SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

Love.

I have not love, or I should see
A heart and soul in every tree;
I have not love, or any rose
Would breathe to me its fragrant woes;
I have not love, or I could hear
The mighty music of the sphere;
I have not love, or God would be
A God, and not a mystery.

I have not love, or I should go
Singing unto the gates of woe;
I have not love, or death would seem
A joy, a rapture and a dream;
I have not love, or man would be
Sworn friend and brother unto me;
I have not love, or I should see
That Life is love and sympathy.

I have not love, or hell and night
Would vanish into living light;
I have not love, or grief and gloom
Would flower into happy bloom;
I have not love, I have not love—
But the poor falling crumbs thereof;
Fortune doth fade, and pleasures pall,
But Love is all, and all, and all.

—Robert Loveman.

Valentine Dance.

The young gentlemen of the Mount Vernon gave a valentine dance last evening to the young ladies of the house and a few of their friends.

The parlors and dance room were beautifully decorated in pink and green, the color scheme being carried out in pink carnations, roses, mignonette, smilax, pink draperies and pink shaded lights. Pink hearts made a fringing for pink garlanded chandeliers.

The dance began at 9 o'clock, the young ladies and gentlemen marching in to music, and the ladies choosing their partners according to the names inscribed on the pink satin ribbons with which heart-shaped valentine boxes of bonbons were ornamented.

At 12 o'clock delicious refreshments were served, the valentine idea being carried out in the ices, served in heart-shaped cases and heaped with strawberries. An orchestra furnished an excellent musical programme.

Those present included Miss Ryan, Misses Preston Womack, Aline Jennings, Louise Stacy, Caroline Moreland, Emily Waddill, Josephine Sizer, Nellie Gray, Ada Gray, Nannie Waddill, Miss Quarles, Misses Amy Tutwiler, Fanny Lewis, Cornelia Watkins; Mesdames Dudley Whitehead, R. T. Hunter, A. M. Tyler, Robert Page Grymes, Edward Wright, Louie Hankins, W. Y. Davis, W. J. Johnson, Samuel Waddill, Mrs. Quarles, Mesdames Austin Smith, P. H. Gunn, H. G. Ransom, C. M. Boswell, Miss Annie Newman, Miss Sully; Messrs. Joseph Priddy, Andrew Moreland, Arthur Robertson, Ballard Boswell, Dr. Thomas D. Merrick, Messrs. T. M. Hobson, A. S. Lanier, John Gooch, Stephen Stagg, Samuel Waddill, Jr., John Waddill, Maurice Hunter, S. S. P. Patteson, Dr. J. R. Gildersleeve, Messrs. E. B. Sydnor, John Waddill, Garnett Tabb, Irvin Campbell, John Lightfoot, Robert Alsop, Thomas Ryan, Mr. Cooke, Mr. Kesee, Messrs. C. M. Boswell, W. Y. Davis, Samuel Waddill, Sr., and Louie Hankins.

Bridesmaids in Norfolk.

The young ladies who will attend Miss Anne Fitzhugh Lee at her marriage this evening to Lieutenant Lewis Brown, of the United States army, in St. Paul's Church, Norfolk, are being entertained by Miss Lee and her friends. Miss Knox, of Washington, D. C., and Miss Rosser, of Charlottesville, are the guests of General and Mrs. Lee at the Rochambeau. Miss Betty Cocke, of the University of Virginia, is visiting Mrs. Richard Waldrop, on Boush Street, and Miss Betty Christian is with Miss Nina Johns, on Botetourt Street. Miss Emily Addison is at the Rochambeau.

Founders' Day.

Founders' Day was kept at noon yesterday in Sheltering Arms Hospital with an appropriate and impressive ceremonial. The Rev. H. P. Atkins, of Marshall Street Christian Church, presided. The music was furnished by Monumental choir. The opening prayer was made by the Rev. Dr. George McDaniel, of the First Baptist Church. The Rev. Dr. Calvin Stewart, of the Church of the Covenant, read from the Scripture; an address from the Rev. William Meade Clark, of St. James Episcopal Church, was most impressive. The benediction by the Rev. Dr. Paul Menzel, of the German Evangelical Lutheran Church, followed.

The parlors of the Hospital and the dining room were beautifully decorated with flowers sent by Messrs. Mann and Brown. A delightful lunch was served after the service by Mrs. D. T. Williams, assisted by the the leaders of the various circles of King's Daughters, who are associated in the support of the Sheltering Arms, and the work done by the institution. Among the leaders were Mrs. D. C. Richardson, Mrs. S. T. Beveridge, Mrs. George Currie, Mrs. Richard Meade, Mrs. Newberry, Miss Martha Blaok, Mrs. James Brigg, Mrs. L. B. Janney and others.

Mrs. Williams had on her reception committee Mrs. J. H. Southall, Miss Anna Boykin, Mrs. W. H. Nelson, Mrs. H. W. Bassett, Mrs. E. T. Robinson, Mrs. H. C. Boudar, Miss Frances Scott, Mrs. A. D. Landerkin and Mrs. George T. King.

The ladies all desire to express thanks for a very generous donation of provisions, hospital stores, and a sum of money given yesterday by friends to the hospital, and those who appreciate the incalculable amount of charity that is constantly being done there.

Nickle Party.

Little Miss Ruth Mitchell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Mitchell, entertained quite a number of her friends at a "nickle" party Monday afternoon from 2:30 to 6 o'clock, for a worthy cause.

The merry little folks amused themselves in playing various games, until they were invited into the dining room, where refreshments were served, after which they dispersed for their homes. Among those present were little Misses Lillian Perdue, Bessie Wright, Fannie Atkins, Jane and Isabell Mitchell, Lella Puoze, Ula Williams, Virginia and Cornelia Tomlin, Janie Woodward, Florence Perdue, Ora and Mamie Mitchell, Laura Wright, and Master Frank Rose, Leonard Fox, James and Forrest Mitchell, Clyde Abrahams, Clarence Taylor, George Atkins, Harvey Gelley, Otha Wright and George Williams. Mrs. Forrest Mitchell and Miss Maggie Mitchell assisted little Miss Ruth in entertaining her guests.

Willett—Turnbull.

Mrs. Daisy Turnbull, of Petersburg, Va., and Mr. Carlton Rice Willett, of Washington, D. C., were quietly married in Richmond, Va., Tuesday, February 14th.

Mrs. Turnbull is the attractive and accomplished daughter of Petersburg's popular treasurer, Mr. Charles A. Slaughter, he having held this prominent position for the past fourteen years. She is also first cousin of the late William Howard Perkinson, one of the most brilliant professors of the University of Virginia.

Mr. Willett is a Kentuckian by birth, being a descendant of the distinguished Metcalfe family. He is a grandson of Colonel Leonidas Metcalfe and a great-grandson of Thomas Metcalfe, who commanded a company and fought so valiantly in the War of 1812; was a brilliant public speaker, and served several years in the Kentucky Legislature; was a member of Congress, State senator, Governor of Kentucky in 1828-32, and United States senator from Kentucky in 1848.

Mr. Willett holds a prominent position with the United States Interstate Commerce Commission at Washington; is also connected with the National Theatre of that city.

Mr. and Mrs. Willett are registered at the Chamberlin Hotel, Old Point Comfort, and will be at home to their friends after March 1st at their apartment, No. 1303 H Street, Northwest, Washington, D. C.

Personal Mention.

Mrs. Robert G. Cabell has returned from a delightful visit of several weeks in New York city, where she was the guest of her brother, Mr. James R. Branch, and other relatives and friends.

* * *

The Home Circle of King's Daughters and Sons of Christ Church will meet tomorrow evening in the parlors at the church. Miss Nettie Newberry, the president of the circle, hopes to see all the ladies present.

* * *

Judge George L. Christian and Judge Edmund Waddill were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Graves in Petersburg on Sunday last.

* * *

Hon. H. D. Flood, of Appomattox, Va., was best man at the marriage of Mrs. Mary Wine to Colonel George A. Armes, of the United States army, taking place at the Shoreham, in Washington, D. C., yesterday at noon.

* * *

Mr. John Crosby, of Staunton, who is at the Memorial Hospital, has recovered sufficiently for Mrs. Crosby to return home. He will follow in a week or ten days.

* * *

The wedding of Miss Byrd A. West, daughter of Mr. Jordan J. West, of Suffolk, Va., to Mr. Alfred James Howell will take place to-day.

* * *

Mrs. Claude A. Swanson is spending several days with friends in Virginia.

* * *

The Portsmouth News of yesterday says: Father Charles Hannigan, of Richmond, formerly of Norfolk, will deliver his lecture, "The Layman," at St. Paul's Catholic Chapel to-night at 8:15 o'clock. A silver offering will be taken at the door for the benefit of the building fund of the new church, which is nearly completed, at the corner of High and Washington Streets. Father Hannigan is well known in Portsmouth, having lectured here before. He is an eloquent speaker and always draws a large crowd when he appears in one of his lectures. Father Hannigan arrived in the city this afternoon and is the guest of Mr. William B. Daughtrey, in London Street.

* * *

Miss C. Bruce Goolrick, of Fredericksburg, Va., who has graduated as a trained nurse from St. Andrew's Hospital, Lynchburg, in here visiting Miss Mary I. Whitehead, superintendent of the Sheltering Arms Hospital.

* * *

Mrs. George Miles, her three children, Vincent, George and Mary; her sister-in-law, Mrs. John Pelham, of Alabama, and her two brothers-in-law, Messrs. Oscar and Pierce Miles, of Arkansas, are all at Murphy's Hotel, this city. Colonel Miles, who is at the Memorial Hospital, is thought to be a little better.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Neal, of Newport, News, Va., are in Richmond.

* * *

At the regular meeting of the Kirkwood-Otey Chapter, Daughters of the Confederacy, held at the home of Mrs. J. D. Horsley, of Lynchburg, Va., the chapter directed the secretary to send a vote of thanks to Dr. J. William Jones, of Richmond, for his defense of Jefferson Davis in response to the statement made recently by General Nelson A. Miles.

* * *

Friends of Mr. J. Powell Eastwood in Richmond will be grieved to hear of his critical illness from pneumonia in St Joseph's Hospital, Denver, Col. Mr. Eastwood went to Denver for his health a few weeks ago, and passed through Richmond at the time.

* * *

Miss Sallie Lyell Tapscott, of Fredericksburg, Va., is the guest of friends in Richmond.

* * *

Miss Mamie Williams is visiting her cousin, Mrs. A. J. Phillips in Portsmouth.

* * *

Miss Louise du Barry of Norfolk is spending a few days in Richmond.

* * *

Miss Elizabeth Martin and Misses Elizabeth and Jane Neely who spent a part of last week in Richmond have returned to their homes in Norfolk and Portsmouth.

Miss S. E. Brown, of Earlysville, Albemarle county, is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Conway Johnson, No. 517 North Eleventh Street.

Shriners to Meet.

Potentate Charles H. Phillips, of Acca Temple, Mystic Shrine, has called that body to meet in special session on Friday night at Masonic Temple. This meeting is held in honor of the visiting nobles who are here in attendance upon the meetings of the Grand Lodge. The notice is in the potentate's characteristic style, and is full of funny "cracks."

Mr. Wiley Grateful.

Mr. Wiley, of the Nineteenth Street Mission, desires to thank the following bakers who have very generously supplied the mission with bread: Messrs. Bromm, I. D. Briggs, Nolde and Perkinson.

He desires also to thank Messrs. Rennie & Co., and the Richmond Dairy for the many thousand quarts of milk they have donated to the poor through the mission.

PRICES FOR

SINGER SEWING MACHINES

LOWER

Quality considered, than any other

Needles, Oil, Repairs

FOR ALL MAKES AT

SINGER STORE,

19 West Broad Street,

Richmond, Va.

Unparalleled Achievement!

Importations in 1904 of

G. H. MUMM & Co.'s

CHAMPAGNE

131,330 CASES

The GREATEST quantity ever imported by any brand in the history of the Champagne trade.

Regarding Champagne Importations in 1904, Bonfort's Wine and Spirit Circular of Jan. 10, 1905, says:

"Messrs. Fredk. de Bary & Co. brought over last year to this side of the water a greater number of cases of Champagne than has ever hitherto been known, and these importations speak in the strongest terms of the great popular esteem in which G. H. MUMM & CO.'S Champagne is held on this continent."

POEMS YOU OUGHT TO KNOW

Whatever your occupation may be, and however crowded your hours with affairs, do not fail to secure at least a few minutes every day for refreshment of your inner life with a bit of poetry.—Professor Charles Eliot Norton.

No. 419.

PORTIA'S SPEECH ON MERCY.

By WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.

Shakespeare's autographs, portrait and sketch have already appeared in this series.

THE quality of mercy is not strain'd,
It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven
Upon the place beneath. It is twice blest:
It blesseth him that gives and him that takes.
'Tis mightiest in the mightiest: it becomes
The throned monarch better than his crown;
His sceptre shows the force of temporal power,
The attribute to awe and majesty,
Wherein doth sit the dread and fear of kings;
But mercy is above this sceptered sway;
It is enthroned in the hearts of kings,
It is an attribute to God himself;
And earthly power doth then show likest God's
When mercy seasons justice.

This series began in The Times-Dispatch Sunday, October 11, 1903. One is published each day.

LEGISLATURE OF NORTH CAROLINA

Big Lobby Working for Proposed New County of Lee.

CONSIDER THE JUG BILL

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

RALEIGH, N. C., Feb. 14.—The House devoted considerable time to the consideration of the McNinch anti-jug bill on second reading, but it went over on third reading until to-morrow.

A great number of amendments excepting counties poured in until there were forty-four on the clerk's desk. Then Mr. McNinch offered an amendment, providing this act shall not be construed to prevent the shipment of intoxicants to duly licensed dealers in towns and cities, where the sale of such liquors is not prohibited by law. Pending action on the amendment, further consideration of the bill was postponed until to-morrow, in order to allow time for members who desired to except their counties to investigate the probable effect of the McNinch amendment.

Mr. Powers introduced in the House a bill to provide for enlarging the State Capitol.

In the Senate the bill to create the office of immigration commissioner passed with an amendment that it be known as Bureau of Immigration and Commerce.

Mr. Turner introduced a bill to prohibit the retailing of cigarettes or cigarette paper in North Carolina. The Scales bill to establish a reformatory was made a special order for Thursday.

PILOTAGE BILL.

The Wilmington pilotage bill, making that port practically free, is to have a favorable report from the Committee on Propositions and Grievances, a victory for the business men of Wilmington after a very hard fight, running through the past two weeks.

The Judiciary Committee of the House decided to report favorably the bill by Mr. Winborne, empowering a judge to order a jury from an adjoining county for the trial of a cause in case there is any indication that a fair and impartial trai cannot be had before citizens of the county in which the offense to be tried was committed.

A NEW COUNTY.

A big delegation arrived here to-day to lobby among the members of the General Assembly for the passage of the bill for the establishment of the new county of Lee, to be carved out of portions of Harnett, Moore and Chatham, with Jonesboro as the county seat. If created, the county will have two hundred and ninety-one square miles.

CRIMINAL LIBEL.

A trial of great public interest locally in progress here is that against Mr. J. M. Brougton, on the charge of criminal libel, made by City Tax Collector Charles F. Lumsden. Broughton, in a card printed in an afternoon paper, charged that the tax collector allowed poll taxes to go uncollected for the reason that he would not force collection by garnishment lest he incur their ill will and lose their votes. In the card Broughton was insisting on an amendment to the city charter, so that the tax collector would be elected by the Aldermen instead of by the people. The trial began at noon to-day, and will probably consume several days.

FIRE IN WINSTON-SALEM.

Originated From Hot Box on a Drying Machine.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C., Feb. 14.—The rear end of the brick building on Chestnut Street, occupied by Currin and Coleman Brothers, dealers in leaf tobacco, was gutted by fire this morning. The first floor in the front part of the building was slightly damaged by water.

A quantity of leaf tobacco in the east end of the factory when the fire started was practically destroyed. A large number of hogsheads filled with leaf in other parts of the building were saved.

It is thought the fire originated from a hot box on a drying machine, which was in operation. The loss, which is several thousand dollars, is covered by insurance.

The automatic dryer and other machinery used by the firm was practically ruined, and the loss on this is larger than on the leaf tobacco. The firm has secured other quarters and will continue business without interruption.

H. CLAY GRUBBS'S TRIAL.

Wealthy Distiller to Answer for Slaying His Brother-in-Law.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

LEXINGTON, N. C., Feb. 14.—Court begins here on the 27th of this month. The famous case of H. Clay Grubb, the wealthy distiller, for the murder of his brother-in-law, O. L. Davis, will be tried. Grubb has plenty of money and influence. He is a sort of king in his community, Boone township, in this county. He has been in jail since October. Immediately after the homicide Grubb came to Lexington and employed every lawyer in the town except two. They made efforts to get their client released on bond, but Judge O. H. Allen refused the application. The prosecution will be composed of some of the foremost lawyers in the State.

DUKE MUNIFICENCE.

President of A. T. Co. Makes Donation to Colored Hospital.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

DURHAM, N. C., Feb. 14.—Mr. J. B. Duke, president of the American Tobacco Company, who is now in this city, has just donated $5,000 to the Lincoln Hospital for colored people. This is not the first time that the generosity of the president of the American Tobacco Company has been shown in this city. Not so long ago he presented Trinity College with one of the finest library buildings in the South, which cost $50,000. He later gave the sum of $16,000 for the purpose of buying books for the library.

Dragged Under His Engine.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

SPENCER, N. C., Feb. 14.—Engineer H. T. Holshouser, of this place, was brought to his home here yesterday in a badly bruised condition as a result of what came near proving a fatal experience under his engine near Greenville, S. C. His train had stopped and the engineer was under the locomotive looking after some repair work, when a shifting train plunged into train No. 1, dragging Mr. Holshouser about one hundred feet under the engine. His body was held firmly by the rods from the air brakes, and he was severely bruised about the face, arms and back.

An Electric Deal.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

SALISBURY, N. C., Feb. 14.—The Salisbury and Spencer Railway Company sold an interest in its system here yesterday to the American Gas and Electric Company, of Providence, R. I., for $150,000, and it is stated that the line now under construction between Salisbury and Spencer will be completed and put into operation at once and an electric light system will also be installed in Spencer.

Governor's Escort.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

CHARLOTTE, N. C., Feb. 14.—Battery A, Charlotte Light Artillery, has been chosen as the personal escort of Governor Glenn at the inauguration exercises at Washington next month. The battery will be mounted; will go fifty strong, and will carry three rapid firing guns. Adjutant-General Robertson, of the Governor's staff, will command the battery.

Dr. Lyon's

PERFECT

Tooth Powder

Cleanses and beautifies the teeth and purifies the breath.

Used by people of refinement for over a quarter of a century.

Very convenient for tourists.

PREPARED BY

J. W. Lyon, D.D.S.

Find a home with sickness and you will find it a home without Liquozone.

Yet the first bottle is free.

We who make Liquozone use it daily in our families to ward off germ attacks. And we serve it in every glass of drinking water to our 700 employes. We have proved that sickness rarely comes where Liquozone is used. And most troubles end quickly when the sick one begins to employ it. When you use it as we do, and as millions are doing, nine-tenths of your sickness—the little ills and the big ones will be avoided.

Not Medicine.

The virtues of Liquozone are derived solely from gas—largely oxygen gas. No drugs, no alcohol—nothing but gas enters into it. The process of making takes fourteen days, and requires immense apparatus. Then we get one cubic inch of Liquozone for each 1,250 cubic inches of gas used. This process has, for more than twenty years, been the constant subject of scientific and chemical research.

The result is a germicide so certain that we publish on every bottle an offer of $1,000 for a disease germ that it cannot kill. Yet it is not only harmless, but remarkably helpful. The effects are exhilarating, vitalizing, purifying. Even a well person feels its instant benefit. The reason is that germs are vegetables, and Liquozone—like an excess of oxygen—is life to an animal, but deadly to vegetal matter.

There lies the great value of Liquozone. It is the only way known to kill germs in the body without killing the tissues, too. Any drug that kills germs is a poison, and it cannot be taken internally. For that reason, medicine is almost helpless in any germ disease, while Liquozone is almost certain. We proved this fact for years, through physicians and hospitals, in thousands of the most difficult cases obtainable. Then we paid $100,000 for the American rights—the highest price ever paid for any discovery used in the cure of sickness.

Liquozone is now used by the sick of nine nations in the treatment of germ diseases. In millions of homes it has done, and is doing, what medicine cannot do.

Germ Diseases.

These are the known germ diseases. All that medicine can do for these troubles is to help Nature overcome the germs and such results are indirect and uncertain. Liquozone attacks the germs, wherever they are. And when the germs which cause a disease are destroyed, the disease must end, and forever. That is inevitable.

Asthma	Hay Fever—Influenza
Abscess—Anæmia	Kidney Diseases
Bronchitis	La Grippe
Blood Poison	Leucorrhea
Bright's Disease	Liver Troubles
Bowel Troubles	Malaria—Neuralgia
Coughs—Colds	Many Heart Troubles
Consumption	Piles—Pneumonia
Colic—Croup	Pleurisy—Quinsy
Constipation	Rheumatism
Catarrh—Cancer	Scrofula—Syphilis
Dysentery—Diarrhea	Skin Diseases
Dandruff—Dropsy	Stomach Troubles
Dyspepsia	Throat Troubles
Eczema—Erysipelas	Tuberculosis
Fevers—Gall Stones	Tumors—Ulcers
Goitre—Gout	Varicocele
Gonorrhea—Gleet	Women's Diseases

All diseases that begin with fever—all inflammation—all catarrh—all contagious diseases—all the results of impure or poisoned blood.

In nervous debility, Liquozone acts as a vitalizer accomplishing what no drugs can do.

50c Bottle Free.

If you need Liquozone, and have never tried it, please send us this coupon. We will then mail you an order on a local druggist for a full-size bottle, and we will pay the druggist ourselves for it. This is our free gift, made to convince you; to show you what Liquozone is, and what it can do. In justice to yourself, please accept it to-day, for it places you under no obligation whatever.

Liquozone costs 50c. and $1.

CUT OUT THIS COUPON

for this offer may not appear again. Fill out the blanks and mail it to The Liquozone Company, 458-464 Wabash Ave., Chicago.

My disease is.....

I have never tried Liquozone, but if you will supply me a 50c. bottle free I will take it.

.....

.....

653 A Give full address—write plainly.

Any physician or hospital not yet using Liquozone will be gladly supplied for a test.

TIMES-DISPATCH PATTERNS.

MISSES' WAIST.

Shirrings are very fashionable this season for young girls and make exceedingly attractive simple waists. This one can be made either with the scalloped bertha or plain, and with long sleeves or elbow sleeves, so that the one model provides a variety of designs. All the pretty soft materials that are so much worn can be utilized, and the trimming can be any one of the fashionable bandings. In this instance pale pink crepe de chine was chosen for the waist, taffeta of the same color, bound with velvet, for the bertha and cream lace for collar and cuffs. For a girl of fourteen years of age the waist will require 3 3-4 yards of material 21, 3 1-2 yards 27, or 2 yards 44 inches wide, with 3-8 yards of all-over lace for collar and cuffs and 5-8 yards of silk for bertha. The pattern 2143 is cut for sizes 12, 14 and 16 years.

No. 2143—sizes 12 to 16 years.

PATTERN DEP. THE TIMES-DISPATCH.

Please send the above mentioned pattern as description given below to

Name.....

No.....Street.....

Town.....State.....

Measurement—Waist.....Bust.....

Age (of child's or misses' pattern).....

Patterns will be mailed to any address by the Fashion Department of this paper on receipt of 10 cents.

By special arrangement they are sent directly from the manufacturer, and should be received within five or six days.

THE DARROW ENIGMA.

By MELVIN L. SEVERY.

(Copyright, by Dodd, Meade & Co.)

CHAPTER I—Continued.

Forgive me that I have ever doubted you. Even as you have been true to yourself, I swear by the love I still bear you to deliver your message to Darrow Sahib and to no other human being. I shall commit your words at once to writing, that nothing may be lost through the failure of my memory."

She reached her hand out feebly to me, and never shall I forget the look of gratitude which accompanied its tremulous pressure, as she murmured: "After John, Moro, you are dearest. I shall not try to thank you. May the ineffable peace which you bring my aching heart return a thousand-fold into your own. Farewell, Ragobah may return at any moment. Let us not needlessly imperil your safety. Once more, good-bye. The dew-drop now may freely fall into the shining sea." Poor distraught child! She had tried to adopt her lover's religion without abandoning her own. I bent over and kissed her. It was my first and last kiss, and she gave it with a sweet sadness, the memory of which, through all those years, has dwelt in the better part of me, like a fragrance in the vesture of the soul. One long, lingering look, and I departed, never to see again this woman I had so fondly, so hopelessly loved.

You now know the exact nature of the covenant I have felt constrained to violate. I have told you her story, in her own words. I wrote it out immediately after my interview with her, and have read it so many times during the last twenty years that I have committed it to memory. The recollection of the last meeting, of her kiss and her grateful look, has been throughout all these long, weary years the one verdant spot in the desert of my life.

(Moro Scindia paused here, as one who had reached the end of his narrative, and I continued my interrogations.)

Q. Although you never again saw your cousin, you must, I think, have heard something of her fate.

A. I learned of it through Nana Kandia, the servant who had secretly embraced Lona's cause, and who had borne her message to me. It seems that, after my interview with her, my cousin was seized with a consuming desire to see her English lover once more before her death; so she devised a plan by which, with Kandia's help, Darrow Sahib was to be secretly conducted to her under cover of night. She wrote a letter asking him, as a last request, to meet her messenger on Malabar Hill, and instructing him how to make himself known. This she gave to Kandia to post early in the morning of the day upon which their plan was to be put into execution. As he was about leaving the house Ragobah called him into his chamber and demanded to know what was taking him forth so early in the morning. Kandia saw at once that the purpose of his errand had been discovered, and determined to meet the issue bravely. "I was going to post a letter, Sahib," he replied quietly. "Let me see it!" Ragobah roared. "I have no right to do so," Kandia replied, springing toward the door. But he was not quick enough for the wary Ragobah, who felled him to the floor with a chair before he had reached the threshold. When he returned to consciousness he found his assailant, who had skillfully opened the letter, standing over him, perusing it in malicious glee. When he had finished reading he carefully resealed it and placed it in his pocket. Then he called two of his servants and gave Kandia into their charge, with orders to gag him, to bind him hand and foot, and, as they valued their lives, not to permit him to leave the room till he ordered it.

What occurred between that time and the return of Ragobah, wounded and furious, late in the evening, we can only surmise. He doubtless posted the letter and went himself to meet Darrow Sahib on Malabar Hill. When he returned home he hobbled into his wife's apartment, and then ordered Kandia to be sent to him. His left leg was badly crushed and his face contorted with pain and fiendish malevolence, was horrible to look upon:

"Our trusty friend here," he said, addressing his wife and pointing to Kandia, "could not conveniently post your letter this morning, my dear, so I did it myself." Lona's face turned ashen pale, but she made no reply.

"I thought," he continued, in his sweetest accents and with the same demoniac sarcasm, "that you would be anxious to know if the Sahib received it—our mail service is so lax of late—so I went to-night to Malabar Hill to see, for I felt certain he would come if he got your note, and sure enough he was there, even ahead of time. I was obliged to forego the pleasure of bringing him to you on account of two most unfortunate accidents. As you see, I hurt my foot, and poor Darrow Sahib slipped and fell headlong into the well in the little cave. As it has no bottom, I could not, of course, get the Sahib out, and so was obliged to return as best I could alone." As he finished this heartless lie, every word of which he knew was a poisoned dart, Lona fell fainting upon the floor. Kandia raised her gently, expecting to find her dead, but was able at length to revive her. The first words she said were directed to Ragobah in a voice devoid of passion or reproach—of everything, in fact, save an unutterable weariness.

"I am ill," she said; "will you permit Nana to get me some medicine which has helped me in similar attacks?" Ragobah's reply was directed to Kandia.

"You may do as the Sahibah bids you," was all he said.

Kandia turned to Lona for instructions and she said to him, "Get me half an ounce of—stay, there are several ingredients—I had better write them down." She wrote upon a little slip of paper, naming aloud the ingredients and quantities as she did so, and then asked Kandia to move her chair to an open window before he left. When he had done so, she passed him the note, saying, "Please get it as quickly as possible." As he took the paper she seized his hand for a moment and pressed it firmly. He noticed this at the time, but its significance did not dawn upon him until he had nearly reached his destination, when, all at once, he realized with a pang that the momentary pressure of the hand and the mute gratitude which shone from the eyes were meant as a farewell. His first impulse was to hurriedly retrace his steps, but before he had acted upon it, the thought occurred to him that she intended to poison herself with the drugs he was about to procure. If this were the case, there was no great need of hurry. Then he began to recall to mind the names of the drugs she had mentioned as she wrote and to reflect that not one of them was poisonous. With this new light all his former uneasiness returned. He strove to reassure himself with the thought that she might, in order to mislead Ragobah, have spoken the name of a harmless drug while she wrote down that of a poisonous one. It was easy to settle this question, and he determined to do so at the next light. He unfolded the paper, expecting to see a prescription, but read instead those words:

"To Moro Scindia;

"My Dear Cousin.—Death has relieved you of the task I imposed upon you. John Darrow's body is in the well in the cave on Malabar Hill, where, before this reaches you, my body will have gone to meet it. To this fragment of paper, then, must I confide the debt of gratitude I owe to you and to him who will bear it to you. Nana Kandia. Good-bye. If I had had two hearts, I should have given you one. Do not mourn me, but rather rejoice that my struggle and its agony are over. John has already gone—one tomb shall inclose both our bodies—how could it have been better?

"LONA."

No sooner had Kandia grasped the import of this letter than he rushed with all speed to Malabar Hill, but he was too late, for scarcely had he left the house upon Lona's errand before she had sprung out of the window by which he had placed her. Ragobah's wound prevented his following her, and when he had summoned others to pursue her, the darkness had closed about her form and none knew the way she had taken. At the edge of the fatal well Kandia found a piece of paper beneath a stone and on it these words: "Farewell, Moro and Nana, the only beings on earth I regret to leave!—Lona."

The body was never recovered. The news of his wife's death, and the knowledge that he was the cause of it, produced an effect upon Ragobah from which he never recovered. More than twenty years have passed since then, yet from that day to this he has never been known to smile. Long before his mangled limb had healed it became evident to all who knew him that he had henceforth but one purpose in life—revenge, and that nothing save death could turn him from his purpose, so long as his rival lived. The knowledge of this made my search for Darrow Sahib more than ever difficult from the fact that it must be prosecuted secretly. I could only learn that he had left Bombay for the interior, nothing more. My inquiries in all the Indian cities proved fruitless, and in many instances, I was informed that Ragobah had instituted a search for the same man. I think, in spite of my precautions, some of my agents ultimately told Ragobah of my efforts, for I found myself so closely watched by men in his interests that I was at length compelled to give up the personal conduct of the search, and to continue it through a deputy, unknown to him. All my endeavors to find the Sahib were, as you are already aware, fruitless, and, until I met you, I had no doubt Ragobah's efforts were equally unproductive. You have now all the information I can offer upon the subject. If I can be of any further service to you, you need not hesitate to command me.

As he said this he rose to depart and I promised to keep him informed of what occurred. I have nothing now to do but to await, with such patience as I can command, the arrival of the Dalmatia. It does not seem to me altogether probable that Ragobah will return upon this boat, but if he should I shall have him arrested the moment he sets foot on shore. If he escape the net that has been woven about him, I shall be a convert to Eastern occultism and no mistake. I trust Miss Darrow is well and hopeful. I know she will religiously keep that promise she made, for she is one of those women who fully understand the nature of a covenant, and I am easier, therefore, than I otherwise could be regarding her condition. Give her my kind regards and tell her that she may expect news of importance by my next communication. It is very late, so good-bye, until the arrival of the Dalmatia.

Your friend,

GEORGE MAITLAND.

(To be Continued To-morrow.)

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