

THE CRANDALLS AND THE STENDHALS

By FANNIE HURST

(© by McClure Newspaper Syndicate.) (WNU Service.)

THE house of the Crandalls in Wittegar street was one of those massive brick-and-stone affairs that looked as if it had been built and passed on for a few generations from father to son.

Martha Crandall had married Deeping Johnson in her father's home and remained there after her marriage, and after the death of the elder Crandall.

Martha Crandall Johnson's daughter Adeline had been born in that same house, in the same stodgy, high-ceilinged, wainscoted bedroom in which she herself was born.

It was a somber house, heavy woodwork, wooden pillars between archways, folding doors, long halls, pier-glasses, hot-air furnace, push window-hangings, balcony-fronted china closets, hatracks, what-nots, great bronze figures for bric-a-brac, and a bronze clock with two bronze warriors for the centerpiece on the parlor mantle.

And yet within, there was within this house, the feeling of stability. Its silent old walls had soaked into their timbers the emotions of sane, steady-going folks.

You felt about the house of the Crandalls that the people who inhabited it had not made their money overnight, so to speak. Crandalls, ever since Crandalls had lived there, had been able to afford the substantial things of life.

Little Adeline Crandall Johnson grew up in that environment, as blithely as if the somber old house had been a rose garden. She flitted through its halls. She danced through its dark corridors as brilliantly as a butterfly, caught in some strange netherworld environment.

Her parents, her staid, cotton merchant of a father and her mother Martha Crandall, who had been reared to be stolid, marveled at the electrical kind of brilliancy of this girl, their child. They marveled, and it was as if they warmed their icy fingers around the luminous flame of her personality. She was something so alien to them and yet so incalculably fascinating. She had been born in the chill autumns of their lives, when Martha was forty-two and her husband fifty. Almost any way you looked at her she was a phenomenon, the last creature in the world you would have expected to spring from the union of two such angular souls at Martha Crandall and Deeping Johnson.

Unconscious of the incongruity of her young presence in the deep brown plush of the Crandall-Johnson environment, Adeline rushed into the flush of her adolescence.

By this time the Crandall-Johnsons were at the peak of the financial history of all the Crandalls who had occupied that house on Wittegar street. Not only had Martha come into a vaster than ever accumulation of Crandall's monies, but Deeping Johnson had practically cornered one of the most important cotton markets in the history of the industry.

When Adeline Crandall Johnson was seventeen she was heirless to seven million dollars. More than that, and with an obsolete kind of solemnity of which they were totally unconscious, the parents of Adeline had picked out for her in marriage the son of another local millionaire. It was one of those predetermined affairs about which there had not been much family discussion. It is doubtful if Adeline herself, in those years when she and the fat young boy were so consciously sent to dancing school together, was even conscious of the import of what was happening.

Certainly she never took Donald Dugan seriously enough to even resent him. The fact that at seventeen and eighteen they were unofficially considered engaged, glanced off her bright young conscience with scarcely an impact.

One night, however, in the great deep brown plush parlor, the young Dugan, probably on the crest of his first fierce wave of adolescence, caught her into his short round arms and kissed her wetly, patly, roundly, and with possessiveness on the lips.

Four weeks later Adeline Crandall Johnson eloped with her music teacher. It was one of those seven-day-wonder, local catastrophes. The town shivered. The town stood aghast. The newspapers, muted, as if stunned into semicommence, carried news of that marriage as if they were printing the story of a death.

The house of the Crandall-Johnsons might be said to have shivered to its very timbers.

For three months the great, solemn, brown doors were closed to Adeline and her slender blond husband. Then solemnly, inevitably and rather terribly, with the news that Adeline was with child, they swung open, taking into the silent maw of that house on Wittegar street, the young figures of Adeline and Jacques Stendhal.

Promptly it swallowed them. Promptly it engulfed them. Promptly the solemnity of that environment

flowed around them in rivers brown as mud. The young Frenchman who had married Adeline because to him she was a flower almost too sweet to pluck, pulled in the beginning against the drag of this environment.

But in the end he, too, began to succumb. By the time Adeline's baby girl was born, the young pair were part and parcel of the house located on Wittegar street.

It cannot be said for Jacques Stendhal that he was of the stuff that parents would select as the husband of a loved daughter. He was a frail fellow, probably in character, too. A constitutional dilettante, unstable by nature, playful, and in a way that was forever to be adorable to Adeline, dependent upon her for decision.

Then, too, he loved her. There was no doubt of that. This volatile Frenchman, full of traditions that were alien to the very life and being of Adeline, had one quality of stability that was impeccable.

He loved Adeline. It was curious, but within that household, slowly, surely, steadily, as relentlessly as the progress of a Greek drama, unspoken plans for the destiny of Adeline Stendhal began to shape themselves in the mind of Martha Crandall and her husband Deeping Johnson.

This catastrophe that had come to them was not to be borne. This frail, blond, volatile, young outsider, with the stage-like name of Jacques Stendhal, music teacher, was not to be endured within the substantial walls of the Crandall mansion.

And it must be admitted, that as time marched on, Jacques himself gave justification to their enormous resentments against him. He twaddled away his days. After his marriage, his slight income from the teaching of piano, fell off entirely. It was nothing for him to spend hours on end in the narrow strip of garden behind the Crandall house, dandling his baby girl on his knees.

In vain Adeline, as if she sensed the menace that was forming between them, pleaded with him to stabilize his life; to either resume his own profession of piano instruction, or adapt himself to some form of work in her father's vast cotton organizations.

It was no use. To all intents and purposes, Adeline had married a ne'er-do-well.

When the baby was three years old, a phantom of delight if ever there was one, affairs in that household began to shape themselves toward a climax. For thirty months Jacques Stendhal had not turned his hand in an earning capacity, the threats, the aspersions, the abhorrence of his parents-in-law notwithstanding.

For thirty months, until her sweet eyes were rimmed with weeping, Adeline had importuned, begged, coaxed. And to what end? To the end that after these importunings, Jacques, remorseful for the moment, would promise, and the scene would end in one of play; the young father, the young mother, their child between them romping in their youth and vitality through the somber rooms of the somber mansion.

It was at the end of the fourth year, however, that the older Crandalls did succeed in creating a schism. It was finally borne in upon even Adeline herself that life with this play boy was unendurable; it was not only unfair to herself and to her parents, but to the youngster at their knees, to continue as his wife.

Just why it was unfair, Adeline never stopped to ask herself, except, that according to all the traditions of the Crandalls and the Johnsons, every man must produce. It never occurred to Adeline that the fact that the Crandall-Johnsons had seven millions should be more than sufficient to offset the congenital shortcomings of Jacques.

When the little girl was four years to the day, Adeline consented to the divorce. Curious, but the reality of the situation never seemed to come home to Jacques. He could not take seriously the fact that this sweet girl of his life and heart was about to walk out of them. And yet she did.

One year after Adeline's incredible acquiescence to a divorce Jacques found himself back in his humble studio as piano teacher, pounding out his living at the keyboard.

The situation in the Crandall-Johnson house had progressed. With an acquiescence which seemed to denote that the strength for conflict had flowed out of her heart, Adeline resumed life according to the dictates of her parents. Not even the prospect of their designs for an approaching marriage with Donald Dugan seemed to penetrate the icy stolidity that had encased her since her official separation from Jacques Stendhal.

Life resumed its even flow. She had her child, a small beauty, who was permitted by court agreement, to visit her father once every month, and Donald Dugan as eager as ever to marry her was reconciled to taking the little step-daughter along with his marriage contract to Adeline.

Two nights before the wedding Adeline, still in what seemed to be her mantle of reserve, walked out of the Crandall-Johnson household with her child in her arms. At ten o'clock that same night she eloped with Jacques Stendhal and was remarried to him in the office of a local magistrate.

The Stendhals, there are five of them by now, are a playful, unstable, hilarious group. There are a pair of solemn brown doors that remain closed against them.

The Stendhals, both Jacques and Adeline, try to feel solemn about that. Somehow they cannot.

Plan Prevention of Soil Erosion

Nationwide Fight Against Evil Is Now Taking Definite Form.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)—WNU Service.

The United States Department of Agriculture's nationwide campaign against soil erosion is now taking definite form in the practical erosion-prevention work of the first regional erosion stations which have been established in widely separated areas from the Atlantic to the Pacific, says Dr. Henry G. Knight, chief of the bureau of chemistry and soils.

Doctor Knight visited the erosion stations of the department at Bethany, Mo., and at Pullman, Wash., where the necessary equipment has been installed and where sheet erosion or run-off is being measured on experimental plots. Plans for field operations are under way at the station recently established in Page county, Iowa. He found that the farmers are keenly interested in the practical work of the stations, particularly in the terracing of cultivated fields, long a successful erosion-prevention measure in parts of the South, but which is new to the western and middle western farmers.

The need of soil erosion prevention, says Doctor Knight, has been forcibly brought to the attention of Utah farmers by a recent cloudburst which cut great canyons in the old lake shore of Salt Lake and covered a considerable acreage of fertile irrigated land with debris, sand, and bowlders. This erosion was a result of overgrazing of range lands. Overgrazing had removed the protective cover from the soil, he says. The destruction roused interest in erosion prevention even in that dry section.

Sugar Beet Yield. Doctor Knight visited the state agricultural experiment stations in Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Washington, Montana, and in North Dakota and South Dakota. He reports that increased yields of sugar beets have resulted from the use of phosphatic fertilizers in Colorado, Nebraska, and the Dakotas. The bureau of chemistry and soils initiated this practice a few years ago, and sugar beet companies now recommend the method generally. Directors of experiment stations, says Doctor Knight, are predicting a considerable increase in the acreage of crops next season as the result of the influx of farm laborers who have returned to the land because of the industrial depression. He cited the case of a single township of North Dakota in which 50 men from one factory have returned to farms.

Substitution of Ground Wheat for Corn or Milo. Substitution of ground wheat for ground corn, milo or kafir in the laying mash and of ground or rolled whole wheat for hominy feed, milo chop or ground barley in certain dairy feeds was approved by the Texas college feed conference board in session at the A. and M. College of Texas recently. This action was taken by reason of the general interest at this time in the use of wheat in feeding rations on account of its relatively low price as compared with certain other grains. It was announced.

Substitutions approved for dairy feeds were listed as follows: "1. Nineteen per cent protein dairy feed with limestone—ground or rolled whole wheat may be substituted for hominy feed, milo chop or ground barley in amounts not to exceed 20 per cent of the mixture, provided not more than one of these ingredients shall be reduced to less than 5 per cent. 2. Carbohydrate supplement with limestone for cows—ground or rolled whole wheat may be substituted for finely ground milo heads, hominy feed or ground barley in amounts not to exceed 20 per cent of the mixture, provided not more than one of these ingredients shall be reduced to less than 5 per cent."

Annuals and Biennials of Weeds Hard to Kill

An immense quantity of seed is produced by some weeds, especially by annuals and biennials, the resulting pollution of the soil requiring years of cleaning, even if no more plants are allowed to go to seed. Many species have vigorous perennial root systems (thistles, dandelions, etc.) which renew growth until repeated destruction of the tops at every fresh appearance, starves them. Very often weeds persist for the simple reason that farmers will keep on re-seeding their land with crop seeds containing weed seeds, rather than pay a little more for pure seed.

Legume Inoculants

Recent tests at the experiment station at Geneva, N. Y., indicate a wide variation in the quality of legume inoculants on the market. Some samples of this material were found to be worthless while many others were satisfactory. In the selection of commercial materials for this purpose an investigation of the quality is desirable. It is also highly desirable to have the date stamped on the package since inoculating materials lose their value with age.

New Onion Diseases Quite Destructive

Ailment Causes Bulbs to Dry and Rot Eventually.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)—WNU Service.

Two new onion diseases, one from Europe and the other a newcomer to the onion industry, have appeared in this country in recent years. J. C. Walker of the United States Department of Agriculture describes these diseases in a recently revised edition of Farmers' Bulletin 1060-F, Onion Diseases and their Control, just published by the department.

Growers in northwestern Oregon and near Norfolk, Va., and Louisville, Ky., have become familiar with yellowing and wilting of onion tops in the cool days of spring or fall as the first signs of white rot. The disease is known throughout Europe for its destructiveness. It eventually causes the bulbs to shrink and dry, so that they are unfit for consumption.

Yellow dwarf, the name of the other disease, in itself describes the effect it has on an onion crop. This disease causes greatest damage to crops grown from sets or seeds. Yellow dwarf occurred in Pleasant Valley, Iowa, as early as 1927, when plant disease specialists first became familiar with it. Since then the disease has spread to a few other states.

Among the other diseases described in this bulletin are smut, mildew, leaf mold, purple blotch, pink root, fusarium rot, rust, dodder, root knot, neck rot, soft rot, black mold and smudge. The last four of these primarily damage onions in storage and in transit to market. The other diseases appear in the field. Farmers' Bulletin 1060-F is available free to those writing the office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Right Care of Calves Means Improved Cows

A good starting point toward herd improvement is the purchase of a good bull. But it is only a starting point. A sire with good producing breeding behind him will, in all probability, sire a calf that can be made into a good cow. But a lot of these good calves are spoiled in the making. A visit is recalled to a dairy section in an eastern province where pure bred sires of one breed had been in use for two decades, says a writer in the Montreal Herald. The cows all showed their breeding in breed type and refinement but we saw precious few good cows from a production standpoint. They were all under-sized and stunted. They had been spoiled in the making. It was sandy country, home grown feed was scarce and there was little disposition to buy imported feed. Less than 90 miles away we visited a farmer with a splendid herd of the same breed—grades that looked like pure breeds and looked like big producers. We mentioned the comparison between his herd and the cows of the community we had visited. He laughed. It seemed that every cow in his stable was purchased as a calf or was descended from cows purchased in that same community. Good feeding from the start had made the difference. We need what farmers in the middle western states call the "corn crib cross."

Prevent Scab in Barley by Selection of Land

Barley scab is carried over the winter in cornstalks, and attacks the barley plant at heading and grows until the crop is ripe. Rain and damp weather are necessary during the heading period for the scab to develop, according to R. G. Shands, University of Wisconsin. Selection of land for the barley crop is important, as the land that lies near creeks or rivers seems to have more disease due to more fogs and heavy atmosphere than is common on high land. Lodged barley has more disease than barley that stands upright. Don't cut the barley until fully ripened. Barley should be sown only on land which has had the stalks plowed under thoroughly.

Keep the weeds down if you wish to conserve the soil water supply.

Sweet clover will sometimes send its roots to a depth of four feet within a year of being planted.

Plant soybeans if the clover or alfalfa fails. This crop may be seeded up until late June with good results in a normal year.

Rape, because of its high protein content, is a desirable crop to be sown with corn that is to be used for hogging-off or sheeping-down.

Weed control is sometimes rendered difficult because neighbors neglect to do their share, and the careful farmer suffers with the rest. Co-operation is needed.

Soybeans require the same seedbed and cultural practices as corn. They should be planted in rows, like corn or beans, with hills 20 inches apart and two plants to the hill.

An onionlike plant that grows wild along the Mediterranean coast produces the safest rat poison yet known. It is called red squill and does not seriously endanger other animal life.



DUBIOUS RECOMMENDATION

While in Switzerland a traveler was about to make an ascent when he thought he might as well institute some inquiries about the guide who was to accompany him. "Is he a thoroughly skilled climber?" he asked his hotelkeeper. "I should say so," was the reply. "He has lost two parties of tourists down the mountainside, and each time has come off without as much as a scratch himself."

Would Take a Train

An Englishwoman walked into the ticket office at Chicago and asked for a ticket to New York. "Do you want to go by Buffalo?" asked the clerk. "Certainly not," said the Englishwoman. "By train."

DEPENDS ON TACKLER



"When a player kicks the ball over that pole does it mean he is out?" "That depends upon how hard his opponent hits him just before he made the goal."

A theory too often shrinks its purpose as it stops. It's truly splendid when it works, but awful when it flops.

A bashful youth had been presented to a flapper and for ten minutes he sat speechless, growing redder and more embarrassed.

At length the girl said, sweetly, "And now let us talk of something else!"—Hummel, Hamburg.

Not in the Budget.irate Papa—What! You want to marry my daughter—why, you don't make enough to pay the rent! Dumbissimo—Well, Eloise and I hadn't expected you to charge us any rent.

WHAT MISSILE?



Mrs. Joax—Here's an account of a mysterious disappearance. A woman misses her husband. Mr. Joax—What did she throw at him?

Apparently Placid Stream. The river flowing on its way now bids our cares redouble. The waterpwr't it may display. Can cause all kinds of trouble.

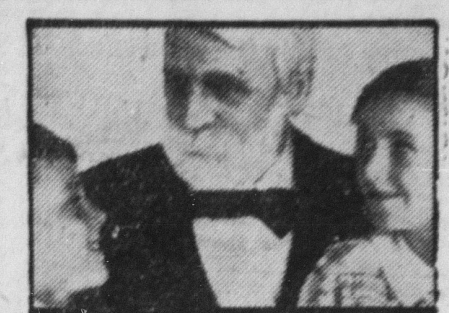
Learned Better. Marmon—Does your wife still sharpen pencils with your razor? Smythe—No, she's learned better since she started shaving her own eyebrows.

Needed Help! "Heavens!" exclaimed the preacher, "what's the idea of that stream of profanity?" "Well," replied the tough little cad, "after a shot like that awful one you just made somebody had to cuss, and I know you didn't dare to do it yourself."

Correction. "Pop, hey, Pop!" "Don't talk that way, Oswald, I'm in the grocery business, not a fountain clerk."

Had Reasoned It Out. "What makes you think she doesn't like you?" "She told me she thought there was a fool in every family."

Okeh With Her. Miss Pitt—How'd you like to take a nice long walk in the park? Caller (enthusiastically)—Oh, fine! M. F.—Then don't let me hold you back.



BOWELS need watching

Let Dr. Caldwell help whenever your child is feverish or upset; or has caught cold. His simple prescription will make that bilious, headachy, cross boy or girl comfortable, happy, well in just a few hours. It soon restores the bowels to healthy regularity. It helps "break-up" a cold by keeping the bowels free from all that sickening mucus waste. You have a famous doctor's word for this laxative. Dr. Caldwell's record of having attended over 3500 births without loss of one mother or baby is believed unique in American medical history. Get a bottle of Dr. Caldwell's Syrup Pepsin from your druggist and have it ready. Then you won't have to worry when any member of your family is headachy, bilious, gassy or constipated. Syrup Pepsin is good for all ages. It sweetens the bowels; increases appetite—makes digestion more complete.

Dr. W. B. CALDWELL'S SYRUP PEPSIN A Doctor's Family Laxative

Popular College Course. College correspondence courses are becoming increasingly popular. In the home study division of Columbia university more than 10,000 students will be enrolled this fall. Students in every state in this country and in more than 25 other nations are registered.

FOR FIRST AID SINCE 1846 HANFORD'S Balsam of Myrrh

No matter how large or sensitive, CARBOL immediately stops throbbing pain, rigors and leads to sleep. Use before bedtime. Get Carboll today from druggist. Soothes pain, heals sores, kills germs, etc. Generous box 50 cents. Spurrlock-Neal Co., Nashville, Tenn.

ASTHMA DR. J.D. KELLOGG'S ASTHMA REMEDY

CHILDREN WITH WORMS NEED HELP QUICKLY. Don't delay a minute if your child has worms. They will destroy his health. If he grinds his teeth, picks his nostrils—beware! These are worm symptoms. Disordered stomach is another. Immediately give him Frey's Vermifuge. It has been the safe, vegetable worm medicine for 75 years. Don't wait! Buy Frey's Vermifuge at your druggist's today.

Frey's Vermifuge Expels Worms

Used over 100 years for aches, pains, colds, coughs, croup, small cuts and burns. Endorsed by President Andrew Jackson. Write for free almanac.

From Bad to Worse Hubby—You didn't have a rag on your back when I married you. Wife—Yes, but I've plenty of them now.—Pathfinder.

He who says we will have war so long as we have uniforms is transposing the effect and the cause.

WEAK AFTER MOTHERHOOD

Norfolk, Va. "I am glad to recommend Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It is the best medicine I have ever taken. I was weak and run-down following motherhood and the 'Prescription' did more for me than all the doctor's medicine I have ever taken."—Mrs. R. V. Murden, 1622 E. Olney Rd. Write Dr. Pierce's Clinic in Buffalo, N. Y., enclosing question list found in medicine package and receive free medical advice. Ask your neighborhood druggist for Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription.