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SLUG NUMBER ELEVEN.

Never been in a printing office before, I suppose, what woman's picture over that case, you ask? Why, that's Nan. She was slug 11, Oh, no. Slug 11 wasn't her nickname. 'Twas her number. See here is a 'slug eleven.'

Printers use their slug numbers to mark their matter; else how could they make up their strings? A string! Oh, we paste all our dupes together, and that makes a string that shows what we have done. Here's my string for today—a regular rope, ain't it?

Want to know about Nan, eh? Well she was the only female typewriter we had, and she was a hummer. She could talk longer and on occasions louder, and truth compels me to say broader than—well than some girls. Pretty? Not exactly, just so-so. Slender, lively, hair the color of canned salmon, teeth pretty well justified and eyes that were usually blue, but liable to turn green if she got mad. Boys used to say that if Nan was going to Paradise she'd be late getting there; but I never saw anything bad about her except, once in a while, her tongue. Mister, don't you get it into your head that because a girl sets type or works in a factory among a lot of men she can't be good.

'To resume my yarn. Once there came along a handsome young fellow that we dubbed Mr. Kokuk, because he came from the town of Kokuk, and the Rat was the only person in the office that Nan did notice. We called him the Rat because he had a rat on his back when we struck. We took him back out of pity but no one loved him. Lank, cadaverous, peck-marked, thin-lipped fellow, with eyes like two holes burnt in a blanket.

'Well, Nan and Mr. Kokuk went to two or three dances and a circus or two—we used to get plenty of oomps to such things then—and first we knew they were engaged. The very next thing we went on a strike again, all except Nan and the Rat. He said his wife was dying, and he had to earn what he could. It wasn't much because he was a regular black smith. We called a poor printer a blacksmith. Nan's eyes turned green as she said she wouldn't go because she didn't want 'no there'.

About a week after the strike began Mr. Kokuk and I were in a saloon opposite where the Rat's roomed, and we saw Nan come in at the family entrance and buy a flask of whiskey. We were in there celebrating the end of the strike. All went back next day and late in the evening, when only Mr. Kokuk, Nan and I were left in the office I heard him go over and tell Nan he must break off the engagement because she had gone back on the strikers, and more particularly for the reason that he would never marry a woman that bought whisky by the flask in a saloon. Mr. Kokuk was a kind of a goody-goody fellow, you see. Nan wheeled about on her stool, her eyes snapped till the lashes fairly cracked, and she said: 'You are a little plaster of paris god, ain't you? Be careful you don't tip over or you'll break in two. You ought to go as a missionary to the cannibals. You wouldn't be good eating, but they ain't very particular.'

'Mr. Kokuk put on his coat and went away, but after he had gone I went to lift a handful of type out of a form that stood near Nan's case and I saw that her eyes were sweating. Tears as big as rain drops fell down over her case. She kept on throwing in type. She tossed the 's into the 'e box, and comes over among the periods, and caps down among the lower case letters in a reckless manner. The matter she set the next day was so lousy that the foreman threatened to discharge her. What do I mean by lousy? Why, full of mistakes; to be sure I know the reason and corrected some of her gaffs to help her out. At the next morning of our union some one said that Mr. Kokuk had been proposed to raise a family. Bury Rat's two children that had just died that day of the scarlet fever, both on the

same day, mind you. He had buried his wife the week before. 'He ought to be able to bury his own dead, he's been at work right along,' said some one, and nearly all growled assent.

'Who started the movement to raise the fund? I asked.

'Nan,' answered the fellow who had proposed the matter. She headed the list. She's about the only friend the family had. Sit up nights to help take care of Rat's wife, who was a mighty sweet little woman. Bought whiskey for her when that was all that would keep the poor woman alive.

'You ought to have seen the expression on Mr. Kokuk's face when he heard this explanation as to why Nan went to the saloon to get a bottle of whiskey. And when Rat's wife died,' continued the speaker, and his two children fell sick she cared for them. I tell you, boys, printing offices have their devils, but now and then angels drop into them, and—'

Before he could say another word Mr. Kokuk sprang up and moved that each member be assessed \$2 to defray the funeral expenses of Rat's children, and that as many of the boys as could hire subs and attend the funeral. Did we carry the motion? Well, rather.

'Nan was the doly woman mourner, and she looked handsome in a cheap dress of black she had got for the occasion. Next day she was back at her case, and at evening, while she was distributing type, Mr. Kokuk crept up to her case looking like a whipped spaniel, and said:

'Nan, do you know what I think of you?'

'No; and what's more, I don't care.' 'Well I think you are a saint upon earth.

'Do you know what I think of you?' said Nan, knocking about half a handful of matter into pi. 'I don't think anything. Then how Mr. Kokuk did plead for forgiveness! Nan said not a word a long time, but finally she turned about with a half sneer on her face and said: 'I'll jiff to see who pays for the tickets to the theatre tonight! To jiff is to play a game of type. Mr. Kokuk got stuck for the tickets and I tell you he was tickled. They went but they only saw part of the play. As they were walking along to the theatre they passed a paragon. 'Ain't that the man that preached the funeral sermon for the Rat's children?' asked Mr. Kokuk.

'Yes,' answered Nan.

'Let's go in and see him,' said Mr. Kokuk.

'In they went and Nan who is usually surprised at nothing, was much astonished when she heard Mr. Kokuk asked the minister to marry them, but she consented and they were married, and when the minister had reached the end of the performance Mr. Kokuk took Nan in his arms and kissed her what did she do but drop her head on his shoulder and cry! She said it was because she was worn out watching the Rat's folks, but reckon those tears were tinged with the essence of joy.

'Say, do you see that counterfeited looking fellow with a slouch hat on, standing over there by one of the forms talking to the foreman! That's Mr. Kokuk. He is now editor and proprietor of the "Kokuk Banner." Gets all the county printing and is making a barrel of money. He's here on a visit and telling the boys about Nan. Gave me her picture as she now looks. Gentle, refined looking lady, ain't she? She's boss of the Sunday school in Kokuk, has two scholars from her own family to send to it, and when any of the printers go on the tramp she bustles in to the office and tosses metal with the best of them. If there's a sick family in Kokuk or the contiguous territory that needs help, you bet Nan will be there.

The Bible in School

The public mind is being agitated considerably in many parts of our and other States at the present time on the question of abolishing the use of the Bible in our public schools. There are three classes of people principally engaged in the conflict: First, those who are inclined to Catholicism; second, the Protestants; and thirdly, those who claim not to believe or care whether the Bible is true or not. The first named are opposed to it on the ground of its teachings being contrary to the tenets and ritual of the Roman Catholic Church, and as their children have to attend many of our public schools or go without education, they are compelled to listen to what they term heresy; so they would like to substitute their Bible in its place. The ground of opposition of the last named is that they send their children to school to be educated, and not to be made preachers off and think that the time taken up in reading the Scriptures could be better employed in other studies. The Bible is not used in the school-room for sectarian purposes, and we don't think it ever will or should reach such a point; at the same time we do not think it would be advisable to dispense with its use altogether. It certainly can do no harm to read selections from the book of all books in the hearing of the young. Its teachings are pure and just, and no one so far who has read it and lived up to its doctrines has been the less disqualified in any manner to engage in social or business life. Its ancient historical information is superior to any other book published, and the language of many of its writers is teeming with beautiful expressions of pathos and sincerity. There are many things perhaps in our school methods that need reforming, but leave the Bible where it is as long as it is not used for any sectarian purpose, or to interfere with the other studies of our children.

A Japanese proverb says that a friend at hand is better than all your relations at a distance, so a little money in your pocket is better than all the credit in the world. It is astonishing sometimes how much a little money will buy, and equally surprising how quickly a bill reaches a hundred, and yet we may have little to show for it. One purchasing on credit buys rashly and generously; he does not think of pay day, which seems far off, certain like death, but as remote and intangible. It is so easy to buy things in this way, one hardly stops to count the cost; by this method it almost seems as if all the things we covet grow on trees and all we had to do was to put out our hands, and we are ready and clothed as if by a miracle, and it is surely a miracle if we pay the bill due in due season. To contract an obligation, to give another the advantage; we believe that half the forgeries and embezzlements in the country are the direct result of debt, half the paralysis and heart disease which end men's lives in their heyday may be traced to the worry consequent upon debt, worry kills more people than work, or love, or any disease. It wrinkles in the face, it discolors the skin, makes the hair fall out, and encourages dyspepsia.

Wisconsin is the first American State to adopt the plan of ballot distribution by the State, and the first election under the new law has just been held at Milwaukee. The law provides for a ticket room and a voting room at each precinct, with a passage way between. The voter receives his ballots from the State election officer in the first room, which only one voter at a time is allowed to enter. He then passes alone to the voting room, deposits his ballot and goes out of the door provided for exit. No crowd of persons is allowed within a hundred feet of the voting places, and no person is allowed to offer ballots or solicit votes within the same limits. By this means the ballot is made re-

The Result of Debt.

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WARE HOUSE AT PUBLIC SALE.

The undersigned will offer at public sale at the Washington House, Middleburg, Pa., on Saturday, May 15, 1888.

All that certain message or tract of land situate in Franklin, Middleburg, Pa. containing 100 acres more or less, bounded North by land of A. K. Gilt, East by Michael Schick, South by S. E. Kaitling and West by public Road, said land is now owned by S. E. Kaitling, on which is erected a good two-story, weathered frame building, 22 x 32 feet with iron roof siding to coal yard, and provided with a first class Parkman scales to weigh coal, all of which is on second floor weighing 10 tons on one draft. Sale to commence at 10 o'clock when terms will be made known by D. BOLENDER.

Paine's Celery Compound. A NERVE TONIC. Celery and Cook, the prominent ingredients, are the best and most reliable regular habit, curing Nervous Weakness, Headache, Sleeplessness, &c. AN ALTERNATIVE. It drives out the poisonous humors of the blood purifying and enriching it, and so overcoming those diseases resulting from impure or impoverished blood. A LAXATIVE. Acting mildly but surely on the bowels it cures habitual constipation, and promotes a regular habit. It strengthens the system, and aids digestion. A DIURETIC. In its composition the best and most active diuretic of the Materia Medica is combined with other effective remedies for the kidneys. It can be relied on to give quick relief in all cases of dropsy. Numerous testimonials have been received from persons who have used this remedy with the most successful results. Price 25 cents. Sold by Druggists. WELLS, RICHARDSON & CO., Prop's BURLINGTON, VT.

Stylish and Well Made Clothing. I still continue in the Merchant Tailoring business with rooms in Eby's Corner, Selinsgrove, Pa. and take this means of informing the people of Snyder county, Pa. I have on hand a well selected stock of Cloths, Cassimeres, etc., and samples from the best and most reliable New York and Philadelphia houses, and will sell lower than ever. Cutting, Cleaning, Repairing, Dyeing and Seaming done on short notice. Nov. 11f. B. E. BUCH

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NOTICE TO HEIRS. In the matter of the Estate of Hezekiah Kratzer, late of Centre township, Snyder county, Pa., dec'd.

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NOTICE TO HEIRS. In the matter of the Estate of Amelia Kratzer, late of Centre township, Snyder county, Pa., dec'd.

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