

## A Problem in Fur.

BY BLANCHE ELIZABETH WADE.  
(Copyright, 1911, by Daily Story Pub. Co.)  
Gordon hated cats. To him the name cat meant not a round, soft, silky ball, with a contented purr somewhere inside, but a gaunt, prowling creature generally one-eyed and scalloped-eared, and more often with three sound legs, than with four; a monster haunting backyard fences; a freak ing vent to unearthly shrieks so badly aimed at the unoffending moon that instead they pierce the innermost depths of poor sensitive mortal souls and stir up emotions better not described.

Therefore, Gordon did not jump for joy after he had read the following letter from a wealthy aunt:

"My Dear Nephew:—While the description you gave of your new studio charmed me, I observed that you lack one thing, and that an important one:—(Money? Always did, my dear aunt?)—That to which I refer, is indispensable to every pretensions studio. ("And to every unpretensions purse, aunt.") No studio, my dear nephew, should be without a— and here, Gordon was seized with one of the afore-mentioned better-not-described emotions, for the word he read was—cat! "A cat," went on the letter, "is as necessary to an artist's success as is his brush; indeed, I may say, the cat adds a tone." ("Better say a fiendish noise, aunt?"), "which is not to be obtained by mere pictures and furnishings. Now, I do not mean that I think you ought to take in an ordinary animal—better none at all, than any common type. Knowing you are not so placed as to be able to make for yourself a good selection, I have done it for you, and am now sending you a most beautiful creature—a full-blooded Angora, registered as John Alden, and aged three months. He is valued at fifteen dollars, but as he grows older will increase in worth. Let me know if he arrives safely, and what you think of him; also do not fail to send me occasional reports of him."

Then followed several pages of directions for the care of Angora cats, proper foods, etc., and Gordon dropped the letter with a disheartened sigh.

The next day John Alden arrived. At sight of him Gordon did not shudder as he had fully intended to do. Instead he timidly stroked the long, yellow fur and laughed when this act started a spinning-wheel in John Alden's interior. Then and there, of his own accord, with no thought of doing so for the sake of his own interests in pleasing a rich relative, Ernest Gordon mentally swore to do the right thing by his new possession, and when purred gave place to hungry mew, hastened to his small inner room, procured a saucer, lighted his oil-stove, and heated milk according to his aunt's advice.

John Alden was duly introduced to the elevator boy and to the night watchman, each of whom gladly took the oath of allegiance to his furry highness. Thus was his installation accomplished, his reign begun.

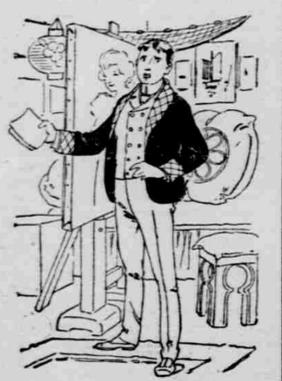
"Your generous gift came safely," wrote Gordon to his aunt. "I like him immensely and appreciate your kind interest in making the success of my new studio complete. I have no doubt my Angora friend and I will get on famously together."

His lordship was not long in establishing himself as master of the studio. Disdaining the comfortable basket Gordon had arranged for him, he carefully selected the most expensive fabrics whereon to compose his dainty limbs; scorning the spool and string provided for his amusement, he tore up and down velvet curtains and portieres. He whisked as lightly as a feather, back and forth, in and out, among costly vases and marbles, and though Gordon sometimes drew long breaths, he said nothing.

A week passed, during which John Alden met many enthusiastic admirers, chief among whom was Miss Isabel Graham, who was sitting for her portrait.

"How thoughtful of your aunt!" the young lady exclaimed at first sight of the cat. "Mr. Gordon, you must be proud to own that dear creature," and Gordon was not wickered enough to ask which.

Before the second week was over John Alden signified his determination to see something of out-door life, and fought so frantically at the window-screens that Gordon took him to the boarding-place, where there was a



"A cat!"

strip of yard. This was too narrow to suit His Majesty for more than a day, and as the landlady could not watch him all of the time, he stole out and sought the acquaintance of the alley cats. Gordon gazed sadly at the dirty, tangled fur, as Puss strolled in wearily one evening. Once more His Highness took up his abode at the studio.

"He ought to be brushed," said Miss Graham on the following morning, as she tried to separate the matted locks. Gordon bought a soft brush and worked two hours at the fur. While thus engaged he made a startling discovery.

The next day while showing Miss Graham some Puritan studies before beginning work on the portrait, he exclaimed in a tragic tone:

"O, Miss Graham, did you know—"

"—that John Alden had fleas?"

"Mr. Gordon!" cried she in a shocked voice. "Did you intend that as a joke?"

"O," suddenly remembering. "Of

course, I had forgotten. You mean the cat!"

"Most certainly," returned Gordon, emphatically.

"Well, in that case, I can tell you what to do. Wash him with tar soap or with dog soap and comb them out with a fine comb."

Gordon purchased three combs before he found one that would not break. He bought three different kinds of soap, and returning to John Alden he combed, he bathed, he rubbed and then combed again. At the end of the tussle John Alden lay snugly sleeping under a warm drapery high on a bookcase and Gordon dressed his own torn and bleeding hands and cap-



"How thoughtful of your aunt," tured two live fleas on his coat-sleeve. He has since come to believe that those insects flourish on strong soapsuds, for after this performance John Alden did little but scratch and dig at his poor, tormented skin. He lost his appetite and grew thin. Miss Graham advised more combing and warm catnip tea. Gordon bought catnip at the drugists. He bought also a walnut wash recommended by the chemist and a bottle of cat tonic. Still the fleas increased and John Alden diminished.

Gordon wrote to his aunt. "Take him to a veterinary surgeon," advised she, "for the fleas will kill the cat if not seen to at once."

"What a pity!" said Miss Graham, when she heard this. "Now, I think that entirely unnecessary. Poor Puss would die there. If you will trust me to me I will take him home and my mother will doctor him up for you. We live out of town in the summer, you know, and there is lots of delicious grass for him to roam over and no cats in the neighborhood. We will watch him closely and he won't run away. Besides, there are oceans of fresh catnip growing about the place, and home dried catnip is different from that compressed stuff you bought. Then, too—you—you might come often, you know, to—see how he was getting on."

John Alden went to the country. A month later a letter went to the aunt. "You will be glad," wrote Gordon, "to hear that John Alden is entirely rid of fleas, eats like a bear, and is more beautiful than ever. You will be surprised to hear that I have found that a cat does not add the finishing grace to a studio. There is something else. That to which I refer is a wife who knows how to take care of the cat and of the artist. As you are not so placed as to make this selection for me, I have done so myself—or rather—John Alden has at last spoken for me as well as for himself to the fair Priscilla. Her name is Isabel Graham."

"Your affectionate nephew,

ERNEST GORDON.

"P. S.—I forgot to say June thirtieth.

"E. G.

"N. B.—I enclose last month's report:

|  |       |      |
|--|-------|------|
| One soft brush                                       | ..... | 1.50 |
| Three fine combs                                     | ..... | 45   |
| Three cakes of soap                                  | ..... | 75   |
| Catnip   | ..... | 45   |
| Walnut wash  | ..... | 50   |
| Cat tonic  | ..... | 50   |
| Extra, dainties                                      | ..... | 1.25 |
| Cat-care to the country                              | ..... | 1.25 |
| Total—One sleek Angora. Two hearts that beat as one. |       |      |

## COLORADO'S FIRST GOLD.

How the Discovery of the Precious Metal Was Made.

On May 8, 1859, as stated in Fossett's "Colorado" (1876), John Gregory, a prospector, climbed the hill into what is still known as Gregory Gulch (midway between the present Central City and Black Hawk), scraped away the grass and leaves, filled his gold pan with dirt and took it down to the stream. Upon panning (washing) it down, there was about \$4 worth of gold in it. This was followed by a stampede to the Gregory diggings, as they were afterward called. Gregory employed five men from the new arrivals, and by means of a sluice took out \$972 in one week. Other rich strikes were made almost daily and large amounts of gold were taken out in a short time. The Bates, Bobtail, Mammoth, Gunnell, Gurrongs, Illinois and hundreds of other lodes were found, and thousands of claims were taken up. As the summer of 1859 advanced the wealth of the gold veins and gulches of what is now Gilpin county became more and more apparent. Over 15,000 men were congregated in Gregory, Russell and tributary gulches, and many of them were accumulating wealth rapidly; but everything valuable was soon preempted and large numbers were forced to hunt their fortunes elsewhere.—Engineering Magazine.

## The Navy's Coal.

Coal for the United States navy, in the last fiscal year, cost \$2,273,111, and amounted to 324,108 tons, an average cost of \$7.01 per ton. The domestic coal cost \$6.29 per ton, and the 105,066 tons of foreign coal cost \$8.59 per ton. American coal has been scattered all over the world. 12,000 tons went to Yokohama, 5,000 tons to Pichilique, Mexico, 9,000 tons to Mars Island, California, etc. Bids will soon be called for the erection of a 45,000-ton coaling station at Cavite, near Manila, and coaling stations have been selected in a number of the other islands of the Philippine group.

Mr. Lyman D. Goff, a millionaire manufacturer of Pawtucket, R. I., will build a fine club house for boys between the ages of five and fifteen, who are in the habit of making the streets their homes.

## ETHICS OF MATRIMONY.

Good Advice for Those in and About to Enter the Married State.

Far more difficult than the mere harmonizing of opinions is, in married life, the harmonizing of tempers, since, while many people have no opinion worth mentioning on any subject, the humblest or more ignorant can set up a temper. Nothing can deal with temper except conscience and time, declares Col. Thomas Wentworth Higginson in the Chicago Daily News. "I have known young married couples with whom it was unpleasant to be in the house during the first year of their marriage, and yet habit and sheer necessity made their society tolerable within two years and positively agreeable in five. The presence of children is a help to this compatibleness as being the one possession absolutely shared and necessarily accepted by each parent. Another great aid to the harmonizing of tempers—indeed, something priceless, as a permanent rule—is to study mutually that which is called the question of preferences; that is, to form a habit of considering, when a husband and wife differ about any matter, which of the two has really the most reason to care about it."

"Thus it may sometimes make little difference to the wife whether breakfast is early or late, while a late breakfast may cost the husband his morning train; or a carriage may be a very important matter to a wife, with her skirts to take care of, while it may make no serious difference to the husband whether he walks or rides. It is surely better that one should make a little sacrifice on any matter than that the other should make a far greater one."

"Many a household jar which would have left prolonged strings behind it if made a mere test of will and persistence is settled easily when the equation of preference is applied to it, and each is ready to make a little sacrifice to save the other from a greater one."

## SET EXAMPLE FOR THE MEN.

How a Philippine Woman Crossed a River in Panay.

Just beyond San Pedro we came to the Sibalo River, the bed of which is a mile wide, covered with big and little bowlders, and here and there a swift running stream. The main river is probably two hundred yards wide and is easily forded, except after a heavy rain, when it rises rapidly and becomes a raging torrent. It usually subsides in a few hours after the rains have ceased to fall. When the river is up many people gather on either bank to await an opportunity to cross. Our treasurer was once sitting on the banks with a lot of natives waiting for the river to subside, and had been there, wet, hungry and tired, for hours praying to get across. The river was boiling and foaming and no one dared make an attempt to cross. Presently an old woman came along, took a look at the river, gave a contemptuous glance on the manly sex there gathered and then walked up the bank about a hundred yards, where she stripped off her clothing. She made a careful bundle of all her belongings, raised them above her head and entered the stream. The water was over her head, but she made no attempt to swim. She would sink beneath the water until her toes touched a bowlder and would then give a jump. The current would give her a lift and send her diagonally down the stream a few yards. She kept repeating the operation until at last she had reached the other bank, far below where she had started. She waded out with her bundle perfectly dry, donned her clothes and vanished through the thicket.—From a Panay Letter in the Mobile Register.

First Woman Ever Photographed.

Anna Catherine Draper, who died at her home in Hastings, N. Y., on Tuesday, in her 95th year, is said to have been the first woman in the world to have her photograph taken. Her brother, Dr. John W. Draper, invented a process in which a daguerrotype could be made in six minutes. Under previous methods it took an hour and no one could pose that long. Miss Draper's picture was a success and it created great interest. The original is now in the possession of Lord Herschell's heirs in England.

## Was Master Fifty Years.

Mr. Walter F. Howe, for fifty years postmaster at North Leominster, Mass., resigned last Monday. His present office has been in use for the past thirty-seven years.

## If You Want Chamos.

Buy inferior goods and the dealers will throw them. But if you want Defiance Starch go to your grocer and he will sell you a 16 ounce package for ten cents. The only premium that goes with it is the merits and quantity. At your grocer. Made by Magnetic Starch Co., Omaha, Neb. None other "just as good."

## The part of wisdom is often enacted in the divorce court.

THE BEST RESULTS IN STARCHING can be obtained only by using Defiance Starch, besides getting 4 or more for same money—no cooking required.

## Mrs. Ward is a Linguist.

Mrs. Humphrey Ward is a mistress of Spanish, French, Italian and German. Her knowledge of Spanish literature is such that when only 18 she was asked to adjudicate in a Spanish essay competition.

## Realization of Age.

Two gentlemen who had slipped past the meridian of life without hardly observing the fact were talking about ages while eating a deliberate luncheon a couple of days ago, when one of them told a story which embodies the experience of more than one man. "It really came to me with a little shock," he said. "I took a sleeper at St. Louis for New York, and there were only half a dozen men aboard when I retired for the night. In the morning, while in the toilet-room brushing my hair, I saw in the mirror the reflection of the back of an old gentleman I did not remember seeing before. He appeared much older than any man I had noticed on the car the night before, and I made up my mind that he had come aboard after I had gone to bed. I watched the reflection while arranging my hair, and then turned, intending to speak to the old gentleman. You can imagine my surprise when I found that I had been looking at the reflection of my own back."

## Rich Man's Idea of Revenge.

J. M. Longyear of Marquette, Mich., who built himself a palatial home at a cost of \$500,000 in that city, has become so embittered against the city for allowing a railroad to run so near his property that he will move the house, stone by stone, to Boston, which project will almost reach the original cost of the structure.—Chicago Chronicle.

Candle Creek is the name of the latest rich gold region in Alaska where gold is fabulously plentiful.

## Big Deposits in Savings Banks.

Savings bank deposits in this country are now the largest in the world, reaching \$2,210,660,000. These deposits have doubled in about fifteen years. Germany is the next largest, \$1,900,000,000; Austria-Hungary \$1,201,240,000; France, \$854,220,000; and the United Kingdom, \$829,020,000. Comparisons of this kind are not conclusive, because savings in Germany are placed in co-operative banks. Building associations both in this country and in European lands carry also a large share of savings. In this country these hold \$769,600,000 of savings.

## Fraud Properly Checked.

A lady appeared as a complainant in a New York court the other day against a young woman who had persistently accosted her on the streets, asking for alms. It appeared for the evidence of the young woman's own mother that her daughter had refused the question of preferences; that is, to form a habit of considering, when a husband and wife differ about any matter, which of the two has really the most reason to care about it.

## A Blacksmith's Story.

Goodland, Kans., Dec. 23.—N. E. Albertson, a local blacksmith, had almost decided to give up his shop altogether on account of Rheumatism which had crippled him so that at times he could not use his hammer.

His shoulders and arms were so sore that he couldn't sleep at night. He had suffered for years, but was gradually getting worse, till at last he had about made up his mind to give up. But just then he heard of some wonderful cures of Rheumatism by Dodd's Kidney Pills and thought he would try for a cure once more.

They cured him completely and he has not a trace of Rheumatism left. The shop will not be given up and Mr. Albertson may be seen there any day hard at work as if nothing had ever ailed him.

## Emperor of Austria's Plain Living.

The Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria is very plain in his tastes and habits. At 6 o'clock in the morning he takes his breakfast, consisting of some cold meat, coffee and fresh-made bread and cake. Between 12 and 1 o'clock he takes his dinner, two dishes of meat and some ordinary pastry. Dinner is served in his library at his writing desk. Not even a tablecloth is spread. The emperor does not care much for wine. He prefers a glass of beer. Nor does he indulge in expensive cigars. A plain home-made cigar, the so-called Virginia cigar, long and thin, with a straw running through it, is his favorite smoke. These cigars cost only 5 kreuzer, about 5 cents apiece.

## DON'T FORGET

A large 2-oz. package Red Cross Ball Blue, only 5 cents. The Kline Company, South Bend, Ind.

## Stops the Cough and Works Off the Cold

Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. Price 25c.

## When a man guesses he can knock another man down he usually makes a rough estimate.

Matt J. Johnson's 6088 is a guaranteed cure for rheumatism. Insist on getting the genuine.

## HELP WANTED.

A middle-aged woman as seamstress in a family of three where three girls are kept. Must have some knowledge of plain dressmaking. Would have care of and sewing for little girl of nine years. Must furnish references of honesty, respectability and neatness. Must be willing and capable of assisting in housework when necessary. Wages, five dollars per week. Address lock box 1306, Omaha, Neb.

## NEW BOOK ON THE GRAND CANYON.

The Santa Fe has in preparation, to be published some time in December, a new and magnificent book on the Grand Canyon of Arizona. The book comes at a fitting time, as travel to the Canyon has greatly increased since the opening of the new railroad to the Rim, and a commodious Harvey hotel is in process of erection at the head of Bright Angel Trail. The book will commemorate these events—events of vast importance in that land of silence—and will be worthy of its theme if the ablest pens in America can make it so. It will be handsomely illustrated, and will contain about 128 pages of matter. Among the authors represented—most of whom wrote contributions especially for this work—may be mentioned: Hamlin Garland, the distinguished author of "The Eagle's Heart" and other popular books; Charles F. Lummis, editor of "Out West," and the chosen prophet of Adobeland; David Starr Jordan, president of Stanford University; John L. Stoddard, the lecturer; Charles Dudley Warner, up to the time of his death the dean of American authors; Major J. W. Powell, the daring explorer who led the first expedition down the Colorado, passing through the entire length of the Grand Canyon; Harriet Monroe, the poet and journalist; "Fitz Mac," of Colorado Springs; Prof. R. D. Salisbury of the University of Chicago; Prof. Beecher of Yale, and Charles S. Gledel, the eminent Kansas lawyer. These and many others have made the book the finest of its kind. The exact date of publication has not yet been decided, but it is expected to appear before the end of 1901.

## Young lovers grow to be old companions.

## The heart that sings wings itself to heaven.

## USE THE FAMOUS

Red Cross Ball Blue. Large 2-oz. package 5 cents. The Kline Company, South Bend, Ind.

## Conduct shows the content of character.

Piso's Cure cannot be too highly spoken of as a cough cure.—J. W. O'BRIEN, 322 Third Ave., N. Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 6, 1901.

## Pretentious is the cause of fearfulness.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. In a bottle.

## Pulverized pipe clay will clean white canvas, and is also an excellent polish for brass.

What is the use of employing some one to do your dyeing for you. If you use PUTNAM FADELESS DYES you can do it just as well as a professional. Sold by druggists, 10c. per package.

## All underground vegetables should be cooked in unsalted water.

FITS permanently cured. No disease nervousness after first day's use of Dr. King's Great Nerve Restorer. Send for FREE \$2.00 trial bottle and treatise. DR. R. H. KING, Ltd., 311 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

## Knowledge is power—in a college foot ball contest.

## WHY IT IS THE BEST

is because made by an entirely different process. Defiance Starch is unlike any other, better and one-third more for 10 cents.

## Women can't be logical because they are always begging the question.

## Wish All a Happy New Year!

The happiness that comes with good health is given to all who use Nature's Gift—Gardol. This herb cure cleanses the system, purifies the blood and removes the cause of disease.

## Where a married man has the best of a bachelor is that he never has to hire a nurse.

## Long Live the King! The King is Wizard Oil; pain his enemies, whom he conquers.

Somebody suggests that green vases are the best for table ware.

## Stops the Cough and Works Off the Cold

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## Young lovers grow to be old companions.



Rev. Marguerite St. Omer Briggs, 35 Mount Calm Street, Detroit, Michigan, Lecturer for the W. C. T. U., recommends Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—My professional work has for the past twenty years brought me into hundreds of homes of sickness, and I have had plenty of opportunity to witness the sufferings of wives and mothers who from want, ignorance or carelessness, are slowly but surely being dragged to death, principally with female weakness and irregularities of the sex. I believe you will be pleased to know that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has cured more women than any other agency that has come under my notice. Hundreds of women owe their life and health to you to-day, and, therefore, I can conscientiously advise sick women to try it."—MARGUERITE ST. OMER BRIGGS.

## \$5000 FORFEIT IF THE ABOVE LETTER IS NOT GENUINE.

When women are troubled with irregular or painful menstruation, weakness, leucorrhoea, displacement or ulceration of the womb, that bearing-down feeling, inflammation of the ovaries, backache, flatulence, general debility, indigestion, and nervous prostration, they should remember there is one tried and true remedy. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound at once removes such troubles.

No other medicine in the world has received such widespread and unqualified endorsement. No other medicine has such a record of cures of female troubles. Refuse to buy any other medicine.

Mrs. Pinkham invites all sick women to write her for advice. She has guided thousands to health. Address, Lynn, Mass.

**HAS NO EQUAL**

# DEFIANCE

STARCH

REQUIRES NO COOKING  
PREPARED FOR  
LAUNDRY PURPOSES ONLY.

# 16oz.

MANUFACTURED BY  
MAGNETIC STARCH MFG. CO.  
OMAHA, NEB.

To Buy the best is not always easy. A lavish display of cheap and gaudy premiums often makes a poor article look like a good one. With Defiance Starch are no premiums, but you get 16 ounces of the best starch in the world for 10c. It needs no cooking. Simply mix with cold water.

Don't forget it—a better quality and one-third more of it.

At Wholesale by All Grocery Jobbers.

## THE LINCOLN IMPORTING HORSE CO.

LINCOLN, NEB.

The largest importers of HIGH CLASS STALLIONS in all the West. At the present time our EXTENSIVE BARN is filled with Percheron and Shire Stallions, TWO, THREE and FOUR year olds. WRITE FOR DESCRIPTION or CATALOGUE. COME and see us AT ONCE. Our long distance phone 578. Barn and office, 3rd and Holliday streets.

A. L. SULLIVAN, Mgr.

## COLORADO

Development Stock in Colorado Mines have made thousands rich from small investments. Particulars free. W. E. Alexander, Denver.

## COLORADO

"ALL WRIGHT FOR MORE THAN HALF A CENTURY"

# WRIGHT'S INDIAN VEGETABLE PILLS

WRIGHT'S INDIAN VEGETABLE PILL CO., New York.

## Why Because

# Syrup of Figs

### the best family laxative

It is pure.

It is gentle.

It is pleasant.

It is efficacious.

It is not expensive.

It is good for children.

It is excellent for ladies.

It is convenient for business men.

It is perfectly safe under all circumstances.

It is used by millions of families the world over.

It stands highest, as a laxative, with physicians.

If you use it you have the best laxative the world produces.

Its component parts are all wholesome. It acts gently without unpleasant after-effects. It is wholly free from objectionable substances.

It contains the laxative principles of plants. It contains the carminative principles of plants. It contains wholesome aromatic liquids which are agreeable and refreshing to the taste.

All are pure. All are delicately blended. All are skillfully and scientifically compounded.

Its value is due to our method of manufacture and to the originality and simplicity of the combination.

To get its beneficial effects—buy the genuine.

Manufactured by

# CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.

San Francisco, Cal.  
Louisville, Ky. New York, N. Y.

FOR SALE BY ALL LEADING DRUGGISTS.