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A Peculiar Mistake

They had quarreled. It was not the first disagreement that had occurred between them, but it was the first real quarrel of the kind.

Each was angry, hurt and unreasonable and said things for which there was no excuse except the futile one that grown people will sometimes act like children.

"Very well," said his wife, "if you ask your family, of course I must ask mine."

"I don't see any of course about it. We cannot have all our relations visit us at once," said George in a huff.

"That you seem to forget," said his wife, smiling. "That is my father and mother and you are of yours. I should not care to sit down to dinner on the anniversary of our wedding with not a single relative of my own present."

"You seem to forget me, Alice," said Alice. "You're no relative," said Alice. "I want my own people."

"Well, my people shall be my people, and my—"

"They aren't!" interrupted his wife, angrily. "I didn't marry a tribe."

"And what about me? I didn't marry a whole family, did I?"

"I think you are horrid, George," said Alice. "I'm just going home to spend my anniversary. And there won't be any d-d-n-e-r, so there!"

"The young woman indulged in an undignified fit of weeping."

Nothing exasperates the average man like a woman's tears. When a woman weeps to him, he is at a loss.

"This called down such anathemas on him that he was obliged to make a profound apology, and then he began to draw a comparison between his Alice and other women, the result of which was that he wound up by saying as he reached his office:

"What a woman who exchanged her term land for city property has been here again," said Mr. Maynard, and Mr. Maynard entered his office that morning.

"Another woman?" he groaned, talking of his greatcoat. "What does she want now?"

FARMER AND PLANTER

NOXIOUS GRASSES.

How to Eradicate the Nut Grass or Coco Pest.

A circular (illustrated) on nut grass, its description and remedies, has just been issued from the division of botany of the United States department of agriculture.

"Is there any message?" asked the boy. "None," said Alice, with white lips, and sat down in her own room to think.

"There's a crazy woman downstairs," said the girl. "I cannot understand what she means. She is old and ugly, and she says Mr. Maynard is a wicked designing man, and has tried with her affections. You ought to see her, ma'am."

"Then Alice read the letter, which showed her been addressed to her, but such thoughts as had been in her mind were all banished by the sight of the letter.

"What things are at their worst they always begin to mend. At that moment a man's voice—a dear welcome sound to one pair of ears—was heard downstairs. There was a brief altercation, and George Maynard mounted the staircase in about four jumps, rushed into the room and caught his wife in his arms.

"Sir!" she exclaimed, with a whole volume of indignation concentrated in one word.

"It's all right, darling," he exclaimed. "I've seen the old cat downstairs. It seems that I put your letter, sweetheart, into the envelope addressed to her, and she thought you got hers and didn't know what to make of it."

"Alice never came so near fainting in her life, but she breathed up and listened to George's explanation about his mistake which had so aroused the alarm, who was given her own letter and gotten rid of unceremoniously.

"The dinner? Oh, that was the success of the season, as all holiday dinners should be. A few days before the event George wrote a letter to an old friend, and invited them to be present, as it was their anniversary. He did not intend to let his wife out of him in generosity, and it was a goodly company that sat down to the feast.

"And to be with one who we love. Doth work with madness in the brain."

"They beamed with love and reconciliation, and on this principle of altruism they developed a warm and friendly atmosphere of holiday sunshine to which all present contributed.

"As the realization of a danger past is a source of thankfulness, this spirit appropriate to the occasion filled the hearts of the young wife and husband, and never, even on their wedding day a year previous, had they been so entirely satisfactory to themselves and their friends as on this holiday occasion."

"She learned a new word. For some time after her marriage with Napoleon Empress Marie Louise was extremely ignorant of the French language. On one occasion, seeing her husband look vexed over a letter he had received from the court of Austria, she inquired of him what was the matter. 'Oh, nothing,' replied Napoleon, 'your father is an old gauche, that is all.' Marie Louise did not know that this was French for awkward, and took the first opportunity of asking a courier what it meant, saying that the emperor had applied the expression to her father. It means, says one very learned and wise, stammered the unfortunate courier. The empress was perfectly satisfied with this explanation and pleased to learn a new word. A day or two after she received the Archchancellor Cambaceres in a crowded salon. Some question was being warmly discussed in the circle, and her opinion was asked. 'Wishing to be very gracious, Marie Louise turned to Cambaceres and said: 'We will refer that point to the archbishop, for we all know he is the greatest gauche in Paris.'—Detroit Free Press.

"—Rye is said to grow wild in Anatolia and Turkestan, as well as between the Black and Caspian seas. Its original home is believed to be somewhere between the Austrian Alps and the Danube."

FEEDING FOR MILK.

Conclusions Reached by Experiments in Canada.

The experiments of the Central experiment farm at Ottawa, Can., have been summarized as follows:

"That when a cow is in full milk and full flesh, she will give her normal quality of milk for at least a limited time, but that the quantity of milk produced will be deficient."

"That an extra supply of nutritious food at all times increases the quality of milk, but the percentage of fat is not in any way improved by it, if anything the tendency being rather the other way."

"That an extra supply of nutritious food almost invariably very slightly increases the solids not fat of the milk."

"That a ration poor in food ingredients is a poor diet for the cow, but that the solids not fat in the milk, but has little appreciable effect on the fat."

"That with a poor ration a cow in full weight will lose carcass weight, while on a rich diet she will gain weight."

"That the percentage of fat in a cow's milk may vary daily, but at present seems unable to control these variations, or to account for them."

"That for limited periods up to one month or thereabout, an ordinary quantities and qualities of foods seem to have no material effect on the quality of the milk."

"That the only food which seems to have a marked effect on the percentage of butter in the milk is an excess of brewers' grains."

"That very succulent grass has had only a very trifling effect in altering the percentage of fat."

"That the extra quality must be looked for by improving the breeds and judiciously selecting the sires, and by special foods or method of feeding."

"That the variations in the percentage of fat in a cow's milk are caused by something, but what that something is at present is not known, though it would seem that it might be able to influence the quality."

"Cows in Cold Weather. Under fairly good housing, cows in cold weather will use up 60 per cent. of the food they eat to keep their bodies warm, and when exposed to the morning, or if it is pouring and winds will apply 80 per cent. of the food they eat to keep warm. Now is not 30 per cent, or one-fourth of what they eat worth saving by making them comfortable in the stable? And this is just the time of year to begin that work. Do not put it off, but look up some old boards if you can not afford new ones, or get some tarred paper, that is about as good and much cheaper than the usual material with which the wagon and the cow shed are covered. Get leads of leaves out of the stump holes and fence corners and store them where they will keep dry for use as bedding for the cows. There is no harm in putting a good manure to see his cows on a cold bitter night standing knee deep in leaves in their stalls, with no breezes blowing around their legs. He can sleep well at night because his cows have done their duty and he will be well satisfied to have a comfortable place to milk in the morning. There is nothing so inspiring to action as a little selfishness in our philanthropy."

"—Home and Farm."

"HERE AND THERE. The extremely low price of cotton does not keep cotton-growers, who raise their own meat and bread, from still taking a somewhat hopeful look of the future."

"—In order to get ahead in farming, one must have a head, and a tolerably long one at that. In fact, the farmer of to-day must be a sort of hustling soldier in getting at the bottom facts of the trade."

"—Wheat will henceforth be a rival of corn for hog feed, even when better prices rule. Especially when ground up with oats and corn it is unrivaled for hogs and fattening qualities. It should always be well soaked to be well assimilated.—Western Swineherd."

SQUIRE RUFUS SANDEES

Tells a Charming Story From Backwoods Life.

A Runaway "Weddin Match"—The "Marvellous" Thing That One Helpless Little Baby Can Do—Nature, the Free-maker, Wins.

"She is the only girl in the family, but I don't like her. He had her and buried—honest to God, Rufe, I will never stand still and see her leave our home to be the wife of such a tom-down, drunken ruffian as John Cliff Tomlinson."

"It was on a Friday when Ben Chris came by my house to tell me about his trials and tribulations and tribulations concerning Rufe May. He passed the night at our house and the next morning he saddled up and lit for home. So and behold when he got there a terrible confusion was going on amongst the neighbors. There was a wedding in progress. He had taken a sudden trip to Georgia. Where was Rufe May? Bless goodness, she had taken and went with him. They came back one day during the following week, but they didn't tell me they had got together in a double bow not, which the same nothing but death or a chancery court could undo. It had come to pass exactly like I had told Ben Chris. No, Rufe didn't tell of the man, and nothing didn't break, and—they got married."

"Nature Takes Her Course. What did Ben Chris do when he got home and found that the cat had jumped and the cake was all dough? He let it be, and did exactly what I had told him to do—just simply nothing. But when John Cliff and Rufe May got back into the settlement they didn't hang out at the Weaver place any more. They went to live in a place in that particular neighborhood. Rufe May went home after her clothes, and when she got the clothes she likewise also got word from Ben Chris to the general effect that she must move her wash for good and all."

"She took the bit in her teeth and went dead square agin the word and the wish of her old daddy," says he, "and I reason you may find her career as to get along without her hence forwards and forever. She has made the bargain and she must stand by it. Tell her there ain't nothing here for her to come back after. Tell her, and she will put a lock on the front door, and a new latch on the front gate, and the key and the string will always hang on the inside to John Cliff Tomlinson and his family."

"The next time I went down in the old settlement I was really in for a course I called by to swap a few lies with Ben Chris Weaver. I had heard what come to pass in regards to the weddin match between Rufe May and John Cliff, but I didn't believe it until I had seen Ben Chris. He had sent them touchin the latch string and the key. I soon found out that Ben Chris still had his bristles up, and his feelings rather bad hurt with the Tomlinson branch of the family. It was a good thing that I had a friend in that particular neighborhood. Rufe May sent home after her clothes, and when she got the clothes she likewise also got word from Ben Chris to the general effect that she must move her wash for good and all."

"I then went over to the Tomlinson place to see how Rufe May and John Cliff was coming on. Whereas, both of them seemed to be as happy and snug as two bugs in a rug, only Rufe May would slip off and take a big cry about once a week on account of the word she had got from her daddy that she must move her wash for good and all."

"Dadblame it, Rufe, have you heard the news?" says Chris before I could hitch my horse and light. I had heard the news, but I didn't let on that way. Ben Chris has got a baby—a bun-baby, Rufe, and a baby at that. Ben Chris went on. 'And Aunt Nancy Newton says he is the livin, spit-in image of me.' And I thought in my soul the man would fall in a duck fit. We then went in the house and Ben Chris showed me a letter which he had writ to Rufe May and John Cliff, which the same it was as follows:

"Dear Rufe May: You and John Cliff has been home and bring the baby by gaiters. I am most crazy to see that boy. I have lost every dadblame key on the place and there ain't no latch on the front gate. Your loving father, B. C. Weaver."

"Of course Rufe May and John Cliff come up to spend a few days with Ben Chris and the rest of the family, and brought the baby with them. They tell me that John Cliff is behaving himself the blindest sort nowadays, and Rufe May told me on the sly that she is considerable in the hope of making a good democrat out of him before she is elected."

"It is plum marvellous to me to see what big changes can be brought on in a family by one spoiled little baby. But nature is a powerful free-maker, if you will only let her have her time and take her own course."

"RUFUS SANDEES. The government secret service gives notice of a dangerous counterfeit \$2 silver certificate, series 1891. This southern corn crop will be nearly 800,000,000 bushels, according to the United States agricultural department, an increase of 48,000,000 bushels. The state gas inspector of Indiana in his annual report to the legislature says that the natural gas supply is likely to be entirely exhausted in less than four years. He estimates that since the first gas well was sunk \$25,000,000 worth of gas has been wasted."

"RUSSIA has produced this year, according to the estimate of the minister of agriculture, 273,000,000 bushels of wheat, as compared with 238,000,000 last year. Her crop is 792,000,000 bushels, as against 752,000,000 a year ago. The barley yield is 176,000,000, and that of oats 673,000,000. There is no potato in the czar's empire this year."

"Carroll county, Georgia, is reported to have a larger number of hogs than for many years. It is said that a couple of well-grown March pigs will bring more money in that locality than a head of corn. By raising one's own supplies at home, and making cotton the surplus crop, prosperity will be assured."

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"I have never used any chemical fertilizers. Don't know anything about them, but grass, stalks, cotton seed and droppings from stock I have used with good results, also pees vines, but I think the cotton seed and pees vines ought to be fed to stock and the droppings used on the land. I use tons of manure allowed to go to waste every year on the farms and ranches in this country that should be put on the fields and if wealthy farmers can make it pay, why not the poorer ones also?—Farm and Home."

NOT AFRAID OF MEN.

Some Stories of Flight with Grizzly Bears.

"I've hunted a good deal," said a young Englishman, "and while I have had shot at one of those fellows, I never do to the conclusion that every wild animal will get out of a man's way if he carries a man a safe with the rest of them unless they're attacked or pushed by hunger. They seem of them and I've seen them on their hind legs. I've had men who hunt tigers and lions tell me about it, and they have come to about the same conclusion."

"That may go with tigers and lions, but not with grizzly bears." This remark was made by a white-bearded old fellow who had not spoken before. "I know of a case where that proposition was tested. A fellow I knew met a bear down in the Santa Cruz mountains a good many years ago. Then the bear tried going one way and the fellow went along the other. He had a good rifle, but the animal was so big that he did not feel like taking the chance of wounding him. He had heard this yarn about the bear's mane, and he had been on the proposition that animals were naturally afraid of men. So he just braced himself in the trail, stood still, and looked at the bear. As soon as the old fellow saw him he had not spoken before. 'I know of a case where that proposition was tested. A fellow I knew met a bear down in the Santa Cruz mountains a good many years ago. Then the bear tried going one way and the fellow went along the other. 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