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PROP.

**THE LESSON OF LIFE**

(Continued.)

"Red what?" he asked, surprised, thinking of the work.

"Red sailor hat," said she.

He observed the brightness of her happy eyes with a renewal of that comfort which had come to him when she had first dropped into the chair opposite. It made him pause in his work. He could not remember that he had ever seen the pleasure of anticipation show so plainly on any human face before. He decided that her employment would not be a waste of money.

"Poor thing!" he thought.

"Your eyes are very funny, sometimes—like a cow's, aren't they?" she said.

Sympathy was barred from his expression for a time.

Presently the figures became more involved. Within ten minutes Bat had made an error and he had caught it. He was annoyed.

It was in his mind to tell her that she must not make mistakes and must avoid impudence; but when he looked at her through the soft light his lips puckered sternly for the first word, she met his gaze and, before he had a chance to speak, said enthusiastically:

"I can get it for a dollar down at Macy's—the very best they have! And the ribbon, if I get real silk, will cost another dollar. In two weeks I can get it!"

He did not tell her that she must not make mistakes; he did not chide her for her impudence.

But before long he stopped work, saying that they had done enough for that night.

"It's only half past nine, and you said that you should work till midnight, every night!" she protested.

She was in a hurry for that hat.

He smiled at her. It was in his mind to get her to go away so that he could do the work alone and more quickly, but he asked her, instead, where she had been at school.

"You are so quick at figures for your—your age!" he added, with glib falsehood, when he saw on her face a shadow of the suspicion that he might have spoken with sarcasm.

"Me?" said she, ungrammatically, but reassured. "I have never been to school. What I know I have picked up. You see, there always is some boarder who wants breakfast late, and that keeps me until after school-time. Besides, the women always dawdle at their lunches—those who don't work down-town—and I have to stand around and wait for them. They're much worse than the men are. It keeps me busy!"

He had not realized that the child worked, except at actual meal times. He almost stammered an apology for even his mental criticisms had been quite unjust. It was greatly to her credit, he thought quickly, that she could add at all.

"Of course," said he.

"It seems to me," said she, "that helping you, this way, might teach me to be quicker. Mightn't it?"

**SOME SPLENDID TONICS FOR THE HAIR.**

(By Katherine Morton)

A slight scalp trouble may be treated easily at home, but one must use some judgment in deciding upon the remedy needed. When the scalp is very dry and there is constant desquamation, which scaling is so fine as to give the hair a powdery look, this means that there is a chronic inflammation of the hair follicles, and unless it is arrested the hair will fall out in bunches after awhile. The following unguent will be found beneficial for this condition, as it softens the tightened scalp and strengthens the weakened hair roots: Oil of almonds, one pint; alkanet root, two and a quarter ounces; oil of cloves, nineteen grains; oil of mace, nineteen grains; oil of rose, nineteen grains; oil of cinnamon, one dram; tincture of musk, fifteen grains.

The coarsely powdered alkanet root must soak in the almond oil—keep this at a gentle heat all the while—until the oil is a deep red; strain through cheesecloth and add the other oils slowly, putting in the perfume last, drop by drop, with the vessel away from the fire. This oil is also said to be excellent for falling hair, however induced, and it likewise may be used to advantage with hair constitutionally thin. It must be applied only to the scalp, and always with massage.

For the condition which causes the scalp to dry and tighten and give off the tiny scales there are a number of reasons—shampooing the hair with strong soaps, the overuse of soda, borax and ammonia, hot curling irons and false hair and cushions are all direct causes, though without these certain stages of anaemia will bring about the same unpleasant disorder. Massage is indicated for heads suffering from the trouble, as the first requirement is to loosen the scalp and encourage the flow of natural oils, and if there is no other unguent on hand a few drops of crude oil or olive oil may be used.

Without the acute falling of the hair which may follow any severe illness it is sometimes better to shave the

"Oh, yes, said Perdue.

And again he thought about that little sister of the long ago, wondering how she would have regarded such a situation. Quickly he abandoned the idea of either chiding Bat or taking the work from her. It had, apparently, strangely fallen to his lot to be her feather.

CHAPTER II.

THE COMING OF THE GIRL.

Bat's evening sessions with Perdue amounted, really, to a night school, of which she was the only pupil. She was paid small sums for her attendance, while Perdue was the faculty.

He watched her closely, and learned enough about her character to convince him that if she were to discover the truth, she would quickly stop the schooling.

So he built many subterfuges. Of course, she needed to know things other than arithmetic, wherefore he devised means of slyly teaching her. By announcing, frequently, that his eyes ached, he made excuses for her to read to him, and thus he taught her history and literature. The reading helped her grammar, her spelling and her pronunciation, too, and after a time she fell into the way of accepting his corrections pleasantly. At first she had resented them quite fiercely.

Sometimes she acted like a veritable imp, making it hard for him to control his temper. If he had been teaching her for pay, he never would have endured her at such times, but would have chosen slow starvation as a happier lot.

I suppose that every child has difficulty with the many unreasonable silent letters in the English language. In ordinary conversation there was a quite astonishing purity in Bat's pronunciation but in reading she would sometimes pronounce phonetically the words in which were hidden the greatest number of the silent letters.

For example, while, of course, she would never sound the "l" in "would" in conversation, in reading she would frequently give it its full phonetic value. The effect was most uncanny, and it made Perdue wince. One night, after she had pronounced "would" as if it rined with an Irishman's conception of the word "cold," he exclaimed:

"The 'l' is silent there, Bat! The 'l' is silent there."

"Why the 'l' should it be silent—I mean, why should the 'l' be silent?" she inquired.

He gasped, but did not comment on her wicked speech.

"It is silent in all such words," he said. "In 'could,' 'would,' 'should,'—in all such words."

"Oh," said she.

After time enough had elapsed so that he had an opportunity to forget this episode, she suddenly cast what seemed to be a startled glance at the line where the wall and ceiling joined.

(To Be Continued.)

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head and trust to a new crop of luxuriance; but if a bald spot comes with good health this suggests some unusual strain on the hair at this point, and by correcting the abuse through the needed change in the style of the coiffure the trouble will soon pass. But at the same time encourage the growth of new hair by rubbing the bare places with this lotion:

Tincture of cantharides, one ounce; rectified spirits, two pints; sublimed sulphur, one ounce; glycerine, eight ounces.

Brush the bald spots on the scalp three times a day, with a baby brush for five minutes, then wet the places with the lotion, letting it dry in. Before going to bed the spots must be bathed with warm water and patted dry with a soft rag. Massage must follow, but have this gentle, using the balls of the fingers only and not allowing the nails to come in contact with the scalp.

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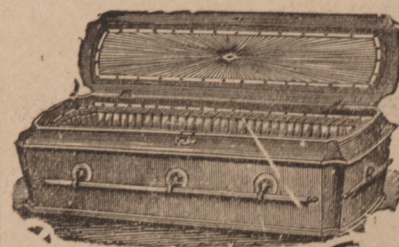
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