



Below, a great broad stretch of ocean, calm as death, shimmering placidly beneath the sun's hot rays; above, a sky of palest azure, flecked here and there by faint masses of soft, fleecy clouds...

Along the white road, that gleams thickly in the burning sunshine of this brilliant day, a carriage is crawling along with quite an aggravating slowness—an antiquated vehicle of a type now almost unknown, but which once beyond doubt was the most popular mode of conveyance...

"It is charming," says the younger girl, with a little quick motion of the hand towards the sweeping bay, and the swaying trees, and the other glories of the landscape. "All charming, far better than I ever dared hope for; and yet my mind misgives me Vera."

"So you are a brilliant girl on her sister, full of terrible insinuations, and then laughs a little. Thus animated, she is a very pretty girl, half child, half woman, restless as the morning, and with eyes like stars. She lifts one slender black-gloved hand, and placing it beneath her sister's chin, turns her face gently to her."

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AN AGE OF RAILWAYS

It is coming rather fitfully from between her parted lips. "He looks dying," she says, at last, speaking with a heavy sigh, and going nearer to Griselda, as if unconsciously seeking a closer companionship. "Did you ever see such a face? Don't you think he is dying?"

"Who can tell?" says Griselda. "I might, that is, perhaps, but for his eyes. They—she shudders—"they look as if they couldn't die. What terrible eyes they are! and what a vile old man sitting there! Good heavens! how did he dare so to insult us! I told you, Vera—with rising excitement—"I earnestly beg that our coming here would be only for evil."

"A moment later a knock comes to the door. "Will you be pleased to come down stairs or to have your tea here?" demands the harsh voice of the housekeeper from the threshold. "She bows to him, and so does her sister, presently from some dark doorway, the bold, circumspect woman, who, when we get some hot water, and when you send a maid to help us to unpack our trunks."

"There are no maids in this house," replies Mrs. Grunch, sullenly. "Let me help attend to each other or you must help us." "No maids!" says Griselda. "And my room? Oh—is this mine, or Miss Dyaart's?"

"Leave the room," says Griselda, with a sudden sharp intonation, so unexpected, so withering, that the woman, who is a surprised stare, turns and withdraws. "Use that, miss. Neither more nor less. And good enough, too, for those who—"

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CORN IS KING

It is not alone with the Indians that myth and legend endure. To-day, among the new settlers, in certain localities, it is believed that in selecting seed-corn for the next year's corn all the stalks and refuse must be taken into the highways and instantly destroyed, but not by burning, as that would insure the presence of the black fungus, or "smut," as it is provincially termed.

"Corn is the great staple of the United States. It is the most important product of the American continent, be it said or the output of mines or factories. More acres are devoted to the raising of corn than in the annual yield of wheat, barley, rye, buckwheat and cotton combined. Corn provides more employment for laborers, provides more work for distributors and makes basis for many industries and activities than any other American commodity. In the United States there has been raised 1,000,000,000 bushels of corn in 1898. Last year (1898) a corn value of \$100,000,000 was realized. The corn crop of 1899 is estimated at 1,200,000,000 bushels, the number of acres planted being 81,550,000. Last year (1898) a corn value of \$100,000,000 was realized. The corn crop of 1899 is estimated at 1,200,000,000 bushels, the number of acres planted being 81,550,000."

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SERMON

Rev. Dr. Caimage

Subject: Guard Your Temper—A Sweet Disposition. Rev. Dr. Caimage, in his sermon, recommends more of the saccharine and less of the acrid human disposition; text, Ephesians iv, 26. "Let not the sun go down upon your wrath."

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