

SYNOPSIS.

<section-header>

CHAPTER IV. (Continued.)

"It's immoral," I protested. "It's immoral to steal your-"

"My own butler!" she broke in impatiently. "You're not usually so scrupulous, Kit. Hurry! I hear that hateful Anne Brown."

So we slid back along the hall, and I rang for Takahiro. But no one came. "I think I ought to tell you, Bella,"

I said as we waited, and Bella was staring around the room-"I think you ought to know that Miss Caruthers is here." Bella shrugged her shoulders.

"Well, thank goodness," she said, "I don't have to see her. The only pleasant thing I remember about my year of married life is that I did not meet Aunt Selina."

have gone, the entire lot." "That's odd," he said slowly. "Gone!

Are you sure?" In reply I pointed to the servants' wing. "Trunks packed," I said trag-

ically, "rooms empty, kitchen and pantries full of dishes. Did you ever hear of anything like it?" "Nover," he assorted. "It makes me

suspect-" What he suspected he did not say; instead he turned on his but sleep. heel, without a word of explanation, and ran down the stairs. I stood staring after him, wondering if every one in the place had gone crazy. Then I heard Betty Mercer scream and the rest talking loud and laughing, and Mr. Harbison came up the stairs again gling. two at a time.

"How long has that Jap been ailing, Mrs. Wilson?" he asked.

"I-I don't know," I replied helpless ly. "What is the trouble, anyhow?"

"I think he probably has something contagious," he said, "and it has scared the servants away. As Mr. Brown said, he looked spotty. I suggested to your husband that it might be as well to get the house emptiedin case we are correct."

"Oh, yes, by all means," I said eagerly. I couldn't get away too soon. "i'll go and get my-" Then I stopped. Why, the man wouldn't expect me to leave; I would have to play out the wretched farce to the end!

"I'll go down and see them off," I finished lamely, and we went together down the stairs.

Just for the moment I forgot Bella altogether. I found Aunt Selina bonneted and cloaked, taking a stirrup cup of Pomona for her nerves, and the rest throwing on their wraps in a hurry. Downstairs Max was telephoning for his car, which wasn't due for an hour, and Jim was walking up and down, swearing under his breath. With the prospect of getting rid of them all, and of going home comfortably to try to forget the whole wretched affair, I cheered up quite a lot. I even played up my part of hostess, and Dallas told me, aside, that I was a brick.

Just then Jim threw open the front door.

There was a man on the top step, with his mouth full of tacks, and he was nalling something to the door, just below Jim's Florentine bronze



ning around-like this-but there is jumping up and almost dropping her not a servant in the house! They ammonis bottle, "My dear Bella! Home?"

Jimmy groaned at the foot of the stairs, but Anne Brown was getting over her tears and now she turned on me in a temper.

"It's all your fault," she said. "I was going to stay at home and get a little sleep

"Well, you can sleep now," Dallas broke in. "There'll be nothing to do

"I think you haven't grasped the situation, Dal," I said tolly. "There will be plenty to do. There isn't a servant in the house!"

"No servants!" everybody cried at once. The Mercer girls stopped gig-

"Holy cats!" Max stopped in the act of hanging up his overcoat. "Do you mean-why. I can't shave myself! I'll cut my head off."

"You'll do more than that," I retorted grimly. "You will carry coal and tend fires and empty ash pans, and when you are not doing any of those things there will be pots and pans to wash and beds to make."

Then there was a row. We had worked back to the den now, and I stood in front of the fireplace and let the storm beat around me, and tried to look perfectly cold and indifferent, and not to see Mr. Harbison's shocked face. No wonder he thought them a lot of savages, browbeating their hostess the way they did.

"It's a fool thing anyhow," Max Reed wound up, "to celebrate the an-

niversary of a divorce-especially-Here he caught Jim's eye and stopped. But I had suddenly remembered. / Bella down in the basement! Could anything have been worse? And of course she would have hysteria and then turn on me and blame me for it all. It all came over me at once and overwhelmed me, while Anne was crying and saying she wouldn't cook if she starved for it, and Aunt Selina was taking off her wraps. I felt queer all over, and I sat

down suddenly. Mr. Harbison was looking at me, and he brought me a glass of wine. "It won't be so bad as you fear,"

he said comfortingly. "There will be no danger once we are vaccinated, and many hands make light work. They are pretty raw now, because the thing is new to them, but by morning they will be reconciled."

"It isn't the work: It is something entirely different," I said. And it was. Bella and work could hardly be spoken in the same breath.

If I had only turned her out as she deserved to be, when she first came, instead of allowing her to darry through the wretched farce about see ing Takahiro! Or if I had only run to the basement the moment the house was quarantined, and got her out the areaway or coal hole! And now time was flying, and Aunt Selina had me by the arm, and any moment I expected Bella to pounce on us through the doorway and the whole situation to explode with a bang.

It was after eleven before they were rational enough to discuss ways and means, and, of course, the first thing uggested was that we all adjourn be-

METHOD IN BELGIUM IRRIGATION IN BEET FIELDS Should Be Delayed as Long as There

Private Owners.

Financial Aid in Constructing Irriga-

tion Projects is Equal to About

Half the Expense-Value of

Drained Lands.

government for the improvement of

marsh lands west of the Sambre and

Meuse rivers, for the reason that these

lands are better than those in the

the sandy plains of the Campines reg-

ion, north of the provinces of Ant-

werp and Limburg, but allows private

parties to take water supplies from

the navigable canal called the Junc-

rivers, says the Breeders Gazette.

The marshy and wet lands of a cer-

tain area (about 74.2 acres) and above,

whose sanitary conditions have been

their lands. The wateringues in the

valleys of the navigable rivers are

work, but helps the municipalities and

interested owners' associations (water-

also lending them the services of the

Is Sufficient Molsture to Keep Up State Helps Municipalities and Steady Growth.

The irrigation of the beet fields should be delayed as long as there is sufficient moisture in the soil to keep up a steady growth. Too early irrigation tends to make a turnip-shaped beat and produces an unusually heavy growth of leaves without corresponding development of the No aid is extended by the Belgian

root. The soil should be kept in a thorough state of tillage by frequent cultivations, so that the loss of molature by direct evaporation may be slight, says the Field and Farm. There is a middle course as to the time of higher parts of Belgium and that the this application of water to the crop, drainage is of great importance, for for if held off too long the beet will cultivation, to the landowners. The begin to mature and no prevent its state grants no subsidies for the proper development later. Experience canalization executed for irrigation in alone will decide the best practice, but in a general way it is no advantage to this crop to irrigate / when there is sufficient moisture to keep up a vigorous growth. After irrigation and as soon as the ground has dried tion canal of the Meuse and Schelt out sufficiently, a cultivation three or four inches deep should follow. The narrow cultivator shovel, bull, calf or deer tongues should be used in order to pulverize the soil as much as posimproved by drainage (ditches or sible. If the beets have become so pipes are nearly all united in "Wateringue." This is a legally recognized large that the leaves would be injured, the use of these implements association of landowners interested in the work of drying and irrigating would injure rather than benefit the crop and should be avoided. The furrows will then remain as they are in placed under the supervision of the the furrow irrigation and serve for subsequent irrigations. If plants are ministry of public works, while those not too large the furrowing for followin the valleys of unnavigable streams are under the ministry of agriculture. ing irrigations should not be put off Concerning the last-mentioned, the too long after the cultivation, as there is danger of injuring the leaves. state does not execute the irrigation

IRRIGATION WATER IN ROADS ingues) granting them subsidies and

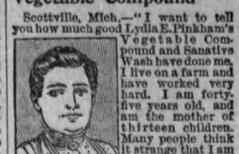
Highways in Many Places Found to Be Very Bad and in Spots Almost Impassable by Leaks.

Irrigation water in roads is not only a waste of water, but it does make very bad roads, sometimes impassable ones. In Gallatin valley, Mont., recently, we were delayed for nearly an hour and had to go to a farm house for ropes, etc., with which to pull the auto

in which we were riding out of the mud, caused by a leak which two minutes with a spade would have stopped. to provinces, municipalities, to dis- In several other places we found the tricts, to corporations, or to private roads in very bad condition from small, parties for the execution of works but evidently long neglected leaks, which are to be of more than local from nearby ditches, says a writer in the North Dakota Farmer. This is one total expenses for the construction of of the disagreeable drawbacks in many irrigated sections and a little; a very such works as are planned and constructed by the ministry of agricul- dittle timely care would prevent it. ture. The mission of the government Colorado has found this such a nuisagents ends as soon as the drainage ance that section 3960 of the state work is accomplished, these agents statutes reads: "Any person who only supervising the work. The imshall cause waste water or water from mediate supervision of the work, the any ditch, road, drain or flume, preservation, the maneuvering of or other place to flow in or upon any sluices, intakes of water, etc., are un- road or highway so as to do damage der the care of the wateringues if the to the same, shall be subject to a fine lands belong to private owners united of not less than \$10 nor more than in association, and under the care of \$300 for each offense and shall communal administrations if the lands be liable to any person in a civil long to communes. The financial aid



To Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound



thirteen children. Many people think it strange that I am not broken down with hard work and ily, but I tell them of my good friend, your Vegetable Compound, and that there will be no backache and bearing down pains for them if they will take it as I have. I am scarcely ever with-out it in the house.

out it in the house: "I will say also that I think there is no better medicine to be found for young girls to build them up and make them strong and well. My eidest daughter has taken Lydia E. Pink-ham's Vegetable Compound for pain-ful periods and irregularity, and it has always helped her. "I am always ready and willing to speak a good word for the Lydia E.

speak a good word for the Lydia E. Finkham's Remedics. I tell every one I meet that I owe my health and hap-piness to these wonderful medicines." -Mrs. J.G. JOHNSON, Scottville, Mich.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Com-pound, made from native roots and herbs, contains no narcotics or harmful drugs, and to-day holds the record for the largest number of actual cures of female diseases.

SENT HAIL TO THE MOON

Embryo Man-of-War's Man at Last Convinced Officer He Was Attending to His Duty.

This is the story of one of the members of the Massachusetts Naval Reserves. On the second night of the cruise of the San Francisco one of the amateur tars was on watch. The night was clear, and myriads of stars. twinkled in the sky, but there was no moon. Suddenly the reserve sang out, "Light aboy!" "Where away?" asked the officer of the deck. "Far, far away," replied the would-be man-ofwar's man. When the officer had recovered from the shock occasioned by this unseamanlike answer he looked over the rail in the direction indicated by the reserve's finger, and then he had another fit. "What's the matter with you?" growled the officer. "Can't you recognize the rising moon when you see it?" "Moon! moon!" stammered the embryo sea dog. "I beg your pardon, sir! Then he shouted, as if making amends for his

staff of the agricultural hydraulic administration for the study of projects, also for the direction and supervision of work. Subsidies are only granted for drainage of lands of little value for improving sanitary conditions, There is no general law defining the

when necessary for the general health of the country, in view of suppressing fogs and for the interest of agriculture. The subsidies are granted by the government in full ownership and are not to be repaid. ald which the government may extend benefit. The state takes charge of the

I rang again, but still there was no answer. And then it occurred to me that the stillness below stairs was almost oppressive. Bella was noticing things, too, for she began to fasten her yeil again with a malicious little smile.

"One of the things I remember my late husband saying," she observed, "was that he could manage this house. and had done it for years, with flawless service. Stand on the bell, Kit." I did. We stood there, with the table, just as it had been left, between us and waited for a response. Bella was growing impatient. She raised her eyebrows (she is very handsome, Bella is) and flung out her chin as if she had begun to enjoy the horrible situation.

I thought I heard a rattle of silver from the pantry just then, and I hurried to the door in a rage. But the pantry was empty of servap's and full of dishes, and all the lights were out but one, which was burning dimly. I could have sworn that I saw one of the servants duck into the stairway to the basement, but when I got there the stairs were empty, and something was burning in the kitchen below.

Bella had followed me and was peering over my shoulder curiously.

"There isn't a servant in the house," she 'said triumphantly. And when we went down to the kitchen, she seemed to be right. It was in disgraceful order, and one of the bottles of wine that had been banished from the dining room sat half empty on the floor.

"Drunk!" Bella said with conviction. But I didn't think so. There had not a hasty flight; in three bedrooms five to look at me. trunks stood locked and ominous, and the closets yawned with open door, empty. Bella had been right; there was not a servant in the house.

As I emerged from the untidy emptiness of the servants' wing, I met Mr. Harbison coming out of the studio.

"I wish you would let me do some of this running about for you, Mrs. Wilson," he said gravely. "You are not well, and I can't think of anything worse for a headache. Has the butler's illness clogged the household machinery ?"

"Worse," I replied, trying not to breathe in gasps. "I wouldn't be run-

He Was Nailing Something to the Door.

knocker, and standing back with his head on one side to see if it was straight.

"What are you doing?" Jim demanded fiercely, but the man only drove another tack. It was Mr. Harbison who stepped outside and read the card.

It said "Smallpox."

"Smallpox," Mr. Harbison read, as if he couldn't believe it, Then he turned to us, huddled in the hall. "It seems it wasn't measles, after all," he said cheerfully. "I move we get into Mr. Reed's automobile out there, and have a vaccination party. I suppose even you blase society folk have not exhausted that kind of diversion.'

But the man on the step spat his tacks in his hand and spoke for the first time.

"No, you don't," he said. "Not on your life. Just step back, please, and close the door. This house is quarantined."

CHAPTER V.

From the Tree of Love. There is hardly any use trying to describe what followed. Anne Brown began to cry, and talk about the chil- stupid." dren. (She went to Europe once and stayed until they all got over the

whooping cough.) And Dallas said he had a pull, because his mill controlled been time enough, for one thing. Sud- I forgot how many votes, and the denly I remembered the ambulance thing to do was to be quiet and comthat had been the cause of Bella's ap- fortable and we would ket out in the pearance-for no one could believe morning. Max took it as a huge joke, her silly story about Takahiro. I and somebody found him at the telesimply left her there, staring helpless- phone, calling up his club. The Merly at the confusion, and ran upstairs | cer. girls were hysterically giggling, again; through the dining room, past and Aunt Selina sat on a stiff-backed Jimmy and Aunt Selina, past Leila chair and took aromatic spirits of am-Mercer and Max, who were flirting on monia. As for Jim, he had collapsed the stairs, up, up to the servants' bed- on the lowest stop of the stairs, and rooms, and there my suspicions were sat there with his head in his hands. verified. There was every evidence of When he did look up, he didn't dare

The Harbison man was arguing with the impassive individual on the for him! Who knows what would top step outside, and I saw him get out his pocketbook and offer a crisp bundle of bills. But the man from the

board of health only smiled and tacked at his offensive sign. After a while Mr. Harbison came in and closed the door, and we stared at one

another. "I know what I'm going to do," said, swallowing a lump in my throat. "I'm going to get out through a base-

ment window at the back. I'm going home." "Home!" Aunt Selina gasped,

low stairs and clean up after dinner. I could have slain Max Reed for the notion, and the Mercer girls for taking him up.

"Of course we will," they said in duct. "What a lark!" And they actually began to pin up their dinner gowns. It was Jim who stopped that, "Oh, look here, you people," he objected, "I'm not going to let you do that. We'll get some servants in tomorrow. I'll go down and put out the of Namur and Luxemburg, principally lights. There will be enough clean in the latter. Most of the drained dishes for breakfast."

It was lucky for me that this started a new discussion then and there about who would get the breakfast. In the midst of the excitement I slipped away to carry the news to Bella. She was where I had left her, and she had made herself a cup of tea, and was very much at home, which was natural.

"Do you know," she said ominously, 'that you have been away for two hours? And that I have gone through; agonies of nervousness for fear Jim Wilson would come down and think I came here to see him."

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

AH, WHO KNOWST

"Do you know," she said, "I didn't want to come to this place at all. had an idea that it would be awfully

"And haven't you found it stupid," he asked.

"You know I haven't." "How should I know?"

"No place could be stupid if you vere there."

"It is very nice of you to say so." "I shall be so sorry when you leave. It has been the most glorious week of my life."

"I am glad to know that; but I hope there may be many more glorious weeks in store for you."

After he had gone to the tennis court and left her alone on the wide veranda, she sighed and said to herself:

"How sad it is that a woman is denied the right to tell a man she cares have happened if I might have told him all?'

Another Kind.

"Ha!" said the Russian count, with a fierce scowl on his Muscovite features. "This worm of an American writer has insulted me with his pen!" "Has he written a biting satire about you?" inquired the fair charmer

to whom he spoke. "Nothing so gentlemanly!" yelled the count. "He has named his pig

after me!"

action for any damages resulting there of the state in works of this kind is from."

generally equal to half the expenses. And still there are some very bad The government also lends gratuitousroads from leaky ditches in Colorado ly the services of its staff for the as we can testify. We think that not study of projects as well as for the diless than \$10 nor more than \$50 would rection and supervision of work. The perhaps be better-and this not apply largest marsh lands which have been unless the leak can be shown to have drained in the higher part of Belgium been a neglected one, or from two to do not measure more than 247.4 acres three days' standing. Too severe a each. These drained lands extend all penalty prevents rather than encourover the territories of the provinces ages complaints of this kind.

GENERAL FARM NOTES.

When the crust forms after a rain stir the soil.

Don't let the cows or young things lose in condition now.

Bank up the old barns to shut out the cold wind under the floors. Do not waste feed on a cow that is

not returning a profit on the food she

Hogs properly sheltered will thrive on much less feed than those exposed to cold.

Don't condemn her if you are only giving her enough feed to keep life in | Health and Natural' Conditions Corher body.

The first test to be given a new workman on the farm is to send him out with a team.

Alfalfa hay and corn have been found to be a most satisfactory fattening feed for hogs.

Alfalfa in a young orchard would be frequently ruins the entire system, all right if grown only beyond the reach of the tree roots,

The whole secret of profit in poultry culture is' in following nature's tion which makes a joy of living. way in the care of the stock.

It is the height of folly to think time or even fatten without water.

This will check growth, and is a loss. Hogs that have died from the cholera should be immediately burned or buried deeply and covered with quicklime.

Unless a hen has a great value as ket after her third year.

The waterglass method of preserving eggs is considered by the majority of poultrymen who have tried it the most satisfactory of any.

With good corn ensliage and clover or alfalfa hay, and home-grown grains, with perhaps some wheat bran and oil-meal added, a fine profit can be made from a herd of good dairy cows.

The manure from a herd of cows, properly saved and applied, will each year enable the dairyman to raise larger amounts of forage and grain. than those that descend from fam- The better the cows, the greater the profit

error, "Moon aboy!"

As it Appeared in Print. Senator Newlands of Nevada was soaring in debate one day, soaring so high he "hit the ceiling." He realized he was getting a trifle flowery and to excuse himself said: "Indeed, Mr. President, perfervid oratory may be pardoned, for this subject furnishes

all the food eloquence needs." That sounded pretty good to Mr. Newlands, but he was a bit abashed when he read in the Congressional Record next day that he asserted his topic "furnished all the food elephanta need."

Disapproving Constituents. "How is your member of congress spending the holidays?"

"Doin' nothin' at home instead of in Washington."

A woman's idea of a great financier is a man who can straighten out her expense account.

RESULTS OF FOOD. From Right Feeding.

Man, physically, should be like a perfectly regulated machine, each part working easily in its appropriate place. A slight derangement causes undue friction and wear, and

A well-known educator of Boston found a way to keep the brain and the body in that harmonious co-opera-

"Two years ago," she writes, "being In a condition of nervous exhaustion, that a hog can live for any length of I resigned my position as teacher, which I had held for over 40 years. If the food is allowed to sour in the Since then the entire rest has, of troughs, it will throw the hogs off feed. | course, been a benefit, but the use of Grape-Nuts has removed one great cause of illness in the past, namely, constipation, and its attendant evils. "I generally make my entire break-

fast on a raw egg beaten into four spoonfuls of Grape-Nuts, with a little a breeder or as a mother it is well to hot milk or hot water added. I like let her go to the dressed poultry mar- it extremely, my food assimilates, and my bowels take care of themselves. I find my brain power and physical endurance much greater and I know that the use of the Grape-Nuts has contributed largely to this result,

"It is with feelings of gratitude that I write this testimonial, and trust it may be the means of aiding others in their search for health." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

Read the little book, "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs. "There's a Rea-BOIL!

Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.

then cultivating so as to keep it covered with a dust mulch-as to assure a sufficiency of moisture for his crops. This is the whole secret of so-called

"dry farming," which is in reality only irrigation under another form.

Selection of the Brood Sow.

Sows that come from prolific familles are more certain to inherit those qualities and become good mothers ilies that are less prolific.

Bufficient Water for Crops Assured by eats Deep Plowing in Fall to Absorb Rains and Snow. Doubtless many a Minnesota farm er has thought, during the past season, as he witnessed the destruction or curtailment of his crops by the long-continued drought, "What a fine

lands belong to private partles, some

to communes, but none to the state.

The value of marsh lands after drain-

age is double to triple the value of the

lands before the work was accom-

STORE UP WINTER MOISTURE

plished.

thing an irrigating plant would have been this year!" A few horticulturists and market gardeners in this state have already installed such plants, and others are planning to do so, says a writer in the Northwestern Agriculturist. "By use of pumps and windmills or gasoline motors, many small pieces of land can be supplied with water. On many farms, small streams, lakes or swamps are so situated that their waters can easily be turned upon the land for irrigating purposes. These methods of helping nature to help itself have long since been learned by sources of water supply are not yet available may, if he will, "bottle up" such a quantity of water, just under the surface of his land-by plowing it deeply in the fall so that it will absorb all the rains and melted snows, and

he settlers of the semi-arid regions of the west, where the irrigated lands are now the most highly productive of all lands." But the farmer to whom such