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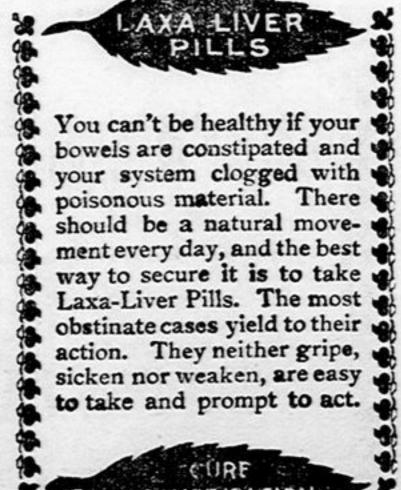
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Through Storm and Sunshine

Lord St. Just. " How old is he?"

lieve. I wish I could think of some

way to help you, Miss Neslie." She raised her beautiful face to his, and he was struck by its expression of patient devotion

"I see no way in which I can be helped; my only hope lies in patient

surely intend spending the whole of teacher, became much run down and de your life in a place and in society that | ried and to be won-he would win her.

"I must obey my father. He wishand effectually in her case, making her ed me to remain at Lancewood until strong and building up her entire system." Oswald was of age. Only Heaven knows what would become of the house if I left it."

"But you may marry, Miss Neslie," be said, with a flush on his face. "No," she replied, gravely. "I nev-

er shall-I could not; because I could never leave Lancewood-and I have never thought of marrying." "How is that?" he asked, amused

at her simplicity.

"Before my father died all my love and all my thoughts were given to him and to Lancewood. Since he died I have done nothing but grieve over

"I see. You have had no time for thoughts of aught else?"

There was not the least consciousness in her face as she answered.

"No, I have had neither time nor inclination. See, Lord St. Just,-the shadow of the trees is falling over us-the sun is setting-we must go."

He walked by her side through the park. They trampled the wild flowers under their feet; they stopped to listen to the low song of the birds; they talked of the setting sun and the distant hills, of the wheat-sheaves love of his life-time-he was never to and the bloom in the hedges; they ad- know another. Would she accept or mired the same views; they often gave reject it? He was a brave man, but expression to the same thoughts; yet, he trembled for the answer to that while Adrian St. Just vowed to him- question. Day by day he said to himself that he would win the beautiful, self that he must ask it, yet the bright imperial, dark-eyed woman for his days passed on, their golden calm unwife, Vivien never dreamed that she broken. He was so truly happy that was in love.

his devotion; he became Vivien's sha- hearing that Miss Neslie would redow; every one perceived it long be- turn to Lancewood in two days,-her She had promised to remain for three close. He must wait no longer-back LUMSER, SHINGLES AND LATHS that the new, vague, delicious happi- help it, she should never go. ness was the result of peace.

she knew that she liked to be near what was coming. bim, to listen to his voice, to watch she loved him.

CHAPTER XXX.

Vivien was now in the sweetest phase of her love-story. Life was all different-the world was a thousand all the world. Sit here amongst times more fair. She wondered why the these roses, and let me tell you somesunshine seemed more golden, and the thing." flowers of brighter hue. What caused the new and beautiful light that had music always rising from her heart to her lips? Why did the world seem full of strange, sweet melody? She grew more beautiful; the proud expression of her face had given way to one of tenderness, the light in her eyes was softened and sweet, the beautiful lips curved mere gracious-

Was this the same dreary world that so lately had seemed to her all sorrow, all darkness? Not that her sorrow had grown less, but that this beautiful light seemed to have absorbed it. The Neslies did nothing by halves, when they loved at all they loved deeply, truly and well. Vivien had begun to love unconsciously, and, when she awoke to full and complete knowledge of the fact, it was too late for any change.

It was three weeks of love, poetry and romance. There could be no more cures Coughs charming companion than Lord St. and Colds of Just. He had traveled-he had stuthe worst kind after other remedies died, read and thought. He had resolved quite early in life that, though fortune had favored him with plenty of money, with a fine estate, an ancient title, he would not on that ac-The "Chronicle" is the only count fritter his life away. It should 12-Page Local Newspare- in not be spent in a round of senseless amusements. It should not be pass- that hang over you. You shall know K&K K&F.

"I often fancied that he had, but jed in dissipation and folly. He cul he was too true a gentleman to tivated his mind by reading the choicbreathe them. I am like one chained est books-his intellect by travel and to a rock; I long to get away, yet the society of clever men-his taste for art by working hard at it. One

"And the boy who is to inherit thing he had never done-he had nev-Lancewood, what is he like?" asked er indulged in the idle flirtations that so often lead to ruin and sorrow. He "He is nearly six-very clever, but was heart whole, fancy free. He had over my life. I thought it was due slowly. wanting in truth and honesty. Hard a fervent admiration for the sex, but to my removal from scenes of strife discipline, good training, might have not for any one woman in particular. and dissipation to a home of peace. prepared him to be a good man; as He had never made love, played at Now I know that it is because I love ed. it is, he is simply ruined. His mother love, or imagined himself in love. The you." considers his wickedness cleverness. first time his heart or fancy was Heaven help Lancewood when it falls touched was when he met Vivien Nes-"It is a sad story," said Lord St lie. He carried the memory of her Just, thoughtfully; "the ruin and de- beautiful, sorrowing face with him, cay of many an ancient house could and that memory was dearer to him be traced to a foolish marriage, I be- than the living presence of any other woman. He thought so much about

He resolved to find her out as soon as he returned home. It would not be difficult to discover the whereabouts of the heiress of Lancewood. True, he might find her married,-she "But," he said, gravely, "you do not | might even be dead; but, if she were living and well-if she were unmar-He remembered that it was with Lady Smeaton she had been staying. He did not have much difficulty in making the acquaintance of the kindlynatured woman, and in securing an invitation to the Park. There he met Vivien again, and there he heard her sorrowful story. His love increased with every moment that he spent in her presence, until the time came when he knew that life without her would be blank and dreary to him. He had some little hope, but she was so unlike other girls that he could hardly judge whether she loved him or not. She was above all coquetry and affectation, above all little acts of meanness. He saw that her face brightened for him as it did for no other, that her voice took another tone, in addressing him, that her eyes had a deeper light when they met his; but in her proud, noble simplicity there was something which half-frightened him. She seemed too lofty in her aspirations; the woman who was so ready to lay down her life for the honor of her house could hardly care for love as other women

It was a noble love that he had to offer her-noble in its simplicity, its integrity and parity; it was the one he dreaded to interrupt his happiness. Lord St. Just made no secret of He was aroused from his dream by fore she herself knew what it meant. three weeks' visit had drawn to a it."

Dinner was over at Smeaton Park; She had been so unselfish all her the visitors, availing themselves of ife; she had thought so much of the warm, balmy night, had gone out the chimera of duty-this morbid feel-Lancewood, of her father, of her an- on to the lawn instead of remaining ing that you are needful for the honcestors, that she had never given her in the drawing-room. Vivien was or of your house? You cannot intend mind to girlish dreams of romance standing watching the light fade in and sentiment. Another girl would the western sky, thinking of the have known what this new feeling dreary lot to which she was returnmeant she did not. She thought Adrian ing, when Lord St. Just went to her St. Just very kind, very clever; she From one look at his grave, handwas thankful to have so true a friend; some face Vivien knew by instinct

"Miss Neslie," he said, "I have somehis face; but she did not know that thing that I wish to say to you. Will you come away from these people? Come through the rosery."

Without another word he took her

hand and laid it on his arm. "I want you," he said, "away from

She sat down, and he knelt amongst the fallen crimson leaves at her feet, | 14 fallen on everything? What was the clasping her white hands in his. He looked up into the lovely face.

"How am I to speak to you?" said. "Kneeling here at your feet, you seem as far above me as the darkening skies. How am I to tell you that I love you with all my heart and so it rible results, were your eyes opened to pray you to be my wife?"

She did not rise in wonder, nor turn angrily away. She sat perfectly, passively silent. He went on:

"It is the whole love of my life I have to offer you, Vivien. You will let me say 'Vivien?' It is the sweetest of all sweet names. I have never given one thought to another. I loved you the moment I saw you lying on the grass, my darling, your face white with despair. I loved you through all the months I spent in travel. I love you now more dearly than words of mine can tell. My queen, will you accept my love and give me yours in

She made no answer—there was no movement in the silent figure— he movement in the silent figure— he condition by the silent fideal by the silent figure— he condition by the silent figure— he could not read the expression of her TREATMENT.

"I have longed to make you happy. have longed to brighten your life. Oh, my darling, give me the power! Let my love brighten the dark clouds

no more trouble, no more sorrow, if to sacrifice yourself and me- your you will love me."

She raised her face to his, and he saw that the dark proud eyes were filled with tears.

"My darling," he cried hastily, "let | Vivien." my love bring you happiness, not sorrow! I see tears in your eyes. bring it to you. Tell me, will you try not ask me." to love me ?"

"I do love you," she replied. "I did not understand at first. I could not tell what strange change had come

lumined the pale noble face. Adrian St. Just looked at it in wonder; it was like the pictured face of a saint, but there was in it none of the radiance or brightness of happy love.

"I shall always cherish your love," her that she grew into an ideal love she said gently; "it will live in my heart forever-it will never die." "My darling," he returned, "you

make me so happy!"

She held up her hand. "Nay, listen. I love you," she said softly-"I love you with all my heart; but I can never marry you."

He looked up in utter wonder.

"Why not?" he asked. "Because I cannot leave Lancewood. Nay, do not try to persuade me. I know all that you would say, all that you would advise. I know that most girls would seek refuge from such a home as mine in marriage, setting aside love. I cannot marry, because my father left the honor of his house in my hands, and if I leave Lancewood I fear all honor will leave it too."

"But you can do so little, my darling-and you suffer so much. If you could do anything, I would not seek to prevent it; but you are quite help-

"I know it all," she sighed. "It is as you say, a hopeless struggle with evil. Still, I must endure it. Do you think, Lord St. Just -- " He interrupted her.

"You have said that you love me my darling; do not call me "Lord St. Just' again. Call me 'Adrian.'"

She was too earnest, too dignified, for the petty affections of coyness with which some girls would have received these words. She listened to them in all simplicity.

"Do you think, Adrian," she said, wistfully, "that if I yielded to my love and to you, that if I married and left the scene of so much unhappiness, do you think that I should ever be happy?"

"I hope, I believe so," he replied.

"No, never. I am not happy now, but I have the consciousness that I am doing my duty. If I went away from Lancewood, I should feel that my duty was neglected and my father's command disobeyed. He left his honor in my charge. I must guard

Lord St. Just began to find that weeks at the Park, and she fancied to that wretched home, if he could she was most terribly in earnest. He despaired at the thought.

"Vivien, you cannot mean that you intend to sacrifice your whole life to

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sweet bright life, your love, your happiness-to this notion ?"

"I must do it," she replied. "But you have said you love me,

"So I do. You are my only love. My first and last love; I shall know want to save you from sorrow, not to no other. But I cannot marry you-do

"Then, my darling, what do you mean to do? You cannot be so cruel as to send me quite away from you?" "I do not wish to be cruel," she said,

"You will not engage yourself to me by any promise of marriage? he ask-

"No," she replied, "the sorrows of The light from the western sky il- my life have made me something of a fatalist. Love brings its own fate. If we are to be married, dear, in the years to come, something will hape pen that will remove my difficulties; if not, I shall go on loving you until

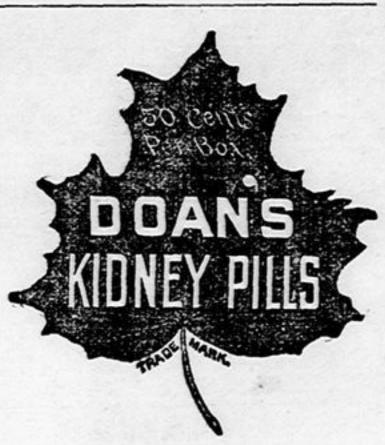
> "And I," he said, "would rather love you even without that faint hope

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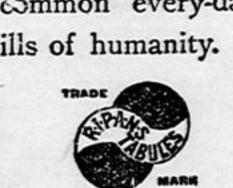


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of marriage, than be the husband of any other woman living." There was a few minutes' silence. The golden light died in the west, the wind ceased to stir the crimson leaves the song of the birds was almost

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