

# THE LITTLE WIDOW

At No. 8 Glenville road, a large, square-built house of somewhat ancient appearance, lived an elderly widow, her two sons and her niece, the latter of whom had been engaged to the elder son, Edwin, for the last ten years, and who seemed as near her wedding day at the time of her betrothal as at the time of her story opens.

But Miss Lancaster was seemingly content with life until the little cottage on the opposite side of the road at last secured a tenant, a circumstance which Mr. Edwin seemed to take an extraordinary interest in, since the tenant was a remarkably prepossessing little woman—a widow rich in the possession of a small annual income and a very pretty face.

Miss Lancaster gave way to grief, and was found one day by her younger cousin, Herbert, sobbing as if her heart would break, on the sofa. "What's up, Grace?" said he anxiously. "You haven't been yourself for some time. What's troubling you?"

And Miss Lancaster's pride, which had been dissolved in her tears, gave way altogether, and she confided her woes to her sympathetic listener, and asked his advice as to whether she should give his brother his freedom.

"Nonsense," said Herbert warmly. "That's all right. It's the woman's fault. You know men are very susceptible to pretty women who run after them. He's lots fonder of you."

That evening Herbert made up his mind to interfere for the first time in other people's business. Edwin was going a bit too far and the affair must be stopped. He missed for a long time on that head the wisest thing to do was to make love to the widow himself, even at the risk of offending the young lady he had set his affections on.

And he did, too, and found making love to the widow a very easy and pleasant undertaking. Nearly every evening he spent at the cottage, and the little widow, delighted at her new conquest, became so cold about her former one that success for his scheme was promised from the first. She was so pretty and had such winning manners that before long the younger brother began to excuse the elder for his infatuation and feel sorry for him and his unfortunate engagement.

One afternoon, after escorting the widow home from a walk, Herbert thought of Grace with a pang of dutiful reproach, and getting on his bicycle, rode off whistling to call upon her.

When he arrived at the house he found Grace very chatty and cordial, but with an entirely different manner about her, which profoundly puzzled him until he caught the sparkle of a ring upon her finger.

"You will be pleased, I know, to hear that I am engaged," she said, half shyly. "And I am sure you will be able to congratulate me, since you intend to commit matrimony yourself."

Herbert rode off home for all he was worth. But when he reached Glenville road he was so absent-minded that he wheeled his bicycle straight up to the cottage, and before he knew what he was doing, found himself in the back garden of the widow's snug little home.

Strange enough, there was Mrs. Lawrence sitting upon the garden seat and looking so thoughtful and charming that he felt quite confused at his audacity and nervously accepted her invitation to sit down.

"I came," he began, "to make a clean breast of everything to you. I haven't treated you fairly, Mrs. Lawrence. I—"

"Dear, dear!" said the little widow, brightly. "What's all this about? You haven't anything to reproach yourself about. Don't you suppose I know perfectly well why you have made myself so amiable to me all along?"

"How you must despise me!" groaned Herbert.

"Not at all," smiled Mrs. Lawrence. "I admire you for it. You did it for that dear woman's sake, and a disinterested motive is always a commendable one."

"Do you know what people are saying of you?" said Herbert, regretfully. "No—what?" asked the widow, in innocent wonder.

"That we are engaged to be married."

"How absurd," said the widow, faintly. "Is it so very absurd?" demanded the young man. "Is it, Blanche?"

"Ridiculous!" said the little widow, as her head fell gently upon his shoulder.—Cincinnati Herald.

None in Sight. "It is grand, but terrible!" exclaimed the tourist on the Pacific Ocean steamer, as he came in deck to view the Hawaiian Islands.

"What is?" asked the passenger leaning idly over the rail. "That pall of smoke overhanging the summit of Mauna Loa."

"I don't see any," rejoined the other, looking blankly in the direction indicated.

He was a smoke inspector on his summer vacation.—Chicago Tribune.

The Wisdom of It. When we reflect how often shirt waists ought to be washed, we perceive the wisdom of having the earth three-fourths water.—Detroit Journal.

# HEATING IN URUGUAY.

The American Style of Stove, About the Only One Used.

Uruguay's inhabitants are not bothered by steam heating. They are not even vexed by big coal bills. They do not believe in heating dwellings stoves at all. According to United States Consul Swann, of very safe to say that 95 per cent. of the houses have no heating arrangements whatever specially designed for the purpose. It is claimed by many of the inhabitants that heat is at no time required in the houses; that heat in the house is not healthy, but conduces to maladies of the throat and lungs. Yet, during the winter season, from April to October, the dampness in the houses is far more unpleasant than crisp and snappy cold. With the frequent and heavy rains, the walls become very damp, and clothing or books must not touch them or a mold will form. Such a condition has for one of its results an enlarged percentage of pulmonary troubles, and a death rate out of proportion to the general salubrity of the climate. There are no chimneys for either fireplaces or stoves. A \$14,000 residence, built this season, has for its only chimney a stovepipe let through the kitchen roof for the cook stove.

"The American style of heating stove is about the only one seen in the market, the smaller and simpler forms being used. They are popular with those who have their homes reasonably heated, but the demand is small, and only one house in Montevideo keeps a stock of a good market here, and the sole competitor is one of Belgian make, with first class blue flame combustion. The Belgian stove sells at about one-half the price asked for the American, on account of the fact that the United States article is usually a combination of lamp and stove, and so comes under a different and higher customs classification.

"The native cooking stove is a very substantial affair of heavy wrought iron, made in local factories from imported plates. The stoves are good cookers and roasters, but do not bake so well. They are made with or without water reservoirs, and are very durable—something like the wrought iron range. About 50 per cent. more fuel is used by these than by American stoves of the same capacity. They cost from \$20 to \$70, according to style of finish and completeness of the water outfit.

"Cook stoves have been imported for some years from the United States, and are gradually winning their way, especially in the European households. The fact that they save fuel tells in their favor, as coal costs from \$10 to \$14 per ton. The coal is all imported from Wales or the United States. Wood is even higher in price than coal, considering results.

"The duty is a serious drawback to trade in this line. It amounts to eight cents per kilogram (2,204 pounds), including the package. As the stoves must be well packed, the additional weight adds heavily to the cost, and a heating stove that could be bought for \$7 to \$8 retail in any city in the United States must sell here at least three times that amount, and then leaves only a fair margin for profit to the dealer. The United States cook stove sells at about the same rate as the one made in Uruguay, but the wrought-iron article, with its power to withstand hard usage, has been so widely employed that only when the better methods, greater economy and generally superior character of the United States stove become known will our manufacturers win the market to any extent."

A Lesson By Kaiser Frederick. The memoir of Kaiser Frederick, just published in Berlin, gives many interesting anecdotes about the kindly monarch whose reign was cut off in such untimely fashion. Among them is one in which Jenny Lind figures.

Jenny Lind was at a small inn, waiting for the post chaise that was to carry her to Coblenz, and, inspired by the beauty of the landscape and the quiet of the moonlight, was singing a ballad for her own amusement, when she heard a voice behind her to repeat the last verse for the benefit of some Bonn students, newly arrived.

The songstress, who was sitting in a vine-clad arbor, and when she had finished a broad-shouldered, tall young man entered, exclaiming: "Only Jenny Lind can sing so beautifully." With that he pressed a bouquet of wild roses into her hand and led her out into the garden. Yes, that was the face; those were the locks of Jenny Lind! The singer smilingly accepted the student's thanks, and said: "You are a student; sing us one of your own songs."

"Bowling gracefully, the blond giant sat down at the piano on the veranda, and sang Arndt's great battle hymn. "Was Blasen die Trompeten! Hussaren, Herais!" ("The Bugles Are Sounding! Hussars, Ride Fast!")

"The beautiful melody; I would like to know it," said Jenny Lind, when the student, whom his comrades called "Fritz," had ended.

"The Swedish nightingale wishes to learn a German war song? Ah, that is superb!" cried Fritz. "If you will permit me I will repeat the words for your benefit until you know them by heart. The melody, I dare say, you have mastered already." And for a full hour Fritz and Jenny sat side by side at the old piano, singing together, repeating verse after verse, once, twice, thrice, until the great songstress was utterly exhausted.

Then she sang it once more as only she could sing it, quite unconscious of the fact that in the meantime her audience had increased by a venerable old man whom the students regarded with the greatest respect.

Now the soft notes of the postillon's horn sounded from afar, and a little later the chaise drew up at the gate. Jenny Lind rose hastily. "I must away," she said, "and may never see you again, for in a few weeks I will cross the Atlantic to sing in America. I shall not forget this evening, though, and as I have introduced myself, I beg to know your names, gentlemen, especially that of the student who taught me the German hymn."

Then the old man spoke up: "I thank you in the name of my pupils for your kind words," he said to the madame, he is Royal Highness, Crown Prince Frederick, and I am Ernst Nord, author of the song you learned from him."

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# AT HOME AMONG WILD BEASTS.

Woman's Power Over Fiercest Denizens of the Jungle Instructively Demonstrated at the Exposition.

Philadelphia, Oct. 17.—Visitors at the World's fair in Chicago in 1893 are still talking of Hagenback's wonderful aggregation of trained animals, and the long engagement at New York immediately subsequent to the Chicago engagement is still fresh in the memory of thousands. It was during the New York engagement that this unrivalled entertainment became a society fad, and attracted the Four Hundred as freely as it did the street Arab of the east side.

The desire for excitement ever present in the human mind is fully gratified for the once by witnessing this unique performance. Beautiful young women in the midst of groups of ferocious Nubian lions, liable to be devoured at any moment, yet holding them in subjection by the exercise of the mystic power of the human mind over the wildest denizens of the jungle, is one's interest to the highest tension. It intensifies excitement to the extreme pitch.

This show, as seen on the Esplanade of the National Export Exposition, has many new and original features made public for the first time at this engagement, and those who fail to see this high class performance will lose the opportunity of a lifetime.

Mrs. Gertrude Charlotte Planka, known to the world over as the "Lady of Lions," is the handsome woman in her peculiar profession. Her life has been spent in constant companionship with the king of the jungle. She has tamed and trained more lions than any other woman who ever lived. Her will power is intense. It is that will power that makes her master of wild beasts. She lives for them, and declares she always will, and her exhibition of Brutus, Spitzke, Juliet, Browser and Sphinx is the finest example of woman lion training ever seen in this country or Europe. Spitzke, although exceedingly ugly, actually saved Mrs. Planka's life on several occasions, and the thrilling exhibition of this accomplished and daring woman, entering the lions' den blindfolded, has won for her the highest celebrity wherever she has appeared.

Captain Cardono, the African explorer, assisted by Mme. Torontau and their noble train of full grown Barbary lions—Nero, Emerson, Gladstone and Leon—constitute an entire show in itself. The gymnastic feats, pyramidal acts, and the numberless variety of acts as arena performers of these ferocious animals indicate a marvelous degree of intelligence.

For fun making for the children, "Jolly," the reason endowing elephant, is introduced by Mr. Matt Johnson, London's leading animal trainer. The activity, speed and remarkable cleverness of "Jolly" have made him famous on both continents. "Jolly" is of such enormous size and strength that on his way across the American continent to the National Export Exposition he was so large that he had to be carried in a special car.

He is very patient about a task of this kind, although not particularly fond of the work. Much of his time is spent in munching candy and popcorn and carrying the children around on his back. One of his greatest feats of strength is called the "tug of war," his competitors being 200 of the strongest men in the audience. At a policeman's sale in Regent's Park, London, four years ago, "Jolly" out-pulled 100 picked men, and at Madison Square Garden, New York, in 1895, he easily defeated 150 fremen, and had plenty of strength to spare. "Jolly" is the noted elephant ridden by his royal highness, the Prince of Wales, while hunting in India, and feels very of the decorations conferred on him.

Chiquita, the Cuban Fairy. Philadelphia, Oct. 17.—An especial favorite at the National Export Exposition is the little Cuban lady, Chiquita, whose daily receptions, in her own charming, have been attended by a far larger number of people, in fact, than any other attraction, with the possible exception of the famous Hagenback trained wild animal show, within the grounds since the exposition was opened. Chiquita takes great delight in frequent visits to Hagenback's, and enjoys flirting with "Jolly," the big, good natured elephant.

Chiquita is a Cuban, but a dainty, well dressed and accomplished lady of charming, refined manners. She is 29 years of age, and only 26 inches in height. Her weight is 17½ pounds.

Visitors to the exposition are delighted with her, and her prettily arranged reception parlors are crowded daily with the ladies and children of the best families from all parts of the Union. At no other exposition was so small and dainty yet so beautiful, perfect, finely developed, the smallest, most charming little creature in the world, that every one feels they must see her upon visiting the Philadelphia exposition.

The King of Squashes. Philadelphia, Oct. 17.—There are a few things at the National Export Exposition that command as much attention as the beautiful, chaste and ornate, the marvelous in mechanism and handwork, the picturesque, grand or artistic. One of these is a member of the humble squash family. The squash in question is exhibited in the west end of the South Pavilion. And for size it stands alone in the history of squashes of its class. It weighs 245 pounds and is eight feet six inches in circumference.

Three lady visitors were weighed on the same scale with this squash, the combined weight of ladies and squash being 584 pounds, so that the squash is three pounds heavier than the three ladies. Served at any first class hotel.

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# ON THE GAY ESPLANADE.

Features of the Avenue of Amusements at the Exposition.

Philadelphia, Oct. 17.—The Esplanade is to the exposition what seasoning is to food. Whilst there is not a dull spot in the acres of moving machinery and other exhibits, there is an animation, glamor and fascination about the Esplanade that appeals alike to the demure and gay, old and young, and noble and peasant. Melodious brass bands, mingling with rag time music as it is heard in the Orient, while as throngs pass up and down the great thoroughfare in kaleidoscopic procession the man with the megaphone and stentorian voice shouts the merits of the attraction he represents, and each has something to tell about that is interesting and either amusing or instructive, frequently both.

Lining the Esplanade, adown the center of which are pretty beds of shrubbery and evergreens, are: Hagenback's Aggregation of Trained Animals, so popular at the World's fair in Chicago and afterwards during a long engagement in New York city. Beautiful Jim Key, the educated horse, the equine world wonder, in his marvelous exhibitions of reading, writing, spelling, counting, figuring, changing money, using cash register, etc.

Chiquita, the smallest woman in the world, the little Cuban fairy, in her receptions every day and evening to throngs of delighted visitors. A Chinese Village of 450 persons, brought direct from China especially for the exposition, with temple, theater, shops, workshops and houses, the whole producing a realistic effect, as though a street from some popular oriental city had been bodily transferred to the exposition grounds.

Edison's Electrical Fairy Land, a fascinating presentation of illusions and electrical novelties. Moving Picture Show, reproducing with lifelike accuracy many interesting scenes, amusing and comical situations.

An Oriental Theater, Coffee House and Smoking Room, wherein, after sipping a delightful drink from a dainty cup, one may smoke the curious pipes of the far east and view the graceful dances of Oriental beauties.

The Old Plantation, where may be studied that interesting phase of slave life before the war, which is illustrated by a party of Georgia negroes, with songs, dances and the manners and customs of those days.

Glass Works in operation, showing every step of the industry, and the strange, fantastic and beautiful shapes the material takes under the breath of the expert blower.

Ladies Love Jim Key. Philadelphia, Oct. 17.—The following endorsement is the latest of many similar testimonials that have been given to Mr. Rogers, the owner of the beautiful Jim Key, by various humane societies throughout the United States: "We heartily endorse the marvelous exhibition of beautiful Jim Key, the educated horse, as an object lesson, showing what patience and kindness will accomplish in the teaching of animals, and how much more effectively they prove than severity and cruelty, and we recommend to every one to take advantage of the opportunity to witness so remarkable a performance. (Signed) Caroline Earle White, president of Women's Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals."

Jim Key is still on exhibition on the exposition Esplanade, and some of the children of Philadelphia are going to be a few dollars richer by his presence. The Women's Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals has offered to the children of the public and parochial schools of Philadelphia a series of prizes, in value to the amount of \$100, to the children who write the best composition on the topic "Patience and Kindness," as exemplified in the exhibition of beautiful Jim Key. This wonderful horse is considered the grandest object lesson that the humane societies have had to present to the people to teach them that kindness and patience will accomplish much more than force and cruelty. Dr. Key, who taught beautiful Jim Key to read, write and spell, spent seven long years in patient, kindly treatment. When he was asked how he taught the horse to do all these wonderful things he said it was patience, kindness, apples and sugar.

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