THE MERMAID'S VENGEANCE

A handsome, dashing youth was Denvil Burke of Bantry castle. No bolder rider had ever backed a horse, no more reckless player had ever ventured broad gold pieces upon the uncertain chance of the dicebox, and so it came to pass that before young Denny Burke, as he was generally termed, had enjoyed his ancestral acres three short years the "dirthy money" became scarce and creditors pressing.

One course alone was open to him—the road which so many young bloods have followed. He must marry some heiress. Not that there was the slightest difficulty about finding the heiress, for it was a well known fact that the rich Miss MacNulty of Ballydunderbog would just give one of her two eyes for handsome, bold, young Denny Burke.

It was true that Miss Biddy MacNulty was on the wrong side of 30; true that a more scrawny piece of humanity could not be found in the county. But she had the golden guineas, though, and after many a groan Denny Burke made up his mind to become the master of Ballydunderbog.

Denny Burke was in love with a fair young peasant girl, and he hated to give her up.

Kathleen O'Driscoll was only a milkmaid, but a fairer girl never trod old Ireland's bogs.

Strange stories the village gossips told about the beautiful Kathleen. Far and wide through Bantry Kathleen was known as the Mermaid's Child. It was gravely related and currently believed that the maid's beauty came from no earthly source.

When she was but a babe, her mother had been used to take her at early sunrise to the limpid pools amid the rocks by the edge of the sea and there bathe her in the crystal waters. That these pools were the haunts of the mermaids, the fairy queens of the ocean wave, was well known to all the dwellers by the shore.

No one doubted such stories as these in the least.

Denny Burke had been in the habit of meeting the girl, and quite a love affair had grown up between the two.

Kathleen, poor, simple soul, believed that the young man meant all he said when he protested that he would rather wed her than the richest lady in the land.

To give Denny due credit he had fully intended to marry the girl, but when he discovered how bad a state his financial affairs were in he came suddenly to the conclusion that ugly Miss MacNulty and the broad acres of Ballydunderbog were far superior to pretty Kathleen and love in a cottage.

And as Denny detested "scenes" he never went near the milkmaid, but quietly married Miss Biddy offhand and left to Dame Rumor the task of informing Kathleen of his treachery.

Burke was married. He could drink and game and horse race now to his heart's content.

And Burke was not at all discomposed when the news was brought one fine morning that the body of the ill fated Kathleen had been cast up by the sea near the Mermaid's pool. The girl had committed suicide.

The day of the annual hunt came, and, radiant in scarlet and white, bold Mr. Burke showed all the gentlemen in the county the way when the sly fox broke from his covert. The beast ran down by Killduffy's bog and doubled to the sea by Arohoe glen. The "field" was all thrown off the scent, and Burke, suspecting the fox's trick, rode off alone, trusting to head the beast by the Mermaid's pool.

Coming down the slope, Burke's brown mare caught her foot and threw Denny over her head. When Burke recovered his senses, for he had been stunned by the fall, he found himself lying on his side close by the edge of the pool.

From the clear water a female form arose—a woman of surpassing beauty. "Do not fear, handsome stranger," said the seamaid in tones both low and sweet. And then Burke felt a strange fascination creeping over him.

"Oh, wonderful creature, can you love a mortal?" he cried.

"Yes, if the mortal will but press my lips," the mermaid answered coyly.

Eagerly Burke kissed the coral mouth of the seamaid, and then a hoarse laugh came from her lips.

Burke was never seen again in life, but his body was found the next morning by the haunted pool. The seamaid had avenged the wrong done to her foster child.—New York News.

Thought He Had Been Noticing.

Willie Wishington was trying to be conversational, but the young woman wore glasses and looked severe, and her mother surveyed the scene with an expression of austere toleration. Willie ought to have known better than to call on Monday, wash day, anyhow.

"Have you read any books lately?" asked Willie, with the inane grin which he uses in society.

"Yes," answered the girl.

"Been some pretty good ones written lately, don't you think?"

"I haven't read any recent novels," she answered.

"You ought to read some."

"I find ample entertainment in the classics," was the rejoinder, while her mother looked on with an approving smile.

"Oh, yes; Shakespeare, I suppose. He's a good old classic."

"I read Shakespeare occasionally when I read English. I also read Corneille and Moliere and Goethe and Schiller, but only for diversion. Philosophic studies are my especial occupation at present."

"By Jove!" exclaimed Willie admiringly. "You're getting to be a regular bluestocking, aren't you?"

"A what!" repeated the young woman's mother grimly as she rose to her feet.

"Why, a bluestocking, you know—that is"—

"No explanations are necessary. Amelia, I am going to tell the servant to take in the clothesline at once. Hereafter neither of us will be at home to Mr. Wishington."—Washington Star.

It Still Worked.

"No," she answered coldly, "I cannot marry a man who carries a rabbit's foot for luck."

For a moment he contemplated her in intense silence, but only for a moment.

"Who," he exclaimed, "now can doubt the efficacy of the rabbit's foot after this?"

Then he left her forever, pausing only to laugh the wild, mirthless laugh which was suitable to the occasion.—Detroit Journal.

THE SPORTING WORLD.

Two years ago a little barefooted boy wandered out to Woodbine park at Toronto. He was a bright faced youngster and, meeting Alec Shields of the racing firm of Carruthers & Shields, expressed his desire to ride one of his horses.

"I was struck by his appearance," said Alec Shields in telling about the circumstance. "I liked his manly way and put him to work as an exercise

JOHNNY MARTIN.

boy." San Francisco racegoers have had a chance to see this youngster, for he is Johnny Martin, accounted by shrewd judges to be one of the most promising featherweight jockeys in the world. His rise in the profession has been unprecedented.

Last July Martin piloted Topmast to victory in an owners' handicap at Fort Erie. It was the first race that the lad ever scored a winning bracket. He has won some 50 races since then and has shown himself to be a more promising little jockey than was Johnny Reiff in 1898 and 1899. Martin is 14 years of age and can ride at 65 pounds.

Queens of the Wheel.

During the year 1899 six wheelwomen of New York city pedaled a total of 211 centuries, while in the same period an equal number of metropolitan wheelmen rode a total of 491 centuries. Of the women cyclists Mrs. E. R. Bayne and Miss Carrie Hitchcock completed the greatest number of hundred mile runs, the former having 50 to her credit and the latter only two less. The two great women century riders of the year, however, were Mrs. Jane Lindsey of Brooklyn and Miss Jane Yatman of Manhattan. Miss Yatman's century score was 33, and Mrs. Lindsey's was 32.

Both these women compiled their season's mileage in a series of record rides that are without parallel among women in the annals of cycling. Previous to last year a triple century made by a woman was considered a remarkable performance. But the rivalry that sprang up between Miss Yatman and Mrs. Lindsey for possession of the title of queen of the wheel resulted in the reeling off of multiple century rides that occupied several days at a time for completion and in which the public at large evinced a more or less lively interest.

Sloane Quits Us For Good.

"I am going back to England the 1st of March," said Tod Sloane, the jockey, recently. "I have interests there besides racing. I am interested in the Shaftesbury theater of London, and De Wolf Hopper is with me in the enterprise. He has made a hit with the English, and we expect a big run when he starts in business. That will be only on the side with me, however. I cannot expect to ride always, and I want something to turn my attention to when I quit the turf. I think a good boy from this country can show them the road for a long time to come."

Champion Harriman Going Abroad.

Golf championships in Great Britain are held earlier than in this country. The dates for the amateur meeting have been fixed for the week of May 17, at Sandwich, and the women's championship will be held the following week at Westward Ho. The open event will be played later in the season at St. Andrews. H. M. Harriman intends to make a European tour in the spring, and if so he will visit the famous golf courses and try his skill against some of the old country cracks.

Cyclist Ross Will Be Popular.

Arthur W. Ross, the Irvington-Millburn hero of last year, who sails for Europe shortly to follow the middle distance racing game, will be very popular abroad. Europe gave Jimmy Michael to America in 1896, and Europe regretted the gift always. Michael was popular all over Europe. He was such a little fellow that the ladies took to him and petted him and made much of him. Since Michael left for America all of Europe has been hunting for a successor.

The Legend of a Bell.

The largest hanging bell in the world is in a Buddhist monastery near Canton. It is 18 feet high and 45 feet in circumference and is of solid bronze. Canton has a pretty little fable connected with it. The story is told by Mrs. J. P. Newman in one of her sketches of travel. The life of the founder of the greatest bell of China had been threatened by the emperor because of his unsuccessful attempts to make a bell having perfect purity of tone. The bell founder's beautiful daughter, witnessing her father's agony while imploring the emperor for one more trial, consulted the gods as to the reason for failure. Being told that should the blood of a fair maiden mingle with the bell metal the result would be secured, she, waiting beside her father until able to see her face in the molten ore, plunged in and was destroyed. To the sacrifice of this maiden the Chinese attribute the beauty and sweetness of the tone of the great bell of Ta-Cung-tz.—New York Times.

A Penalty For Being Polite.

It is more difficult to be polite in the city of Hamburg than in any other place in Europe. There the most chivalrous man has to think twice before giving up his seat in a car to a lady, as he may be turned off the car for politeness. It seems that the Hamburg trolley cars will seat, according to size, 20 or 28 persons, 10 to 14 on each side. In addition four persons are allowed on the front and five persons on the back platform. When the car is full, the conductor hangs out a sign, "Besetzt," which means "occupied," and is absolutely forbidden to take on another passenger until some one gets off the car.

Sometimes, while the conductor is in front collecting fares, a lady will step on the car which is already "occupied." As there is no conductor on hand to prevent her, the lady steps inside, and the gentleman who may offer her a seat comes out and takes his stand on the platform. When the conductor after going his rounds returns to his post, he promptly requests the gentleman to step off the car, as he has forfeited his seat and the car is fully "occupied." Should he refuse to leave the car he is put off. The policemen on the streets are instructed to watch the cars sharply, and if they find a car carries even one more passenger than its proper complement the conductor is fined 72 cents, which is paid to a charity fund of the street railway company.—Philadelphia Press.

Salt and Horse Radish.

Some people care for nothing but lemon on raw oysters, but there are others who desire horse radish. Usually such folk regard the strongest horse radish as the best, but an experienced vender of the condiment poohpoohs this point of view.

"Why should the strong horse radish be considered good?" says he. "It brings tears to your eyes and lifts the top of your head off and makes you want to sneeze. It has no taste whatever. The mild horse radish, that which has stood awhile, is the best and pleasantest always.

"There is nothing so foolish as to think that the strong, biting kind is the fresh—that is the reason why it is preferred to the mild sort—for the very stalest and weakest horse radish can be made in 20 minutes strong enough to blow your head off. All you need to do is to add salt to it. Try this some time. Just take any old horse radish, dump in a spoonful of salt and then notice the difference. I don't know why salt should have such a powerful effect on the stuff, but no doubt a chemist could tell you that."—Philadelphia Record.

Turned It to Account.

A Derbyshire man, accompanied by his wife, happened to be traveling in a train when, near Stafford, a collision occurred. He was well known for his shrewdness in business, and he proved that in the collision his wife received a contusion between the eyes, for which a jury awarded £50 damages. Some time after the affair had blown over the following confession, or something to the like effect, was elicited from the plaintiff in a moment of unguarded conviviality:

"Well, you see, when the collision happened t' owld woman and I wur all reet, but when I looked out o' t' carridge I seed a lot of fellies in a terrible state. One 'sings out: 'Ey, lad! Ise getten me head cut open. I'll ha' twenty peounds for this.' 'Twenty peounds, ye silly fule?' cries another. 'Ise gotten me shoulder out, and I'll ha' forty peounds for 't.' When I heard this," continued the clever business man, "I jumpt at t', owld woman straight out and druv my 'ead betw'en her eyes, and we'se gotten fifty peounds for it."—London Answers.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Do You Cough?

"I guess I used to be like everybody else. When I caught cold, I just let it alone, thinking it would cure itself in a few days; of course the coughing and spitting of mucus sometimes lasted several weeks, but after a while the trouble would subside. I always noticed, however, that

each cold was worse than the one before. My throat seemed to get weaker, and the least change in the weather started the coughing again. The last cold was the most severe of all. I was really frightened. Cough drops and home treatment did no good. A friend told me about Acker's English Remedy. I got a bottle, and you never saw the like of the way it acted. Before the bottle was gone I was well. My throat felt as strong and well as could be. Since then I have had no more trouble. I think Acker's English Remedy so strengthens the delicate lining of the throat that it easily resists the changes in temperature, and it builds up the constitution as well."

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LEGAL NOTICES.

Assessment Notice.

Amelia Gold Mining Company.—Location principal place of business, San Francis California. Location of works, Ama county, California.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT a meeting of the Board of Directors, h on the ninth day of February, 1900, an asse ment (No. 4) of Two and One-half Cents share was levied upon the capital stock of corporation, payable immediately in Unf States gold coin, to the Secretary, at the of of the company, No. 320 Sansome street, Ro 4, San Francisco, California.

Any stock upon which this assessment sh remain unpaid on the fifteenth day of Mar 1900, will be delinquent and advertised for s at public auction; and, unless payment made before, will be sold on THURSDAY, 5th day of April, 1900, to pay the delinquent sessment, together with costs of advertis and expenses of sale.

By order of the Board of Directors.
L. SCHUMACHER, Secretary.
Office—No. 320 Sansome street, Room 4, S Francisco, California. 2-16-1

Assessment Notice.

Jackson Gold Mining and Milling Company Location of principal place of busine Jackson, California—Location of Wor Jackson Mining District, Amador Count

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A a meeting of the Board of Directors, he on the 5th day of December, 1899, an assessme (No. 3) of one-thirtieth of one cent per sha was levied upon the capital stock of the c poration, payable immediately in United Stat gold coin, to the secretary, at the office of t company, LEDGER office, Jackson, California.

Any stock upon which the assessment sh remain unpaid on the 6th day of January, 19 will be delinquent, and advertised for sale public auction and unless payment is made b fore, will be sold on Saturday, the 27th day January, 1900, at 4 p. m., to pay the delinque assessment, together with costs of advertisi and expenses of sale.

By order of the Board of Directors.
WILL A. NEWCUM, Secretary.
Office: Weil & Renno Building, Jackson Ca
December 5, 1899. 12-8-12-31

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of t Jackson Gold Mining and Milling Compan held on Saturday, January 6th, 1900, the da of delinquency of Assessment No. 3 was pos poned to Saturday, February 3, 1900, and t day of sale to Saturday, February 24, 1900.
WILL. A. NEWCUM, Secretary.
Dated Jackson, January 6, 1800. 1-12--1-26

At a meeting of the Directors of the Jacks Gold Mining and Milling Company, held in t office of the Secretary on February 3, 1900, t date of delinquency of Assessment No. 3 w postponed to Tuesday, March 6, 1900, and t date of sale to March 24, 1900.
WILL. A. NEWCUM, Secretary.
Dated Jackson, February 7, 1900.

Notice is also further given that the regul annual meeting of the stockholders of the Jac son Gold Mining and Milling Company wi take place at the rooms of the Secretary, Ke Building, Main street, Jackson, on Tuesda March 6, 1900.
WILL. A. NEWCUM, Secretary.
Dated Jackson, February 7, 1900. 2-16--3

Notice of Forfeiture.

To John B. Skinner:

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFED THAT I have expended at least $200 (two hundred in labor and improvements on the following-de scribed placer claim: W½ of E½ and E½ of W of SW¼ of NE¼ of section 22, township 7 nort range 12 east, Mt. Diablo Base and Meridian Volcano Mining District, Amador County State of California, as will appear by certifi cate filed at the office of the Recorder of Ama dor County, Jackson, on December 29, 1898, an January 19, 1900, in order to hold said premise under the provisions of section 2324, Revise Statutes of U. S., being the amount required t hold same for the year ending December 31 1899, and if within ninety days after the publi cation of this notice you fail or refuse to con tribute your proportion of said expenditure, a co-owner, your interest in said claim will be come the property of the subscriber under sai section 2324. M. CHRISTENSEN.
Volcano, January 20, 1900. 1-26-4-27

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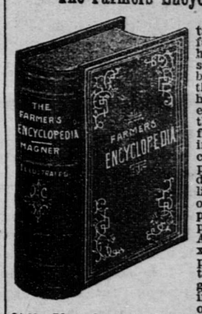

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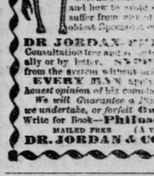

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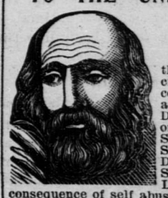

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