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A Hair Cut.

This story, according to the New York Press, comes from the west, per Senator Spooner: The credit man of a great Chicago house visited his barber in the morning on the way to the perance Association, Elizabeth store, and upon arriving in his office was greeted by the manager with a codrial "Good morning; I see you've had your hair cut." "Yes; I have had my hair cut," he replied suavely. The office boy entered. "Mawnin, Mr. Gates; had your hair cut." "Yes; I have had my hair cut!" Enter the head salesman. "Hello, Gates; had your hair cut." Yes! I have had my hair cut!!!" This sort of thing was kept up until he went home for dinner, when his good wife observed: "My dear, you have had your hair cut." "Yes!!" he snapped; "I—have —had—my—hair—cut!!!" His darling daughter-"Papa, you have had your hair cut." "Yes!! I h-a-v-e HAD my HAIR CUT!!!" He tore into the dining room to swallow a morsel and escape. The pretty maid: "Law, Mr. Gates, you've had your hair cut." He flew out of the room, almost into the cook's arms, and that worthy remarked cheerfully—"Mr. Gates! You've had your hair cut." Too full for anything but expletives now, he dashed out into the back yard, frightening nearly to death a favorite hen that had just laid an egg, and as she uttered the usual hen cry-"Cut-cut-cut-cut-hair-to-cut!" the distressed credit man fell in a fit.

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Piso's Cure for Consumption is an infallible medicine for coughs and colds.-N. W. SAMUEL, Ocean Grove, N. J., Feb. 17, 1900.

Appearances would indicate that the average man doesn't get much beauty

# The Empty Nest

There was a time in years gone by. Wee ones played at my feet, while I, \* \*\*\*\* \* Held one upon my knee; The house was filled all day with noise, 米米 The floor was scattered o'er with toys, My head ached wearily. \*\*\* 米米米米米米米米 There came a time my house was still, No mud-stained footprints on the sill, My longed-for time of rest, My boys had climbed youth's topmost \* My girl, a maiden tall and fair, Another's home now blest. A last year's nest hangs on the bough, 'Twas filled with singing birds, but now It empty is and bare. The buds and bees have come, but still \*\*\*\*\* Those birds come not again, to fill \*\* With song the silent air. I gaze upon that empty nest, \*\*\* I know God's ways are always best, But I am sad and lone; I long so for life's vanished joys, My wee girl and my bonny boys, My nestlings that have flown. \*

## An Egotist and a Woman and although he was only a salaried man in the house I actually grew fond

\*

BY JESSIE LLEWELLYN. (Copyright, 1902, by Daily Story Pub. Co.)

"It was a sad affair," he said. "Yes?" She regarded him curiously. So this young man, known to his limited circle of friends as "The Egotist," possessed sympathy.

They sat on opposite sides of the long table in her father's library. At the farther end of the room the grate fire had gone out, but she did not ring; it might encourage him to stay after he had told the story. Perhaps he was not the egotist that people thought him to be. He seemed to feel the tragedy in what he told-else why should he be telling it?

"And you knew him very well?" she asked.

"Oh, very well-in a business way. The governor used to rely on him. Afterwards when I took on the business, I kept him-out of kindness, you know. I'm a soft-hearted chap-"Yes, I know," she interrupted. "He

was incompetent? You felt sorry?" "Not that exactly, oh, no. He was a good man-student and diggergreat chemist. I appreciate a digger. I even took him over to the sub for lunch once or twice. He was a natural gentleman. Then, anyway, I'm a humane chap at heart-regular

democrat, you know." "You say he was a very gifted scientist?" she asked quietly.

"He was that. We paid him a bigger salary than any extract house in the world ever paid a chemist. The governor and I always looked out for good men-and paid for them. I can tell a man of brains the minute I lay eyes on him. It's just natural for me to know one on sight-funny isn't it?" "Very," she replied.

petals on the floor with his wide foot, you know-pretty good. I-I was never before so shocked to hear of a suicide. He had often spoken to me about himself when he had one of those melancholly attacks. I encouraged him, for I'm an easy sort. half try. You see he had married a girl-well-the good fellow type. Said he owed it to her after pronounced attentions had made people talk. She told him that. He felt sorry for her-acted the fool as those studious chaps always do, and married her. Now, I-

"And she?" "Went to the other extreme. From being too-er-jolly she overdid respectability. Joined woman's clubs and things-that sort was the best she could do. Devoloped into a shrew.

"Do you know what I'd do if I found myself married to a shrew? Oh,

"What did he do?"

"Oh, he!" A grave expression came over the young man's round face. He turned his profile toward her-he had a good profile—and passed his fingers through his front hair, careful not to disarrange it. "As I said before, he was one of those fine, super-sensitive souls; the kind that quivers at a rough word. I always know how to



"It was a sad affair," he said. deal with that kind of a man. Now most people do not-but-well-you wouldn't think it-I'm naturally of the artistic temperament myselffunny with my business ability, isn't it? I could see, you know, that the woman was driving him to the edge of his nerves-that she was killing him. Never saw such a picture of misery as he grew to be. Always looking off somewhere and not hearing anything that went on around him. We grew intimate-I may say very intimate. He was a gentleman, you know, a!ways without a cent, but a gentleman,

of him. We would tell college yarns

"You were in college together?" "Not exactly. He had gone in for the German and Russian universities after ages of cramming on this side. Of course I-with the governor's money-

"Yes, I know." She swiftly replied and a dark red overspread her face and neck. "You became intimate friends, and-how very sad-he-it was only last week, wasn't it?"

"Committed suicide last week. Took five grains of morphine and was as dead as-er quite dead in no time. I was with him that afternoon. He was down-hearted and I just thought of



"I will tell you something funnior even than yourself!"

"I'm a queer contradiction," he ru- some such thing at the time. I'm minated, absently crushing some rose | pretty good reader of human nature,

"You and he were associated daily, and were very close friends for several years, were you not?" Her voice was beginning to sound as if it came from a remote corner of the long Fellow can move me to tears and not room and she shivered as he spoke again

"For fifteen years-ever since I became manager in my own right. He was as fond of me as a-awfully fond of me, but I didn't discourage it-it pleased him. When I'd come down ia the morning after a-well, after having been detained late the night before, I'd feel his eyes on my face. Then he would slip up behind my chair and lay his hand on my shouider, for all the world like the governor used to do. And he'd say: Take care of yourself, old man; you're working too hard. I couldn't bear to see another name at the head of our stationery. It would break me all up, old man.' That's the way he would talk. The way that man loved me was wonderful. Funny, isn't it?"

"Very," she replied, still more quietly. "But I started out to tell you about the suicide. Saddest thing I ever knew. That afternoon I had told him

in plain words that I'd promised another man his place-fellow I met on the other side last summer. Her brother you know. You'll not feeler-jealous when you get the cards? I gave you two opportunities-I want you to-well you know people and I-' "And the man," she reminded. "Oh, he. He took it all right. Business is business, you know. He

never said a word. Just got a little whiter-it was a little sudden-and walked straight out of the building. What I didn't just like was the way he went-not even waiting until four o'clock, but I'm naturally a softhearted chap, and I didn't say much.

"He must have gone straight home then. They say he stepped into the house and asked for his wife. She had left word that she had gone out and would not be home for dinner. As he went out again, they told me, he met his little girl playing in the yard with some children. He asked her to go with him for a walk, but naturally enough, she said she would rather stay and play with the children. She never was much for her father, anyway. He was quiet, you know. Nobody ever knew him-except myself-I knew him like a book, I-"And he died alone without any-

body?" "Well, that was the last anyone ever saw of him, alive. The next morning they found him in his bed. And his face-

She got up suddenly. "Please!" was all she said. "What's the matter?" he asked. "Your eyes look so peculiar."

"The details. It is the details that cannot-

"Oh, certainly!" Curiously his face relaxed in a broad smile. He raised his hand in a grand gesture and stroked his small black mustache.

"I just told you the story," he began. "We were speaking earlier in the evening of literary ability. Well, I wrote a friend of his a complete account of the suicide, and-do you know, it was the most graphic thing ever did? The way it impressed me and all makes me believe that I have real literary ability. Funny, isn't it?"

"Very." Her voice sounded strange to both of them. Her arms were held close to her sides and her hands were clenched.

"What's the matter?" he asked again.

Her face was very pale. He wondered stupidly.

"And now," she said in a repressed, monotonous tone, "I will tell you something funnier, even than yourself. I've got to tell!" Her voice had risen, but she care-

fully modulated it again.

"For fifteen years you knew him intimately. For fifteen years, I knew him, too. I loved him-always-before his marriage-long before-and afterwards. I love him-now. You see he didn't need you-or anybody. I-he-we-good-night! Oh, goodnight!"

### WOES OF GERMAN OFFICERS.

#### Matrimonial Snags in the Path of Kaiser's Soldiers.

As censor of military marriages, German Emperor William has defined what manner of wedlock is permissible to Prussian officers and what marriages are "strengthily undersaid." His new order states that an officer with \$1,125 a year must have a private income of \$375 in order to marry. A district officer of gendarmes must add private means of \$525 a year to a salary of \$900 to win the privilege. Officers who haven't \$750 pay mustn't marry at all.

The kaiser's is the busiest matrimonial bureau in the world. Each officer who desires to "double his duties and halve his rights" must state his prospective father-in-law's business and tell whether the lady is maid, widow or divorcee, and in the latter case why. Proofs must be inclosed of her income, education and repute. If there is no obstacle, social or military, the wedding bells may then peal out their morry note.

Interest rates upon such German investments as the "kingly and kaiserly" bureau will accept are low. young fellow practically must have \$10,000 to \$15,000 in his own name before he can think of matrimony. If the lovelorn one has not the cashwell, in that case he can give up his commission and come to a country where he may marry on nothing a year if he likes.

One Sure Sign.

A story illustrating the hard-headedness and sheer common sense of the late Dr. McCosh, the noted dean of the faculty of Princeton University, was told recently. He made the acquaintance of a couple of Scotsmen who worked as farm hands on an estate near Princeton, and, learning that they did not go to church, hauled them over the coals for backsliding and induced them to attend Sunday services regularly. They were simple-minded men, with immense respect for the venerable instructor, and they invariably ran to him to settle disputes or to advise them in matters of business. One morning they appeared before him as he was going to chapel, and told him they had had a quarrel as to the sign of hearing the first cuckoo of the season. Jamie had said that it was a sign that the one who heard it would speedily marry; Sandy declared it was a sign that the hearer would get speedily rich.

"It's a sure sign of somethin', doctor. What may it be? Can ye tell us?

"Yes," said the doctor. "To hear the first cuckoo of the season is a sure sign you're not deaf." And he solemnly turned on his

heel and left them staring after him.

Wanted Too Much.

The late E. M. Reed was vice-president of the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad in the palmy days when that road was paying 10 per cent dividends. Reed was a close buyer and used all the arts and subtleties necessary to hammer prices down to their lowest figure. One day he was negotiating for an improve ment in the way of a locomotive appliance, and after wrangling for some time over the price said to the sales

"How much will your concern make on this transaction?" To which the reply came, "Ten per cent." "Great Scott!" said Reed, "you want

to get 10 per cent profit on this one sale, do you? Why, bless your soul, it takes our road a whole year to make 10 per cent."

Senator Hoar's New House.

Senator Hoar has bought a house on Connecticut avenue, Washington, a thr estory brick structure of a dozen rooms. He borrowed the \$18,000 which it cost, but hopes to make a profit by selling before long. He and Mrs. Hoar have boarded for thirty-three years in Washington hotels. Much disappoint ment is felt in the capital because Senator Clark does not intend to build g residence on the site of the old Stewart castle which he purchased some time ago. Finishing touches are being put to his splendid home in New York, and it is said the senator will not build again outside Montana.

The summer girl who falls in love thinks she is having a warm time.

TRAMP LOST A GOOD THING.

Unfeeling Sheriff Drove Him Away

From Piece of Luck. "I had a good thing of it once in Texas," said the tramp as he hunted through his pockets for a cicar stub, "and it was a sheriff who dished me

out of it. "Down there they have the most severe laws in any state, and when I was arrested one day I was charged with bein' a tramp, a vagrant, a homeless person and a suspicious character. On top of that I had built a roadside fire, asked for food and thrown stones at a dog.

"I was convicted on every charge, and after figurin' for a minit the judge called out:

"'I find the prisoner guilty on all counts, and he is sentenced to jail for seventy years.' .

"I was lookin' for a long rest when the sheriff took me over to the jail, but I hadn't been in the place fifteen minutes when he handed me a crowbar and pointed to the wall and said: "'Dig out of this as soon as you can.

"'But I'm here for seventy years," says I.

"'You ain't here for seventy minits. If you ain't out before supper time I'll come in with a club and break your neck. D'ye 'spose I'm going to have you hangin' around here for any seventy years? Git to work.'

"I wouldn't do it," said the tramp, "not wishin' to work myself out of a long job, and when that sheriff saw I wouldn't ne jest hitched up his hoss and buggy, run me out on a prairie fifteen miles from anywhere and dumped me out.

"It took me two days to git back to jail again, and I hadn't scarcely kicked on the door when he put two bullets through my hat and flung me out fifty cents, and I had to let go and head for Dallas.

"That seventy years in jail would have been a pat hand for me, but luck was ag'in my sittin' in the game and I don't expect to ever tumble over another good thing while I live."

### CHANCES OF A BURGLAR.

He Is Not the One Usually Who Is in Danger.

A man who was arrested by local detectives a few weeks ago and afterward sent to the penitentiary on a charge of burglary, talked freely to the officer concerning his manner of living:

"Will you tell me why you prefer a life of crime to that of an honest, upright man?" the detective asked him. 'I have often wondered," added the officer, "why burglars will take such desperate chances, when so frequently there is but little to be gained.'

"But we don't take the chances," said the burglar. "The man who comes after us takes the chances. He takes his life in his own hands when he leaves his bea-chamber and goes-The odds are all against him and in favor of us. We know where we are and have an idea from where the occupant of the house will come. Of course, we only go to rob, and, when necessary, to fight. No burglar is going to get caught if he can help it,

even if he has to resort to murder.' "Still." the detective reasoned. "you are bound to be in danger some time, and that some time I should think, would deter you from taking the chances."

"There are remote chances," the burglar said, "but they are so remote that they are never considered. If you will consult the records you will see that not one burglar in a hundred cases ever gets hurt. Until there is a great change in the results you may depend upon it that burglaries will not cease."-Washington Star.

Pugilists at Coronation. A week before the coronation of

George IV., in 1821, a famous pugilist, known as "Gentleman" Jackson, acting under instructions from the earl marshal's office, was busily engaged in beating up fighting men for a pecullar purpose. That was to keep in check the supporters of Queen Caroline, who was threatening to create a disturbance outside of Westminster abbey. Jackson's auxiliaries, twenty in number, were attired as king's pages, and were stuck about the abbey gate. Their appearance was quite sufficient; not one of the aggrieved queen's sympathizers ventured to go near them. One was John Gully, who was in turn prize fighter, racing man, colliery proprietor and member of parliament.

Millions of Buffaloes. In 1868 Inman, Sheridan and Cus-

ter rode continuously for three days through one herd in the Arkansas region, and in 1869 trains on the Kansas Pacific were held from 9 in the morning until 6 at night to pernit the passage of one herd across the tracks. Army officers relate that in 1862 a herd that covered an area of 70xc30 miles moved north from the Arkansas to the Yellowstone. Catlin and Inman and army men and employes of the fur companies considered a drove of 100,000 buffalo a common sight along the line of the Santa Fe trail. Inman computes that from St. Louis alone the bones of 31,000,-000 buffalo were shipped between 1868 and 1881.-July Outing.

For the Sleepless.

Effectiveness is claimed for yet another remedy for sleeplessness. Dr. von Gellhorn employs a band of wet muslin, about 18 in. wide, wound around the lower part of the leg. The bandage is covered by gutta-percha tissue and the stocking, and in some cases is replaced every three or four hours. The effect is to dilate the vessels of the leg, thus diminishing the blood in the head and producing sleep,