

SOME OF THESE DAYS.

Some of these days all the skies will be brighter; Some of these days all the burdens be lighter; Hearts will be happier, souls will be whiter...

THE SECOND SIGNATURE.



SCENE—A private piazza on the third story of a seaside hotel.

DRAMATIS PERSONAE: Morley Lapham, Miss Hardy's guardian—30 summers; Colonel Robert Burrows, with cavalry—35 (an in-cu-mbered) summers; Mrs. Alice Mordaunt, a widow—30 (confessed) summers; Eunice Hardy, an orphan—20 summers.

The Colonel (seated alone and looking down the beach)—"Yes! It is Mrs. Mordaunt. What a handsome woman! What a dashing woman!" (Lapham enters, mopping his rubicund countenance with his handkerchief.)

never thought of her in that respect. Besides, I can see that your military bearing has won her already." The Colonel—"Oh, no! Won't you have another lemon and seltzer, Morley?—if that waiter ever comes. That Atlas Company affair is the stroke of your life. (Jumps up and vigorously shakes Lapham's hand.) I am as happy about it as you are. It's great—simply great, and you deserve it. Deserve it all and more."

Lapham (trying to smile)—"No—just getting cooled off." The Colonel—"Excuse me, Miss Hardy, but I will go down and bring up that lemon and seltzer myself." (Exit the Colonel.) Eunice—"Carrying that baby made you ill! It was Mrs. Miller's baby. I met her on the walk and she told me all about it. She keeps the little stand down at the beach. I buy candies from her for my youngsters there, and we gossip between bargaining. The train was suffocatingly hot; she was tired and the baby cried. You took it on your lap and winked at it—that wonderful wink of yours—and it went to sleep—twenty pounds of it in your lap twenty miles."

CYCLING ACROSS CHINA. THE REMARKABLE JOURNEY OF TWO YOUNG AMERICANS. Threading the Desert of Gobi on the Silent Steed—Money Hidden in Pneumatic Tires. THE most difficult portion of the remarkable bicycle journey across Asia made by the two Americans, Messrs. Allen and Sachtleben, was the crossing of the Desert of Gobi. They describe this part of their tour in the Century.

"With constant wading and tramping, our Russian shoes and stockings, one of which was almost torn off by the sly grab of a Chinese spaniel, were no longer fit for use. In their place we were now obliged to purchase the short, white cloth, Chinese socks and string sandals, which for mere cycling purposes and wading streams proved an excellent substitute, being light and soft on the feet and very quickly dried. The calves of our legs, however, being left bare, we were obliged, for state occasions, at least, to retain and utilize the upper portion of our old stockings. It was owing to this scantiness of wardrobe that we were obliged when taking a bath by the roadside streams to make a quick wash of our linen, and put it on wet to dry, or allow it to flutter from the handle-bars as we rode along. It was astonishing even to ourselves how little a man required when beyond the pale of Western conventionalities."

Artificial Gems. Science is playing some peculiar and interesting pranks on nature. She takes some of the most common material and by her subtle processes converts it into the most costly. Perhaps the most striking instance of this is converting sugar into diamonds, common earth into rubies and making pearls of chalk. In fact, the chemist has successfully produced about all the precious stones in his laboratory, and each year marks a decided progress in simplifying and cheapening the process. The diamond, possessing no intrinsic value or utility of its own, is esteemed solely on account of its rarity. While, owing to its great cost, chemists have for centuries been laboring to produce it, yet until within a very few years this most costly of gems has baffled their efforts until a clever young French chemist, Moissan, has, with his microscope, discovered the process of nature in making the stone, and by his furnace succeeding in compressing carbon into pure diamonds, absolutely identical in composition and appearance to the natural gem. Until the advance in electricity the intense heat required for this purpose (6300 Fahrenheit) was unavailable. The diamond is pure carbon; so is graphite, and so is charcoal, the only difference being a matter of hardness or density. The purest carbon available for making artificial diamonds is obtained from sugar by heating until all the water and hydrogen are entirely expelled. While Moissan makes pure diamonds, he has not yet produced them of commercial size or value, yet this obstacle is not regarded as insurmountable, and the enthusiastic young French chemist confidently expects to early reach the end in not only equaling the output of South Africa in commercial value, but of rivaling in size and quality the famous Koh-i-noor, or the great Russian diamond.—Atlanta Constitution.

WISE WORDS.

Individuality means egotism. Morning is the tonic of the day. The merit of self-abnegation is limited. A fussy woman is one of nature's few mistakes. Second nature is sometimes stronger than the first. There is nothing in some pedigrees except length. The evil men do lives after them; so does the good. Beauty may incite love, but it cannot maintain it. Contentment is the triumph of mind over matter. Forbidden fruit doesn't always grow on the highest trees. Few men work hard after they get old enough to know better. Lovers love poetry because poetry is not hampered by cold facts. The unmeaning mischief of fools is all-pervading and irremediable. There are some parents to whom their children never arrive at an age of responsibility. The world is divided into two classes—those who master their troubles and those who are mastered by them. There is nothing so universal as love; for every mature human being either has loved, does love, or expects to love. They who have the power to make the best of life's misadventures and accidents are likely to reach a green old age. With the chisel a trained hand brings forth a "thing of beauty," with the same tool a child may destroy the noblest work of art. Marriage is the only partnership not entered into on business principles, and that failures often occur should not excite our special wonder. Since procrastination is the thief of time, what a pity it is that some hurried mortal does not find the key to the storehouse of the stolen plunder! Self Help. There is nothing which is so trivial as discontent. Nothing which will so ruin a boy's life. We do not mean that it is best to sit down and not better your condition; any healthy mind must do that, but be glad while you are doing it that you can do it, and do not cast an envious eye at another man's progress. Look at him only to learn something. The man who pines for other people's lives is not only silly but stupid. The world you covet was not made by discontented people, who are always looking about for something better to do. You may want to travel, to see great works of art, and beautiful cities. Do you ever realize that these things were created by people who stayed at home and did their proper tasks and did it gladly and joyfully? You have the same world to live in that other men have had, and what you do of yourself counts, and every bit of assistance which you take from another weakens you so much and makes you small in the eyes of men.—Atlanta Constitution.

Difficult to Translate.

It was the Duchess of Gordon, a clever and beautiful Scotch woman, who successfully dumfounded a pretentious dandy. He was beside her at a supper party and in order to gain her good graces, affected a liking for the Scottish tongue, declaring there was not a Scotch phrase that he did not understand. "Rax me a sprawl o' that hubbly-jock," replied the Duchess without changing a muscle of her face. The exquisite looked appalled and then slunk away in confusion, while the commission was performed by a cavalier hailing from the north of Tweed. She wanted a turkey wing.—New York Times.

THE MOST VALUABLE OF ALL FURS IS THAT OF THE SEAL OTTER.

The most valuable of all furs is that of the seal otter, for a single skin of which animal \$1100 has been paid. This seems an extremely large sum to pay for a skin not more than two yards long by three-quarters of a yard wide.

DR. KILMER'S SWAMP-ROOT CURE.

Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root cures all Kidney and Bladder troubles. Rheumatism and Constipation, free. Laboratory Binghamton, N. Y. Heavy frosts have done much damage to crops in Nebraska. There is more Catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease, and prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Science has proven catarrh to be a constitutional disease and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is the only constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally in doses from 10 drops to a teaspoonful. It acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. The only one hundred dollars for any case it fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials free. Address: F. J. CHENEY & Co., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, Etc. A Beautiful Souvenir Spoon Will be sent with every bottle of Dr. Hazzell's Geriatric Group Cure. Ordered by mail, 10¢ paid, 50¢ extra. Address: Hazzell, Buffalo, N. Y. Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25¢ a bottle. Now My Throat Hurts! Why don't you use Hale's Honey of Horehound and Tar? Pike's Toothache Drops Cure in one minute. Karl's Chloroform, the great blood purifier, gives freshness and clearness to the complexion and cures constipation, 25 cts., 50 cts., \$1.

The Testimonials

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AN ALUMINUM VIOLIN.

Before the members of the American Science Association, in Brooklyn, Dr. Alfred Springer, of Cincinnati, produced an aluminum violin, which was played by M. Scheele. It produced an enormous volume of tone, fully five times that of an ordinary wooden instrument. There were a variety of opinions as to the quality of the tone. Some musicians declared that the quality was not as good as a wooden one for solo work, but that it would prove good in orchestra work. Others took the opposite side on the question entirely.—Atlanta Constitution.

A Rather Cool Spot.

J. C. E. Barker, the well-known mineral man of Neihart, while conversing with a party of friends on the veranda of the Park Hotel the other day, told of a pretty chilly place to be found near the famous Benton group of mines at Neihart. "On the northern slope of the 'Big Baldy,' at an altitude of about 10,000 feet, Datro Creek creeps through a basin on its way to Snow Creek, and it is in that basin, an acre or more square, that the sun never shines for three months—December, January and February," said Mr. Barker. "In that basin the ground never thaws, even in the hottest summer days," he continued. "I have spent many years in the mountains, but never saw such a frigid spot before. Last year we ran a tunnel near this basin, and when fifty feet in the side of the mountain struck seams of solid ice in the formations. The ice had probably been there for centuries."—Great Falls (Wis.) Leader.