

An Unexpected Match

By F. A. MITCHEL

Elijah Crowell appeared one day in Harrisonville and gave out that he proposed to settle there and "grow up with the town." Prospectively this would require a long residence, for the town was already 100 years old and for half of that period had been retrograding. Besides, Mr. Crowell was already grown up. However, Mr. Crowell complimented Harrisonville by settling in it, and the inhabitants felt kindly disposed toward him. It must be confessed that he added nothing to the beauty of the place, for his legs were very short, his body very long, his neck longer still in proportion, while his whole person was surmounted by a bullet head.

Mr. Crowell attracted the attention of the young people by writing articles for one of the two newspapers of the town, to which he signed the name "The Magic Lantern." The attention attracted was one of derision, for the articles, though somewhat original, were indicative of the adage, "Fools step in where angels fear to tread." But Mr. Crowell was talked about, and that is what many persons crave.

One morning Mr. Crowell met Miss Jennie Ackerman in a store. Jennie was a pretty girl, and Crowell's countenance beamed with admiration. Whether she was frightened at his ugliness or overmodest, she turned her back upon him. Harrisonville was not so large a place but that Crowell might often meet Miss Ackerman on the street, and when he did so there was always on his expressive countenance that same look of admiration.

The young man made no secret of having been enthralled by Miss Ackerman's beauty. He sounded her praises not only orally, but wrote them up in thinly disguised articles for the Harrisonville Eagle over the pseudonym of "The Magic Lantern."

One day Miss Ackerman met Mr. Crowell on the street. She passed him with her nose in the air. The town was not a large one, and she soon came to the outskirts. It occurred to her that she would visit a cousin of hers who lived a short distance up the road. There were two opinions as to why she decided on this visit at this time. Some said that it was to get rid of Crowell, whom she feared she would meet if she turned and went

back into the heart of the town. Others declare that she went on for the especial purpose of giving her admirer an opportunity to join her without being observed.

Whichever of these two opinions is correct, one thing is certain—Crowell followed her, and when she reached a point where they were alone he stepped up beside her, doffed his hat and begged her to permit him to say a few words to her.

She told him that he might say a few words, and only a few words, after which she would be obliged to him if he would leave her. He replied that she had made him inexpressibly happy and when he had said the few words he would depart. He then proceeded to tell her that he had worshipped her silently—which took no account of his encomiums printed in the Eagle—that his whole being was bound up in her and that, repel him as she might, he would continue his secret worship.

What Miss Ackerman's reply was is not known, for she was more reticent than the garrulous Mr. Crowell, who repeated every word he had said to every one who would listen to him, but a small boy reported that he frequently met Miss Ackerman going to or from her cousin's and she was usually accompanied by Mr. Crowell. Gradually her friends ceased to twit her about her misshapen adorer, and in time some of them began to wonder if she had not taken pity on him and was admonishing him to desist from sounding her praises, especially in the Eagle. Some thought that she had reminded him that it had been all very well for Dante to write poems about Beatrice or Petrarch to sound the praises of Laura, but it wouldn't do for Crowell to give vent to his feelings for his lady in the columns of a newspaper, even though her name was not mentioned.

Whatever was passing between the two, no one for a moment suspected that Miss Ackerman had any other object than to curb her garrulous lover and prevent his making himself and her ridiculous. She was known to be a tender hearted girl, and it was taken for granted that she would not say anything to hurt the poor man's feelings, but would endeavor to show him by kindly words he was making a fool of himself.

One day the citizens of Harrisonville were startled by a rumor that Mr. Crowell and Miss Ackerman were engaged. Miss Ackerman's intimate friends pronounced it a malicious slander upon the lady. Mr. Crowell denied it in a way that indicated plainly he was delighted even at the report.

Then one day when Miss Ackerman's cousin was asked what was meant by

coupling the former's name with that horrid Crowell she said that Jennie was really engaged to him. Within half an hour it was all over town that the pretty Miss Ackerman was going to marry that tin headed, bandy legged Crowell.

However, we are prone to become accustomed to what is and cease to wonder why it should be. Mr. and Mrs. Crowell now excite no more comment than any other married couple.

The third finger on the left hand, on which the engagement and wedding rings are worn, is anatomically the weakest of the ten.

Burying the Hatchet.
This expression, meaning "let bygones be bygones," is derived from a custom once in vogue among the North American Indians. According to a command of the "great spirit," they were obliged, when they smoked the pipe of peace, to bury in the ground their tomahawks, scalping knives and war clubs in token that all enmity was at an end.

PLANTED TREE YEARS AGO TO MAKE COFFIN

Chicago.—Fifty years ago Walter Bushnell of Carrollton, Ill., planted a walnut on his farm and announced that he would have his coffin made from the tree. Three years ago he had the tree cut down and sawed into slabs. Bushnell is now eighty years old. The walnut wood, having been properly aged, has been made into a coffin.

Voter's Catechism

- D. Have you read the Constitution of the United States?
R. Yes.
- D. What form of Government is this?
R. Republic.
- D. What is the Constitution of the United States?
R. It is the fundamental law of this country.
- D. Who makes the laws of the United States?
R. The Congress.

D. What does Congress consist of?

R. Senate and House of Representatives.

D. Who is our State Senator?
R. Wilbur P. Graff.

D. Who is the chief executive of the United States?
R. President.

D. For how long is the President of the United States elected?
R. Four years.

D. Who takes the place of the President in case he dies?
R. The Vice President.

D. What is his name?
R. Thomas R. Marshall.

D. By whom is the President of the United States elected?
R. By the electors.

D. By whom are the electors chosen?
R. By the people.

D. Who makes the laws for the State of Pennsylvania?
R. The Legislature.

D. What does the Legislature consist of?
R. Senate and Assembly.

D. Who is our Assemblyman?
R. Wilmer H. Wood.

D. How many States in the union?
R. Forty-eight.

D. When was the Declaration of Independence signed?
R. July 4, 1776.

D. By whom was it written?
R. Thomas Jefferson.

D. Which is the capital of the United States?
R. Washington.

D. Which is the capital of the state of Pennsylvania?
R. Harrisburg.

D. How many Senators has each state in the United States?
R. Two.

D. Who are our U. S. Senators?
R. Boise Penrose and George T. Oliver.

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D. By whom are they elected?

R. By the people.

D. For how long?

R. Six years.

D. How many representatives are there?

R. 435. According to the population one to every 211,000, (the ratio fixed by Congress after each decennial census.)

D. For how long are they elected?

R. Two years.

D. Who is our Congressman?

R. Nathan L. Strong.

D. How many electoral votes has the state of Pennsylvania?

R. Thirty-eight.

D. Who is the chief executive of the state of Pennsylvania?

R. The Governor.

D. For how long is he elected?

R. 4 years.

D. Who is the Governor?

R. Martin G. Brumbaugh.

D. Do you believe in organized government?

R. Yes.

D. Are you opposed to organized government?

R. No.

D. Are you an anarchist?

R. No.

D. What is an anarchist?

R. A person who does not believe in organized government.

D. Are you a bigamist or polygamist?

R. No.

D. What is a bigamist or polygamist?

R. One who believes in having more than one wife.

D. Do you belong to any secret society who teaches to disbelieve in organized government?

R. No.

D. Have you ever violated any laws of the United States?

R. No.

D. Who makes the ordinances for the City?

R. The board of aldermen.

D. Do you intend to remain permanently in the U. S.?

R. Yes.

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