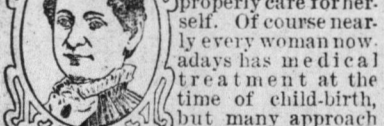
It seems, however, that her ladyship had made up her mind to leave for her home on Wednesday

Facts About Motherhood

The experience of Motherhood is a trying one to most women and marks distinctly an epoch in their lives. Not a hundred is prepared or understands how to properly care for her self. Of course nearly every woman now has had a medical treatment at the time of child-birth, but many approach the experience with an organism unfitted for the trial of strength, and when the strain is over her system has received a shock from which it is hard to recover. Following right upon this comes the nervous strain of caring for the child, and a distinct change in the mother results. There is nothing more charming than a happy and healthy mother of children, and indeed child-birth under right conditions need be no hazard to health or beauty. The unexplainable thing is that, with all the evidence of shattered nerves and broken health resulting from an unprepared condition, women will persist in going blindly to the trial. It isn't as though the experience came upon them unawares. They have ample time in which to prepare, but they, for the most part, trust to chance and pay the penalty.

In many homes once childless there are now children because of the fact that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound makes women normal, healthy, and strong.

Any woman who would like special advice in regard to this matter is cordially invited to write to Mrs. Pinkham at Lynn, Mass. Her letter will be held in strict confidence.



...and she somewhat pettishly informed him that his return was unnecessary. Surely she argued, with a maid, two men, and a pillar of propriety and self-possession like Miss Bernard, the hazardous journey might be attempted without dragging him all that way back to Paris. 'Well, now that I come to think of it, certainly might,' he admitted, good-naturedly. 'I could meet you at Charing Cross on Wednesday evening. Besides—besides, why, I had quite forgotten, you will have Doll to look after you; he makes a much better travelling father of a family than I do. Do you remember that summer we took the chicks to Switzerland, Jessie, and you fell so ill on the road? I don't suppose I should have pulled you through at all but for his care and devotion. Don't you remember how he carried you down that awful mountain when I lost my head, and afterward swam across the lake for the doctor, instead of waiting for the boat?'

Yes; she said she remembered something about it. So the matter was settled; and Sir Richard departed that day, arranging to meet us at Charing Cross on Ash-Wednesday evening. Her ladyship revived a little on Sunday, and in the afternoon went out with Madame de Tesours, with whom she spent the rest of the evening. On the Monday morning she announced herself quite en train again, and ready to enjoy the Carnival, which she certainly did, winding up with two balls, from which she did not return till daylight. 'Preparing for Lent, you see,' she cried, gayly, when I brought her a cup of chocolate in bed. 'Having a good supper to keep me up during the long, long fast. Marie, like a dear, send round William to the coiffeur at once. Tell him I want him an hour earlier than usual. Sophie is to be here for me at twelve. Mind you and the chicks enjoy yourselves, too; but don't on any account venture out without a gentleman, you know.'

As no gentleman presented himself, the 'chicks' and I contented ourselves with viewing the gay scene from the salon windows, and crunching sweets until every tooth in our heads ached and dinner became odious in our sight. At six o'clock Lady Nesbitt returned, and, ordering the children to the nursery, laid her hand upon my shoulder and said in a quick, separate tone: 'Marie, it's of no use; I—I can't get out of it! The bills are printed, the programmes distributed—they won't hear of it—I must act my part to-night. There, there, not a word; I don't want to hear anything. I tell you!'—laying her finger upon my mouth, which was opened in terrified protest. 'I have made up my mind; nothing that you can say will make me change it—nothing! I must act my part to-night.'

'Have you considered,' I asked, breathlessly, seizing her hand and forcing her to listen to me, 'what such a step means? Have you considered that, for an hour's pleasure, a moment's triumph, you are per-

haps sacrificing the happiness of your whole life, risking the loss of your husband's esteem, confidence, respect? Oh, you cannot have understood—considered that!'

'I have considered, and I intend to risk nothing in the matter. I don't mean my husband to know anything about it, unless you, my dear, in the interests of morality and religion, consider it necessary to betray me. I can't help it if you do, and no threats to that effect will deter me from my purpose. I confess, I deeply regret that he—my husband—has forced upon me this act of deceit; but, I have no feeling of guilt in keeping the fact from him by every means in my power, as much for his sake as for my own.'

'But how can you hope to keep it from him? Won't your appearance be public—the talk of the town?'

'Of Paris—for a day or two perhaps. But remember we are leaving Paris in the morning; and, except with Laura de Villamaque, whom I will bind to secrecy when it is all over, no correspondence will be kept up with the people we've met here. Sir Richard will have no means of hearing of it—at least not of a year or two, when it will all have blown over, and when I hope he will have sense and generosity enough to acknowledge I could not have acted otherwise in the circumstances, and to be sorry for having forced me into such a disagreeable condition.'

'But the servants—they must know—'

'They need know nothing, either. You are aware I gave them all leave to go to the balls to-night, and long before I begin even to dress they will all have gone; then I shall be back shortly after midnight, hours before them. You see how easy and simple it is, so don't let me hear another word about the matter. All the others, every one of them agreed that Sir Richard's conduct was a tyrannical misuse of authority, besides being an insult to all concerned. Sophie de Tesours, Madame de Service, all of them said their husbands would never have presumed to interfere as Dick did, so you see I need have no scruples about fulfilling my engagement. And—and—as far as the simple dress all this absurd fuss is about—well, you'll be happy to hear that it's being altered—added to. I'm going—ha, ha—to carry enough drapery to provide gowns for all the goddesses of Elysium! Now are you satisfied eh?'

'The child—you are not going to take her?'

'Of course I am. How could I do without her? What a question! 'Oh, mammy, mammy, you darling little mammy—how I love you!' exclaimed the voice of Miss Jurdie, who, unnoticed by either of us, had been eagerly listening to the long dialogue. 'How glad I am now that I made Louise mend my wings! And, mammy, you need not be afraid I'll tell any one, or even—even let pappy find out; and if he asks me—'

'Lady Nesbitt,' I cried, throwing my arms round her in a last appeal; don't go—don't go!'

'Hush, hush—shaking off my clasps—you—you don't know what you ask! I must, Marie; and it will be the last—the last fully-wickerness of my life. I'll give it all up after to-night. To-night will be the end of everything—everything!'

Three hours later I was alone in the great house, pacing the silent rooms in a miserable state of restlessness, unable to settle to any kind of occupation. I tried to read, to practice some new music, to say my prayers—in vain; the cries of revelry from the streets, getting louder and more

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Mix two cups of granulated sugar with one cup of warm water, and stir for two minutes. Put 2½ ounces of Pinex (fifty cents' worth) in a 16-ounce bottle, and add the Sugar Syrup. Take a teaspoonful every one, two or three hours. Tastes good.

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uncouth as the night wore on, distracted me, and, after a time, filled me with a senseless terror I had not strength enough to reason against. I pictured to myself masked robbers creeping up the stairs, forcing from me the key of my mistress' jewel-cases which I had hidden under a sofa-cushion, denuding the house of every valuable, then wantonly butchering me and poor little Bijou, leaving our lifeless, mangled bodies to confront the gaze of the revelers returning in the gray dawn. While in this frame of mind, a loud peal from the hall door bell resounded through the silent house toward midnight, and then I lost my head altogether. Rushing into the nursery I seized Bijou, and with the child screaming in my arms ran down the central stairs, with the intention, I believe, of seeking a cool hole or safe vault where we could hide ourselves.

Reaching the ground floor and finding all the doors there locked, I was rushing upstairs again like a scared hare, when a second peal, accompanied by a loud rapping with a stick, made me pause; and then it suddenly dawned upon me that robbers did not usually seek admittance in such bold fashion, and that it might be her ladyship returning, as she had announced she would, soon after midnight.

To be continued.

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