













The Duchess

CHAPTER XVII.—(Continued.) That light is still as death itself, and the sparkling brilliance of the slow moving waters contrasts with it in tender fashion. Strangely attracted by it, Vera goes forward, moves down the stone steps that lead to the garden, and with steady feet gains the little pathway. Suddenly she draws in her arms, and a shiver runs through her; she turns her head to see Dyrart.

CHAPTER XVIII. It is an impertinent question, says Miss Dyrart calmly. You are disinclined. If he has not asked you, you know he only waits for the opportunity to do so. When he knows he has gone too far, a little flame leaps into Vera's eyes.

CHAPTER XIX. The old man suddenly stiffens himself, and looks steadily at Dyrart. "And now you are asking me if I want?" he asks, tersely, his tone ringing cold and clear through the room, though very low.

"No—not at all. I never saw him before." "What! you can't tell me nothing? Oh, think, Dyrart!" says Peyton, with increasing anxiety.

Together they carry the two bodies into the house, under cover of the silent night. Mr. Dyrart to his own room and then up the stairs, and through the end-land, scarcely living, he goes up to a disused chamber in a remote corner of the old tower is reached, where it is by good probability that any one in the house save these three who know, will ever seek to penetrate.

HATS OF OUR ANCESTORS. Changes that Have Taken Place in Manufacturing Headgear. "Speaking of the hat business," said a veteran of the business to the local historian, "most wonderful changes have taken place since 1850. In olden times soft felt and derby hats were not known, and it was as late as 1843 when silk dress hats were first introduced in this country, this being a French invention, and all silk plush used for hats in the world, up to this time, made in France.

CHAPTER XX. "Your will—quick!" she says, in a low tone. "Keep him out of sight. Let no one see him, or guess at his presence in this house," whispers Dyrart, feverishly, after the speaker has shut the door, and slams the door, and locks it behind him in a frenzied fashion.

CHAPTER XXI. "Great heaven! What has happened? Has he killed the old man?" Peyton springs forward, looks upon the lower part of the body, as if shot, to stare upon the spot where he lay. "Upon the carpeted floor lies the figure, apparently dead, while standing over it is Mr. Dyrart, his face alight with a ghastly glow, his wild eyes gleaming. A heavy oak stick is in his hand. The murderous homicide is willing to confess crime already begun to finish his deed, to make sure of the helpless victim at his feet, when Peyton, uttering a loud cry, rushes from the spot where he lay, and he is gone.

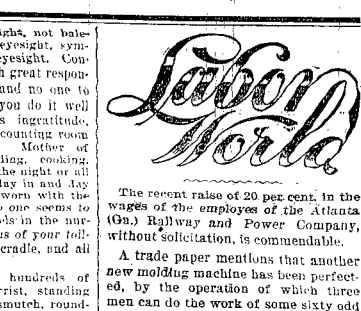
and what delights me most is that all their intelligence is to be at our disposal, and coming into their presence, they will tell us in five minutes more than we can learn by 100 years of learning.

Without Limitation. A further characteristic of these immortals is their velocity. This the Bible puts sometimes under the figure of wings, sometimes under the figure of a flowing garment, sometimes under the figure of nakedness, these superlatives are without bodies, these expressions are of course figurative and mean swiftness. The Bible tells us that Daniel was praying and Gabriel flew from heaven and came into his presence, they will tell us in five minutes more than we can learn by 100 years of learning.

Angels Everywhere. Another remark, but to make concerning these illustrious immortals is that they are multitudinous. Their census has never been taken and no one but God knows how many they are, but all the theologians suggest their immense numbers. In the Bible, the angels are mentioned in their armies, their mountains, their thrones, their skies, and other things, John speaks of angels and other beings, and the Bible says that there are ten thousand times ten thousand angels in the sky.

THE HEAVENLY POWERS. Men and women of all circumstances, only partly appreciated or not appreciated at all, never feel lonely again, or ungrateful, or discontented, when they are invited to join them in their love, and among them are some of the grandest we have.

SHORT SERMONS. The Bible.—The Bible is a book of sympathy and pardon and hope and cheer. Its soft, divine light trembles down into the darkest hearts and darkest places and chases the gloom away. There are chapters in it that have been angels of mercy here on earth for immemorial days. It is too great and great and helpful a volume to be despised and scorned.



The recent raise of 20 per cent. in the wages of the employees of the Atlantic (O.) Railway and Power Company, without solicitation, is commendable.

The Calumet and Hecla Mining Company at Calumet, Mich., put in operation the largest coal handling equipment in the world, consisting of twelve steam shovels, each ninety feet high. The shovels dip down to the coal veins, each having a capacity of 100 tons, or 8,000 pounds of coal. The total capacity is about 25,000 tons per day. The coal is carried through the furnaces by automatic railways, of which there are fifty in use.

THE "KATIPUNAN." A Mardoran Secret Society in the Philippine Islands. In 1894 the formidable and bloody Katipunan society was formed, under the leadership of Marcelo Hilario del Pilar. Its object was to secure the freedom of the Philippines by putting to the sword all the Spaniards in the archipelago. Manila, of course, was the seat of the supreme council of the Katipunan, and its branches or chapters were established in all the provinces and principal towns of the islands.

Persons Used as Antidotes. Pure venom of the rattlesnake is being used by eminent practitioners in severe cases of scarlet fever. Dried bullet holes, mixed with green and white, or simply powdered, is one of the latest additions to the physician's armament. One of the most effective of these is a remedy known as the Strophanthus, introduced from Central Africa some years ago, and now recognized as a potent heart sedative. It is the deadly arrow poison of the African continent.



