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OUR FLAG



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TO HELP PRESERVE THE IDEALS AND SACRED TRADITIONS OF THIS, OUR ADOPTED COUNTRY, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; TO REVERE ITS LAWS AND INSPIRE OTHERS TO OBEY THEM; TO STRIVE UNCEASINGLY TO QUICKEN THE PUBLIC'S SENSE OF CIVIC DUTY; IN ALL WAYS TO AID IN MAKING THIS COUNTRY GREATER AND BETTER THAN WE FOUND IT.

Mr. Willmarth

By PAULINE D. EDWARDS

As a girl I had not many cronies. I did not care for this girl and that girl each for a brief season, but preferred one very intimate friend, such a friend as I might tell all my joys or sorrows to and who would respond in kind. To others I was reserved. I would not think of making a confidante of any but the closest intimate friend. Possibly this may have resulted in my having such a friend who superseded all others in the matter of intimacy.

Alice Wetherell and I were first schoolmates, then college chums. After our graduation we were separated for a year, then we were brought together again. I found on our reunion that Alice was engaged. She received me with the same old affection, but the idea at once took possession of me that although I was her girl chum I had been reduced from a first to a second place in her heart.

I was not long in communicating this idea to Alice. Instead of denying its correctness, she seemed thoughtful, but indisposed to talk about it. When I asked her if either her lover or I must be lost to her which would she relinquish, she admitted that she would give me up for him.

"You shall meet him, Gwen," she said to me, "and when you have become acquainted with him I am sure you will admit that were you and I to change places you would give me up instead of him in case you must lose one or the other."

"Why, Alice," I remonstrated, "how could I do that without being in love with him?"

"Never mind that," was her reply, and this was all I could get out of her on the subject.

Alice not only introduced me to her fiance, Robert Willmarth, but left me alone with him a great deal. The first time I met him it did not seem to me that there would ever be anything in common between him and me. He was a serious man, while I preferred one of lighter vein. He was steady as the rock of Gibraltar. My beau ideal of a companion was a man of mirth.

The second time I saw Mr. Willmarth he appeared very different to me. His gravity had given place to levity, but a levity behind which seemed to lurk something, the exact nature of which he did not care to reveal. At our first meeting Alice was present most of the time. At our second, he called upon me without her. While in the first instance I dreaded to have Alice leave

me alone with him, lest I would not know how to entertain him in the second we were in complete rapport.

I asked him what had occasioned the change in him. He laughingly declared that the presence of his fiancee while he was with any other woman threw him on his beam ends, as he expressed it. If any one else had said this I would have taken warning, but he said it jocosely, and not as if he were endeavoring to establish a relation with me in opposition to Alice.

Nevertheless, I noticed that whenever Alice was present at our meeting he was the same reserved man he had been when I first met him, and we were as far distant from each other as ever. Certainly Alice had been mistaken in saying that if I knew him and had to choose between her and him, I would choose him. Not that there was any repulsion between us; it was simply that there was nothing to draw us together.

Alice told me one day that she was obliged to go away for awhile and charged me to "take care," as she expressed it, of her fiance. "I rely upon you," she added, "to see to it that no designing girl gets him away from me."

Now, I do not like this a bit, for, as I have said, Mr. Willmarth when free from her presence was very attractive to me, and I did not consider myself a very safe person for her to leave him with. Not that I believed myself capable of taking him away from her, but I did not relish the temptation. However, I promised her that I would do my best for her interest, and with that she left me, apparently perfectly satisfied that I would keep my word.

When Alice returned I dreaded to meet her. Mr. Willmarth had not scrupled to make love to me, and I had not the strength to break away from him. While my conscience stung me, his did not seem to trouble him at all. There was ever present with him that devil-may-care bearing, a disposition to consider the matter as something amusing, which he had shown from the first. On the evening before Alice's return I was with him and, noticing his freedom from consciousness of guilt, an idea occurred to me.

"I believe," I said to him, "that this is a conspiracy between you and Alice to prove what she once said to me—that if I were called upon to choose between you and her I would choose you."

He burst into a laugh, and I was sure I had guessed right, though he denied my hypothesis in toto.

"I will admit," he said, "that a game has been played. Alice will be with us tomorrow, and she will explain."

The next evening Mr. Willmarth called and was followed by Alice and himself. There were two Willmarths, twin brothers, Bob and Alec. Alice's fiance was Bob.

"Gwen," said Alice, "if you had to

love me or Mr. Willmarth, which would you give up?"

"Both," I replied, "for perpetrating on me such a deception."

We had a double wedding.

Funston's Nickname.

General Frederick Funston was a member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity at the University of Kansas. The general's fraternity brothers at Kansas knew him as "Timmy." This nickname came about through the poor writing of the fraternity member who sent in the names of the pledges the year Funston became a Phi Delt. The name was printed "Timston" in the Phi Delta Theta magazine, and in the form of "Timmy" stuck to the stocky, cocky collegian throughout his college career.—Kansas City Star.

Your Own Career.

"You may be whatever you resolve to be." That was the motto of Stonewall Jackson, who died a lieutenant general at thirty-nine. The meteoric soldier found that sticking everlastingly at it was what put the solve in resolve. Stonewall's maxim means that you can do what you try to do if you try hard enough. Mr. Favre found that out forty years ago when against obstacles supreme and penalties of \$1,000 a day for failure he pierced the St. Gothard tunnel through the Alps. That stupendous work cost eight times the original estimates of ten millions, but it was done, and done to the everlasting glory of human pluck.—Girard in Philadelphia Ledger.

First Calculating Machine.

The first calculating machine was invented and constructed by Blaise Pascal, a Frenchman, in 1642, in which year he was but nineteen years of age. It was made by him with the aid of one workman and was presented to the chancellor of France. During the revolution it was found in a junk shop at Bordeaux and at present is the property of M. Bougoun of that city. All of the four simple mathematical operations can be made with it.

Illiteracy among American Indians has been found to be least in Kansas, where it is 18.7 per cent. It is greatest in Utah.

What's in a Name?

Turkish cigarettes come from Virginia.

French china comes from Ohio.

Persian rugs come from Massachusetts.

Russian caviare comes from Michigan.

English herring come from Oregon.

Norwegian sardines come from Maine.

Havana tobacco comes from Kentucky.

Irish linen comes from New York.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

OUR TURN OF SERVICE.

There is so much to be set right in the world, there are so many weaklings or unfortunates to be led and helped and comforted, that we must continually come in contact with such in our daily life. Let us take care that we do not miss our turn of service.—Elizabeth Charles.

Queer Nest of the Tontobane.

The oddest of all birds' nests is the one built by the tontobane, a South African songster. It is built of cotton and always upon the tree producing the material. In constructing the domicile the female works inside and the male outside, where he builds a sentinel box for his own special use. He sits in the box and keeps watch or sings nearly all the time, and when danger comes in the form of a hawk or a snake he warns the family, but never enters the main nest.

Some Climate!

It is a natural law in California, especially in the southern part of the state, that folks grow young instead of old. Every time a rose fades in this sweet land its color finds its way into the cheeks of some visitor from the east who has come here to seek the health which only a climate like this can give.—Los Angeles Times.

Worst of the Flies.

The horsefly is the most cruel and bloodthirsty of the entire fly family. He is armed with a most formidable weapon, which consists of four lancets so sharp and strong that they will penetrate leather. He makes his appearance in June. The female is armed with six lancets, with which she bleeds both cattle and horses and even human beings.

Hadn't Changed Much.

"Dad, what was the labor of Sisyphus?"

"Sisyphus rolled a stone up a hill, and as fast as he rolled it up it rolled down again. It was a mythological episode. Nothing like that today."

"Oh, I don't know," interposed ma. "Washing dishes is just like that."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Elite.

"Father," said little Johnnie, accepting his daily allowance, "I wish you wouldn't hand that nickel in such a horribly patronizing manner. Ostentatious giving is exceedingly bourgeois."—Epworth Herald.

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