

Her Dowry

By RUTH GRAHAM

In the Rocky mountains, not far west of Denver, there lived William Harrison, who had taken his wife and daughter into the gold region for the purpose of looking in the ground for a fortune. He settled himself and them in a log cabin on Clear creek. He would wash for gold until he found himself possessed of enough of the precious metal to keep his family for awhile, then he would start out on a prospecting tour, to dig holes in the ground, hoping to find gold in paying quantities.

But Harrison's diggings resulted in nothing. Each day he became more disappointed and discouraged. One day a stranger came to Harrison's cabin and asked for a night's lodging. Mrs. Harrison took him in and gave him what she had, which was little enough, for they were very poor. He was waited on by Isabel at supper and chatted with her while he ate. He drew from her the story of her father's efforts to win a fortune for her out of the ground, besides a secret that was unknown to her parents. She loved a young man who was hunting for gold and had achieved no more success than her father. He was able to obtain only a precarious living for himself, and it would be a sin for the couple to marry while doomed to such abject poverty.

The stranger seemed much interested in the girl's story and asked many questions concerning the young man. Isabel assured him that he was of good character and not liable to a change or one following an ignis fatuus, since everybody in that region was a gold hunter. He was the son of a prospector. Therefore he might be said to have been born to the occupation.

The stranger seemed to be a peculiar man with strange ideas. Instead of berating Isabel's father or her lover for wasting time in a hunt that there was not one chance in a thousand of being successful, he said that life consisted of taking chances, for no one could tell what a day or an hour might bring forth. "Life," he said, "is not even a speculation. It is sure to end in the grave."

This was said with a melancholy spirit. The man was ill and possibly was influenced by his illness. He remained a month in Harrison's cabin, ministered to by Mrs. Harrison and Isabel. But he showed such interest in Isabel that he fell entirely under her care. He was delayed by a snowstorm that came early in the winter, and the snow was likely to remain on the ground for many months. Isabel told her friend that she regretted this because it covered a little grove near the house where in fair weather she used to go and sew or read. He replied that life was only enjoyed by contrasts and the longer she was kept out of her grove the happier she would be to get into it again.

When it ceased to snow the stranger took his departure. Before going he said to her:

"You will receive a dowry which will enable you to marry the man you love." Isabel looked at him in astonishment and asked him when the dowry would come to her.

"When the sun is warm enough to melt the snow," was the reply.

The stranger was such an odd individual that Isabel thought little of this statement, thinking that he was not aware of what he said. She certainly did not place sufficient faith in it to tell it to her father and mother or to her lover.

That was a long winter, and her father found prospecting difficult on account of the deep snow. The family plied for the spring to come to release them from their cabin and enable them to enjoy the out of door life, so invigorating in the mountains.

At last there came a series of warm days, and the snow began to melt and run down the gulches in torrents. It was so thick that it required time to leave bare any of the soil or rocks. One remark of the stranger Isabel remembered. It was that the longer she was kept out of her grove the more she would rejoice at re-entering it.

One morning after several warm days she was sitting by the window of her little room sewing. The sun was still melting the snow, shining brightly. Thinking of the stranger's remark about her grove, she turned her head to look at it, for she could see it from her window. The snow had been melted so far as to leave several bare spots. On the edge of one of these spots she noticed a dazzling light made by the sun shining on some smooth substance. Isabel's curiosity was excited as to what this substance was, for she did not remember to have left any bit of metal or glass there in the autumn. She went out to the grove, and there at her feet was a gold piece.

She picked it up wonderingly, then hunted in the snow for more. She found no more, but the next morning the snow had melted so far as to uncover a basket that had been missing, and it was full of gold coins.

The wonder stricken girl counted them and found what was an ample dowry.

She at once connected it with the stranger she had nursed and put it away for him, thinking he would return and claim it. But he never came. Isabel kept it untouched till the next autumn came on, and then, having heard nothing from him, she acted on what he had said about finding her dowry "when the snow melts" and appropriated it to herself.

Their Hero

By RICHARD MARKLEY

One of the idiosyncrasies of youth is an overappreciation of what is pleasing to the eye. A boy of sixteen is more absorbed in the cut of his clothes than ever again in his life. The love of personal adornment is supposed to remain with a woman so long as she lives. Once out of her teens she is won rather by devotion than good looks. But a girl from fifteen to twenty is as much charmed by what is usually denominated handsome in a boy as the boy is by resplendent neckwear. Neither the boy nor the girl attaches much importance to merit.

Tom Berryman, aged eighteen, the son of a well to do widow, persuaded his mother to permit him to give a house party in her country home, which she did not intend to occupy during the summer. The bunch Tom trained with was composed of boys and girls of ages varying from fourteen to eighteen, though none of the girls was quite seventeen. Six boys and six girls were invited to the house party, and all accepted at once, for none of them had ever been so honored before.

Mrs. Berryman had an intimate friend, a Mrs. Archibald, whose only son, Reginald, was of a proper age to be invited to the house party. Mrs. Berryman, desiring to show attention to her friend, made it a condition of giving up her country house to her son and her friends that Reginald Archibald should receive an invitation to be one of the party.

Tom consented and had been sufficiently trained in social dealings to notify the other boys that Reginald Archibald, being a stranger, should receive special attention from them. As to the girls, Tom knew that if they did not happen to fancy young Archibald they would not be likely to put themselves out of the way to do him honor.

When Reginald appeared on the scene he was found to be what a girl of sixteen would call handsome. His complexion was pink and white. He was rather tall for his age and delicately formed. He possessed a well turned neck and throat and wore a byronic collar—not at all in fashion—which showed the features to advantage. He at once gave the impression that he honored the company in appearing among them and that he expected to be treated with especial consideration.

As has been remarked, young ladies of sixteen are like the fish that go for the glittering spoon that whirls in the sunshine at the end of a line. Reginald's pink and white complexion, his soft brown eyes, his artistically tumbled hair and, above all, that throat, rising above the broad, rolling collar, captivated every girl in the party. Moreover, his admirers were too young to have received proper training in restraining themselves in such matters, and Mr. Archibald at once became their hero.

Even had the girls refrained from showing their admiration for the youngster with the pink and white complexion the other boys would doubtless have discovered it. They were not envious of him, but his receiving all the attention to the entire exclusion of all the rest of them was certainly calculated to mar the pleasure of the party. No one of them could make an engagement with any girl until she had learned whether Reginald Archibald would honor her with a like invitation. If a boy were chatting with a girl she was forever casting glances at the Adonis, evidently more interested in getting him away from the girl he was with than in her companion.

The longer this concentrated attention of the girls upon him lasted the more Mr. Archibald seemed to consider it a matter of course. Instead of pointing out to the girls the want of wisdom in their course he rather encouraged them in following it. Instead of endeavoring to be one of the party of boys he held aloof from them, seeming to consider the society of girls preferable. On the whole, the young fellows were quite excusable in being up in arms against both the girls and their hero for spoiling their fun.

They put their heads together to concoct some scheme to show up the adorable Adonis and reinstate themselves in the good graces of the girls. They one and all agreed to act on the old saying "Absence makes the heart grow fonder." The result speaks for itself.

One morning when the girls came down to breakfast the butler announced that some of the boys had gone fishing, some to a baseball match. The only boy left at home was their hero. They had him for breakfast, they spent the morning with him, the afternoon, and when dinner time came he was still their only companion. Long before the shadows of evening came they found that Mr. Archibald was a good deal like fish for breakfast, fish for luncheon and fish for dinner.

At the usual hour for dancing the phonograph was set going, and since there was only the hero to dance with and the girls soon tired of dancing with one another they sat around and moped.

The boys came in at 10 o'clock to find all the girls retired to their rooms, and Mr. Archibald had taken the 9:15 train for home. In the morning the girls pouted, while the boys talked of the enjoyable day they had spent as stags.

For a few hours the moping of the girls continued; then, when the boys went out to the tennis courts together, they were followed by a repentant flock of misses who had concluded that five ordinary boys were preferable to one Adonis.

She Was Too Radiant.

The elder Swift, founder of one of the great Chicago beef concerns, hated to see women working in bright clothes, according to a man who once labored for the Swift concern. There happened to be a stenographer at the works, however, who bought all the loud raiment she could and looked like a combination of a merry-go-round and a rainbow when she walked through the yards.

One day the elder Swift caught sight of her. He called his assistant.

"Who is that?" he asked.

"Why, that's Mr. Blank's stenographer."

"How much does she get?"

"Twenty-five a week."

"Dock her."

"I'm afraid she'll leave."

Swift shot a glance at his assistant before he answered.

"If she doesn't," he said, "dock her again."—Earl Godwin in Washington Star.

The Long Lived Farmer.

Man armed with a hoe protects himself from the agencies of death more completely than man with any other life defense weapon. The United States bureau of statistics has discovered that important fact by a study of the records of life insurance companies. Then "the hard life of the farmer" is longer, not because it simply seems longer, but because he lives in the midst of protective agencies. The statistics of the entire country show that farmers live longer than all others, fifty-eight years being their average span of life. Bookkeepers and office assistants live the shortest lives, thirty-six years being their average limit of endurance. Among the office workers tuberculosis is the worst enemy of life, 35 per cent of them having died of that disease. Among the farmers heart disease causes the most deaths, 16 per cent of the total.—Worcester Telegram.

Told by the Windmill.

In certain districts of Holland news of a domestic sort is frequently announced by the windmills. When, for instance, a miller gets married he stops his mill with the arms of the wheel in an oblique position and with the sails unfurled. His friends and guests do likewise with their mills in celebration of the ceremony. To announce a birth the wheel is stopped with the arms in a slanting position, but at a more acute angle than for a marriage and with the two upper sails unfurled. In the event of a miller's death his family causes the sails of his mill to be all furled, and the mill is turned around until the arms assume an upright cross, in which position they are left until after the funeral has taken place.

Contrasts and the Eye.

Lecturing on "The Effect on the Eye of Varying Degrees of Brightness and Contrast" before the Illuminating Engineer society recently, Dr. James Kerr of the public health department of the London county council referred to some effects which may be surprising. Having to examine long lists of figures in black type, he tried to facilitate his task by drawing vertical and horizontal lines in red ink, but the different focusing of the black and red strained his eye and gave him a headache, which did not trouble him when all the figures and lines were either black or red.

One of Them Did.

As good a real kid story as you've probably noticed for a while is related herewith: The four-year-old son was having lunch alone with his grandmother. At his proposal they agreed to play "father and mother." He was the father, and she was the mother. After the few words of grace he bent forward in excellent imitation of his father and said, "Well, mother, and have the children said anything cute today?"—Philadelphia Star.

Studying the Future.

"So you are going to get married," said Miss Cayenne.

"Yes," replied the confiding young man.

"Well, which kind of marriage is it to be—one where you go to live with the bride's folks or the bride's folks come to live with you?"—Washington Star.

The Cabbage Butterfly.

The most destructive enemy of the cabbage and related crops is the cabbage butterfly. This lays its eggs upon a cabbage leaf. The eggs hatch into green caterpillars, and these eat the leaves. In 1883, says the Journal of Heredity, an ichneumon fly was imported from Europe to keep the cabbage butterfly in check. The fly lays its eggs in the body of the caterpillar; the larvae which hatch from these eggs eat the caterpillar's insides, cut their way out through the empty skin and spin cocoons from which the flies emerge.

"It is interesting to note," adds the Journal of Heredity, "that the parasite is in turn preyed upon by a super-parasite, a little chalcid fly, and so on down ad infinitum, no doubt."

Korea Eats Rice With a Spoon.

While China and Japan take rice with chopsticks, Korea eats hers with a spoon. Prediction is that the next step will usher in the broad fork. "Whence comes this peculiarity?" asks the Korea Magazine. "One reason is that in the Analects of Confucius a record exists that the master ate his millet not with chopsticks, but with a spoon. Every saying that pertains to Confucius is reverently regarded in Korea, and the people of that land would rather follow the master than present day custom."—East and West News.

RUSSIAN ARMY LEADER SUPPORTED KERENSKY



GEN. MICHAEL ALEXIEFF

A GENERAL SURVEY OF THE WAR

Italian troops have taken from the Austro-Germans the fortified hill of Dol and the Gergaro basin, and now occupy the slope and top of Monte San Gabriele after severe fighting. The Italian embassy in announcing the capture, said it is the greatest victory gained by the Italians since their advance into the war.

Capture of all Austro-Hungarian positions on Monte San Gabriele is expected to be a matter of hours. The fighting in the region of the forest of Tarnovo was very severe, as the Austrians had assembled an enormous force of artillery there. The positions were taken by infantry attack at heavy cost to the Italians.

The battle has been raging twenty days. Last week the Austrians changed from defensive and began an offensive, using masses of their best troops against the Italian positions. The loss of San Gabriele will mean for the Austrians, the embassy says, the loss of all the vantage points against the Gorizia plain and the Frigidio valley.

"The Italian losses in the eleventh Isonzo battle," says an official statement issued by the Austrian war office, "have reached almost 250,000, including 20,000 prisoners."

The Russian army is driving back toward Riga along a wide front. Within the last five days it has advanced more than seven miles, the Russian embassy in Washington announced.

The whole Russian military establishment is being re-organized under General Alexieff and discredited commanders are being ousted.

First official cables from Petrograd to the embassy were most encouraging. They showed that the Korniloff rebellion has been put down without bloodshed, the morale of the troops "is splendid and the government stronger than ever."

Official word that responsibility for the Korniloff defection has been fixed upon his advisers instead of himself, is regarded here as an indication that the famous Cossack chief will not pay the death penalty for his crime. The cables say the Russians are forcing retirement of more German troops on the east front now than at any time since the war began.

The Frie Zeitung of Berne publishes an article from an Austrian official, who traveled through several sections of this country, in which the writer states that Austria-Hungary cannot hold out the coming winter owing to economic reasons, as both soldiers and civilians will be starved.

He gives several reasons, notably the almost complete destruction of the crops in the richest regions of Hungary by the cold, heavy rain, while 30,000 tons of Rumanian cereals could not be transported owing to lack of rolling stock, which, first of all, is utilized for military purposes. In the meantime, he says, the necessities of life are mounting to extraordinary prices.

WOULD FREE BELGIUM

Reported That Berlin States Willingness in Pope's Note.

Reply of the central powers to Pope Benedict's peace note was received by the Vatican, according to well informed officials in Rome.

It was reported the reply favors "absolute independence for Belgium," demanding that King Albert's country "be independent of all military and economic alliances."

Formal announcement of the receipt of the Teutonic reply and information as to whether it was a joint or group answer was withheld by the Vatican.

Enlistments For Navy Halted.

The navy has become so overcrowded that Secretary Daniels has ruled college men can return for this winter training, though they will be called back to actual service next summer when more ships and stations will be available. Enlistment for the navy has halted because of the number of men on hand who cannot be accommodated in ships and stations.



PROMPT MR. SUN.

"The fairies," said Daddy, "planned to give a swimming party at dawn."

"The night fairies were finishing a wonderful supper after a frolic when the dawn fairies came along. They were wearing dresses of bright yellows and golds and reds, and they carried wands which sparkled at the ends with bright golden lights."

"Soon along came the sun fairies. They are so bright that they can never be seen, and, of course, they like to be this way. They want to be around many, many times and yet they do not want to be noticed."

"As they wear bright dresses like the sun, they cannot be looked at. The sun is the one who can gaze at them, for, of course, he is still brighter."

"As the sun fairies were coming along, old Mr. Sun turned himself in his bed behind the hill, opened his eyes, and said:

"Dear me, it's high time I was up!"

"So with a great hurry and flurry Mr. Sun got up. 'I was almost late,' he said as he saw the fairies."

"No, you are never really late," said the fairies.

"That is because I have made a habit of being on time—of being punctual, I think it is called."

"You see I even make a habit of being on time when I am late."

"All the fairies laughed. 'What in the world do you mean, Mr. Sun? How can you be on time when you are late? The first half of your sentence doesn't get along with the last half! They don't agree at all. In fact, they quarrel most horribly.'

"I know it sounds impossible," said Mr. Sun. "But it isn't. Listen, and I shall tell you all about it. I shall explain how it is I am on time when I am late."

"The fairies sat around, and thought the swimming party could wait a little while. Mr. Sun was going to be so extremely interesting! They knew that!

"You see," said Mr. Sun, "it is all arranged."

"What is all arranged?" asked the fairies.

"The time," said Mr. Sun. "There is a certain hour of the day I am supposed to get up. I get up at that time. Then there is my going-to-bed time. I go on time always. I may appear to be lazy and not want to get up, or I may appear to be wide awake and not want to go to bed. But I always do."

"To be sure you do, Mr. Sun. We know you are a very prompt, punctual old soul. But do tell us about being on time when you are late."

"I will take great pleasure in so doing," said Mr. Sun, very solemnly.

"It's this way," he continued. "This is the time of year when I do not care about going to bed so early. And why? Because I am not supposed to go so soon. Of course, a few months ago I was sitting up much later every night, but still the time will come when I will go to bed much earlier than I am going these nights."

"It is then—when I am late in going to bed that I still am on time. Do you see? I go to bed at the time of day that the calendar tells me to, and I get up in the same way. Even when I am late in getting up—it is just the same—I am late because I am supposed to be late. And therefore I am punctual, prompt, and on time."

"The fairies laughed heartily. 'You've started our day so merrily for us. And now won't you shine,' dear Mr. Sun, for we're going to have a swimming party?"

"Indeed, I will," said Mr. Sun, and showed that he meant what he said, for the earth seemed a very warm, sunny place that morning, and the water was delicious!

"The fairies wore their lovely green costumes for swimming, the green was the color of the pretty water weeds, and their caps were of green, too."

"The brownies came, and of course they wore their brown bathing suits, which made them look rounder, and fatter, and jollier than ever."

"Such swimming and splashing and diving as there was! Such water fights! Such tricks! And Mr. Sun quickly shown down upon them, for he wanted to show he really was a prompt old sun."

What Friendship Means.

The girl is no true friend who is willing to listen to criticism of those she pretends to love. Some people seem to have an unwholesome appetite for hearing others censured, and they will listen with as much avidity to the unfavorable discussion of a friend so-called, as of anyone else. The trouble with such a girl is that she has not as yet found out the meaning of friendship.—Girls' Companion.

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GERMANY CALLS HIM "KING OF AIR"



BARON VON RICHTOFEN

Capt. Baron Manfred von Richtofen, commander of Germany's famous "Tango Escadrille." The Germans claim for him the title of "King of the Air," as he is reported to have downed 58 machines.

A GENERAL SURVEY OF THE WAR

The British infantry "went over the top" on a wide front east of Ypres, and the Flanders offensive is on again.

Two thousand prisoners have been captured by the British, according to the official report, in the drive.

The Germans have launched no counter attacks. They were massing in certain places, however, where the British guns were bombarding them.

The British penetration has reached the depth of a mile on a four and a half mile front, which, considering the character of the ground, is a wonderful achievement.

The British rush evidently was successful from the outset, for the capture of positions of value were reported by Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig and the progress made was described as satisfactory.

The renewal of the offensive came after a long pause, in which intensive preparatory work had been carried on unceasingly. The fighting in this period, indeed, was such as to pile up heavy casualty lists on both sides, while the crushing drum fire from the British guns has been admitted by the Germans to have had a destructive effect on their positions.

The British drive, apparently is being made in the direction of Roulers and Courtrai, from which Belgian town, according to recent dispatches from the Dutch frontier, the German military authorities have been evacuating the civilian population.

Jacobstadt, on the Dvina, has been captured by the German forces on the Russian front, together with the positions on a front of twenty-five miles and six miles deep on the west bank of the river, army headquarters announced.

The Russians, after giving up their bridgehead and the terrain it protected, fled to the opposite bank of the Dvina, leaving Jacobstadt in German hands, together with more than 400 prisoners and more than 50 guns.

The German aviators engaged in the operations at Jacobstadt were under the leadership of Prince Frederick Sigismund of Prussia (cousin of Emperor William).

Official word that responsibility for the Korniloff defection has been fixed upon his advisers instead of himself, is regarded as an indication that the famous Cossack chief will not pay the death penalty for his crime. The cables say the Russians are forcing retirement of more German troops on the east front now than at any time since the war began.

STEEL CORPORATION RAISES WAGES AGAIN

10 Per Cent. Increase to Take Effect Oct. 1.—All Subsidiary Companies Affected by Announcement.

For the second time this year and the fifth time since the beginning of 1916, the United States Steel corporation has made a 10 per cent advance in the wages of its employees. E. H. Gary, chairman of the corporation, made the following announcement:

"It has been decided to increase by about 10 per cent the wage rates of the workmen of our subsidiary companies, to take effect Oct. 1, 1917. Equitable adjustments will be made."

Common labor under the new wage scale will receive about \$2.91 a day, compared with \$2.67 at present and \$2 before the war.

Steel men here take it for granted that the independent concerns which are now earning the highest rates in their history will follow the lead of the steel corporation. It is said, also, that the increase which will probably be granted by the independent concerns will be in the form of bonuses rather than in permanent wages, and that the latter will continue only as long as the companies continue the present heavy volume of business.

Munition Explosion Fatal to Nine.

Nine persons were killed and many injured in an explosion in an ammunition factory in Ireland.