# Hollow Ash... Hall

BY MARGARET BLOUNT

CHAPTER IX.

To walk straight up to the door of a strange house, with nothing but a plaid shawl thrown over your head, requires a considerable amount of courage and nerve. At every step of the way Miss Marjorie's scruples grew stronger—her sense of outraged propriety more clear. At last she came to a dead stop, just as they reached the outer gate of Hollow Ash Hall.

"What is it now?" asked Cowley, patting her hand encouragingly.

"I really can't go in, Charles!"

"Nonsense!"

"They will think I am mad. Only see! I konw that my hair is half down and I have no bonnet! Don't make me go there, Charles, till I am more presentable, there's a dear."

"Madam, do you intend to obey your lawful husband or not?" said Mr. Cowley, with mock solemnity.

"But, Charles, do hear reason."

"No, I won't! I've had enough of reason in my life. So come along, my love. The moment you enter yonder door you will get a warm greeting for my sake, and no one will stop to think whether you have a bonnet on or not. But that is just like you women! You can't even die comfortably unless you have a fashionable winding sheet to be wrapped in!"

[illegible]

At that Mr. Cowley burst out laughing.

"My dear aunt, it is not a burnous but an old plaid cloak!" he exclaimed. "And my wife never saw Australia in her life. She has been living in this neighborhood for more than a year, and I just found her out by the merest chance in the world to-night, and immediately ran away with her."

Every face, even Mrs. Macarthy's, expressed the most intense interest and curiosity.

"If you will sit down I will tell you the story in a very few words," he observed; and within five minutes he was the centre of a most cosy-looking circle, with Miss Marjorie upon his right hand and Rose upon his left.

"You must al know that my Marjorie is an orphan," he began. "I met her first at a house in London, where, among the gayest of parties, her little pale, sad face caught my eye, and without my knowing it won my heart. It was her uncle's house, but she was not happpy there. Her cousins tyrannized over her—her aunt snubbed her—and I soon found that her uncle and myself were almost the only friends she had in the world. No doubt I twisted this fact to my own purpose. I own candidly that I rejoiced when others were rude to her, so that she might see that I was kind. I won her, I do believe, more because she was grateful to me than because she loved me; but the love came afterwards, so that it did not matter. I won her, and made her my wife, in spite of all the sneers of her cousins, and the discouraging coldness of her aunt.

"For a time we were very happy. Then some unknown correspondent began to trouble my peace. Anonymous letters came to me day after day, which told me that my wife was not what she seemed; that she loved another; that she only waited her time to play me false.

"I was foolish enough to read the slanders, to think of them, at last, to believe them. Circumstances, which looked suspicious then, but which I have seen by a far clearer light since, came up one after another to make me distrust Marjorie still more. At last I felt so convinced of her faithlessness that I deserted her.

"I left a letter saying why I had gone. I left her money, and I have never seen her face from that day till tonight it beamed upon me out of the darkness like an accusing spirit.

[illegible]

"Who owns this house?"

"A Mr. Vernon."

"Exactly so. Do you know what his first name is?"

"Alfred," said Mrs. Cowley. Her nephew looked perplexed for a moment; then his face cleared again.

"Oh, I see! George was his brother. How long is it since they have lived in this house—the Vernons, I mean?"

"Oh, a great many years! Twenty or twenty-two, I think."

"That makes the story clear. You must know that I met a Mr. George Vernon in Australia—a man about forty years old. He drank to excess and gambled desperately, and in fact there were a great many queer stories told of him one way and another.

"One night he was in my tent with several of his friends, and the conversation turned upon the reality of ghosts, and the amount of credulity required to believe in them. Vernon said little at first, but later in the evening he suddenly looked up at me and exclaimed, 'It is true, every syllable of it. They do come back. I have seen and heard them, too, by day and night, for twenty years past. They can come in any shape. They can turn their hands to anything. Why, I have known one to rock a cradle four-and-twenty hours without ceasing and sing all the while into the bargain!'

"'What a useful ghost to have in the house with a small family,' said some one, laughing.

"I never saw any one turn as pale as Vernon did.

"'Useful! You would not crack your jokes about them if you staid a night alone in my old house at Banley,' he exclaimed. 'Gad! What with the butler's pantry and the turret-room, it's little like laughing you'd feel by morning, I am thinking! Pass me the brandy and let me get it out of my head.'

"And sure enough he did get it out of his head, for it took two men to see him safe home when he left my tent at 10 o'clock that night."

"And what do you infer from that, Charles?" inquired his wife.

"Why, my dear, this is near Banley, and the only house that I have ever heard of where a cradle rocks. To make assurance doubly sure, Mr. Vernon's brother own's the place now. I would be willing to take my oath that the rocking of the cradle has something to do with one of these [illegible]

# Current Topics

*Seven-Year Wonder.*

At one of the interesting "five o'clocks" of the enterprising Paris Figaro a little 7-year-old violin virtuoso from Hungary was on the program, who promises to be the musical sensation of the world for some time to come. There is only one objection to [illegible]

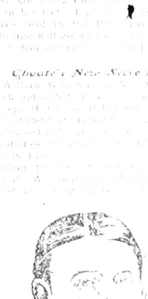
[illegible]

*Has Captured Washington*

[illegible]

*Choate's New Secretary*

[illegible]



WILLIAM WOODWARD.

[illegible]

DREAMS AND FANCIES.

Superstition Has Its Effect Even Among Educated Women.

[illegible]

*Another Bellamy Colony*

[illegible]

*Novel Elevated Railway*

[illegible]

[illegible]

*Mosquitoes and Yellow Fever*

[illegible]

...cently recounted by Drs. Reed, Carroll and Agramonte at the Pan-American Medical congress in Havana shows a heroic devotion to science that will compare favorably with any deeds on Cuban battlefields. The results cannot fail to have a permanent effect upon the methods for fighting yellow fever.

The Growing Tongue.

[illegible] these tongues was as follows: 1, French was spoken by 31,500,000; 2, Russian by 31,000,000; 3, German by 30,500,000; 4, Spanish by 26,000,000, half of them outside of Europe; 5, English by only 19,750,000, of whom 5,000,000 were in the United States and 750,000 elsewhere. Now the order is reversed so far as English is concerned, for that language takes the lead with 130,000,000, of whom 75,000,000 are in the United States, 40,000,000 in Great Britain and Ireland. German comes next at a respectful distance, closely followed by Russian. French makes a bad fourth, and Spanish comes last.

The Best Hair Tonic.

It is said that frequent sun baths are the best known tonics for a woman's hair. The Greek maidens of old who sat on the walls of the city and combed their hair owed the beauty of their tresses to the sun's rays. When the hair is washed sit beside a lowered window, as the sun shines stronger through glass, and allow the hair to dry as it is being brushed. No bleach has been found so successful as the sun, which strengthens and beautifies generally.

*Indicating Alarm for Guns*

Not a small proportion of the accidents with firearms occur on account of the hunter cocking his gun when he thinks the game is near and then inadvertently leaving it in that dangerous condition if the game appears. He soon forgets [illegible] himself and [illegible] hand may accident[illegible] any touch the trigger at any time to [illegible] his companions' danger. The [illegible] shows the stock of a gun which has just been patented for the express purpose of keeping the hunter informed as to the position of the hammer of his gun. This is accomplished by means of a small dry battery and buzzer located in the stock of the gun. Directly underneath the hammer on top of the grip a spring-controlled push-button is placed, the motion of the hammer when being cocked pressing the button downward until the electric circuit is closed, which starts the buzzer in the end of the stock. This little device keeps up a continuous buzzing, which may be felt rather than heard if desired, the vibrations being plainly perceptible to any one carrying the gun. When it is desired to stop the vibrations, as when the gun is in action, the thumb of the shooter is pressed against a second spring button, which acts as an interrupter and breaks the current.

Henry J. Eaton, chief of the Hartford, Conn., fire department, celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his connection with the department on last Friday. For thirty-three years he has been chief, a longer time, it is claimed, than any similar officer in the world has served. The semi-centennial of the chief was made the occasion of a celebration by the city authorities and the old and new members of the fire department. In the parade Chief Eaton drove his gray horse, which was twenty-five years old that day. Mayor Harbison presented the chief $500 in gold, which the city council had voted him.

PEOPLE LIVE ON PEANUTS.

Sect in Vancouvers That Practices New Theory Relative to Food.

A peculiar religious sect, the feature of whose singular beliefs is based upon the eating of peanuts as their principal article of food, is thriving in Vancouver, and throughout British Columbia. There are 200 members in the new church in Vancouver, and their numbers are growing daily. Six months ago the sect was first formed as a branch of the Seventh Day Adventists, and now it has gone so far as to erect mills equipped with machinery for the grinding and manufacture of various kinds of food from peanuts. In abstract belief, one of the principal opinions held by the new organization is that Christ will appear on earth within a few months and perhaps within only a few weeks. They therefore wish to be prepared in order that they may "shuffle off this mortal coil" with no difficulty. That they might be able to do this when the time comes they made searching investigation of the most healthful and purest foods and came to the conclusion that peanuts were the most proper diet. Their leader, James Chapman, who was formerly a minister in the Adventist church, was sent to New York and there made a contract for a large weekly shipment of peanuts to Vancouver. Suitable works have been erected and equipped with machinery and now all kinds of peanut products are being turned out. The peanuts are first boiled, and then ground into a meal, and are used to make nearly every kind of baked and cooked dishes in which flour is ordinarily employed. Brazil nuts and walnuts are used by way of variety, but these three consti[illegible]

MOTHER AND DAUGHTER.

The Wife and Mother-in-Law of Mr. Charles Keys.

[illegible]

"This testimony is given in the hope that others who may be afflicted as we were, may see and read it, and be benefited by it."

What Mrs. Keys states in her letter can be verified by reference to any of her many friends in this neighborhood [illegible] in Todd County.

Nothing [illegible] Bright's Disease, [illegible] but Dodd's Kidney Pills.

[illegible]

Quite a number of Chinese names [illegible]

[illegible]

Coughing Leads to Consumption.

Kemp's Balsam will stop the cough at once. Go to your druggist to-day and get a sample bottle free. Sold in 25 and 50 cent bottles. Go at once; delays are dangerous.

Many a poor bootblack has managed to shine in society.

Garfield Tea, the medicine that purifies the blood and cleanses the system, brings good health to all who use it. It is made from herbs. Druggists sell it.

Wisdom is the knowledge of other people's mistakes.


A Month's Test Free.

If you have Rheumatism, write Dr. Shoop, Racine, Wis., Box 143, for six bottles of his Rheumatic Cure, express paid. Send no money. Pay $5.50 if cured.


Moss for Purifying Syrup.

Besides the thousands of pounds of Spanish moss sent annually from Florida and other Southern states to Northern upholsterers, the plant has various other uses. One of these, a use that has recently been discovered, is that of a strainer and purifier of cane syrup. It has been found that a finer syrup can be made by straining the cane juice through moss than through any other material.


$100 Reward $100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of Testimonials.

Address F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

Sold by druggists, 75c.

Hall's Family Pills are the best.


Congestion of the Veins.

Dark rings around the eyes result from congestion of veins. This is nearly always a consequence of debility, temporary or chronic. The immediate cause may be study, sleeplessness or worry. The best local treatment is prolonged cold water bathing. But all these cases demand constitutional measures.

Garfield Tea has long been recognized as the greatest remedy for bowel and liver troubles; it is made from simple herbs that cure chronic constipation.

A new ordinance in Seattle, Wash., prohibits side entrances to saloons.

Lane's Family Medicine

Moves the bowels each day. In order to be healthy this is necessary. Acts gently on the liver and kidneys. Cures sick headache. Price 25 and 50c.

[illegible]

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY.

[illegible]

PUTNAM FADELESS DYES [illegible]

[illegible]

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup.

[illegible]

I am sure Piso's Cure for Consumption saved my life three years ago.—Mrs. Thos. Robbins, Maple Street, Norwich, N. Y., Feb. 17, 1900.

Cotton imports brought to this country $119,000,000 more in 1900 than in 1899.

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

A young man seldom believes that a girl enjoys a kiss unless he has it from her own lips.


FRAGRANT

SOZODONT

a perfect

Liquid Dentifrice

SOZODONT TOOTH POWDER, 25c
Large LIQUID and POWDER, 75c

25c

At all the Stores, or by Mail for the price.

HALL & RUCKEL, NEW YORK

It's a Short Road

from a cough to consumption. Don't neglect a cough—take

Shiloh's Consumption Cure

when your cold appears. The "ounce of prevention" is better than years of illness.

"I suffered for years from a cough, bronchial and lung trouble. Raised blood frequently. Spent years in the Dakotas and other parts of west but got no relief. Returned east and began taking SHILOH. A few bottles completely cured me. I consider it the greatest of remedies.

HENRY T. DETCHER,
With F. L. Camp & Co., Brokers, Buffalo, N. Y.

Shiloh's Consumption Cure is sold by all druggists at 25c, 50c, $1.00 a bottle. A printed guarantee goes with every bottle. If you are not satisfied go to your druggist and get your money back.

Write for illustrated book on consumption. Sent without cost to you. S. C. Wells & Co., LeRoy, N.Y.

Any Doctor

is willing to treat you for rheumatism, if your credit is good or you pay his fee. But only one doctor will cure your rheumatism, and he charges nothing for advice. This physician is Dr. Greene, the discoverer of Dr. Greene's Nervura. If you will write to him at 35 West 14th Street, New York City, he will tell you exactly how to get rid of rheumatism for good and all. It won't cost you anything to get his advice. Why don't you write to Dr. Greene to-day?