

ORTON'S ORDERS

By CHARLES WILSHIN

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It was, of course, a very foolish thing to write a letter of acceptance to the man one intended to refuse, and yet Alton took a childish delight in writing the dainty little note and thinking of the expression that would come to Orton's face if he should read it.

Then she tucked it into the flap of her lap desk and on her last remaining sheet composed the letter in which she sought to make her refusal as easy as possible.

It is no easy thing to make a pen say "no" when the heart cries "yes," and the rest of the party was ready to start for the woods before she had completed it.

Of course she could not say that it was her stepmother's order and that it was obedience to command and not the answer of her heart. She could only hope that he would see how the matter stood and understand that she had not been flirting with him through those long weeks before Marquand and his money had appeared upon the scene and had been pleased to bestow his attentions upon her.

Until then Mrs. Appleton had regarded Jack Orton with favor. He had money, not much, but enough for two with excellent prospects, but he could not hope to compete with Marquand and Mrs. Appleton wondered why Aline should be so stubborn as to continue to care more for Orton.

There had been one scene after another, usually terminating in Mrs. Appleton's hysterics, and at last the girl's will had been broken down, and the negative she could not utter was now signed to paper and intrusted to Billy who promised faithfully to take it to Orton's room and place it on his table.

Billy was perfectly honest in his intentions, but just as he was scurrying



HE WAS JUST ABOUT TO MAKE A FORMAL OFFER OF HIS HAND.

ling through the hall the cook called that she had an apple turnover for him and, tucking the note in his pocket, he turned his attention to the turnover.

It was perhaps an hour after that that Orton, coming back from the post-office, found Billy on the front piazza playing train. He was the conductor and the other children were passengers. Billy had a punch used for progressive euchre games and was collecting tickets with an enjoyment dashed only by the fact that he had no engineer to whom he could signal. Billy was supremely contemptuous of girls and declined to allow either of his three fair passengers to act in that capacity.

It was with evident joy that he hailed Orton's advent and installed him in the front chair with earnest injunctions to run the train carefully and to stop in case the emergency signal was given on the bell rope. Billy had ridden much on the branch line that summer, and he had followed Burton, the signal conductor, about until he had learned all about his workings.

Jack Orton entered upon the performance of his duties with a solemnity becoming in the engineer of the flier, and if he discovered an unheard of number of crows upon the track it was all a part of the game.

They pulled into the next stop seven minutes ahead of the schedule, and Billy came running up to compliment his engineer.

"Take her a little slow when we pull out," he commanded, with an odd little imitation of his model's manner. "I've got a train load of foolish women, and they get scared when you run so fast. Got your orders?"

"I thought," laughed Orton, "that the conductor got the orders."

Billy blushed apologetically. "Guess I forgot," he explained. "I'll run over to the telegraph office."

The telegraph office was the nearest open window, but the operator was shamefully supplied with stationery, for Billy dug into pocket after pocket without result. Then he spied Aline's lap desk and darted toward it. There was a half sheet in the flap, and presently he came toward Jack.

"Here's your orders," he said gravely. "Mine says, 'Clear track to Robert's Crossing.' That's what yours say?"

"Right," confirmed Jack. "All ready, sir?"

Billy dashed down the line of chairs and with a wave of his arm swung on to the train and began collecting and punching tickets already punched al-

most beyond the semblance of paper. So engrossed was he in his occupation that it was several minutes before he noticed that his engineer had stepped off the train and was striding through the rain. He, too, left the flier, with its precious feminine freight, and started off after him.

"Aren't you going to play any more?" he demanded as he caught up with the man. Orton started.

"I declare, Billy," he laughed, "I had forgotten all about being engineer. I want to catch the crowd at the woods. You'll forgive me this time, won't you, old fellow?"

"I guess I can get Gracie Arnold to be engineer," said Billy doubtfully. "But, I say, can I have those orders? I want some more tickets."

Orton laughed. "Here's a whole lot of paper," he said, drawing some old letters from his pocket. "I need the one you gave me." And he was off down the road.

The chestnut grove was only a couple of miles away, and he was soon there. He had not been invited to be one of the party. It was Mrs. Appleton's own party, and Orton had not been popular with that lady since the advent of Marquand, but he went in search of the party with a happy heart.

He found Aline and Marquand apart from the group. She flashed him one glance of welcome from her eyes, then dropped the lids on them while the red spread over her face. In the instant of greeting she had forgotten the note and with recollection of the cold, formal phrasing of her letter she became ashamed to meet his glance.

Marquand regarded the intrusion in no pleasant fashion and began to sulk. He had been assured by Mrs. Appleton that Aline would accept him, and this nothing party had been arranged to make an opportunity for his proposal. Mrs. Appleton had drawn the other deeper into the woods, and he was just about to make formal offer of his hand when Orton came up.

He was just contemplating the possibility of saying something that would give Jack a hint to take himself elsewhere when that young man spoke up.

"I say, Marquand," he began, "I wish you'd look up the others for a bit. I've something very particular to tell Miss Appleton."

Marquand looked at Aline for encouragement in his refusal, but she would not return his glance. He paused irresolute for a moment and then strode off to search for Mrs. Appleton.

Aline looked up with a frightened glance. "I told you not to come," she murmured. "What will they say?"

"I was acting under orders," he insisted, holding out the letter. She seized it and looked at it.

"I wrote you another," she faltered. "Where did you get this?"

"Billy was playing train, and I was the engineer," he explained. "He was looking for train orders for me, and as he had used up a letter he had in his pocket for tickets he had to make a raid on your desk. When I saw this I could not wait for your return. I obeyed orders, like a good engineer."

"I think it was fate," she murmured. "I will obey the orders too."

And Orton never knew how much he owed to Billy.

Knew Her at Once.

Minister Wu once talked at a mothers' congress in Washington. He told how mothers-in-law were revered in China. Then he said that all the mothers before him would be mothers-in-law some day, and therefore he would tell them something that they might remember and profit by. "A parlor maid," he began, "answered a ring at the doorbell one morning and a few moments later ascended to her mistress. 'If you please, ma'am,' she said, 'the strangest lady is downstairs, and she has taken off her coat and hat, and she opened the two closets and rummaged through them, and then she looked at the windows and shook her head, and she rubbed her finger over the mantle and the piano, and then she held it up to see the dust on it, and now she is—' But the mistress interrupted calmly. 'Dear me!' she said. 'My husband's mother wasn't expected back from Texas till December.'"

Worldly Wisdom.

There is a certain young minister who has been remarkably successful in paying off the debts of the various churches to which he has been assigned from time to time. A brother minister who was laboring earnestly by means of bazaars, fairs and other affairs to accomplish a like happy result at his own church went to him and inquired the secret of his success.

"And I observe that you never have to resort to my present methods," he concluded.

The successful one smiled.

"No," he replied. "You see, when we need money some good sister suggests a bazaar. Then I call on the husbands of the married ladies of the membership and explain to them that in order to raise a certain sum we are finding it necessary to hold a bazaar. We have never had to actually bring the affair off."—Harper's Weekly.

Mozart's Memory.

Mozart had a memory for music and for nothing else. On attending the papal mass at the Sistine chapel he was greatly impressed with the musical service and asked for a copy, but was told none could be given him, as the music was not allowed to go out. He went to the next service, listened attentively, went away and wrote down the whole from memory. When "Do Giovanni" was first performed, there was not time to copy a part for the harpsichord, so Mozart conducted the entire opera, about three hours long, and played harpsichord accompaniment to the songs and choruses without a note of music to assist his memory.

ODORS IN THERAPEUTICS.

Perfumes and Their Use in the Practice of Medicine.

Odors, whether agreeable or disagreeable, are not causes of disease in the sense generally taken. They may disorder certain healthy functions by impairing nervous energy, by diminishing wholesome respiration and thus creating a predisposition to attack by disease.

Severe faintness is sometimes observed to overcome persons upon their entrance into a room in which tuberoses are kept. Headache is often produced by the odors emanating from the honeysuckle, lily, rose of Sharon or carnation. The odor of betony in flower is said to have caused intoxication in those who gather it. The making of infused decoctions and the triturating of roses, pinks, walnuts or colocyath are often accompanied by attacks of syncope.

Attempts have been made to utilize odors in therapeutics. The odors of vanilla and heliotrope are credited with possessing a soothing influence over persons subjected to attacks of nervousness. The use of toilet water in the form of a spray will often restore those exhausted with the cares of business, social or domestic duties. In the east the use of perfume is considered a purifier, though we look upon it merely as a luxury. It is asserted that those who are employed in laboratories where perfumes are made or among growing flowers are healthy to an extent exceeding those not so employed.—Medical Record.

MUSIC'S MIGHTY REALM.

In It There Is but a Single and Universal Speech.

"In the mighty realm of music there is but one single speech." Music forms the universal language which, when all other languages were confounded, the confusion of Babel left unconfounded. The white man and the black man, the red man and the yellow man, can sing together, however difficult they may find it to be to talk to each other. And both sexes and all ages may thus express their emotions simultaneously, for in virtue of the power of the ear to distinguish side by side those differing but concordant notes which make up harmony there is not only room, but demand, for all the qualities of voice which childhood, adolescence, maturity and old age supply. Thus a love of music is much more frequent than a love of painting or sculpture, and you will reach the hearts and touch the feelings of the majority of mankind more quickly by singing them a song than by showing them a picture. In truth, the sensitiveness of the ear to melody and to harmony is so great that we not only seek to gratify it when bent upon recreation, but even in the midst of the hardest labor we gratify it if we can.—London Catholic Times.

Queer Little Blunders.

From an account of the Doncaster (England) Art club's annual exhibition in the Doncaster Gazette: "Miss also goes in for portraiture. In hitting off her father's head her intentions are good, but the execution lacks very much in artistic finish."

In the London Mail's description of a parade in honor of the king of the Helens the reporter said: "The soldiers, clad only in their scarlet tunics, presented an unpleasant contrast with the warily clad members of the police force."

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The O. R. & N. has placed in service between Spokane and Pendleton a new combination parlor and dining car service. The Pullman sleepers which have been used on the early morning run out of Spokane and the return service leaving Colfax in the afternoon will be discontinued. The new combination parlor and dining cars have been built expressly for the service and are an innovation in the west.

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6:15 a.m.		8:15 p.m.
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