

THE HOLE IN THE FLOOR.

BY LIZIE CLARE HARDY. In the primitive days of our grandfathers' time, the fire-place, genial and bright, its cavernous recesses glowing with flame...

SPECTRAL SHADOWS.

Without, the wind howled dimly and the rain beat upon the window frames; within, the fire burned cheerfully, and the flickering flames cast gaudy shadows upon the wall.

MORPHIA DISEASE.

The Abuse of Narcotics in Modern Society—Terrible Consequences. The vast abuse of narcotics in modern society is becoming, the London Lancet remarks, a serious evil.

THE MARKET.

Table with columns for various commodities like Wheat, Corn, and Flour, listing prices and market status.

ax little Mary Ellen, as is me sister's—riest her sowl!—own daughter, as of there was only letter for ye; and the child—blest her purty eyes—says no says she.

She banged the door after her and waddled down the carpetless stairway. Hastily tearing open the envelope, Walter scanned the well-remembered writing.

"Bliss the dear old fellow!" he cried. "I knew he wouldn't forget me. What's this? Another paper—a money order for twenty-five dollars in advance! God bless his dear old heart!"

"Hurr!" cried Walter, waving the letter above his head; "Thank heaven, I'm saved from a suicide's fate, I'll start to-morrow for Clinton—bless old Frank! The dark clouds have drifted asunder, and the sapphire sky shows clear beyond."

He was as good as his word. The early train found him nestled among the cushions and speeding along like the wind.

All day long the train dashed along; now through a dark tunnel, under the leafless trees through whose bare boughs the winter wind howled dimly; until, just as night was stealing over the earth, they shot into the depot and halted.

footsteps in the hall, outside his door. The first thought flashing across his excited brain was "Roberts" Walter was no coward. Blowing out his light, he stepped softly to his door and swung it open noiselessly.

Peering into the deep gloom, he beheld a sight that froze his blood with horror. Gliding like a ghost along the deserted hallway—her snowy night-robe fluttering softly, while her glorious wealth of golden hair fell around her like a shimmering veil—he saw the form of Maud Lyle, his friend's step-mamma.

Close held in her jeweled fingers, she clutched a weight of tuberoses, whose deathly perfume filled the midnight air. Hovering above her head, with clasped hands and gleaming eyes, he beheld the wraith of Andy White.

Nearer and nearer drew the specter to the woman, until clasping her wrist in its airy grasp, it led her toward the roof. In a moment Walter's mind was made up. Quickly awakening Frank, the twin ascended the stairs leading to the house-top, and emerged into the air in time to see the specter ere it had faded into space.

With a sigh the somnambulist retraced her steps, followed by the two men, until her chamber door hid her from their view. Pale as ashes, Frank looked at Walter, who met his glance with the inquiry: "How do you make it out?"

"I do not understand." "Maud Lyle was once the betrothed wife of Andy White. They quarreled and parted over a simple girl. This is well known. Yet until this hour I did not suspect poor Andy died foully."

in the case of the continued and uncontrolled internal use of opium, alcohol or chloral, the effect soon becoming weaker, the dose has been increased, and, in some cases relapse by the physician of the private matter de sante at Berlin in the Ktin. Wo Venschrift, reached the amount of from twelve to sixteen grains per diem.

Never squander a moment for we are never sure of an hour, neither delay the purchase of Elliott's Eastern Liver Pills.

Prof. W. Payne, A. M., M. D. The Professor is the author of numerous standard works on medicine and surgery, and a Professor in different Medical Colleges, for upwards of twenty years.

Remarkable Coincidence. A Pennsylvania paper relates the following: "A week or two since, a gentleman who resides in this vicinity went to Philadelphia and put up at a hotel, and while resting after tea in the reception room, overheard two gentlemen conversing in regard to a trial then in progress before one of the courts in that city.

The Boy Who Didn't. The boy who didn't get a present in his Christmas stocking was around the Postoffice yesterday. He said he didn't care, but yet when the other boys were displaying their candy dogs, tin whistles, and climbing jacks, one could see a shade of envy cross his face.

Less than one-half of the children in Ohio are said to be in attendance at the public schools.

The total number of pupils enrolled in the public schools of Illinois during the past year was 667,446. There were over 22,000 teachers. The total expenditures for the year were \$8,968,536.88. The balance on hand at the end of the year is \$1,660,262.24.

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