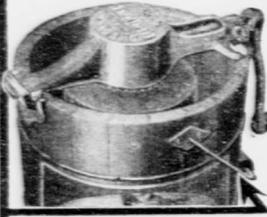


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prompted a new thought in her mind, and had inspired a new impulse in her heart concerning that hitherto frightful nightmare, her future husband. She could not help but think that if Prince Frederick of England was like this man, if the Margrave of Schwedt was of this pattern, or if any man seeking her hand was similar even in a small degree to this gentle spoken, handsome Captain, life would be a very different proposition, and the future would be as rose colored as the morning's dawn.

ALL these new emotions in the breast of Princess Mina found expression in tears that evening when she was alone with her friend and lady in waiting, Mademoiselle Sonnfeld. While arranging the Princess' toilet for the night, Sonnfeld, who always spoke to Mina in English, though she spoke the language brokenly, said:

"Ah, Mina! I saw you talking to the handsome Captain! That is the name your sister Charlotte gives him. Have I not often told you that all men are not to be hated?"

"You have often told me that, of course," answered Mina; "but why do you tell it to me now?"

"Because, my Mina," returned Sonnfeld, "the man you talked to this evening is not one to be hated; neither is he to be talked to too much unless my Mina would be unhappy. One could easily see by your face that he was one not to be hated by you. You looked happier and brighter than I have seen you for months, and that makes me happy. Yes, *meine liebste*, it makes me happy." Sonnfeld kissed Mina's bare shoulder. "No, no, dear one, all men are not to be hated! In truth, there are thousands of men who are to be loved by women as nothing else in all this world can be loved. A child's love for its parents is sweet and beautiful; a mother's love is deep and marvelous; but, ah, Mina, mine! if you take all the different kinds of love the human heart can give, and roll them into one, and multiply their utmost strength a thousandfold, you will still have only a small part of that love which a woman may give to the man who is to be loved by her. It matters not whether the world calls her love right or wrong, if she must love, she must, if it is her fate, she can in no way avoid it. It pulses in her breast with the first drop of blood that passes through her baby heart; it burns her in womanhood; and is all of life that is left to her when death comes to give her rest. But the love—ah, Mina! it cannot die! It is God Himself. Some persons have naught of God in them. God must pity them, for their souls will rest forever in the earth. Some seem to have too much of God in them, and when that great blessing is true, life itself is apt to be a sweet torture."

"Why, Sonnfeld, what has come over you that you preach me this long sermon of love?" asked the Princess.

"Because, Mina, you have God within your heart, and you will know all too soon why I preach to you, if many times you talk to this handsome Captain," answered Sonnfeld. After a long pause, she went on: "This great love comes in so many ways! Sometimes it comes like the overlapping tide, ever encroaching upon the heart until it engulfs it. But, like the tide, it cannot be stemmed, and no man, much less woman, can for a moment stop its course. Again it comes like a mountain torrent in flood, carrying all before it, and that sort of love sometimes brings death in its wake. I cannot tell which will come to you. I often fear it will be the mountain torrent. But if you see much of the handsome Captain, Mina, it will surely be the torrent or the tide."

Wilhelmina stretched forth her hand protestingly, and was about to speak. She tried to laugh, but ended by throwing herself on the bed, face downward, in a flood of tears. Mina feared that the tide had begun to flow, and she also feared that she would be powerless to say "Thus far and no farther!"

To be continued next Sunday

### WINNING BACK A JOB

A GERMAN driver who was formerly in the service of an ice concern in Philadelphia recently applied to the head thereof for a letter of recommendation.

While the Teuton had never displayed any great capability in his line, he had nevertheless always served with fidelity, and so the good natured employer cheerfully gave him a letter of recommendation, couched in most laudatory terms.

When the German perused this effusion, he was much touched. "Excuse me, sir," he said, "when his emotion suffered him to speak, but if I was so glib as his letter says, you'd be matter with giving me a job here again?"

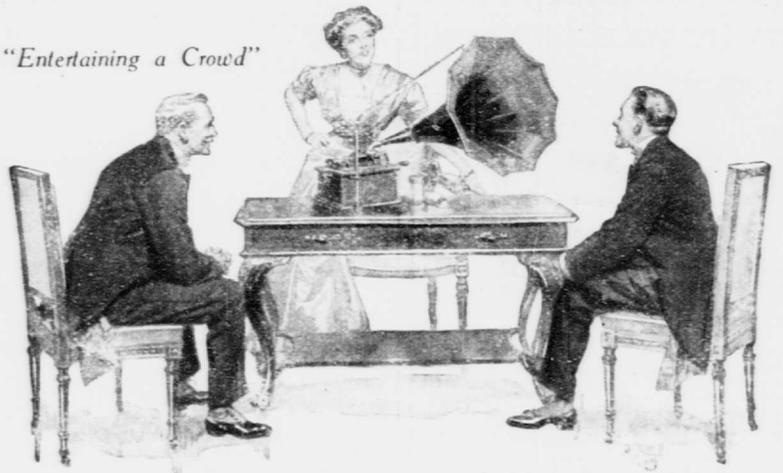
### SOME OLD TREES

AMONG the oldest living things must be classed certain trees. More than a century ago de Candolle found two yews in England that were estimated to be two thousand five hundred and three thousand two hundred and forty years old, respectively. Both of these trees, it is stated, are still flourishing, the older having a trunk of the circumference of twenty-seven feet.

A gigantic baobab of Central America, with a trunk twenty-nine feet through, was thought by no less an authority than Humboldt to have attained the respectable age of five thousand one hundred and fifty years.

Mexican botanists have asserted that they have discovered a lifespan even greater than this, and from the annual rings of a cypress of Chapultepec, whose trunk is one hundred and eighteen feet in circumference, it is estimated that the tree is six thousand two hundred years old.

"Entertaining a Crowd"



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