

THE INFINITE.

Far off, and very far! Beyond the crystal sea; Beyond the worlds that are Unknown, or shown to be; Beyond the pearly star...

II. Ere yet, and evermore! Before the day's delight; Before the dawn, before Apollo in his might...

HIS LESSON IN LOVE.

A SKETCH BY FRED. W. ELDRIDGE.

Before he saw the white parasol and the pink dress shining light amidst the dusky foliage of Pokono Mountain, Jack Ensign had hugged to his breast a profound contempt of what the poets and philosophers of all ages have called "the divine passion."

"I want to insure my life for a round \$100,000, and I want the policies made out in my wife's name," he told the president of the insurance company...

While Lurline chattered over the breakfast Jack toyed with the toast, stamped the coffee and yet practically ate nothing. When dinner came Jack pored persistently over some legal transcripts...

The doctor's statement regarding his health rather discouraged him. It would take some time to kill himself as he planned, it seemed, and exposure of his bankrupt state must not come before death.

It was in about the fourth month that the iridescent gleam of happiness that made Jack's face radiant faded and disappeared. It had come to be such a matter of course that those who looked felt a shock at the change.

But he had to tell the bank cashier, and he felt with a hot flush of despair that in time the various tradesmen with whom his wife dealt would come to know why he smiled so seldom and why winter had supplanted spring.

that any rebuke, however slight, would be impossible of endurance. He would hold her love at any cost, so he determined that appeal to her should, if ever made, be a last resort.

His flop from a "woman hater" to a servile slave of a very poor representative of the sex was complete. Psychologists in those days would have found him a most interesting study.

He argued that he was not able to provide Lurline with the worldly riches that seemed her only aspiration; she would sooner or later discover this incapacity and rebuke him, possibly denounce him.

Fate helped him in every way—when the medical examination was ended old Dr. Hume said he was a splendid risk despite the amount never had he seen a man of thirty freer of the ills to which flesh is heir.

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homes where he knew some stricken wretch lay in the grasp of a contagious malady, and he even wandered aimlessly through reeking alleys and lanes, hoping their polluted atmospheres would claim him as a victim.

After a week of this he turned his attention to more promising fields. In a remote part of the city limits stood the municipal hospital, where were isolated unfortunates, who had contracted diseases that made them virtual outcasts of society.

All sorts of baits were held out to the spirit of the White Horse, bids that would have ended in success a dozen times but for Fate, who takes a savage delight in baffling one's intensest longings.

The horses became veritable Dobbins under his touch and all the evil propensities of the other agencies of destruction disappointed him in the same fashion.

Try as he would, death would have none of him. He dared not embrace a dozen dooms that lay invitingly within reach for fear of detection of any masked effort at suicide, and he appeared at last to starvation to come to the rescue.

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immediately; there were two minutes of agonized consciousness, minutes in which he expiated ten thousand times over the sins which love had driven him to commit. Here was the message:

ITASKAN INSURANCE COMPANY. Dear Ensign: Yesterday's Minnesota forest fire has hopelessly wrecked the company. We are \$250,000 in the hole already, with three burned towns yet to report. We will give it up sure. Receiver to-morrow. It not actually dying, come to the directors' meeting at noon to-day.

SECRETARY SAMUELS. The Japanese Home. From Harper's Bazar.

If a man of taste should enter a Japanese parlor, he would not fail to be surprised at the display of marvellous and exquisite taste. Yet I have often heard the saying of foreigners that "the Japanese house has no furniture, and is absolutely cheerless and empty."

In Japan the family never gathers around one table as the European or other Asiatic peoples do, but each person has his or her own separate small table, a foot square and a foot high, and always highly decorated.

The Vanderbilts Agree. To Separate—The Wife to Get a Divorce and \$300,000 in Cash. It is announced that Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt, of New York, has agreed to accept \$3,000,000 in cash from her husband, and to hereafter live apart from him.

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Genius and Degeneration.

It is a strange fact, however, and one not noticed by Lombroso or any other writer, as far as I know, that mechanical geniuses, or those who, for the most part, deal with material fact, do not, as a rule, show any signs of degeneration.

Many men of genius have suffered from spasmodic and choreic movements, notably Lenau, Montesquieu, Boffon, Dr. Johnson, Santeuil, Crebillon, Lombardini, Thomas Campbell, Carducci, Napoleon and Socrates.

Go back, if you will, to Isabella of Spain. When all others laughed at the chimerical dreams of Columbus, she parted with her jewels and equipped the ships which found their way to the new world.

There was "a woman in it" when Harriet Beecher Stowe brought home to the hearts of men the evils of the slave traffic, firing them to action.

There has never been a skirt more dignified and graceful in effect, but it is positively impracticable cut for the street or for any but indoor use.

There never was such a fad for buckles and slides. They crop up at the waist line, in single file in the front of a bodice, and in charming contrast with a soft velvet collar.

The skirts of three quarter length coats are not so emphatically rippled as they were last season, but still flare gracefully from the figure.

A very pretty suit was reddish-brown face cloth trimmed with bands of white cloth that are strapped at intervals with four black velvet ribbons half an inch wide, each strap holding a smooth steel button.

For and About Women.

Lady Henry Somerset knows very little about the luxury of rest. She is an indefatigable worker. In every good cause she is interested, and her interest means practical help.

The prevailing color for the autumn is red. It not only crops up in every bonnet, but in decoration as well, and it rightly used is an excellent thing.

There is always women in it." If there be any evil done, we always see the words: "There was a woman in it," but these people forget to count the thousands of noble deeds where a woman's steady hand and clear brain were at the helm, and the "Households of Realms." Certain men are so apt to pattern after Father Adam, and when they throw all the blame on the woman, forgetting while they accuse woman, and yet boast of their own strength, courage and soldierly power, that so doing is confessing their own weakness.

The skirt that is just becoming fashionable has a bell front, the rest of it being in five great pleats. One in the back sets straight out from the waist and is as long as the demi-train of the party dress of two seasons past.

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