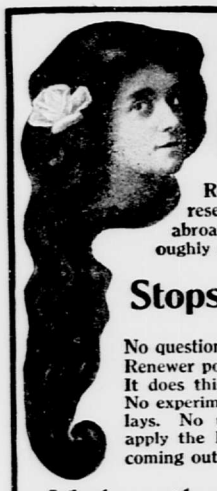

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one of the most remote islands of the South Pacific, to three nuns who are surely among the most heroic of living creatures. The island of Mangareva where they live is a leper colony. It is not likely that one of these women will ever leave this lonely desolate spot, so far away from the land of their family and friends that news from home comes only once in six months. The nearest civilization lies a forty days' journey over the ocean. Quite a number of nuns have gone before these three to voluntary exile on this tiny island, teaching and nursing among the otherwise forsaken lepers. But all these heroic nuns have succumbed within a few years. One or two were driven insane by the very loneliness and desolation of the life. Yet, knowing all this in advance, these three women from Brittany have consecrated the rest of their lives, be they long or short, to God's service here.

How fascinating some of the stories told on the days of public awarding must be may be inferred when it is known that often the most accomplished novelists and storytellers in France make the announcements. It was Pierre Loti, perhaps the most popular of living French writers, who told the stories of the persons awarded prizes in 1898, and Jules Claretie made the awards in 1897.

Perhaps some people, when they first hear of these prizes, sympathize with the sentiment of the convention which forbade the awarding of the prizes in 1793. The resolve declared, "To crown persons who have endeavored only to come up to the standard of the perfect citizen is superfluous, if not immoral."

No doubt this objection would be just in the case of the present Montyon awards if they were intended in any sense as prizes or definite rewards for single acts of bravery. It must be remembered, however, that no prize is ever granted for one act of heroism; but every award is made to a person who has devoted years of patient service to some good cause. Moreover, the awards are rather aids than prizes, granted in order to enable the person awarded to carry on some good work to even greater usefulness.

Clinton Sebor

Continued from page 8

coyote pelts, deerheads, an' sich that would put a museum to shame. Said collection was gifts from Diamond M an' Lazy K boys, which was gradually wastin' away with love.

"When we got better acquainted she tole me more 'bout Clint an' why he was so bitter ag'in' his family an' her.

"Seems when he was first accused o' knockin' down his father immediately takes it for granted the boy's guilty an' starts in devisin' ways an' means for savin' the fam'ly name by coverin' things up. This here attitood makes Clint so bitter and down hearted that he gives hisself up to the police. Well, Dorothy hears he's pled guilty an' breaks the engagement. She certainly couldn't be expected to do no other way; but Clint thinks different and it jars him some considerable. I reckon he was anticipatin' that she'd hang on his neck and offer to go to the pen with him. Nothin' like this comes off, howsomever, an' his learnin' to make brooms under the kind supervision o' the grand ole State o' Pennsylvania don't have no effect 'cept to pull the name of Sebor one rung down the ladder an' raise blisters on his hands.

"When the martyred victim gets pardoned he hates hisself an' all the rest o' this crool, crool world; but after a few days in the metropolis o' Deming, which he makes for, for reasons unknown, he cheers up an' seeks employment, with the surprisin' success I enunciates loud in the beginnin'.

FOR the first week or two after Dorothy come, Clint takes off his hat real polite an' says 'Howdy,' when he passes her, as per Mac's instructions; but he wears a pained expression on the front o' his head, notwithstanding. Second couple o' weeks pained expression fades away, which it weren't human nature for it not, seein' as the little lady smiled at him.

"I sure admired to see her smile too; reckon she could outsmile most anybody when it come to one o' these here all-the-world's-muh-fren' smiles. 'Sides that, if she smiled at a crowd, each an' every man in it thought she meant him an' him only—an' maybe he was some good, after all was said an' done, even if he wasn't good enough for her, an' he might git a raise or fall heir to an estate or somethin', you can't never tell, an' he'd ask the boss for a raise mañana anyhow an' go off dreamin' dreams.

"Now, it weren't none astonishin' to me when he breaks out in a smile hisseif; but it did get me guessin' when it don't never go no further. Finally I arrives at the conclusion he holds back for the same reason as the rest o' the male population o' Grant County; said reason bein' she was rich an' he was pore.

ONE mornin' Dorothy and I drives to Deming, an' 'bout halfway there I notices she ain't sayin' much. Directly I sees a couple o' little dewdrops roll out o' them violet eyes o' hers; so I says:

"'Do you still love that scoundrel?'

"'To whom do you refer?' she replies real haughty.

"'Because if you do,' I continues, 'you can sure have him.'

"'Oh, Uncle Bill,' she says, 'do you truly think he cares for me?'

"I has my ante in now, an' I sees I'll have to bluff my hand out; so I says unconcerned, 'How soon do you want him?'

"Believe me, brother, she wants him right now. Howsomever, I manages to inculcate the principles o' patience, an' she agrees to wait till evenin', with the understandin' Clint's to show up then.

"I racks my brain, which has kind o' congealed from long disuse; but on the way back a scheme strikes me forcible. So when I ambles into the quarters I calls Clint off to one side an' says:

"'Do you love Miss Dorothy?'

"He answers up real haughty, same as her, an' wants to know if it's anything to me. Just like young ones, you see. Made a botch o' things; but don't want no help.

"'Son,' I says, fastenin' my optics on him, 'you listen to me an' you'll git some information!'

"Then I handed him a passel o' lies that would have made Ananias sit up an' take notice o' my ability,—how Dorothy had been told to come home a month back, but she refused; how she had received a letter that day, sayin' since she preferred to paddle her own canoe without advice from the home office she was welcome to do so; how she was absolutely an' unconditionally broke; how she had applied for the lucrative position o' waitress at the Deming Harvey House an' was to start slingin' biscuits the next week.

"Sounds mighty unreasonable, you say? Yes, it would have to anybody but Clint; but you got to consider he was plumb locoed about the little lady an' all he thought of was her a slingin' biscuits to a bunch o' sassy drummers.

"'Bill,' he says, 'I'm gone!' an' he makes a flyin' jump through the door an' begins runnin' towards the house before his feet hits the ground.

"Mac comes down after awhile an' fetches me up to the house. Clint was settin' inside with Dorothy, and she jumped up when she saw me, throwed her arms aroun' my neck, an' kissed me. She sure did, an' she says, 'Uncle Bill, you're a perfect dear!'

"They had things all planned out too. Mac had received an offer from Diamond M, an' was a goin' to take it. He was to be range boss for their outfit, an' it meant a raise over what the Walkin' X was payin' him as foreman. The company hadn't got anyone to take his place yet, an' as he changed outfits in 'bout a week he thought he could get the job for Clint. Which he was right in his expectations.

THE infants got spliced the next mornin', an' when Mac left they moved into the house. Clint made a good foreman, an' the little lady made a good foreman's wife. She pitched in an' done the cookin' an' housekeepin' as happy as you please, let Clint think she was plumb broke, like I told him, an' they cert'ny was one blissful pair; just natchully tickled to death with each other.

"But the best is yet to come. Which I don't mean I'm glad the old duffer dies; but it sure were a dispensation o' Providence just the same, an' I reckon they've got more fun out o' the money than he would have, if he hadn't a croaked. It were Clint's uncle, an' he left him a heap o' the mazuma. We changes foremen immediate an' sudden. Clint buys the Walkin' X from the company an' moves to Denver.

"He's in the bankin' business up there now, head o' some big trust company; but he comes down to the ranch every two or three months an' punches cows for a few days with us as a kind o' relaxation. When the boy come they named him after me, an' some o' these days I'm goin' to mosey up to Denver to see the kid."

Bill threw away his cigar and concluded his narrative with the sage remark that, "They can't no man, which is a man, stay mad at a pretty woman if she smiles."

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