

FAIRY PLEASE-MYSELF.

I know a little fairy, A naughty little elf, Brimful of tricks and mischief, The 'Fairy Please-Myself'.

The Great Hesper.

BY FRANK BARRETT.

CHAPTER XIII—CONTINUED.

He continued. "Thank you for Brace's letter. The tone of it would lead one to imagine not only that he knows where the diamond is, but has a strong belief in his power to recover it! One can not possibly believe that it was he who robbed and attempted to murder you. But whom are we to suspect, if not him? If he were not guilty, why should he try to conceal the leather case which might lead to its recovery? There is a fascination in this subject which overcomes my wish to drop it. It is like the fifteen puzzle that drove half the world mad some years ago.

It was the pretty little face I knew so well, but oh, so changed! Her cheek was no longer round; the russet bloom had gone from her complexion; there was a purple tint about her closed lids, and the vermilion of her lips was unnaturally bright. I was struck by the delicate beauty of her face, but it was a beauty that filled one's heart with sorrow, like the fading away of a divine melody.

Lola burst into a fit of hysterical laughter, and, clapping her hands with joy, cried: "It is down there—the diamond! You must wait—months—almost till June." Then growing suddenly grave, she looked wistfully at me, as if to see if I were angry with her.

THE MINERAL OUTPUT

W. A. HAMMOND A SUICIDE. The Wrecker of Illinois National Bank Is Drowned in the Lake. Chicago, Jan. 4.—W. A. Hammond, the late second vice president of the defunct National Bank of Illinois, called on Percy Palmer, his old friend and confidential adviser, at 8 o'clock last evening and talked gloomily about his future prospects. Palmer talked encouragingly to him and about 11 o'clock he went to his home in Evanston and about 11:30 retired for the night.

W. A. HAMMOND A SUICIDE

Hammond was the vice president of the National Bank of Illinois, and was active in its management. In fact, he is said to have been the responsible head, since President Schneider was too feeble to do much work and the large loans to the Calumet Electric company, particularly, and to others, which resulted in the closing of the bank, are understood to have been made by him.

A NORTHERN BLAST

NEBRASKA'S FIRST TASTE OF WINTER. Snow Drifts Piling High—Trains Delayed in Many Localities and Some Fear of Suffering to Live Stock—News From Nebraska Towns.

CHAPTER XV.

Naturally they were astonished when they heard I had been in the state a couple of months. When I told them I had come there to seek my fortune, and was farming in the South, where I hoped they would come and stay with me during the winter, Brace said: "Well, I hear there's a livin' to be made ranchin', but it's a plaguy long row, they do say. However, it won't be none too long for me to hoe along of you, and so be you're agreeable to havin' our company, it ain't likely I'll hold off."

CHAPTER XVI.

I had written a few hurried lines from Sacramento, telling Sir Edmund that Lola had taken the Great Hesper, and intended to restore it as soon as the snow had melted and allowed us to reach the cavern in which it was concealed. In answering this letter he wrote: "After reading your good news, Edith and I went for a stroll through the park, where we encountered poor Van Hoeck, whose woe-begone appearance appealed once more to Edith's heart and mine also."

THE DOCTOR'S WIFE.

She Was Appreciative and Lightened Her Husband's Load. A due appreciation of the skill and efficiency of the professional work accomplished by one's husband is to be highly commended in the main. There are times, however, when this sort of hero worship can be carried to such an extent as to seriously interfere with one's best interests.

Another Victory.

It is related of George Clark, the celebrated negro minstrel, that being examined as a witness, he was severely interrogated by the attorney, who wished to break down his evidence.

WRONG MEN LYNCHED.

Prosecutor Aull Believes Nelson and Winner Did Not Commit Murders. LEXINGTON, Mo., Jan. 4.—Prosecuting Attorney Aull of this county said last night in regard to the report that he had secured evidence against members of the mob that hanged Nelson and Winner that he was thoroughly satisfied that both men were innocent of the murder of Mrs. Winner and her children, but as to any facts connecting members of the mob with the crime he would decline to speak, because it was a matter to be investigated by the courts first.

THE FIRST SUICIDE.

The suicide of Hammond recalls the suicide of Otto Wasmansdorff, the banker, a few days ago. Wasmansdorff's death was the direct result of the failure of the National Bank of Illinois, the collapse of that institution pulling down the firm of Wasmansdorff & Heinemann.

Omaha Bank Failure.

OMAHA, Neb., Jan. 4.—The total liabilities of the Omaha Savings bank, which closed to-day, are \$890,000, and the assets exceed this amount by \$200,000. The securities are excellent and no loss will result to depositors. The bank has been in existence for fifteen years. It has no connection with any other bank and will not cause other Omaha institutions any inconvenience.

Senator Money in Havana.

HAVANA, Jan. 4.—Senator-elect Money, of Mississippi, who is a member of the committee on foreign affairs of the United States house of representatives, paid a visit yesterday to the palace accompanied by United States Consul General Lee and Vice Consul Springer. The Marquis Ahumada, acting for the captain general, was absent, and an aide-de-camp informed the visitors General Weyer would soon return to Havana.

Turkey's Finances in Good Shape.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 30.—It is announced that the budget estimates for 1897 show that the assets exceed the expenditures by 82,000 Turkish pounds. This result has been brought about by reducing the war estimates 1,000,000 pounds Turkish, by making economies in other districts and by an increase in the tithes.

Apple Beer is Now the Rage in the Country Districts of Maine.

Wyoming and Nevada have less than one inhabitant to the square mile. Over 200 stand of arms have been taken from trespassers in Yosemite park this year.

A Tyler, Texas, Failure.

TYLER, Texas, Jan. 1.—An assignment was made yesterday afternoon by the Tyler Foundry and Machinery company. This is one of the largest concerns of its kind in the state, and has been in business for a number of years.

HAD HIS FOOT SMASHED.

Boy's Carelessness Results in Serious Injury at Orleans. Tom Smith, the sixteen-years-old son of Lawrence Smith of Orleans, was severely injured at the B. & M. depot grounds last Friday by having his foot crushed between the bumpers of a freight train. No one witnessed the accident, but it is supposed he was crossing over the train while it was standing still, and that it started before he got over. The foot was terribly lacerated, and may result in its loss. No blame attaches to the train crew.

HOW FARMING PAYS.

A Young Fellow Buys a Farm With Own Year's Proceeds. The following tale comes to the State Journal from Ord. A party living at Goshen, Ind., had a quarter section of land near there and offered it to any one rent free for the season. A young man, Andrew Johnson, accepted the offer, put 100 acres in wheat, threshed 2,300 bushels, sold it at 62 cents per bushel, bought the farm for \$1,000 and now owns the farm and has \$175 in the bank. This shows that farming in Nebraska sometimes pays.

After the Bootleggers.

Last Saturday night Ansel Westbrook at St. Edward was found lying in the mud dead drunk. He was placed in the calaboose. He is one of several who for some time have been unable to obtain liquor for themselves, but have got it through friends who bought it for them. Westbrook turned state's evidence and implicated Bill Shuey, who was arrested. It is the intention to sift the matter to the bottom and run out the bootleggers if possible.

Horses Burned to Death.

J. N. McQueen's barn at Silver Creek was burned Saturday, together with six head of horses and considerable hay and grain. The loss is about \$900. The family was away from home at the time.

A Brewery Project for Wichita.

WICHITA, Kan., Jan. 5.—Kansas City men have recently bought several lots here and it is said that this is the first step toward the erection of a brewery in this city. Max Shultz of Kansas City is said to be in charge of the arrangements.