A Fair Invalid

CHAPTER VIII.

Dr. Fletcher had gone with the two patients to the River House. I remained some little time longer with Miss Vane. We saw the wounded taken away to the different hotels and the hospital; we saw the dead earried in mournful procession, and we saw the few passengers who were uninjured, pale, trembling, hardly daring to believe that they were saved. We could do no more. Slowly and sadly I rowed down the stream to the River House. Miss Vane looked very pale.

"I shall never like the river again," the said to me, in a frightened voice. "I used to delight in it; it was all music and poetry to me. I shall never like the river again," she said to me, in a frightened voice. "I used to delight in it; it was all music and poetry to me. I shall never like it again, for it has been transformed into a grave."

She trembled so violently and looked. "Low Giller I wish that I tould forget the scene! Who are the people that we were fortinate enough to help?"

"We have been trying to find out. The doctor examined the gentleman's letters and papers. He is Lord Clive Wynton, and the lady is his wife."

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again, for it has been transformed into a grave."

She trembled so violently and looked so ill that when we reached the River House I made her drink some wine and retire to her room.

"I ought to do something for these poor people," she said. I could have blessed the words, they were the first evineing the least interest in others that I had heard from her lips. I was so pleased that I forgot myself and kissed her. Her face flushed and her lip quivered, but she did not draw back proudly, as she would once have done.

"You must rest—the horror of that terrible accident has been too much for you. I will attend to your guests."

you. I will attend to your guests."
Drawing down the blind so as to shut
out the glow of the sun, I left her. There
was no confusion in the house, no noise hardly a sound; the servants had been o well trained to forget their usual

too well trained to forget their usual habits.

I went first to the north room, where the lady was lying. There was not much the matter with her; she had been stunned, terribly frightened, the maid who was watching by her said; but the doctor had given her a composing draught, and she was fast asleep. That was good news. I went gently to her bedside and looked at her.

Most people would have called her a beautiful woman. She was very fair, in with a profusion of light hair; but her face did not please me—I was repelled rather than attracted by it. It was nerther true nor noble, although I could well imagine it to be brilliant. I bent over her; she was sleeping soundly. One hand lay outside the quilt; it was white and well-shaped, and shining with jewels, and on the third finger of the left hand I saw a wedding ring. "She is married," I said to the maid. "Is that her husband in the other room?"

"It hink so," was the reply; "they were travelling together when the accident occurred."

"Do you know the lady's name?" I asked.

"No, ma'am; I heard the doctor men-

"No, ma'am; I heard the doctor men-"No, ma'am; I heard the doctor mention it, but I do not remember it."

It was not of much importance, I thought. How little did I guess of what importance it was! And then I went to the Blue Room, where the gentleman had been carried. Here the scene was far more solemn. The doctor, with a grave, troubled face, bent over the bed, engaged in counting the beats of his patient's pulse. I went up to the bed. One of the handsomest men I had ever seen in my life was lying on it, pale.

short time."

No change did take place; the patient did not open his eyes. He seemed perfectly unconscious; and the doctor's face grew more and more anxious. I watched him as intently as he watched the sufferer. "Do you think it will end fatally, Doctor?" I asked.

"I am afraid so, M-s. Neville. While there is life, though, we will hope."

"Had you not better try to find out who he is? If anything serious is likely to happen, his friends ought to be sent for."

for."

"The lady is his wife," said Dr. Fletcher. "She is sleeping soundly. Perlaps you are right, Mrs. Neville; it would be as well to know who he is."

The clothes that had been taken from him were placed on a chair, and the doctor examined the contents of the pockets. There was a gold watch and chain, a purse well filled with gold, a pocket-book containing letters and bank notes, a card-case, and another packet of let.

"I must see him, Mrs. Neville, think! to examined the contents of the pock-tes. There was a gold watch and chain, a purse well filled with gold, a pocket-book containing letters and bank-notes, a card-case, and another packet of let-ters. The doctor looked carefully at

them, and then came to me.

"Lord Clive Wynton!" I repeated; "then the lady is Lady Wynton."
"Yes; here is the address in full:
Lord Wynton, Lyndmere Park.' Here
is also a ticket for Paris. He must have nso a ticket for rans. He must have in travelling thither when he met with s unfortunate mishap. Mrs. Neville, hould like to send for another doc-

tor."
"I am quite sure that you may consider yourself master of the nouse for the time, Doctor Fletcher; send as you will—do as you will. Mary, the under housemand, seems quick and active; let her take your message." ce your message." ently I went back to Miss Vane.

Presently I went back to Miss vale. She had left her room, and was in the drawing room, where a cup of tea awaited me. "I could not rest," she said. "The fright really made me ill, as you saw; but I could not sleep—I could not keep my eyes closed. How are our patients."

lady seems to have had a won-

"The lady seems to have had a wonderful escape... The gentleman is, I fear in some danger."

"I hope they have everything needful. You will tell Lewis to attend to that, Mrs. Neville."

"Yes," I said. "I do not think the lady will be long an invalid."

"But there is fear for her husband. You said they were husband and wife, did you not, Mrs. Neville?"

"Yes—the servant—the valet—was with a cruel and sudden death, on a lady's maid." She sat quite silent for a few minutes, the cup of fragrant teastanding before her, her beautiful, restless face turned from me.

less face turned from me.
"It seems a terrible thing to meet
with a creul and sudde ndeath, on a
bright day like this," said she, presently.

help?"

We have been trying to find out. The doctor examined the gentleman's letters and papers. He is Lord Clive Wynton, and the lady is his wife."

Never while I live shall I forget the awful, ghastly change that came over her face, lighting up its pallor only to deaden it again. The white lips sprung apart, the dark eyes had a wild, despairing look. Twice I saw her try to speak, but all sound died away in a gasping sigh; and then she came over to me, and her fingers clutched my arm as though it were held in an ion grasp. "Say that again!" she hissed.

"Lord Clive Wynton," I repeated, wonderingly, and half alarmed. She raised her face, and I heard her groan: "Mercifol heaven."

She turned from me to the window, and a laugh, as strange and unnatural as ever came from human lips, burst from her. "I have gone mad!" she cried, in a hoarse voice. "Lewis said I should brood over my sorrows until they drove me and Lam mad!"

in a hoarse voice, "Lewis said I should brood over my sorrows until they drove me mad. I am mad!" She trembled so violently that it was

wonder to me she could stand. I tried o soothe her. "My near Miss Vane, do not give way to such terrible fancies. It is not madness. You are only shocked nd startled.'

The beautiful face and restless eyes

and startled."

The beautiful face and restless eyes tunred to the window again.

"Am I dreaming, or what? Lord Wynton here—brought here to die! I cannot believe it," she gasped. "There are strange turns in life, I know—fortune plays us wild tricks—fate has unexpected things in store, but this cannot be—that Lord Wynton is brought to my home to die!"

"It is true—it is neither dream nor fancy, but truth."

"Can you tell me," she asked—"is it a curse or a blessing? That man is my mortal foe—my greatest enemy. There is no curse that I have not heaped upon his head; for his sake I hate my kind, the whole human race. Is he brought here that I may see my curse fulfilled, or that I may do what angels do—pity and forgive?"

She buried her face in her hands, and for the first time I heard her weeping like a child. The tears would benefit her, I thought. I made no effort to check them. Great sobs shook her frame. I waited until it seemed to me that she was exhausted, and then I bent over and kissed her. I shall never forget the face she raised to mine.

"Mrs, Neville," she whispered, "will he die?"

"I fear so: the doctor does not give."

de?"

"I fear so; the doctor does not give much hope," I replied. She looked at me with pleading eyec, "Suppose that anyone injured you—mortally injured you, blighted your life, killed the heart within you, although your body lived on—and you cursed them; if danger or deadly peril came to them, should you think it was your curse fulfilled?" think it was your curse fulfilled!"
"Hardly," I replied. "Heaven is very
merciful."

said, dreamily—"greater than falls to the lot of most people. I knew when it came that there were two ways of meet

an error.
"My mortal foe," she continued, speaking rather to herself than to me, "brought here under my roof! Is it a curse or a blessing?"

I whispered to her some sacred words—sweet, gracious words of pity, pardon and infinite compassion. When she raised her face again it was so changed I hardly knew it, being softened into mexpressible loveliness,
"I should like to forgive him," she said, "It was very cruel, very selfish, very wicked; but, if he is going to die, I should like to forgive him, and then, when he is dead, I can think of him, as I used to think—forget his sin and my suffering. I wish I could forgive him!"
"Do; make the effort. Come and see him; no resentment, however just, can

and then she said:
"I must see him, Mrs. Neville, think for me, will you? I must see him, but he must not see me. I have sworn—listen, Mrs. Neville—that I would never look upon his face again. But, if he is going to die, it would not be wrong of me to break that vow. I must see him without his knowing me," she said, "I could not bear it otherwise."
"But he is sure to know if he learns that he owes shelter and kindness to Miss Vane." I said.
The saidlest smile that ever ylevel.

Miss Vane." I said.

The saddest smile that ever played on a human face come over hers. "He will not know the name," she explained; "I was not Miss Vane when he knew me."

That was the first intimation I received that my mysterious tenant had assumed a false name. Just then Lewis:

eame in her face gravanathe.

assumed a false name. Just then Lewiscame in, her face grave and anxious. "Mrs. Neville," she said, "Dr. Fletcher would like to see you."

Promising to join him at once, I turned to Miss Vane, and whispered to her: "An idea has just occurred to me. You would like to see Lord Wynton without being recognized? Well, dress yourself in your maid's attire. She wears a front of false curls; borrow it, and that will disguise you; put on her glasses, too, and her neckerchief—no one will know you then."

"That is the very thing." she said. gratefully. "I will do it at once, for I must see him."

gnatefully. "I will do it at once, for I must see him."

And then I went upstairs with Lewis, who was almost as confused and embarrassed as her mistress. "Of all the wonderful things to hanner!" she said, wringing her hands. "It is stranger than a romance, Mrs. Neville. If you only knew!"

"Lewis," I said, "Miss Vane wishes to see our patient."

Her face grew pale, and her eyes apened wide, "Miss Vane wishes to see Lord Wunton!" she repeated. "It is impossible!"

"It is true: she desires to see him, "The ice blockade at Sault Ste. Marie is broken and boats from Lake Superior are arriving.

"It is true; she desires to see him, are arriving.

her. I have suggested that she should dress herself in some of your clothes. Will you help her?"

"Ah, my poor lady, that I will. My poor mistress! This will kill her—my poor lady."

poor mistress! This will kill her—my poor lady."

So, moaning and lamenting, the faithful old servant hurried to her lady's dressing-room, and I went to the doctor. "There is better news," Mrs. Neville," said the doctor, "I can see an improvement. I want you to attend to these iced cloths, and see that they are applied regularly. I must go home—I want several things which no one but myself can find."

"I will remain until you return, Dr. Fletcher," I promised, thinking that his absence would give Miss Vane a fair chance of seeing the invalid. He went. Some twenty minutes afterward I heard a sound outside the door, I opened it hastily, and there stood Miss Vane, so skilfully disguised that at first sight I hardly recognized her. Her lips were white and trembling, and her eyes appealed piteously to me.

"You must be brave." I said. "If you break down the consequences may be serious."

"I never break down," was the haughty reply, and the she stronged interest.

ire. As she went up to Lord Wyn's bedside she seemed to grope with hands as one suddenly blinded, and n sunk on her knees by his side, and

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Toronto, April 27 .- "I can point out text books used in the city of Toronto in young ladies' colleges which if you Danohus gainst Ada Donohus, in which he dismissed the plaintiff's case to annul the marriage, which was personal to the proper were resident of Baffalo, and neither is yet eighteen years old.

Justice White holds that so long as the license was issued in good faith and the marriage what a storney for the defendant stated that the laws of Ontario should govern, and Justice White's opinion upholds this contention, stating that the laws of Ontario should govern, and Justice White's opinion upholds this contention, stating that the laws of New York State upon the question of an analing marriages have no effect. If this state that a marriage that is valid in, the country in which it is performed it valid here. He adds that the plain lift ergated the conditions from which were in conflict with case the country in which it is performed it valid here. He adds that the plain lift ergated the conditions from which the performed the country in which it is performed it valid here. He adds that the plain lift ergated the conditions from which be a second of the country in which it is performed it valid here. He adds that the plain lift ergated the conditions from which it is performed it valid here. He adds that the plain lift ergated the conditions from which be a second of the country in which it is performed it valid here. He adds that the plain lift ergated the conditions from which it is performed it valid here. He adds that the plain lift ergated the conditions from which it is performed in the title of his lecture implied that there were two views, and that he must be defendant, and shad he must be defended to conditions the desired to substant and the properties of the continued, what is own witness, and that he must be defended to the conditions of the continued, which is performed it was the country in the condition of the lating of of the parents read them and your daughters

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disappeared, and its promises were merely legends. The extremists were ne-sure whether there was a Moses at al-that the giving of the law was fiction the ark a fetish box and the tables of the law meteoric stones.

Dr. Orr expressed his belief that the internal evidence of the books of the

internal evidence of the books of the Bible entirely refuted the arguments of the critics. It was not to be suppose that if it were not believed, for in stance, that the book leading to the reformation of Josiah and its discover

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MEGANTIC— ... May 89, July 13, Aug. 1

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