The Home Reading Circle



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SYNOPSIS

This story is told by Madeline Rennick, This story is told by Madeline Rennick, an English governers in the family of Dr. Chance, at St. Petersburg, Russia, Chance is an Englishman by birth, but for many years a naturalized Russian. He has long since given up the practice of medicine to bury himself in scientific research in his two splendidly equipped laboratories. The barver and flows of them work. in his two splendidly equipped laboratories. The larger and finer of these workshops is known as the filue Laboratory, A peculiarity of the room is a low glass dome rising from a corner of the floor. Dr. Chance's daughters, Olga and Maroussa, tell the governess that once they sneaked into the filue Laboratory and heard cries for help coming from the glass dome. Miss fer help coming for the household who has en opportunity of so doing, as through her knowledge and love of science she has become of great assistance to the doctor in knowledge and love of science and has de-come of great assistance to the doctor in his research, and frequently is occupied in the laboratories. One day she catches a glimpse of a ghastly face beneath the dome. The next time that she is alone in the dome she further investigates and is rewarded by hearing a voice from under the thick glass saying: "I am an English-man, unjustly imprisoned, put to torture." The young woman resolves to release the man at all hazards. She at once takes an impressic of the key of the room in wax and also takes up her mind to report the facts to t | English consul,

PART IV.

Having nerved myself to this point I dressed as usual and attended to my duties during the morning hours. All my splendor of the night before was laid aside, and I was once again the plain, sensible looking English governess. At half-past twelve we all assembled for the mid-day meal. Dr. Chance sat at the foot of his table. He was particularly agreeable in his manner, but I observed that he gave me some stealthy and covert glances. For a moment I feared that he might suspect something, then, believing this to be impossible, I tried to remain cool and Toward the end of the meal, and just as I was about to rise from table, he had his hand on mine and

"I am sorry to see you looking so pale," he said. "Are you suffering from

"Ah, Miss Rennick! you allow your emotions to get the better of you, That headache is due to excitement, "I have no cause to be excited."

"Pardon me you are mistaken. You have great cause. You remember what promised to tell you tonight?"

I stared him full in the eyes. "I remember," I answered. "It grieves me to have to disappoint An unexpected matter of business calls me immediately from St. Petersburg; I shall be absent for a cou-

ple of days." "But, my dear Alexander, I know

nothing of this," said the wife. "I shall explain the matter to you later, my dear," he said. "The principal thing now is that I am unable to fulfill a promise made to Miss Rennick. See how she droops. Her passion for science grows with what it is fed upon. I must leave home at eight o'clock this evening. I shall not be back before Saturday. But for the greater part of this day I shall require your services. Will you meet me in my cabinet not later than half-past two?

I promised and left the room with the two girls. At this hour we always went upstairs and devoted ourselves to ssons. We generally sat in the salon. It was all important, all essential to on this occasion, the one precious hour left to me, for it was now half-past one, at my disposal. I said, loud enough for the doctor to hear: "If you will come with me to my bed-

room, I will lie down and help you as you work. My head will then become better, and I shall be able to attend to the doctor when he requires me.' "Ah, that is good," said Dr. Chance, "be sure you are punctual."

The moment I was alone with the girls, I locked the door and turned and "Listen to me," Isaid, "I have some

thing most important to do. I mean to



"LISTEN TO ME," I SAID.

trust you, but only a to certain extent I have no time to tell you everything." "Oh, Madeline! Madeline! have you discovered something?" cried Olga. now, you can both help me to an !nval-

nable extent." "I shall be only too delighted," said Maroussa, beginning to skip about.

"Try to keep quiet, Maroussa, this is a matter of life or death. It is now half-past one; in one hour's time I must be in your father's cabinet in the meantime I have much to do. I want to call at a locksmith's. He is going to ly and left the cabinet. make me a key. I shall ask him to carefully back to me.'

eksmith will you go to?"

the door in the garden wall. Would my key open it. Yes, it yielded smoothly and easily to the touch of the duplicate key. I swung the door back and did not even trouble to shut t. I felt no fear whatever now. Chance was miles away by this time. I turned on the electric light and valked across the room. My difficulties, were, however, by no means over. It was one thing to have entered the laboratory, but it was quite another to go down into the dim dungeon where the victim was incarcerated. The face had pecred at me through the glass dome. How was that dome opened? By what means was the dungeon opened? I carefully examined the floor and quickly perceived a trap loor concealed by a mat. In the center of this door was a ring. I tugged at t with all my might and main; the door gave way; I saw that it was shut she and Maroussa ran to their own down by a spring and was only capable of being opened from the top. The moment I opened the door I saw Now indeed I must put wings to my feet. I sat down and wrote the folsteps underneath. I had provided mylowing letter to the consul; elf with a candle and some matches, Chance House, Ligovka Canal. I now lit the candle and went slowly Sir; -I urgently implore your immediate assistance. I have discovered that an and cautiously down the stone stairs There were about seven or eight stairs Englishman is imprisoned in an under-ground cellar in this house, and put to tor-ture. I am an English girl, residing here in all. My candle gave but small light and I was rather in despair how to act as governess. I have made up my mind to rescue the Englishman, but cannot do so without assistance. Dr. Chance leaves so without assistance. At 6 o'clock

lown the stone passage, and reached



I WENT SLOWLY AND CAUTIOUSLY DOWN THE STONE STATES.

vants directions to bring you there straight, if you will be kind enough to come to my aid. In God's name do not fail me, for the case is most urgent. Both the Englishman and I are likely to be in extreme danger. I claim your assistance for us both as British subjects.

Large underground chamber, the deep arches of its groined roof receding further and farther away into total darkness. Not, at living soul could I see. I looked around me in much puzzement and then a thint; very faint, the second roof of the control of the cont Yours faithfully,

This letter written, I hastly addressed it and slipped it into my poc-I wrapped myself in my warm At this hour 'Mrs. Chance generally slept, and the girls and I were supposed to be engaged over our work. On my way to the consul's house I stopped at the locksmith's and gave him directions to make a key from the wax impression. I told him that the key must be ready in two or three hours. He objected, expostulating at the shortness of time, and stared me all over. I was firm, telling him that Miss Chance would call for the key between five and six o'clock that evening. He then promised that it should be ready for her, and I left him to hurry to the consul's. The consul's servant opened the door; I put the letter into his hands, charged him immediately my plans that I should have the hour to present it to his master and hurrled home. I had then in truth set a

bomb to the mine. At half past two o'clock I knocked at the door of Dr. Chance's cabinet. He called to me to come in. I entered and went through my usual duties. Tea was brought to us between five and six, but at the meal he scarcely spoke, and sat with his back half turned to me. At seven o'clock he left

the room. "I must prepare for my journey," he said. "I shall find you here for final directions, just before I start."

When he was gone I rested my face in my hands and wondered, with a palpitating heart, what the consul would do for the relief o the wretched victim whose life I was determined to At ten n lutes to eight Dr. Chance dressed from head to foot in his warm furs, entered the cabinet. "Good-by, Miss Rennick," he saidhis wife accompanied him and so did

both the girls. "You will have a couple of days holilay while I am absent. This is Wednesday evening; I trust to be back by Saturday at farthest." He shook hands with me and went into the hall, accompanied by his wife

and daughters. In two minutes' time Olga danced into my presence. "Here is the key," she said, dropping ter voice. "Madeline, how white you look. But it is all right. I called for the key, leaving Maroussa and the nurse outside. We often go to that

shop to have locks repaired and altered and no one suspected anything. Madeline, won't you tell me now what you have discovered?" "Not yet, Olga. Olga, you have "Yes, but I cannot breathe a word belped me much, and now, if you wish

really to do more, will you and Ma-rcussa, as you pity those in sore misery given over unto death, offer up prayers for what I am about to do during the next few hours?" "I will, said Olga, tears springing

to her eyes. "Oh, Madeline, how brave and good you are!' She flung her arms round my neck, kissed me passionate-

I went up to my room, resolving to have it ready by the afternoon and will visit the Blue Laboratory between beg of you Olga and Maroussa to call eight and nine o'clock. At nine o'clock, for it when you go out later in the day, ! if all went well, the consul would come Do not let anyone know; contrive to to my aid. I had already prepried do this in secret and bring the key one of the servants to receive the Englishman on his arrival and to con-"Nurse will come with us," said duct thm to me straight to the Elue ga, "we can easily manage. What Laboratory. The man said he quite understood. I slipped ten rubles in his I mentioned the name of a man hand; his countenance became blandly hose shop I had noticed on one of the agreeable, he put the money into his and made a note of the address, looked at me again as if she wanted to question further, but I told her I had not a moment to spare. She kissed me and twenty minutes past eight—the time

darkness. Not at living soul could I Raphael. The room was crowded. Sudsee. I looked around me in much puzionent and then a thint; very faint, ing at me and not at the picture. I groan fell upon my ears. I directed turned and said, "Ladies and gentlemy steps in the direction of this sound my steps in the direction of this sound mea, I have come three thousand miles the days, the days, mea, I have come three thousand miles the days, mea, I have come three thousand miles the days, means and the days, means are the days, means and the days, means are the days, m and I presently saw the dim outline of further groined arches, and beyond deep shadow. I went on a few more furs and went out. No one saw me steps and then discovered the object of my search. A man, tightly bound, lay upon the floor; his eyes stared fully at me, his face was cadaverous-of that yellow hue which one has seen now and then in the face of a corpse. His hands were tied, so were his feet; he could not move an inch; his lips moved, but no sound came from them; only the eyes could speak, and they told me volumes. I fell on my knees and touched him tenderly on his arm "I said I would rescue you,' I cried, and I have come within the time. Now, fear nothing, I shall soon manage to untie your bonds and set you

The lips again moved faintly, and the eyes tried to express something that I could never guess. I laid my nands on the man's brow; it was wet with perspiration. My blood began to boil with anger. Why had I ever worked for such a demon as Dr. Chance? Still, never nand now. Providence had set me this task in order to rescue the miserable creature who lay at my feet I was just about to bend forward and raise the head of the wretched man, when I felt a touch on my shoulder. Had the consul already arrived? Sure ly, it was not yet nine o'clock? The moment I started upright as if I had been shot. Dr. Chance stood beore me. There was not the least surprise in the gaze, neither was there



has been struck by a locomotive and is picked up alive and carried on the cowcatcher has had a miraculous escape. The who man

and wrecked his body, and through the merits of a medicine is picked up alive and restored to health has had an almost equally wonderful experience. There are thousands of men, who have for years overworked themselves to the neglect of their health, and then when utterly wrecked in body and shattered in nerve have been picked up and restored to health by Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. It is a marvelous remedy that corrects

all disorders of the digestion, invigorates the liver, and fills the blood with the lifegiving elements that build new flesh and It is the great blood-maker and flesh-builder. It cures 98 per cent. of all cases of consumption and is a specific for diseases due to disorders of the digestion or imperfect nutrition. Druggists sell it. or imperfect nutrition. Draggists sell it.

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of Turners Station, Henry Co., Ky.. "have taken
five bottles of your 'Golden Medical Discovery'
and' Favorite Prescription." The medicines are
curing both of us. We can't say too much for
them or for you. My wife persuaded me to quit
the doctor here and try one bottle of your 'Golden Medical Discovery.' I did so, and I thank God
for it. I have recommended in highly to many of
my neighbors. I told them that if it did not do
them one dollar's worth of good that I would pay
for it.

for it.

"I will give you a little statement of my own case. I was enervated, could hardly get up in the morning, never got a wh..!e night's sleep, was short of breath, had a tight feeling in the stomach, and was reatless. I would throw up my food, and had numerous other allments which I have not time to write about now. I now feel better and look better than ever before in my life."

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets are the sur-

ad come. I hastily slipped my revol- the faintest touch of anger in his ver into my pocket, and, with the dup-icate key also concealed about my per-He peered forward as if he would exson, ran downstairs. I did not meet amine a soul; I went into the cabinet, passed through the laboratory beyond, sped amine me closely and then stepped

TO BE CONCLUDED.

A STORY OF EMORY STORRS. It Was Related by Chauncy M. Depew in a Recent Speech.

That a foreign mission is not a bed of roses or a decoration which can always be worn with increasing pleasure, I can establish by a story which I never before have publicly told. I found on the steamer going to Europe one summer that brilliant advocate and eccentric genius, Emory Storrs. Every such man has a fad, and the fad of Storrs was to have 365 different colored neckties, one for each day in the year. He was going abroad for the first time He had been disappointed in securing the position of attorney general and the president had immensely gratified im by signing a special passport issued by the state department and writ-ten on parchment, commending him as a distinguished citizen to the representatives of our government all over the world, and also giving him a commistion as special envoy to treat with the British government upon the regulation which they had made against the ntroduction of American cattle, storrs would come on deck every day, in the afternoon-for Neptune was his supe rior on the ocean, and demanded from him frequent tribute-wearing a new necktie, and take out of his pocket n water-proof envelope, produce from it the pursport and his commission, solemnly read both of them to me, and then inquire what I thought would be the effect of these documents, when exhibited abroad, upon the worn-out monarchies and effete aristocracy of the old world. Then would follow a series of those inimitable anecdotes, in imitably told, for which Storrs was famous. On the last day of the voyage as we were sailing into the port of Liverpool, Storrs, repeating this per-formance, said; "It is not the wornout monarcines and effete aristocracies of Europe that I am after, but it is old Lowell. I understand that he never entertains Americans. I am going to make him give me a dinner and let me select the guests, or teach him that there is a God in Israel."

MADE HIM FAMOUS.

"Lowell was mortified and mad that the functions of the minister, or any part of them, should be transferred to this peripatetic diplomat, and vigorously denounced Storrs for his bad manners when I sat beside him a few nights afterward at dinner. Nevertheless Storrs carried his point, and when Lowell asked him, in fear and trembling, whom he wanted to meet, suppos ing it would be the royalties and the ambassadors and other impossibilities to his delight and astonishment Storrs convested him to accure, as far as possible, Tyndall, Huxley, Lecky, Tennyson, and other great lights of science and literature, because he desired to meet, as he said, 'gentlemen of equal and congenial intellectual equipment. I did not hear of this at the time but Storrs was again on the ship on our way bome, and I said, 'Storrs, did you get that dinner?"

"'Well,' said he, 'I will tell you. After three weeks I left London and went upon the continent. I was in that little room in the gallery at Dresden, ab sorbed, enraptured, almost translated. that marvelous Madonna of dealy I felt that the crowd was looking at me and not at the picture. I to see this inspired painting, the most wonderful work of the brush the world has ever known. I supposed you came for the same purpose, and yet you are looking at me. If it is my clothes, they were made in Chicago." A gentleman stepped forward and said to me: "Mr. Storrs, you are more interesting to us Americans than any painting, however famous. You are the only American to whom Lowell ever gave a

"To make a good story, Storrs did great injustice to the most brilliant of our ambassadors to Great Britain and the one who has left a reputation in London which increases with the years. Mr. Lowell was not only a brilliant ambassador, but was always a representative American."

THE VALUE OF A RECEIPT.

From the Chicago Tribune, A man once read a paper and in i he found a list of "Things Worth

Knowing." "I will save that." he said, and he cut it out and stuck it in his hat. "I may not be able to remember all

these things," he said, "but I will have them on my head, if not in it." That afternoon a friend came with high-stepping horse and an exalted cart and took him to drive. When they had gone a long way from home the horse balked. The friend got out of the car and patted the horse's nose, and rubbed his legs, and talked to him in a low confidential tone; but the horse smiled wickedly and refused to move. Ther the friend used the whip flercely upor he obstinate animal, but the horse whisked his tail and would not start So the friend became very angry and talked to the horse as a stepfather to his child, and he borrowed a board from a neighboring fence and used i first as a crowbar and then as a goad

but without result. "We might start him with gunpow der." said the friend, and he went to a farmer's house to borrow the gunpow der. The farmer had none. The mar took off his hat to mop his fevered brow and found the list of things worth

knowing. "I have it," he cried, as he read from the list. "To start a balky horse drop a pebble in his ear," So he found a nice, irregular pebble

and dropped it into the horse's ear Then he stepped back to watch the recult. The horse started. He took with him a part of the harness, but he left the cart behind, and though it is per fectly correct for the cart to be behind the horse, two miles behind him is far too much. As the man watched the horse rushing wildly down the road, shaking his head and waving his tall, he admitted this. Then he looked at his friend, and from him to the cart. Lastly he tried to tear the paper out of his hat and throw it away, but the paper stuck fast. So he threw away the hat and went home without one, "For," he said, "I am afraid it will tell me some way to get home without

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

AT THE THEATERS.

Corgrove & Grant's comedians will be seen in "The Dazzler" at the Acad-emy of Music Thursday, Friday and Saturday with a special Saturday matince. All that is left of the old "Dazgler" is the name and the clever peo ple who have made it such a favor ite in the past. Everything else is bright, spick and span new-songs, dances, comicalities and music entire ly and absolutely new and up to date; the very latest things that New York and Europe could furnish.

The American Lilliputians, an aggregation of precocious juveniles, will ap ear as "The Hogan's Alley Kids" a Davis' theatre the last three days of the week, commencing this afternoon In the most popular of the theatres of the larger cities this company has made a pronounced fit. There eighteen of these little people. Managed Davis, after witnessing this show declares that there are acts that could not be duplicated in the show world, and that the entertainment is very pleasing. The regular season closes on Saturday night.

"It is indeed a pleasure," says the Washington Post, "to offer sincere commendation of an entertainment as delightful and free from those features which too often mar the average performances, and such an opportunity was afforded by the Ullie Akerstorn ompany last night in the "Sultan's Daughter." The play was a comedy charged with laughter, but it was aughter that did not require a blush accompany it. The spectacular innce, under the shifting tints of the calcium lights was an artistle effect that held the house with admiration, as those misty robes played through the rainbow, and as the butterfly, the bursting rose and the many other changing pictures appeared, enthusi-asm ran wild with applause." The above play will be presented next Monday afternoon, "Miss Rora" on Mon-day evening. Prices 10, 20 and 30 cents. Ladies free, as usual, Monday evening. Matinees daily, 10 cents to all.

THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Write on Your Envelope Simply "T the President, Washington, D. C." Ex-President Harrison, in a recent sue of the Lacies' Home Journal, relates some of the amusing solutions of the perplexing problem as to the proper way to address the president 'Sometimes he is addressed by letter writers as plain 'Mister,' sometimes as His Majesty' or 'His Lordship' and often as 'His Excellency.' 'The High Government of Washington' was thought to be an appropriate address by one writing from Australia; and a letter addressed to the 'White Office' was rightly assigned by the intelligent nail clerk to the White house

The official title of the head of the executive department is 'The Presiient.' All propositions to add adorning out superfluous titles were rejected in Washington's time. The correct letter address is, therefore, To the President, and the oral address 'Mr. President,'

THE TALISMAN.

There where the sea eternally dashes On the rocky, desert cliffs, Where the moon softly glitters At the happy hour of evening shadows, Where in the luxurious harem Bestowed on me the talisman,

And caressingly she spoke; "Freserve my talisman; Mysterious power is in it! Tis to thee a gift of love. Against sickness, against the grave, Against storms, against thundering nur-Thy head, my beloved,

My talisman cannot protect, And the riches of the East It cannot bestow upon thee; The adorers of Mahomet

It does not make thy stbjects, And to the bosom of friendship From serrowful distant regions To thy birthplace, to the North from th My talisman cannot transport thee,

But when deceitful eyes Would suddenly ensuare thee, Or in the nightly darkness Lips would kiss without love, Beloved friend, from all wrong-doing From new wounds of the heart, From treachery, from forgetfulness, My talisman will save thee

In all the world there is no other treatment so pure, so sweet, so safe, so speedy, for pre-serving, purifying, and beautifying the skin, scalp, and bair, and eradicating every hu-mor, as warm baths with CUTICURA SOAP, and gentle anointings with CUTICURA (oint-

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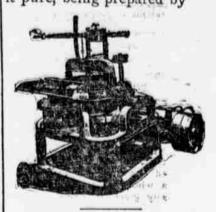
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