

A Kenilworth Romance

BLACK AND WHITE.

THE mahogany faced old ladies near the gateway of the ruins arranged their stock of photographs and guide books as they saw, first one carriage approaching on the Coventry road, and presently a second carriage coming from the direction of Leamington. A few shining bicycles leaned in front of the hotel, and a young woman in reasonable skirts and a soft hat that seemed to have been invented by some Condit street genius for the express purpose of suiting her pretty face shaded her eyes as she stood at the hotel doorway and watched the approach of the carriage from Leamington. Each carriage was coming in a cloud of dust; for some time it was doubtful which of the two would reach the hotel first. The two coachmen, alert for anything in the form of sport, increased the speed of the horses, and the wheels entered into the spirit of the game with great earnestness. When with a clatter they pulled up at the gateway leading to the ruins the result was so much like a dead heat that neither could brag of victory.

"Arrived at last, aunt," said the young woman in reasonable skirts. "At last!" repeated her aunt sharply. "What do you mean, Norah? Surely you have only just arrived." "Been here half an hour," said the young woman cheerfully. "The road was good, and I came on very well. I wonder to me," said her aunt, stepping out carefully, "that you don't come off. Twenty years ago no girl would have dreamed of riding a bicycle. Or rather she might have dreamed of it, but she would never have—Oh, how do you do?"

The white haired, white hatted, well preserved gentleman who had stepped briskly out of the landau from Coventry lifted his hat in distant short sighted acknowledgment of the salutation. He was giving directions to his coachman, and giving them in a sharp, peremptory way, as one who was in the habit of being obeyed. "You are quite flushed, aunt dear. Is it the sun or—"

"My dear!" in a whisper, "do you know who that is? That is" here she lowered her voice impressively "Dr. Fraser."

The complexion of the young niece for a moment matched that of her aunt. It seemed odd that the mere presence of the strenuous, white-haired gentleman, just then advising his coachman not to be a fool, should have this effect.

"Seems," said the elder woman, fanning herself, "as though it was to be." "As though what was to be, aunt?" "My dear, don't ask questions." "I wish we hadn't met him," said the niece.

"Leave him to me," she stepped forward and waved her striped sunshade. "Dr. Fraser! Don't let us pretend that we have never met before." "And if you're a minute later," said Dr. Fraser fiercely. "I'll send you off, sir, confound your eyes, without a character. I beg pardon, madam."

siring her instant return, she ran back to them, whereupon Mrs. Mellish remarked that a niece was a great responsibility, which Dr. Fraser at once contradicted (this, I think, the devout Mrs. Mellish had expected), declaring that the niece was a charming young woman of whom anybody might well be proud.

"Besides," he said argumentatively, "your responsibility will not last long. She will get married soon." "You do not object to marriage, then?" "For girls," said the doctor. "Only for men? Seems rather a one-sided arrangement."

"I am speaking generally, Laura. There may be exceptions. Is she engaged?" Mrs. Mellish nodded. "If I were you, then, I should do everything to get her comfortably settled."

"That was my idea." "I wonder," he said, taking off his white hat and running his hand through his white hair, "what sort of a man she will marry?" "I have made every inquiry," said Mrs. Mellish, with her sunshade on guard, "and the results are almost entirely satisfactory."

"Almost?" "There is only one difficulty." (Sunshade off guard now and a sudden attack in the open.) "By the by, don't you sometimes wish that you had married, and that—that you had had a son?" "I don't quite understand," he said nervously. Mrs. Mellish repeated the question with great distinctness. "Why, yes," he said hesitatingly. "I do. Sometimes. But the whole, of course, it's a good thing that I've remained a bachelor. To tell the absolute truth, Laura—I've lowered his voice confidentially—I've got a bit of temper."

"But it gets more pronounced as I grow older." "I can quite believe that." "And a man who has a temper should have no other company." "Makes him feel rather crowded sometimes, I dare say, but occasionally, of course, you overcome it." "Rarely," admitted Dr. Fraser.

"They went up to the castle, where a peacock, disturbed by their approach, rose and, spreading its magnificent feathers, used language so scandalous to be printed here. Mrs. Mellish gave the doctor more than one opportunity of leaving, but it almost seemed that he enjoyed talking to her and being in her company. The subject of himself was for him evidently full of attraction.

"I have my moments of introspection," he said as they stood within the four walls and looked up at the wallflowers growing in the crevices. "And I find that nearly everything becomes accentuated as years ago. Increase of hastiness, increase of—"

"I haven't done badly in that respect, I command big fees." "That can only arrive with the years," said Mrs. Mellish, wisely. "Young men in your profession can't expect them."

niece mean by thanking me?" asked Dr. Fraser, curiously. "I've done nothing that she should—"

"Well," said Mrs. Mellish, (striking sunshade as she spoke, "you see she is rather inebriated to you because—because she is going to marry your nephew."

"Madame," said Dr. Fraser, "you are an artful and a delightful creature, and I have a good mind to tell you so."

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WHITNEY'S WEEKLY BUDGET OF NEWS

A BIG BLACKSNAKE STORY FROM LANESBORO.

Death of an Aged Resident of New Milford—Mike Gilhool's Adventure with a Wild Cat—Montrose and the Susquehanna Teachers. Railroad Matters of Interest.

Special to the Scranton Tribune. Susquehanna, Oct. 17.—Near the Canaan creek, in Lanesboro, a black snake met a water snake, on Friday. The reptiles did not immediately clinch, but hissed furiously and circled around each other, as if seeking for an opening. The water snake was much the smaller of the combatants, and he was evidently trying to transfer the battle to the stream, some twenty yards away. The black snake showed a lively anxiety to prevent this. He pressed matters, and the serpents began to strike at each other with their tails, and in a few seconds the dry land snake succeeded in getting the tail of his opponent into his mouth and to proceed to eat toward the head.

This was exactly what the water snake wanted. He started on a straight line for the stream, and his consumer following him and dining upon him simultaneously, was, of course, obliged to travel a little faster in the same direction. The water snake was a rapid mover, and the black snake a quick eater, and for a short time it seemed to be doubtful whether one reptile or two would be visible when the stream was reached. About half of the leading serpent's anatomy had been devoured, and the edge of the water was only a few feet away. When the black snake suddenly realized that a shabby trick was being played upon him at meal time, he hastily attempted to disgorge his repast, but the effort was made too late. Not more than five inches of water snake had been yielded up when both reptiles plunged into the stream and sank at once. A hundred bubbles arose, and the only spectator of the unceremonious contest is inclined to believe that the black snake's life floated to the surface in one of them.

IN A FEW LINES. John Roberts, an aged resident, died in New Milford on Friday night last. The funeral took place from the residence of a daughter of the deceased, Mrs. William Donaldson, in this place, on Monday afternoon, Rev. D. I. Sutherland, pastor of the Presbyterian church, officiating. Interment was made in the Lanesboro cemetery.

A largely attended meeting of the Susquehanna Route union of the Five States' Milk Producers' association was held on Monday in Susquehanna. A. D. Wallace, of Hackettstown, N. J., representing the American Agriculturist, made a statement and answered questions in regard to the new milk deal or contract going into effect Nov. 1.

The Erie will soon place an order for ten new passenger cars and five first class passenger locomotives. Of the one thousand box cars ordered of the Michigan City Car works, 500 have been delivered. The company will expend during this year in permanent improvements about \$2,000,000.

MIKE AND THE WILDCATS. Mike Gilhool has been working in a bluestone quarry near Halstead, and visited that place on Saturday to get some tools sharpened. Just as he was about to start back, some one told him that if he would go over a mountain ridge to let the wildcat know, but would save several miles of walking. Mike started out, but after traveling several miles the sun was almost down.

DEVELOPMENT OF OUR RAILROADS

Began Seventy-One Years Ago and Now the Amalgamation of the Civilized World.

The construction of the railway system of the United States began July 1, 1828, when Charles Carroll of Carrollton, the only surviving signer of the Declaration of Independence, broke the ground for the Baltimore and Ohio railroad. In 1835, seven years later, 1,093 miles of line were in operation in the states bordering on the Atlantic ocean. In 1849 there were 3,105 miles, as follows: New England states, 493; Middle states, 1,463; Western states, 192; Southern states, 556.

The first railroad in the state of New York was that connecting Albany and Schenectady. It was opened in 1831. In 1839 the roads in this state were as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Line Name, Miles. Includes Buffalo to Niagara Falls, Albany to Schenectady, Troy to Ballston, etc.

Philadelphia was connected with York in 1837, Boston with Albany in 1841, Albany with Lake Erie in 1842, and Philadelphia with the coal fields of Pennsylvania in 1842. But it was not till 1850 that the railroads began to exert an important influence upon the commerce of the country. The Erie canal was opened November 4, 1825. There were artificial waterways of a similar kind in other states, though not so important. They had cost a large amount of money, and were not the business of the canal owners by the commonwealths should be transferred to the railway companies owned by private individuals. Those who connected Albany with Lake Erie by rail had no thought of entering into the territory of the Erie canal. The legislature, indeed, to protect the canal, had levied canal tolls upon railroad freight, and the railroad managers accordingly expected to make their money from passenger traffic. But in 1847 the Erie was opened, and the railroads began to increase their business. In that year the miles in operation were 8,876 and the gross earnings were \$39,566,328. The discovery of gold in California stimulated railroad building to an extraordinary degree. From 1849 to 1857, 17,338 miles of track were laid, the increase being from 7,965 miles to 24,503. By 1860 the mileage was 30,635.

Present Status. Poor's Manual gives the present mileage in the United States as 136,809.63. Railroads carrying the freight traffic have a mileage of 184,894 and the following is a statement of their assets and liabilities:

Table with 2 columns: ASSETS, LIABILITIES. Includes Capital stock, Investments, Cost of R. R. and equipment, etc.

In 1898 the railroads received \$272,589,281 from passenger traffic, \$88,924,528 from freight traffic, \$108,944,697 from other sources, a total of gross earnings of \$1,249,558,724. The operating expenses were \$859,892,250, so that the net earnings were \$389,666,474. To this must be added other receipts, including rentals of \$104,526,904, making the total available revenue \$494,293,378.

The payments by the companies from this revenue were as follows: Interest on bonds \$271,133,090; Other interest \$,000,000; Dividends \$,000,000; Rentals, tolls, etc. \$2,740,145; Miscellaneous \$,000,000.

It appears, therefore, that the surplus at the end of the year was \$22,442,238. This is more than double the surplus at the end of 1897, more than five times the surplus at the end of 1896, and more than ten times the surplus at the end of 1895, while in 1894 there was a deficit of \$10,770,475.

JONAS LONG'S SONS. Ask for a New Idea Pattern Sheet. We're in the Pattern Business Now. Best Kind, of Course.

Shoes

We give emphasis to our shoe news today—because the shoes are worth it. We want you to look into this shoe business here—it will mean a decided saving to you on every pair you buy. Today we tell you of the better sorts—shoes for dress and street wear. We know that in no other store can you find equal values for the same money—yes, for a third more money. Pretty strong conviction that you'll do best to buy here.

Our \$3.00 Shoes for Women.

Women's Fine Kid Button and Lace Shoes made up in every new toe shape, in both heavy soles with patent tips and tips of self, with light flexible soles. Nothing but the best used in these shoes, pure oak sole leather. Positively superior to any shoe ever sold at its price. All sizes and widths.

Our \$2.20 Shoes for Women.

It is seldom that one finds the assortment we show in our line at above prices. In it you can supply every shoe idea. A partial list of the many we carry are as follows: Heavy sole, Soolma kid, button and lace with tip of self. Box calf lace with stout soles, waterproof. Dress kid button with queen cloth tops and patent tips. Large ankle button, with BROAD TREAD. Common sense button, and Soolma kid button and lace, flexible soles.

Our \$3.00 Shoes for Men.

Positively no better shoe can be bought at the price. Hand-sewed welts, oak soles, kangaroo tops, every new toe shape, heavy and light soles. Among the leathers are: Patent calf, Box calf, Titan calf, Russet Storm calf, Wax calf and Dongola kid, value \$4.00.

Shoes for Children.

Misses' and Children's Orthopedic Lace and Button Shoes, made with the wide ball, perfectly fitting the little ones' feet, as nature intended. Sizes 5 to 8 1/2, 8 1/2 to 10 1/2, 10 1/2 to 12, \$2.

Jonas Long's Sons

Advertisement for Wonder Flour. Includes image of a woman with a flour bag and text: 'MUST HAVE IT', 'The flour your grocer likes to sell, because it satisfies customers.', 'BEST BREAD FLOUR IN AMERICA', 'DON'T TAKE OUR WORD FOR IT, TRY IT!', 'Flour makes light, white and delicious bread. J. L. CONNELL & CO., Sole Millers' Agents.'

Advertisement for Third National Bank of Scranton. Includes text: 'THIRD NATIONAL BANK OF SCRANTON. DEPOSITORY OF THE UNITED STATES. CAPITAL \$200,000 SURPLUS 425,000. WM. CONNELL, President. HENRY BELIN, Jr., Vice-Pres. WILLIAM H. PI-K, Cashier.'

Advertisement for Easelfel shoes. Includes image of a shoe and text: 'Easelfel IS THE PERFECT SHOE FOR WOMEN. \$4.00. Lewis, Kelly & Davies, 114-116 Wyoming Ave.'

Advertisement for A Sick Old Wick Headlight Water White Oil. Includes image of a wick and text: 'A Sick Old Wick. Can't be blamed for not giving effective service in the lamp. Headlight Water White Oil. There'll be healthier wicks and brighter flames, less soot with less lamp and more comfort from the light. Try it and see. ATLANTIC REFINING CO.'

Advertisement for Bismarck's Misanthropy. Includes text: 'BISMARCK'S MISANTHROPY. Why the Prince Held Mankind Generally in Bitter Contempt. Berlin Letter to the London Standard. Herr Rudolph Lindau, one of Prince Bismarck's most trusted subordinates, who has for many years been chief of the press department of the foreign office, has just published a very interesting article about Bismarck, for which he has been collecting material since he entered the foreign office in 1878. I quote his remark on Prince Bismarck's contempt of mankind: "The begging letters addressed to a man like Prince Bismarck number thousands. Some time ago, when he was ill at Vauxin, all the letters addressed to him that were not of a strictly private nature were sent back to Berlin to be read and answered there. The majority of them contained "most obedient" requests, but hardly one of the writers had any claim on the prince. One of the officials who was it to read those letters—an orderly man and evidently a lover of statistics—amused himself by drawing up a list of all the petitions for money. The total amount of the sums begged for was 10,000,000 marks. The prince did not laugh when this was told to him, but shrugged his shoulders and put on a look of bitter contempt. On the other hand, it is natural that quiet, decent, self-respecting people, who ask nothing of him and do not wish to trouble him with their private affairs, never come into contact with him unless they stand in some official relation to him or have real business to transact with him. So it is quite natural that he sees a great deal of the low side of human nature, and it is hardly surprising that he is said to have become skeptical, and even misanthropic. Prince Bismarck is certainly well aware that there are many very honorable people in the world, but experience has taught him that it is his ill-luck to have intercourse with a comparatively small number of them. He clings firmly to the few men and women he trusts because he knows them to be his true friends; but he is suspicious of strangers. His first thought when he sees a new face naturally be: "Well, what does the man want of me?" This explains why he is generally feared, though his intimate friends warmly testify to his friendliness and amiability.'