

# Jephthah's Daughter:

A Story of Patriarchal Times.

By JULIA MAGRUDER...

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## CHAPTER X.—(Continued.)

Now, the young man Adina, having spent the night in ceaseless vigil also, was at the casement of his window, before the earliest streak of dawn, his life-blood throbbing to the thought that he was to see once more the form of her whom his soul so greatly loved, albeit speech and touch would be denied him. It had been the maiden's wish that she might not see him on this fateful morning, less that the sight of his unhappiness might cause her courage to give way. Still it was known to her the house wherein he dwelt, and he waited with his soul athirst, to see her make to him some sign of parting as she passed beneath the casement of his window. The blood flew surging to his heart as the group of maidens came in sight, their morning garments rosied o'er by the glory of the rising sun, and their approach heralded by the wailings of the people who lined the streets on either side. His face went deadly white, and he was fain to clutch with both his hands at the casement of the window to keep from falling back.

Onward she moved toward him, the form that he was wont to fondle in his arms, screened from his loving eyes by those harsh draperies from which the ashes fell, as the morning breezes played about her. He was screened from view behind a curtain, but the resolution rushed upon him, that if she turned and looked, for even one instant upward, he would throw the curtain back and look at her, that she might see the mighty love-light in his face, and the compassion wherewith he pitied her. Strong man as he was it was a bitter thing to bear that she should go onward to suffering and death, and he stand by, in bodily safety, and see it.

But Namarah looked not up, and as she passed beneath his window, her head was bent forward, and she walked on calmly and as if in total unconsciousness of the dying heart that beat so near her. It seemed to him to be a cruel thing, untender and unthoughtful, and Adina rent his clothes, and turned away from the window with great groans of anguish that made one with the wailings of the people in the streets. It almost seemed to him as though he were nothing to her—as though she loved him not, and thought no more of him and of his love and woe. He paced the room, with the long strides of an angry beast, and ever and anon great sobs, that brought with them no soothing tears, shook mightily his strong young breast. All the day he spent alone, in the anguish of his stricken heart, fearing to go even unto Jephthah, knowing that his presence could be no comfort while that his grief so mastered him; but when evening was come he crept from the house, unseen of any, and went silently to the garden of Jephthah's house, that he might once more be in the place that had seen him so happy in the presence of his soul's love. Still and deserted was the garden, and the wan moon looked down to-night with the same cold face that she had turned upon the far different scene of last night. Adina wandered here and there among the trees, but ever he came back to the dear spot where lately he had stood with Namarah in his arms. The brook still babbled on, and the cooing of the doves came ever to his ears, as if to remind him that all was the same as before, save that Namarah was gone.

## CHAPTER XI.

Resting his two arms against the trunk of a great tree, he laid his face upon them, shutting out the beautiful garden-scene, in which the maiden was not, and there he rested long in exceeding bitterness of spirit. Suddenly there was a sound of wings, and again the bird which he could recognize by its broken and injured plumage flew down, and hovering above him a moment, as if in doubt, came and nestled on his shoulder.

Adina took it softly in his hands, and turned his sad eyes silently toward the house where he lived alone. Even yet he had not the courage to go to Jephthah, but put it off until the morning. As he walked along, ever smoothing the bird's feathers with caressing touches, he suddenly became aware of something smooth and hard fastened beneath its wing. Instantly the thought occurred to him that it might be a message from Namarah; but how, indeed, could it be so? Breathless with eagerness, he reached his chamber, and there found lights.

Carefully shutting himself in, and even drawing the curtains of the windows close, he severed the cord that held in place the little folded note, and opening the sheet, read:

"Adina, My Beloved: I can give thee no greeting as I pass thy window, but I shall even then have close to my breast the dove which is to bear this my message to thee. The message is but this, that thou hast heard so often: 'I love thee, and I charge thee, by that love, give not thyself, to heavy grief, but ever take courage and have hope.' If thou lovest me, wouldst thou bear up with patience under the heavy burden and to comfort my father Jephthah. Pray ever for deliv-

erance for us both. Sorrow not, beloved, seeing that I ever love thee, both in this life and that which is to come. Thine, NAMARAH."

And underneath she had written the word "Mizpeh."

In reading these lines, the soul of Adina was greatly comforted, so that he felt a new courage come to him, and ever thereafter, until the two months were come to an end, he bore himself patiently and submissively and murmured no more. Each day that dawned saw him beside the old man Jephthah, sustaining, comforting and cherishing him, though, mayhap, his own heart was even at that same time sunk down with weariness.

And after he had brought the white dove home that night, it ever came to him afterward of its own accord, flying at sunset into his window and perching there, if he was absent, until he returned, and often he would take it in his hands and talk to it, such words as his frozen heart refused to utter unto human ears, and ever it seemed to give him greater comfort than any human friend.

As the two months of absence of the maiden Namarah began to draw to a close, the soul of Adina grew each hour more exceedingly sorrowful, and Jephthah also went heavily from morn till evening and took no comfort save in the presence and companionship of Adina, who was become to him even as his own son.

And when the eve of the return of Namarah and her maidens was come, all the people of Mizpeh were aware of it, but so great was their sorrow for the maiden, that they feared to look upon her face, and as at set of sun the children playing in the streets brought news that the maidens were returning, behold, the people gat them to their houses, they and their children, that none might look upon Namarah in her misery and her affliction.

And as Namarah and her maidens made their way along the streets of Mizpeh, behold, they made a picture sad to see, for their garments of sackcloth were torn and stained with their sojourn in the wilderness of the mountains, and their feet were sore and weary, and as Namarah walked first among them, her companions uttered a low wailing of distress. But the maiden herself was silent and made no sound, either with her voice or with the worn-out sandals of her feet, but over moved noiselessly as a shadow, with bent head and hands clasped wearily.

No human creature did they see. The streets of Mizpeh were as uninhabited as were the mountain forests they had left, and a vast and solemn silence, more awful in this place of many habitations than in the open country, brooded over everything.

As they moved along in slow procession, suddenly above their heads there was the sound of wings, and a flock of snow-white doves came downward from high in the air, and, flying low, preceded them with slow and steady motions all up the empty streets. And as men or women here or there watched furtively from behind the drawn curtains of their windows, this most strange sight—the maidens in their mourning garments preceded by the flock of white doves—struck awe unto their hearts. And added to the sight there was a strange and awful sound, for even as the maidens crooned their low, sad wails, the doves from their flight in the air joined to the sound their plaintive cooing and complaining.

To the other maidens it seemed as but an accident that the birds should meet and join themselves to the procession; but Namarah believed it not. Her heart told her that her tenderly loved birds had recognized her, and before she reached the door of her father's house one of them had even separated from its companions, and circling a moment, as if in doubt, above her head, presently flew downward and alighted on her shoulder. Then did Namarah unclasp her hands and take it under her cloak and press it against the warmth of her heart; and although the feathers of its wings had grown out again, and it was even smooth and shapely and snow-white as the rest, she knew it to be the messenger between Adina and herself. Howbeit, she knew not that it had earned a stronger claim to her affection yet, in that it had been the chief companion and comfort of her lover during the long days and nights of her absence.

(To be continued.)

**A New Artificial Paving Stone**  
A new artificial paving stone is made in Germany. It is composed of coal tar, sulphur and chlorate of lime. The tar is mixed with the sulphur and warmed thoroughly, and the lime is added to the semi-liquid mass. After cooling, this product is broken fine and is mixed with ground glass or blast-furnace slag. The blocks are then subjected to a pressure of 3,000 pounds to the square inch.

**Christianity teaches a state of ultimate happiness with God.**—Rev. J. H. W. Blake.

## Wealth That Is Dead.

It is astonishing how much of the world's wealth is locked up in diamonds, things which are of no earthly use to anybody except for the mere purpose of ornamentation. The money spent for diamonds every year would build fleets of peace and war, equip and pay armies, almost wipe out poverty in city slums, endow hospitals and schools, build railroads and create great libraries. Every now and then some American woman has trouble with the customs authorities over the duty on jewels the value of which represents a sum sufficient for an ordinary man to raise and educate a large family of children.

Millionaires and crowned heads possess diamonds which represent idle wealth sufficient to build whole streets of modern tenement houses for the poor. The diamonds belonging to the German empress are valued at \$1,250,000. The crown jewels of England, largely made up of diamonds, exceed in value \$15,000,000. The imperial crown alone contains 2,783 splendid diamonds. Besides this, the king and queen possess diamonds to the value of about a million more dollars, which are their private property. The crown jewels of Russia represent about \$20,000,000. No one knows just how much the diamonds possessed by the Sultan of Turkey are worth, but they represent many millions. Many native princes in India own diamonds of great value. The gems of the Gaekwar of Baroda,

consisting largely of diamonds, are valued at \$15,000,000. Among his treasures is a carpet made entirely of diamonds and pearls, all matched and blended. Many churches, too, in the old world are rich in diamonds. The largest diamond in the world, the Excelsior, found at Jagersfontein in 1893, is so valuable that a special syndicate has been formed to stand the expense and risk of cutting it.

A large part of the world's gold, too, is locked away in royal treasure houses in the form of dishes or ornaments. In the Kremlin are many great gold dishes, so heavy that a strong man cannot lift them, and many millions of dollars' worth of gold made into ornamental forms. The gold dinner service at Windsor Castle is valued at \$4,000,000, and a golden peacock with jeweled tail there is valued at \$2,000,000. In the treasure house of the Sultan of Constantinople are tons of gold plate, and great golden bowls filled to the brim with rare pearls. Gold in every form which the ingenuity of man has been able to invent is scattered about in splendid confusion in the palaces by the Bosphorus. The Shah of Persia has golden ornaments and diamonds stowed away in his palace which, turned into money, would enable him to build railroads and open up his country to civilization.

The world's dead wealth is something enormous when you come to think of it.

## To Prevent Fire Loss.

The annual fire bill of the United Kingdom may be taken at £20,000,000, that of the United States at £28,000,000. There are besides the fire insurance annual bill and the bill for the fire stations, with their costly sites and buildings, the fire engines, the other machinery and the horses. All this outlay keeps us poorer.

But the loss of life is worse, and it is easy to build fireproof—or, better, incombustible—houses, such as in the River Plata countries and probably in Bethlehem and Nazareth. The manner is as follows:

In these countries they neither use the arch iron, but hardwood, which, having mostly to come a thousand miles down the river, is dear. So all the floors and the roof, which is flat, are supported by joists shaped as in this country, and across them are laid rails of the same hardwood, about a foot apart, upon which rests the ends on thin bricks, on which another layer of bricks, or sometimes two, is laid in mortar and on this tiles. Then there is no skirting or paneling. In Britain cement should be used for that purpose and there should be no boxing of doors and windows, the

frames being built in securely. The doors are also of hardwood. In that fine climate no lath or plaster is ever used. In this country the laths should be of iron and if molding is wanted around the doors it could be of cement instead of dangerous, inflammable wood.

In such houses a bonfire made by piling a lot of sticks and shavings on the best bed in the best bedroom and setting fire to it would not set the house on fire. The writer has for sixty-four years lived in or been connected with the great city of Buenos Ayres, the capital of the Argentine Republic, and the largest city in the southern hemisphere, with 852,000 inhabitants, and never heard of a life being lost by fire, though there are fires. Lately, as pine from the United States is now abundant, some builders have used it partially in buildings in the capital and such are not quite fireproof, but it is a bad practice. In Britain, as roofs must slope because of the snow, and flat roofs would not do, the slates should be fixed in some way to iron strips. This might be a little troublesome at first, but our slaters and smiths would soon find out the way.—Chambers' Journal.

## Kings of the Diamond.

With the reported princely salaries to be drawn by some of the baseball players, whose services are in demand by both the National and American leagues, the older fans are reminded of the deals of years gone by when King Kelly, John Clarkson, and other players whose names are now but memories were the central figures in the baseball world. It was in 1885 that the baseball world was astounded by the purchase of Mike Kelly from the Chicago club by the Boston management, the sum of \$10,000 being paid the former club for "The King's" release.

This deal, gigantic as it was for one player, was beaten two years later, when Bob Carruthers was sold by Chris Von der Ahe of the St. Louis Browns to the Brooklyn club, also of the American Association, for the magnificent sum of \$14,250. This record for the sale of players is still unique in baseball lore. Carruthers was then attached to Comiskey's twirling staff, and had been the mainstay of the Browns for the three seasons when they won the pennant in the association. Then the Brooklyn club determined to get into the race, and

offered great sums to President Von der Ahe for some of his stars, among them Carruthers.

When the deal was finished the sum of \$8,250 in cash was paid for the sale of the release of the pitcher, and a bonus of \$1,500 was paid to him for signing with the eastern team, as well as a salary of \$4,000 for the season being given to him. In addition to this, it cost Brooklyn \$500 additional salary to carry out the deal, making a total of \$14,250 expended in securing this star.

The Boston-Kelly deal, which created a great stir at the time, and is remembered by every old-time fan in the country as one of the great events and landmarks of the game, cost Boston the sum of \$10,000 for the release of the player. Then a salary of \$4,000 was guaranteed him for the season, making a total of \$14,000. While the Brooklyn club was strengthening, with the purpose of weakening the Browns that the pennant would go east the following year, they persuaded Von der Ahe to part with a couple more of his stars for goodly sums, Dave Fouts being sold for \$5,500 and Bushing for \$500, each.

## A Warning to Parents.

A case which occurred in Cheshire, England, in 1897 is probably without parallel in the history of tragic coincidences. A lawyer well known in Liverpool, whose name we will say is Smith, was playing with his children one evening when his youngest boy, a little fellow of five, asked to be lifted up. The father at once complied by placing a hand on each side of the boy's head and raising him a foot or so from the floor. When he placed him on his feet again the boy fell to the ground apparently lifeless. Every effort was made to restore him to consciousness, but without effect, and the doctor was sent for.

After examination the medical man asserted that the child was undoubtedly dead, and asked the lawyer what had occurred. Calling another of his sons, who was born without teeth, the lawyer said: "I was walking along the shopping district when a uniformed attendant of a patent dental parlor handed him a card. After glancing at it, Mr. Lawyer handed back the card with the remark: 'I haven't any use for this. I was

children to him Mr. Smith, exclaimed: "As I live, doctor, all I did was to lift him a few inches from the floor, like this," and, suiting the action to the words, he raised the boy a few inches, as he had done the dead child scarcely half an hour before.

The result can be guessed. Before the doctor could call out a word of warning the child had fallen to the floor unconscious, and a moment later was dead. At the double inquest the doctor certified that the spinal cord, so fragile in young and delicate children, had undoubtedly snapped the instant the little victims had been lifted off their feet; and though the father was exonerated from all blame the jury felt compelled to add a rider to their verdict warning parents against the dangerous practice of lifting young children by their heads.

"In-and-in breeding" means mating animals that are closely related to one another. This practice of family breeding is not carried on to the extent it was at one time, but it is still done. It is no doubt the quickest way of establishing a uniform breed of animals, but it is often attended by a lack of size and constitution.



## AGRICULTURE

### Cultivation of Soil.

Cultivation is probably the most important feature connected with the handling of soils. Nature has placed large quantities of plant food in our soils, and it depends upon our skill and knowledge how far we can make use of and work this mine for the benefit of our crops. Cultivation is vital, and the subject is so wide that one scarcely knows where to begin. For spring grain, I try to plow in the fall. When the furrows are well and evenly set up and are frozen, and when the frost comes out, fertilization takes place and the soil is left in a fine, granular condition. Plant food is liberated and a warm seed bed is formed. When plowing for spring grain is left until the spring, our teams are plowing when they should be surface cultivating, and drilling in the seed. Every day's delay in getting in grain after the soil is dry enough to work means fewer bushels at threshing time. Soil plowed in the spring, too, is colder on the surface than that plowed in the fall, which involves slower germination and vegetation. As to the proper depth to plow, it seems to me that is a question which each farmer must decide for himself, according to his own soil, conditions and crop requirements. If the soil of a given field is deep, say ten or twelve inches, and that field were plowed in the fall for spring grain, I would try to plow it about seven inches deep. But if by some mischance that field were not plowed until the spring I would plow it lighter, as the deeper the plowing the colder the surface turned up. If that field were plowed in the fall for mangels, I would try for about eight inches. But if the surface soil of this field is only six or seven inches deep, I would try to plow it only five or six inches deep. In other words, the depth of the soil, the time of plowing and the nature of the crop grown are all factors in determining how deep to plow. I do not wish to bring any subsoil to the surface if I can avoid it. Sometimes, however, the surface soil is so shallow that some of the subsoil must necessarily be brought to the surface in plowing. If I have a deep soil I want to give the roots of the plants liberal feeding grounds, because they will, if allowed, strike down deeply. As to the question of frequency of plowing, it appears to me that that also depends upon soils and circumstances. Heavy, compact soils require more plowing than lighter ones. Such soils tend to get hard and bake and become inert, and hence require the plow to open them and improve their mechanical condition. The plow, too, is the surest and quickest way to destroy many sorts of weeds. Where the land is clean and the soil will permit it, surface cultivation with a disc or spring tooth often forms a better seed-bed than the use of the plow.—A. W. Peart.

### Broom Corn.

Broom corn belongs to the grass family and to the same species as do common sorghum and Kaffir corn and Jerusalem corn, grown for forage and for grain. It differs from all other plants of the same species in having panicles or seed heads with much longer, straighter and stronger branches or straws. This difference, wherein lies the value of the plant, has been produced by the selection of seed from plants possessing these characteristics to a great degree. It is for the seed heads, which are used in the manufacture of brooms, that the plant is cultivated.

Relative to broom corn, a bulletin of the department of agriculture says: Broom corn is divided into two groups, known as standard and dwarf. The standard type grows to a height of 10 to 15 feet and produces brush from 18 to 23 inches long. The brush of this type is used in making medium-sized and large-sized brooms, such as are known as carpet brooms and warehouse and stable brooms. Dwarf broom corn grows from four to six feet high, has a large amount of foliage and produces a fine brush from 10 to 18 inches or more in length. In making large brooms dwarf broom corn is not as good as standard, because the straws are weaker and less elastic. On the other hand, dwarf broom corn is far superior to the other for making small health brooms, whisk brooms and the like. It is a mistake too often made for growers of dwarf broom corn to attempt to compete with growers of standard in length of brush. Dwarf broom corn, well suited to the making of fine clothes brooms, commands the highest price on the market. For this purpose straw should be fine, straight, tough, elastic, of a uniform green color without red tints, and from 10 to 12 inches long. With the dwarf form the head does not grow out free from the sheath of the upper leaf, but is enclosed in what is termed by the growers the boot. Heads of standard broom corn are not thus enclosed, and this difference, together with the difference in height of the two types, has led to different methods of harvesting.

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## DRESS OF EASTERN WOMEN

Fashion's Changes Have Little to Do with Their Costumes.

Many Mohammedan women in India wear petticoats, generally very wide indeed, and falling in heavy folds. Some wear an underpetticoat of the calico as a protection to the costly stuff of which the outer garment is composed or to escape friction. The stuff—satin, silk or cotton cloth—is gathered into a strong band of tape, which is tied over one hip, and the plaits or gathers are carefully made, so as to allow the cloth to fall in graceful folds. Over the cholee or bodice is a light muslin shirt, which continues below the waist, called a kootun. Over all a scarf of white or colored muslin of fine texture, called doopatta, passed once around the waist and thence across the bosom and over the left shoulder and head, like the saree, completes the costume. When the petticoat is not worn by Mohammedan women pyjamas or trousers take their place. These are sometimes loose, as in Oude and Bengal; elsewhere they are as tight as they can be made. The cutting out of these tight trousers is no easy matter, for they have several gores on the inside of the thigh and are contrived so they are flexible, however tight, and do not hinder the wearer from sitting cross-legged. With the trousers, which are tight at the waist, are worn the cholee bodice, the kootun or shirt and the doopatta or scarf. In full dress the Mohammedan lady wears the peshwaz or Persian robe, in which dancing women usually perform. It has long tight sleeves, a tight body crossed in front and a very voluminous muslin skirt, the most fashionable amplitude being about forty or even sixty yards in circumference.

### Western Blood.

My tower faces south and north, And east it opens wide, But not a window-pane looks forth Upon the western side.

I gaze out north on city roofs, And south on city smoke, And to the east are throbbing hoofs, The rush of city folk.

But not a ray of western light May fall across my work, No crevice opens to the night Where western eyes may lurk.

My crowded days are spent in quest Of eager city things, And when the little birds fly west, I would not hear their wings.

But they who once have climbed the tower, When daylight lingered late, And watched the western sun go down Athwart the burnished gate,

And felt the rolling fogs descend, And seen the lupin blown (And know what things a western friend May offer as his own.)

Ah, they can never still, for long— He knows what would be best Who built my tower high and strong, And closed it to the west! —Juliet W. Tompkins in Scribner's.

### Came Down Crab Fashion.

F. Norton Goddard, the coauthor of New York's policy, evil, told at the recent dinner given in his honor at the Savoy hotel an odd story of a maid servant.

"This maid," he said, "had just come over from the old country, and she was very green. Everything she did proclaimed her greenness. One of her habits was always to come down stairs backward.

"I assure you, it was a funny sight to see her descending a staircase slowly in that way. Her hand grasped the balustrade for safety, and every little while she looked round to see how much farther she had to go.

"Why do you come down stairs backward, Kathleen?" someone asked her.

"Sure, sir," she answered, "that's the way we always come down stairs in the ship comin' over. Isn't it the fashion in America?"—Boston Post.

### Spiders Are Harmless.

While the common house spider is harmless and renders positive service to mankind by killing flies and other insects, it is generally regarded with aversion, if not with fright. The ordinary spider does not deserve its bad reputation. From time immemorial it has been called crafty and murderous, luring the poor fly to its death and then greedily devouring it, but really it only punishes trespassers.—Exchange.

### Hard on Recorder Goff.

An humble acquaintance of Recorder Goff accosted him in the street one day and complained bitterly of the exorbitant rent he was charged for a couple of rooms.

"I wish you'd drop in sometime when you're passing, your Honor," said the man, "and see how tiny they are. If you find an ass can turn in them I'll be content to pay the full rent ever after!"—New York Times.

### View Masculine.

"Do you think," asked the sweet girl who was in training for the graduation Derby, "that a man is justified in expecting his wife to share his troubles?"

"Sure thing," answered the sad-eyed man with the invisible hair, "if it wasn't for her he wouldn't have half so many."

### Unique Residence.

William T. Richards, the celebrated marine artist, will erect a unique summer residence on a small island off Newport. The rocks and deep foundation will be blown out and the entrance to the place will be from underneath the building.

### No Chance for Argument.

"I can't see what you find in me to admire," said the loyalist youth. "That's just what everybody else says."—Chicago Daily News.