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Made by the J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.

WHEN THE HOURS DRIED THEIR HAIR
Or What the Doctor Discovered in the Heat of New York.

By JUNE GRAHAM.
Copyright, 1912, by Associated Literary Press.
"Did he take it, mother, did he?"
"Now girls," Mrs. Vernon protested, breathlessly, "not all at once, please. Yes, he took it. Bab, dear, don't prance."
"But, mother, I'm dancing for joy!" all, fifteen-year-old Bab! protested.
"He's such a dear."
"For how much?" asked Josephine, bristly. "It's worth ten with breakfast, mumsie, summertime, you know."
"But he takes his meals all out, Jo. And I let him have it for eight. He seems such a quiet person, just a big nice boy."
"Boy? Hasn't he a Vandyke and moustache, mother?"
"Carlotha, not so loud. No, he is quite smooth shaven. He is a doctor. He has come on from the middle west - Indiana, I think he said - to take up a special summer course here, and he needs a quiet place to live, with no distractions."
She paused impressively to let this point penetrate. The guilty four surrounded her with sober faces and grave, sympathetic eyes.
There was Bab, blonde as a Christmas doll, and tall for her age; Josephine, demure and brown eyed, with wavy bands of dark hair bound about her small head, Madonna-wise. Bab said that Jo resembled a sleek young loa, with wide surprised eyes.
Virginia came next, wondrously gentle, and fair like Bab. All the Vernon mischief found spring and point in Virginia's silence, and just now she sighed, as if over the doctor's pending fate. Last of all, Carlotha with her fox hair and fox eyes, half floored and full of amber glances, Carlotha who would wear gowns of dull apple greens, and tenderest browns and mauves, and look like a grave, sweet princess maiden.
"We won't bother him, mother dear," said Carlotha now, kindly and understandingly. "Don't you worry."
So Dr. Arnold settled down in his summer quarters contentedly, thankfully. The house was one of the old mansions in the Washington square district, long since turned into a select rooming place. With four daughters to care for and educate in her widowhood, Mrs. Vernon had chosen this as the most comfortable, and as Virginia put it, inconspicuous way of earning a living in New York.
The doctor liked it. He was from a small town, thriving, but lacking frills. He was past his first struggles, and was succeeded. Ever since his interne days in Chicago he had longed to spend a season each year in New York, taking up special courses in one branch and another, and this was the first chance. There were no distractions, no annoyances at the Vernon house, he found. True, in the early morning as he passed out for breakfast he caught sight of various young persons, all with averted faces and aasty footsteps.
"Good morning, doctor," each would murmur, and gravely would the doctor acknowledge the greeting. He wondered how many daughters Mrs. Vernon had.
Saturday afternoon there were no classes at the clinics. The afternoons were for home study, he had decided. Seated by one of the long French windows, half hidden by cool air screen curtains, he beheld one very young person saunter slyly forth into the back garden and proceed to dry her hair in the sun.
It was a pretty garden, small as some toy one of Nippon. A stray bit of holy writ flittered airily through the doctor's mind. "My love is like a garden enclosed."
This was a garden enclosed in high brick walls, hidden by heavy masses of ivy. In the small diamond center of grass stood a tiny arbor, overran with wistaria. There were pansy beds and mignonette borders, and low groups of dusky red and gold nasturtiums.
The doctor closed his book and regarded the young person drying her hair in the sun. It was beautiful hair. She might have been the love of the South Wind, My Lady Dandelion, with that golden glory falling about her. Her hair took on most wondrous glints in the sunlight, the doctor mused. This must be one of Mrs. Vernon's daughters. The youngest, possibly. Her shoulders drooped in schoolgirl fashion.
The doctor resumed his reading. Presently when he glanced up there were two girls in the garden. Indistinctly and without regard for the world above the garden, they dried their hair in the sun.
Josephine's hair was very long. She looked like some brown nymph of the woods when it fell about her. The doctor became meditative, almost retrospective. In this day of artificiality and pretense it was refreshing and reassuring to find here, in the heat of New York, such normal, beautiful crowns of glory, he told himself. It showed poise of health, of mental and physical health.
Here Virginia stole forth, robed in the white garments of a blimpless life, her long blonde curls dripping like some Lurline of the Rhine.
"You'll get your kimonos all wet," admonished Jo, the practical. Virginia laid her fingers to her lips.
"Mother says we must not talk. We might disturb the doctor, girls."
The doctor closed his book and laid it on the desk. Beneath his windows,

to and fro along the narrow walks, paced the girls, drying their hair in the sunlight. Women to him meant frail, nervous, pitiable creatures, handicapped by the old curse of Eden. Young or old, rich or poor, he had grown to class them indiscriminately as patients of the infants, ever ailing.
These girls were not of this class. Every vibrant electric hair on their lovely heads upheld its own affidavit as to their perfect health, and even while the doctor mused, impersonally, professionally even, out stepped Carlotha, her tawny curls clinging to her head, a huge turkish towel wrapped around her shoulders over a dress of silk the color of a lily leaf.
Sunlight and firelight mingled, the doctor thought, watching that radiant topknot steal the sun's glory. She lowered her head and swept the curling mass forward, and the doctor knew no man's eyes had ever seen its like before.
He moved the curtains back with one hand, and lo, the four lifted innocent eyes of wonderment, and Virginia asked: Are we disturbing you, doctor?"
And the doctor was amazed. He protested that he was not being disturbed, but that it was a great pleasure.
Bab chuckled. The doctor bowed discreetly and withdrew his head, seized his hat and went out for a walk to forget the view of the garden disclosed.
"I'm afraid we did disturb the doctor, girls," said Carlotha. "Maybe he isn't used to a galaxy, girls."
"Are we that, Carlie?" Bab cried joyously. "Something starry and beautiful! He looked at you the longest."
"His eyes were glued to your hair," pronounced Jo.
Carlotha laughed.
"That's a neat little picture, Jo, I must say. Hope they come off easily. Remember once at school when a boy threw chewing gum at my hair, I mean my rippling curls, and you girls had to cut it out before mother discovered it."
"Well, I don't care," said Virginia, firmly. "I think the doctor is just as tame and intelligent as he can be."
"Intellectual, Gene. Animals are intelligent."
"Man is the noblest brute of all, saith someone. He has a most intelligent face."
Every Saturday afternoon the doctor's study hour was interrupted by what he called in his heart of hearts the hair washing festival of the hours. Did he watch for it? The doctor was young and human, and he had an appreciation of the beautiful. Also, had he not come to New York to study life in all colors and there must be a different color for each table, four at a table. A pair of candy tongs must be in readiness for each player and a box for containing the candy "straws." The game is to see how many sticks may be withdrawn from the pile without breaking or throwing the pile into confusion. Progressions are made and the score kept. Children enjoy this entertainment and eating the sticks is permissible after the game is over and scores settled.
Provide a quarter of a pound of twisted candy sticks known as "opera" sticks in most candy shops. They come in all colors and there must be a different color for each table, four at a table. A pair of candy tongs must be in readiness for each player and a box for containing the candy "straws." The game is to see how many sticks may be withdrawn from the pile without breaking or throwing the pile into confusion. Progressions are made and the score kept. Children enjoy this entertainment and eating the sticks is permissible after the game is over and scores settled.
From an "Anxious Girl."
Girls of seventeen wear their hair around the head in braids, or in soft pompadours caught with a bow in the back, the ends turned up underneath or made in soft coils either side the ear, Dutch style. Skirts should be a bit below shoe top. Just tell a boy that you will not kiss him, that you do not approve. If necessary to take arms (and it seldom is) the girl should take the man's or he may take hers to assist her over a dangerous crossing. Eight to ten or ten thirty are calling hours.
The Proper Thing to Do.
What is proper for a young lady to say when introduced to a man at a dance? Also what is the proper form for introducing a young man to a young lady? Please answer through your columns.—Irish Mary.
All the young lady has to say is "I am very glad to meet you, Mr. Jones," and the right way to present a man to a woman is this: "Miss Young, may I present Mr. Jones, who is here on a visit," or "who is anxious to meet you." It is always nice to give some clue to the ones being introduced as to "who is who."
From a Perplexed Girl.
Your columns have been so helpful to others, I would like to have your advice. I have been going with a boy for about two or three months and like him very much and he has told other people he liked me better than any girl he ever knew. When at a "leap year" dance how many dances should I give him? Do you think it considered unladylike to wear small pearl earrings or would they make me look coarse? What should a girl say when asked to have a dance? Is it really wrong to let a boy kiss you if he is in earnest?—Perplexed B.
I hope from henceforth these columns will prove helpful to you and that you will come just as often as questions bother you. It depends upon how many dances there are, I should think you could give him every other one. Girls are wearing earrings now and if small I see no harm, for the ears are not pierced these days and it is only a harmless passing fad to wear them. I think it is really wrong to let a boy kiss you and perhaps you will think I am very prim to say so. If the boy really thinks a lot of you, you can explain in a satisfactory manner why you'd rather not permit familiarity and he will appreciate and understand your situation and like you all the better.
MADAME MERRI.

Social Forms and Entertainment

Entertainment for Bride-Elect.
I am to entertain a bride-elect and am puzzled as to what to do in the way of entertainment. What can you suggest?—Romona.
I wonder if you have had either a magazine, book or a "Gen" shower? At the first the guests decide beforehand what subscriptions to magazines to give, each one contributing 50 cents. This assures pleasure for the whole first year. The book idea is carried out in the same way.
A Young Girl's Question.
Must I send each girl and each boy in the same family a separate invitation? I want to have a party and serve a light luncheon, but I do not want to buy expensive things. Tell me what to have; also can I hand out these invitations when I meet any of the guests?—P. L. M.
Each member of the family must have a separate invitation except his band and wife; they are always one. Judge your party is to be at night and "light luncheons" are not served, this is, under the name of "luncheons." After the theater we say "supper," during the evening we say "refreshments." Luncheon is a daytime meal. It is also hard to have inexpensive things these days, with prices soaring high as the proverbial kite. I'd have coffee and sandwiches or ice cream and cake. Invitations must go by mail or messenger, never handed to the person.
Progressive Candy Jack Straws.
I wish to entertain 12 little boys and girls at an afternoon party. Will you suggest a novel scheme which will begin the party?—Puzzled Mother.
Provide a quarter of a pound of twisted candy sticks known as "opera" sticks in most candy shops. They come in all colors and there must be a different color for each table, four at a table. A pair of candy tongs must be in readiness for each player and a box for containing the candy "straws." The game is to see how many sticks may be withdrawn from the pile without breaking or throwing the pile into confusion. Progressions are made and the score kept. Children enjoy this entertainment and eating the sticks is permissible after the game is over and scores settled.
Locomotive's Diet.
Barber shops were the exception, rather than the rule, in China in the old days, itinerant barbers attending to their customers' wants in the streets or in the customers' homes. There appears to be no tendency toward the institution of barber shops since the change of hairdressing; in fact, the tendency locally is to do away with the barber altogether. Thus many families are purchasing hairclippers, which seem to be regarded as the only essential to hairdressing.
Chinese Barbers in Hard Luck.
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Red Cross Ball Blue.
Red Cross Ball Blue, all blue, best bleaching value in the whole world, makes the laundress smile.
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Write for Catalog. W. L. DOUGLAS, Brockton, Mass.

Original Amen Corner.
The origin of the name "Amen corner" is interesting and throws a pleasant light on English Catholicism of the days before the apostasy of Henry VIII. Each year on the feast of Corpus Christi the faithful went in procession to St. Paul's cathedral. Mustering in Cheapside, the procession moved toward the cathedral, the clergy chanting the "Our Father" as they passed along the street still called Paternoster row, reaching the "Amen" as they turned the corner known for years as Amen corner.—Ave Maria.
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Parkland, Wash.

Damage by Lightning in Cities.
Investigations made over Europe seem to justify the belief that the damage by lightning, in the cities particularly, has decreased to a very marked degree in recent years, and it is explained by the presence of electric wires, which act as a protection in diverting the electric bolts. As the wires are put underground, it is expected that there will be noticed a great increase in the amount of damage by lightning and a return will be generally made to the use of lightning rods.
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—Mrs. MARY HALSTEAD, Plates, Pa., Box 98.
Here is the report of another genuine case, which still further shows that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound may be relied upon.
Walcott, N. Dakota.—"I had inflammation which caused pain in my side, and my back ached all the time. I was so blue that I felt like crying if any one even spoke to me. I took Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and I began to gain right away. I continued its use and now I am a well woman."
—Mrs. AMELIA DAHL, Walcott, N. Dakota.
If you want special advice write to Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co. (confidential) Lynn, Mass. Your letter will be opened, read and answered by a woman and held in strict confidence.

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