

AN OLD STORY.

I was nineteen, she twenty-eight, When first I saw her lovely face...

OVER SUMMER SEAS.

The Agnostical Lover and His Rude Awakening.

BY GWENDOLEN OVERTON.

It was manifest to Brooke almost from the very first that the gods had intended her for him.

But she was very much interested in him. She made him talk about himself. Yes, plainly the gods had planned the whole thing beforehand.

It was only the first dinner. The pursuer, who is undoubtedly heaven's vicar upon earth in the match-making business, had not had time to observe and distribute fittings.

That evening Brooke went into the pursuer's cabin to look at some pearls tied up in the corner of a grimy handkerchief.

Farrar, aren't you?" He said that he was, and Brooke immediately lost all interest in the little nipped nubbins of pearls.

Brooke came in to breakfast a little late the next morning. Miss Farrar was already seated, looking particularly nice, too, in what is known to men as "some soft, white material."

After that the course of things in general was as smooth as that of the vessel, as it cut its way States-ward through the pale summer seas.

They went ashore together at Manzanillo, also at Acapulco, and they two being alone in the boat—the elderly gentleman having gone ashore ahead.

Miss Farrar knew all about Brooke, not only what he had told her, but what she had observed, which latter Brooke did not take into consideration.

Now every one knows that the pleasant and most fitting occupation a woman can have is to talk to a man about himself.

Poor Brooke, who had given her his whole heart—he was sure of it now and meant to tell her so some time soon—never so much as gazed at it.

as l'homme incompris. But he begins it by being understood. Brooke felt that he was understood, better than ever before.

So they stood side by side upon the anchor cables all that last morning, speculating on the points along the coast, betting on the number of the pilot-boat, decrying the Cliff House.

They came alongside the dock at last. A fellow standing there foremost among the little crowd lifted his hat.

"I'm awfully—" she started, but at that moment the gang-plank was lowered and the rush began.

Brooke followed the Farrars down, carrying his own suitcase and her bag.

"So you two come on the same boat?" Tom was saying, and he was holding her hand all the time, too.

"Yes," Winifred said, she knew.

"It's funny you struck the same boat," Tom insisted.

This is the story of Alexander McDonald, one of the best-known characters in the Yukon Valley. He is a great, lumbering Scot—born in Nova Scotia—who up to the time of the Klondike discoveries never had an idea of winning a greater fortune than that of a day laborer.

Many others came to success even more suddenly than McDonald. One man on Bonanza Creek took out ninety pounds of gold—about twenty-five thousand dollars—in a single day.

But you offered a reward, sir." "No, I didn't. My wife offered a reward. She's offered a dozen of them.

An Electrical Range Finder.

The British war office has been testing a new electrical range-finder for the last two years. It was invented by an Australian, who says that it will give the range and bearing of a fixed or moving object, and at the same time will give information to any number of fortress guns attached by wire to the instrument.

SOUTH AFRICAN NATIVES.

Basutos Employed by the British on Military Railroads.

The British are employing a large number of Basutos to repair and lay the railroads in the Orange Free State that are essential to the advance of the army and the maintenance of communications with the base of supplies.

The Basutos have no friendly sentiments for the Orange Free State Boers who incorporated in their republic a part of Basutoland. The Zulus have always hated the Transvaal Boers, with whom they had many a hard fight in what is now Natal, and by whom the Matabel branch of the Zulus were driven north of the Crocodile River.

They are prisoners as long as they work in the diamond mines, for one of the rigorous measures taken to prevent diamond stealing is to keep the native laborers in a compound during their term of service.

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THE OLD ARMOR MAKER.

Long Before the Civil War He Wove Coats of Mail as a Side Line.

"About two years ago," said a Poydras street business man, "there died at the Charity Hospital an eccentric old German, who once upon a time followed the queerest trade in the world.

They were fashioned something like a sleeveless undershirt, and were intended to be worn immediately beneath the outside garment. In those days the use of such devices was popularly attributed to fellows who wanted to secure an unfair advantage in duelling.

After the war broke out a good many men bought them openly, as a legitimate protection, and for a while the old man had more business than he could attend to.

Patagonian Floating Stones.

The surprising phenomenon of heavy stones floating on water was observed last summer in southwest Patagonia by Drs. Nordenskiold and Borge.

Had Faith in Her Pappy.

"Keep him," said the head of the house, indignantly, to the man who brought back the lost dog.

Her View of Boys.

At a recent school examination for girls, this composition was handed in by a girl of twelve: "The boy is not an animal, yet they can be heard to a considerable distance.

"You'll get no reward from me. I'd as soon think of paying a reward for a lodger with the smallpox. That dog is a disgrace to his kind and to anyone that countenances him.

Niagara at Its Best.

If Mrs. van Kessel's opinion is correct, Niagara Falls will be a less beautiful object in the year 2500 than it is to-day. In the Century she gives the reasons for her belief.

The Niagara River belongs to our own era of the world's interminable history, and to it alone. We may believe, with some recent investigators, that it began to cut its way through the higher table-land about six thousand years ago.

A Soporific Plant.

Mr. Gillespie, of Edinburgh, has called attention to the curious soporific action of certain plants found in Russia and in America. These plants are known to botanists under the name of stipa.

Constable Committed Suicide.

Solomon Schabile, for many years constable of Tincum Township, committed suicide by hanging himself at his home, a mile north of Erwin.

Child Drank Fatal Potion.

While Joseph Ford, aged 2 years, was playing in his parents' home, at Coal Run, he found a bottle full of carbolic acid, part of which he drank.

Miner Killed by Fall of Roof.

Benjamin Seaman, a miner in the Pennsylvania Coal Company's mine at Old Forge, was instantly killed by a fall of roof.

State in Brief.

George E. Hoyburn, an ex-Assemblyman of Delaware county, is lying in his home in Hiram Township in a precarious condition, the result of a kick from one of his horses.

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KEYSTONE STATE.

LATEST NEWS GLEANED FROM VARIOUS PARTS.

WAR ON BOGUS BUTTER.

Secretary of Agriculture Describes Enforcement of Oleomargarin Laws—Appeal to Superior Court—Decision on Color Clause Contest Will Clear Way for Vigorous Action—Other Live News.

Gov. Stone made public a letter addressed to him by Secretary of Agriculture Hamilton in answer to a request for information relating to the enforcement of the oleomargarin laws.

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Faith Cure Failed.

A case of death in which faith cure figured was reported to the coroner in Pittsburgh, the victim being 12-year-old Walter Wagner, the son of Christopher Wagner, of Greenfield avenue.

Suicide Because He Was a Herdless.

Because he considered himself a burden to his family, William Provance, of Dubas Township, committed suicide by swallowing a box of morphine tablets.

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