

Stage Struck.

Our Addie was stage struck. I will remember the stroke it gave me when I found that instead of going to sleep after I had her good night she was sitting up studying play books.

"If you would only fall in love," I said with a sigh, "your ambition to shine in the drama would disappear, but she snuffed at the idea and said she was created for higher things than to be any man's drudge.

One day I met my friend Smith, who had been in California so many years. I invited him home to dinner, though I knew he would never prove an antidote for Addie's ambition.

Nothing could be more gracefully cordial than Addie's reception of her unexpected guest, and nothing prettier than her manner of presiding at the dinner table. She was lovely in her white dress, with a cluster of ruschias dropping from her hair and another from the pin that fastened her collar.

"No sir," I haven't tasted whiskey for many a long day, sir, and there was a conscious pride in the voice.

"That may be of some assistance to you," he said kindly, "and I would like to ask if you can explain what this peculiar feat is your speak of."

"Thank you for the money," he murmured gratefully, pressing it to his lips. "I have always kept my secret, but now I shall divulge it for the first time, because you, I am sure, can sympathize with me.

"Knowing her talent I rather wondered that she never read for him. It was very strange, too, that she never mentioned the stage before him, when her mind was so full of it.

"By the way, Addie, why don't you recite for me? I know he would like to hear you."

She blushed, hesitated a moment, and then commenced "Maud Muller." I never heard it more exquisitely rendered. Dick begged for more.

"Give me something more stirring this time," said I, a little wickedly, I am afraid. "Lady Macbeth," for instance.

"Please don't, Charley," she said, "I am not a Nonconformist, I persisted. "You must accustom yourself speaking in public if you expect to succeed on the stage."

"On the stage?" exclaimed Dick. "Yes, it is possible that when you and Addie are such good friends she has never told you of her pet plans?"

"Charley" came benching from poor little Addie, but I mercifully contented.

"Yes, she is going to be an actress. I have done all I could to persuade her to give up the idea, but in vain. She is determined to devote her life to the profession."

"But you, dear, with such pure, true and womanly instincts, how can you recollect yourself to the prospect of a stage life?" said Dick earnestly, with his finger in his big gray eyes as he turned them upon my little sister.

"I cannot," she answered, impetuously. "I don't see how I ever fancied I should like it. I would be sooner than go through 'The Lady of Lyons' or 'Roméo and Juliet' with a man I did not care about."

"Well—well—well!" I exclaimed, "this sudden change of opinion is rather astonishing, though I am exceedingly glad to hear it. But I shall expect next to hear you extract your vows against matrimony and confess yourself capable of falling in love."

"Charley, I never knew you to be so cruel," said poor Addie, with her face all aghast and the tears starting to her eyes. She flew out of the room, and without a word, Dick got up and followed her into the garden, leaving me, as you may imagine, in rather a dazed condition, wondering if the man lived on the face of the earth capable of understanding a woman—

A Fearful Fear.

He stuck his head through the alley gate of a house on St. Antoine Street and peeped cautiously around. Then he came in and met the man of the house, rising up from behind a gooseberry bush.

"I didn't know you were here," I said with a sigh, "your ambition to shine in the drama would disappear, but she snuffed at the idea and said she was created for higher things than to be any man's drudge.

"What do you want?" "Work, sir," answered the visitor very humbly, but with confidence.

"Shovelling snow, I suppose, or sawing ice, or mending shingles, or repairing sled runners, or firing a furnace or something of that sort?" was that sarcastic half query.

"Your sarcasm is uncalled for, sir," remarked the visitor sadly. "I am honored in my search, sir, but I am haunted by a strange fear that follows me everywhere.

"Got 'em again, perhaps," suggested the man, with an ironical smile.

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District Institute Programme.

The district Institute, comprising the districts of Middlesex, Upper Turkeyfoot and Caselman, will convene at New Lexington on October 31, 1903, at ten o'clock a. m. The following is the programme:

Object and value of district institutes. W. F. Sanner. Essay, Ella Kieher. "The relation of parents to teacher and teacher to parents." A. J. Semberow.

"The teacher outside the schoolroom." L. S. Snyder. "Regular attendance—how secured—the benefits arising therefrom." F. E. Tomkin.

Recitation, Julia Kimmell. "How shall we secure uniformity of credit grading in different schools, in following the course of study?" C. R. Philipp.

Talks by directors and citizens. AFTERNOON SESSION—1:30 P. M. "The adaptation of the graded system to our common schools." W. H. H. Baker.

"Methods of conducting geography recitations." W. A. Lire. "To what extent is the teacher responsible for the morality of his pupils?" A. S. Snyder.

Recitation, Clara Pile. "Use of the tablet in primary work." Louis Moore. Co-operation of directors—how secured—the benefits arising therefrom." I. S. Pile.

Recitation, E. E. Barclay. Primary reading, W. H. Putnam. Recitation, Hattie Moore. School recitation, A. W. Snyder. School-room hygiene, Dr. H. D. Moore. All friends of education are invited to attend.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS. The special announcement which appeared in our columns some time since, announcing a special arrangement with Dr. J. Kendall Co., of Keshonburg Falls, Va., publishers of "A Treatise on the Horse and his Diseases," whereby our subscribers were enabled to obtain a copy of that valuable work free by sending their address to J. Kendall Co., (and enclosing a two-cent stamp for mailing same) is renewed for a limited period. We trust all will avail themselves of the opportunity of obtaining this valuable work to every lover of the Horse it is indispensable, as it treats in a simple manner all the diseases which afflict this noble animal. Its pharmaceutical sale throughout the United States and Canada, makes it standard authority. Mention this paper when sending for "Treatise."

Superstitious Signs. Two well-known and energetic Detroit merchants, who though rivals in business are good friends and are fond of each other's society, were coming down town one morning and the conversation turned upon popular superstitions, when one of them stepped off the sidewalk to avoid passing under a ladder.

"What did you do that for?" he asked. "I don't know, exactly," was the retort. "The other one, who walked right along under it."

"I suppose so." "Well," banteringly, "I'm not that kind. I don't believe in signs and what they express."

"No kind?" with a faint smile. "Nary a sign," with confidence. "Why you say that?" "Because I think so, that's why, and so would any other man who read that great big sign you've got over your store, inscribed, 'The Best Goods in Town for the Least Money.'"

"Oh!" laughed the other one, and he took him in behind the first. Indian they met and gave him a fine cigar as a brain tonic.—Detroit Free Press.

They Couldn't Stop. The Friday afternoon rehearsals of the Symphony orchestra, as is well known, are attended by a great concourse of women.

One afternoon the doors had just been opened, and there was a grand rush up the stairs for the reserved seats in the second balcony. In the crush one woman seized some of her fine feathers in the shape of an overskirt.

The assistant manager held it up and cried, "Here, ma'am!" She turned and looked, but music and a good deal of charms. "Keep it for me," she said, and hurried on up the stairs.—Boston Globe.

Extreme Age. "How is your father coming on?" asked Col. Percy Yerger of a darkey he used to know before the war. "He's an dead." "Dead, is he? He must have reached an advanced age." "He did, for a fact. He was libin' up to berry day of his deef."

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