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# BY CHARLOTTE M. BRAEME.

And then, with Lewis's assistance, I Miss Vane, and our fears were realized took her to her own room. I had not time then to note the splendor and magnificence of everything. Miss Vane certainly either had no idea of the value of money, or had such an abundance of it that she did not know what to do with | if I was really the lively, cheerful mistude. No matter how great the pain, it hitherto been one round of busy, active did not wring one cry from her. Great white with anguish, but no word escaped

"You must have a doctor at once,' I said, as she lay on the bed, "without any further loss of time." "A doctor? No, Mrs. Neville, I would rather not.'

"It is imperative. Every moment adds

to the danger of the delay. I have no idea how to set a broken limb, or I would spare you the need." "Let it remain broken," she said. "I would rather that than see a doctor." "You must see one; it would be a little sort of murder for me to let you remain in this way much longer. The | me. She found that I asked no ques-

She lay quite still for some minutes. "If you send for any one, let it be for Sir John Emmett

send to Daintree, the nearest place-we must have a doctor from there. She turned impatiently from me. "Lewis," she said, with sweet imperiousness, "you will not allow me to be Here are the keys, Mrs. Neville." inconvenienced and annoved. You are pledged to obey me; if you disobey, it is

see no stranger; I will bear all the extra pain with patience. Remember your Lewis went out of the room, giving a wistful glance at me. I made some ex- hand was a small brass key, which evicuse and followed her. She was waiting | dently belonged to a patent lock. for me in the corridor.

"What shall I do, Mrs. Neville?" she

asked, in great distress.

"Your duty is plain enough-you must disobey; it is the only thing to be done in this case." "Miss Vane will send me away if I disobev her.' "Even that will be better than letting

would be better to leave her than to re- to look at it, and then I saw that the main with her crippled. Leave it to me- | rich shining folds were all discolored make very handsome X'mas room for a time, and all will be well." She shook her head doubtfully. "You do not know my mistress, Mrs. Neville. If I disobey, I shall have to

leave; she never breaks her word. But, as you say, it would be better for me to I saw there was nothing for it but to take the lead, and I did so. I sent my coachman into Daintree, and I told him to bring Dr. Fletcher without delay. Mrs. Lewis looked terribly frightened.

"You must not come into Miss Vane's room until I send for you," I said, and I went back to the sufferer. "Where is Lewis?" she asked, as I en-"She is busily engaged. Miss Vane, let with fragrant water and soothing her

with gentle words. She did not com-plain, but her face relaxed, the dark eyes grew tender, the proud lips softened. "You are very kind to me," she whispered. "How soft your hands are! How low and gentle your voice is!" And then she seemed to fall asleep or into a fainting fit, I could not tell which. I knew that nothing could be done for her except current of air round her.

into the room. Perhaps the slight noise of his entrance disturbed her. She looked of unhappy love, of brooding. vengeful up at him. I bent down over her, "My dear Miss Vane," I said, "we have been compelled to disobey you; you are too ill to understand. I have sent for Doctor Fletcher from Daintree '

She intended, I feel sure, to make some protest; but, even while I looked at a dead face, and leave it exposed to view. her, all consciousness died out of her I hastened to quit the room, but I could eyes, and words of wild meaning came not forget the dismal scene. com her lips. Then the doctor began his examination of her arm "It is a compound fracture," he declared, "and will take some time to heal." In the meantime he pronounced

Miss Vane to be very ill. "I should not be surprised," he said, "if fever were to set in, and, if it does, Miss Vane, as I think you called the lady, will need careful watching." When Lewis came trembling into the room, dreading severe reprimand, it was found that her mistress did not even recognize her. The doctor told us not to

"It is evident," he said "that the patient is of a nervous and excitable temperament, very susceptible and sensitive. There can be no doubt that she is delirious from the effects of the severe pain." The arm was set with great difficulty, and then the doctor asked me if I should like to have a professional nurse. But the beautiful face, the strange, half imperious, half caressing manner had found their way to the very depth of my heart. I could not surrender Miss Vane to strangers. The doctor was aston-

ished when I said :-"No, I will remain myself." "But you are not strong enough, Mrs. Neville," he said, "It seems to me more a question of skill than of strength," I rejoined. And then, having cautioned the doctor not to speak of Miss Vane, or to tell largest and most varied EXPER- any one in Daintree that she was a pa-I did another thing which was prompt-

ed by the caprice of Miss Vane, I sent my servant home with a note saying that I did not intend to return to Ne: ville's Cross for some few days, as I was going to visit a friend. And then our business of nursing began. Miss Vane was not dangerously ill -I could see that myself; but acute

pain brought on fever, with almost constant delirium. If I had learned to love her before, my affection for her now became intense. The large dark eyes followed me through the long, warm night; yet the touch of my hand, the sound of my voice, seemed to southe and

The memory of those night-watches returns to me vividly now. I can see the magnificent roum with its splendor of adornment, the shaded light from the night-lamp falling on wonders of art and luxury-I can see the rose-colored hangings of the pretty white bed, and the beautiful, pale face on the pillow-a face marvelous in its loveliness and its During the strange, weird silence of

the night Miss Vane's valce sounded like nothing earthly-like faint, sweet, sad music-and the words she murmured were always of farewell, always of death, of going away from sunshine and flowers. A hundred times and more during the silence of the night she would stretch out her hand and say :-"Good-bye, my lost love-good-bye!"

some cloud or shadow had darkened her life. I might have found out what, if I had listened to her, but the half-whispered words were sacred. UNAPTER V.-LOVE! EVERY SIN AND FOLLY SEEMS TO HIDE

for a large box of new books and tried to read to her. She would listen for some ITSEF UNDER THAT WORD. little time, and then she would turn to We had expected a severe illness for me suddenly, and ask:-

# \*\*\* ", se story," I would reply.

As time passed on, everything seemed to become unreal-the silence of the house, the rush of the river, the low, sweet voice with its sad story, were all so new to me. There were times when I wondered tress of Neville's Cross, whose life had

Whenever Miss Vane raved more than usual, Jane Lewis would look at me with an air of distress, evidently fearing what I might hear. She did this so often that I went to her at last and

pelled to hear I shall forget." She looked slightly confused. "My mistress dreaded so much lest-And then she hesitated. "Lest her story should be known," I

"Do not be afraid-what I am com-

supplied. "It will never be known, Jane Lewis, through me.' As time sped on the faithful servant began to trust me, to feel confidence in only question is, what dector shall we | tions, contenting myself with doing what I could, and evincing no curiosity. A strange incident happened one day.

Some peculiar liniment was wanted for the bruised shoulder, and some fine, soft | Vane.' old linen. Jane Lewis was engaged with "I dare not wait, Miss Vane; your her mistress, and I offered to go in search arm must be attended to at once. I must of it. She gave me directions. "We have made a kind of store-room," she said, "of the small room on the left . of the staircase. You will find linen, lint, and all kinds of useful things there.

There was no curiosity or thought of prying on my part when I went in search of the bottle and the linen. But it did so happen that I chose the righthand door instead of the left. The bunch of kevs was a large one, and the one that fitted the little room on the right Such a strange little room it was. It

with white lace curtains, a crimson carpet, a square table, with three chairs, and over one of the chairs was thrown a wedding-dress, the rich folds of white satin and lace falling upon the floor. I knew it was a wedding dress because it was profusely trimmed with orange her run the risk of losing her arm-it blossoms. I could not resist going nearer

contained one large window, shrouded

up in fancy bottles and boxes I will take all the risk. Keep out of her with dust. It seemed to me that it had been hanging there for years. Closer inspection showed me that the white had grown yellow. On another chair, placed so as to show the exquisite pattern and design, hung superb wedding veil; that, too, had grown yellow with dust and age. Curiosity led me to the table. Thereon lay a faded bridal wreath-a wreath of orangeblossoms-a pair of white kid gloves, a

> with a richly jeweled handle a withered bouquet, and a bracelet of magnificent pearls, all placed in order, but spoiled from the accumulated dust of years. I gazed in silent amazement. It seemed to me that I had been suddenly brought face to face with a dead past-with the me be of use to you until she returns." dreadful reality of some terrible tragedy. I sat by her side, bathing her face What did it mean, this ghastly wedding costume-the rich dress, the beautiful veil, the dainty wreath? Why were they left to molder here-to decay in the dust and the sunshine? Had the soft flowing veil ever covered the face of a fair young

dainty lace handkerchief, a white fan

bride? Had the wreath ever rested on a fair young head? It was weak, perhaps, and foolish, but, as I stood there, my eyes were blinded with a mist of hot tears. It was bathing her face and keeping a cool fresh a sight to touch any true woman's heart. I felt as though I was in the presence of The doctor soon came, and was shown | the dead. What strange story was hidden here? What tragedy of warring passions,

pride, had happened that this bridal costume had never been worn? It occurred to me that I had seen what was never intended for stranger eyes. I felt as one who had witnessed a rash hand draw the white sheet from off I found the right room at last-the

bottle, the linen, all as I had been told -and then went back to Miss Vane, resolved not to say a word to Jane Lewis or any one else of my discovery. From that moment the heautiful mistress of the River House had a new interest in my eyes. I could not say that the apparel was hers, but I fancied it was. What strange thing had happened in her past life? What terrible tragedy had blighted her as a cutting wind would blast a flower? I sat up with her that same night; there was new pathos, new

meaning to me in her words, when she held out her hand, saving, "Good-bye, my lost love-good-bye!" Toward the dawn of the morning she was better. She fell into a deep, healthy slumber, and she was happy, poor child. in her dreams; for the first time I saw a tender, beautiful smile play round her lips. She was happy in her dream, for I

heard her say :--"My darling Clive, I promise-" Listening to the words, how could I help thinking of that ghostly travesty upstairs-the wedding dress that had never been worn-the wreath that was faded and dead? Looking at her, I might have wished that she could sleep on, for never, during her waking hours, had I

"If peace and her lost love come to her in her dreams, let her dream always," I said to myself From that day she began slowly to mend. Dr. Fletcher said the arm could not be doing better. The time came when she woke from her long fever, and looked at me with calm, sad eyes. "I remember you." she said. "You are Mrs. Neville. Have you been with Canada

me all the time I have been ill?" "Yes, all the time. You must not be angry with me if I tell you that, during that time, I have learned to love you dearly, as though you were a young sis-"To love me!" she repeated. "Oh! dear Mrs. Neville, never say that to me again!" She shrunk like a sensitive plant

from a coarse touch. "I will not, if you do not like it. But try to feel quite at home and at ease with me, for I shall not intrude upon you long. I know you wish to live alone -to be alone. When you are quite well I shall go away again out of your life, just as though I had never crossed it. Do not hesitate to make the most of my services now, for I shall not come again until you send for me.'

hand and kissed it I blushed like a school girl as she did so-and then she raised her sad, dark eyes to mine. "Mrs. Neville," she said, "do not make me care for you-do not teach me to like you. "Why not, Miss Vane?" "I will not," she cried; "I-" And

then her face grew suddenly pale, and

To my great surprise, she took my

her eyes dim, but not with tears-not until long afterward did I see tears in The words would lie in sweet cadences her eyes; it was rather a mist, as though pride would not let the tears flow. "You are forgetting how weak and ill It was easy enough then to guess that you are, I will promise anything you like I will not seek to make you care for me, but I will take care of you. I did my best during the long weary hours of convalescence to arouse and interest her, but it was weary work. I sent

TERMS-\$1 00 a Year, in Advance "What is that story?"

'An!-then close it. I would rather again undergo all my past suffering than listen to a love story.' From the pallor that came over her face, and the shudder that made her tremble, I knew the words were not affected, but real. She was pleased when I played and sung to her, but not when I attempted a love song. She would beg One day I took heart of grace, and

liberately darken your life?"

when she cried out to me I left the piano. and going up to her knelt down by her "My dear Miss Vanz," I said, "you will not hear a love story, you will not hear a love song; do you know that if you shut yourself out from love, you de-

She made no answer. I felt more cour-"Love is the law of nature," I said. All things brighten and are beautified through it. What should we do without the great, infinite love that wraps us round like a mantle, that takes us from

earth to heaven, or even mere earthly

human love?" I shall never forget the expression of intense scorn and contempt that came over her beautiful face; her lips curled in proud disdain, her eyes flashed. "This is a pretty, sentimental way of looking at a foolish weakness." she said.

"Give to everything its proper name, Mrs. Neville. What you call that most foolish of all follies I call treachery. There is no love. Men and women deceive each other. Men sell their souls for money, or pawn their credit for fame. Women sell what they call their hearts for any bauble that comes first. Love! Every sin and folly on earth seems to hide itself under that word!"

I was startled by her violence, by her fiery pride; but in a righteous cause l was neither to be put down nor to be "You are prejudiced and unjust, Miss

"Harm always comes of love. I detest the word. To me it is but the synonym for hatred, treachery, fraud, deceit, and grossest wrong. If we are to be good friends, or even friends at all, never mention the word 'love' to me again." And I never dared.

CHAPTER VI.-"THE DREARIEST FARCE UNDER HEAVEN."

Miss Vane recovered slowly, but surely; the pallor of her face gave place to the daintiest bloom. The time came when I saw that I could leave her in safety and that she was on a fair way to recovery. I told her so one day when we were sitting alone. She looked at me with wistful eyes.

you, yet you have treated me as though I were your own sister." "I will crown my goodness by keeping my promise and passing out of your life She seemed slightly confused, and then glanced up into my face with the frank

'You have been very kind to me,

Mrs. Neville. You are really a good

Samaritan. I am a perfect stranger to

est smile that I had yet seen on her own. "Mrs. Neville," she said, "I should like to ask a favor of you.' "I am quite sure that I shall grant it," responded. Will you be my friand?" said Miss Vane. #I do not fee! that I can part

I smiled to myself, thinking of the

soul that was strong enough to live without love, and that called all love treach-"I should like you to be my friend, if you will-to come and see me sometimes," Miss Vane went on. "You can perceive that in my short life I have had a great sorrow-so great as to cut me off from my kind, to make me hate the sight and sound of almost every living creature, to turn with loathing from all that is fairest and brightest on earth. I can not tell you what that sorrow was. You are kind enough not a seek to

know it Will you be my friend, yet respect my secret, which I choose to with-"I will; it is yourself, not your secret, "You will promise to let me live my old life, not to try to draw me from it, never to bring any one to see me, never to ask me to your house, but at times to

come and visit me, content to know no more of me than you do now?" "I promise to keep the terms of our compact, Miss Vane, as long as I live.' She held out her hand to me, and as I clasped it in mine, I said to her:-"What beautiful hands you have, Miss Vane! I have seen none so perfect in

shape and color." Co tinued on At's Page.

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# GOOD STABLING on the premises.

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# Advertiser is open for good spruce lumber for pulp making for delivery during next three months; lowest price to "Magnesia" care of Editor Chatham.

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THE MARITIME SULPHITE FIBRE CO. LTD.

Reply stating full particulars to P. S. MACNUTT & CO.

WHICH I CAN FURNISH AT REASONABLE PRICES. STOVES

PUMPS, PUMPS sinks, Iron Pipe, Baths, Creamers the very best,

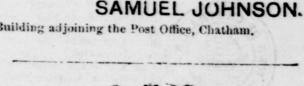
A.C. McLean Chatham. DERAVIN & CO. COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

VESTS GREAT - VARIETY

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SHOES!

First Class Article made to Order come to the shop of Samuel Johnson.



NOTICE TO HOLDERS OF TIMBER LICENSES CROWN LAND OFFICE, 24 JULY, 1896 The attention of all holders of Timber Licenses is alled to Section 19 of the Timber Regulations which reads as follows :-19 No Spruce or Pire trees shall be cut

and the License be forfeited"

INSURANCE. The Insurance business heretofore carried on by the late Thomas F. Gillespie, deceased is continued by the undersigned who represents the following

> LONDON, & LANCASHIRE, LANCASHIRE, ÆTNA. HARTFORD. NORWICH UNION ALLIANCE,



December, 1897, to the 1st January, 1898, inclusive, at about First Class Sing'e Fare, good for return Tickets are not good for going after date of issue. Through Excursion Return Tickets will be issued on above dates at about First Class Single Fare, good for return journey, commencing not later than 7th January, 1898. Tickets are not good for going journey after 1st January, 1898 All tickets are good only for continuous journey in either D. POTTINGER,

LARGEST HOTEL IN CHATHAM.

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COOKING, HALL AND PARLOR STOVES

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ooking for are made at this establishment, and a stock of them is now on hand. All Hand-made work and Warranted. Repairs made promptly.
Prices reasonable all round.

The driving-boots that all the Lumbermen are

by any Licensee under any License, not even for piling, which will not make a log at least 18 feet in length and ten inches at the small end; and if any such shall be cut, the Lumber shall be liable to double stumpage

### ALBERT T DUNN. Surveyor General

and all Licensee; are hereby notified, that for the

future, the provisions of this section will be rigidly

SCCTTISH UNION AND

PHENIX OF LONDON JAS. G. MILLER,