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PARTNERS FOR LIFE

By GEORGE ELMER COBB.

"She looks pretty dubious, you see," observed Lawyer Bailey.

"There is no doubt that my father's business is in a critical condition. Well, I am here to mend it."

"I suppose you do and you look as if you were going to give the experiment a good hard try," observed the attorney with an admiring glance at the clear-eyed, supple-limbed young man before him.

Perival Deane had been called from the midst of splendid attainments at college to realize the true nobility of a self-sacrificing father. Deane & Marvin had been to the son a synonym for stability and profit. It was an old-fashioned manufacturing business and although Perival had seen that it had somewhat behind the times, he had never mistrusted that it had been narrowly grazing the edge of ruin for many months.

"I—I fabled perhaps you particularly needed your allowance—just now."

"But what do you mean?" inquired Elsie innocently.

"I heard you might leave here. That is, I fabled—well, as you are engaged—"

"Engaged?" repeated Elsie vaguely.

"Oh, you mean to my recent visitor?" she burst into a merry laugh. "He was a very good friend, but anything further than that was never possible with me and utterly out of the question with him—when he learned how poor I was."

"Yes," observed Perival, "we are both poor."

"But, oh! so glad to share that poverty cheerfully, almost happily—"

"We say that," cried Perival, unable to restrain his fervent emotions, and her downcast eyes, her blushing face told him that his love was returned.

Overcoming a pale, travel-worn man came to the Marvin home—the missing partner. What a story he had to tell of adventure, imprisonment, escape, the \$30,000 safely hidden, the final investment and—wealth!

What a reunion it was, when Mr. Deane was called home to learn the joyful news! What glowing prospects presented for the partners—and Elsie and Perival partners for life!

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ASSERTS FLOWERS FEEL PAIN

French Scientist, After a Series of Experiments, is Most Positive in His Opinion.

Can flowers feel pain? This is a question to which French physiologists are giving attention at the present time.

M. L. Chassaigne believes that they can do so. His opinion is based on interesting experiments. Taking a mimosa plant, he exposed it to the action of heat. The leaves withered as if in pain. A simple mechanical effect, says the scientist, is a proof of sensibility.

Chassaigne, since it does not take place if the mimosa be anesthetized.

If the vase containing the mimosa is placed in a glass globe with a piece of cotton impregnated with chloroform or any other volatile anesthetic for half an hour, the foliage becomes wilted and the plant lies all the appearance of being in a deep sleep. If it be now subjected to the action of heat it remains unaffected.

M. Chassaigne has repeated the same experiment with many different kinds of plants, but always with the same result. "It is maintained," he says, "that plants do not suffer pain because they have no nerves."

"Many physiologists hold that nerves are but the extension of protoplasm, modified and adapted to fulfill the required function. Hence the protoplasm of plants can perfectly well act as a rudimentary nervous system."

That Labeled Trunk. A New York woman had just returned from a trip around the world. The trunk which she took with her was naturally covered with labels from the different hotels, steamships and express which she had visited or used, and though it had been an unusually expensive and very strong trunk, it was somewhat in need of repair by the time she landed in this city. She accordingly sent it to the place where she had bought it and asked how much it would cost to have it put in good order.

Imagine her surprise to receive a letter from the firm, telling her that a thorough rehabilitation of the trunk would cost a certain moderate sum; "but," the letter concluded, "if you will give us the trunk, we shall be glad to give you in return a new one exactly like it." If you walk up Broadway you may see that much belabeled trunk in some show window, as an advertisement of what a certain firm's trunks can stand.—Leslie's.

Leaves Money to Cats. A bequest of \$1,000 for the benefit of every cat on the island of Madeira is provided in the will of Miss Caroline G. Ewen, according to a statement before Surrogate Cobalan, in a behalf of John Ewen, a nephew, who is contesting the will. Miss Ewen gave the bulk of her estate of \$200,000 to institutions which care for cats and dogs, and one bequest of \$50,000 went to the Animal Rescue League of the island of Madeira.

Counsel for the contestant asked permission to take testimony in London to show that many beneficiaries named in the will do not exist. He commented on the liberal bequest to the Madeira cats, which he says are scarce.

The surrogate reserved decision.—New York Sun.

Raised Brand New Point of Law. Ems appeared at the courthouse in Manhattan the other day and not finding the county attorney in, said to the under sheriff: "Well, maybe you can tell me what I want to know. If a man duns you for a debt on Sunday, isn't the debt paid?"—Kansas City Star.

WAY FOR THE YOUNG MEN!

Condition That Must Be Recognized is Pointed Out by Writer in Magazine.

Clear the way for the young men. They are entering "the strong, flourishing, and beautiful age" of manhood. They desire the changes. The map of the world may be rolled up—every acre tramped upon and inhabited. But still they come, claiming all the rights of the adventurer and pioneer. Domains must be found for them if the old earth has gone stale. If the life of danger and discovery is ended, then they will turn their hand against our secure world and refashion the pleasant places. They will uproot tradition and shatter the institutions. We should like them better if they fitted into our scheme, if they were ruddy and cheery and ended there. But they come earnest and eager. They leer at our failures, reject our compromises. It isn't our idea of youth our peaceful picture of what youth should be. Posts sting it as if it were a pretty thing, the gentle possession of a golden race of beings. It is lusty with power and disinterested to comfort. Men sigh for it as if it had vanished with old Japan at the hour when it is romping in their courtyard and challenging their dear beliefs. They are wistful for it in their transmuted memory, and they curse it in their councils, for youth never is what the elders would have it. It does unacceptable things, while ego stands blinking and sorrowful. It is unruly, turbulent power on its endless track.—Collier's Weekly.

SOMETHING MORE THAN HINT

Sandy McQuibber Could Hardly Have Been Pleased by the Remarks of the Beadle.

A native of a small village in Scotland, having "made good" in "furrier parts," returned home, and to show his more unfortunate brethren at home how little he valued a s. d., he presented a brand-new umbrella stand to the "beadle." In accordance with the usual custom the presentation was announced by the beadle on the Sabbath, just before the service started.

The beadle, a grizzled old warrior of about seventy, delivered himself in the following manner:—"Nae doubt, brethren, ye'll a'hae noticed the brand-new umbrella-stand that our worthy neiber, Mr. MacRae, has gien tae the kirk. Noo, umbrellas is umbrellas, and human nature is human nature, an' although it ill behooves me tae say anything agin our worshipper, I this sacred place, yet tae tell ye the truth we wad' be vera pleased if Sandy MacQuibber wad tak' a s'ittin' wee s'ittin' farrer awa' frae the door!"—London Tit-Bits.

BIRTHSTONES.

There are two systems of birthstones, one Polish and the other Jewish in origin. The Polish system is the one now more generally accepted, but of course this is simply a matter of custom, not to be settled arbitrarily.

The Polish system is as follows: January, garnet; February, amethyst; March, bloodstone; April, diamond; May, emerald; June, chalcidony or agate; July, ruby; August, sardonyx; September, sapphire; October, aquamarine or beryl; November, topaz; December, turquois.

The Jewish system is: January, garnet; February, amethyst; March, Jasper; April, sapphire; May, chalcidony, carnelian, or agate; June, emerald; July, onyx; August, carnelian; September, chalcidony; October, aquamarine or beryl; November, topaz; December, ruby.

Hi Failed to Come Up.

Hi Larity treated his pug log to a handsome coat of white paint one day this week, after which he painted inches and half inches of it and has since been using it as a measuring stick when digging postholes and doing other work. Our road overseer came along a few days later and placed a white pole in the creek with inches and half inches pointed on it so that he could tell when the creek is too high to ford. Link Lellop passed that way shortly after and found Slim Summers staring at the pole most intently. Link asked him what he was watching. "I've been settin' here nearly an hour," Slim replied, "waitin' to see what Hi's divin' after, but he seems like he takes him a long time to come up."—Kansas City Star.

He Remembered.

One day I told my son, aged three, to pick up his blocks quickly, for dinner was ready to begin at once, but he would no more than get them piled up until he would accidentally knock them over again. Finally I reproved him rather sharply, and looking up at me with a hurt feeling, he said: "Mamma, am I a bad boy?" I answered: "No, dear, but you are careless."

A few days later I had occasion to give him a dose of medicine, and he didn't want to take it, so I said, "Be courageously, 'Take it, it isn't bad, it's careless.'"—Chicago Tribune.

Medals for What They Don't Do.

"Dear me," said the potentate, "who are those people and what is the meaning of their enormous badges?" "Prince," was the reply, "they are members of a temperance society and their badges signify that they never get drunk."

The prince frowned. "If I wore a big badge," he said, "for every wrong thing I don't do you couldn't see my clothes at all."

Waistcoat a March's Fad.

Historians tell us that Charles II. of England made a resolution to change the fashion of his dress to one which he would never alter, and communicated this decision to his council in October, 1666. From a diary of that period we read: "This day the king begins to put on his vest, and I did see several persons of the house of lords and commons, too, great courtiers who are in it, being a long case sack close to the body, of black cloth and planked with white silk under it."

Cerberus.

In Greek fable Cerberus was the three-headed dog that watches outside the entrance to hades. Some writers assert that he had 50 heads, but generally he is said to have three, and three snakes are twisted about his neck. His cave was on the farther side of the dark River Styx, where Charon, the ferryman of the dead, landed the shades. Cerberus is supposed to welcome all entering hades, but to seize all those seeking to escape.

GOOD ROADS

SURFACE DRAINAGE OF ROADS

Crown of a Road Should Be Recum to Shed Water Rapidly—Recommendation From Iowa.

(By PROF. J. R. DAVIDSON, Iowa State Agricultural College.)

The roads should be provided with surface drainage. The cross section should be of such a shape as to shed all rain at once to the side ditches. To do this, the road must be oval or have a crown, must be smooth. The first of these is a matter of construction, and the latter of maintenance. The side drainage system should be called upon to carry as much water as possible. Water cannot be carried away by the drains until the water has sunk through the soil and softened it.

The crown of a road should be sufficient to shed the water readily. If the road is to be maintained and kept free from ruts and holes, less crown will do than if the road is to be neglected. The Iowa Highway commission recommended a slope one inch to one foot for a crown in the traveled way. This is sufficient for most conditions. The crown should

Well Laid Drain for Hill Road.

not be too great. A steep crown causes the travel to be concentrated at the center, where ruts will be worn and washing result. Again there is some difficulty in vehicles passing. On the side of the crown the wheels of the vehicles have tendency to grind the road down. The tops of the wheels are nearer the gutter than the bottom. This action, together with the sweeping of the lower part of the lower part of the wheel, has a very marked effect.

The steeper the slope of the road the more important the crown, for there is a tendency for the water to run down the track rather than to the side. If water once begins to run down the center of the roadway it is but a short time until the road is gullied out.

UPKEEP OF AN EARTH ROAD

Problem of Maintenance Solved Very Largely by Use of the So-Called Split-Log Drag.

(By H. R. PLINT.)

The earth road will doubtless be commonly used in rural communities for many years because of its low first cost. The ever recurring problem of upkeep of such a road can be solved very largely by the use of the so-called split-log drag.

Anyone who can use tools reasonably well can build one of these drags at a cost of four or five dollars for labor and material. Very few tools are required in making the drag, and its use is as simple and cheap as its construction. It does not require any special skill. The necessary tools can be purchased at a somewhat greater cost from manufacturers of road machinery.

Careful use of the drag on a road that is already in reasonably good condition will almost entirely prevent trouble from ruts, mud holes, or dust, and give good service at a low cost.

Good Roads and Distance.

The roads cannot be kept in too good a condition. If every farmer would keep up the roads adjoining his land the means of travel would be better. This is not only true for the automobiles, but for all kinds and means of locomotion. Good roads lessen the distance to town and make it possible for all kinds of products to be marketed at any time of the year.

The time will come when every road in the country of any importance will be of cement. The nearer the better. The county governments have spent enough money in the last 20 years on the roads to build good cement roads over all the principal thoroughfares within their borders.

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