

CHAPTER 9: "THE LEECH"

WORDS

abode	eminent	orthodox
advent	emissary	parochial
alchemist	enumerated	pharmacopoeia
apothecary	erudition	piety
appellation	fain	pious
burrow	fervent	prominent
celibacy	guise	Providence
chirurgical	heterogeneous	sagacity
commodiousness	ignominious	sanctity
concord	incantations	scrupulous
conjurer	infamy	trodden (tread)
contagion	infernal	type
countenance (v.)	infirmity	venerable
deacon	leech	vigil
deportment	meanly	vilified
despondent	melancholy	vindicate
diabolical	multitude	visage
ebb	nether	vulgar
emaciated	New Jerusalem	

QUESTIONS

1. Explicate:
...he chose to withdraw his name from the roll of mankind, and, as regarded his former ties and interests, to vanish out of life as completely as if he indeed lay at the bottom of the ocean, whither rumor had long ago consigned him.
2. What new identity has Chillingworth assumed in Boston? Why is he successful?
3. To whom in the colony does Chillingworth attach himself as a medical advisor?
4. Describe Dimmesdale's health.
5. What gesture has become Dimmesdale's habit?
6. Quote at least two sentences that links Chillingworth with nature.
7. Quote a sentence from this chapter that associates Chillingworth with evil.
8. Why is Chillingworth called a "leech"?
9. Next to whose land do Chillingworth and Dimmesdale take up residence? Discuss the juxtaposition.
10. Describe their home. How is it furnished? How are Dimmesdale and Chillingworth very similar?
11. What two opposing views do the townspeople hold about Roger Chillingworth?
12. Identify at least two metaphors.
13. Identify and explain the narrator's use of rhetorical questions.
14. Explicate:
When an uninstructed multitude attempts to see with its eyes, it is exceedingly apt

to be deceived. When, however, it forms its judgment, as it usually does, on the intuitions of its great and warm heart, the conclusions thus attained are often so profound and so unerring, as to possess the character of truths supernaturally revealed.

NOTES

Diby, Sir Kenelm (1603-65): after various court appointments Digby became a privateer and successfully captured French and Dutch ships. After his wife's sudden death he retired in mourning to Gresham College and spent two years in complete seclusion and amused himself with chemical experiments. In 1651 he was in Paris performing chemical experiments and attended Febur's chemical lectures. He was a friend of Descartes. He lectured at Gresham College on the vegetation of plants in 1660. He gathered scientific men at his house and often 'wrangled' with Hobbes there.

David and Bathsheba

Nathan the Prophet

Sir Thomas Overbury (1581-1613): opposed the marriage of his patron Robert Carr (later Earl of Somerset) to the divorced Frances Howard, Countess of Essex. He was sent to the Tower and there poisoned by agents of Lady Howard.

Doctor Forman: Forman, Simon (1552-1611), was an astrologer and quack doctor. in 1579 he was sent to jail for the first of many times, apparently for practicing magic. He practiced medicine and was sometimes bound over by the judges to abstain from his quackery. He eventually received a license to practice medicine from Cambridge in 1603 and he proceeded M.D. from Jesus College in that same year. At the trial of the murderers of Sir Thomas Overbury in 1615 (four years after Forman's death) Mrs. Turner was shown to have consulted Forman to assist Lady Howard. A letter was produced, written by the Countess of Essex to Forman, urging him to use his magic to cool the love of her husband and increase the love of the Earl of Somerset.