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The Doctor's Dilemma

By Hesba Stretton

CHAPTER V.

"Martin Dubree" ejaculated both in and out of breath. "Yes, mademoiselle," I said, uncaring the tress of hair as if it had been a serpent, and going forward to greet them; "surprised" echoed the elder. "No, we are amazed—puzzled! However did you get her? When did you come?"

"Quite easily," I replied. "I came on Sunday, and Tardif fetched me in his own boat. If the weather had permitted I should have paid you a call, but you know what it has been."

"To be sure," answered Emma; "and how is dear Julia? She will be very anxious about you."

"She was on the verge of a nervous attack when I left her," I said; "that will tend to increase her anxiety. She is very sympathetic. But, Martin, is this young woman here so very ill? We have heard from the Renoufs she had had a dangerous fall. To think of your being in Mark ever since Sunday, and we never heard a word of it!"

"Is that the young woman's hair?" "Yes," I replied; "it was necessary to cut it off. She is dangerously ill with fever."

Both of them shrank a little towards the door. A sudden temptation assailed me, and took me so much by surprise that I had yielded before I knew I was assailed. It was their shirking move as automatic and involuntary as their retreat.

"You see it would not be wise for any of us to go about," I said. "A fever breaking out in the island, especially now you have no resident doctor, would be very serious."

"This I secured isolation for myself and my patient. But why had I been eager to do so? I could not answer that question to myself, and I did not ponder over it many minutes. I was impatient, yet strangely reluctant, to look at the sick girl again, after the loss of her beautiful hair. The change in her appearance struck me as singular. Her face before had a look of suffering and trouble, making it almost old, charming as it was; now she had the aspect of quite a young girl, scarcely touching upon womanhood."

We set up again together that night, Tardif and I. He would not smoke, lest the smell of the tobacco should get in through the crevices of the door, and less the girl's chance of sleep; but he held his pipe between his teeth, taking an imaginary puff now and then, that he might keep himself wide awake. We talked to one another in whispers.

"He has been living on Tardif's coarse fare for a week," answered my mother; "so now he has compassion enough for his sick patient to pack up some dainties for her. If you could only get one or two of your bad headaches he would have more sympathy for you."

"Have you had one of your headaches, Julia?" I inquired.

"The worst I ever had," she answered. "It was partly your going off in that rash way, and the storm that came on after, and the fright we were in. You must not think of going again, Martin. I shall take care you don't go after we are married."

"I should like to see Tardif," murmured the girl to me that night, after she had awakened from a second long and peaceful sleep.

"I called him and he came in barefoot, his broad, burly frame seeming to fill up all the little room. She could not raise her head, but her face was turned towards us, and she held out her small wasted hand to him, smiling faintly. He fell on his knees before he took it into his great, horny palm, and looked down upon it as he held it very carefully with tears standing in his eyes."

"Why, it is like an egg shell," he said. "God bless you, manzelle, God bless you for getting well again!"

She laughed at his words—a feeble though merry laugh, like a child's—and she seemed delighted with the sight of his heavy face, glowing as it was with happiness. It was a strange chance that had thrown these two together. I could not allow Tardif to remain long; but after that she kept devising little messages to send to him through me whenever I was about to leave her. Her intercourse with mother Renouf was extremely limited, as the old woman's knowledge of English was slight. It

happened, in consequence, that I was the only person who could talk or listen to her through the long and dreary hours.

CHAPTER VI.

My mother was lying on the sofa in the breakfast room, with the Venetian blinds down to darken the morning sunshine. Her eyes were closed, though she held in her hands the prayer book, from which she had been reading as usual the day before. What I was looking at her, though I made no sort of sound or movement, she seemed to feel that I was there; and after looking up she started from her sofa, and flung her arms about me, pressing closer and closer.

"Oh, Martin, my boy, my darling!" she sobbed. "Thank heaven you are come back safe! Oh, I have been very rebellious, very unbelieving. I ought to have known that you would be safe. Oh, I am thankful!"

"I stood perfectly still for some seconds, staring blankly at the very simple advertisement under my eyes. There was not the slightest doubt in my mind that it had a direct reference to my pretty patient in Sark. But I had no time for deliberation then, and I tore off a large corner of the Times containing that and other advertisements, and thrust it unseen into my pocket."

In the afternoon I went down with Julia and my mother to the new house, to see after the unpacking of furniture. I can imagine circumstances in which nothing could be more delightful than the care with which a man prepares a home for his future wife. The very tint of the walls, and the way the light falls in through the windows, would become matters of grave importance; but here was not the slightest flavor of this sentiment in our furnishing of the new house. It was really more Julia's business than mine. I went about the place as if in some dream. The house commanded a splendid view of the whole group of the Channel Islands, and the rocky islets innumerable strewn about the sea. The afternoon sun was shining full upon Sark, and whenever I looked through the window I could see the cliffs of the Havre Gosselin, purple in the distance, with a silver thread of foam at their feet. No wonder that my thoughts wandered, and the words my mother and Julia were speaking went in at one ear and out at the other. Certainly I was dreaming; but which part was the dream?

"I don't believe he cares a straw about the carpets!" exclaimed Julia, in a disappointed tone.

"I do indeed, dear Julia," I said. "She had set her mind upon having flowers in her drawing room carpet, and there they were, large garlands of bright-colored blossoms, very gay and, as I ventured to remark to myself, very gaudy."

"You like it better than you did in the pattern?" she asked anxiously.

I did not like it one whit better, but I should have been a brute if I had said so. She was gazing at it and me with so troubled an expression, that I felt it necessary to set her mind at ease.

"It is certainly handsomer than the pattern," I said, regarding it attentively; "very much handsomer."

"Julia, my love," said my mother, "remember that we wish to show Martin those patterns whilst it is daylight. Tomorrow is Sunday, you know."

A little tinge of color crept over Julia's face. From then we drew near to the window, from which we could see Sark so clearly, and Julia drew out of her pocket a very large envelope, which was bursting with its contents.

They were small scraps of white silk and white satin. I took them up mechanically into my hand, and could not help admiring their pure, lustrous, glossy beauty. I passed my fingers over them softly. There was something in the sight of them that moved me, as if they were fragments of the shining garments of some vision, which in times gone by, when I was much younger, had now and then floated before my fancy. I did not know

any one lovely enough to wear raiment of glistening white like these, unless—unless—A passing glimpse of the pure white face, and glossy hair, and deep grey eyes of my Sark patient flashed across me.

"They are patterns for Julia's wedding dress," said my mother, in a low, tender tone.

(To be continued.)

ABOUT CIGAR BOXES.

Spanish Cedar Is the Best Wood, but Comes from Cuba.

"There are something like 14,000,000 cigar boxes used in the United States annually, and about nine-tenths of that number are made in this city, where the trade rivals the clothing industry in point of capital invested, and the number of people employed," said a leading cigar-box manufacturer in New York to the writer. "The material out of which the best boxes are made comes principally from Cuba, and is known as Spanish cedar. The recent war with Spain shortened the supply and increased the price of the article to such an extent that many box makers have been compelled to use a cheaper and less desirable grade of wood for the purpose."

"One New York firm has been experimenting with timber from the unexplored Paraguayan forests, which are said to contain the finest cedar wood in the world. They have, however, experienced considerable difficulty in selling their boxes, as cigar manufacturers and connoisseurs insist that it spoils a fine cigar to put it in any box not made of genuine Spanish cedar. The latter wood always retains the flavor of a good cigar. Indeed, some people claim that it improves the flavor. The reason given is that it grows in the same localities as the best Havana tobacco."

"Attempts made to use cedar grown in the United States for cigar boxes have not been very successful. The Florida and South American cedar contains a peculiar gum that melts when the wood is exposed to the heat of a store or house, and thus the labels and sometimes the cigars in a box are spoiled. Of course, the smokers of cheaper brands of cigars are less particular about the quality of the wood used for their boxes, and a veneered cedar, made from a peculiar sort of cedar that grows in Mexico, is often substituted for the Spanish article. But it cannot be done without the cigar dealers finding it out, and the consequence is that even a good cigar when packed in such a box sells at a disadvantage.—Washington Star.

A DOUBTFUL STORY.

Too Good to Be True, Though a Sober Man Tells It.

"Never had such a shock in my life. I questioned for a few minutes whether I was in my right mind. I was sick, and good and sick at that. I called up central, and was informed in one of the most pleasant voices I ever heard that they were busy on the line of my regular physician. Just as I was going to cut loose on a string of profanity she said: 'You're sick, sir. I can tell from your voice. I'll call physicians till I get one. Meantime you'd better lie down.'"

"Say, nothing but a dead faint would have removed me from that telephone. I listened as I heard her ring for one doctor after another, always quick and polite in her inquiries, but patient and not a lost note in that flute-like voice. I forgot that I was sick, and I was sorry when she finally found a physician whom she told to hurry to me."

"A little later she called up to know if I needed a nurse. Of course I did, just because I wanted the pleasure of hanging on to that receiver while she routed up one number after another until the desired article was procured. It was great. When it came to getting drugs she was only one removed from a magician. I ordered dainties that I never eat, just to hear her call for them, for I pretended a degree of weakness that would not permit of my standing too long at the phone. The whole thing was a startling revelation to me. When I'm well the company is going to lose that girl or she'll refuse what a good many mamas regard as a catch."

Then one of the most delectable elixirs in the town went to the telephone and asked the time, though he had three clocks and a chronometer, all on duty.—Detroit Free Press.

EVENTS OF THE DAY

FROM THE FOUR QUARTERS OF THE WORLD.

A Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week Presented in a Condensed Form Which is Most Likely to Prove of Interest to Our Many Readers.

The chainmakers are striking for more pay.

Venezuela issues an explanation of the trouble.

A Cotton Belt train was robbed near Texarkana.

The Japanese press is excited over the Honolulu incident.

Visible grain supply August 31st shows general increase.

Late developments were not favorable to the steel strikers.

Governor Schroeder reports prosperous conditions in Guam.

Summary of crop conditions reports generally favorable weather.

The United States offered to mediate between Venezuela and Colombia.

The Caracas and Bogota governments replied to Secretary Hay's note.

English and Pittsburg syndicates bet \$400,000 on the coming yacht race.

Men employed to take the strikers' places at the Le Roi smelter walked out.

Boers threaten to shoot all British soldiers captured after September 15th.

Courts will be asked to set aside the sale of a Skagit County, Washington, road to the Great Northern Railway.

Lone highwayman was captured near Ashland.

Insurgents of Colombia have besieged Bocas Del Toro.

France requests the Turkish Ambassador to leave Paris.

Oregon's Pan-American exhibit has been of much benefit.

British bark Collesie wrecked on west coast of South America.

Official trial race of Columbia and Constitution was without result.

Labor Day was quite generally observed throughout the United States.

Philadelphia woman was arrested in London for the forgery of nearly \$500,000.

United States Consular agent requests that a gunboat be sent to the scene.

Burdette Wolf, who murdered a girl in Portland 10 years ago, is in hiding in Peru.

The steel strikers were unable to get the men at the Duquesne mills to walk out.

Roosevelt, in an address, said the cry against the men of wealth is not justifiable.

Courts of Hawaii do not agree on the question of the Constitution following the flag.

Francis, the Missouri murderer, is still at large.

Frenchmen are excited over the coming visit of the Car.

Five American warships visited British ports simultaneously.

Steel strikers declare they have caused the Duquesne to close.

Columbia defeated Constitution in the first race of the final series.

Boers blew up a train and killed a promising young British officer.

Venezuelan and Colombian troops are massed on the border near Cucuta.

A trust has been formed to control the manufacture of laundry machinery.

An Illinois aeronaut fell 400 feet from his balloon and was alive when picked up.

New York banks affected by Sub-treasury operations and interior demand for money.

Powder mills at Krebs station, Pa., were destroyed by an explosion and two men were killed.

Montana train wreck on the Great Northern was the worst in the road's history. Thirty-eight were killed.

Nearly 10,000 Venezuelans are massed on the Colombian frontier in readiness to support the Colombian revolutionists.

Prince Chun's mission will be hurried to Berlin.

Shamrock had another satisfactory trial in New York bay.

Kitchener reports another case of Boers shooting prisoners.

The Chinese are again dictating terms in regard to the protocol.

Nine persons lost their lives by the explosion of a Delaware steamer.

Nebraska Republicans denounced Governor Savage for paroling Bartley.

A Missouri negro murderer is being pursued, and may be burned if caught.

Sante Fe line negotiating with Pacific Mail for trans-Pacific connections.

The list of witnesses to appear before the Schley court of inquiry is made public.

Burns, of the Window Glass Workers, has a plan for settlement of the steel strike.

In Hong Kong there are only 400 women, and in Hawaii 532 women, to every 1000 men.

The number of retail liquor dealers in the United States at the close of last year was 206,000. The total vote of the prohibition party in the election of the same year was 209,000.

The bee and honey-raisers of North Germany are having a hard time. They feel the competition of the artificial product contains often no more than 10 per cent of natural honey.

FRANCE SAYS GO.

Turkish Ambassador was Formally Requested to Leave Paris.

Paris, Sept. 5.—The result of Munir Bey, the Turkish Ambassador, coming to Paris in spite of the rupture of Franco-Turkish relations, and holding a fete in the open way, at the Turkish Embassy yesterday, in honor of the anniversary of the Sultan's accession to the throne, has been that the French government sent him the same afternoon, a request to leave France immediately, and Munir Bey departed for Switzerland that evening.

Advises received here from Turkey indicate a disquieting internal situation. Disorders and militia uprisings are reported in Armenia, Macedonia and the neighborhood of Mecca. The son of a high functionary was carried off by brigands near Adrianople, who fought a bloody engagement with the troops sent against them.

A dispatch from Salonica says that Nouri Bey, aid-de-camp of the Sultan, who was sent to investigate the brigandage in Albania, has been killed by Albanians. It is also said that the Turkish troops at Prizrend, Albania and Uskub are rioting because they have not been paid.

M. Constans, the French Ambassador to Turkey, had another conference with the French Minister, M. Delcasse, today.

The Government of France is determined to compel Turkey to fulfill her obligations. Unless the Sultan yields shortly he will find the bill against him increased by a number of other outstanding claims of Frenchmen which will add an appreciable sum to that now demanded.

PRINCE CHUN DEPARTS.

Chinese Prince and His Entourage Are Now En Route to Berlin.

Basel, Switzerland, Sept. 5.—At 11 o'clock tonight Prince Chun and his entourage left for Berlin by the Imperial special train. Before starting a number of the mission said Emperor William had decided to waive the ceremony of kotowing, and that the only persons to be received by him in ceremonial audience would be Prince Chun and Ying Chang. The member of the mission in question said also that the mission would remain in Berlin for a fortnight, and had received and accepted invitations from the British, Italian, American, Belgian and Japanese Governments.

German Public Satisfied.

Berlin, Sept. 5.—The fact that Count von Bulow has at last succeeded in surmounting the Chun difficulty has created considerable satisfaction in the public mind. Prince Chun will now apologize without any humiliating formalities. It is asserted that all the members of the government were as much surprised as was the public at the attempt to revive the obsolete custom of kotowing. Count von Bulow has not returned to Nordeney to finish his last holiday. It is understood that the newly appointed Chinese Minister to Germany, who is a member of the exploratory mission, was most energetic in opposing prostration, declaring that if he submitted to such a ceremony he would forfeit the right to be treated as an equal of the other members of the diplomatic corps.

GERMANY AS A PEACEMAKER.

Will Advise the Sultan to Settle With France at Once.

Constantinople, Sept. 5.—M. Bapst, councillor of the French Embassy, and the other members of the Embassy's staff took the guardship Vautour on an excursion up the Sea of Marmosa. In order to avoid dressing the vessel as the other ships in the harbor were dressed, in recognition of the anniversary of the Sultan's accession to the throne, which was celebrated yesterday, the members of the Embassy did not participate in the congratulations of the diplomatic corps nor was the Embassy illuminated.

Turkish officials received only 40 to 60 per cent of their salaries on the anniversary of the Sultan's accession. The report that the Sultan has appealed to Germany to use her good offices to settle the dispute with France is confirmed. Germany, it is understood, will advise the Porte to settle with France as soon as possible.

SENSATIONAL CHARGES.

Northport Smeltermen's Union Replies to the Injunction.

Spokane, Sept. 5.—Sensational charges are made in the reply of the Northport Smeltermen's Union to the injunction suit and restraining order forbidding interference with the smelter employees. The union charges that a majority of the stock in the smelter company is owned by subjects of King Edward, who have no right to own lands in this state. Charges are also preferred against Bela Kadish, superintendent of the smelter, who is accused of offering a bribe of \$2000 to an officer of the union to break it up. The union men state to the court that they "only claim the right to go to whomsoever is willing to hear them, and tell the exact facts and to persuade persons by peaceable means."

Gift of Carnegies to Brave Miners.

London, Sept. 5.—Andrew Carnegie has given £100 each to Sheddon, Law, Jones and Dick, four miners, who displayed conspicuous bravery in the rescue of their comrades at the time of the recent Dolbristle (Perthshire) colliery disaster.

Examination of Surgeons.

Washington, Sept. 5.—The examination of applicants for appointments as assistant surgeons in the Army has resumed in Washington and San Francisco. Seventy-six vacancies in the Medical Department still remain to be filled, and as it is desired by the military authorities that the department be filled to its full legal limit as early as possible, all eligible applicants will be afforded opportunity for examination, and those found qualified will be commissioned at an early date.

NEWS OF THE STATE

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS OF OREGON.

Commercial and Financial Happenings of Importance—A Brief Review of the Growth and Improvements of the Many Industries Throughout Our Thriving Commonwealth—Latest Market Report.

Large deposits of mineral wax have been discovered in Malheur County.

A pocket of 50 per cent pure gold ore was uncovered in the Virtue mine in Eastern Oregon.

Reports are current that numerous Chinese pheasants are being slain untimely in the Willamette Valley.

Superintendent Ackerman holds that Oregon voters have the right to say whether more than eight grades shall be taught in the public schools.

A Pendleton bicycle thief got safely away with a wheel, then became frightened, jumped off, abandoned his booty on the street corner and ran away.

A chicken-raiding owl, measuring five feet from tip to tip and with claws as large as a man's hand, was killed the other day in the mountains above Weston.

Webb street, Pendleton, is to be improved by crushing all boulders larger than a number seven hat, that can be found there. The street was dressed with "gravel" some months ago and has been impassable for teams ever since.

Another rich strike has been made in the Copper Stain mine in the Mount Reuben district near Grant's Pass. Workmen, while drilling, noticed glistening particles in the rock, which proved to be gold. The extent of the vein is not yet known, but the rock is worth many thousands per ton.

From parties who have been fishing on Bear Creek, it is learned that some unscrupulous persons have again been dynamiting fish in that stream. One man reports having seen any number of dead trout along the banks where the dynamites failed to gather them up. He says he measured one such, which was exactly 26 inches in length.

Hop picking has begun in several Oregon yards.

Another contest has been filed in the Tillamook timber land case.

Cattlemen freed about 100 shots into a band of sheep in Eastern Oregon.

Important changes will be made among the traffic men of the O. R. & N. Railway.

Hop pickers are said to be very scarce in many sections of the Willamette Valley.

Richard Downey has been appointed marshal of Vale, vice Robert Draper, resigned.

Construction of the Lakeview-Silver Lake telephone line will be begun about September 1st.

A band of counterfeiters captured at Huntington had one of the most complete outfits ever found.

A branch of the Sons of St. George has been organized by the British-American citizens of Marshfield.

A dead infant was found in a mill-race at Salem, but the presence was explained satisfactorily to the coroner.

W. S. Walker's threshing crew run five days on spring grain and averaged 2500 bushels. The largest run on one day was 3100 bushels. That is something big, and Mr. Walker would like to hear of the thresher that equals it.

Portland Markets.

Wheat—Walla Walla, nominal 56½¢ per bushel; bluestem, 56½¢ per bushel; valley, 55½¢@56¢.

Flour—best grades, \$2.65@3.50 per barrel; Graham, \$2.60.

Oats—Old, \$1.10@1.15 percental.

Barley—Feed, \$15@15.50; brewing, \$15.50 per ton.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$27 per ton; middlings, \$21.50; shorts, \$20; chop, \$16.

Hay—Timothy, \$11@13; clover, \$9@9.50; Oregon wild hay, \$5@6 per ton.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 22½¢@25¢; dairy, 18¢@20¢; store, 11¢@12¢ per pound.

Eggs—17@17½¢ per dozen.

Cheese—Full cream, twins, 11½¢@11¢; Young America, 12½¢ per pound.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$3.00@3.75; hens, \$4.50@5.50; dressed, 10¢@11¢ per pound; springs, \$2.50@3.50 per dozen; ducks, \$3 for old; \$3.00@3.50 for young; geese, \$5@6 per dozen; turkeys, live, 8¢@10¢; dressed, 10¢@12½¢ per pound.

Mutton—Lamb, 3½¢, gross, dressed, 6¢@7¢ per pound; sheep, \$3.25, gross; dressed, 6¢@6½¢ per lb in.

Hogs—Gross, heavy, \$5.75@6.00; dressed, \$4.75@5; dressed, 7¢@7½¢ per pound.

Veal—Small, 8¢@9¢; large, but 7½¢ per pound.

Beef—Gross top steers, \$3.50@4.00; dressed, \$3.25@3.50; dressed, 6¢@7¢ per pound.

Hops—12@14¢ per pound.

Wool—Valley, 11¢@13½¢; Eastgate, Oregon, 8¢@12½¢; mohair, 20¢@21¢ per pound.

Potatoes—\$1@1.10 per sack. Ident as in Brazil produces 350,000 tons of Potatoes out of the world's yearly crop has 900,000 tons.

The population of the United Kingdom passed that of France for the first time in 1892.

Holland has 10,100 windmills, 84,000 of which drains 310 acres of land. This an average cost of 25 cents an acre the year.

Italy and Spain have fewer in proportion to population than other country. The Argentine Republic has most.



"LOOK THERE, TARDIF."