

AT THE WINDOW

The faces we see at the window As we hurry along the street Are telling the fitful story In the drama of life complete...

Sweet babe, in your frenzy of gladness, Untaught in the lessons of fate, Reach out for the glimmering sunbeam...

Far out in the wild woods of fancy, Pale maidens, your hearts are at play, And sweetly the glamour romantic...

There a gray-haired father is dreaming, And black through memory's haze Dim, shadowy faces are thronging...



CHAPTER XXII. MY KIND RELATIVE'S OFFER.

Mr. Bernard's appearance did not surprise me in the least. I was so frustrated that I could not have felt any surprise at that moment had the world come to an end...

He seated himself coolly, after motioning me to a seat, then without delay opened a conversation.

"Agnes," he began, "I have ferreted out everything, and I find that you are made to suffer because of the interest I have evinced in you, and the pains I have taken to promote your welfare..."

"How can you atone?" I asked. "How can you amend my wrongs?"

"In but one way," he replied. "I can do it only by giving back to you all that, through my means, you have lost."

"You cannot do that," I cried, my tears starting afresh. "My good name is gone, and nothing can still the tongues of gossip."

"But I can do it," he said, emphatically. "I can recover to you your good name and reputation. And not only that, Agnes, but I can place you beyond the reach of those slanderous tongues."

"No, no," I cried, "you cannot."

"But I can," he repeated, "and I will. I can place you so far above those vile, malicious wretches that they will not dare to look at you, much less speak your name..."

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worship you and to promote your happiness. He will give you a home a queen might covet, a position in society that royalty cannot excel and a love that will burn as long as life endures...

He came nearer and took my hands in his and held them fast. He bent his eyes on me so intently that I felt their gaze burning into my cheeks. He was so intensely wrought up, and so excited, that I think he lost all consciousness of his surroundings...

"Agnes," he said, impetuously, "you can be that man's wife. I say you can; I mean you must, you shall. Do you hear me? You shall belong to that man. Agnes, I am that man. You start, yet you know who the man was. I have seen that in your looks and actions. You know and yet you start. But no matter. I love you. I love you, Agnes, as but one other woman was ever loved, and that woman was your mother, and it was I who loved her. Agnes, yield to me. Come to my arms and be happy. Cast away your life of loneliness, sorrow and poverty, and come rest on my bosom where you will find a shelter forevermore..."

"Then look here. If you will not let me make you happy, I will go to the other extreme and make your life as black as hell itself. I will hound your footsteps and harass you until your existence will be such a burden to you as to be insupportable. The slanders that assail you now shall follow you even to the ends of the earth, and they shall be made to grow until you shall find yourself shunned by decent people everywhere. You show me no pity and I will show you none. I can hate as well as love."

"For shame," I cried. "You cannot be so heartless as that."

"I cannot," he queried. "Why can't I?"

"It is brutal."

"I know it; and I am a brute when I am aroused. I am desperate, and will go to any lengths. You will not yield to me when I offer you all I have. You will not listen to love and persuasion. You spurn me with hate and loathing. And now I will declare war. I will pursue you so relentlessly that you will be glad to surrender and beg for terms. Remember your weakness, your friendlessness and your poverty. Remember that everything is in my favor, and that the contest will be a very unequal one. I shall show no mercy or compassion, but will show you how cruel I can be. I have sworn to have you, and if fair promises and gentle speeches would not avail me I will adopt force."

"Man," I cried, "can you be so inhuman as to make war on a helpless girl?"

"Can I?" he repeated. "Aye, I can. Have I not moved Miss Perkins and Mrs. Bond to act and speak as they have? Did I not instigate their slanderous speeches and insinuations in order to place you in a more helpless situation, and consequently more securely in my power? Aye, girl, you little know to what lengths and depths I will go to carry my ends. I will move the earth and hell to make you mine."

"Inhuman wretch," I cried.

"Yes, I am inhuman," he replied. "In all my relations to you except my love. That is human, and it is the only thing human in my nature. If you want to know my humanity, and avoid my inhumanity, give me your hand and accept my love. You cannot hold out against me in a war so unequal, and it is folly for you to attempt it. Accept my offer and at once put an end to your trials and sufferings. Act sensibly, Agnes, and become a lady."

"Mr. Bernard," I answered, "you have persecuted me enough, and I will not hear more. Either leave the room or let me pass."

"Then you are still obdurate?"

"I am. No persuasion or threats will serve to move me from what I know to be right. I know I am weak and helpless, but I put my trust in God and bid you do your worst. You may succeed in hounding my steps and making my life a waste, but I tell you now, you will never succeed in robbing me of my character."

"Perhaps you do not think me capable of carrying out my threats?"

"Aye, I know you are. You are capable of anything mean and unmanly. You have taken the vilest advantage of my friendless condition, and stooped to things no man with a single gentlemanly impulse would dare to consider for a moment. Yes, I think you capable of warring on a helpless, friendless, homeless girl."

He started from the room, but on the threshold turned to say:

"I will see you again to-morrow. In the meantime consider what I have said. Contrast what I have offered you with what your life must be if you refuse me. Weigh it all well and calmly and to-morrow give me your answer. Good night."

CHAPTER XXIII. I FIND A NEW RESTING PLACE.

Before Mr. Bernard's footsteps died out on the stairs I was making preparations for a journey. I needed no time after his departure to decide what steps I should take. I had reached a decision before he left. I resolved to leave there immediately and to seek a stopping place in some quiet country village where no one who knew me would be likely to even see me or hear anything concerning me. I did not know where I should go, but I believed I should find some secluded spot where I would be able to earn a living and where I would be safe from the persecutions of Mr. Bernard.

I had a thought of going to Mr. Cornell's, but I put it away when I recalled the scene that had taken place between Charles Cornell and myself. I felt that I could not with propriety return there after rejecting his love and then I reasoned, my presence in his home must prove a means of augmenting his grief. No, that good home and those kind friends were shut away from me, and as much as I longed to go back to them, I could not do so.

breaking in upon me. "I do not pity you, but I loathe and despise you." "You have no right to despise me," he said. "I have not injured you and all I have proposed was for your good. I have offered to make you my wife and surround you with love and riches. Is that injurious?"

"You forget, or else you think me a fool. You have a wife already."

"I know that, but I will free myself from her. It is not a difficult matter to secure a separation."

"Mr. Bernard," I replied, "do not insult me further. You have injured me deeply already, and for pity's sake spare me any more persecution. You have lost my good name in this town, and taken from me all the little happiness I possessed. Do not try to rob me of my character."

"Girl," he cried, "won't you understand me? I would not take a thing from you, but on the contrary I would give you everything. Instead of robbing you of your character I would give you my name and with it such a character as no one dare assail."

"You have said enough," I exclaimed, "and I will hear no more."

"Then you refuse my offer?" he questioned, his tone and manner changing radically.

"I do."

"Then look here. If you will not let me make you happy, I will go to the other extreme and make your life as black as hell itself. I will hound your footsteps and harass you until your existence will be such a burden to you as to be insupportable. The slanders that assail you now shall follow you even to the ends of the earth, and they shall be made to grow until you shall find yourself shunned by decent people everywhere. You show me no pity and I will show you none. I can hate as well as love."

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My few possessions were soon packed, and after making a settlement with Mrs. Bond, I went direct to the railway station at which a train was shortly due. I had enough money to buy a ticket, with a little surplus over, and when the train arrived I went aboard. I had selected a station about thirty miles distant as my destination, the agent having informed me that it was a small isolated place, remarkable for its quietness and obscurity, and upon my arrival there I found that his information was truly correct.

I secured a home with an aged widow lady who was reputed wealthy, but who was considered extremely eccentric by her neighbors. Her name was Lawton, and she lived all alone save for a single waiting girl, in a great mansion of a house that appeared to be entirely out of place among the small cheap buildings of the village. She lived apart from the neighbors, and in fact, from the world, practically shutting herself at her home with her own company.

Of Mrs. Lawton the people of the village knew very little. She had moved there from the city two years before I came, and had had the great house built after she arrived. She had given no information of her past life, and though there were those who made strenuous efforts to gain a knowledge of it, nothing was known beyond the fact that she was a widow and was believed very rich. It was also currently reported that she had experienced some great disappointment and sorrow from which she would never recover, though no one had an intimation of the cause.

I was prepossessed against the mansion from the first, and I did not dare to venture near it until I had visited every other house in the place and met with failure in my efforts to secure employment. I even hesitated then, for there was something forbidding about the appearance of the house—an air of coldness and gloominess, that caused me to feel that it was a place to be shunned. I hesitated, but finally decided to visit the house rather than leave the place without making every possible attempt to get employment. The lady whom I called on last, and to whom I announced my intention, said: "You had as well stay away from Mrs. Lawton, for you're sure to find no situation there. I have my doubts as to whether she will see you even, and she's certain to give you no encouragement. She's as cold as marble and as unsympathetic as stone."

"I am used to disappointments," I replied, "and though refusals are unpleasant, one more added to the number I have met to-day will not make much difference. Mrs. Lawton can only do as others have done and turn me away empty, and I shall be none the worse for it. I will go and see her."

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

GLUE IN SURGERY.

A Valuable Auxiliary in the Dressing of Wounds.

In some of the surgical clinics in Germany there is now employed a glue for holding dressings in place—designed to be used in all those cases where elastic collodion and solutions of rubber are found so convenient, especially in holding dressings over fractures, while at the same time permitting free motion of the parts. It has the advantage of not cracking or breaking, of holding firmly, of being very pliable, allowing a great amount of motion, and, lastly, of not preventing the exercise of the function of the skin over which it is placed, so that there does not occur any peeling off of the upper layers of epithelium with a tendency to eczema. This glue is composed of glycerine, gelatine and water, of each thirty parts, and ten parts of oxide of zinc, this making what is known as the thick paste; the thin paste has thirty parts glycerine, twenty parts gelatine, forty parts water, and ten parts zinc oxide; the mixing of these elements is, of course, done over heat, and the paste is liquefied over a water bath when needed. When ready to apply the part is well dried with a brush, a ring made round the part to be inclosed, and the gauze of the dressing then laid on, care being taken to have the pieces cut large enough to allow the edges to extend into the ring of paste already laid on. Over this is placed a single or double layer of gauzes, cut somewhat larger; the whole is now painted over with the paste, and the dressing is finally daubed over with a bunch of cotton held in the hand.

Genesis of the Horseshoe.

It is known that the hoofs of horses were protected by boots of leather at a very early period in the world's history—at a time which at least antedates Pliny and Aristotle, both of whom make mention of the fact. These leather boots were sometimes studded with metal nails, but more usually worn without extra trimming, the cheapness of that commodity making it possible for the owner of the steed to "reboot" him at any time. Homer speaks of "brazen-footed steeds," from which we naturally infer that in his day horses were shod with bronze or brass. Two reputable ancient writers tell us that the mules of Nero wore silver shoes. Iron shoes were first nailed to the hoofs of war horses in the ninth century; they were first introduced into England by William I. about the year 1066. At the present day the Japanese use horse-shoes made of braided straw, and several European countries use compressed rawhide for the same purpose.

Molecules of Air.

Curious evidence shows that a cubic inch of air at sea level contains about 350,000,000 molecules. If the law of regularly diminishing density holds good a cubic inch of air at the height of 100 miles will contain about 350,000 molecules, and at less than 222 miles only one molecule. Opinions differ, however, as to the actual height of the atmosphere's upper surface. Prof. Young declares that no definite upper limit can be stated, while Prof. Forster, of Berlin, contends that a thin air, connected with that of the earth, pervades the whole solar system.

SCIENCE TEACHINGS.

The average man has 2,304,000 pores in his skin. The common snail sets forth to ravage our gardens equipped with 150 rows of stout serrated teeth. The whole palate contains about 21,000 teeth, while a full-grown slug has over 26,000 of these silicious spikes.

A RECENT scientific expedition shows the existence of terraces in Palestine, showing that at one time the Dead sea had risen to the level of the Mediterranean, the Jordan in the glacial period forming a lake two hundred miles long. We are familiar with the rush of the express train as it flashes past us at the rate of sixty miles an hour, but light actually travels 11,179,400 times as fast! The initial velocity of the shot from the 12-pound bronze service gun is only 1,700 feet a second.

The size and shape of rain drops has been the subject of special investigation by E. J. Lowe. The size of the drop ranges, he finds, from an almost invisible point to at least two inches in diameter. Occasionally large drops fall that must be more or less hollow, as they fall to wet the whole surface inclosed within the drop.

IT IS THE CORRECT THING.

To SPELL correctly.

To WRITE legibly and straight.

To USE postal cards for business communications only.

To INCLOSE a stamp when writing to a stranger on your own business.

To SIGN a letter with the full name, or with the last name and initials.

To PUT on as many stamps as the weight of the letter or parcel demands.

To WRITE numbers, dates and proper names, with special care and distinctness.

To FOLD and direct a letter neatly, and to put on a stamp evenly, and in the right-hand corner.

To DATE a letter at the beginning, on the right-hand side, but a note at the end on the left hand.

To GIVE one's full address when writing to a person who does not know it, and from whom an answer is desired.

To REMEMBER that the adoption of a courteous and dignified tone shows greater self-respect than would the assumption of an undue familiarity.—Whole Family.

GEMS OF THOUGHT.

It makes all the difference in the world whether we put truth in the first place or in the second place.—Whately.

THERE is a perpetual beauty and loveliness of life that will gladden us hourly if we open our eyes to it.—Lillian Whiting.

EVERY nation that has weakened its women, narrowed their sphere of action, crippled their opportunities for usefulness and power, has by so doing introduced an element of weakness into its government, blocked the wheels of advancement, and deprived itself of a great element of strength.—L. F. Willbur.

ODDEST OF THE ODD.

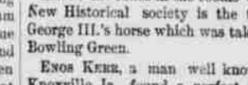
AMONG the relics in the rooms of the New Historical society is the tail of George III.'s horse which was taken at Bowling Green.

EXOS KERR, a man well known at Knoxville, Ia., found a perfect miniature ear of corn with grains no larger than mustard seeds growing on a stalk of foxtail.

THE pyrometer measures heat in degrees and fractions and will give accurate figures, even though the heat runs up to the unthinkable intensity of 7,000 degrees.

IT can be proven by a simple calculation that the number of people which have existed on the globe during the last 6,000 years approximates the grand total of 66,000,000,000,000.

IT rather puts a belle on her mettle when she is extolled.—Yonkers Stateman.



Children of Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Soller, Altoona, Pa.

Both Had Eczema In Its Worst Form

After Physicians Failed, Hood's Sarsaparilla Perfectly Cured.

Great mental agony is endured by parents who see their children suffering from diseases caused by impure blood, and for which there seems no cure. This is turned to joy when Hood's Sarsaparilla is resorted to, for it expels the foul humors from the blood, and restores the diseased skin to fresh, healthy brightness. Read the following from grateful parents:

"We think Hood's Sarsaparilla is the most valuable medicine on the market for blood and skin diseases. Our two children suffered terribly with it."

Worst Form of Eczema

For two years, we had three physicians in that time, but neither of them succeeded in curing them, or even in giving them a little relief. At last we tried Hood's Sarsaparilla and in a month both children were perfectly cured. We recommend it."

Hood's Sarsaparilla

As a standard family medicine, and would not be without it. Mr. and Mrs. M. M. SOLLER, 1411 2nd Avenue, Altoona, Pa.

HOOD'S PILLS cure liver ill, constipation, biliousness, jaundice, sick headache, indigestion.

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You should go to the Marble Block Drug Store For Drugs, Paints, Oils Glass, Etc., Etc.

Marble Block Drug Store

For Drugs, Paints, Oils Glass, Etc., Etc. LYNCH & SCHWINN.

A Tremendous Cut

300TS AND SHOES

T. BUTTREY & SON'S Still the Lowest.

The Celebrated French Cure.



Warranted "APHRODITE" or money refunded. IS BOLD ON A POSITIVE GUARANTEE to cure any form of nervous disease or any disorder of the generative system of either sex, whether arising before or after marriage.

BEFORE from the excess AFTER five uses of Stimulant, Toluon or Opton, or through youthful indiscretion, over indulgence, etc., such as Loss of Brain Power, Wakefulness, Beating down Pains in the back, Neuralgia, Headache, Hysteria, Nervous Prostration, Neurasthenia, Epilepsy, Lumbago, Dizziness, Weak Memory, Loss of Power and Impotency, which if neglected often lead to premature old age and insanity. Price \$1.00 a box, 6 boxes for \$5.00. Sent by mail on receipt of price.

A WRITTEN GUARANTEE is given for every \$1.00 order received, to refund the money if a permanent cure is not effected. We have thousands of testimonials from old and young of both sexes, who have been permanently cured by the use of Aphrodite. Circulars free. Mention paper used.

THE APHRODITE MEDICINE CO., Western Branch, PORTLAND, OREGON, P. O. Box 27. FOR SALE BY A. G. HALTIWANGER, Druggist.

LA MAN

acquainted with the company of this country well than such valuable information from a study of this map of the GREAT ROCK ISLAND ROUTE.



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The Direct Route to and from Chicago, Joliet, Ottawa, Peoria, La Salle, Moline, Rock Island, in ILLINOIS; Davenport, Muscatine, Ottumwa, Oskaloosa, Des Moines, Winterset, Audubon, Harlan and Council Bluffs in IOWA; Minneapolis and St. Paul in MINNESOTA; Waterbury and Sioux Falls in S.DAKOTA; Casson, St. Joseph, and Kansas City, in MISSOURI; Omaha, Lincoln, Fairbury and Nelso, in NEBRASKA; Atchison, Leavenworth, Horton, Topeka, Hutchinson, Wichita, Belleville, Abilene, Dodge City, Caldwell, in KANSAS; Kingfisher, El Reno and Miami, in INDIAN TERRITORY; Denver, Colorado Springs and Pueblo, in COLORADO. Through new areas of rich farming and grazing lands, affording the best facilities of interchange communication to all towns and cities east and west, southeast and southwest of Chicago, and to Pacific and trans-oceanic seaports.

MAGNIFICENT VESTIBULE EXPRESS TRAINS

Leading all competitors in splendor of equipment, between CHICAGO and DEN MOISER, COUNCIL BLUFFS and OMAHA, and between CHICAGO and DENVER, COLORADO SPRINGS and PUEBLO, via KANSAS CITY and TOPEKA and via ST. JOSEPH, and over the new line via LINCOLN, NEB. First-class Day Coach, FREE RECLINING CHAIR CAR, and Palace Sleepers, with Dining Car service. Close connections at Denver and Colorado Springs with diverging railway lines, new turning the old and picturesque.

STANDARD GAUGE TRANS-ROCKY MOUNTAIN ROUTE

Over which specially-equipped trains run daily THROUGHOUT WITHOUT CHANGE to and from SIOUX LAKE CITY, Opeka and San Francisco. THE ROCK ISLAND is also the Direct and Favorite Line to and from Madison, State Park and all other railway and scenic resorts and cities and mining districts in Colorado.

DAILY FAST EXPRESS TRAINS

From St. Joseph and Kansas City to and from all important towns, cities and sections to Southern Nebraska, Kansas and the Indian Territory. Also via ALBANY LEA ROUTE from Kansas City and Chicago to Westport, Sioux Falls, MENZIEFOLLEN and ST. PAUL, connecting for all points north and northwest between the lake and the Pacific Coast.

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Boots and Shoes made to Order REPAIRING neatly and Promptly Done

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