

THE SIX DUMB BELLS OF CASTLE SCHRECKENSTROHM.

BY DAVID SKAATS FOSTER.

Author of "Crisis in Oldendorf."

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SYNOPSIS.

Julius Waterbury, an American traveler in Germany, decides to pay a visit to his friends, John Jenkins, who has married a German girl of noble family and settled down in the town of Oldendorf, Prussia.

PART IV.

I looked up at this point and caught the maidens smiling at each other and giving that peculiar downward and upward twist of the head which signifies—right she is, you may depend upon it.

When I saw how this letter came, I asked I, as I handed the syllabus and golden-haired Ysolde her mistress.

"This morning, by the trolley car," she evidently meant to pay me in what she supposed to be my own coin, smiled at her nonsense, and then I asked her another question.

"You said that your paper, Count von Schreckenstroph, came here last night, after you had returned, how did he cross the river to the castle?"

"By the stone bridge, of course, you should know, as you were with him," wrote Ysolde.

"But I have been all around the island, and have seen no bridge." These words of mine seemed to produce a great deal of merriment. Some of the damsels plainly snickered, and one, the youngest of the six, whom I afterwards found was Lorelei, a blue-eyed, flaxen-haired little witch of fifteen, actually winked at her sister.

confusion of the culprit, Lorelei and Undine, who had been so long together. We then explored the castle through and through. We descended into the bottom of the deepest dungeon, we climbed over the top of the highest battlements, we climbed up into every turret, and we perched ourselves within every turret; so that there was no part of the strange and venerable pile with which I was not familiar.

"My Dear August: Once more I have had to imprison my six daughters in the Castle of Schreckenstroph; and there they shall stay until they come to their senses. You know, of course, about their peculiar infirmity. It has grown worse, naturally, to my great dismay, until I cannot bear them longer in the house with me. I am determined, therefore, that you shall see them, and you shall have your choice from the half dozen. It is not that I have any personal interest in the matter, but I shall meet you at the station with my carriage and take you immediately to the castle, where you shall see one of them, I care not which, consent to become your wife. I have never had any other proposals, and I shall expect you at six on Thursday night. Schreckenstroph."

I read this letter with emotions of mingled horror and rage. This insult to my honor, so audaciously made, and which had imprisoned his inoffensive and lovely children in this melancholy castle, treated them like maniacs, and denied to them the most elementary rights of humanity, was a thing which I could not but regard as a personal insult to me.

Shortly after we had dined we all repaired to a large and magnificent furnished parlor, where the hostess, the Countess, towered of the six bedrooms, and there I passed a most pleasant evening. It is true that the old duenna, Frau Gelskopf, and doing all the housework after we had taken possession of it, and seating herself at one end of the chamber, bolt upright and improving her position by the aid of a cushion. Here was a law in theories; the six countesses had not cooked my breakfast after all, I, however, comforted myself with the reflection that undoubtedly they might have done so had they wished.

"The salon contained, besides luxurious furniture and exquisite paintings, a number of musical instruments, such as lutes and mandolins, from which, at times, the six maidens, singly or by twos and threes, produced for my entertainment the most delightful harmonies. What a contrast to the peevish Brunhilda, with whom, I must confess, I was, even at that early stage of the proceedings, most desperately in love."

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written Mr. Shakespeare's plays, is now in the hands of the Illinois Central road as an architect, while Shakespeare himself is running a restaurant on South Hamilton street.

Clydes S. Grant is now engaged in ringing up railway nickels here, while his house pointer on the north side, Andrew Jackson has taken to preaching, to bootlegging and to writing a book, while Robert E. Lee is a porter in a hotel and also attends the Chicago university.

It may be a matter of contemporary interest, also, to note that William J. Bryan is running a grocery on Cottage Grove street, while William Mackay is clerking in the Bookers' Building, runs an engine at 44 Cosby street and lives at 19 Scott street.

True Hearts and a Few Feet-How Hydranga's Wheel Was Saved.

CHAPTER I. The mortgage was falling due. Not on the old farm, but on Hydranga McGinnis' bicycle.

CHAPTER II. "Spoke-toilus, you must save me!" It was Hydranga's voice, knotted with desperation and sorrow.

CHAPTER III. Spoke-toilus had his own bike that he was trying to pay for. Standing in his knicker in the moonlight, he wondered what he was going to do with which to save Hydranga's wheel.

CHAPTER IV. All that night Spoke-toilus thought, but he didn't think out the \$8. The morning came and opened his eyes with his rosy fingers.

CHAPTER V. Three o'clock! And in another hour Hydranga would be wheelless. Spoke-toilus' brain was in a cyclone.

CHAPTER VI. Pot a half-hour he kept up his mad pace. Then he ran into a horse hitched to a harness and came from beneath the animal's hoofs, almost a dead.

CHAPTER VII. Only ten minutes, and Hydranga's home was four miles away. Spoke-toilus rode like a demon.

CHAPTER VIII. "Dare to lay another finger on her wheel!" shouted our hero, and it shall be your last. Hydranga was at the basement door in tears.

CHAPTER IX. "I must have my \$8," the base villain roared. "Take it and go!" Spoke-toilus waved the \$100 bill in his face and the man fell in a swoon.

CHAPTER X. "Hi!" "Spoke-toilus!" The lovers met each other in a warm embrace.—New York Evening World.

Prepared to Acquiesce. She romantically—What poetry there is in life! My lady—Yes, a great deal of my poetry has gone there.—Toronto Record.

THE SPELLING MATCH. Ten little children standing in a line, "A-b-c-d-e," then there were nine.

Five months like ribbons on a red rose tree, "A-b-c-d-e," then there were four.

Three pairs of pink ears, listening cool and true, "A-b-c-d-e," then there were two.

Two sturdy ladies, ready both to run, "A-b-c-d-e," then there was one.

One head of yellow hair, bright in the sun, "A-b-c-d-e," then there was none.

MARKETS AND STOCKS

Wall Street Review. New York, Nov. 10.—The upward movement in railway and miscellaneous stocks was further prolonged today in face of heavy realizations by local professional operators and foreign houses.

Chicago Live Stock. Buffalo, N. Y., Nov. 10.—Cattle—Steady, fair cows, \$2.00 to \$2.25. Veal—Common to good, \$1.00. Hogs—Open strong, but weakened for heavy and medium grades.

Chicago Live Stock. Chicago Stock Yards, Nov. 10.—Cattle—Market firm, common to extra steers, \$3.75 to \$4.00. Stockers and feeders, \$2.75 to \$3.00.

Oil Market. Oil City, Nov. 10.—Option oil and cash oil, \$1.20. Petroleum—Common to good, \$1.20.

DUELS WITH BEER AS WEAPONS. Fought by Students at Some of the German Universities.

As is well known, the German students are fond of their beer, and they have invested the consumption of that beverage with strict laws of etiquette.

Chicago Board of Trade. WHEAT. December 1896, 80 1/2. May 1897, 81 1/2. December 1896, 80 1/2. May 1897, 81 1/2.

Scranton Board of Trade Exchange. Name, Dis Bank, Bid, Asked. Scranton Lumber Co., 100, 100.

New York Produce Market. New York, Nov. 10.—Flour—Quiet, firm and unchanged. Wheat—Spot active, stronger.

Philadelphia Provision Market. Philadelphia, Nov. 10.—Provisions are in fair jobbing demand at quoted rates.

Chicago Grain and Provision Market. Chicago, Nov. 10.—Futures ranged as follows: Wheat—November, 79 1/2.

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