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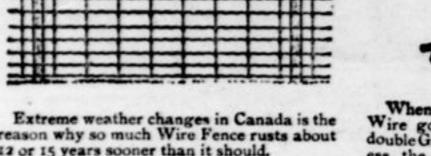
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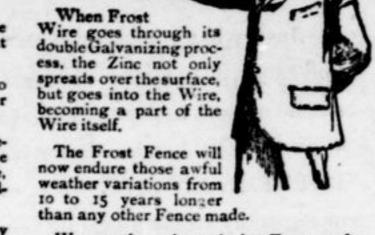
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If you have no flour dredger, take a tin of convenient size. punch a number of holes in the foundation for this story of the ghost? lid. and use it as a dredger. This Nonsense! Old Morningstar was comwill answer every purpose of the ing to warn him away from the room more expensive article.

By HELEN R. MARTIN, Author of "Tillie: A Mennonite Maid." COPYRIGHT, 1907, By McCLURE, PHILLIPS & COMPANY, Jo

EN o'clock that night found Kinross in the haunted bedchamber. He had come to the room without further permission from Mrs. Morningstar than the reluctant half consent he had extracted from her at noon. The subject had not

CHAPTER XV.

house and reached the fatal room. He was relieved to find that the door was not locked. Once across the further movement or sound of any raised high his lamp.

books, a little library of classics, for shoulders. Eunice! For a moment he could read the gilt lettered names, sitions fairly jumped over each other Browning and the rest.

The rest of the room—a bedchamber furnished in handsome old mahoganythat there was something in its general aspect which seemed to give evidence of a higher grade of people than the Morningstars. There was nothing sufficiently grewsome about it, at least in the matter of its appointments, to suggest either a murder or a ghost. True, he felt an atmosphere of uncanniness about the place hard to accoun! for except on the theory that his in... agination, filled with the account of the deed of horror these walls had witnessed, colored the room with all the somberness of the tale.

He walked across the floor and, placing his lamp on the top of a low shelf, plunged into an examination of the customed to reading much. bookshelves.

There were the novels of Scott, Dumas, Dickens, Thackeray, George Eliot and Charlotte Bronte, the tales of Poe, Macaulay's "England," Gibbon's "Rome," Carlyle's "French Revolution," the plays of Shakespeare, many of the modern English and American poets, the works of Spenser, Milton and Pope, the "Canterbury Tales" and Johnson's "Lives of the British Poets." Taking down a volume at random,

he had a vague instinctive surprise at finding no dust on it. The fact had no definite significance at the moment, but later, in the light of other developments, he recalled the circum-

He had soon made a mental inventory of the lower shelves. The books were in good condition, though they showed signs of having been handled considerably.

"The parents of Eunice were at least not illiterate," he concluded.

He now turned his attention to the topmost row of books, which was out of his reach. It consisted of a set of Balzac. He mounted a chair and, taking down a volume, was a little surprised to find that it was a French edition. The book was thick with dust, and its removal from the shelf had sent a little cloud of dust into his eyes. He had a passing wonder in the fact that the top shelf alone was dusty.

"Perhaps the ghost can't read French, but enjoys the English clas-Most cases of baldness are

He turned the pages of the Balzac. It, too, however, showed signs of having been read, for it bore several marked passages.

forms because the hair glands do not supply enough natfell upon, not a printed page, but a as he realized his isolation here tosheet of letter paper, yellow with age, night with this exquisite young creaural oil. Nothing overcomes closely covered with a feminine hand- ture. this deficiency so effectively as writing. He turned toward his lamp that delicately perfumed, re- and read: freshing hair pomade, Bearine.

A CONFESSION. I. Beatrice Daniels, make the following confession in the face of imminent death, being unable longer to live and bear the burden of my crime. My husband threatens to murder me if I confess our crime, and I myself would choose death at my own hands rather than languish in a nrieon, which is the fate my confession would bring upon me if I lived to face it. Therefore when this paper is found and read I shall be dead, either having taken my own life or having been murdered. The child, Eunice-

Kinross started as at this instant his ear was suddenly caught by a faint sound in the corridor without-the sound, he thought, of an approaching light step. In a moment he had blown out his light and stepped down from his chair, folding and thrusting the paper into his pocket as he did so. One quick glance about him, and he slipped behind the high headboard of the old fashioned bed. There he waited motionless for the appearing of the spirit or whatever it was that was coming. for the sound of approaching steps on the bare wooden floor of the hall was sence is often added and consider- now quite unmistakable. It was not mice either. Of that he was sure as with tense expectation he waited and listened. So there was actually some

perhaps. No; the step was too light for this. Who or what would he see? Would it come into this room? If it did not he would examine the hall.

He heard the latch of the door move and the door open and close very softly. The room was in absolute darkness, so of course he could see noth been broached between them again, ing. The light step came across the so he had taken the law into his own room to the front of the bed, and then hands, and soon after the family re- suddenly a match was struck (he had tired he carried his kerosene lamp a hasty doubt as to whether ghosts

down the long corridor which cut off ever found it necessary to use matchthe haunted part from the rest of the es), and a faint light spread through A silence followed. There was no

threshold he did not even glance about sort. He waited for what seemed to him until he had carefully closed the him a long time. At last he stooped door behind him. Then, turning, he and peeped through a crack in the headboard. His eyes were caught by The ghost herself, if she appeared in the light of a candle burning on the the course of his vigil, would not give wide top of the footboard. And seated him a greater shock of surprise than Turk fashion on the bed, her cheeks he received as his eye fell upon the op- planted on her palms, her elbows on posite wall of the room. The last thing an open volume on her lap, was a he would have expected to find in the feminine figure clad in a blue catico vicinity of the Morningstar farm con- wrapper, with two thick braids of fronted him-a bookcase filled with beautiful fair hair hanging over her even across the width of the room he was bewildered. Questions and suppo-Shakespeare, Milton, Spenser, Eliot, in his brain. Whether she had learned of his coming to this room and had followed him thither, why she was not fearful of the place, whether she was was not in any way noteworthy save walking in her sleep, whether she was Eunice or the specter of Eunice's

> But gradually as with strained muscles he continued to stoop and gaze a her his confusion cleared to some definite impressions. She was sitting there reading as composedly and quietly as though she were not more at home anywhere in the house than here in this room. She did not appear like one who had come for the first time into a haunted bedchamber. And there was an indefinable something in her way of turning the page of a book which suggested in some subtle way that she was used to handling books and ac-

There was something in the girl's aspect, in her unconsciousness of an observer, in her relaxed and girlish form, in the childlike innocence and sweetness of her face, that thrilled



Seated Turk fashion on the bed.

Kinross with a sudden sense of a Suddenly as he turned a leaf his eye unique loveliness. His nerves tingled

> He carefully raised himself from his stooping position and leaned against the wall. How was he to reveal himself without too greatly startling her? The shock or fright of suddenly beholding a man in the room when she supposed herself alone-at the hour of midnight, too-might actually injure her. Yet he must not any longer leave her unaware of his presence.

The problem solved itself by his accidentally touching the headboard at this moment with his elbow. Instantly he thought to reassure her by quietly speaking her name without abrupt-

"Eunice, it is only I. Don't be alarmed."

He stepped out into sight as he spoke. She had sprung to her feet and stood panting with alarm, her eyes wide and startled, her cheeks white. He spoke again in a matter of fact

way, calculated to disarm her fear. "I'm very sorry I've frightened you. I came here to meet the ghost. Are you it?" he smiled. She sank limply against the bed. "!

thought," she breathed, "that you were

At the sound of her own voice she seemed to recover herself. Her face was bright with color now, and her eyes were brilliant. He saw almost with amusement that she found no



Mrs. Halliday, of Wroxeter, Ont., says:-"I bave found Zara-Buk a most reliable household emedy. I have used it for cuts, sores, and While certain ingredients in various kin diseases, and have found it an without a box of Zam-Buk in the house in cases Zam-Buk are thus protecting you against external dangers of emergency, and I recommend all mothers to the rich healing herbal essences in the balm penetrate the tissue, stimulate the cells, and

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He drew an old dusty chair to the bedside and sat down before her, fold-

She leaned comfortably against the foot of the bed. Evidently she saw no objection to a midnight chat with him. She seemed to him in her innocent acceptance of the situation as ignorant of evil as an angel. There seemed so much that he want-

ed to ask her that he hardly knew where to begin. But with a trifle less than her usual timidity before him she took the initiative. "You were in this room when I came

in, weren't you?" she asked, her eyes wide with wonder.

"Yes-in quest of the ghost." "But the room was dark."

He pointed to his lamp on the book shelf. "I blew it out when I heard you coming, thinking I was going to encounter the specter."

"You didn't know, did you, that you would-would find me here tonight?" Again that note of wistfulness with which he was beginning to grow fa miliar.

"No more expected it than I ex pected to meet the czar of Russia." She appeared so disappointed to hear it that he hastened to add, "It's the most delightful surprise I ever had in

She beamed upon him frankly. "You are pleased?" Evidently she wanted him to repeat it. "To say I am 'pleased' would be

false. I am overjoyed." "Why?"

He was much entertained at her ven turing to put him through a catechism "How can you ask when for four days you have made it impossible for me to have three minutes' talk with

"You have wanted to talk with me? Her eyes were not mournful now, but luminous with happiness.

"Haven't you wanted to talk to me he inquired. "Oh!" she breathed as though he

feelings were too deep for utterance. Being a mere man, he found himself quite unable to interpret her. "Much good it does me to want to

talk to you," he said ruefully, "when have to search you out in a haunted room at midnight in order to do it Why do you make it so difficult?" "I have not meant to make it diffi cult. Oh, no, indeed. But you know

am kept very closely at work." "I know. But why haven't you come out to me in the evenings-to the spring house or to the terrace by the

"I think," she said, her color deepen ing and her eyes falling, "it wouldn't have been-maidenly." "Well, then, at least you might be about somewhere where I could come

"Abe keeps a jealous watch upon me," she said without looking up.

"Abe? Abe be hanged!" "And then," she added, her head sinking a little lower, "I would not wish to obtrude myself when all your mind must be occupied with-with the girl you said you loved."

"What?" he asked, puzzled. "Oh, you refer to the stately Georgiana?" He laughed. "Georgiana also be-blessed. I should say. I tell you, Eunice, the one and only thing I have desired since I last talked with you has been to go on with that talk."

"Let us go on with it now," she said, a deep contentment radiating from her at his words.

"All right." He relaxed and leaned back more comfortably in his own chair, resting his forehead on his fin- ardice. gers and looking as complacently satisfied as she did.

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would ask a promise of you." "Yes, Eunice." "Will you not betray to Mr. or Mrs. Morningstar that you saw me here?" "Why don't you wish them to know?" he asked, feeling his compla-

"But first," she said tunidly, "I

cency disturbed by her apparent cow-"They would be very angry."

Continued on page 7.

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