

# The Diamond Bracelet

By MRS. HENRY WOOD,  
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## CHAPTER XI.—(Continued.)

"Even than my love; Alice, you like me more than you admit. Unsay your words, my dearest, and give me hope."  
"Do not vex me," she resumed, in a pained tone; "do not seek to turn me from my duty. I—I, though I scarcely like to speak of these sacred things, Gerard, I have put my hand on the plough; even you cannot turn me back."

"Tell me one thing, Gerard; it will be safe. Was the dispute about Frances Chenevix?"

He contracted his brow, and nodded. "And you could refuse her! You must learn to love her, for she would make you a good wife."

"Much chance there is now of my making a wife of any one."

"Oh, this will blow over in time; I feel it will. Meanwhile—"

"Meanwhile you destroy every hopeful feeling I thought to take to cheer me in my exile!" was his impatient interruption. "I love you alone, Alice; I have loved you for months, truly, fervently, and I know you must have seen it."

"Love me still, Gerard," she softly answered, "but not with the love you should give to one of earth, the love you will give to Frances Chenevix. Think of me as one rapidly going; soon to be gone."

"Oh, not yet!" he cried in an imploring tone, as if it were as she would.

"Not just yet; I hope to see you return from exile. Let us say farewell while we are alone."

She spoke the last words hurriedly, for footsteps were heard. Gerard snatched her to him, and laid his face upon hers.

"What cover did you say the book had?" demanded Frances Chenevix of Gerard, who was then leaning back on the sofa, apparently waiting for her. "A mottled? I cannot see anything like it."

"No? I am sorry to have given you the trouble, Fanny. It has gone, perhaps, amongst the 'has-beens.'"

"Listen," said Alice, removing her hand from before her face, "that was a carriage stopped. Can they be come home?"

Frances and Gerard flew into the next room, whence the street could be seen. A carriage had stopped, but not at their house. "It is too early for them yet," said Gerard.

"I am sorry things go so cross just now, with you, Gerard," whispered Lady Frances. "You will be very dull over there."

"Ay; fit to hang myself, if you knew all. And the bracelet may turn up, and Lady Sarah be sporting it on her arm again and I never know that the cloud is off for me. No chance that any of you will be at the trouble of writing to a fellow."

"I will," said Lady Frances. "Whether the bracelet turns up or not, I will write you sometimes, if you like, Gerard, and give you all the news."

"You are a good girl, Fanny," returned he, in a brighter accent, "and I will send you my address as soon as I have got one. You are not to turn proud, mind, and be off the bargain, if you find it offensive."

Frances laughed. "Take care of yourself, Gerard."

So Gerard Hope got clear off into exile. Did he pay his expenses with the proceeds of the diamond bracelet?

## CHAPTER XII.

The stately rooms of one of the finest houses in London were open for the reception of evening guests. Wax lights, looking innumerable when reflected from the mirrors, shed their rays on the gilded decorations, on the fine paintings, and on the gorgeous dresses of the ladies; the enlivening strains of the band invited to the dance and the rare exotics emitted a sweet perfume. It was the West End residence of a famed and wealthy city merchant of lofty standing; his young wife was an earl's daughter and the admission to the house of Mr. and Mrs. Lady Adela Netherleigh was coveted by the gay world.

"There's a mishap!" almost screamed a pretty looking girl. She had dropped her handkerchief and stooped for it, and her partner stooped also; in his hurry he put his foot upon her thin, white dress, she rose at the same moment and the bottom of her skirt was torn half off.

"Quite impossible that I can finish the quadrille," quoth she to him, half in amusement, half provoked at the misfortune. "You must find another partner, and I will go and get this repaired."

She went upstairs; by some neglect, the lady's maid was not in attendance, and too impatient to ring and wait for her, down she flew to the house-keeper's parlor. She was quite at home in the house, for she was the sister of its mistress. She had gathered the damaged dress up in her arms, but her white petticoat fell in rich folds around her.

"Just look what an object that stupid—!" And there stopped the young lady; for instead of the house-keeper and lady's maid, whom she expected to meet, nobody was in the room but a gentleman—a tall handsome man. She looked thunderstruck; and then slowly advancing and staring at him as if not believing her own eyes.

"My goodness, Gerard! Well, I should just as soon have expected to meet the dead here."

"How are you, Lady Frances?" he said, holding out his hand with hesitation.

"Lady Frances! I am much obliged to you for your formality. Lady Frances returns her thanks to Mr. Hope for his polite inquiries," continued she in a tone of pique, and honoring him with a swimming ceremony of courtesy.

He caught her hand. "Forgive me, Fanny, but our positions are altered—at least mine us; and how did I know that you were not?"

"You are an ungrateful—raven," cried she, "to croak like that. After getting me to write you no end of letters and all the news about everybody, beginning 'My dear Gerard,' and ending 'Your affectionate Fanny,' and being as good to you as a sister, you meet me with 'My Lady Frances!' Now, don't squeeze my hand to atoms. What on earth have you come to England for?"

"I could not stop there," he returned with emotion; "I was fretting away my heartstrings. So I took my resolution and came back; guess in what way, Frances, and what to do."

"How should I know? To call me 'Lady Frances,' perhaps."

"As a clerk; a clerk to earn my bread. That's what I am now. Very consistent, is it not, for one in my position to address familiarly Lady Frances Chenevix?"

"You never spoke a grain of sense in your life, Gerard," she exclaimed, peevishly. "What do you mean?"

"Mr. Netherleigh has taken me into his counting house."

"Mr. Netherleigh!" she echoed in surprise. "What, with that—that—"

"That crime hanging over me. Speak up, Frances."

"No; I was going to say that doubt. I don't believe you guilty; you know that, Gerard."

"I am in his house, Frances, and I came up here tonight from the city to bring a note from his partner. I declined any of the reception rooms, not caring to meet old acquaintances, and the servants put me into this."

"But you had a mountain of debts in England, Gerard, and were afraid of arrest."

"I have managed that; they are going to let me square up by installments. Has the bracelet never been heard of?"

"Oh, that's gone for good; melted down in a caldron, as the Colonel calls it, and the diamonds reset. It remains a mystery of the past, and is never expected to be solved."

"And they will suspect me! What is the matter with your dress?"

"Matter enough," answered she, letting it down, and turning round for his inspection. "I came here to get it repaired. My great booby of a partner did it for me."

"Fanny, how is Alice Seaton?"

"You have cause to ask for her. She is dying."

"Dying!" repeated Mr. Hope in a hushed, shocked tone.

"I do not mean actually dying this night, or going to die tomorrow; but she is dying by slow degrees, there is no doubt. It may be weeks off yet; I cannot tell."

"Where is she?"

"Curious to say, she is where you left her—at Lady Sarah Hope's. Alice could not bear the house after the loss of the bracelet, for she was so obstinate and foolish as to persist that the servants must suspect her even if Lady Sarah did not. She felt, and this spring Lady Sarah saw her, and was so shocked at the change in her, the extent to which she had wasted away, that she brought her to town by main force, and we and the doctors are trying to nurse her up. It seems of no use."

"Are you also staying at Colonel Hope's again?"

"I invited myself there a week or two ago to be with Alice. It is pleasant, too, than being at home."

"I suppose the Hopes are her tonight?"

"My sister is. I do not think your uncle has come yet."

"Does he ever speak of me less resentfully?"

"Not he; I think his storming over it has only made his suspicions stronger. Not a week passes but he begins again about that detestable bracelet. He is unalterably persuaded that you took it, and nobody must dare put in a word in your defense."

"And does your sister honor me with the same belief?" demanded Mr. Hope bitterly.

"Lady Sarah is silent on the point to me; I think she scarcely knows what to believe. You see I tell you all freely, Gerard."

## CHAPTER XIII.

Before another word could be spoken Mr. Netherleigh entered. An aristocratic man, with a noble countenance. He bore a sealed note for Mr. Hope to deliver in the city.

"Why, Fanny!" he exclaimed to his sister-in-law, "you here?"

"Yes; look at the sight they have made me," replied she, shaking down her dress for his benefit, as she had previously done for Mr. Hope. "I am waiting for some one of the damsels to mend it for me. I suppose Mr. Hope's presence has scared them away. Won't mamma be in a fit of

rage when she sees it, for it was new tonight."

Gerard Hope shook hands with Lady Frances, and Mr. Netherleigh, who had a word of direction to give him, walked with him into the hall. As they stood there, who should enter but Colonel Hope, Gerard's uncle. He started back when he saw Gerard.

"C—can I believe my senses?" stammered he. "Mr. Netherleigh, is he one of your guests?"

"He is here on business," was the merchant's reply. "Pass on, Colonel."

"No, sir, I will not pass on," cried the enraged Colonel, who had not rightly caught the word business. "Or if I do pass on, it will only be to warn your guests to take care of their jewelry."

"No, sir," he added, turning to his nephew, "you can come back, can you, when the proceeds of your theft is spent! You have been starring it in Calais, I hear; how long did the bracelet last you to live upon?"

"Sir," answered Gerard, with a pale face, "it has been starving rather than starving. I asserted my innocence at the time, Colonel Hope, and I repeat it now."

"Innocence!" ironically repeated the Colonel, turning to all sides of the hall, as if he took delight in parading the details of the unfortunate past.

"The trinkets were spread on a table in Lady Sarah's own house. You came stealthily into it—after being forbidden it for another fault—went stealthily into the room, and the next minute the diamond bracelet was missing. It was owing to my confounded folly in listening to a parcel of women that I did not bring you to trial at the time; I have only once regretted not doing it, and that has been ever since. A little wholesome correction at the penitentiary might have made an honest man of you. Good-night, Mr. Netherleigh! If you encourage him in your house, you don't have me."

Now another gentleman had entered and heard this; some servants also heard it. Colonel Hope, who firmly believed in his nephew's guilt, turned off peevishly and indignantly; and Gerard, giving vent to sundry unepithetical expletives, strode after him. The Colonel made a dash into a street cab and Gerard walked towards the city.

Lady Frances Chenevix, her dress right again, at least to appearance, was sitting to get her breath after a whirlwind wait. Next to her sat a lady who had also been whirling. Frances did not know her.

"You are quite exhausted; we kept it up too long," said the cavalier in attendance on the stranger. "What can I get for you?"

"My fan; there it is. Thank you. Nothing else."

"What an old creature to dance herself down!" thought Frances. "She's 40, if she's a day."

The lady opened her fan and proceeded to use it, the diamonds of her rich bracelet gleamed right in the eyes of Lady Frances Chenevix. Frances looked at it and started, she strained her eyes and looked again; she bent nearer to it and became agitated with her emotion. If her recollection did not play her false, that was the lost bracelet.

She discerned her sister, Lady Adela Netherleigh, and gazed up to her.

"Adela, who is that lady?" she asked pointing to the stranger.

"I don't know who she is," replied Lady Adela, carelessly. "I did not catch the name. They came with the Cadogans."

"The idea of your having people in your house that you don't know!" indignantly spoke Frances, who was working herself into a fever. "Where's Sarah, do you know that?"

"In the card room, glued to the whist table."

Lady Sarah, however, had unglued herself, for Frances only turned from Lady Adela to encourage her.

"I do believe your lost bracelet is in the room," she whispered in agitation. "I think I have seen it."

"Impossible!" responded Lady Sarah Hope.

## (To be continued.)

## KICKING A BILL OUT.

Document Actually Kicked Out of House of Commons.

Sir John Knight, a stout old Tory member for Bristol, who in the year 1693 proposed to kick a bill out of the house of commons, got into sad trouble. It was a measure for the naturalization of foreign Protestants, and Sir John, in the course of a violent invective, exclaimed: "Let us first kick the bill out of the house, and then let us kick the foreigners out of the kingdom!" this observation being aimed at William's Dutchmen, if not at the king himself. But what Sir John only proposed to do with this bill the commons actually did with another obnoxious measure in 1770, says Good Words.

The peers had presumed to alter a money bill by striking out a provision which offered a bounty upon the exportation of corn. The commons, indignant at the treatment of their deputation, who had been contumaciously ejected from the peers' chamber, and further incensed by the fact that on another occasion Burke had been kept waiting three hours at the door of the upper house with a bill sent up by the commons, took the present opportunity to show in emphatic manner that there was at least one privilege on which they would not allow the peers to encroach. The amendment was promptly rejected, and with it the bill. The speaker tossed the document over the table, and members of both parties, as they went out, kicked it toward the door.

A Machias, Me., house which was built in 1745 is receiving its third coat of shingles.

## NOTES ON SCIENCE.

### CURRENT NOTES OF DISCOVERY AND INVENTION.

The Water Supply and Its Effects on the Public Health in Large Cities—Curious Frost Screens—Tooth Powder Distributor.

#### THE WATER-SUPPLY.

Water is the most essential to existence of all that man puts into his stomach—indeed, the only single thing he cannot live without, and yet there is nothing we eat or drink that so frequently carries in itself the germs of disease.

There is a definite group of diseases which, because they are especially liable to be spread by means of drinking water, are called water-borne diseases. Among these are such scourges as typhoid fever, cholera and dysentery. Mineral poisons are occasionally dissolved in water, and exert their injurious effects upon those who drink it. It is obviously, therefore, a matter of the highest importance that the drinking water of a household or a holding the post, and he decided that city should be in its purity above reproach, but the problem for the ordinary man is how to determine this point.

The appearance of the water is by no means conclusive, for it may be beautifully clear and palatable, yet contain myriads of deadly bacteria; or it may be muddy and of a disagreeable odor and taste, and yet contain nothing of a really harmful nature. The only way by which absolute certainty can be had lies in a chemical and bacteriological analysis, repeated at regular intervals.

But elaborate and repeated analyses of this sort can be had, as a rule, only in the case of large communities with a common source, and are not at the service of the individual who must look to his own supply from wells or springs. In such a case one must judge of the source by its surroundings.

If the neighborhood is thinly settled, and the well is forty or fifty feet from the nearest house or outbuilding and on higher ground, one may use the water for drinking with a reasonable sense of safety. The same is true of water from a spring which issues from the ground at a level considerably above that of the house and barns. But if water is drawn from wells in a town or from a well near the house or outbuildings, or below their level, or from a spring similarly situated, it is almost sure to be contaminated occasionally, if not constantly, and so is the water of a stream except in an absolutely unsettled country.

#### CURIOUS FROST SCREENS.

In California, where fruit is frequently damaged by sudden warming at sunrise after being exposed to frost at night, it has been found that a screen of lath, poised like a roof above the trees, serves as an effectual protection by preventing the too precipitate action of the sun's rays. Investigation has shown that "air drainage" plays an important part in the prevention of frost, little damage being caused by the latter in places where the air is in motion. Wherever the air is stagnant the injury from frost is found to be most marked.

#### TOOTH POWDER DISTRIBUTOR.

Heretofore it has been common practice in tooth powder holders to provide a receptacle which may be shaken in the hand and a portion of the powder discharged through a small orifice, or to support the holder upon a fixed base and to discharge the powder through a bottom opening having a gate or valve. With both kinds of apparatus it has been found difficult to discharge the powder freely, especially when it is composed of precipitated chalk in a large measure, this powder having a tendency to pack in the holder so as to be discharged through the small aperture with difficulty. John S. Sanger has designed a receptacle for this purpose which has no shoulders adjacent to the discharge opening to

London, have generally been regarded as having belonged to gigantic turtles, but Dr. Abel shows that they were part of the skeleton of the zenglobon itself. They resemble in their character the imperforate bony shells of the huge glyptodonts that formerly inhabited South America. The suggestion is made that at the time when they carried armor whales were amphibious creatures, living on the coasts and needing special protection from breakers and from sharks.

#### IMPROVED DRESSING TABLE.

The object of the invention shown below is to increase the utility of a lady's dressing table by the addition of a secondary mirror, which is so carried that a second image or reflection is obtained, thus enabling a lady to secure a full view of the back of her head and yet leave both hands free to deal with the hair. This additional glass is suspended by two hinged arms from the supports of the main mirror, provision being made for extending these arms and holding them vertically, when the glasses are in use. Where only the single glass is provided frequent resort must be had to a handglass, and thus both hands are rarely at liberty at the same time. The result is that much straining of the



AUXILIARY MIRROR FOR HAIR DRESSING.

eyes occurs and the task is rarely performed to the lady's satisfaction. While this new mirror is handy in use it is also conveniently disposed of when not needed for the toilet, resting either flat against the large glass or serving as a cover for a jewel or trinket box placed on the table. The patent on this arrangement has been granted to Samuel Brentnall of England.

#### GIGANTIC EARTHWORMS.

Sir Harry Johnston, whose discovery of a new species of animal in the Uganda Protectorate has excited much interest among naturalists, brought back to London and exhibited there early this summer a specimen of a gigantic species of earthworm which, when alive, was about three feet long and as thick as two fingers. Even larger species of earthworms than this exist. Ceylon has some giants of a blue color, that attain as great a size. In Cape Colony and Natal there is a species, particolored, green above and yellowish beneath, which, it is averred, sometimes attains a length of six feet. Giant earthworms are also found in Australia and South America.

#### UNDERMINING ST. PAUL'S.

Much attention has been attracted in England, and some apprehension aroused, by the discovery of cracks in the walls of St. Paul's Cathedral. Experts think that the opening of underground railways and sewers in the neighborhood of the great structure is responsible for the damage. One of the suggested methods to secure the safety of the cathedral, at a cost of about £1,000,000, is to underpin its foundations by carrying them down about 35 feet to the solid blue clay which underlies London.

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

##### New Fuel for German Ships.

U. S. Consul Hughes at Coburg reports that the German navy and some manufacturers are using a new fuel called "masut," an oily product from German brown coal. The coast defense vessels are fitted for the use of this oil, and some battleships and cruisers are arranged so that they can use both coal and masut. Masut is said to have one-fourth greater heat-producing power than coal, and is easier to handle, as it is necessary only to open a valve in order to fill a furnace.

##### A New Telescopic Gun-Sight.

Sir Howard Grubb, the celebrated Irish telescopic maker, has invented a new form of telescopic sight for use with a rifle. Neither fore nor back sight is employed with this contrivance, but the shooter, in taking aim looked through a small lens which, by an optical device, throws an image of a bright little cross in front of the gun and in line with the barrel. This image serves as a foresight, and by simply holding the center of the cross upon the object aimed at, the marksman takes his aim. The invention is shown at the Glasgow exhibition.

##### Alligators and Crocodiles.

Alligators, according to the late Professor Cope, belong to a much more modern genus than that of their cousins the crocodiles. No undoubtedly extinct species of alligator has ever been discovered by geologists, but those animals are fast being exterminated at the present day on account of the value of their hides. Alligators are found in China, as well as in North America; the crocodile exists in Africa, southern Asia and northern Australia. The crocodile differs from the alligator in preferring salt water to fresh and in being more vicious in its disposition.



DOES NOT CLOG WITH POWDER.

reared the passage, as the picture shows. In place of the ordinary top a pair of flat hinged jaws are provided, sloping at an angle from the sides of the holder, and having rear extensions to be grasped by the thumb and finger in opening the jaws. As the opening extends across the entire length of the jaws the discharge is made simultaneously throughout the entire length of the brush. Should the powder eventually become caked the brush handle may be inserted through the wide-open jaws to loosen it.

#### ARMOR-PLATED WHALES.

The remarkable fact that the earliest known ancestor, or primitive type, of the modern whale bore heavy armor on its back, in the form of strong, bony plates, has recently been set forth by the German paleontologist, Dr. O. Abel. The plates occasionally found associated with remains of the primitive form of whale, the extinct peng-

## CHRISTMAS DISHES

Roast Pig.—In the first place, never roast a pig over five weeks old, and three weeks is the better age. Do not trust to the butcher's

cleaning, but go over every part of the body and give a thorough cleaning. Roll up the ears in greased cloths, to prevent their burning; stuff the pig with stale bread dressing seasoned with pepper, powdered sage and butter. In stuffing the pig leave room for the bread to swell, and saw up neatly. Skewer the fore legs forward; the hind legs backward. Rub all over with butter, dredge with flour that has been seasoned with salt and pepper. Place a piece of wood between the teeth and stand on the rack in a dripping pan. Roast in a moderate oven, basting every 15 minutes with melted butter, to which a little boiling water has been added. The time for roasting will vary from 2½ to 4 hours, according to the size of the pig. The ears should be unwrapped the last three-quarters of an hour. To serve, stand the pig in a large platter with a garland of cress or something green around the edge. Put a wreath of parsley around the neck and something in the mouth—a lemon, or apple, a bit of cauliflower or anything effective. The dishes complementary to roast pig are apple sauce, turnips and sweet potatoes.

Plum Pudding.—The best plum pudding being the worst indigestive consequences, I offer a modified recipe, which I can vouch for as "perfectly delicious." Three-fourth cupful of molasses, one cupful of brown sugar, one cupful of finely chopped suet, three cupfuls of bread crumbs, two cupfuls of flour, one cupful of sweet milk, one cupful of mixed raisins, citron and currants chopped, one teaspoonful of soda. Sift the sugar into the molasses and add the milk and suet. Mix the soda evenly through the flour and add the fruit to it, tossing it about to insure it being coated, then put into the wet mixture, adding last of all the bread crumbs. Boil or steam in molds for three hours. This pudding may be made a week before using, one being careful to reheat thoroughly the day it is used. Just before serving pour some brandy over the pudding and set it on the fire, so that it will be enveloped in a blue flame when placed on the table.

## THE CHRISTMAS GIRL.

(In three ages.)



THE DOLL AGE.



THE GOLFING AGE.



THE DIAMOND AGE.

No mind is so great that it cannot be influenced by a small one.