

LIFE AND DEATH.

Like unto day, from morning until eve,
Is life, and, as all days do vary, so
Is each life different. And, as we know...

AFTER ALL.

Tom Barclay and Elizabeth Murray
never understood each other very well,
and yet they had been engaged for a year.

They were very good friends, how-
ever, and thought they loved each other
—had even said so in strict confidence...

Now it happened that Elizabeth was
nearly worn out with the turmoil incident
to the preparations for a fashionable wedding...

One summer two years later, Elizabeth
and her mother joined a party who were
going to make a tour of the northwest...

It was in Portland that Miss Murray
met with an accident, and a treacherous
banana peeling was to blame for it.

Mr. Barclay did not mean anything by
this speech; it was simply an ebullition
of temper, and Elizabeth should have
met it as such.

Miss Murray did not smile. She was
morbidly sensitive, and an ugly thought
had lodged in her brain.

"Tom, I don't like that remark of
yours at all. I wonder if it is possible
that after our marriage you would attempt
to coerce me in the least?"

"A woman promises to obey when she
marries."
"Not always; the word is frequently
left out of the marriage service. It would
be better left out of ours."

"Do you mean that you will not
obey?" asked he, looking at her curiously.
"Of that sort."

"A man is the head of the family; it
is a wife's duty to obey."

"So I have heard. I never thought
of marriage in this light before—a bondage.
It seems to me that a woman's freedom
is something not to be given up lightly."

"Elizabeth, I thought you loved me."
"Did you? I thought so too, though
I have been told often enough that I didn't."

"What would you do?"
"Mother for one, Aunt Clara for another.
You see, mamma married papa for love
when he was a poor man, and Aunt Clara's
husband died before the honeymoon was over."

"Mr. Barclay was never so thoroughly
astonished in his twenty-eight years of life;
he asked, rather stilly—
"Will you kindly state why you engaged
yourself to me?"

"Well, Tom, I always liked you.
We've known each other for years. Our
families are intimate. What more natural
than that you, the only son, and I, the
only daughter, should marry?"

"Tom pulled his chair close to Elizabeth's
and drew her head down to his shoulder.
He ought to have done that earlier in the evening.
Then he said—
"My dear, what possesses you? You
know I love you."

"No, Tom, it is too late to make me
believe that. We are not fitted to make
each other happy; I am quite certain of it.
Let us break off our engagement."

"Not entirely that. I feel that you do
not love me, and something tells me
that I ought not to be your wife."

"Mr. Barclay, man-like, loved the
woman who was slipping away from him
at this moment, better than ever before,
and he had loved her always in his way;
he had made a mistake in not showing
his affection more plainly."

"Beth," he said, "forgive me. I
didn't mean it. I was a brute. As my
wife you will be free as air; you must
know that. Think a moment; it is not
an unardonable offence, is it?"

"I tell you it is not because of what
you said," she reiterated. "It is because
I know you do not love me, and that I
am not sure that I love you."

"Mechanically Tom dropped the
cigarette into his pocket. Suddenly he took
a step toward her, caught her in his arms,
kissed her once—twice—three times, with
all the passion of a man who loves, then,
releasing her, turned and left the room,
while Miss Murray, white and trembling,
sank into her chair, hid her face and
cried bitterly."

Much to Elizabeth's surprise Mr. Barclay
made no attempt to see or speak to her
again. She explained, where it was necessary:
"Mr. Barclay and I have changed our
minds."

A month later she and Aunt Clara
were outward bound, with Italy for their goal.
The remainder of the winter and the following
spring and summer were spent roaming
from place to place; then one
winter drove the sled into his face as he
walked the few blocks from the cable
cars to Miss Murray's home, for Tom
thought too much of his horses to take
them out on such a night; a man had
failed him in an important business appointment,
and it is quite possible that he was
a trifle bilious; at all events, he was
about as cross as he ever allowed himself
to become."

Now it happened that Elizabeth was
nearly worn out with the turmoil incident
to the preparations for a fashionable wedding.
She was nervous and irritable; probably
the east wind affected her hair; she
needed some one to smooth her hair;
talk tender, comforting words—in short,
pet her until she was rested; for the
woman never yet lived who did not like
occasional petting."

One summer two years later, Elizabeth
and her mother joined a party who were
going to make a tour of the northwest,
penetrating even the wilds of Alaska
before their return."

It was in Portland that Miss Murray
met with an accident, and a treacherous
banana peeling was to blame for it.
She had gone out alone to make some
small purchases, and stepping on the
deceitful peel fell to the ground."

A crowd was gathering. A gentleman
offered his assistance, and Elizabeth was
taken to the nearest store, while the
gentleman called a carriage and then
accompanied her home. It was Tom
Barclay."

In spite of the pain, Miss Murray could
not help looking at the man who would
have been her husband. That individual
met her eyes and said:
"Hello!"

Miss Murray blushed painfully, conscious
that she had been staring.
"Is it so long since I have seen you,
and we used to be such good friends,"
she smiled gently, "that you do not
recognize me?"

"Whose fault is it that you have not
seen me for so long?" he demanded; and
then, noting her fading color and pale
lips, he said, "What a brute I am to
question you so, when you are suffering
such pain! I was never gentle enough
to win your love, Beth."

"Did you ever try, Tom?"
"I thought I did."
"Did you take everything for granted—that you loved me, and that I
cared for you, and that in the course of
human events it was natural and proper
that we should get married?"

"Perhaps so," he answered quietly;
and then the carriage stopped, the driver
was at the door, and Elizabeth was
carried up to her room."

It was an ugly, obstinate sprain, and
held its victim a prisoner for six long
weeks. The party went on to Alaska,
leaving Mrs. Murray and her daughter
at the hotel, and quite as a matter of
course, Tom Barclay called often. He
was wonderfully gentle toward the
woman who had refused to be his wife.
Elizabeth did not know that he was trying
to win her love, but Mrs. Murray
was well aware of that fact, and well
satisfied, too. Tom was established in
the old business in Portland, and again
on the road to wealth. She had always
liked him, and shrewdly suspected that
in the presence of this planet had some-
thing to do with her daughter's strange
indifference to certain brilliant matrimonial
chances."

As for Elizabeth, she was utterly con-
valescent and happy during the period of
invalidism that confined her to the house.
What cared she for the beauties of
Alaska, of which her friends wrote such
glowing descriptions? Did she not have
long talks with Tom every other evening?
Though she took care that he knew
nothing of her quickening heart beats
and bounding pulses whenever he
approached."

Elizabeth had been able to walk for a
week. Her friends were due in two
days on their return trip, and she and
her mother were to join them and start
immediately for home.
Mr. Barclay asked the convalescent
to take a ride with him. He was thirty-
one, Elizabeth twenty-five. Mrs. Murray
did not think a chaperon necessary;
neither did Tom. They went alone."

"They were far better acquainted than
the days when they were engaged,
Miss Murray admired the honest courage,
the persevering independence, with
which her friend was rebuilding his
fortune, and Tom loved her as he always
had, as he always would, and had
learned to show his affection in many
of the thousand ways that delight a
woman's heart."

"They talked of the scenery, of her
accident, and then of the coming parting.
Suddenly Tom exclaimed:
"O Beth, my darling, give me a word
of hope before you go! You were mis-
taken in the old days. I always loved
you, and now that we have met again, I
cannot let you go out of my life forever."

"If you always loved me, why have
you been silent all these years?" inquired
Elizabeth.
"Because I was stunned that night
when I left you, realizing that by my
own stupid blundering I had lost you.
Then I set myself to do a penance. I
said, 'I will wait three years; if another
wins her I will know that she could
never love me; if not, I will try again to
gain her love. Perhaps I shall know her
better.' You know the rest. The crash
came. I had to come West and

begin over again. I am not as rich as I
was then, but there is every prospect
that I shall be, and I know, Beth, that
money makes no difference. I can give
you everything you want, even the dress-
maker; and indeed, indeed, darling,
that speech of mine was only the out-
come of bad temper, and" (hesitatingly)
"perhaps I understand a woman's moods
a little better now than then."

There was a short silence, while Mr.
Barclay, having made his plea, waited
for the verdict. At length Elizabeth
said:
"Perhaps I loved you then, Tom. I
could never care for any one else. I
always compared other men with you,
to your disadvantage. If you care to come
after me, some time, I will be your
wife."

Out of an inner pocket Tom took a
finny morocco case, and opening it, Miss
Murray saw the mittaire that had been
her engagement ring.
"I have always carried it with me,"
he said simply, "because you had worn
it."

Somewhat the tears sprang to Elizabeth's
eyes when he slipped it on her
finger.
Mrs. Murray was not at all surprised
when her daughter announced with a
blush, that she was going to marry
Thomas Barclay."

"I always thought you would," that
lady replied calmly.
The next winter Tom went east after
his bride. They are happier than they
would have been without that quarrel,
a blending of comedy and high tragedy,
but it does not follow that any one
should go and do likewise.—[Xankee
Blade.]

WONDERS IN BONES.

Some Curious Facts in Osseous
Structure Little Dreamed Of.

Exhibited in a glass case at the National
Museum there is a bone—a human
tibia—tied in a knot. It has been rendered
thus flexible by soaking it in acid,
which has dissolved out of it all its
mineral parts, leaving only the animal
portion. This portion makes about one-
third of the bone, which fact might sur-
prise some people who suppose that their
bones are almost wholly lime."

"There are funny things about bones
other than funny bones," said an osteo-
logist connected with the Smithsonian
Institution to a writer for the Washing-
ton Star. "For example, the bones of
birds are hollow and filled with warm
air from the lungs, so it may be said
that a bird breathes down to its very
toes and to the tips of its wings. In
fact, if you break off the wing of a duck
the animal can actually breathe through
the broken end of the wing. Some of the
gigantic reptiles of the mesozoic epoch,
which some scientists claim to have been
the ancestors of man, had hollow bones
similarly filled with air from the lungs,
for the support of their bodies in the
water while they browsed upon seaweeds
near shore, their massive and solid leg
bones serving as anchors, in a
depth about sufficient to cover their
backs."

"People continually imagine that their
bones are of solid mineral construction,
without any feeling in them. No one
who has ever had a leg or an arm cut off
is likely to indulge such a mistaken
notion. Commonly speaking, the pain
is felt when the flesh is being cut
through, but when the bone is attacked
by the saw, oh, my!"

"You see, as a matter of fact, there
are blood vessels and nerves inside the
bones, just as there are on the outside.
Any one who has purchased a beefsteak
at the market knows about the marrow
in the bone. It is the same with other
animals than the beef, including human
beings. Through the marrow run the
nerves and blood vessels, entering the
bones from the flesh without by little
holes, which you can see for yourself any
time by examining a skeleton or part of
one. When the disease called rheuma-
tism, which no physician understands,
affects the nerves within the bones, no
way has been discovered for treating it
successfully. It does not do to smile
when a person says he feels a thing in
his nature."

"Nature adapts the bony structure of
various animals to their habits in a very
interesting manner. Sluggish creatures
like the tortoise have solid bones, whereas
the bones of the deer and the antelope
are comparatively light, so that they
may run fast, and the leg bones of the
ostrich are hollow. You will find in
the bones of any skeleton the applica-
tion of mechanical principles which have
only become known to man through the
processes of laborious and long-considered
invention. In fact, the bones of other
animals have a most beautiful and perfect
illustration of the ball-and-socket
joint, while at your elbow there is a
combination of the hinge and ball-and-
socket which in its way surpasses any-
thing that human invention has been
able to accomplish thus far. But these
are simple things compared with the
hand, the bones of which exhibit the
most perfect and complete apparatus,
in its adaptation to the purposes for which
it is intended, that has ever been imag-
ined."

Esquimos Save a Ship.

A number of years ago one of the ships
of the fleet got nipped in the ice off
the coast above the Aruk ford. The
captain in a panic abandoned her and
fled ashore in the small boats. Next day
some Eskimos, fishing with their kayaks
off shore, saw the ship drifting there and
boarded her. Then they lifted the
hatches, and finding some water in the
hold, they used it as an instrument and
marked on a stanchion the height of the
water in the hold. Then they went on
deck and went away fishing again. Af-
ter a time they went back and looked at
the water-mark and found the water was
not gaining perceptibly. Now, in every
settlement there are men who can steer
a ship, and several in this party were able
to do so. They also knew how to loos-
en the sails, but did not know how to
sheet home. So they loosened all the
sails and let them hang and then the
wind being fair, headed her for the
ford and brought her in. The captain
and his crew were the owners of the
settlement, and they soon heard
that the ship had been brought in. So
they boarded her again, pumped her out,
went to Igivut, loaded and sailed for
Philadelphia, making up a story the while
to excuse the panic. The facts were re-
ported to the colonial department in
Denmark, as everything done in Green-
land is, and after awhile the owners of
the ship, Messrs. McKay & Dix, of New
York, received a letter from that depart-
ment which politely referred to the case,
and said that a just regard for the inter-
ests of the Eskimo wards of the nation
demanded that some effort be made to
obtain a suitable reward for the men who
saved the ship. The owners of the
ship then made a thousand kroner should
be too much to give in the way of such
a reward? The owners were ready to
pay the reward as the Danish government
was to ask it, and the Eskimos got the
money or its equivalent.—[Goldwaite's
Geographical Magazine.]

FACTS ABOUT TEETH.

MAN NOT A CARNIVOROUS ANI-
MAL BY NATURE.

Various Purposes to Which Different
Kinds of Teeth Are Put—Creatures
That Have Teeth on Their Tongues
—Fangs of Poison Snakes.

"You will often hear it said that man
is by nature a carnivorous animal, as is
shown by the incisors or so-called 'cane-
nine' teeth with which he is provided,
but it is not true. Human beings are
carnivorous only by habit, and not by
nature." It was Osteologist Lucas of the
Smithsonian Institution who said so to a
writer for the Star, and he added:

"You see, it is always from an animal's
teeth that the diet intended for it by
nature is judged. But the fact that it
has incisors does not prove that it is
carnivorous. There are many of purely
vegetable-eating beasts which have
well-developed incisors. Take the mon-
key, for example. Monkeys' incisors are
much more developed than those of man,
but they are exclusively fruit eaters, the
incisors being merely useful for fighting.
We who are descended from the anthro-
poid apes still have the canine teeth,
but, for the reason that we no longer
employ them for combative purposes,
they have become smaller. Man was
originally frugivorous, presumably,
though the time when he first began to
eat meat must have been very far back,
judging from the remains of extinct
mammals found in the caves among the
ashes of his cooking fires which burned
hundreds of thousands of years ago."

"It is by the teeth of mammals that
they are most readily classified, inasmuch
as the dentition illustrates the food of
the animal and the general habits which
necessarily depend upon its manner of
procuring food. The teeth by which
these things are determined are not the
incisors, but the molars or grinders. A
mammal usually has several kinds of teeth
in its jaws. Take the monkey, for ex-
ample. Its front teeth are for catching up
and nipping little things. With
them it catches and kills its parasites, as
does likewise a dog. Its incisors are for
fighting, although in the carnivora they
are employed to pierce the flesh deeply
so as to open the veins and bleed the
victim to death. Thus you will find that
a tiger will know by instinct where to
strike the jugular vein of an ox, of the
location of which I dare say that you
yourself are not very definitely aware."

Behind the incisors in the monkey, as
well as in man, are found the premolars,
which are for cutting up what is to be
swallowed, while the molars themselves
perform the grinding process.
"The tusks of an elephant are the
upper incisors of the beast. They are
not intended for chewing, however, but
for defense. You find all through creation
the most astonishing adaptations of the
teeth to necessity. You are familiar, of
course, with the mighty ivory tusk of
the narwhal, ten or twelve feet in length
and strong and sharp enough to be driven
through the side of a ship. That tusk
is simply the left upper incisor of the
mammal. Once in a while by a freak
both the upper incisors will be devel-
oped in the narwhal, and so that it is
equipped with two spears instead of one.
The tooth in this case is designed for
a weapon in fighting. The female has
no tusk. Look at the swordfish. The en-
tire length of its saw, which is a prolon-
gation of the nasal process, is fringed
with teeth. Again you have a weapon
merely the manner of the creature being
to strike right and left for the purpose
of wounding its prey. In mammals,
however, the teeth are restricted to the
jawbones. Lizards and snakes have
them on the bones of the palate as well.
True bony teeth are peculiar to animals
which have backbones. The most elab-
orate dental apparatus known belongs
to the sea urchin, whose jaws are com-
posed of forty pieces, made by forty
separate muscles. Snails have a sort of
ribband with which they rasp their food
as with a file. Anteaters, though they
are mammals, have no teeth at all; but
they get their just the same, having no
need to chew their prey. The whale-
bone whale is another mammal that has
no teeth, its practice being to swallow
its food whole."

"The biggest of fresh water fishes, the
'arapaima' of the Amazon in South
America, which grows to six feet in
length, has teeth on its tongue, so that
the latter resembles the file and is used
as such. Some kinds of trout also have
the same peculiarity. Fishes that swal-
low their prey entire have their teeth sup-
ported on flexible bases as to bend
backward but not forward, in order that
their victims shall not escape after they
have been once seized. In ages gone by
there were ferocious sharks, such as
would make a mouthful of you without
blinking, seventy feet in length. Plenty
of five feet teeth have been found which
are five inches long, whereas the biggest
of the teeth belonging to sharks, that
exist at the present day are one and a
half inches long."

"Certain animals have teeth which
grow during all their lives. The rat
and the squirrel are examples of this.
Our own teeth are developed from pulps
which are absorbed and disappear after
the teeth are grown, but in a rat's tooth
the pulp is perpetual, and is continually
secreting material by which the incisor
gains length. Therefore the animal is
obliged to gnaw all the time to keep the
tooth ground down to the proper length.
It is commonly imagined that the rat
keeps gnawing from pure cussedness,
but such is not the case. Sometimes it
has been seen that the beast's upper and
lower incisors do not meet properly, so that
it is unable to gnaw, and its teeth keep
growing around in a spiral. Cases have
been known where a rat's tooth grew in
this manner through its skull so as to
pierce the brain and kill the unfortunate."

The biggest teeth known are those
of the mastodon, which we have in
the shape of fossils. One advantage
about teeth is that they are harder than
almost anything else in nature and will
last longer, so that they may be picked
up in an excellent state of preservation
ages after the animals to which they ori-
ginally belonged are dead.
You often find of rendering a rattlesnake
harmless by pulling out its fangs.
Then again you read of cases where a
serpent so treated has bitten persons fa-
tally. The reason for this is that a poi-
sonous snake is deprived only temporarily
of its venomous powers by extraction
of the two incisors in the upper jaw, at
the bases of which are the poison glands.
Of course you know that the fangs are
hollow, so that when the animal strikes
the venom gushes through them into the
person struck. Now, by drawing the
two teeth the snake may be rendered
harmless for a few weeks, but after a
short time the two teeth just behind the
original fangs move up and take their
place, making connections with the poi-
son glands and thus becoming poison
fangs as good and effective as the old
ones."—[Washington Star.]

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