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"A good young man!" said Deacon Levi Darrow, and indeed Royce Aylmer seemed worthy of the designation. In the estimation of the venerable church man, Boyd Hapgood was not in the same category, and yet the latter had been the closest chum of Aylmer, and at the very moment that the remark was made the latter was bound for home to read for a second time a letter he had received from Hapgood in the city that day.

It was only one of a series that Hapgood had written during six' months' sojourn in the big metropolis. He was urging Aylmer to join him. He painted glowing pictures of the lures and enjoyments of his new environment. Aylmer was quite the reverse of Hapgood, being steady, saving and of fixed character and habits. Hapgood had been somewhat discredited while at Rossville. He traveled with a lively crowd, his parents provided liberally for him and he had all the promptings of the spendthrift. For all the contrast between the two, somehow a genuine friendship had sprung up between them, and there had been a mutual pledge that through all of life they would stick to one another and divide their last crust!

"It's different with Hapgood," reflected Aylmer. "He has plenty of spending money, and can dress well . "A lady pointin' one direction with the influence of city relatives to get a-pointin'. him a good position. Where would I can go there under better prospects." gave me a nusty look for bein' there

Still, the cautious Aylmer had a I started up the street and see a feland tired of slaving from early in the over his shoulder like a musket. He morning until late at night in a gen- turned to look into a store winder and eral store for a beggarly pittance. One bumped a old man into the side of the influence alone held him to the town, head with the muzzle of his weapon. one especial being acted as though his They had some words. tentious ways appealed to her own enough to know better was carryin' her practical nature. She was Alice Lisle, umbrelly in the middle and talkin' so

ployer for half a day off. "It's my uncle, Mr. Deane," ex- 'long, Bill!" plained Aylmer." He is sick-dying,

me to come to him at once." much attention to you in the past."

he is my dead mother's only brother. refuse to go to him."

Next day the storekeeper received a note from Aylmer, stating that he was at his uncle's, that the latter was very low, and had insisted on his remaining with him until the end came.

"A day and a half," commented the storekeeper, "maybe more. If Aylmer

doesn't make it up with extra work I'll dock him for every lost minute!" But the opportunity to "dock" Royce Aylmer never came. John Graham died the following day, and all Rossville marveled over the astounding circumstances that at the last minute Mr.

Graham had left his entire fortune to Aylmer. The young heir did not jubilate over this sudden and unexpected accession of wealth. Reserved and unpretentious, he kept his own counsel and applied himself loyally to carrying out verbal instruction given to him by his uncle. These covered certain portions of the inheritance which would consume about a third of it. There was a local church to be endowed. Some benefits were to go to a theological seminary. A new house was to be built for two old ladies who were distant relatives. Very faithfully Aylmer attended to these beneficiaries. Then he counted up his resources and at last stood on the threshold of a new life.

In secret his face glowed and his eyes brightened as he realized that he was now prepared to join his friend in the city and exploit its pleasures with the best of them! The only extravagance to which so far Aylmer had committed himself was the purchase of an automobile. As he started out in it one morning to look over the new house, just ready for the two old ladies, a telegram was handed him. It was from Boyd Hapgood and it pressed him urgently to come to the city to rescue him from a terrible tangle.

Hiding in an obscure room, shattered in health, trembling at every sound, Royce Aylmer found his friend. As the latter recited his experience in a downward path that had led him not only into the highways of folly, but had made of him an embezzler, all the glamour of city life seemed to fade from the view of his loyal friend. Aylmer cleared up the money troubles, set his friend on his feet once more, and chastened, disillusioned, started back for Rossville.

It must have been fate that wrecked his automobile near to the Lisle home, and further destiny that made pretty, solicitous Alice his nurse for a week. And in his convalescence Royce Aylmer, under the influence of the ideal home life about him, shuddered as he thought of what the devouring city had done for Boyd Hapgood, and was cinations for the sweetest little wife However, he is still determined to beat in the world!

## CAP'N'EZRA RILED

Ancient Mariner Has Trying Day in Boston Town.

And He Will Find Many to Agree With Him In His Positive Assertion That "Umbrellies Is Dangerous Weapons."

I heard a sigh behind me as I unfolded my favorite evening sheet. Someone settled into the seat and rested wearily against me. I exhumed myself from my sheet and stole a sidelong glance. In the little leathery man with the nervous bit of chin whiskers I recognized Cap'n Ezra Godskins of our town.

His mild blue eye caught mine and I wished him good evening. He replied with another sigh and the cryptic remark, "Umbrellies is dangerous weapons." Then, like another and better known Ancient Mariner, he seemed unable to contain himself and launched forth into the subject that was torturing his soul.

This is the captain's plaint:

"I come into town this mornin' bearin' no man any malice. It looked like rain, but I didn't calc'late to letthat spoil my good nature. Most everyone but me was totin' a umbrelly.

"I was bumpin' along in the crowd leavin' the station an' just at the entrance I was surrounded by five fat old ladies who was so interested in decidin' where they was goin' to meet for lunch that they didn't notice that. I was standin' in the middle of the confeerunce an' gettin' the benefit of all the emphasis of the pointin' they did with their umbrellies.

and throw it around. Then, too, he has a parasol wants to look where's she's

"I squoze out of there just in time be, with one common suit and less than to get gouged in the nigh leg by a one hundred dollars capital? No, Hap- young feller that carried his umbrelly good and the city aren't for me until I strapped to the side of his valise. He

longing to join his friend. He was sick ler ahead of me carryin' his umbrelly

diligence, seemly courtesy and unpre- "A young girl that looked bright One day there came a hurry call at fast at the same time I guess she the store for Aylmer. For the first didn't know she was proddin' fo'ks time in six years he asked his em- both ahead and behind as though she might be sayin' 'Get up, Jessie; go

"A tall feller with a black ribbon on his messenger tells me, and wishes his eye glasses was whirlin' his slim umbrelly around by the handle, thereby "Why, he doesn't seem to have paid gettin' most of the sidewalk and a lot of unfavorable opinion for himself. "No," agreed Aylmer, "but he is old, He varied this a little by usin" it as a cane swingin' it well out in front I guess he has led a pretty lonely and and behind. Every once in a while miserable life, and of course I can't It swang into some one's shanks or stabbed 'em in the instep. He sure had the comfort an' safety of other folks in mind.

"People used em as wedges to get into the crowd and as a pry to get out. One young feller I see was standin' on the edge of the sidewalk, leanin' back on his umbrelly and talkin' to a friend of his'n. Some feller goin along mindin' his own business caught his toe in it and brought the lad down

at neat as a ninepin. "Now if he had a had his umbrelly hangin' down straight from his hand the way it should ha' been an' been goin' about his business instead of blockin' up the sidewalk he wouldn't a had to go home and changed his

"The trouble is that folks who carry a umbrelly so it didn't interfere with anybody else is generally the ones that

gets jabbed. "I ain't got the heart to speak of umbrellies when folks carries 'em raised. They is worse than dangerous then; they is positively deadly. I been dodgin' careless and thoughtless handlers of umbrellies all day and in the hands of them class of people that Is a dangerous weapon. Yes, sir, umbrellies is a dangerous weapon."-Boston Globe.

Notes Issued by Austrians. A correspondent writes that Austrian notes were not the only "duds" that caused trouble and loss to the allies. Every British soldier who served on the western front must have had experience (he says) of those pretty Belgian notes which were not worth the paper they were printed on, for the reason that the enemy were in control of the Belgian national banks. "It was never safe." (he adds) "to accept change for a hundred franc note or other note of high denomination without examining each small bill given in lieu. One was almost sure to come across one or two nice clean Belgian five-franc, notes hidden away among the genuine French stuff."

### For Sale.

He had determined to "mop up"not in the sense, however, that one thinks of these days. He had seen a mop such as he desired advertised for 98 cents (original price \$1.50), and made haste to get one, for he had also determined to buy nothing unless it was "on sale." The mop cost 98 cents, a handle 10 cents extra, a bottle of polish was added for good measure. He proceeded to drop the bottle, and as the mop without the polish was useless, it was necessary to buy another bottle, which set him back 50 cents. The bargain cost him \$1.60 incontent to forego all its gilded fas- stead of 98 cents, as he had pictured.

the H. C. L.

## A Woodland Maid

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By VICTOR REDCLIFFE

Life at its dreariest had come to Alma Royce at eighteen. Her father had died just as she had reached the acme of girlhood loveliness and had settled into a life which she had reason to hope would have no break for a long time to come. The existence of herself and her father had been an ideal one since she was a mere child. There was not a country estate in the district that could equal Wildwood in extent and beauty, and there for over the advantages of luxury and ease.

The former owner of the place, John Wayne, died when his only son and to that Alma's father, originally a college professor, had broken down in health and John Wayne, an old college friend, had employed him to systematize and care for his great collection of antiques. When Mr. Wayne died there was a provision made in his will that the old scientist was to continue his work and have a home at Wildwood and its entire charge until his son attained his majority .. Of that Honeysuckle hill. son after that the Royces only knew that he was receiving a full education

the family lawyer of the Waynes visited Wildwood

"Miss Royce," he said, "we understand that Mr. Gerald Wayne is about to return to this country and settle up the estate. Doubtless Wildwood will pass into other hands. It may be some time before that may come about, and the room. until it does, we would like to have you remain in charge here.

Alma felt that it was only a question of time when she would have to go out into the wide world cheerlessly alone. And she shrank from the strennous life ahead of her, contrasting so harsh and unfriendly with her calm, even experience at Wildwood.

Alma was busy one day directing the transplanting of some shrubbery when she noticed a young man, an entire stranger, standing by the garden roadway. His eyes were fixed upon her studiously and interestedly. As her glance met his own he advanced, removing his hat with a courteous bow. Then a seeming afterthought as to introducing himself appeared to occur to him. He took several cards, selecting one indiscriminately and nearing Alma tendered it to her. She read upon its face "Wylie Blair," and under this the name of the law firm which attended to the business of the

"You are Miss Royce, I am sure," fair young girl appeared to lighten his without her!" natural mood. "I have come to look ble disposal of it to the best advantage."

mony with the unique and beautiful, since her arrival. and he reveled over a Carrara murble girl's head by Fiaschi, a favorite borse study of Rosa Bonheur, Khive The a ese teak wood screen before the arahorses, and books, books, books, gathered from the most exclusive storehouses of the world.

For nearly a week each afternoon this apparent agent and authorized representative of Gerald Wayne appeared at Wildwood. He made a pretense of taking notes, but it was clear from his intent association with Alma that he most prized this innocent, gentle woodland creature. He commended her careful system of keeping the accounts of the estate. He was a rapt listener, as in her well-informed way she recited the value and history of this and that priceless piece of bric-abrac. At times Alma was puzzled, for while he seemed pleased at the information she imparted, here and there some chance remark showed that he was no novice in art antique. "I am going away tomorrow, Miss Royce," he said at the end of a week. and on the morrow, as they were seated together on a garden seat, he looked at her earnestly with the words: "You have made Wildwood a revelation to me, and I am satisfied its owner would be a vandal quite to scatter to the winds ruthlessly the labor of long

years." ingenuous way, "and I hope you will and glanced sorrowfully all about her. his pocket the faded violets. I shall miss all the beautiful life I have passed here. It has been a true

He leaned closer to her and his eyes were glowing strangely. "Why should vou go. Miss Royce?" he questioned. "If I were its owner and should ask you to stay because I have learned to

love you, what would you say?" The fluttering blush upon her face told him that her soul was respons've to his own. His eyes grew gied. "I ask you to stay," he added. "598 I am Gerald Wayne."

# First Aid

6200

By GENEVIEVE ULMAR

\*\*\* (Copyright, 1919, by the Western News-paper Union.)

For two days Nelson Wade had been a guest at the one hotel at Leesville. He was so reserved and unobtrusive and so persistent in not going out except after dark that the boniface at the hostelry was divided between the surmises as to his being a detective or a bank burglar. Not that poor Wade resembled either of the ilk indicated, for a more forlorn individual it would have been hard to find.

Nelson had come from Dover, 50 a decade the Royces had received all | miles distant, and his forlornness harked back directly to that quiet little town. There he had lived from boyhood, there he had met and loved heir, Gerald, was a mere lad. Previous pretty, vivacious Nettie Mercer and had become engaged to her. Now that delightful partnership was rudely sundered, and Nelson deemed himself the most wretched of mankind.

A silly quarrel had led to the desolation that now filled his aching heart. Fiery jealous and resentful, Nettie had called her recreant lover to time because he had gone with a girl visiting his sister in search of early violets on

"You made sure not to bring me any of the spring beauties!" she told him, and before Nelson could explain to It was after her father's death that | Nettie that the girl was to be married in a month and that he only showed her the most ordinary courtesy as a guest of his sister and that their errand had been bootless, not one violet having been garnered, Nettie drew the engagement ring from her finger, threw it at his feet and flounced from

Nelson did not pick up the circlet, nor did he stay to plead forgiveness, for he had done no wrong. Nor did he lower his dignity by glossing over what he considered very reprehensible action on the part of Nettie. He went to the city for a week, leaving her to think over her irrational jealousy and temper. When he came back his confidence in her "cooling down" was considerably abashed.

"Nettie has gone to spend two months with our relatives, the Doanes, at Leesville," her sister explained to him. "There is a gentleman at Leesville, too, she thinks a great deal of.'

The gentleman in question was a married cousin of Nettie, but her maneuvering sister, older and wiser. minded not invention and a trifling deceit to place the lovers on the road to making up and behaving themselves.

Nelson found himself sunk into utter despondency at the unexpected turn affairs had taken.

"Yes," he soliloquized, "I'll go to spoke the visitor. He was rather Leesville. I'll manage to come across grave of manner, young and handsome Nettie. I'll give her the violets and as he was, as though study or weari- tell her that, like them, my heart is ness of the world had brought serious- withering and-and I'll do it on my ness and surfeit, but a sight of the knees, if necessary, for I cannot live

And thus it was that Nelson had over Wildwood, preparatory to a possi- gone to Leesville, but to find his nightly rambles of no avail. He had located the home of the Doanes, and had hung A new brightness came into his face around it two whole evenings withas Alma in her pretty intelligent way out catching a glimpse of Nettie. The showed him over the grounds. But it third evening he learned from an overwas when she led him inside the sump- heard conversation of two of the tuous house that he became absorbed in Doane girls in the garden that Nettie contemplation of its contents. His was sick in bed with a bad cold and being seemed to be in complete har, had been confined to her room ever

trailing past the high rear fence of the Doane grounds, the heart of the long-Soumake of wide proportions. the an- ing lover thrilled mightily as he noted tique mahegany highboys, the facen- near a little rustic bower a shawled figure passing to and fro. It was the besque fireplace, pearl reading glasses, first outdoor exercise the invalid Netsilver trophy cups won by speedy tie had taken. She was alone. What was a mere fence, high mountains, castles, any obstacle, to the impetuous penitent!

Nelson scaled the high palings, got over the top. There was a creak, a crack, a crash, and he landed on the other side in the garden, prone and senseless. A servant coming from the house uttered a sharp scream as she noted the castastrophe.

"Oh, Miss Mercer!" she cried out; 'someone is hurt. Quick! quick!" and Nettie came hurrying to the spot. It was just light enough to make out the blue end of the spectrum to pass the features of the prostrate invader. In mixture with the red. The use of Then Nettie echoed the distraction of the maid.

frantic Nettie. "Hasten to Mrs. Doane and telephone for a doctor," and then as the servant fled toward the house Nettie threw herself upon the ground beside her unconscious lover, lifted his head into her lap and swayed and croooned dismally:

"If he should die-and all my fault!" she wailed. "Oh, Nelson! my poor, wronged darling!"

Nelson Wade opened his eyes. The first thing he noted was the gleam of "I am glad," said Alma in her frank, the engagement ring on Nettie's finger. She had leaned over to kiss him on tell Mr. Wayne that." Then she sighed the cheek. He smiled. He drew from

"I came for forgiveness," he began. "It was all my fault!" she whim-"Now, then, a cold bandage and the

camphor." sounded the voice of Mrs. Doane, her hands filled with bandages and bottles. "First aid until the doctor comes."

But "first aid" had been already administered effectively, and Nelson arose with a great contented grin on his face, which Nettie emphasized with a smile ravishingly radiant and full of contentment

## ROAD TO SUCCESS

Obey General Order No. 1. Which Is Simply, Find Out!

Heads of Big and Little Business, Who Do This, Will Be the Winners in the Great Industrial Battle Now On.

Find out! That's general order No. 1 in American big business.

Can Du Pents, who made threequarters of all explosives used against Germany, swing that vast machine into a useful purpose of peace?

It hired 2,000 chemists, set them to research work and found out! Can the United States double its

wheat product and add a half to its meat supply? Spend \$25,000,000 in research work along agricultural lines as it did two years ago and find out! How can Standard Oil utilize every

drop of that black ooze which pours from thousands of oil wells? By employing chemists and engineers who can find out. Why does Armour have 125 subsid-

iary companies, many of them highly profitable, and which as the elder Armour said utilize every part of the pig but the squeal? Because it spends an immense sum to carry out that general order No. 1 of all big business. Find out!

There are in the United States today 40 concerns, each of which spends anywhere from \$100,000 to half a million annually on this great game of in the way of looking at the concrete finding out, writes "Girard" in the Philadelphia Ledger.

It is the supreme day of the expert, Is leather too scarce and expensive? know your own mind." Find a substitute.

Is there a famine in white paper? Set your researchers to discover a

Two-thirds of all the energy in coal goes up the chimney in smoke. The biggest fuel burners, such as the Pennsylvania railroad, spent big sums to find out a way to lessen the smoke and increase the heat in a boiler. "Can you take that battery?" asked

the general. "I think I can," replied the colonel. "Go take it," said the commander, 'and don't come back until you do."

"Here's \$10,000," says the corporaion president to his chief of research. verkers, "find out how we can save a fraction of a cent on each ton of output."

And the fellow who can find out has won a great industrial battle and captured a battery from his more sluggish competitor.

One winter day in his banking office I saw Winthrop Smith hand a mind that will bloom, and bloom, and silver dollar to his old friend, the bloom clear to the end of life under magician, Kellar.

"Here, do a trick," said the banker. "Hands are too cold," replied the sleight of hand artist, but taking the coin he flipped it into the air and instantly it seemed as if it were raining silver dollars in Kellar's silk

That's how some of the wizards in trade operate. By an apparent stroke of genius they multiply one dollar of profit into nearly a dozen. "Luck," you say.

Not that at all. It wasn't luck which enabled the magician to manipulate the coins, but years of patient practice and study. The follow who thinks he can win

in business today without once following the injunction "find out," had Just at dusk two evenings later, better telephone for the sheriff to nail up his door.

### Color Bitndness.

Color blindness proves to be less simple than has been supposed, the defect being one of coloring instead of vision in some cases. As reported by Dr. H. E. Howe of the American Chemical society, eyes quite perfect in ordinary color perception have become weak or fatigued for red and then have responded to the green ray combined with the red from certain red glass. A veteran engine driver properly identified red light near at hand, while at considerable distance the signal appeared green. The dist of the lamp was found to be copper ruby glass and this and some other kinds of red glass permit rays toward selenium ruby glass is advised, its transmission of only red rays insuring "Oh, he may be killed!" wailed the that the normal eye will see no green.

#### Peculiar Patches in Sky. Not less than 182 more or less clear-

ly defined dark patches in the sky are recognized by Prof. E. E. Barnard in his latest catalogue. In some cases they are fairly round and regular, in others they are of complicated and contorted form and their appearance and sharpness suggest that they are dark clouds or nebulae cutting off a background made faintly luminous by unseen stars or diffused nebulous matter. Most, though not all, of the dark patches are in the region of the Milky Way, where so much of the material visible in the heavens is concentrated.

### Belt Had Tightened.

Two soldiers from Fort McKinley, Maine, attended a bounteous repast on Thanksgiving day, and after partaking of the most varied assortment of dishes, the hostess inquired if they would have anything else. One soldier gazed longingly at the fruit, candy and ice cream as yet untouched, and remarked: "A little more room, please."--Everybody's Magazine.

## Nellie Dayton's "Nay"

By SAIDEE E. BALCOM

(Copyright, 1919, by the Western News-paper Union.)

Twice she had said "nay," and the last time Marvin Wade marveled deeply over the perversity of the nature feminine. She was something more than lovely, was this idol of his dreams.

Yet there was a winning gentleness to her manner, a tenderness half expressed with those whom she liked or pitied or wanted to help. It was because she saw sterling worth in Marvin Wade that she checked hisfirst outburst of love and repressed its recognition in her own heart.

"We have not known each other very long," she said; "and we are young, and we will continue very good friends.'

The sincerity and earnestness of his second appeal a month later well nigh carried down the barrier of her reserve. He was so manly, his longing, ingenuous eyes revealed a soul filled with the deepest devotion, but pretty, positive Nellie Dayton said:

"You have not yet safely tested your reserve strength for the battle of life. There are trials and temptations. Are you sure of yourself? Let us see what a year or two may do for both of us ways of life."

"Why, it's very plain the girl loves you, Marvin," declared his closest the engineer and the chemist. It is friend. "She loves you so much that the era of unlimited research work. she wishes you to be sure that you

> "Oh! if she only really does like me," overflowed Marvin, "I'd be willing to wait one eternity for her!"

"You know Nellie isn't much like other girls. Her folks were strict disciplinarians, great church people, and she, while neither prude nor Pharisee, looks to truth and steadfastness as guiding elements. Trials? She wants to see how you meet and conquer them. Temptation? You're flawless in your habits, Marvin. Why! You don't even know how to play billiards. Perhaps because thoughtful. anxious Nellie realizes that sometimes the fellow who has never even smoked a cigarette goes it like a whirlwind when he does get started, she awaits. that very test."

"You've hit it-that's the keynote,. temptation!" burst out Marvin convincedly. "Oh, but she need never think I have any wild oats to sow! Why, every aspiration of my soul is to nourish beautiful flowers of the the golden sunshine of Nellie's sweet

smile!" "Oh, but you've got it bad! That's all right, though, and you're all right, too, and you're going to win Nellie in the end," and Marvin looked hopeful and went away with a big idea in his

"Temptation?" reflected the ardent lover-"that is the keynote of Nellie'sideas, I see it clear as can be be. She is such a perfect girl, with her charities and her strict church ways, that If she should ever marry and find out later that her husband swore or told lies it would break her heart. I don't pretend to be goody-goody, but I have got manhood enough and respect for my mother's memory and regard for Nellie to keep me from anything that would grieve those I love. Now if that great bugaboo of my falling by the wayside worries Nellie, I'm going to show her I can stand the test."

It was about a week after that when Nellie heard news that grieved her. A girl friend came to her, all a-flutter with excitemenet.

"Oh, Nellie!" she said, "I hear some dreadful things about Marvin Wade. My brother says he's bound to go to the dogs, quick and fast, and dreadful indeed was the story she told. In brief, item one: Marvin had been seen smoking a horrid big cigar! Item two: He had stayed half a day with the loungers in the billiard hall! Item three: He had joined a card party in a private room at the town hotel! Item four: A friend had to take him home from a convivial stag party and Marvin had gone around later, a total

The "wreck," to the amazement of Nellie, put in an appearance the next day. She was in the garden when he arrived, and she tried to look very severe as he took his place beside her on a rustic seat.

"Well, Nellie," he began, less the penitent than the solicitous lover, "I've come to bid you goodby," and Nellia, ready to deliver a severe lecture, became very anxious-faced.

"You see, I've been exploiting thistrial and temptation idea of yours, Nellie," went on the audacious visitor. "As to the trials, I'm sure I can bear any of them like a regular hero if you only love me. Temptations-I ran right into them. I billiarded and was bored to death. I flirted with tobaccoand a mild decoction in the drink line, and was sick for two days. Say, dear, I've tested out the folies that a good many fall for, and I can say absolutely-no more of it for me! I was going to suggest that now, as penancefor this little experimental fling, I go away for say a year, and show what's In me in a business way. Nellie, shall I go?" She fixed her lovely eyes on his true, honest face, she realized all the sterling truth and earnestness in that worthy nature, and then-as tothe going away, the third time Nellie Dayton said him "nay!"