

## The Two Paths

By  
Frances Elizabeth Lanyon

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"You might have had Norman once," Mrs. Alice Wardell informed her bosom friend, Mrs. Lois Russell. "It doesn't make me the least bit jealous to tell you so."

"He made a better choice, dear," chirped Lois gaily. "If I had missed Robert, turning out as he has, I think I should have spent the rest of my life in tears."

"And Norman is a second prince!" exclaimed Alice doubtfully. "We're lucky girls, that's what we are. Well, good-by, Lois. We have two social functions for the evening and I must get home to try on a new dress."

Certainly Wardell and Russell were model husbands, but Alice and Lois were jewels of constancy and beauty. They had known one another for five years, the wedding was a double one and was signalized by a pleasant circumstance. Russell and Wardell were half cousins. Rich John Dayton was their half uncle. When he sold out his business, in which these distant relatives were employed, he presented "the boys" with twenty thousand dollars each. A month later Uncle Dayton died and the half cousins knew that they had reached the limit of their expectations.

"I've got my chance!" exclaimed Russell to Alice.

Within a week his "chance" developed into purchasing a membership on the grain exchange, leasing a fashionable flat and plunging headlong into the social swim.

The life delighted Alice and she seemed really to be born for it. Wardell was popular, she was bright, gracious, full of vitality and they were taken up by a really exclusive set as undeniable acquisitions to their choice circle.

"We'll make our dream come true, won't we, little woman?" spoke Robert Russell, and Lois smiled at his en-



"Hold On, Mr. Russell," He Sang Out.

thusiastic words and felt that life in earnest was to begin for them at last.

Lois was a practical body and, besides, had supreme faith in the invariable correctness of the judgment of the man she loved. Once Robert Russell, out of work in a distant city, moneyless and half ill, had gone through a hard winter, barely earning enough to live on. He had shared the trials of the poor. He had never forgotten it. The sufferings of the indigent from lack of fuel had struck him forcibly. The lack of work for honest sober men had impressed him, and keen observation had suggested a new field of enterprise few had ever thought of utilizing.

Robert did a strange thing. He leased an abandoned coal yard in a tenement district of the big city, four miles away from it, where a belt line ran, was a great barren prairie. Here the various railroads sent their worn-out and useless timber ties, cords and cords and acres and acres of them. Here periodically these great heaps were set on fire and burned to ashes to get rid of them.

Robert went to the persons having the matter in charge and was given free license to cart away all he wanted of the ties, which accumulated daily. Then Robert set his project in full operation. Winter was coming on, the hard season for the poor. Robert had purchased half a dozen teams. There was a large stable in the coal yard and an old house. He fixed these up in good shape, moved into the house, furnished it up comfortably and used one of its rooms as an office.

Then Robert made it known in the district that there was permanent or temporary work for the worthy unemployed in the vicinity. It required a dozen men to drive and load the wagons which transported the ties to the yard, hostlers as well, and a large number to saw and split the wood. Within a month the business was reduced to a system.

It proved a blessing to the poor, to whom Robert sold the wood at a fair low price. Coal was delivered by the bushel or the ton. Credit was given where it was deserved. At the end of

the first season Robert "broke even" and was content.

Only a few times did Wardell and his wife visit their old-time friends. They were so utterly out of their circle that they practically dropped the acquaintanceship.

The following summer Robert rented a vacant hall, fitted it up as a neighborhood clubroom, put in a library and it became the social meeting place of the district. In all this work, aided by his wife, he did a great deal of helpful good to the striving poor. The next season the business paid a liberal return. By the fourth year general trade had extended and the yard brought in a handsome revenue.

Those were blessed happy years for man and wife. Many a struggling man out of work they lifted out of a hard place in his experience. Many a poor girl they assisted to respectability. There was one worthless drunkard, David Warfield, whom they reformed and who became a steady worker. They were duly gratified when the man, who was naturally smart and ambitious, became foreman of a factory in Milton township, a remote part of the county, and wrote to them blessing them for the new start in life they had given him.

The name of Robert Russell had become a household word in the district—indeed, through the whole city. Within five years he had made a record for practical philanthropy that had become widespread.

"They wish me to become a candidate for county commissioner," Robert told his wife one day.

"You will accept?" inquired Alice.

"I have done so already," replied Robert. "I am not particularly attracted to political preferment, but the position places the incumbent in close touch with the charitable organizations of the city."

Lois was very proud of what she considered a deserved distinction for her husband. There was no doubt of his popularity. When election day came on, however, the returns from the polls showed that the ticket he was on was badly defeated. Robert, however, had run far ahead of the others, and at midnight all the returns except one remote country precinct left him only twenty-two votes behind the lowest candidate on the opposite ticket.

Robert was about to leave headquarters, conceding defeat in his philosophical, good-natured way, when the tally clerk, who had just opened a belated telegram, waved his hand to him excitedly.

"Hold on, Mr. Russell," he sang out, "here's something that will interest you—the final returns of Milton township."

"Does it change the results?" asked Robert.

"Only this much—it elects you!"

"Read—you have run four to one against any other candidate in Milton township, giving you the lead by over six hundred votes."

"Milton township?" repeated Alice, when Robert recited the crowning incident of the election. "Why, Robert! isn't that where David Warfield went?"

They knew that it was very soon, for the next day Warfield, the man they had set on his feet, appeared in person to tell how his recital to the men working under him of the goodness of Robert Russell had won them over almost unanimously.

So, the bread cast upon the waters came back tenfold to the worthy man who had chosen the path ever illumined by the kindly light of love for his fellow man.

### REAL "LAZY MAN'S LAND"

Where They Rise at Four in the Morning to Loaf Around All Day.

You ask a Kentucky mountaineer a question which he doesn't quite grasp and he says, "How?" A Tennesseean, in like case, exclaims, "Which?" There are other differences between the two. The former, for example, may be lazy, but he has at least the grace to try to conceal his shame while the latter openly "brags on" it.

"You-uns have come to lazy man's land," drawled a soft voice that afternoon in Black Water. The speaker was unshaven and unshorn, and his black eyes laughed out at us with impudence and easy good humor from a wilderness of curly black beard and tangled elf locks beneath a tattered hat. "Yes, you-uns have sure come to lazy man's land," fluted the mellow voice once more, and it was easy to believe him that somnolent afternoon, when all the little sun-flooded valley lay drenched in golden dream, and the air, drowsy in the dull drone of bees, hung heavy with the heat.

Next morning, however, when we awoke in our room in the hotel at Sneedville, at 4:30, roused by the clangor of the great bell that hung in the hotel yard, we felt there must be a mistake somewhere. "Surely this can't be 'lazy man's land' where folks get up at such an hour!"

We were still more impressed and confounded when we got down and found that breakfast was almost over. William A. Bradley writes in Harper's. But when we had finished our own breakfast and gone out in the street there was the entire male population sprawled about the courthouse steps across the way or seated on chairs along the sidewalk, while over every fence bobbed a feminine sunbonnet.

Not in the whole town did we see a single person who seemed to have anything to do, and yet there was not one who had not risen at four in the morning to do it.

## Spectacles of the Russian Ballet



The spectacles presented by the Russian Ballet were revelations of gorgeous color. Audiences were enthralled by them, responding to the fascination of the most marvelous management of color that has ever inspired them to enthusiasm. It is for students of the times to determine how great an influence these spectacles have had on fashions. We see this influence reflected now and know that it will reappear in the spring, for it has given women "the courage of color," as Rostand expresses it.

The legends of the ballets make a limitless playground for the imaginations of those who must enjoy so rich a field. In "Scheherazade," the scene is a sultan's harem. It goes without saying that here is chance for reproducing and elaborating oriental splendor. "Le Carnaval" betrays by its name how great the variety it includes, and "Cleopatra" revives the wonders of old Egypt.

In "Thamar" and "Sadko" imaginative designing reaches the zenith of its marvels. In "Sadko" there is nothing either to guide or to hamper the fancy of the costume. The scene is laid at the bottom of the sea in the realm of the ruler of the ocean, where the fortunes of Sadko, a roving musician, have landed him. The stage is peopled

with groups representing swaying seaweed, corals, sea flowers, fishes and other inhabitants of the deep, clear waters.

The costuming is a revelation of resourcefulness and of beauty that lures the mind into unexplored paths. Why not take the corals or anything else on land or sea as inspirations and make life a continual round of impersonations? In the accompanying picture "The Bird" of the Russian Ballet lends us to ponder the prodigality of nature in clothing the feathered tribe. Color and more color is the bequest of the ballet.

### Novelty in Handles.

Cherries are always more or less popular on umbrella handles, and one of the new umbrellas fairly bristles with them. Bright red cherries on stems are carried along the full length of the handle. It is the branch of a cherry tree and unusually well laden with fruit.

### Borders of Braid.

On some of the new suits for autumn there is little trimming, though broad silk braid is occasionally employed as a border for skirt and coat. Belts are ubiquitous, though on many models the belt appears back and front.

## The Gorgeous Hat of Midwinter



Midwinter millinery is about to make its exit from fashion's stage. It has made a splendid performance and will be bowed out amid many plaudits for its brilliant triumphs, for it has grown more and more rich and beautiful as the season advanced to its climax. Already demi-season hats of satin are making their appearance, intended to tide over the time between winter and spring. But we shall not turn our backs on the gorgeous hats of midwinter without casting "one longing, lingering look behind."

A look will be rewarded with such inspiring headwear as is pictured in the group of hats above, and any one of them is fascinating enough to make one bless the winter season. At the center of the group a hat of heavy blue silk lace is made over a wire frame and lined with silver gauze. The Nattier blue of the lace looks particularly well with moleskin, and the hat has a top crown of this fur. There are medallions in the pattern of the lace, about the side crown, and every other one is covered with a medallion of fur.

At the left a hat of satin is covered with a delicate net and lace of gold. The lace extends beyond the ribbon in the brim. There are three clusters of metallic roses and foliage about the

cluny lace, the most widely serviceable, durable and practical of hand-made edgings and insertions for general use where something worth while is desired, now comes from China. It is made there at lower rates than in Europe. The Chinese lace is known as Chee Foo, from the place from which it comes.

## KEYSTONE BRIEFS

The Rev. Robert O'Boyle, chaplain of the First Cavalry, has resigned. Pennsylvania is in the second farm-bank district with headquarters at Baltimore.

One hundred and seventy-four deer and 15 bears were killed in Center county this season.

Morris Wolf, a Salem farmer, was fined \$10 and costs for shooting an eye out of a fox-hound.

Farm help of all kinds advanced in price during the past year and help of all kinds is very scarce.

Female help has increased in price and farmers are crippled on account of lack of domestic help.

Representatives of the Association of Pennsylvania Catholic Colleges held a conference in Altoona.

Dr. J. George Becht, secretary of the State Board of Education, has been making addresses at teachers' institutes.

Commissioner Dixon was congratulated on his re-election as president of the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia.

It is said by observers that the finest display of aurora borealis ever seen in Pennsylvania was visible Christmas night.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Harrisville was almost destroyed by fire, supposed to have been caused by a defective heater.

Plans are now being made for the observance of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the incorporation of Ellwood City as a borough.

The transmission line supplying electric current to Corry and Union City, parted during a storm, leaving those places without light or power.

The 600 employees of the Hamilton Watch factory at Lancaster were given Christmas week as a holiday with full pay. It means a gift of about \$20,000.

The P. L. Kimberly Memorial Nurses Home, in connection with the C. H. Buhl Hospital at Sharon, has just been completed at a cost of about \$75,000.

February 1 is the date unofficially announced that Schwab will take over the large coke plant operated by the Smet Solvay Company in East Steelton.

Benjamin F. Garver, a new Cumberland business man and strong Republican supporter, has been appointed mercantile appraiser of Cumberland county for 1917.

S. L. Parkes, secretary of the Berks County Conservation Association, is leading in the movement to distribute grain for the birds in the mountain districts of his county.

While walking on the ice at Harvey's Lake, Professor J. I. Alexander 32, broke through. For more than 15 minutes he supported himself by resting his chin on the ice.

Patients in the Lancaster General Hospital were endangered when fire destroyed the main building of Frank Bowman's box factory adjoining the institution, causing a loss of \$30,000.

Wood's knitting mills in Hawley were burned causing a loss of \$50,000 and making 100 operatives idle. The fire destroyed 50 machines made in Germany, which cannot now be replaced.

Representative John Morin introduced in the House a bill appropriating \$50,000 for improvements in the Pittsburgh postoffice building. Senator Oliver's bill for the same purpose has passed the Senate.

Announcement was made that Washington and Jefferson College Debating Society, known as the James David Moffat Debating Forum, has arranged two debates with other institutions and had several others pending.

Figures compiled by the National and State Mining Bureaus show that of 518,000,000 tons of coal mined in the country last year Pennsylvania produced 247,000,000, while of 767,554 men employed in the nation's mines, there were 365,073 in Pennsylvania mines.

Theodore Marburg, ex-minister to Belgium from the United States, under Taft, will address the Harrisburg Chamber of Commerce. Marburg is prominent in the League to Enforce Peace work and will discuss the European peace preparations.

At Carlisle the collection of portraits of former jurists has been practically completed by the presentation to the county by Mrs. Thomas B. Kennedy of a picture of her grandfather, James Riddle, the second commissioner judge of the county, who was on the bench from 1794 to 1803.

Approximately \$10,000,000 loss by fire in Pennsylvania in 1915 is shown in a compilation of fire statistics just issued by the actuarial bureau of the National Board of Fire Underwriters. The statistics show that 17.4 per cent of the loss was by fire through causes strictly preventable; 35.3 per cent through causes partly preventable, and 47 per cent through causes unknown and probably largely preventable.

The chambers of commerce of Sharon and Farrell have made objections to the manner in which the industries of those places have been handled in the new industrial directory.

The State Treasury is getting a good many checks for \$5.80, the lowest amount of State tax that is collected, from corporations which did not pay before the close of the fiscal year. The payments are made for companies which are not active, but the Commonwealth does not permit any of them to go free and holds that as long as a charter is worth anything a tax should be paid to the State.

## GIVE "SYRUP OF FIGS" TO CONSTIPATED CHILD

Delicious "Fruit Laxative" can't harm tender little Stomach, liver and bowels.

Look at the tongue, mother! If coated, your little one's stomach, liver and bowels need cleansing at once. When peevish, cross, listless, doesn't sleep, eat or act naturally, or is feverish, stomach sour, breath bad, has sore throat, diarrhoea, full of cold, give a teaspoonful of "California Syrup of Figs," and in a few hours all the foul, constipated waste, undigested food and sour bile gently moves out of its little bowels without griping, and you have a well, playful child again. Ask your druggist for a 50-cent bottle of "California Syrup of Figs," which contains full directions for babies, children of all ages and for grown-ups.—Adv.

### Guessed Wrong.

Two sober citizens met on a street in Babylon.

"You and I will live to see the day when this dancing craze will end," said the first sober citizen.

"I don't doubt it," answered the second sober citizen. "The world will soon outgrow such madness."

And that was 2716 years before the Castles took New York by storm.

## OF INTEREST TO MOTHERS

The cost of food today is a serious matter to all of you. To cut down your food bills and at the same time improve the health of your family, serve them Skinner's Macaroni and Spaghetti two or three times per week. Children love it and thrive on it. It is the best possible food for adults. Write the Skinner Mfg. Co., Omaha, Neb., for beautiful cook book telling how to serve it in a hundred ways. It's free to every mother.—Adv.

### Popped Out at the Popping.

Aunt—I suppose, Edith, you said "This is so sudden!" when Mr. Slow-boy proposed.

Niece—No; I fully intended to, but I was so excited I forgot and exclaimed "At last!"—Boston Evening Transcript.

## 10 CENT "CASCARETS" IF BILIOUS OR COSTIVE

For Sick Headache, Sour Stomach, Sluggish Liver and Bowels—They work while you sleep.

Furred Tongue, Bad Taste, Indigestion, Sallow Skin and Miserable Headaches come from a torpid liver and clogged bowels, which cause your stomach to become filled with undigested food, which sours and ferments like garbage in a swill barrel. That's the first step to untold misery—indigestion, foul gases, bad breath, yellow skin, mental fears, everything that is horrible and nauseating. A Cascaret to-night will give your constipated bowels a thorough cleansing and straighten you out by morning. They work while you sleep—a 10-cent box from your druggist will keep you feeling good for months.—Adv.

### Wicked Goings On.

"I understand automobiles have revolutionized the life farmers lead."

"So they have, in one way."

"How is that?"

"Farmers often return home in their cars from making a night of it in the city at the hour when they used to get up and got to work."

## DANDRUFF AND ITCHING

Disappear With Use of Cuticura Soap and Ointment—Trial Free.

The first thing in restoring dry, falling hair is to get rid of dandruff and itching. Rub Cuticura Ointment into scalp, then morning shampoo with Cuticura Soap and hot water. Prevent skin and scalp troubles by making Cuticura your everyday toilet preparation.

Free sample each by mail with Book. Address postcard, Cuticura, Dept. L, Boston. Sold everywhere.—Adv.

### Talented Person.

"As we grow older our ideas of amusement undergo a radical change," remarked the philosophic man.

"Unquestionably."

"For instance, when I was a small boy I was chiefly interested in the exhibits that composed a 'Congress of Wonders,' but now the amazing volatility of the speller fascinates me far more than any feature of the show."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

## SOUR, ACID STOMACHS, GASES OR INDIGESTION

Each "Pape's Diapiesin" digests 3000 grains food, ending all stomach misery in five minutes.

Time it! In five minutes all stomach distress will go. No indigestion, heartburn, sourness or belching of gas, acid, or eruptions of undigested food, no dizziness, bloating, foul breath or headache.

Pape's Diapiesin is noted for its speed in regulating upset stomachs. It is the surest, quickest stomach remedy in the whole world and besides it is harmless. Put an end to stomach trouble forever by getting a large fifty-cent case of Pape's Diapiesin from any drug store. You realize in five minutes how needless it is to suffer from indigestion, dyspepsia or any stomach disorder. It's the quickest, surest and most harmless stomach doctor in the world.—Adv.

Lots of men who rob Peter to pay Paul manage to stand Paul off.