

UP ON THE KLONDIKE RIVER.

Way up on de Klondike river, Huncery, I sigh; Dar's whar ma l'oughs an' l'armin' eber, Back to the home-made pie.

THOSE WIDOWS' WEEDS.

One sunny day in July, two years ago, I was seated with my old friend M., at a little table in the big salle-a-manger of the Hotel Baur au Lac at Zurich.

With the exquisite sense of freedom from all obligations and engagements, the feeling of relief from all irksome duties, and the exhilaration of change of scene and entourage, there comes a disposition to take a lazily observant interest in everything around, above all in the appearance, characteristics, and demeanor of one's fellow-travelers.

A good deal of secrecy is maintained by the manufacturers of celluloid as to their respective methods of manufacture. A method adopted by a Berlin firm is to pour 100 parts of ether on 50 of collodion wool and 25 of camphor and stir the covered mass in earthenware vessels with rubber sticks until a homogeneous gelatinous mass is obtained, which is then rolled.

I gazed with admiration at this charming vision, to whose blooming youth and beauty the sombre garb of sorrow and bereavement formed so poignant and touching a contrast; but on turning to M. in the expectation of meeting in his face a reflection of my own emotion, I was surprised to find in the attentive scrutiny with which he was regarding her an expression which I could not quite understand.

"Hm," said M., deliberately. "How do you know she's a widow?" "She wears the uniform, anyhow," said I. "Do you know who she is, then?"

M. put down his knife and fork, leans his elbows on the table, and said: "That is Tom Heatherine's girl." "Not really? Then she wears that dress for him? Poor thing!"

"Poor thing!" echoed M., in a tone whose dryness and want of sympathy jarred unpleasantly upon me.

For it was a pathetic little story, one that had found its way into the newspapers, and had aroused general sympathy and interest. "Suicide on the Eve of a Wedding," so ran the headline, and so shouted the newspaper boys, thankful for so attractive an advertisement of their wares.

It was distinctly disagreeable of M. not to share in the general feeling. But then, he is a queer sort of fellow, and he happened to like Tom Heatherine, and he happened to be down there at

the time. By the way, of course, so he was—he was the best man.

Yes, he had to take the news to the family; and when they broke it to her, and she read that last letter, peened to her on his deathbed, she fainted, and the letter fell on the carpet, and the best man picked it up, and striving not to see such sacred words, yet saw them inadvertently. She was rich and Tom was poor—poor not in intellect or manly strength and honor, but in money; and some of her fortune had been advanced to buy him a practice, and perhaps the foolish fellow was somewhat hyper-sensitive. The poor little note was not even good grammar, but possibly he was thinking of other things than grammar at the time.

"Dearest!—The next lover you have, don't taunt him quite so cruelly if you put him under an obligation. It hurts."

Every one admired the splendid way in which she bore the awful blow. Pale, pathetic, hair-stricken, she exhibited a sweet fortitude, a noble resignation, that touched chords of sympathy in every one that saw her.

"How perfectly sweet and beautiful! Poor, poor girl, how dreadful for her! What an exquisite sad fate!"

When, six months after the occasion on which we had seen her at Zurich, she married a tall, chandler with seven thousand a year, I believe she felt a deep and poignant pang of sorrow. Those widow's weeds—they were wonderfully becoming!—True Blue.

The Making of Celluloid.

A good deal of secrecy is maintained by the manufacturers of celluloid as to their respective methods of manufacture. A method adopted by a Berlin firm is to pour 100 parts of ether on 50 of collodion wool and 25 of camphor and stir the covered mass in earthenware vessels with rubber sticks until a homogeneous gelatinous mass is obtained, which is then rolled.

Striped articles are obtained by superposition of plates of different colors and cross cutting of the compressed blocks. Celluloid cannot be exploded by heat, blows or friction. It burns, but the flame can easily be blown out. It leaves an ash skeleton, which continues to sparkle faintly for some time. It is soluble in ether alcohol and is decomposed or carbonized by concentrated acids and caustic alkalis.

Hull Bearings.

The chief obstacle to the adoption of roller bearings to all kinds of vehicles has been their lack of durability when applied to heavy machinery, but this objection appears to have been overcome, and in Europe the application of roller bearings to railway cars is attracting considerable attention.

The Sun's Spots.

"The sun has great activity in its spots," says Bayne's "Pith of Astronomy," these being sometimes 50,000 miles in diameter. These spots are enormous vents for the tempests of flame that sweep out of and down into the sun.

Overboard at Bar Harbor.

"Give me a kiss. He shouldn't say 'I won't' to me; you should have said, 'I prefer not.'" "But that wouldn't be true.—Harlem Life.

A WIFE WANTED BADLY.

The Prediction of a College Professor in Vassar's Traditional Law.

There is a tradition to the effect that no man is allowed to become a member of the Vassar faculty unless he is married. Whether the tradition has any grounds it is hard to say.

Based primarily, therefore, upon the tradition, the story goes on to affirm that if an unmarried man makes application to become a member of the Vassar faculty, he is, all other things concurring, only permitted to do so on condition that he gets married and at once.

"We'll give you just two weeks," they said; "otherwise, you'll have to resign your place. Surely you know of some girl that you can get to marry you within two weeks." It was now the turn of the poor young man to hem and haw, but he saw there was no alternative, his whole professional future depended upon it so he permitted himself to be hustled off the campus before any of the susceptible students caught sight of him, promising to return within a fortnight, married.

Are There Unlucky Numbers.

The superstition that thirteen is unlucky, which is traced back to a sacred source, meets with as many contradictions as confirmations. The fact that the horrible fire in the Paris Bazaar started at Booth thirteen was telegraphed all around the world, whereas little notice is attracted by Nansen's success with thirteen men.

At one time two was a dreaded number in England, owing to the dynastic disasters to all monarchs second of their name from Ethelred II. to George II. Yet Napoleon's number through all his life was two; and who could wish for better luck than that which results at times from having two strings to your bow?

Militarism Costly.

European nations find the maintenance of immense standing armies and of great navies enormously expensive. Not only is the cost of paying and subsisting the soldiers and sailors stupendous, but it is necessary to constantly re-equip them and to build more modern vessels by reason of the development in firearms and naval construction due to the rivalry of the neighboring nations.

Buying the Apples Only.

Congressman Campbell of McLeansboro, Ill., a great apple region, tells the following yarn about one of his former constituents. The old man owned a good farm and a big orchard, but his children had married, off, and the old man was growing lonesome on the farm.

"Well, What do you want for your crop?" "Six thousand dollars," replied the old man. "All right, I'll take it." The old farmer seemed a little surprised at the promptness with which the bargain was struck, but, turning to the town man, he said promptly: "Me and my wife will be in to-morrow to sign the deeds."

Farmer Hopkins' Evidence. HE TELLS ABOUT THE SUFFERING OF HIS DAUGHTER.

A Victim of Nervous Prostration and Neuralgia, Saved After Her Physician Abandoned Hope.

While in the neighborhood of Rugby, Indiana, recently, a reporter was told that Miss Clara Hopkins, daughter of Mr. Dennis Hopkins, a prominent farmer of Bartholomew County, had been the subject of a remarkable transformation. The reporter decided to investigate and learn the particulars. He was driven to Mr. Hopkins' splendid country home, where he had an interesting conversation with that gentleman regarding the illness of his only daughter.

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