

A SELFISH MAN.

A Pleasant Little Comedy That Ends Happily.

Scene—A pleasant drawing-room. Gertie, seated in a cosy arm-chair. Cecil, in devoted attitude, on ottoman near her.

Gertie—But do you love me unselfishly, just for myself alone—my soul, my spirit?

Cecil (to the ceiling)—Oh, she asks me this after my long worship—my utter—

Gertie—Ah, man's love is nearly always selfish. It's so different from a woman's sacrificing, enduring affection.

Cecil—Only let me prove to you in some way how dearly, how sincerely I love—

Gertie (suddenly decisive)—I will. Cecil, I consent to marry you—

Cecil (breathlessly)—Oh, Gertie—

Gertie—Yes, gladly, delightedly—for I am very fond of you—on one condition. You know how I love music.

Cecil (faintly)—Ye-es.

Gertie—That you will send me abroad for three years to study—to perfect my voice?

Cecil (bewildered)—Send you?

Gertie—It has been my dream—my ambition. I know I have a voice, and, Cecil, you know that I have.

Cecil (with deep feeling)—Indeed, I do.

Gertie—I have no right to ignore this gift. It is my duty to cultivate it, and



if I should become a famous prima donna, Cecil, think how you would feel.

Cecil (forlornly)—I can just imagine it, dear.

Gertie—But I should need three years of earnest study. This is the middle of September. I could be ready to start by the first of October.

Cecil (grasping the situation)—Then you mean that I shall marry you and send you abroad for three years alone?

Gertie—Or come with me, if you like. (Magnanimously.) I am perfectly willing you should come with me.

Cecil—My dear girl! Leave my business for three years? I could not leave it for three months, much less—

Gertie (with gracious concession)—Well, I would come over every year or so to see you.

Cecil—Every year or so? But, Gertie, darling, I should like to have my wife beside me in my house—not at the other side of the world.

Gertie (sadly)—How selfish, how very, very like a man!

Cecil (calmly)—It is—rather.

Gertie—And knowing my aspirations, would you let me sacrifice this dear dream of my heart, just to be with you, to make you happy? And you call that love? That poor and grasping selfishness, love?

Cecil (reasonably)—Wouldn't it strike you, Gertie, that you—er—ah—might seem—a little bit—selfish—too?

Gertie (in amazement)—I, selfish? I?

Cecil (humbly)—Well, you certainly—appear to have your own way. But, now, dear, (as if a sudden thought had flashed on him), let us look at this matter rationally—let us examine it just as it is. Ahem! You have made me an offer of marriage—

Gertie (gasping)—Oh, what a frightful thing to say!

Cecil—I mean you have proposed to me—

Gertie—Proposed to you?

Cecil—But, you have surrounded your proposal with conditions that make it simply impossible for me to accept. I realize of course, that you have bestowed on me the highest honor a woman can bestow on a man—

Gertie—Cecil! Mr. Clingon!

Cecil (entreatingly)—I beg you will not urge me. The circumstances that compel me to refuse to be your husband need not wholly estrange us. Think of me as a brother—

Gertie (rising indignantly)—Sir, this is an insult! How dare you?

(Exit, Cecil, hurriedly.)

Gertie (flinging herself on couch and sobbing wildly)—Oh! how horrible of him to say that I made him an offer of marriage! But I did, and he—can tell people! Oh! he wouldn't do that! But he can! And to believe that I'd go abroad—and leave—him? I wouldn't go if I was beaten there. But they'll believe any thing! And he'll never come again, and I can't—can't tell him. Oh! he has no sense—they never have. But he does know that I love him. He does—the outrageous thing! The miserable, hateful— Oh! you poor, splendid fellow! I never did deserve you!

Clipping from the New York Daily Register, October 2, 1890:

HOLBORN-CLINGON.—Married at the parsonage, by the Rev. De Rivett Strong, Miss Gertrude Holdoff to Mr. Cecil Clingon, all of this city.

Clippings from the Glebelands (N. J.) Grassmower, October 10:

* * * We are pleased to learn that Messrs. Dicomplac and Yarnlowd have sold one of their new cottages on the Upper Depot Road, this side of Rikers' woods. The purchaser is Mr. Cecil Clingon, a rising young business man of New York, who, with his charming bride, intends to make a home in Glebelands. We congratulate Messrs. B. and Y., and trust they may be as fortunate in disposing of the other houses they have erected in the same neighborhood.

—Madeline S. Bridges, in Puck.

R. B. WORTHAM, Formerly with N. & W. R. R. E. A. BLAKE, Formerly with N. & W. R. R.

WORTHAM & BLAKE,
Real Estate and Insurance Agents, 13 Jefferson street, Roanoke, Va.

Lock box 266. Correspondence solicited.
nov12-2m

Kenova, W. Va.,
THE NORFOLK AND WESTERN RAILROAD
Is bridging the Ohio River, and connects with the CHESAPEAKE AND OHIO, (Vanderbilt system)

The Newport News and Mississippi Valley, the Ohio and Big Sandy, and the Ohio River railroads and river navigation lines. The location of the Norfolk and Western railroad shops. A hotel to cost \$70,000 is under construction; also a brick and stone union passenger station, two stories high, with restaurant, while large manufacturing plants are to be erected, owing to liberal inducements offered by the association. First limited offering of lots (at Kenova)

Wednesday, November 19, at 10 a. m.
K E N O V A

Occupies the best natural site in the Ohio valley. For maps and terms of sale address
THE KENOVA ASSOCIATION, KENOVA, WAYNE COUNTY, W. VA.,
Or J. H. DINGEE, President, 330 Walnut street, Philadelphia. Purchase tickets via Chesapeake and Ohio railway reading to Catlettsburg (next station west).
nov15,16,18

Public Sale of Lots
AT
BUENA VISTA, VIRGINIA.

The Forest Land Company will offer for sale, November 21, 1890, at 10 a. m., about 250 lots. This property adjoins Buena Vista on the northwest side of the town, and is nearly surrounded by the lands of the Buena Vista company, which were laid off into lots and assigned to the original stockholders. It is beautifully located and well watered (having five large springs on it), and will become the choicest residence property of Buena Vista. The company have listed the lots very low in order to give the purchaser an opportunity to make a good profit on them. No new town in Virginia (excepting Roanoke) can show as good a line of industries secured to build up a city. We now have enough to bring ten thousand people here within the next twelve or fifteen months, and, with the boundless wealth and energy of the Buena Vista company behind it, we will have twenty-five or thirty thousand inhabitants in the next eight or ten years. Buena Vista is so situated that available land for lots is limited, and is bound to become very valuable.

Terms—One-third cash, balance in six and twelve months for all amounts under \$500; for all amounts over \$500 one-third cash, balance in one and two years. Negotiable notes taken for deferred payments secured by a deed of trust on the lots purchased. For further information we refer you to the members of the Buena Vista Real Estate Exchange. Respectfully,
JNO. T. DUNLOP, President. R. R. WITT, Sec'y and Treas.
nov11eod2w

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The Bedford City Real Estate Exchange,
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