

TRUST.
I shall see,
When I am dead,
And all my life, a finished scroll, is read,
That all the poor, rude fragments written now
With faltering hand
Gather together in that scroll, and make
An epic grand.
I shall hear
The noise and strife,
The clash and discord filling all of life,
Gather in one deep burst of harmony,
Whose sound shall rise
Grand, wonderful, with a triumphant swell,
And fill the skies.
So though the days may seem
Useless and pitiful and incomplete,
I still can trust my dream:
I know at last will come a triumph sweet,
When Death and I shall meet.
—Floy Campbell, in Lippincott.

The Wedding Coronet.



VERY small room, in a very small house, with a very small fire burning in the grate—this is our scene. There is no ornament, unless the pure white curtains, and the yellow dimple of the April sunshine on a somewhat faded carpet might be characterized as such, and the freshness of two girls who sat in the apartment struck you like an incongruity, it seemed as if they must be there by mistake.

"Half a pound of beefsteak, Ruth, and a few potatoes, and a loaf of bread; that will do, I think," said the elder, thoughtfully, to a tall, gaunt old woman with a little market basket on her arm, who stood in the middle of the room, as if awaiting orders.

"Aunt that is a pretty clus' dinner for three, Miss Josephine?" said Ruth, giving her rusty black bonnet an extra twitch.

"I know it, Ruth," laughed the girl; "but we must regulate our expenditure according to our resources, you are aware. See!"

She held up a lank little purse as she spoke. Ruth smiled too—but she was looking, not at the purse, but at Josephine Carey, standing where the sunshine threaded her brown curls with gold and melted into hazel wavs of light under her long dark lashes.

But she was not as regally beautiful as her sister. As Cecile Carey sat in the antique easy chair by the smoldering remnant of fire, it would scarcely have been difficult to fancy her a crowned queen.

She looked fretfully up from her embroidery as Josephine spoke.

"Ruth, do bring a few oranges for dessert—I cannot live on this beggarly diet," she said.

"We cannot afford it, Cecile," interposed Josephine, gently.

Cecile pouted.

"You don't care whether I starve or not," Josephine's lip quivered.

"Dearest Cecile is it not better to bear up cheerfully and strive, not to repine?"

"As if one could help repining in this dismal hole! And then since papa's bankruptcy and death our friends have all deserted us—of course, they would not come to such a place as this.

"Of course, then, they are not worth our regrets. But Cecile, you should not say all Mr. Archibald has been here several times."

"Yes," said Cecile, a little conscientiously, as if she would have added, "And I defy him to stay away while I choose to keep him with a smile or a glance."

"But, then, Josephine, he is our lawyer."

"The law business has long since come to an end," said Josephine, archly.

"Never mind, Cecy, we won't investigate his motives too closely; and now, where is my sewing?"

Cecile looked rather scornfully at the plain calico dress which the busy fingers of her sister were working on.

"Things will be different when I am Mrs. Archibald," she mused to herself.

"I wonder if he will come here to-day; he has been absent since Wednesday."

The sunshine was creeping up the wall like an ebbing tide of gold, and the coarse indices of the wooden mantel clock were pointing to somewhere about five, that afternoon, when Ruth put her stiff muslin cap into the room where Cecile was dozing over a book, and Josephine still at work over the calico breadths.

"If you please, young ladies—"

"Well!" drawled Cecile, sleepily.

"Mr. Archibald is here."

And, without further ceremony, she ushered the lawyer into the apartment.

A tall, stately man, somewhere between thirty and forty, with dark, heavy hair, straight features, and eyes full of quiet, thoughtful strength, he entered with the same chivalrous respect as had been wont to show the sisters when they dwelt in a superb mansion, and were clothed with purple and fine linen.

"I have come here on business," he said, breaking the momentary peace that ensued after the usual greetings; "business that is of a confidential nature, and which I am sure you will be glad to assist me in."

"Nay," he said, gently, "the present possessor is quite ignorant that he has done any wrong, whatever suspicions his father may have had on the subject."

"And how soon—when?" stammered Cecile.

"Do you mean how soon do you come

into possession?" he asked, as she paused abruptly. "Within a very few weeks, if not—"

"I know," said Cecile, with a look of alarm, "but my father's business is so complicated, and I have already given notice to the young man."

"Then it is a young man. Poor fellow!" sighed Josephine. "What sort of a person is it, Mr. Archibald?"

"I know nothing, Miss Josephine, except that he is about sixteen, and a cripple."

"A cripple?"

"Yes; a martyr, I am told, to spinal disease."

"And this is the only property he possesses?"

"All, I believe."

"But tell me about it, Mr. Archibald!" interrupted Cecile, with kindling eyes and deepening color. "This property—in what does it consist?"

"In Audley Hall and its estate to begin with, and further, in stocks, land, mortgages and railroad shares, amounting altogether, I think, to something like fifty thousand dollars."

"Twenty-five thousand each—that is very little," pouted Cecile, rather disappointed. Mr. Archibald smiled.

"For you to gain, perhaps; but a great deal for him to lose."

He glanced at his watch and rose.

"I will see you again to-morrow morning, young ladies. In the meantime, I suppose I have your authority to proceed as expeditiously as possible?"

"Certainly," said Cecile, eagerly.

"Pray let there be no delay that can be avoided. I am all impatience to come into my new property."

She smiled as she spoke—a smile that made her seem like some fair-haired angel. The lawyer looked at her with a long, penetrating glance, as he bowed good-bye. Cecile wondered, with a beating heart, what that grave, wistful look meant.

"Put up that horrid calico thing, Josey!" she exclaimed, when they were alone together. "Don't, pray, work any more to-day. I'll send Ruth out after some oranges and jelly and iced cake, and we'll have a nice little banquet. Oh! if you knew how I have longed for these little dainties after our anchorite fare! Why are you looking so grave, Josephine? Why don't you rejoice with me?"

Josephine looked up into her sister's radiant face.

"Because, Cecile, I see nothing to justify us in any great amount of rejoicing."

"Nothing?" Josephine Carey, what do you mean?"

Josephine rose and stood quietly before her sister.

"Cecy, look at me!"

"So I do look—what of it?"

"I am strong and healthy, am I not?"

"Yes—of course."

"With hands that are not useless and a heart that will not fail?"

"Yes."

"And do you suppose, Cecy, that I, with all these priceless blessings at my command will stoop to take a poor cripple boy's inheritance from him?"

"But it is not his; it is ours."

"No matter whose it is, I will not take it! Oh, Cecile, do you suppose my heart is of stone or adamant?"

"But Mr. Archibald—"

"As a lawyer—as our lawyer, Mr. Archibald has acted entirely right. He has discovered this inheritance and taken proper steps to place it in our hands—it is for us to decide whether we will accept it or not!"

"As if we should hesitate for a moment!"

"I shall not, Cecile; this poor cripple has greater need of the money than we."

"Josephine, are you in earnest?"

"Am."

Cecile grew scarlet with anger.

"Very well—you will do as you please. I shall not relinquish my share of this scanty property for a baseless whim. Is it not sufficient that this boy, or man, or whatever he is, has enjoyed our rights and comforts all his life?"

Josephine did not answer; she saw how useless it was to argue with her sister, but not the less was her own mind made up.

And when Mr. Archibald called the next morning, Cecile detailed to him what she called her sister's absurd Quixotism.

"Say what I will, she cannot be turned from this ridiculous piece of folly," concluded Cecile, "and she wishes you to deed back her half of the estate and money to this young man."

"And you, Miss Cecile?"

"Oh, I am troubled with no such ultra scruples of conscience. I shall, of course, desire to come into possession as soon as possible. Audley Hall will be a very pleasant change after these miserably cramped quarters."

"Does your sister accompany you?"

"Oh, no—she will remain here and open a little day school. The idea of Josephine Carey teaching school for a living!"

When Josephine returned from a brief walk, she found her sister in high spirits.

"Did you tell him, Cecy?"

"Yes."

"What did he say?"

"Nothing at all—it is evident he is very highly displeased, however."

Josephine's heart sank within her.

"I must do my duty," she thought, pressing her hand to her throbbing temples, "no matter whom it may offend. My duty—my duty!"

It was almost a sob, in its agonized intensity.

"You will come and see me soon, at Audley Hall," said Cecile Carey, bending her sweet eyes on Mr. Archibald's grave brow, as he bade her adieu at the railroad depot. He bowed quietly and stepped back, just as the train began to move. Cecile drew a long breath.

"Strange that he has not proposed," she thought. "But there will be no lack of opportunities at Audley."

Selden Archibald did not return directly to his office, although there was a considerable array of business awaiting him in those dingy precincts. He went, instead, to the little room where Jose-

phine Carey was crying quietly on her sister's empty chair.

"I know I am very foolish," she faltered, "but my little school commences to-morrow, and I have such a brief time left for tears."

It was the first time he had seen her since the evening he had brought tidings of the discovered inheritance. Since then she had slyly avoided his presence, dreading to read disapproval in his face. Now, however, there was no evading the ordeal—it must come!

"Miss Carey," he said earnestly regarding her, "I have come to speak to you with reference to this very unusual decision of yours respecting the Audley property. Few girls in your circumstances would have acted as you have done."

Her bright cheek caught a more vivid rose.

"You think I have acted wrongly?"

"Let me tell you what I think. It was a deed whose noble magnanimity is beyond all praise. You have abandoned comparative ease, and devoted yourself to a life of toil, because you thought it right. I am learning now for the first time the true emblem that dwell in a woman's nature. I loved you before—need I say how much dearer you are become to me now? My little heroine, will you trust the priceless heart to me? will you be my wife?"

"But, Mr. Archibald—"

"I fancied that you loved Cecile!"

He smiled, "I have loved you, dearest, since I knew you first, scarcely a year ago. But you have not answered my question yet?"

The soft brown eyes, dewy with a sense of great happiness that was in store for her, were raised to his with innocent frankness.

"I love you, Mr. Archibald," she said with a shy dignity that he knew herself. "But never dreamed you would love an insignificant little creature like me!"

He drew her towards him with a caressing fondness that was like new life to her starved heart! He loved her—that was enough!

The little school was never opened—and when Cecile read the long letter that reached her the very next mail, she bit her beautiful lips until the scarlet blood started.

"Poor that I have been!" she muttered.

"And to think how skillfully that unconscious little Josey has played her cards at Audley Hall, indeed! Why the Archibald estates are ten times as large! And the same game that brought wretched white roses, Josephine Carey's sunny curls, brought also the dawn of a new bliss to her girl heart. Selden Archibald thought his wife had never looked so lovely as she did on her wedding day!—New York News.

How Russia Recruits Her Spies.

Females play an important if not predominant part in the army of Russian spies, all of them belonging to the so-called educated classes. The way in which they are recruited is very simple and ingenious; the method was described to me once by one of the pillars of the Secret Section, and was confirmed later on by a lady spy with whom I had a conversation on the subject.

An official of six (sixty-nine out of a hundred educated Russians are officials) before he has served long enough to entitle him to a pension. His young wife petitions the Ministry for an allowance, and receives a sum varying from \$50 and \$250. After the lapse of some months she petitions again and is told to call at the police office, where about one-fifth of the former sum is given to her, and she is encouraged to hope that in two months' time something may be done for her again.

When she next returns, she is informed that as her husband did not earn a pension, she cannot expect to receive any further assistance; that the authorities, in fact, possess no funds for the purpose, but that they are willing to give her a little light employment which will entitle her to a monthly allowance, sufficient to save her from social shipwreck. She generally catches at the straw, and seldom has leisure or calmness enough to discover that it is not even a straw, but a golden chain that drags her down to unfathomable depths. She is then introduced into various families, visits the semi-public balls and places of amusement, and forwards regular reports to the Third Section, and waits the departure, more periodically to answer questions and take fresh orders.—London Telegraph.

How the Races Originated.

M. De Quatrefages, the French ethnologist, has made public his conclusions with regard to the origin and distribution of the human race. He says all mankind came from a central mass in Northern Asia, and that there were three fundamental types—black, white and yellow. These three types scattered over the world and intermingled, forming, in course of time, seventy-two distinct races of human beings, which is the number of races classified by our best ethnologists in the tabulations brought down to the year 1890. The learned De Quatrefages believes that the American Indians came from a blending of white and yellow races with a local quaternary race. Says M. De Quatrefages, where did that local quaternary race originate?—New York Journal.

Use for the Shark's Ears.

Sharks have lately been affording contributions to science. The biologists have been vivisectioning them for the purpose of finding out about the functions of the ear, which in fishes is made to some extent on the same pattern as in man. The fact has been known for some time that the ear is not merely an organ of hearing. It has to do with the sense of equilibrium. Light has been thrown on this matter by removing portions of the auditory apparatus of sharks, which are thus rendered unable to maintain their balance in the water.

The part on which this faculty seems to depend is the "labyrinth," and the same effect is produced by cutting the nerves communicating with it.—New York Commercial Advertiser.

REV. DR. TALMAGE ON ROME.

A SERMON INSPIRED BY A VISIT TO THE COLOSSEUM. ITS RUINS PREACH ELOQUENT SERMONS TO THE WORLD.

TEXT: "I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also."—Romans 1, 15.

Rome! What a city it is now! Rome! The place where Virgil and the Horace satirized, and Terence laughed and Catiline conspired, and Ovid dramatized and Nero fiddled, and Vesuvius prosecuted and Sulla legislated, and Cleopatra dined, and Titus and Decius and Caligula and Julian and Hadrian and Constantine and Augustus reigned, and Paul the Apostle preached the gospel.

I am not much of a draftsman, but I have in my memorandum book a sketch which I made in the winter of 1896, when I went out to the gate through which Paul entered Rome and walked up the very street he walked up to see somewhat how the city must have looked to him as he came in on the gospel errand proposed in the text. The Colosseum, on either side of the street through which the little missionary advanced. Piled up wickedness, enthroned acrobatics, templed cruelties, also to the detestable, glorified delusions. Pillared, arched, domed, turreted abominations. Wickedness of all sorts at a high premium and righteousness at a low price. The ceiling at its highest point was not to be compared to the stupendous to astound the centuries. Aye, it is the Colosseum started.

Of the theatre at Capua where Paul fought with wild beasts, the temple of Diana, of the Parthenon, of Pharaoh's palace at Memphis and of other great buildings, the ruins of which I have seen, it has been my aim to add to the sketch. What I have not spoken to you of the Colosseum at Rome, since its moral and religious lessons are so impressive.

Perhaps while in Rome the law of contrast wrought upon me. I had visited the Hamantine dungeons where Paul was incarcerated. I had measured the opening of the top of the dungeon through which Paul had been let down, and it was twenty-three inches by twenty-six. There was a hole in the rock 2½ feet high. And now I passed by the foundations of a building which is to be almost unparalleled for vastness. You can see by the walls which have begun to rise that here is to be something about stupendous to astound the centuries. Aye, it is the Colosseum started.

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