

The Goose That Laid the Golden Egg

By F. A. MITCHEL

"I have heard that you won your wife from the fact that you were a successful author," said Dawson to his friend Sturdevant. "If a man wants to win a woman he must raise himself above his fellow men by doing something that glitters. To wear a gaudy uniform is the easiest way with the ordinary type of woman. But I am not surprised that it required a different sort of prominence to secure Mrs. Sturdevant. She is a very bright woman and would naturally look up to a man of your caliber."

Sturdevant glanced at the ceiling, then at the floor, then out through the window.

"Yes," he replied, "my wife is a smart woman, but she has no reason to admire me."

"That's modesty for you."

"You don't know anything about women, John. You say a woman to love a man must look up to him. So far, so good. But she is just as likely to love him because she looks down on him. The truth is, the sex is not to be analyzed. This story that I won my wife on account of my literary standing is balderdash. I'll tell you the basis of it if you like."

"Please do so."

"I have always been rather impractical, and Dora is the very reverse. When I met her I was ambitious to write a successful novel. She listened to my talk, sympathized with me, but I could see that she considered me in the clouds."

"You don't seem to think I'm up to the work of successful scribbling? I said to her one day, miffed at her want of enthusiasm."

"I think you're not down to it," she replied.

"What do you mean?"

"Oh, that would take too long to explain."

"She might have truthfully added, 'I wouldn't attempt to try to fire it into as stupid a brain as yours.'"

"I was engaged at that time on my story, 'The Goose That Laid the Golden Egg.'"

"I believe 200,000 copies were sold?" Dawson broke in.

"Three hundred thousand."

"And all the while," interrupted Dawson, "it was you who—"

"Don't be in such a hurry. I'm telling this story. I put \$1,000 into the venture. I intended to spend it all on the printing and binding, but Dora persuaded me to have it illustrated. So I paid \$400 of the amount for pictures. The book was published through Lambblack & Co., who put their imprint on the title page."

"Three months passed, and I got a check from them for \$27.50. The public didn't clamor for the goose that laid the golden egg worth a cent. One reviewer said that it was easy to pick out the goose that didn't lay the golden egg, which complimentary remark evidently referred to the author. Another three months passed, and I got another check for \$8.75."

"What was my surprise when the next quarterly payment was made to receive \$150. After that one day when I was introduced to a man he looked at me curiously and asked, 'Author of 'The Goose That Laid the Golden Egg?'" Surprised, I admitted that I was and with a heart flutter. The next day I was told by a friend that my book was being talked about, and, stopping at a book and news stand, the dealer told me that he was selling it like hot cakes. I asked him to what he attributed the sudden increase of sales, and he replied:

"The public wants it."

"This satisfied me that I had at least struck a popular vein, and I hoped to climb the ladder of literary fame."

"To make a long story short, my novel was talked about by everybody, rich and poor, high and low. In six months I had cleared a small fortune; then the sales fell to nothing. I had made some money, but no literary reputation."

"Dora and I were married and went to Europe on a bridal trip. One day while on the voyage over I was twitting her on her want of appreciation of my ability to succeed as an author, when she said:

"The reviewer who said that it was easy to pick out the goose that didn't lay the golden egg was half right. Now listen to me."

"One day after your novel had fallen flat," she went on, "I concluded to try to stir up an interest in it. I went to all my friends and told them there was a hidden meaning in the title and asked them to guess what it was. They all went about propounding the query to their friends. It got noised about that there was a mystery in the book that did not appear on the surface. I re-enforced the position by propounding the query whether the goose was a goose or a gander. This set people to quarrelling as to whether the hero, Tom Phunnyfeller, or the heroine, Miriam Twaddley, was the mystery. To half my friends I suggested that the book was written to advocate the cause of votes for women; to the other half that it was an attack on the abilities of our sex. That's all. I didn't have to do any more. The public got hungry for the goose, and we got the golden egg."

Sturdevant paused.

"Why haven't you followed up your success?" asked Dawson.

"Because my wife would not permit me to kill the goose that laid the golden egg."

VALE ITEMS

Hugh McGuire and little daughter, of Chicago, spent Monday here at the Thos. Powers home.

Last Sunday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Brogan southeast of town a goodly number of Miss Pae's school friends gathered to give her a farewell party before she departs for Clinton, where she will attend Mt. St. Clare's academy for the school year. The hours flew and the good time came to a close too soon for all. The delicious refreshments brought by the guests also met with the approval of the young folks.

Mrs. Mary Quirk spent the last of the week in Dunlap, the guest of her son, Ralph, and wife.

Mrs. Ellen McCarthy and daughter, Gertrude, of Denison, were over Sunday visitors here at the Mrs. Mary Mitchell and Jas. Hickey home.

Mrs. L. Tubbs and baby, of Webster City, are visiting here at the parental, A. Short, home.

Mrs. A. B. O'Connell and granddaughter, Catherine Mitchell, arrived here Monday from Wagner, S. D., for an extended visit with relatives.

Jas. Rutherford and family, of Gray, were Sunday visitors here at the B. Wahlin home.

Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Hickey entertained a number of their relatives Sunday at dinner in honor of Mrs. Hickey's sister, Mrs. Ellen McCarthy, and her daughter, Gertrude, who leave Thursday for Sturgis, S. D., to make their home.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Fitzgibbons and daughter, Benita, autoed over to Arthur Saturday for a visit. Their son, John, who was visiting there, returned home with them.

Mr. and Mrs. John Dieter and children and Mrs. T. J. Kinney and Miss Ruth Abts motored to Yetter Thursday and spent the day with the Wm. Enebach family.

Miss Emma Connor returned Sunday to her work in Omaha after a very pleasant visit here with her sister, Mrs. Dave Maxwell, and family and her many friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Coates and two daughters autoed over from Manning Friday and visited at the Henry Tarp home.

Mrs. Jas. Nellis has been quite ill the past week.

C. H. Norton left the first of last week for Nebraska, where he joined his wife and family, who have been visiting there for the past few weeks with their folks. They all arrived at home Saturday evening.

B. Sippel, of Waterloo, visited here last week with Landlord Mannon and family.

Bert Mitchell was a Chicago passenger Saturday evening.

Chas. Krinz and family and Mrs. H. Crinz of Pontanello, spent the first of last week here with Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Wood.

George Robinson was transacting business in the county seat Wednesday last.

P. J. Beirne, of Carroll, was calling on his Vall friends the first of last week.

Mrs. Chas. Wood enjoyed a visit from her sister, Mrs. T. Lee, who resides at Sioux City.

Raymond Duffy spent last week in Omaha with relatives.

Mrs. Finney and daughter, of Carroll, spent a few hours here Saturday between trains at the Jas. O'Boyle home.

Mrs. Mary Mitchell and sons, Ray and Roy, spent Thursday in Denison with her mother, Mrs. E. McCarthy.

Miss Irene Hickey, of Manilla, visited the past week here at the Jas. Hickey home.

Miss Julia Tempest was a Denison visitor Monday.

John Kral has purchased a 'new King 8 touring car.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Albert, of Denison, spent Monday in Vall.

Jas. Hickey and family motored to Denison Saturday.

John Kearney made a trip to Carroll on business Thursday.

Mrs. A. Farley went to South Omaha last week to see her mother, Mrs. Pierce, who is in very poor health.

Miss Emma Connor spent Friday in Denison at the Dr. Wright home.

Frank Barton made a trip to Carroll Monday.

Wm. Byrnes was a business visitor Wednesday in Omaha.

Mrs. Earl Copeland and children, of Manilla, were recent visitors here with relatives.

Miss Ada Dieter was the guest of honor last Wednesday evening at a farewell party tendered her by Mrs. Leonard Dieter at her home in the west part of town. Miss Dieter will leave in the near future for Clinton, where she will attend Mt. St. Clare's academy for the school year. There were fifteen of her school friends in the party. The evening was merrily spent with games and music and a delightful two course luncheon was enjoyed.

Mart McCullough, of Carroll, spent

Friday and Saturday with Vall friends. Mr. and Mrs. Collins, of Vermillion, S. D., are visiting here with their daughter, Mrs. G. E. Dingman, and family.

John Johnson left last week for his home in Nebraska.

E. Buchman and son, Hubert, returned the first of last week from a visit with relatives in Omaha.

C. Baker, of Manilla, was a Vall caller Monday.

Mrs. John Clements and Miss Bessie Haas, of Carroll, were Sunday guests here with their sister, Mrs. W. W. Watson, and family.

W. Tweed, of West Side, assisted in the Norton barber shop during Mr. Norton's visit in Nebraska.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave McCullough spent last week with friends in Minnesota.

Misses Joanna and Elizabeth Naughton, of Denison, spent the first of the week here at the home of their uncle, J. T. Walsh.

Mr. and Mrs. John Kral spent the first of last week with relatives at Ft. Dodge.

Mrs. Len Hoffman and daughter, Mrs. Steffensen, spent Monday with relatives in Denison.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Brockelsby and children spent the past week in Minnesota, making the trip by auto.

Miss Nell Olson was a Denison visitor Thursday.

Mrs. F. C. Alley and son, Frank, of Pleasantdale, Neb., are here for a visit at the A. Short home.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Clausen have returned to their home in Omaha after a several days' visit here with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bartley Mitchell.

Mrs. J. D. Fitch, of Carroll, spent a couple of days here last week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. McComb.

Maurice O'Connor and son, John, left Wednesday for Excelsior Springs, Mo., where they will stay ten days.

Misses Margaret and Nelle Hickey and Master Charles O'Connor, who have been at the springs for the past three weeks, will return home with them.

Mrs. James Lyman, of Wauveka, Ill., visited here last week with her mother, Mrs. Eland.

Mrs. Hansen was a Denison visitor Thursday.

Gail Richardson, of Denison, was transacting business here Tuesday.

Chas. Duffy was an Omaha visitor the first of last week.

Mrs. Bremner and Mr. and Mrs. Albert, of Denison, motored to Manning last Saturday on business.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Walsh spent last week with relatives in Kansas City.

Miss Vera Keane and Miss Enid O'Keilly spent a couple of days last week in Denison at the Mrs. E. Hill home.

Misses Stella and Lorene Hickey have been spending the past ten days with relatives and friends in Council Bluffs and Omaha.

Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Duffy and Mesdames J. M. Glynn and A. J. Monahan autoed to Denison Wednesday to attend to some Red Cross work.

Mrs. Gus Retman, of Dow City, visited here last week with her mother, Mrs. Eland.

Mike McVeigh, of Omaha, was in town Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Ruddy and three children, of Albion, Neb., visited here last week at the Thos. Ryan and Thos. Sheridan homes.

Mrs. Jennie Krueger and daughter, Emily, of Omaha, are visiting here with relatives.

On Saturday last P. McCarthy rented the Clark White farm east of town for the year 1918.

Wm. Baumer and family motored home to Omaha Friday after spending a week here with relatives.

Gail Carey, of Dow City, was calling on Vall friends last Friday afternoon.

Jos. Dalton and his mother left last Wednesday for Colfax, where they will spend a few weeks taking treatments.

John Driscoll received a severe fall last Saturday afternoon while putting away hay in the barn, when he fell down an open trap door in the hay loft, falling some ten feet and fracturing his hip, and also was badly bruised and shaken up. He was taken to St. Anthony's hospital at Carroll. His condition was not considered serious, but he will be laid up for some time. Relatives and friends hope for the best.

Dan Scanlan, Sr. and daughter, Joanna, left Sunday evening for Chicago, called there by the death of his brother's wife, Mrs. B. Scanlan.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NOTES

Side Light on Next Sunday's Lesson for Teachers and Pupils Edited by Charles K. Meyers.

President, Sears McHenry Denison. First Vice-President, E. G. Dannett, West Side.

Second Vice-President, E. G. Wiggins, Dow City. Third Vice-President, Wm. Lindberg, Kiron.

Fourth Vice-President, Edward Lyon, Charter Oak. Secretary-Treasurer, Chas. K. Meyers, Denison.

Elementary Superintendent, Mrs. Anna Williams, Denison. Secondary Superintendent, Frank Woolston, Denison.

Adult and Home Superintendent, Mrs. E. W. Pierce, Denison. Educational Superintendent, Miss Monetta Jorgensen, Vall.

Supervision Superintendent, F. L. Hoffman, Denison.

Sabbath School Notes. In the past week the Sabbath school of the county have been called upon for strong activity in the temperance situation.

On October 15th the voters of Iowa will have the chance to place an amendment in the state constitution, forever prohibiting the making of laws which will allow intoxicating liquors to be made or sold in Iowa.

We now have laws to that effect, but these can be repealed at any session of the legislature. To clinch the thing just now, the temperance men and women through the agencies of the church and Sabbath schools are urged to leave no stone unturned to win out on election day, October 15th.

The Baptist school at Denison is trying the plan of a combination service of the preaching and the Sabbath school. There is no intermission, no formal dismissal of the preaching service, but the interlocking of the services in one. So far the plan is working well.

Again and again we refer to the duty of looking after the filling up of the classes with the former pupils and new ones. With the summer heat over the children will be ready to attend and they must be looked up and invited.

Sept. 2—The Shepherd of Captive Israel, Ezekiel 34.

Those who have kept track of the lessons of the past few weeks will recall that they took up the events just previous to what is known in Jewish history as the "Captivity." This captivity came as a result of the sins of the Jews, and as a direct punishment for continued disregard of the known commands of God. So there they are in captivity to the inhabitants of Babylon.

The old story is now brought to light. Back in Jerusalem and vicinity where their forefathers had been for generations these Jews did not appreciate their blessings. The sight of the temple, taking part in the religious exercises did not appeal to them as any particular things to be desired, in fact the very ordinary of life. But now there is a change. These little esteemed things are no more a part of daily life. The captives are among strangers, who know nothing of Jewish history, care nothing for Abraham, take no pride in David, rid-

clude the temple built by Solomon. Suddenly all these things become precious, to be desired.

Many is the person who cares little for home and surroundings. Mother and father have always provided a home for the boys and girls; they have gone to the church and Sabbath schools from force of habit, heard the pastors and teachers, good and bad for years, seen the same people day by day until there is no particular pleasure in life as looked at for the present. Let there be a change in location to scenes not familiar, to people who know not care nothing about the things we love and respect, and suddenly those things become most dear; and there comes a feeling that if one could only be at the little home with the loved ones, see the familiar houses, churches, people, it would give supreme happiness.

Well, the Jews in captivity felt just that way. To make their condition worse, however, they felt and knew that their forced change of location was the result of their wrong doings.

I once heard of a little boy whose father took him out in the oft told about woodshed and gave him a sound spanking for his wrong doings. The boy reported "After papa spanked me he grabbed me up and kissed me as if he loved me." Well, God's treatment of the Jews at this time was like that.

Ezekiel made use of the relationship of the shepherd for his sheep to present his message. Jehovah is made to say that as a shepherd seeks out his flock to feed them, protect them, leads to fat pastures, so will He do for His people. God will be their God, will enter into a covenant of peace with them, give showers of blessings, break the bond of their captivity. How beautiful are these words to captives longing for the things of

home and the sunshine of the love of their heavenly father.

Jesus truly said that He was the stone which was rejected by the Jews of His day, which in time would become the head of the corner and that any on whom that rock fell would be ground into powder. There is no need, however, of being under that rock. There is every inducement to have that rock as a shelter in the time of storm, as a place of safety, a sure anchorage, a friend. Jesus said of Himself, "I am the Good Shepherd," and this is the relationship He wants to hold toward you and me. If any are in the captivity of wrong doing, sin, the words of Ezekiel are good now. God will give the showers of blessing, be a good shepherd. Of course these come to those who want to be good, turn from evil, repent for the past. An unrepentant one, defiant of God, would not be happy basking in the full measure of God's love and care. By the way, just read some in the Old Testament and you will find a host of things, which are good for everyday living now.

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THE Crawford County Fair for 1917 will excel all previous fairs held by this association, for the reason that county fairs are again becoming popular. People have been planning exhibits of all kinds for this year's exhibition, and the floral hall will be well filled. The live stock stalls are being rapidly engaged and lovers of farm animals may expect a very fine showing. The races will be better than ever as there is a splendid string of horses in this year's circuit.

The management is sparing no expense for free attractions and a number of good ones have been secured.

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