

The Story of a Love Story

HELLO, Mr. Writer-man. "Hello, Editor."

"What have you got for us today?" "My opinion in the case."

"The other day you remembered that I had received a story that was so bad that it was good, and that you were half inclined to print it as a sample of the stuff you receive daily and are actually expected to publish."

"Well, I've embodied my opinion in a story. Here it is." "The red-faced man with the yellow mustache and blue eyes put a tanned hand into an inner pocket, drew out a manuscript and handed it to the elegantly groomed Harvard man at the desk."

"Read it," he said. "Manfield settled himself comfortably and read. 'THE STORY OF A LOVE STORY.'"

"Once upon a time there was a brilliant editor of a famous magazine; there was also a writer-man who the editor liked and whose stories he hated to reject; but the safety of the magazine demanded it. It happened one day that the editor was surprised about a matter and he called the writer-man to help him out."

"Briggs," said he, "I have a story that is so bad that it is good. It is a splendid specimen of the 'rot' that is sent us. I want to use it as a sample of the sort of thing we get—the kind we are expected to publish—it's a love story."

"Has it no uplifting cynicism to redeem it?" asked Briggs, satirically. "No, for it's sheer flubdub, balderdash, food for food, a man with a face like 'Who wrote it?' Some foolish old woman I suppose."

"The editor knitted his brows. 'No,' he replied, 'a young woman wrote it—a school teacher.'"

"Young, beautiful and a school teacher," repeated Briggs. "Let me see the story. Ah, it has two good traits—it's beautifully typewritten and it smells of roses." After a few minutes he handed the story back with a weary smile. He pondered a moment, then his face brightened.

first afternoon of his stay in that city brought him a brief note, which bore the official mark of a hospital, was signed by one of the doctors, and marked "private." It ran:

Dear Mr. Hamilton: We have here a most curious case of melancholy of slow heart. The case is that of a young woman. A most interesting feature of the affair is that the patient was thrown into the greatest excitement by the reading of your name in the "hotel articles" in this morning's paper. Perhaps you will be interested to see her, although I've no doubt her trouble is a mere hallucination. Yours truly, Spence, M. D.

Two hours later the young doctor received Hamilton's card. The men shook hands, and then, without any preliminaries, Hamilton said: "Dr. Sprague, I want to see the young woman who showed such alarm at the mention of my name."

"Nothing easier, sir," replied the doctor, taking his visitor's measure with a glance. "I'll show you to it, as I said, a mere hallucination. I suspect she will have forgotten you by this time." Then, leading the way to a room at the corner of the room, he drew aside a curtain and said quietly: "Miss Marguerite."

"Come in," said the girl in a low, musical voice and marked Southern accent. A mellow "half light" filled the apartment. "I've a visitor."

"The splendid Harvard man stood at the doctor's side and slightly to the rear. From his eyes there shone a great compassion. "This is Mr. Hamilton," a cry of alarm came from the pillows.

Hamilton approached the bed. "Won't you tell me why my name alarms you?" he asked tenderly. She looked at him for what seemed an interminable period, then she said, half to herself: "I don't know a man with a face like that do such a thing?"

"At this the doctor would have withdrawn but Hamilton, with a motion of the hand, detained him. "Do what?" Hamilton asked. "I heard you say, doctor, the girl went on to a hallucination; but here—read this!" She fumbled under her pillow, drew out a sealed envelope and handed it to Hamilton. "I didn't intend that it should be opened until my death, but I think you, of all men, should see it."

Hamilton broke the seal and read. The doctor watched him, saw a look of the keenest pain come over him. The contents of the envelope had fallen from Hamilton's hand. They were a sketch of her life, and telling him she came to write the story. I wish the letter was longer—I'd publish it instead of the other. It's intensely interesting. It seems she has suffered the same as the rest of us. She also sent her photograph; here it is. Imagine that face associated with such rot. It seems a sacrilege."

"Horrible," commented Briggs solemnly. "She lives in B-wille, Texas," continued the editor. "How shall you arrange with her?" asked Briggs. "You must, of course, give your reason for publishing the story. I shouldn't feel greatly flattered if you were to use any of my stuff for such a scheme as that. It's brutal."

"There isn't any ending to it," answered the writer-man. "But it hasn't any ending to it." "It has a very logical ending."

"But you didn't give that brut Hamilton a chance to do anything for the girl—to make amends." "There wouldn't be any moral to it if I did," replied Webb. "And I'm afraid the readers would be dissatisfied with the way it ends," continued Manfield.

After a pause the writer-man said: "What are you going to do with it?" "I'll give you a hundred dollars for it, but I shan't publish it the way it ends—or, rather, doesn't end."

"What good is it to you then?" "My dear boy, you have saved me from doing a mean thing, a low down, mean thing. I couldn't find it my heart to use the dollars as a bribe in the way I intended. Just think, it might have broken her heart. Thank heavens, man, you have saved her and me."

He pressed the button. "Ask the cashier to make a check for Mr. Webb for \$100," he said to the boy who appeared in response to the summons. When the check was brought in Webb folded it carefully and put it in his pocket. "Come to lunch with me," he said.

The brilliant editor rose and put on his hat. At that moment the boy appeared with a card. The editor read it: "Serenia Jencks, Galveston." He handed the card to the writer-man, then turned to the boy. "Show the lady in. Stay where you are, Webb," he added. "A good check to see the girl."

Webb chuckled. A tall, slender girl appeared. She had large brown eyes and red lips. Her hands were not small, but were well gloved, and she dressed in good style—not New York style. She held out her hand freely to the editor, and he shook it heartily and then presented Webb. "I am just off on the steamer," explained Miss Jencks in an offensive way, "and the first thing I did was to call to learn the fate of my story."

"There was a freshness and innocence about the young woman that amused the editor. After a few minutes' general conversation, she said: "Now tell me all about my story—are you going to print it?" "The editor blushed, reflected a minute, then said: "It is an amusing story, but to be candid, it is hardly up to our standards."

"In other words," she interrupted, "it isn't good enough." "Well, if you like to put it that way—yes." Miss Jencks leaned both of her dainty elbows on the table, and looked the editor straight in the eyes for a moment. "Well, then, is it bad enough?"

The editor and writer-man exchanged quick and significant glances. Here was an opportunity the Harvard man had not looked for. "I don't know," he said, "perhaps if I were to put our friend, Webb here to revise it, he might make it bad enough."

"Well, then, what will you pay me if I let you publish it as an awful example?" "One hundred dollars." "It's yours."

amounts to \$4,000,000, the interest on taxes overdue, which amounts to three-quarters of a million dollars, and much more in the way of licenses. For instance, the cost of the maintenance of the office of the county clerk is \$95,000 in New York county for 1901; for the county clerk of Kings, \$45,000; Queens, \$11,500, and Richmond, \$4,500 (total of \$156,000, but about one-third of this or \$52,000, comes back into the city treasury in the form of fees collected. It is the same with the sheriff's office and with the office of register. For the latter, \$185,000 is appropriated in New York county next year and \$75,000 at Kings, a total of \$260,000. The sheriff's fee paid to the city treasury amount to about \$75,000.

HUNTING DOWN THE EXPENSE. The net expense to the city as shown by the budget after deducting the items of the general fund is, therefore, \$85,000,000, but this is subject to other and important reductions which bring down the cost of the city government very considerably. Included in the budget this year, as usual, is the item "redemption of the city debt."

Every year certain bonds, issued not for current expenses, but for property acquired for the city, are redeemed. The city needs for current expenses is raised from taxes. When the city acquires property for public buildings, armories, courts, prisons, aqueduct purposes, parks or markets, bonds are acquired and the principal is provided for by the expiration of the bonds. Such payments next year is \$3,902,857, and this item is, properly speaking, no charge upon the city of New York for administration, but is an investment for property acquired by the city.

Now the cost of the city government, the city administration, brings down the latter to \$55,000,000. There is a further item of \$5,200,000 to be raised by taxation next year for school house and water main purposes and sundry other items of the city administration. This brings down the latter to \$50,000,000. There is a further item of \$5,200,000 to be raised by taxation next year for school house and water main purposes and sundry other items of the city administration. This brings down the latter to \$50,000,000.

ACTUAL COST \$55,000,000. New York county contributes to the expenses of the state government \$1,400,000 this year. The county contributes for like purposes \$400,000. Queens \$25,000 and Richmond \$31,000, a total of \$2,000,000. This sum is raised on the basis of valuations which are fixed finally by a state board and are imposed as part of the state's levy for the maintenance of the state administration of municipal affairs. In addition to this item there is another, almost as large, which does not legitimately belong among municipal expenses. It is the tax imposed by the city of New York upon each of the counties for the maintenance of the central system of New York, of which New York city and its neighborhood are the chief beneficiaries commercially.

Since canals were made free of tolls they are no longer self-supporting and their cost is provided for by taxation, toward which New York county contributes this year \$1,400,000, Kings \$250,000, Queens \$500,000 and Richmond \$25,000, a total of \$2,075,000, which, with the local taxes raised for state expenses, make up a total of \$2,500,000.

With these deductions, the actual expenditures of the city government are brought down to \$55,000,000 a year, and this is subject to the further deduction of \$10,480,000 for the payment of interest upon the city bonds and facilities. These bonds were for the most part issued under previous administrations, but whenever issued the city credit and the city property are pledged to meet the interest as it accrues. The net city budget comes down, therefore, to \$55,000,000, instead of \$100,000,000 as accepted in the bills for comparison with the expenditures of other cities and countries.

Of this sum, \$18,500,000 is expended for education; \$12,000,000, approximately, for the police department; \$5,000,000 for the fire department; \$5,000,000 for the street cleaning department, and \$1,500,000 for the judiciary. The balance is distributed among the minor city departments and a considerable reduction in the expenses of these is not considered improbable by those who have studied and dispassionately the affairs of the city government.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO. Comparison of Comforts and Conveniences with Those of Today. Walter Wellman in Collier's Weekly. These of our forefathers who attended to the business of the nation at this capital a hundred years ago had rather a hard time of it. In the first place, their journeys hither were long and arduous, requiring three days to come from New York alone by stage coach. Arriving here they found but indifferent inn, stuffy rooms, candle-lighting halls. Getting to and from the Capitol building was a serious business, on account of the distance and the mud. It occurs to me that we who live in the first years of the twentieth century may count ourselves lucky dogs in comparison with the poor fellows who were compelled to worry along in the benighted days of the first part of its predecessor. The richest man of those times could not with all his fortune command the glorious privilege of riding to the national state house in a swiftly moving, brilliantly lighted street car, far six-for-a-quarter. He could not telephone home and tell what he wanted for dinner and what time he would be there to eat it; and I remember hearing the late Kate Chase Sprague (beautiful woman in her day) tell how her father, the great chief justice, used to go to one of the windows of the senate wing and put a flag out so that she, watching for it through a telescope at their country house a mile or two away, might know that he was coming home to dine. Our ancestor knew a lot about the Constitution, but he could not for love or money get a morning bath in a warmed and tiled bathroom fitted with a porcelain tub, as most of the humdrum of us can do now. He had to take his dip in the horse-trough or the creek, or go without. If there had been among those founders of the republic one as rich as Croesus and Rockefeller combined, he could not have commanded

ABSOLUTE PROOF.



DR. HAND'S CONDENSED MILK

with Phosphates and Hypophosphites Added

THIS BRAND OF CONDENSED MILK is the result of Dr. Hand's thirty-six years of study and practice of medicine, more than one-half of which has been devoted to the treatment of children. Dr. Hand is the originator of the Dr. Hand Remedies for Children. In his practice the doctor has found that among the majority of children, poor teeth, soft bones, lack of nerve force and vivacity of spirit are entirely due to a scarcity in their diet of those elements which aid in building up the entire system. These elements are: the phosphates of lime and soda, which build up the bones and teeth; the hypophosphites of potassium and manganese, which nourish the nerves and brain, and enrich the blood by increasing the number of its red corpuscles.

The doctor, for years, has made a special study of foods and their effects, so that today we are prepared to offer in this milk the most perfect semi-solid food yet discovered.

In proof of our claim that Dr. Hand's Condensed Milk with Phosphates and Hypophosphites added is the MOST PERFECT FOOD FOR BABIES, we here-which, undoubtedly, substantiate our claim more forcibly than anything we ourselves might say:

Binghamton, N. Y., Sept. 18, 1900. The Dr. Hand Condensed Milk Co. Gentlemen—After a disappointing trial of nearly all the various so-called baby foods for our boy, by accident we learned of Dr. Hand's Phosphated Condensed Milk, and there are no words in the English language that can express its praise high enough. It has the necessary property which the other so-called baby foods lack, and I consider it the only perfect baby food on the market today, that will change a puny, sickly baby to a strong, healthy child. DR. C. S. DECKER.

40-42 Wyoming avenue, Kingston, Pa., Dec. 7, 1900. Dr. D. B. Hand. I have this day mailed photo of the baby you and I had a talk about by 'phone last July. Baby was born May 7th and nearly died three times before July 25th at which time we began to feed him your milk. July 25th he weighed 8 pounds; December 1st, weight 21 1/2 pounds. Your milk did it. M. B. GARNEY.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Jan. 3, 1901. Dr. Hand Condensed Milk Co., Scranton, Pa. Gentlemen: I wish to say that I have used your Phosphated and Hypophosphated milk with our infant, when we thought that no power could save him, his stomach being too weak to take any nourishment whatever, had grown so feeble that we expected the end every moment. By chance we tried your milk, and now take pleasure in recommending it to the public. Our child is now a strong, fat, lusty baby, and we consider that your Phosphated and Hypophosphated milk saved our baby's life. (Signed) I. D. MARVEL, 81 South Main Street, Scranton, Pa.

909 Olive St., Scranton, Pa. D. B. Hand, M. D. Dear Sir:—For about eight months before my baby was born I was so afflicted with dyspepsia that Dr. Hand's Condensed Milk was about the only food I could retain on my stomach, and I practically lived on it during this period. When baby was born I tried to nurse her, but after two weeks I was obliged to wean her and at once began to feed the milk, which is still her only food. I can speak of this milk only in the highest terms. MRS. GEO. W. FINN, 325 Spruce Street, Scranton, Pa., Aug. 16, 1900. To Whom It May Concern: Our little boy arrived May 27, making his age at this writing two months and nineteen days. The child weighed 5 1/2 lbs. at birth and seemed to thrive on a prepared food recommended by the attending physician and nurse, weighing 7 1/2 lbs. on June 27, when a month old. HAV-

phated and Hypophosphated milk saved our baby's life. (Signed) I. D. MARVEL, 81 South Main Street, Scranton, Pa.

Binghamton, N. Y., Nov. 20, 1900. Dr. D. B. Hand, Scranton, Pa. Dear Sir:—I wish to drop you a few lines to let you know how baby has done on your milk. After trying a number of other baby foods, of which none seemed to agree with her and she was falling all the time, I placed her on your milk, November 1, 1900, and she has almost doubled in weight since, and is as good as any baby can be. I am, yours, THOMAS BEATT.

Binghamton, N. Y., Nov. 20, 1900. Dr. D. B. Hand, Scranton, Pa. Dear Sir: After using Dr. Hand's Condensed Milk, I consider it one of the best if not the best brand of condensed milk to be found on the market. Yours very truly, DR. C. W. CARPENTER, 41 Main Street, Binghamton, N. Y., Nov. 2, 1900. Dr. D. B. Hand. Dear Sir: I have given your milk a good trial and find it the most palatable and highly nutritious preparations I have ever used. Yours very truly, J. M. MICHAEL, M. D.

That every one of the above testimonials are genuine can be ascertained by correspondence with the persons whose names are signed.

SUPERIOR TO OTHER BRANDS OF CONDENSED MILK FOR FAMILY USE. THE DR. HAND CONDENSED MILK CO. SCRANTON, PA.

\$500 REWARD

We will pay the above reward for any case of Liver Complaint, Dyspepsia, Sick Headache, Indigestion, Constipation or Costiveness we cannot cure with Liverita, the Up-To-Date Little Liver Pill, when the directions are strictly complied with. They are purely Vegetable, and never fail to give satisfaction. 25c boxes contain 100 Pills, 10c boxes contain 40 Pills, 5c boxes contain 15 Pills. Beware of substitutions and imitations. Sent by mail. Stamps taken. Nervita Medical Co., Corner Clinton and Jackson Streets, Chicago, Ill.

Sold by McGarrah & Thomas, Druggists, 209 Lackawanna Avenue, Scranton, Pa.

such a newspaper as we may all buy nowadays for a copper or two, nor a library such as we all have access to (fit for emperors and literally inclined gods), nor illustrated papers and monthly magazines for a dime a copy, nor steam or hot-water heated apartment, nor a parlor car at fifty miles the hour, nor ten thousand other conveniences, comforts and luxuries of life now so common as to be denominated necessities. To my mind the crowning achievement of the century, and one which most of our centennial commentators have overlooked, is this raising of the standard of comfort so that the masses now enjoy things which the richest could barely dream of a hundred years ago.

A MILKING MACHINE. Glasgow Firm Wants to Exhibit One at the Pan-American. It has been generally believed by those engaged in dairying that cow-

Jolly Jack Tar.

"Jolly" is the word generally associated with the jack tar. He is the picture of health, and the health bubbles over in mirth and merriment when people are sick, especially when the sickness attacks the lungs the doctor often advises a sea voyage. But in the large majority of cases the sea voyage is impossible, that Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery comes as the greatest earthly boon. The effect of this medicine upon those whose lungs are "weak" is remarkable. Even where there is bronchitis, spitting of blood, emaciation, weakness, conditions which if unchecked or unskillfully treated lead to consumption, "Golden Medical Discovery" in ninety-eight cases out of a hundred cures a perfect and permanent cure. It strengthens the stomach and other organs of digestion and nutrition, so that the body in all its parts is not merely fed but nourished. And it is by nourishment that Nature builds up the body to resist or throw off disease.

"I had a terrible cough something over a year ago and could find nothing to stop it, or even to do me a particle of good," writes J. M. Farr, 106, of Cameron, Scranton, Pa. "I chanced to see an advertisement of yours, and forthwith bought a bottle of your invaluable 'Golden Medical Discovery' and I had taken half a bottle when I was entirely well."

Dr. Pierce's Pellets cure constipation.

