

Thirteen years before the story opened Hal Dangerfield, Chesil's uncle, came into the country on a visit, and brought a light with him that blinded the blacksmith's daughter. It had often been said that no girl could resist a Dangerfield, and so it came about that the blacksmith's daughter became an outcast and handsome young George a nameless child.

So that it may be seen that it was something beyond offended virtue that caused the family of Dangerfield to do despite to George and his mother.

Chesil Dangerfield had not George's strength of character, though they shared the beauty of form and outline; and, one day, fear of his father caused him to deny George.

For George it was the end of life. Chesil—again the lump in his throat—Chesil had denied him; Chesil had lied about him. Every nerve in his body quivered in a thirst for revenge. The boyish friendship was never resumed. George waited for his revenge.

The story takes a leap of fifteen years, and the young men had reached their twenty-eighth year, Chesil living his luxurious life and George still inhabiting the "house of shame" with his outcast mother. In George's eyes was the smouldering glow of a godlike supremacy; on his lips the triumphant sinister smile of the man who has suffered and feels he has power to pay back.

The Dangerfield family are attractive, if not lovable, in their beautiful looks and their haughty fastidiousness, and the girl, Ruby, more emphatically so than the rest.

Faithful Dick had long sued for her favours, and Chesil was hurt that his friend met with no encouragement from his favourite sister. He tells her: "You do not think any man in the world is good enough for Ruby Dangerfield to marry." "May be," said the girl. "At any rate, I'm not going to marry Dick Marshall to please him or you either, Chesil."

It was the dragging into the dust of this beautiful creature that George's brooding resentment finally fixed upon. She and her family should be made to suffer what his mother had suffered.

Chesil was subsequently told of his cherished sister. "Ruby is in trouble and the man is George Lindsay."

The terrible tragedy of Ruby's downfall is told with a graphic and restrained pen.

Dick Marshall's deep devotion to Ruby does not fail her in her dire plight and he proves it up to the hilt.

George meets death at the hands of the old soldier, Ruby's uncle, whose life he takes at the same time.

"I am going to kill you, George, for what you did to Ruby—damn you."

"I am ready to kill you," said George quietly, "for what your cousin did to my mother—damn you."

"Farewell, George!" Both hands were up.

"Farewell, Old Soldier!"

"One—two—three."

H. H.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

*Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not in ANY WAY hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.*

### FEVER NURSES RESENT DEPRECIATION OF THEIR WORK.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

MADAM,—I am enclosing a copy of a letter, which I have sent to the Minister of Health, concerning Miss Villiers' removal from the Education Committee, General Nursing Council. Fever Nurses are very sore about it, and all of us who know Miss Villiers personally and have had the good fortune to work under her, know what a splendid woman she is—just, sympathetic, and kindness itself—really one always feels that one can do great things after a little talk with our Matron; she makes one feel so very different about things, and we all feel that this has been a great injustice to all the members who have been eliminated from the various Committees.

I am, yours faithfully,

CATHERINE RELIHAN,

Registered Fever Nurse.

(Sec. Stockwell Branch P.U.T.N.)

South-Western Hospital,

Stockwell, S.W.

"April 29th, 1922.

"To the Minister of Health.

"RIGHT HON. SIR,—In reference to your statement on the removal of Miss Villiers from the Education Committee of the General Nursing Council, I am writing on behalf of Fever Nurses and others to say that we do not consider a Medical Superintendent of a Fever Hospital an all-sufficient representative of Fever nursing.

"To give orders, yes. But as to how, or in what manner the nurses are to be trained is for a Matron or Nursing Sister.

"I think that you will find that the majority of nurses think that if a Matron who is an expert is not given this position, then it should be a Registered Nurse member and not a laywoman.

"This Register is for Professional Nurses, and not for the lay members of the community.

"Medical men we will always respect, and be loyal to them at the post of duty, but the day has gone by when nurses will be dictated to and held back concerning their own affairs.

"It is as well to remember also that a great number of us have the vote—the power to use it cannot be taken from us.

"I am, yours obediently,

CATHERINE RELIHAN,

Registered Fever Nurse.

"(Sec. Stockwell Branch P.U.T.N.)"

### THE ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL NURSES' LEAGUE.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

MADAM,—In last week's Nursing Press (April 29th) reference was made to the Royal

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)