Hollow Ash... Hall

BY MARGARET BLOUNT

CHAPTER I.

It was a wild, raw November afternoon. The sky was dark and lowering; the wind swept down from the hills with a mournful wailing sound, and beneath the tall trees, that bent before the gale, lay heaps of faded yellow leaves, trodden out of all shape and beauty by the feet that were continually traversing the narrow [illegible] paths.

[illegible]

haughty, reserved race, by no means addicted to the foolish practice of "wearing their hearts upon their sleeves." And if there was one subject upon which they were more silent and reserved than another, it was that of the haunted manor. They left it; they could not bear to talk of it, and so the mystery grew by feeding upon itself, till stories were told of the place that would have made the hair of the bravest and wisest listener stand upon end with horror.

It may easily be imagined what a commotion Banley was in one day, when the tidings spread abroad that a gentleman direct from London was about to rent the Hall. People stared at their neighbors and shook their heads. It could not be; unless the newcomers hailed from Colney Hatch or Hanwell, he could not, for a moment, be thinking of such a thing.

But the news was confirmed in the afternoon by no less a person than the landlord of the "Vernon Arms," who recited to a group of eager and thirsty listeners his wondrous tale. The family from London were, at that moment, beneath his roof. So far from being denizens of a lunatic asylum, they were most respectable people, a city banker, his wife and two daughters, who came down for a change of air, and seeing a fine house standing empty, naturally enough concluded that it was to let. So, at the "Vernon Arms," in an after-dinner chat with their host, they managed to ask numerous questions about the mansion on the hill. He answered them truthfully [illegible]

[illegible]

good Queen Bess looking after the farthing she dropped."

"Pshaw! When was Queen Bess at Banley, I should like to know? Why, it was not built till she had been dead more than fifty years. What do they want with her ghosts there?"

"Can't say, sir. But most old houses have a story about them, and that blessed farthing—I wonder that she didn't take better care of it when she was alive. It has given her trouble enough since."

"Well, let her be where she may, I don't believe she is at Hollow Ash Hall."

"No more do I, sir."

"I knew it! You are a sensible man, Mr. Grimes."

"I don't believe in Queen Bess, nor in old Vernon, nor yet in the priest. There is one thing there I do believe in, though."

"And what is that?"

"The last ghost. It's not yet more than twenty-five years old, you know. The ghost of the butler's pantry. You know what I mean, sir?"

"Pshaw!" said the guest, turning red.

"From things which came to my knowledge when I was a younger man than I am now, I shouldn't wonder if there was something in that. No wonder that Vernon could not live here."

"Hush, Grimes!" said the agent, looking nervously towards the door. "There are some things in this world that are not to be spoken of."

"Exactly. And I never have spoken [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] PEOPLE.

A Person Centered on Self Will Gather Chaff.

There lately died in Indiana a little old lady who for sixty-five years had not stepped outside her door. Although the village station was within a few blocks of her home, she had never seen a railway train. Yet she was not blind, nor a cripple, nor a bedridden sufferer. A few years before the young Victoria ascended the throne of England this Indiana girl quarreled with her lover, and declared their engagement at an end. That evening, and at intervals of sixty years thereafter, the man faithfully renewed his offer of marriage. She chose to abide by her foolish resolution, to which she added a vow never to leave her home. Human vanity takes many forms. Poor Lady Coventry, who had been world-famous as one of the beautiful Gunnings, spent her last days on a couch with a pocket mirror in her hand. When a caller [illegible] she had changed, she took to her bed, had no light [illegible] things [illegible] the bed curtains without suffering them to be withdrawn. History says that ten thousand persons went to see her coffin. Horace Walpole affirms that Lord Fane once kept his bed six weeks because the Duke of Newcastle forgot in one of his letters to sign himself "your very humble servant" as usual, and only put "your humble servant." This all seems very silly, but unfortunately [illegible]

[illegible]

AFTER EIGHTEEN YEARS.

Mrs. Dots, of Highland, Iowa, Restored to Health—A Miraculous Case—Her Husband Is Cured of Bright's Disease by Same Means.

Highland, Ia., March 4.—(Special.)—Friends of Mrs. W. H. Dots are very much pleased to notice the wonderful improvement in her condition. For eighteen years she has been a sufferer from rheumatism, and the torture she has endured during this time is past all description. Mrs. Dots tells the following story:

"I have suffered for the past eighteen years with Kidney Trouble and Rheumatism. I have tried doctors, patent medicines, plasters, liniments, [illegible] treatments, and nothing did me any good. I had nearly lost all faith in anything [illegible]

[illegible]

ONE DAY OF GLORY.

Chief of Police [illegible] Satisfied with a Big Day.

[illegible]

Tenant Swindled Children.

A man living in a tenement in Battersea, London, told the children of the neighborhood that the penny-in-the-slot of gas meters was a new and [illegible]

[illegible]

Five Sons in British Navy.

[illegible] Edwards, [illegible] of her majesty's [illegible] purse, [illegible] Regina [illegible] handed to Mr. J. Warren, a naval pensioner of that town, who has at present five sons in the royal navy, as a mark of the king's appreciation of this interesting record. Mr. Warren is himself the son of a naval pensioner.

[illegible]

All goods are alike to PUTNAM FADELESS DYES, as they color all fibers at one boiling.

Egypt exported last year [illegible] of sugar, [illegible] tons of which went to America.

FITS Permanently Cured. No fits or nervousness after first day's use of Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. Send for FREE $2.00 trial bottle and treatise. DR. R. H. KLINE, Ltd., 931 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa.

A woman's beauty is never considered a good recommendation by another woman.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup.
For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25c a bottle.

Powdered charcoal, if laid thickly on a burn, almost instantly allays the pain.

I do not believe Piso's Cure for Consumption has an equal for coughs and colds.—JOHN F. BOYER, Trinity Springs, Ind., Feb. 15, 1900.

The antiquarian has no use for anything until time has rendered it useless.

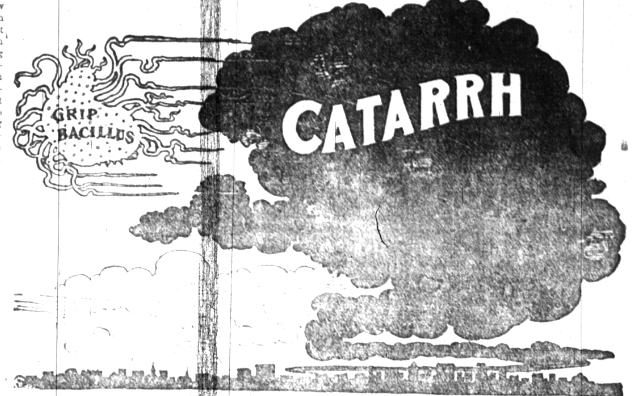
The great [illegible] schools of the large cities use Carter's [illegible] Ink. It is the best and costs no more than the poorest [illegible]

The Missouri is now claimed to be longer by 300 miles than the Mississippi.

Some articles must be described. White's Yucatan needs no description. It's the real thing.

Self-importance makes a great man stoop and a little man bend over backward.

AFTER THE GRIP COMES CATARRH.



L[illegible] recommend CYCLONE [illegible] remedy for the grip and catarrh. [illegible]

[illegible]

can cheerfully recommend your remedy [illegible] to anyone suffering with [illegible] la grippe and all catarrhal complaints."—J. R. Crowley.

Hon. George H. White, Congressman from North Carolina, writes:

"I am more than satisfied with Peruna, and find it to be an excellent [illegible]

Miss Alice Dressler, 1313 North Bryant Ave., Minneapolis, Minn., writes:

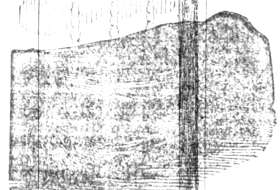
"Last spring I suffered from la grippe and was partially cured, but the bad after effects remained through the summer, and somehow I did not get strong as I was before. In the fall I caught a cold after getting my feet wet and attending a lecture in a cold hall and I suffered a relapse. An unpleasant catarrh of the head and throat followed, and as I was in a weak condition physically previous to this, it took but little to break me [illegible]

"One of my college friends who was visiting me, asked me to try Peruna, and I did so and found it all and more than I had expected. It not only cured me of the catarrh, but restored me to perfect health, built up the entire system, and brought a happy feeling of buoyancy which I had not known for years."—Miss Alice Dressler.

If you do not derive prompt and satisfactory results from the use of Peruna, write at once to Dr. Hartman, giving a full statement of your case and he will be pleased to give you his valuable advice gratis.

Address Dr. Hartman, President of The Hartman Sanitarium, Columbus, O.

DEATH



begins in the bowels. It's the unclean places that breed infectious epidemics, and it's the unclean body—unclean inside—that "catches" the disease. A person whose stomach and bowels are kept clean and whose liver is lively, and blood pure, is safe against yellow fever, or any other of the dreadful diseases that desolate our beautiful land. Some of the cleanest people outside are filthiest inside, and they are the ones who not only "catch" the infections, but endanger the lives of all their friends and relatives. There's only one certain way of keeping clean inside so as to prevent disease and that is to take CASCARETS. Perfect disinfectant and bowel strengtheners. All diseases are

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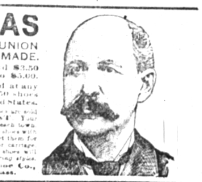

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