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STORY OF A TICKET AGENT.

'Western train's gone, ma'am,' said Farner Brown, coming into the waiting-room

'The train I was to take?' I gasped. 'Yes, ma'am Too bad but can't be helped. Harness will give out sometimes, you know,' sympathizingly.

'Not till six o'clock. You've five hours to wait. Be dretful tiresome, ma'am. There's a nice family that lives in t'other part of the house-s'pose I tote you in there.

Holly is-I know her. Won't you go in and see her, ma'am?" 'No, I thank you sir. I dare say that I'll e quite comfortable here,"

id safe, ma'am. Good-by!" And Farmer Brown left the room, mount ed his wagon, and soon disappeared down

I had been visiting a friend who lived it country settlement, some five or six miles from the solitary building dignified by the same of depot, and when the time came for ne to return home, she placed me in the are of a neighboring farmer who was going to a distant village, and would pass the sta-

During our ride we met with an accident Part of the harness gave way, and we were 'e sined such a length of time that, as the reader knows, I was too late for the train Atter Farmer Brown left me, I amused myself by reading a newspaper which some one had left lying on the seat,

Finishing this, I studied the design of the wall paper, - Inted the pures of glass in the little window, and wondered at the tidines of the whole apartment. 'Country depots are generally such vite

struck me. 30h, probably the place is kepclean by the Mrs. Holly over whose virtue Farmer Brown was so enthusiastic. Won der if this same worthy female would give me a glass of water ?" And I tapped on the door communicating

with the other apartments. 'Come in, said a cheery voice, and enter ing, I found myself in one of the prettiest

coziest rooms I had ever seen. The most delicate tint of buff was on th wall, cool matting covered the floor, mu-lin curtains, festooned with ivy, hung at the windows and here and there were books, brackets, flowers and pictures, and all the dainty belongings that make a room look so

And most charming of all, there lay in a white-draped cradle a rosy baby fast asleep with rings of golden hair falling over his white brow and a great, red, velvety rose clasped in his dimpled hand.

wound in heavy braids about her stately head. She arose with a smile when I entered

'Excuse me, but may I trouble you for a glass of water?' I said.

Presently she returned, bearing a salver covered with a snow-white napkin, and con taining a glass of water, a glass of creamy milk, a saucer of Juscious red strawberrie and a plate of sponge-cake light as yellow

'Pardon me,' she said, smiling, 'if I take oo great a liberty; but, you see, Farme Brown told me of your being obliged to wait

so long, and I thought you might be 'Why how very kind you are!' I ex aimed, in pleased surprise.

'Not at all. It's a pleasure to me. If you are hot and dusty, perhaps you'd like to bathe your face. If so just step in here." And she led the way into a little whit -droom the very heart of cleanliness and

from the cross, dusty, hungry mortal who had sat in the hot waiting room. I tound Mrs. Holly a perfect little gem o a woman, and, after the manner of our sex,

we soon became as well acquainted as if w I was lying languidly upon her comfortable sofa, and she, scated in her fow rocking-chair stitching away at her baby's dress, she told me the one romance of her life,

'I have lived in this little depot all my days, she began. 'My father was agent here and he served the company so long and so well that, when he died, they kindly allowed me to remain in his place, with the same wages too. For, you see, I was seventeen and father had long before taught me telegraphy and all the other work. About a year after father's death, I became acquaint ed with Jack-Jack Holly-my husband, and Mrs. Holly looked up and smiled.

'Juck was one of the best engineers on the ond (and is now, too), and everybody con sidered him an honest, likely young fellow He thought the world of me, and we be came engaged But you know how girls are! The weakest of them can make a trong man tremble.

'A weak, white girl held all his heart strings in her small, white hand,' I said. 'Yes; and I dare say I often pulled Jack' heart-strings rather hard; but he was gentle and patient when I flirted with the lads from the country, and when I was wild and way ward he diden't remonstrate. But one day there came along a city chap, who engaged board for the summer at a farm-house in the myself, and thus lose honor and position! reighborhood.

was handsome, well-dressed, and had that polished indescribable air that is so fascinatig to most silly girls. Jack was kind and Mr. Devarges when he offered his attentions

and sad, he came into the ticket office.-The

Well, how long is this thing going to He had forced open the drawer, taken out ast ?' said Jack. 'What thing !' I snapped out, Why this affair with Davarges. I see it

going beyond a mere flirtation." 'Pray what of it?' 'Only that I do not wish my future wife's name joined with that of a---' Jack paused

then added earnestly: 'Well, I warn you against this fellow, Who knows what he 'Mr. Davarges is a perfect gentleman, and that is more than I can say of some others,' I said, hotly ; and then some demon

prompted me to add, 'And Mr. Holly, in re-

eard to your future wife, I believe I do not

handed it to him. 'Nell, do you mean this?' inquired 'Jack

'Yes, I do. I'm tired of your carping and riticising, The affair may be ended now and forever," pettishly. 'So be it, then. Good-bye,' said Jack, and without another word he left the

'To tell the truth, I hadn't meant half hat I said, and every minute expected that Jack would kiss me and we'd make up.'-But now he had gone forever.' A mist came over my eyes as I watched his fast disappearng train, and I would have indulged in a ood cry, but just then 'the special' came puffing up, and the President of the road He was a kind old gentleman, whom I had known since I was a wee

Good-day, Miss Nellie, everything proserous, I hope. Will you do a favor for

'Certainly, sir, if I can.' Well, you see, when we were coming nev. Paid me six hundred dollars, and to. ire going up into the woods to see about layng out a new railroad. We shall be gone deuce made her say she was going to two days. Don't want to take the money with me -will you take charge of it while I have to wait till my pretty bird's asleep."

am gone?"

'Bless my soul ! yes, of course. Here's ie money. Must hurry away. Good morn-

Scarcely had portly Mr. Sayre trotted away before Mr. Davarges came sauntering 'Got quite a little sum there, havn't you, Miss Nellie?' eyeing the bills in my

'Yes,' I replied, laughing. Mr. Sayre ha nade me his banker. Look! Six hundred the time, won't you?" dollars! How rich I should feel if it were mine.

my story, ma'am-my only romance. 'You deserve to have much more, and loubtless that pretty face'll win it." 'Somehow his bold compliment failed to please, and so it was with coldness that I

'No I thank you, Miss Nellie. I have an appointment. But, will you allow me to call on you this evening?" 'Well, I scarcely think I shall be at home You know mother and sister Lulu are away

aid. 'Take a chair, Mr. Davarges.'

'It was true that I had received such word from grandma, but I had no thought of accepting it. I had hoped that Jack would

come and make up, and of course, I didn't care to have Mr. Davarges call at the same

'What will you do with your money, Mi-Nell? carelessly inquired Mr. Davarges. 'Oh, I shall put it right here in thi frawer. No ond knows about it, and it will perfectly secure."

'Irare say, Good morning,' and with a urtly bow my admirer left. 'All during the day I busied myself about he duties, and when night came, I put on

he dress Jack liked best, and anxiously waited his coming. 'clock! The last train had come and gone, and my duties for the day were over. I put for first mourning is discarded. at the light in the ticket office, went into he sitting room, and sat and waited. Ten

o'clock, half past ten! No use waiting any nger-he would'nt come. 'I went to the door, opened it and looked nt. There seemed something weird about the whole landscape. Even the shadows eemed alive. The sky was becoming over cast and the moon peeped out of an inkyblack cloud. The frogs down by the river

were croaking dismally, the wind seemed to whisper and moan. 'I shivered with a nameless dread and

losed the door. Went to bed and cried my self to sleep.

'I had slept an hour, perhaps, and the woke with a sudden start feeling a great lifficulty in breathing. A part of the quilt lay across my month I thought, but or reaching my hand to remove it I found it was a handkerchief saturated with what?

'A thrill of horror passed over me. Who and done this? Was there some one in the 'I half arose and gazed about me. All

was dark except a little ray of light falling brough the partly closed door. 'I silently arose, and just then almost creamed with fear when a sudden sound mote upon my ear. It was only the clock triking the hour of midnight! I placed my hand upon my heart to soothe its fierce

'Stepping along, carefully avoiding al bstacles, I reached the door, opened it, and glanced into the sitting room. No one was satin leaves interspersed. there, but some one was in the ticket offics, for I saw a light and heard a voice! What did they want? The money! oh, the money left in my charge! Somebody was stealing it, and what should I say to Mr. Saryre My God! I might be accused of taking 'Rather lose life! I said to myself. 'I'l lefend that money unto death! and I looked

about for some weapon, 'Under the stove was a large iron poke Seizing it carefully, I started toward the of well-mannered, but he didn't have a bit of fice door. The light tell upon the mirror style about him, and style was what I doted on reflecting my figure, and I often though picture of desperation, I was clad in my I flirted most dreadfully with him, till even flowing night dress, my hair all unbound, through loope of brown passementeric. my face white as marble and eyes dilated 'One morning, looking somewhat grave and glittering with a strange, steely light. God aid me! I said, with white lips, an

last passenger had gone and the train was then opening the door of the office I stole to object?" Turk: "It is the first time in that at least 20,000 barrels of water are moved..." 'Imporsible," was the answer; moving out. Jack's train had stopped to softly in. A man with his back toward me eight days that anything has gone into my thrown out daily. It is truly a remarkable "my friend is always the man who is in ofwas at the other end of the room.

The Death Penalty.

THE COLUMBIAN, VOL. XI, NO. 45 COLUMBIA DEMOCRAT, VOL. XLU, NO. 58

HOW A YOUNG GIRL INFLICTED IT ON HER ASSAILANT.

A special from Columbia, South Carolina, s as follows :

"The monotony of the state trials was broken to day by a hearing on application then Jack, my own dear Jack rushed in. I for a writ of habeas corpus in the case of a young girl, sixteeen years of age who was committed to jail. The case is a peculiar one and has created a decided sensation in this section. The circumstances are as follows 'When I recovered, Jack's face was bendin brief: The young girl, Miss Sallie Wood, ng tenderly over me, and Jack's voice utreturned to her home about twenty miles rom Columbia, and there found a neighbor, Samuel Henry, awaiting her arrival. She invited him into the house, which they entered together, when Henry quickly seized

her, violently attempting an assault. "The girl, however, succeeded in freeing herself from his grasp, and obtaining a pistol from the next room, returned immediately and fired upon her assailant with such deading, Nell, I thought I'd never see you again; ly effect as to kill him instantly, the ball penetrating his breast. Henry was a married my mind to come around and try to 'make man and the father of three childen. The up.' It was pretty late, between nine and families of both parties are respectable, well the law, going quietly to jail, from which I rather thought he was a scamp, because she was released a few hours later on conwhen I was in the city yesterday the chief sent, an order being entered requiring \$1, of police told me that they had reason to 000 bail, which was quickly found. She think that a noted gambler and 'blackleg' may be subjected to the inconvenience of a had come up in these parts. He gave a detrial, but has been acquitted already by the scription, and it suited Davarges perfectly, powerful verdict of popular opinion.

When the earthquake took place," said a husband to his wife, "I felt my heart beat He looked in at the window at you, make your heart beat." And this couple

Indian Summer of Life.

her grandmother's for? Now I suppose I'll In the life of the good man there is an Indian summer, more beautiful than that of the seasons; richer, sunnier, more sublime than the most glorious Indian summer the world ever knew-it is the Indian summer of the soul. When the glow of youth has departed, when the warmth of middle age is gone, and the buds and blossoms of spring are changing to the sere and yellow leaf when the mind of the good man still vigorous, relaxes its labors and the memory of a 'Jack,' said I tearfully, 'You'll forgive me well spent life gushes forth from fountains enriching, rejoicing, fertilizing; then the trustful resignation of the Christian sheds around a sweet and holy warmth, and the soul assuming a heavenly lustre, is no longer restricted to the narrow confines of business, but soars far beyond the winter of hoary age, and dwells peacefully and hap pily upon the bright spring and summer which await bim within the gates of Paradise evermore. Let us strive and look trust ingly forward to an Indian summer like

"Yes, Gentlemen, certainly, of course," said a New York clothier, "if you want a pair of pants step right into my pantry; if a vest walk right up to vestry, and if a coat

coterie. This way, this way gentlemen." UNPRINCIPLED PERFORMANCE.-A citizen, who should be preparing himself for the unknown life beyond the grave instead gets on a street car, holds the hand so that the ring must be seen, and pretty soon a

man bent forward and remarks. Chinchilla is the favorite dressy fur for "Excuse me,sir, but you have lost the seting from your ring." "So I have," replies the owner as he looks

round the floor. Every passenger began to peer around and he man who made the discovery finally

"Was it a valuable set?" The old rule of crape collars and cuffs "It was a thousand dollar diamond," is

the calm reply. There is another moment on the part of some under it, and some made a dive for ter." pearl buttons and other small objects.

"When did you miss it?" asks the first man as the search weakens a little.

eye looks into yacancy, and not the faintest lawsuit is the result. smile can be seen on a face. A person boarding the car just then would wonder what great man in the city had just died, and if the passengers were on their way to take a arose and said "Would you kindly fix the sad farewell look at his remains,-Detroit exact date?"

health, in a hotel in Idaho, sees a strange pair of boots under the bed. Violent and tumultuous bell. Enter porter. "Porter, am I in the wrong room? Whose boots are those ?' Porter, reassuringly : "Oh, yes, sir, Drap de Bulgare, with a ground of black, its all right, sir; this is your room, sir. Last and knots of either black or white, is shown gentleman slept in this room, sir, somebody cut his throat, sir. Them's his boots, sir. Ought to have been took away before, sir. I'll take 'em now, sir. G'night, sir." Neryous guest sits up and hears strange noises all night; hair turns grey before morningsilver hairs inserted at intervals, are seen Feels much healthier when he gets on the among the handsomest high priced fur trimtrain and starts east. Explains to the landlord that he likes the climate, but his moth-A very handsome artificial wreath is made er is alone and he has to hurry back home.

## Strange Phenomenon in a Well.

Situated about fourteen miles, southwest orange blossoms and buds, with two very of Clintonville, Venango county, is a well long, but narrow, streamers composed of which, for volume of production, surpasses anything yet discovered in that country The opera bonnets shown by the Parisian | The well wes completed upwards of amonth Flower Company are simple wreaths made ago. No oil was found, but an immense of clusters of roses, of two shades of red or gas vein was encountered at the place where cardinal, red and buff, or any two contrast- oil was expected. Before abandoning the ing colors. To these wreaths are added a well owners resolved to draw out the casing. This was attempted in the usual way, but the casing stuck about a foot above its forfigure, are from 32 to 35 inches in depth, mer resting place. As it was elevated to its present position, the fresh water from the than one wife ought to be willing to face in those days ; so I snubbed Jack, smiled on since, with a sick feeling of horror, what a reverse in front, are double breasted, and are upper part of the hole rushed into the well death at any time. at the bottom of the casing in great quantity. As it did so, the gas raised it to the surface thrust: "But, my poor Turk, you don't seem gush, and may for all time. It is estimated changed here, sir; your friend has been rephenomenon.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

### Poetical.

Transient or Local notices, twenty cents aline, regular advertisements half rates.

Cards in the "Business Directory" column, one dollar per year for each line.

Rates of Advertising.

As I was walking through the Pair,

And 'neath it needlework, which vied In fineness with the lace Valenciennes, To which in crowds the ladies hied

She blushed and smiled, then sweetly said "It is a-web, in short 'tis said. To be a marvellous invention.

Said I, "Pray pardon the detention, But—will you kindly tell me why This is so wondrous an invention:" But he replied, almost in rege, "This has received award and mention.

And left, as wishing to avoid All danger of a long contention.

With one so scemingly devoid Of ordinary comprehension.

The catalogue I next essayed; Then asked a soldler with a pension; Then, one whose classic nose betrayed A knowledge of the Greek declens

But some would smile and others frown

Of all mechanical invention." Then reason fled my maddened brain : I knew not fear of reprehension, But loud and long, with might and main, I shouted "AUTOMATIC TENSION."

Again, again, my cry rang out, Till strangers, filled with apprehension Came hurrying round me, as the shout The echoes woke in its ascension

E'en gagged me as a sure prever I struggied not, but to the last I gurgled "Automatic Tension." And now within this madman's cell,

I ask with mantacat yell, "What is the Automatic Tension?" -Scrtbner's Monthly.

> Dear little blue bird, Herald of spring : Swallow this cough drop-

Bronchial troche. Poor little blue bird. Don't you go off ; The up your little neck, Doctor that cough, Soon April violets,

List to your sneeze. Don't be discouraged yet, Herald of spring. Shake all the icicles From off your wing. Who knows what wonders Cough cure may do ;

Sing, little blue bird-The Pittsburg Post says: "Mrs. Walters, an ctress, who was born near here, and who made her first appearance on a stage in this city at the old theatre about the close of the of being up to such tricks, rem ved the set- husband, who is a member of Tony Pastor's ting from his big gold ring the other day, troupe, deserted her at Indianapolis After leaving a marked and decided vacancy. He that, although she had been successful as an actress through the West, she failed to get an engagement, and to support herself and children went on the variety stage, singing in Indianapolis until she contracted fever and

no friends and was sent to the poor-farm.

A pupil in an England school, when asked to define the word "buttress," wrote out the passengers. Some look along the seat, its meaning, "A female who makes but-

The white and the black members of a Methodist Bible class in Youngstown, Ohio, "A year and a half ago, when I was tend- were separated. The blacks resented the

While a man was singing the other day,

"There's a good time coming," another man

glimpse through a window of a woman in her night clothes, and thought she was an angel. This was complimentary to her beauty, but dangerous to her life, for he fired at her with a pistol to find out whether she really wasn't human. The bullet grazed

"Is this your offspring, madam?" asked a Missouri judge of a woman, who had hold of a stub-nosed boy's hand "No, sir," she replied, "this is my oldest boy."

"You are as pretty as a picture," he muttered, gazing into her upturned face, "and t would have been cheaper for me if I had

Au old bachclor explains the courage of the Turks by saying that a man with more

of the earth after sending it forty feet above at the door of a French cabinet minister, but

ias been finally withdrawn from the turf. Her owner says she is nearly twenty-one years of age, in perfect health and entirely

the top of the derrick. There it continues to the guard refused to admit him. "It is all

VEGETINE Select Story.

of the little depot.

The marvelous effect of Vegetine in case of Can-e shid Carcerous Brimer shalletures the most pre-ound affection of the medical faculty, many of Choice are prescribing Vegetine to their patients. "When is the next Western train

> I know Mrs. Holly'll give you a bite o' suthin' ter eat, and she'll be proud to let you rest on her spare bed. Fine woman, Mrs. with white lips.

> > 'Well, Jes as you please. But now I must e goin.' Hope you'll git to your journey's

> > > he direty road.

dirty places! Wonder why this is an exception?" I said to myself. Then a thought

'homey' and pleasant.

Over him bent a woman of twenty two or three years—a little mite of a woman, with and a little while ago I got word from granda bright, dark face, vividly colored, big ma, saying that perhaps I had better come black eyes, and wondrous dark hair and stay all night with her.

'No trouble at all, ma'am. Pray b seated. Excuse me,' and she left the

In a little while I was a different being

'This Clarence Devarges, as he was called

the money and was looking gloatingly at the risp green bills, when I stole behind him. I had just raised the poker to strike him when he glanced around. 'My God! It was Clarence Davarges.

'Hang it! now I suppose I'll have to kill this pretty'-he seized me by the throat and uttering a faint cry I sank down. Just heard oaths, blows, fierce struggling-then

all was dark. 'For the first time in my life I fainted.'

aspire to that honor - and -- and here is your tering loving words. I put my arm about ring.' I drew off the little golden band and his neck and cried like a weak baby. 'Aren't you hurt Jack ?" 'Not a bit, dearest. Davarges is disabled though, with a pistol wound in his leg.

Tisn't very severe, but it will prevent his 'But how came you there?' 'Why you see, when we parted this mornbut to night after I came home, I made up

ten, when I came, and who should I see to do country people, and have been intiprowling around but Davarges. Thinks I, mate for years. The young girl accompa-What does he want? If he's comes a court- nied by her brother-in-law, came to Colum ing why don't he go in instead of peeping bia and surrendered herself to the officers of in at the window?"

all excepting a mustache. And, by-the way Nell, that silky mustache you so admired, was false and fell off in our scuttle! 'Well, I said I saw Davarges prowling so that I was frightened." "Yes," replied wn I met a gentleman who owed me some about, and I thought I'd see what he was up the dear creature, "it takes an earthquake to w I don't know what to do with it, as we and I heard him mutter: The deuce take have celebrated their silver wedding! at! She is at home after all! What the

> 'So he sat down under one tree and 1 sat down under another. We both saw you when you opened the door and looked out. After you had been in bed about an hour, Davarges forced open the sitting-room win low and crawled in. While he was in the office lighting the lamp, 1 also got in at the window and concealed myself in the closet

for being naughty and wayward, and you'll believe me when I say that I loved you all 'Well, ma'am, Jack said he would, and we've been happy ever since. And this is

and-well, you know all the rest.'

A wag said of an egotistical author, 'someody should take pity on his readers, and put out his I's. Fashion Notes.

Shetland seal is the finest and costliest. Boas are round and two yards in length. Alaska seal is the strongest and most dur-Bronze colors are preferred in feather trim-

Bridal veils are worn under the bridal Mandarin feather trimmings is an eccen tric novelty. Sealskin is still the favorite for for hats

Seal dolmans are shown at some of the ading houses Squirrel lock lining retains its popularity for silk cloaks.

Fur borders will probably be very fash onable this winter. Sealskin sacques are made in small sizes for the little children The Princess is the favorite style for mak ing up morning dresses.

the coming season.

Muts are of medium size, made up softly, without stiff interlinings. Long cloaks of fur seal are handsome garents for driving and sleighing. Plain jet is preferred to clair de lune o riegated jet by fashion purchasers

Most of the artificial wreaths made this

Artificial cut flowers are preferred to nat

The handsomest seal sacques are bordered

with some other fur, such as chinchilla, ot-

ason have the leaves of velvet or satin.

ural ones for table or parlor ornament. Armur and Sicilienge silks are the favorite materials for fur-lined garments, The long circular cloak with a Russian ollar is the most popular fur-lined carriage

ter or beaver. The novelty in bridal garniture is garlands composed of orange flowers, buds, leaves and small oranges. The handsomest fur-lined garments have chinchilla, sable, silver fox, ermine and

blue fox linings.

mings.

for half mourning. Collars and cuffs of fine linen cambric, finished with a broad hem, are the correct thing for first mourning Sea otter bands of dark brown shades, with

of cardinal red satin Marguerites and satin leaves of the same color, with a few black Bridal helmets are now substituted for bridal wreaths. They consist of tiers of the same flower with its buds.

ittle lace and ribbon. New seal sacques are partly shaped to the have short shoulder seams, high collars, with fastened with frog buttons of seal, passing

Russian to Turks, who receives a bayonet

AUTOMATIC TENSION.

BY PERMISSION FROM THE NOTE BOOK OF A LUNATIC.

'Mong many things well worth attention, I saw a placard, high in air, And on it "Automatic Tension."

As to a Woman's Hights' Conv A fair-haired maid was stading near, With eyes as title as any gentian, And soft I whispered in her ear, "What is this 'Automatic Tension?"

I checked an old man passing by ;

It is the wonder of the age,
It is the 'Automatic Tension!' "--

Till one (with, doubtiess, good intention,)
In florid phase said 'twas 'the crown

They seized me, and they bound me fast

THE SPRING BIRD.

Four stories high, with an extension

Poor little thing : Of April's approach; Bunting around for a

Killed by the breeze, Will shiver and wince as they

ague. She then came to Pittsburg, but found

Guilty or not guilty? asked a Duch jus-tice. "Not guilty." "Den what do you want here?" Go about your pisness !"

ing campmeeting in Illinois?" is the sad re- discrimination and stayed away, except one who insisted on entering the class of whites. Then every passenger straightens up, every The teacher had him forcibly ejected, and a

> witty author, is the night cap. In it men visit, one-third of their lives, the only! land where they are free and equal. A maniae in Natick, Mass., caught a

her head.