## SUNDDAT MAGALCINE

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## LETTER FROM CHAS. T. SCHOEN

 The Prominent Capitalist.Philadelphia, October 18, 1905.
The Prudential Insurance Co. of America, Newark, N. J.
Gentlemen: When I insured with your Company, in 1900, under a $5 \%$ Gold Bond policy for $\$ 250,000$, on the Whole Life FIVE YEAR DIVIDEND plan, paying an annual premium thereon of $\$ 18,270$, I did not give much thought to the dividend. A short time ago I received from you an official statement, advising that my policy was five years old, and that I had the choice of two options, as follows:

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## CHAPTER IX.

## How Nigel Held the Bridge at Tilford

THE King looked at the motionless figure, at the little crowd of hushed expectant rustics beyond the bridge, and finally at the face of Chandos, which shone with amusement.
"What is this, John?" he asked.
"You remember Sir Eustace Loring, sire?"
" Indeed I could never forget him nor the manner of his death.'
"He was a knight errant in his day."
"That indeed he was-none better have I known."
'So is his son Nigel, as fierce a young war-hawk as ever yearned to use beak and claws; but held fast in the mews up to now. This is his trial fight. There he stands at the bridge-head, as was the wont in our fathers' time, ready to measure himself against all comers."

Of all Englishmen there was no greater knight errant than the King himself, and none so steeped in every quaint usage of chivalry: so that the situation was after his own heart.
"He is not yet a knight?".
"No, sire, only a Squire."
'Then he must bear himself bravely this day if he is to make good what he has done. Is it fitting that a young untried Squire should venture to couch his lance against the best in England?'
"He hath given me his cartel and challenge." said Chandos, drawing a paper from his tunic. "Have I your permission, sire, to issue it?"
'Surely, John, we have no cavalier more versed in the laws of chivalry than yourself. You know this young man, and you are aware how far he is worthy of the high honor which he asks. Let us hear his defiance.

The knights and squires of the escort, most of whom were veterans of the French war, had been gazing with interest and some surprise at the steelclad figure in front of them. Now at a call from Sir Walter Manny they assembled round the spot where the King and Chandos had halted. Chandos cleared his throat and read from his paper:

A tous scigneurs, chewliers et escuyers,' so it is headed, gentlemen. It is a message from the good Squire Nigel Loring of Tilford, son of Sir Eustace Loring, of honorable memory. Squire Loring awaits you in arms, gentlemen, yonder upon the crown of the old bridge. Thus says he: 'For the great desire that I, a most humble and unworthy Squire, entertain, that I may come to the knowledge of the noble gentlemen who ride with my royal master, I now wait on the Bridge of the Way in the hope that some of them may condescend to do some small deed of arms upon me, or that I may deliver them from any vow which they may ha' $\mathbf{e}$ taken. This I say out of no esteem for myself, but solely that I may witness the noble bearing of these famous cavaliers and admire their skill in the handling of arms. Therefore, with the help of Saint George, I will hold the bridge with sharpened lances against any or all who may deign to present themselves while daylight lasts.
"What say you to this, gentlemen?" asked the King. looking round with laughing eyes.
"Truly it is issued in very good form," said the Prince. "Neither Claricieux nor Red Dragon nor any herald that ever wore tabard could better it. Did he draw it of his own hand?'
"He hath a grim old grandmother who is one of the ancient breed," said Chandos. "I doubt not that the Dame Ermyntrude hath drawn a challenge
or two before now. But hark ye, sire. I would have a word in your ear-and yours too, most noble Prince."

Leading them aside, Chandos whispered some explanations, which ended by them all three bursting into a shout of laughter.

By the rood! no honorable gentleman should be reduced to such straits," said the King. "It behooves me to look to it. But how now, gentlemen? This worthy cavalier still waits his answer."

The soldiers had all been buzzing together; but now Walter Manny turned to the King with the result of their counsel.
"If it please your majesty," said he, "we are of opinion that this Squire hath exceeded all bounds in desiring to break a spear with a belted knight ere he has given his proofs. We do him sufficient honor if a Squire ride against him, and with your consent I have chosen my own body-squire, John Widdicombe, to clear the path for us across the bridge."
" What you say, Walter, is right and fair," said the King. "Master Chandos, you will tell our champion yonder what hath been arranged. You will advise him also that it is our royal will that this contest be not fought upon the bridge, since it is very clear that it must end in one or both going over into the river, but that he advance to the end of the bridge and fight upon the plain. You will tell him also that a blunted lance is sufficient for such an encounter, but that a hand-stroke or two with sword or mace may well be exchanged, if both riders should keep their saddles. A blast upon Raoul's horn shall be the signal to ciose.'

Such ventures as these where an aspirant for fame would wait for days at a cross-road, a ford, or a bridge, until some worthy antagonist should ride that way, were very common in the old days of adventurous knight errantry, and were still familiar to the minds of all men because the stories of the romancers and the songs of the trouvires were full of such incidents. Their actual occurrence however had become rare. There was the

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more curiosity, not unmixed with amusement. in the thoughts of the courtiers as they watched Chandos ride down to the bridge and commented upon the somewhat singular figure of the challenger. His build was strange, and so also was his figure, for the limbs were short for so tall a man His head also was
 sunk forward as if he were lost in thought or overcome with deep dejection.
"This is surely the Cavalier of the Heavy Heart," said Manny. "What trouble has he, that he should hang his head
" Perchance he hath a weak neck," said the King. "At least he hath no weak voice." the Prince

## Illustrated by <br> Joseph Clement Coll

remarked, as Nigel's answer to Chandos came to their ears. "By our lady, he booms like a bittern."

As Chandos rode back again to the King, Nigel exchanged the old ash spear which had been his father's for one of the blunted tournament lances which he took from the hands of a stout archer in attendance. He then rode down $i=$ the end of the bridge where a hundred-yard stretch of greensward lay in front of him. At the same moment the Squire of Sir Walter Manny, who had been hastily armed by his comrades, spurred forward and took up his position.

The King raised his hand; there was a clang from the falconer's horn, and the two riders, with a thrust of their heels and a shake of their bridles, dashed furiously at each other. In the center the green strip of marshy meadow-land, with the water squirting from the galloping hoofs, and the two crouching men, gleaming bright in the evening sun, on one side the half circle of motionless horsemen, some in steel, some in velvet, silent and attentive, dogs, hawks, and horses all turned to stone; on the other the old peaked bridge, the blue lazy river, the group of open-mouthed rustics, and the dark old manor-house with one grim face which peered from the upper window.

A good man was John Widdicombe, but he had met a better that day. Before that yellow whirlwind of a horse and that rider who was welded and riveted to his saddle his knees could not hold their grip. Nigel and Pommers were one flying missile, with all their weight and strength and energy centered on the steady end of the lance. Had Widdicombe been struck by a thunderbolt he could not have flown faster or farther
from his sadde. Two full somersaults did he make, his plates clanging like cymbals, ere he lay prone upon his back.
For a moment the King looked grave at that prodigious fall. Then smiling once more as Widdicombe staggered to his feet, he clapped his hands loudly in applause. "A fair course and fairly run!" he cried. "The five scarlet roses bear themselves in peace even as I have seen them in war. How now, my good Walter? Have you another Squire or will you
 clear a path for us yourself?"
Manny's choleric face had turned darker as he observed the mischance of his representative. He beckoned now to a tall knight, whose gaunt and savage face looked out from his cpen bassinet as an eagle might from a cage of steel.
"Sir Hubert," said he, "I bear in mind the day when you overbore the Frenchman at

Caen. Will you not be our champion now?"
"When I fought the Frenchman, Walter, it was with naked weapons," said the knight sternly. am a soldier and I love a soldier's work, but I care not for these tilt-yard tricks which were invented for nothing but to tickle the fancies of foolish women.
'Oh, most ungallant speech!'" cried the King. "Had my good consort heard you she would have arraigned you to appear at a Court of Love with a jury of virgins to answer for your sins. But I pray you to take a tilting spear, good Sir Hubert!
'I had as soon take a peacock's feather, my fair lord; but I will do it, if you ask me. Here, page, hand me one of those sticks, and let me see what I can do.

But Sir Hubert de Burgh was not destined to test either his skill or his luck. The great bay horse which he rode was as unused to this warlike play as was its master, and had none of its master's stoutness of heart; so that when it saw the levelcd lance, the gleaming figure and the frenzied yellow horse rushing down upon it, it
 Amid roars of laughter from the rustics on the one side and from the courtiers on the other, Sir Hubert was seen, tugging vainly at his bridle, and bounding onward, clearing gorse-bushes and heather-clumps, until he was but a shimmering, quivering gleam upon the dark hillside. Nigel, who had pulled Pommers on to his very haunches at the instant that his opponent turned, saluted with his lance and trotted back to the bridge-head, where he awaited his next assailant.
"The ladies would say that a judgment hath fallen upon our good Sir Hubert for his impious rds,' said the King
"Let us hope that his charger may be broken in ere he venture to ride out between two armies," remarked the Prince. "They might mistake the hardness of his horse's
mouth for a softness of
was brought to him as a master-workman takes a tool. He balanced it, shook it once or twice in the air, ran his eyes down it for a
flaw in the wood, and then finally having made sure of its poise and weight laid it carefully in rest under his arm. Then gathering up his bridle so as to have his horse under perfect command, and covering himself with the shield, which was braced upon his left arm, he rode out to do battle.

Now, Nigel, young and inexperienced, all Nature's aid will not help you against the mixed craft and strength of such a warrior. The day will come when neither Manny nor even Chandos could sweep you from your saddle; but now, even had you some less cumbrous armor, your chance were small. Your downfall is near; but as you see the famous red martins on the blue ground your gallant heart which never knew fear is only filled with joy and amazement at the honor done you. Your downfall is near, and yet in your wildest dreams you would never guess how strange your downfall is to be.

Again with a dull thunder of hoofs the horses gallop over the soft water-meadow. Again with a clash of metal the two riders meet. It is Nigel now, taken clean in the face of his helmet with the blunted spear, who flies backward off his horse and falls clanging on the grass.
But good heavens! what is this? Manny has thrown up his hands in horror and the lance has dropped from his nerveless fingers. From all sides, with cries of dismay, with oaths and shouts and ejaculations to the saints, the horsemen ride wildly in. Was ever so dreadful, so sudden, so complete, an end to a gentle passage at arms? Surely their eyes must be at fault? Some wizard's trick has been played upon them to deceive their senses. But no, it was only too clear. There on the greensward lay the trunk of the stricken cavalier, and there, a good dozen yards beyond, lay his helmeted head.
'By the Virgin!'" cried Manny wildly, as he jumped from his horse, "I would give my last gold piece that the work of this evening should be undone! How came it? What does it mean? Hither, my Lord Bishop, for surely it smacks of witcheraft and the Devil.
With a white face the Bishop had sprung down beside the prostrate body, pushing through the knot of horrified knights and squires.

I fear that the last offices of the Holy Church come too late, said he in a quivering voice "Most unfortu
nate youngman How sudden an end! In medio vita, as the Holy
campaign in South Germany I have seen at Nuremberg a cunning figure, devised by an armorer, which could both ride and wield a sword. If this be such

## I thank you all for your very gentle courtesy,

 said a booming voice from the figure upon the ground.At the words even the valiant Manny sprang into his saddle. Some rode madly away from the horrid trunk. A few of the boldest lin gered.

Most of all," said the voice, "would I thank the most noble knight, Sir Walter Manny, that he should deign to lay aside his greatness and condescend to do a deed of arms upon so humble a Squire.'

Fore God!" said Manny, " if this be the Devil, then the Devil hath a very courtly tongue. I will have him out of his armor if he blast me!
So saying he sprang once more from his horse and plunging his hand down the slit in the collapsed gorget he closed it tightly upon a fistful of Nigel's yellow curls. The groan that came forth was enough to convince him that it was indeed a man who lurked within. At the same time his eyes fell upon the hole in the mail corslet which had served the Squire as a vizor, and he burst into deep-chested mirth. The King, the Prince and Chandos, who had watched the scene from a distance, too much amused by it to explain or interfere, rode up weary with laughter, now that all was discovered
"Let him out!" said the King, with his hand to his side. "I pray you to unlace him and let him out! I have shared in many spear-running, but never have I been nearer falling from my horse than as I watched this one. I feared the fall had struck him senseless, since he lay so still.

Nigel had indeed lain with all the breath shaken from his body, and as he was aware that his helmet had been carried off, he had not understood either the alarm or the amusement that he had caused. Now freed from the great hauberk in which he had been shut like a pea in a pod, he stood blinking in the light, blushing deeply with shame that the shifts to which his poverty had reduced him should be exposed to all these laughing courtiers. It was the King who brought him comfort.
'You have shown that you can use your father's weapons," said he, " and you have proved also that you are the worthy bearer of his name and his arms, for you have within that spirit for which he was famous. But I wot that neither he nor you would suffer a train of hungry men to starve before your door; so lead on, I pray you, and if the meat be as good as this grace before it, then it will be a feast indeed.'


Book has it-one moment in the pride of his youth, the next his head torn from his body. Now God and his saints have mercy the rider's heart. See where he rides, still clearing every bush upon his path.
"By the rood!" said the King, "if the bold Hubert has not increased his repute as a jouster he has gained great honor as a horseman. But the bridge is still closed, Walter. How say you now? Is this young Squire never to be unhorsed, or is your King himself to lay lance in rest ere his way can be cleared? By the head of Saint Thomas! I am in the this gentle youth."
Nay, nay, sire, too much honor hath already been done him!" said Manny, looking angrily at the motionless horseman. "That this untried boy should be able to say that in one evening he has unhorsed my Squire, and seen the back of one of the bravest knights in England is surely enough to turn his foolish head. Fetch me a spear, Robert! I will see what I can make of him.

The famous knight took the spear when it
upon me and guard me from evil!'
The last prayer was shot out of the Bishop with an energy and earnestness which was unusual in his orisons. It was caused by the sudden outcry of one of the Squires who, having lifted the helmet from the ground, cast it down again with a scream of horror
'It is empty!" he cried. "It weighs as light
Fore God, it is true!'" cried Manny, laying his hand on it. "There is no one in it. With what have I fought, father Bishop? Is it of this world r of the next?
The Bishop had clambered on his horse the better to consider the point. "If the foul fiend is abroad," said he, "my place is over yonder by the King's side. Certes that sulphur-colored horse hath a very devilish look. I could have sworn that I saw both smoke and flame from its nostrils. The beast is fit to bear a suit of armor which rides and fights and yet hath no man withn it."

Nay, not too fast, father Bishop," said one of the knights. "It may be all that you say and yet come from a human workshop. When I made a

## CHAPTER $X$.

How the King Greeted His Seneschal of Calais

$\mathrm{I}^{\mathrm{T}}$T would have fared ill with the good name of Tilford Manor-house and with the housekeeping of the aged Dame Ermyntrude had the King's whole retinue, with his outer and inner marshal, his justiciar, his chamberlain and his guard, all gathered under the one roof. But by the foresight and the gentle management of Chandos this calamity was avoided, so that some were quartered at the great Abbey and others passed on to enjoy the hospitality of Sir Roger FitzAlan at Farnham Castle. Only the King himself, the Prince, Manny, Chandos, Sir Hubert de Burgh, the Bishop and two or three more remained behind as the guests of the Lorings. But small as was the party and humble the surroundings, the King in no way relaxed that love of ceremony, of elaborate form and of brilliant coloring which was one of his characteristics. The sumpter-mules were unpacked, squires ran hither and thither, baths smoked in the bed-chambers, silks and satins were unfolded, gold chains gleamed and clinked, so that when at last, to the long blast of two court trumpeters, the company took their seats at the boad, it was the brightest, fairest scene which those old black rafters had ever spanned.

The great influx of foreign knights who had come in their splendor from all parts of Christendom to Continued on page 13

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## By The $\mathbb{D}$ ure of Argyll, K.G.

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 Should Respect Mereditaryy

## Repurations, if Umsullied "?

LANS are still known in the social world of to-day. In name at least they survive
bonds of union for political or national aims.
The Clan-na-Gael of Ireland uses the name of clan simply in the sense of an association for the furtherance of its objects. It puts on the dress, at all events, of ancient family association, that it may awake sentiments which were formed under other ideas; for the real idea of a clan meant blood-relationship-it was not the bond of political partisanship, but the bond of kinship, which made the real clan. When a brotherhood of cousins, near or distant in kinship, became powerful enough and sufficiently numerous to have an influence in the social and political life of its day, then men belonging to other families and bearing other names sometimes joined a clan by taking the name, and so insured for themselves that protection which a numerous clan could in troubled times extend to its members. There was a kind of freemasonry among them that made it incumbent on each person belonging to one race and descended from one wellknown ancestor to give a hand in the protection or for the welfare of his namesake.
This was a feature of ancient society. You see it more plainly the more people were divided off from each other by mountains or seas. When thus cooped up together in narrower or wider places, as he case might be, it was natural for them to marry among each other, rather than to seek for brides farther afield. The more mountainous the country is, the longer does this tribal feature live. In Montenegro and among the Corsican hills, as in Scotland, the tribe was a natural outcome of neighborhood and geographical condition. The seafaring folk who made the world their home did not live in tribes to the same extent as did others. Travel and movement destroys the separate feeling that looks upon all strangers with dislike or distrust.
There are instances to the contrary, notably in Japan, where peculiar tribal affinities remained, although the people were good sailors. But Japan is a country which kept itself to itself for many ages, and is divided, district by district, by physical peculiarities, tending to make the people of one part stay there and deem those farther off less akin than are their neighbors. But it is probable that in all early civilizations the tribe was the ground plan of all government and social machinery. It was a patriarchal and hereditary system, as compared with the equality and "I'm-as-good-as-you-andbetter" sentiment of social existence that succeeded to it. Japan has still perhaps the most perfect survival of the spirit of ancestral government in the sovereignty of the Mikado. He governs by a council of Elder Statesmen who take much the same place as did, on a smaller scale, the councils of the Scottish Highland or Irish Chieftain under the heads of clans. Just as the generals of the Japanese Emperor piously observe after some astonishing victory that all their success is due to the supernal virtues of the Mikado, so the chieftains were ready to ascribe all their prowess to the greatness of the head of their great family
The respect due to such a man was a kind of worship. It did not hurt their pride to give implicit obedience. On the contrary, it was a homage to their own dignity that they should follow all commands given by the leading representative of their own blood. It was to a father and not to a commander that they owed their allegiance. It was an honorable service, to do honor to one who had the distinction to be the eldest of those who

could trace descent from a common ancestor. In our own days even, Southerners were amused at a
Highland country place to hear the excuse given by a man for the merciless whipping he was administering to a dog. "Why do you beat the poor beast, Duncan?"-"Hoot, why do I beat her, the nasty baste? Why, she was vomiting before His Hieland Glory," pointing to a chief of a great clan who was present. "His Hieland Glory" is no inapt expression of the adulation an old mountaineer was proud to accord to his chief. Nothing was too good to give to him. Self-sacrifice was an honor Death was. a tribute to his preeminence that might be exacted and given most willingly any day and for any or no reason.

As one among many instances of their devotion, take the case of the fighting at Inverkeithing be tween General Lambert and Highlanders in Crom well's time. There were only eight hundred MacLeans in the field under Sir Hector MacLean. The Lowland cavalry and infantry had fled and left this body of MacLeans and Buchanans alone to meet the Commonwealth troops. They had no artillery to oppose to Lambert. But striking his sword into the ground, Sir Hector declared that he would neither yield nor retreat. Cromwell's guns ruined their ranks, and the survivors were soon completely surrounded. In number the two clans showed a mass of about fifteen hundred swordsmen. From over four thousand muskets the Royalists received a constant discharge into their ranks.

During four hours desperate charges were made by companies of the Highlanders, only to be mowed down by the infantry fire. The Lowland cavalry at last penetrated the despairing ring of fighting swordsmen. Their chief was covered with wounds, and to reach him was the constant effort of the troopers. But again and again his followers warded off the rush of the horsemen, and as each in succession rushed forward to throw himself on the enemy to shield Sir Hector the repeated shout was heard. "Feir eil airson Eachuinn'" or "Another

for Hector!" Eight of the leading chieftains among the MacLeans, with many of their men, perished thus to guard the life of the representative of their chiefship, and there was not a man around his body who was not wounded at the close of the con flict.
It is not surprising that the position or rank which gained such hereditary love should have been much coveted and prized from the earliest times. It was all essential for the head of such a community to recall the fact that he was "King de jure." In ancient days when reading and writing were accomplishments known only to clerics, it was trebly important that men should never forget to whom they owed their allegiance and why it was that they owed it.
There could in Celtic eyes be no allegiance to anyone but one born to it. Therefore he who possessed the dignity by birth was bound on all occasions to prove his case, and to make his people young and old alike, remember on what descent his right reposed. It was this that made it necessary and therefore customary at all great public occasions for the seannachie or herald to record by proclamation the descent of the chief. "The long line of mythical descent for which there is no warrant' is a frequent expression of disbelief in modern writings. But the constant oral repetition of ancestral claim was really of the highest historic value because it was alone on this record being faithfully kept by oral repetition that the position was maintained. If no man could repeat the descent the legal title was lost. This is how such descents are fully as valid as those afterward written on parchments. The essence of tenure was the memory of such genealogy. "No blood, no crown," might have been the motto taken. The chief's right was in the mouths of his people. There could be none among them who did not know it. There were none who could escape remembrance of i

That the proclamation can have been "no joke" or no sinecure for the herald, you may judge from the names of the descent of the MacLeans, to take another instance from this West Highland clan. An American woman seated at a London banquet at which a piper began playing turned to her neighbor and said when she saw the piper advancing round the long dining-table: "What, you don't mean to say that one man is making all that noise?" She thought a whole orchestra was advancing upon her. And so when the seannachie began at the ancient banquet to recite a pedigree some awestricken stranger may have exclaimed in amazement: "What, you don't mean to say that all those names must be shouted for one man
And this is the sound that sonorously rolled over the ancient gathering: "Aonghus, Turmi Tearnhreach, Ollion Erin, Ferghis-Firghie, Man-M'or, Earngheal, Roihtren-Trếwn, Shi'on, Didhie, Ollial, Eri, Eoghuin-Eddior Seevil," and so on and so on, with an " O " or a "Mic" to signify "son of," for another score of names, only that the patience of the old audience was greater than that of any modern, for the list given begins at the beginning. whereas the old seannachies recited from the present day backward, to be certain that the hearers should get well mixed in the shadows of the remotest past.
The cohesion that was obtained by patriarchal rule was most remarkable. A traitor to his clan was a most uncommon production. Even as late as the middle of the last century there was not a Campbell to be found among the Jacobites. All
known men of the name voted, wrote and fought for the Protestant succession and against arbitrary royal rule and Roman domination in the Church. Nor is it easy to find a Stewart who did not take the part of his royal kinsfolk. Even now, when MacLeans or MacDonalds, or even Lowland Buchanans, have to be extolled or defended, you will find that writers are as keen partisans as ever for the men of their name. Blood may have been mixed with other strains for generations, but the name is enough. It is not, however, a mere cry to say " of the same blood." Many tribes carry on with the most curious fidelity the lineaments of race, almost as do the Jews. There is a type of face, fair, with one class of features that you are told, and told truly as a rule, belongs to one name, and another dark with aquiline nose and blue eyes that belongs to the Mackinnons, which you will find repeated pretty constantly among men of this name. Skye used to be full of this type, unmistakable if once known.

Nor was the sentiment of blood-brotherhood one resulting only in a picturesque effect that gave to each tribe its own badge, such as the sweet-gale, the stag-horn moss, the broom, or the heather-bloom. The military value was great. The Campbells, for instance, could put five thousand
men into the field. This may seem a petty force in these days of great hosts. But in the then condition of Scotland it meant considerable power. Remember that the whole army of the Bruce, the King of Scotland, consisted only of thirty thousand men at Bannockburn. The feudal plan by which lands taken from enemies, or belonging to the chief, were allotted in feu or perpetual tenure to his kinsmen provided offices for the men who were bound in consideration of their cousinhood and tenure of land to "follow their chief to the field." Military service was universal, because each man held his place because he was willing to form link in the chain of defense
The practice of use of arms was unfortunately only too well nurtured by the constant feuds beween the tribes, those especially between the MacDonalds and MacLeans in the Hebrides, lasting for generations. Expert at sailing their birlins or war galleys, they could invade each other's island possessions. The horrors of these wars were hideous. The MacDonalds burned a barn in Lorne full of women and children. They themselves were consequently refused quarter by the troops under General Lesley. It is remarkable how the clan system took possession of all the Hebrideans, though they were in blood partly Norse and their
islands were for three centuries under the Norwegian crown. But the Celtic organization was as complete there as anywhere, and to this day if the head of the MacLeans visits the lands of his ancestors, though he has now no possessions there, he is acclaimed as their chief, and has been presented with the three eagle's plumes which the head of a clan has alone the right to wear
It is a right and a good thing that men should respect hereditary reputation, if unsullied in their day by disgrace. It is well that the memory of heroic ancestors should be set before their descendants, that they too may strive to live as lived their fathers. It is folly to sneer at any means, however rude and imperfect, that gave discipline to ignorant men, who, however barbarous, learned through clanship the blessings of coöperation, and adored fealty founded in the knowledge of the past. The art of government by personal example and effort made a good training for chief and chieftains. The vigor of the race was nourished on the strong food of strenuous endeavor and obedience to constituted authority, however limited its area of operation. The results are seen in the success of their descendants, who in all regions of the globe have made the Highland name a symbol of faithful service and of the power of vigorous command.

## $\mathbb{M} A \mathbb{N} A \mathbb{N} \mathbb{D} \mathbb{H} \mathbb{S} \mathbb{E}$ K KIIES

MEN individually are nice creatures, quite tolerable. There are some even
who may be trusted to do the right thing under any circumstances. But man!and men, alas! are the minions of man-man is a misery-making animal. His whole career from the time he began to keep an account of himself proves it. He was put into possession of the to use it. This he owes to the enterprise of woman, and blames her for it, naturally. When you are doing that which you ought not to be doing, it is irritating to know better all the time.
It is hard to determine whether man was created to make women weep or to keep them laughing (in their sleeves)-to make them weep, for sure, when they are in his power. But probably he was intended to answer both purposes. It is this dual effect which makes it difficult in dealing with man (in the abstract) to be even more than half in earnest. To be in earnest on the subject is to be in tears. Laughter, if it alters nothing at least relaxes the tension. Laughter is an anodyne, harmful if persisted in out of season, but good on occasion as a help to endurance. Happiness is a state of mind which. can be produced by careful cultivation; but it does not result from the careful cultivation of the condition in ourselves; it is the outcome of disinterested devotion to the good of others. In the world as man has arranged it for himself, bit by bit, it is for the expansion and growth of misery by the careful cultivation of extreme selfishness that he has made the most ample provision.
In man's precepts there is a fine flavor of altruism, but in his practices he sacrifices the masses for the benefit of the classes. In the axioms which he has preserved for us with especial care and respect, he insists that happiness is promoted by moral grace, not by material prosperity; yet all his practice is to promote material advance, and all his habit is to vaunt it. When things go
wrong man excuses him-

but Job at the time that he uttered the exclamation was a puppet in a curious and cruel game of God and Devil, horribly tormented, and consequently not in a normal state of self on the plea of his poor weak human nature in the full tide of success he boasts of his wondrous works; but the works upon which he prides himself are seldom great moral achievements. It is this divergence between his precepts and his practices which has resulted in the muddle-mindedness that now apparent in all that he undertakes.
In nothing is the muddle-mindedness of man more obvious than in his favorite pronouncements with regard to his own destiny. He insists that man was made for misery as surely as that the sparks fly upward. He takes Job's word for that sparks fly upward. He takes Jobs word for that mind. The pronouncements of a man in such condition cannot be accepted as evidence of any thing but his own peculiar circumstances.
People who accept the Book of Job as inspired revelation of the divine Principle at work among us are on the same plane of spiritual evolution as the Kentucky pioneer who was swimming a river one day, and met a bear when half-way across There was no escaping an encounter, so the backwoodsman prepared himself. "Lord, help me!" he prayed. "But, O Lord, if thou willst not help me, don't help that bear! Jest stan' by fur fair play, and thou willst see the finest fight thar's been down here since thou makest the place." All the evidence is against the morbid-minded who assert that we are not made to be happy. Moments of misery we are certainly destined to have, but the constitution of the normal healthy human being makes for happiness inevitably. The strongest bent of our nature is to enjoy ourselves and avoid suffering; and every healthy function of mind and body helps the endeavor. The great pleasures of life may be rare, but there is a fine variety of minor pleasures which we might enjoy in our time; and the effect of these is cumulative, so that in the aggregate they
should make up a happy life.
But man, having decided that mankind is made for misery, proceeds to make the misery His capacity for happiness he crushes out of existence by an accumuteaches that there are two great laws of life, the law of good and the law of evil. He has no illusions on the subject of right and wrong. He knows that right-doing makes for happiness and wrong-doing makes for misery; yet he has so ordered the world that the last thing he can expect of himself is that he shotld do right. He

## THE BOX ON THE GRAND THR

## Wherein a Great Russian Tenor Recowo ered the lost Happiness of His Youth

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S" cried Sonia as the carriage door shut smartly (how that smart closing of a carriage door sets the blood dancing when there is an adventure afoot!)-"so now will come the opera! I have only to sit here in the dark and immediately I shall see the opera. But it can never be I, Sonia, and it must be that there will be an earthquake beneath the pit before ever the curtain lifts itself.

Opposite to Sonia in the shadow sat two deeper shadows-her Aunt Aniela and her Uncle Sergiusthe one ponderous, suspicious of a duty in every pleasure, a mound of purple and black; the other ponderous, suspicious of pleasure and duty alike, a mound of opinion. The lights on Fifth-ave. flashed among these shadows and touched the jet and gems and the glass of a pince-nez, and departed without betraying anything of deeper interest, save only Sonia-Sonia, little, vibrant, eager thing in a mist of white cloaked by a blur of rose; Sonia, who in the joy of this night could almost imagine herself back in St. Petersburg and could almost forget the long winter of her discontent in the American school where her Uncle Sergius-that mound of opinion-had condemned her at the beginning of his own indignant exile. How should it not be good, thought Sonia, to be free at last of the convent walls, at large upon this great Fifth-ave. of America, with the opera less than an hour away?

I love it!" she said, half without knowing
One loves one's friends, Panienka. One only likes occasions," remarked the mound of opinion from out the cave of shadow

- One cultivates repose when one is twenty," remarked the mound of purple and black in exactly the same tone.
"But I love it, all the same," whispered Sonia to herself, with the elastic convictions of twenty.

In the glitter and crush of the carriage entrance at the Metropolitan, in the glitter and crush of the lobby and corridor, Sonia looked about her with eyes of delight. But it was Petersburg itself, she decided exultantly: there were lights and jewels and laughter at nothing at all and the sounds of the world even in this America, which had seemed made up of convent walls and wistful nuns who spoke the language of gentle though perpetual reproof

I shall hear the opera," Sonia repeated, longing to draw in a deep breath of the bright air, "and I shall hear him sing, Can he be so near-can Dragomir himself really be beneath this roof?
Sonia moved forward, smiling a little for the very joy of the hour, forgetful of the mound of opinion, unconscious of the existence of all the purple and black in the world. Therefore, how it happened is not in all respects a mystery; similar things occur in broad daylight all day long: and it must be borne in mind that this great Aunt Aniela and this great Uncle Sergius had long been wont to come to the opera with no little mist of white and blur of rose to be considered. At all events, in the light of what came after, they must have one's merry forgiveness for the perplexity with which they turned to each other outside the door of their box in the second tier; for it was inconceivable, amazing, eminently impossible but Sonia was not with them.

There was a moment of stifled reproaching-well-bred, modulated, conjugal reproaching suited to the hovering ear of the concerned usher-then Aunt Aniela billowed into the box and subsided in a torrent of drapery, and Uncle Sergius, ponderous, suspicious of the entire matter, bundled away back down the corridor, alarm in the very light upon his pince$n c z$. In ten minutes he returned, the usher, with anxious, lifted eyebrows, following after.

"Of all things extraordinary!" and dropped like a fallen star on the edge of a fragile chair of gilt. "The child is nowhere. She is not to be found. She is not anywhere!" he announced.
you-did youwhat have you -" squeaked Aunt Aniela with the inco herence of the

## desperate and



## the useless.

And in the mist of explanations which followed, with two added ushers arriving to put their explanations in the mist, down went the lights, up trembled the first faint thread of a violin, and the best to be done for fifteen minutes was to abide in the knowledge that the entire corps of ushers in the Metropolitan, the private detectives, the men at the door, in the box-office, out on the very street with the carriages, were each absorbed in the search, his palm tingling with the phantom touch of his re ward.
"The rich Russian's niece," the word went round, "niece of the subscriber who looks like a cinnamon bear!'

And meanwhile Sonia, with the most innocent intent in the world, had turned aside in the most innocent mistake. At the top of the grand stairway -Aunt Aniela was more suspicious of the "lift" than of a bomb-Sonia's eye had been caught by an approaching cloud of butterfly women as blue and gold and glittering as civilization allows; and while she watched them disappearing with soft laughter into the crimson interior of their waiting box, Aunt Aniela and Uncle Sergius, ponderous, absorbed, near-sighted. had turned to mount the second stairs. Thus when Sonia missed them
she kept on, with the most innocent intent in the world, straight down the broad corridor of the grand tier
There followed the inevitable moment of bewilder ment, a return, a hurried survey of the gay throng in which she was herself like a little lost butterfly in an exceptionally brilliant field, and at last her appeal to a faint polite usher who listened to her anxious explanation, pricked to more than professional regret at the quandary of the mist of white and the blur of rose. And while he listened, a bit bewildered by Sonia's beauty and by her appeal to him, he suddenly bethought himself, as even faint polite ushers may do, of an expedient.
The box of the Holliday-Noels! Was it not empty? Had not the Holliday-Noels sailed that day for Carlsbad, as all the world knew? Why notwhat was to prevent? In the name of charity now, the little usher told himself, and immediately stammered out a suggestion, given authority by the deep brown of Sonia's eyes and the cloud of her dark hair. Even an usher may look upon a damsel in distress.

Sonia's eyes sparkled bewilderingly. A box on the grand tier! But to sit there safely in a box on the grand tier until her uncle came to claim her, breathing out a thousand opinions! Perhaps even to sit there alone and hear Dragomir sing! She cast a terrified glance over her shoulder-the round, white shoulder from which the rose cloak had slipped-and her glance was all of apprehensionbut apprehension, if the truth must be told, lest her Uncle Sergius be already returning

Quickly then! Oh, but quickly!" she bade the usher, her little gloved fingers fumbling in her bag for her purse of seed-pearls
In another instant the faint polite functionary had thrown wide the door of the box of the HollidayNoels and had closed it upon the vision of white and rose and turned away, his professional mien fairly disarranged by the look of the crisp thing that Sonia had slipped in his hand. No wonder that he thereafter remained loyal for a space, though in the teeth of the entire force of his brother ushers! An hour later, so he arranged it with himself, he would impart to the cinnamon bear how matters stood. Meanwhile, in gratitude, he blessed the Holliday-Noels
And so did Sonia. For a moment, as the door of the box closed upon her, she stood breathless, dazzled by the lights, by the stir in the pit, by the shining of the great splendid horseshoe of boxes of which she found herself a part; the next, she had stepped boldly forward and sunk in the depths of a plump, hospitable fauteuil of dark velvet, her cloak falling in a blur of rose about the slim grace of her little figure in its mist of white.

But no!" she breathed in an ecstasy. "This cannot be I, Sonia! There must this moment be an earthquake beneath the pit!
There was no earthquake. But twenty glasses in the opposite boxes were instantly turned and focused upon the girl. The word of wonder and amazement went softly round. Who was she-who was this girl in the box of the Holliday-Noels? But she was beautiful, distinguished. exquisite-her gown, her air, the cunning of that line of rose where
her cloak fell along her white skirts! And alone!it was impossible. Who was she, in the box of the Holliday-Noels?

Then the lights were lowered, and there uptrembled from the orchestra the faint thread of a violin. The twenty glasses in the opposite boxes had found out nothing. And presently Sonia, with a delicious breath of excitement, saw that although Uncle Sergius was manifestly nowhere at all, and though no earthquake disturbed the clouds of chiffon in the pit, the curtain was slowly lifting itself and the opera was begun.

They were singing "The Rhinegold." Sonia, as she listened, was half of the opinion that it was she herself who was gliding and waving forward and back in the maze of green waters-surely it was no more wonderful to be a Rhine maiden than to be Sonia, free of convent walls and alone in a box of the grand tier listening to the opera, waiting to hear Dragomir? All the sweet of her liberty and her adventure were singing in her veins, all the sweet of young life and the "honey of romance" were in her heart-so little it takes to make one mad with delight when she is twenty and safe away from two who are ponderous and done with glamour.

Wavering waters, weaving and whirling Rhinegold-Rhinegold!
Glorious joy:-
Sonia could have sung aloud with the gliding figures in the green waters on the stage. And all the
while she was waiting for one voice-the voice that was almost the first memory of her little girl-
hood, the voice of Dragomir, now the great Russian tenor who had driven two continents mad. Could it be Dragomir-her Dragomir? she wondered, as she waited tensely; and she dreamed again of the long-ago picture that had never faded: the great white room in the winter palace at Peterhof where she had been caressed and paid homage by the idle women-in-waiting, when in had burst Dragomir, his dark eyes alight with the news of his permission to go to Berlin to study and to sing.
"But Dragomir," she had wailed in the midst of the rejoicing, her baby hands tugging at his sleeve, you said I was to grow up to be your wife! When shall I grow up to be your wife now?

Whereat he had laughed and caught her up and kissed her and, with her throned on his knee in the midst of the idle women-in-waiting, he had set a little ring upon her hand and called them to witness that when he was great and rich and famous and happy he would come back to claim her for his own. Then had followed troublous times, disorders at home and abroad, suspicion and revolt, and in the end her Uncle Sergius, deposed from his place of trust, wounded and outraged by those nearest his office, had fled to America-and since then there had been only the walls of the school and the gentle reproof of the nuns, and no word at all of Dragomir.

Sonia waited, sunk in rememberings and thrilling with anticipation. For it was not strange that in the pleasant confusion of her entrance to the busy shining lobby she had missed what had sent numbers from the place: the chilling perfunctory announcement that Dragomir was indisposed and would not appear that evening. Sonia waited, unconscious of this, sunk in her rememberings and her dreams. And nothing told her that Dragomir was not to sing, and nothing warned her that though he was not to appear he had, against his physicians' orders, slipped from his hotel, minded to hear a bit of the opera from the front. Nor could she know that, as he came down the corridor of the grand tier, he was passing the doors of a dozen boxes that would gladly have opened to him; and instead, acknowledging his insufferable weariness of all that they had to offer, was remembering with gratitude the key that day placed at his disposal by his departing friend-young Holliday-Noel himself.
She heard the door of the box softly open, and turned, with a sinking heart, expecting to meet the hoarse reproaches of Uncle Sergius. Instead she saw a figure-huge, towering, erect-outlined for a moment against the brightness of the door, then cut solidly in blacker shadow than that of the box's dimness. He sank in an arm-chair beside hers, and it was as if some one living, instinct with life and with the pride of strength had come, Continued on page 18

## ON区 OIFTME JESTS <br> (O) IG ATI



POPPLE used to talk of business and of romance as if the two were in all ways opposed. Only of late years have poets and artists so far departed from the conventional as to find subjects for pen and pencil in the minor skirmishes of that great battle with inanimate things which in its entirety is known familiarly as "business." Kipling, in "McAndrew's Hymn," demonstrated that there was no impassable gulf between ancient poesy and modern engineering, and we may be sure that wherever mankind is engaged in the struggle against nature, or against his fellows, to secure for his loved ones that which will make their lives happy, there is the essence of romance, even though it be hidden behind the sordid phrase, trying to make money
In the numberless documents that have passed through or that remain filed in the Patent Office at Washington are stories as thrilling and as varied as the one which the genius of Charles Reade evoked from the dry chronicles telling of the life of the parents of the great Erasmus.
A pathetic little story has come to the writer of this, indirectly from the lips of General Leggett, who many years ago was a prominent patent lawyer, with offices in Cleveland, Ohio, and in Washington. He was a man of large practice, having business connections throughout our own country and Europe. He became known later in his life as the head of a great electric-light company, when that business was in the experimental stage. The incidents of the story were said by General Leggett to be found among the records in the Patent Office.
It is hard, lacking the genius of Charles Reade, to tell the incidents in such a way as to round them out and give them life, and I shall not attempt more than a brief suggestion of the outlines of the story, relying upon the reader's imagination to supply the details.
In a small town in Pennsylvania a young man
made his living partly from a farm which he owned and partly from a small jeweler's shop, exhibiting a few bits of old-fashioned jewelry interspersed among a number of cheap clocks and watches, such as might find purchasers in a small town. Inside, back of the little counter, was a work-bench, the tiny lathe, bits of watch-maker's materials covered by bell-glasses, the high stool and the jeweler's glass, the engraving-pad, and other tools of trade with which the old Swiss watchmakers began, and which remain the insignia of the good old craft wherever machinery has not supplanted it.
But like many another man apparently immersed in the monotonous round of unchanging routine, this jeweler had his dreams and his ideals. It is true that they were connected closely with his trade. He does not seem to have been a man whose thoughts strayed far from the beaten path. He had been impressed by the high price which was charged for that fine pink powder known as "jeweler's rouge." He had made inquiries of those who supplied him and found that it was not a manufactured but a natural substance. For a long time they could not inform him whence it came, His curiosity was aroused, and out of his slender profits he sent for such books as he thought might inform him as to the source of supply. In his leisure hours he pursued the subject, until he had learned that in all the world there were only a few localities in which this precious rouge was to be found; hence the high price, for nothing else could give the same beautiful polish to articles of the precious metals and gems. Gradually he became over mastered by one ruling passion: he would discover a mine of rouge This became to him the auri sacra fames.
Apparently he was not led to the quest by avarice, for the chances of success were remote A long search was cer tain, and he could have no clue pointing to local ities where the rouge might be found. It oc curred, so his books told him, in isolated pockets a few of which had been found in America ' Last of the Allegha nies," they said-and the finding of one brought no likelihood that there was another in the neighbor


Hunting for His Precious Product.
hood. I do not know what this jeweler's rouge is; but it may be the remains of some prehistoric shell, to be found where communities of the ancient shellfish happened to meet with a favorable environment.

At last the jeweler sold his shop and stock of goods, homestead and farm, to supply himself with the funds for his explorations. We may be sure that he had little hope of success, for he still retained prudence enough, or sentiment enough, to reserve from sale one portion of his farm-that in which was the burial-ground of his family. With all his other worldly possessions converted into cash, this modern knight of commerce sailed for Europe, and there wandered for years among familiar and unfamiliar, accessible and inaccessible, localities that seemed to him likely to contain the object of his search.

We often hear of the total depravity of inanimate things; in the case of this knight errant, we shall find a new proof that there may be a diabolical nature at work among the ions that vibrate endlessly around us. The quest was neither a success nor a failure. As if some Mephistopheles had so placed the rouge as to lure him ever on, he came now and then upon little pockets of the precious material, but all too small to reward his

## fforts.

At length, disappointment or the exhaustion of his resources put an end to his mission. With the remnant of his wasted possessions he returned, broken-hearted, to the village where his only home was a burial lot, and like one crossed in love and disappointed in his life's object, he laid him down and died.

Then came the last jeering smile of the mocking Mephistopheles; for when the grave was opened for his long rest, by the veriest irony of fate the trench prepared for his body proved to be an opening into the longsought deposit of jeweler's rouge; and even worse, instead of being a small and unimportant pocket of the precious material, this proved to be of almost unlimited extent, and for years furnished the rare mineral in ample quantities. It was one of the pockets East of the Alleghanies.'

## $\mathbb{C} U P I D$ OF THE CHAPARRAI,

WHICH the same is," remarked Flanders retrospectively, "any human critter, demmycrat, publican or sinner, who
Ishin' over and across numerous and goes mushin' over and across numerous and
various degrees of longitude chasing the ignorant fatuus of idle pleasure and thereby lets the land pirates swipe his claim that was fuller of gold than a Keeley graduate, that mortal ain't got no license, gov'ment, state or poetical, to holler.
"So Mose and me didn't-leastwise not audible. Although it ain't betraying no family secret when I remarks kind of apropos that the cuss-words clabbered in our throats till our facial impediments came purt' nigh precipitating a conflagration.
" Howsomever, we just stood around, suffering with ingrowing language to a degree that was scandalous to contemplate, and watched 'em rock out an ounce every fifteen minutes. Then we trailed back to town and converted ourselves into the primy-facie evidence of a spree that was sure lurid and Swede-like.
"In general proportions and enthusiasm the same could have been conveniently distributed over a period of six months and still had enough sheet ligktning and fireworks left over to have made a respectable showing in the years to come. But to save time we com-
pressed the exhibition into twenty-four consecutive and continuous hours and kept something doing in each of the three rings simultaneous, to say nothing of the elevated stage and the hippydrome track
"When we woke up we were the phalanx and thorax of the most spectacular emigrant train that ever navigated the foot-hills. Talk about the dead march in Saul! Pardner, it was a continuous ovation compared with the cortège in which me and Mose was the corpse, pall-bearers,
mourners, et cet'ry. Pardner, from start to finish that there parade was a dark-green streak of verdigreed melancholy, thirty miles long, six feet high and twenty-nine inches wide. Beneath our feet the dreary waste burst into a luxurious growth of wormwood and weeping willers. You could
have trailed us precipitous by the gloom that hung like a cloud by day

About the time that Mose's mental, moral and physical condition set me to meditating upon sending in a hurry-up call for an ambulance, two hospitals, a lunatic asylum and the post-mortum
general, I saw something between a hundred and forty million sheep gamboling amid the
' Moses Montmorency,' says I, diving after my submerged spirits- Moses Montmorency, if you want to desecrate this peaceful valley by surrender ing your mortal breath hereat and forthwith, I'll give you a Christian burial; but for me-mutton chops appeal to my better nature.
'Oh!' says he, bullfroggy, gazing through the environments of his desperation. 'Oh!' Then he stood like a cigar-store Indian, his hand shading his eyes, squinting at them sheep. He didn't say nothing, but his optics was singing the prettiest ditty you ever heard. I savvied he was pondering upon the days when he was a barefoot kiddie, chasing the little lambkins across the medder back at the old home or scampering across sun-lit stretches of sand along the river, or plunging through the tangled grasses, or wading in the placid troutpools in the alder shadders. But I didn't volunteer no ejaculations. Pretty soon he broke forth into a rhapsody.

Mother used to tell me-' he begins; but I interrupts.

Moses,' says I, 'don't waste none of your eloquence upon the desert air; it will keep, and besides, I ain't feeling the jolliest myself.

Moses looked at me a moment like a kid that wants you to kiss its bruised finger; but I turned and walked away, and he follered.

We hadn't gone more than half the distance to a little cabin, nestling on a hillside, when we saw a young feller coming to meet us. He kept mumbling to himself and his eyes was glistening worse than a glaring falsehood. He sure had brainfag bad-poor kid!

When we met up with him he just grabbed our hands and hung to 'em like he was scairt to death. 'Oh,' says he, the joy spilling out of his eyes, 'I haven't seen a human since my partner went loco and jumped off the cliff!'
' 'Well, sonny,' says I consolin', 'we ain't humans exactly. We're just two frayed remnants of a glorious and hopeful past; but perhaps

Story of wool, a Widow and the Woebegiomes
By EDGAR WIELTON COOLEY

we'll fill the requirements made and provided And you'll stay with me?' says he, real earnest you'll stay awhile?
'Sonny,' says I, 'the two pu'sonal pronouns you see before you have side-stepped their destiny and for all intents and pu'poses it won't have any material effect upon the universal plan where they hibernate, eh, Mose?
'No,'says Moses. 'As far as I can see at this particular interval of time, we ain't no cussed
use for anything in the heavens above or the earth bencath, and if you can utilize us for decorative or medicinal pu'poses, f'r instance -

- But that poor lonesome kid interrupted further conversations by dancing around like a freckled terrier what's renewing the acquaintance of his master after quite a considerable separation. He bowed us into his sod house like he was entertaining royalty, and from the grin that revolved three consecutive times around his face it wasn't hard to savvy that joy had stampeded him and sorrer had clumb a tree.
" Now it's my opinion-which the same isn't worth a cuss, Lord knows! being generally dealt out with a free and reckless hand when the spirit moves me-it's my opinion that the real joylessness of mortal existence is idleness. Them that have considerable less practice in being busy than me, differs with me there, and perhaps they ought to know; but I still maintain I'm right, especially if the idleness referred to is stuck in the dead center of four thousand acres of sage-brush, alfalfy, bleating sheep and miscellaneous scenery that has fallen into the habit of looking precisely similar upon each and every occasion whatsomever.
"If you want to set a human critter to wondering why the good Lord ever took the trouble to make him anyhow, just maroon him in the midst of a job lot of picturesque environments with the wool on the outside. If so it isn't that he gets preoccupied at times in keeping his knee-caps from gliding round behind, he wouldn't have any more regard for the infernal fitness of things than the misinformation on a monument. Let your ideas filter through the everlasting symphony of adult sheep that ought to know better but don't, and what you got? The first thing you savvy, your imagination's working overtime trying to keep up with the demands made upon it, and more curious critters-birds, reptiles, et cet'ry-are chasing you around than was ever writ up on a circus poster.

That was what had been eating the kid, and that was what petrified my disconsolation before I had been there a month. Pardner, if I'd a died during the elapsing of that period of history, I don't believe I'd have known it in time to have gurgled a last fond message-leastwise, 'tain't
eeptible to have given any reasonable previous warnin'. If it hadn't been for Moses and the light entertainment he furnished me and the kid, I sure don't know what would have become of yours truly.
"The first dinky little indication that the unexpected had happened was when Moses came trailing into camp one evening, his face shining like new money and his number nine boots hitting the ground as ponderous as a tumbleweed. The change in his pu'sonal appearance was so startling that I came near choking to death on my mortal breath. I was for demanding some explanations forthwith and immejit, but Moses avoided me with enacious success.
"But just before I turned in I found him sitting on a granite boulder looking up at the stars and expectorating sighs at regular and right frequent intervals. As I approached him I heard him mumbling to himself, and as I got closer I made out that he was quoting poetry

Here, thinks I, is where we ropes Moses to a tree and hikes out for the lunatic commish. Just then he looked at me with the shiniest eyes, then elevated his optics to the heavens.
ee the stars, says he. Ah, the stars, like a million sheep in the green pastures of Lebanon! Hear 'em singing the praises of the universe!
'Moses,' says I, seeing that the moment for action had arriv', 'will you come peaceful, or will it be necessary-

Oh, go to blazes!' he yells, jumping to his feet. 'It's real queer a gent can't enjoy the beauties of nature without the interference of them that can't see nothin' in life worth living for nohow. And with that he tucked himself in his little bed.

The next morning, when the kid summoned us to flapjacks, Moses wasn't nowhere visible. I didn't think much of the circumstance for awhile, being of the opinion that he'd materialize all right, 'gainst he got good and hungry. But about ten o'clock I savvied something must be done, so I told the kid what had happened the night previous, and we started scouting.

After about two hours of the heart-renderest search that a mortal ever procrastinated and lived to tell the tale, something floated to us from the midst of $a$ thicket of chaparral which the same brought us up short. It certainly was the most terrifying noise that ever scairt me to death.
'What's that?' gasps the kid, growing pale.
' That,' says I in an awed whisper, as a piercing wail froze the blood in my veins, 'sounds to me like a human being in the last throes of mortal agony.

The kid began to shake with apprehensions. 'It's Moses!' hegasps--' Moses in the hands of the hostiles!'
'They're sure fricasseeing him to a rich brown hue,' says I.

So we unlimbered our artillery and the kid
creeped cautious to an opening in the bushes and peered through. A moment of 'such intense silence followed that I could hear his wonder grow, while his optics protruded like a double-barreled gun. Directly he signaled me to advance. I did so, and when I squinted at the object of our heart's emotions, I perceived something I wouldn't have believed, if so I hadn't seen it with these same eyes.
"Setting on a grassy mound, rocking back and forth and singing, was Mose, and in his arms was a yearling baby.

The kid grabbed my hand for comfort, and for about two minutes we lay there staring at the phenomenon like a guilty conscience. Then I turned beseeching to the kid.
' What,' says I, 'do you observe?
'I sees Moses,' says he, 'stepfatherin' an orphan asylum.',

Pardner,' says I, articulating through the mazes of delicious bewilderments, 'please repeat that welcome intelligence

He did so.
'Then,' gurgles I in bold relief, 'it isn't me to an oculist, eh, kid?

No,' says he; 'but where in thunder did Mose get that- 'To Moses,' whispers I, 'it isn't what you might, with reason and sober judgment, expect; it's what you couldn't possibly imagine under any circumstances whatsomever that happens. At first thought, not stopping to study the situation careful, you'd look on Mose as the most unreasonable cuss unhung; but after the matter has had time to filter through the cracks in your dome of intellect, you wonder why it is that Moses never meets up with anything really worth while. If he ever does,' says I, 'it will be the most tremendous sensation since the flood.'
"Well, pardner, it was sure curious to see Mose fondle that there juvenile, handling it as keerful as though it was a stick of dynamite. Me and the kid, we was so infernally enraptured with the spectacle that we kept pushing harder and harder ag'in' the bushes, until finally, 'Snap!' says something right in front of us, and the next second we When we finally untangled ourselves from the dizzy whirl and got upon our knees, Moses had riz up and was scowling
at us like a Chinese joss, his hands claspat us like a Chinese joss, his hands clasp-
ing something behind his back, which the same was creatin' more confusion in the same period of time than I thought possible in one so young and inexperienced.
'G-g-go way!' splutters Mose, his countenance assuming the visible aspects of a prairie fire in action and the embarrassments dripping from his pores in cussed pirates! Don't you know no better than to intrude upon the pri-

Just then here came a woman who looked about thirty years older than she had been at the beginning of her modest career-here came a woman tearin through the brush like a wild animal. Moses turned and faced her in despair, and we saw the poor unfortunate infant dangling head downward in Mose's grasp, its mouth so wide ajar that its expression of innocence was jammed into its eyes and its eyes and its face as black as a Fiji insurrection.
'Moses,' cries I in horror, 'reverse the infant! Mortification's settin' in.'

But Moses had other thoughts to occupy his mind just then, for the maternal parent of that there violent paroxysm grabbed our friend and brother by the arm, yanked him about forty-five degrees to the windward, plucked the rose-bud from his clammy embrace, restored it to the vertical position in which fond nature preordained that it should live and breathe and have its being, hugged the kiddie to her breast, and stood regarding Moses in silent disdain, her eyes ablaze, her lips scornful.

- Moses looked like a jimson-weed in a simoon. He struggled desperately with a stagnated vocabulary, utilized a few facial expressions that would have been of material assistance in diagnosing anything from paralysis to cholera morbus, and at last ejaculated a few quotations from some fureign language I'd never bumped up ag'in' in all my wild

And the woman! She stood like a queen, her bosom heaving, her long ebony hair rippling over her shoulders, her pretty pink caliker gown trailing round her like the mist from Devil's Falls at sunrise, and her azure eyes eating him up at ten paces. Then

ATTER $\mathbb{R} A \mathbb{N} \mathbb{D} A \mathbb{S}$
Drawing by Grace G. Wiederseim


The kid rubbed his eyes like he'd been dreaming. I shut my jaws upon my escaping breath in the nick of time. Moses evoluted into a longdrawn sigh.

The situation was sure ominous of tragic consequences , when Moses should regain his vitality. I wasn't feeling first rate, myself, for I could sense that the kid and me had blundered upon a seance where we could do the least good.

Howsomever, Mose suffered us to assist him on the homeward way in meekness and submission. Not until we had reached the end of the journey did he break forth in language at once voluptuous and picturesque. The way that feller plucked leaves from our chronylogical trees was scandalous, and the familiar manner in which he addressed by name distinguished individuals mentioned in Holy Writ was amazin'
"When at last he turned his undivided attention towards recovering his lost breath, I made a few remarks appropriate to the occasion. 'Anyway,' says I in conclusion, 'what right have you to go running amuck over the hemisphere, kidnapping infants and skeering helpless women?
'Moses sat up, and the light of returning reason came into his face. 'Why,' says he, 'I wasn't kidnapping nobody. I was just introducin' myself to the duties of a stepfather, believin' that such things should be learned gradual, so to speak

Moses,' yells I, feeling queer in the immejit vicinity of the solar perplexus-' Moses, do you
mean to assert that you-you-'
'Yes,' says he, grinning, 'it's all agreed to. I'm going to marry the leddy
'Me and the kid purt' nigh fainted in each other's arms. 'Lord!' ejaculates the kid, after the elapsing of several solemn minutes, 'it does seem cruel and unjust, not to say pernicious, that a leddy of her perfections should have to endure the terror which a face like yours inspires. How comes it she suffered softenin' of the brain so sudden?
'Boys,' says Moses, as sober as a second thought, me and Minnie have known each other since we

By M. G. MAYS

Mother said: " My little daughter, Cast thy bread upon the water," An' lots of other words she saidI could not keep them in my head. But I am casting mine, you know, Upon the cold and shivery snow, Thinkin' of my mother's words, $\mathrm{An}^{\prime}$ feeding little hungry birds, Cause I had a sweet canary
Flyed away last January, An' if I feed the birds, you see, Some day Dick may fly back to me. The wind might carry him a crumbThen back to me my bird would come.
was infants. Why, says he real tender, she was the first sure-enough sweetheart I ever had.

The kid and me swallered something like we're practising pantomime in chorus.

And why,' says I at last, 'didn't you marry her before?'
'Oh,' says he, 'there was a quarrel and I hikes to this God-forsaken country. Minnie married a chap that didn't live long enough to appreciate her. She and the kiddie is out here tryin' to hold down a claim.

Some feller,' says I retrospective, thinking of the time we turned sorrowful away from the grave of our late lamented hopes-some feller, who the same had a better recollection of his name than I have, once writ, or if he didn't he should have, that misfortune is only skin deep. Generally,' I adds, 'we find that whatever isn't is better than if it was.'
'Yes,' warbles Mose, disfiggering his freckled countenance with a grin, 'I was just thinking of that myself.'

So me and the kid reasonably considered Mose's destiny no longer a matter for speculation. But that evening our friend and brother appeared at camp with a face that looked like it had been caught between a stone wall and a brick church during the festivities inaugurated by a cyclone.

Moses!' yells me and the kid in mutual accord, 'whatever has happened?

Minnie,' says he, 'has idees I never saw writ in any book. F'r instance, she declares with a vehemence that proves itself that she ain't hankerin' to intrust her unpromising future to any male bein' who delights to torture innercent infants.'
"He was real cut up. Me and the kid poured the balm of inexperienced sympathy upon his lacerated feelings, but in vain. His disfiggeration

## no mistake

That night he sat out on the old slab of granite, his head filling the hollers in his hands and his sociableness striking an average of about forty below zero. Me and the kid stayed in the cabin,
swapping opinions and nursing the onpleasant thought that we was the innercent perpetrators of the downfall of Moses. We savvied that it was up to us to do something, all right, and by midnight we'd outlined our plan of campaign and turned in to

In the morning Mose was still tossir r on his bunk when the board of arbitri.tion started widderwards. We found hor
amputatin' the cuticle from a panful of spuds. If anything, she'd growed prettier since the memorable occasion ske first burst upon our dizzy vision. When
she raised her eyes she beheld two envoys extraordinary and ministers penitentiary shaking with a sudden attack of chills
.'•Well?' says she, gazing at us like an angel of retribution.

Me and the kid took off our hats and stood fumbling them in a mad endeavor to corral our frisky thoughts that was stampedin' in all directions.

Leddy,' says the kid at length, blushing like a school girl, 'it was our fault, leddy.' Then he looked at me for encouragement.

Yes'm,' says I, scairt at my own oice, 'it sure was. Ordinarily, mar'm,' continues I, 'a man that ain't had no more kindergarten training than Moses should be reasonably expected to keep a baby right side up with care, even though it isn't marked that way. But,' says I, gaining confidence as I proceeded, 'when a man is taken with a sudden cramp, like Moses was-'

The leddy interrupted with an ejaculation that might have meant something, and then again might not, only she broke out into a laugh that was sure discommodin' to me and the kid. We stood off an attack of nervous prosperation the best we could and waited for her to proceed.

Gentlemen,' says she fin'ly, dipping her words in honey before handing them to us-'gentlemen, I thank you for your interest in the matter, but it occurs to me that the party most interested could best plead his own case '

Moses,' says I, not knowing how else to keep the embarrassments from takin' root-' Moses means well, mar'm. He's a good boy and deservin' of as lovely a leddy as you, which the same me and the kid here hopes to see consummated, eh, kid?

Yes'm,' replies the kid, 'and I'1l kill a fatted sheep, mar'm, for the occasion.
'And,' I ejaculates, before the missus had time
to interrupt, ' I'll go get the parson, our hands, and there was a cloudburst mar $m$, and the license and-and the cake.
"The leddy laughed again. Some times,' says she, 'I think Moses acts so .' 'He is queer, mar'm,' says I; 'but
that's the beauty of him. There's nothing, leddy, like having a husband Now take Mose, f'r instance. There where. You couldn't lose him, leddy you wanted to, and if you did, his iden if you don't marry him, mar'm
$\qquad$ says she, laughing like a bubbling spring
'. 'It is, leddy!' bursts out I, grabbing $t$ the idee like a speckled trout at a fly From all present and perspective symptures of untimely dissolution, and so me and the kid here, we organized oursetves
$\qquad$ ration. We are obliged to you, mar'm, sibly imagine under any circumstances proceed to carry the news to the party "So it was that when the moment for "The widder blushed real happy and stood with Bible in hand and the bride
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ouble code with iron-bound emphasis love as there may be in the world; for his preserve the hanor of the women of has he not made the religion of love an the honor of other women is an agreeable The simplest of religions, it requires of
pastime. He makes stringent rules for the him nothing but that he should love his conduct of women, then offers them tempt- neighbor as himself; by the cultivation ing inducements to misconduct them- of this most agreeable of feelings he
stives, and if they yield he punishes them. would bring within his reach all the good He prides himself on his intellectual possibilities, which are limited, and supnfinite. He has glimmerings of the of his choice in all its pure perfection, divine; but even his God must conform and subjects for endless controversies to the exigencies of an argument. In one which result inevitably in ecstasies of mood he says that God does not willingly hate; instead of requiring
all that we suffer to the will of $G$ In this last year 1905 man's favorite defneyond the curious conglomerate contradictory attributes which he allows to himself. The tribal god of the He rews-a very demon of cruelty, jealousy vengeance, wrath and caprice-is st
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$\qquad$ troubles, and then proceeds to mangle all the efficacy out of them
somewhere inside of him.
Me and the kid app'inted ourselves committee on arrangements, and the eddin' would have been a grand success it hadn't been for Mose


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Ben Peterson to try it next. Ben one of the doubting ones; but he down by Uncle Bob and awaited

## Tap the letters of your name on my

1ap the letters of your nar
Ben's real name was Benjamin, on the palm eight times. said Uncle Bob You think this name doesn't flow up it should. What is the arm so easily as it should. What is the
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min?" exclaimed Ed Murray. "Please
Uncle Bob consented, and Ed tappe
ly twice on the outstretched palm.
ked Uncle Bob.
I only askeE, and it's Ed." Your name begins with
rectly named all the children, askingletters which didn't appear clearly to him
hildren could scarcely believe itand girls, Imight know your names some other way

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engage to tell
randmother, or great-uncle
know th
All right, sir," cried Ben, with spark
Will yor who foug
But you must help all you Conat your mind just on his name
Ben's ancestor's name was Andrew,
$\qquad$
$\qquad$ e tapped slowly six times
The letters are coming to my mind, aid Uncle Bob, looking puzzled, "but they are all jumbled up. Which is the itial

A," said Ben.
Oh yes, of course. Now they are all Oightening out. Only the third one little blurred. The third letter is-."

## D," said Ben.

- Ha, now they are all in position, and clear as day at last. Your ancestor's
At this, even Ben's skepticism was satisfied, and then Uncle Bob had to tell the names of other ancestors and relatives.
The young people went away marveling at the wonderful magic power of the Boylston children's uncle, and no sooner were their guests gone than Lucy and Fred begged for an explanation of the
"Well," said Uncle Bob, "it isn't an y trick, but with a little practice I think you could learn it. The main
thing is to preserve a mysterious air and thing is to preserve a mysterious air and
pretend to know more than you really do know.

Of course the name going up your arm is all make-believe, isn't it?" asked red.


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dearest wish of every soldier. Twice the King had stopped his meal and sat with
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sent for me?"
eyes which glanced in sidelong fanning
"I would I knew-I would I was sure
ere I sought his presence."
fair sir, and doubtless you will learn from
pered. "For God's sake, tell me! is the
table, fair sir, and he bids
Sir Aymery seemed to gather himself
pring into ice-
old water. Then he crossed with a quick
trom the darkness into the light.
ith a smile upon his long handsome
"Welcome!" cried Edward. "Wel-
mea, and thank you for the care that youk, for he has ridden fast and far in
Throughout the long feast which the
Ermyntrude had a
him. Finally
coarse bread which served as plates
gons were passed round, and old Wes-
ajesty. But Edward had other sportAymery, these noble lords as well as
I, your master, would fain hear from your
owa lips how all goes forward in France.,
looked restlessly from one to anotherquiet on the French marches," said hehave mustered or gathered to a head
with the intention of breaking the truceand making some attempt upon our
minions
You set my mind much at ease, Aymery," said the King; "for if nothing
has come to your ears, then surely it cannot be. It was said that the wild

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Tom Ochiltree was invited.
But this time already, maud
The Vice-President had his carriage brought and after the soup succeeded in quietly getting
Tom into the hall, into his overcoat and out he laid his hand on his guest's shoulder, saying: Go down the steps carefully. Tom, then

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a fex photos but thad I know that I was
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## By Mary Ogden Vaughan

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the proverbs of a nation are the dis- is advised only as a last resort illed wit and wisdom of generations of Of military proverbs they its people. This saying seems especially the distillation has been going on
most cherished national proverbs were ". After victory tighten the strings 11 in their nation
The Japanese are essentially a philolanguage is rich in proverbial philosophy and proverbs are current coin in their interchange of thought. An apt quota is considered a final argument unless the discomfited disputant can match it with a better one.
these "pearls of wisdom" shows th rom the garnered experience of the ages widely separated ame conclusions.
widely as the nations themselves. Com a choice of metaphor in keeping with the environment
As a nation of boatmen, the Japañes

## ay: "Too many boatmen will run the world without finding one devil"

 many cooks spoil the broth."Whare rice life of its rrigation the life of its fields,

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COLUMB



BOX ON THIE GRAND TIER
somehow giving something of his pres- sical turn, and above all the fresh youth ence to the very air. Sonia turned- and ardor of Sonia, beguiled him. H the glow from the stage was in his face watched the Rhine maidens for a mo and lighting his eyes-but across the ment, frowning at the absurd machiner gulf of the years that had separated of their swimming, and the them it was impossible for her to guess "Ah, well now, since you ask me," he that this was Dragomir. Besides, she declared, "he makes no secret. He has was happily expecting Dragomir upon found nothing of the sort. Who does?" ee stage.
He had at first hardly been conscious for him somewhere, though," she said that anyone else was in the box. When with charming positiveness. "One he saw the whiteness of her gown he certain of that
half rose with a gesture of apology, and
mimly watching the antics of black Albe so little a child when he had left her, missed that. He threw it away, as we without the possibility of recognition. all throw away happiness. Is there any But something else he did recognize, and
pleasure leaped impetuously to his lips. You think, there, or there," he swept the You are of my country?" he said. circle of the listening pit and of the child Without her knowledge some- ness? Who has not thrown away happi ing in his manner impressed her-less, for the second chance that never, never perhaps, as familiar to her than-as

Dragomir had no thought that world held nothing but chances to happislle," he said, with the grave directness manifest.
which was never bluntness, "to sit here "This Dragomir's happiness, since you til the act is closed? M. Holliday- are graciously pleased to be interested,
pel has kindly left me a key., Shall I mademoiselle," said the tenor, turning to "Stay-but stay," said Sonia simply, Petersburg where he was contented until nd if there was a thought of what the Empress heard him sing while he
he twenty glasses would feel at this was at work in a closet of the Winter
dded impropriety it quickly gave place Palace. After that it lay once again assurance. "He is of my country," in a certain dream-"
He had half forgotten Sonia. It was
\(\qquad\)
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 1
\(\qquad\) "But assuredly," he answered tran- He spoke lightly, almost absently, and
quilly, as if one might know Dragomir entirely without a wish, one would have
every day, Sonia made a little exclamation of ity. He spoke simply, and chiefly,
pleasure. In an instant she was alive, perhaps, because it was his royal way to eager, forgetful of both time and the
hour. "Tell me!" she begged. "Tell me, nonsieur! He longed to be great and
rich and famous and happy. He is
\(\qquad\) hear his ambitions, his traits, his tastes, on lips unknown. He was well accus-
tomed to seeing his favorite flower, his make of cravat, his way of religion, set as he was of the ironies of his importance, this unexpected encounter and its whim

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