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C. & N. W. R. R., 8:30 a. m., 2:40 p. m
C. B. & Q. R. R., 8:30 a. m., 2:30 p. m.
C. R. I. & P. R. R., 8:30 a. m., 2:40 p. m.
C. & S. C. R. R., 10:20 a. m.
C. St. P. & O. 8:30 a. m.
C. B. & N. R. R., 11:40 a. m.
C. & R. V. to Lincoln, 10 a. m.
B. & M. R. R., 8:30 a. m.
O. & N. W., 7:30 a. m.

OUTGOING

C. & N. W. R. R., 11 a. m., 11 p. m.
C. B. & Q., 11 a. m., 9:20 p. m.
C. R. I. & P., 11 a. m., 11 p. m.
C. B. & St. Joe., 11 a. m., 11 p. m.
C. St. P. R. R., 4 p. m.
O. & N. V. from Lincoln, 12:10 p. m.
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Greatest Discovery of the Age.
Wonderful discoveries the world have been made
Among other things where Santa Claus stayed
Children oft sent to him, to make goods or not,
It really he lives in a mountain of snow.
Last year an excursion sailed clear to the Pole
And suddenly dropped into what seemed like a hole
Where wonder of wonders they found a new land,
While fairy-like beings appeared on each hand.
There were mountains like ours, with more beautiful grass,
And far brighter skies than ever were seen,
Birds with the hues of a rainbow were found,
White flowers of exquisite fragrance were growing around.
Not long were they left to wonder in doubt
A being soon came they had heard much about,
Twas Santa Claus' self and 'tis they all say,
He looked like the pictures we see every day.
He drove up a team that looked very queer,
'Twas a team of grasshoppers instead of reindeer,
He rode in a shell instead of a sleigh,
But he took them on board and drove them away.
He showed them all over his wonderful realm,
And factories making goods for women and men
Purifiers were working on hate great and small,
To Bunce's they said they were sending them all.
Kris Kingle, the Glove Maker, told them at once,
All of our gloves we are sending to Bunce,
Santa showed them suspenders and many things more,
Saying I also took these to friend Bunce's store.
Santa Claus then whispered a secret he'd tell,
As in Omaha every one knew Bunce well,
He therefore should send his goods to his care,
Knowing his friends will get their full share.
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IRENE'S AUCTION.

A Sketch from Life.

"And all must go! Can nothing be saved?" querulously questioned Mrs. Arthur, her hands listlessly folded across her lap, her air betokening utter helplessness, as she looked pitifully toward the beautiful girl whom she addressed.

"Nothing, mamma," answered the latter, drawing nearer as she spoke and kneeling by the other's side, while she laid her finger caressingly upon her mother's pale cheek—"only each other; but papa's death has taught us how much that is. Don't worry, dearest. I hope the sale will enable us to buy furniture more suitable to the few rooms which for a time must be our future home, until I can secure some pupils and get the little home in the country, where you are to live, surrounded by birds and flowers, and forget that the red flag ever waved from your door." They were brave words, bravely spoken—so bravely as not to betray the effort they cost the speaker. Six months before Irene Arthur reigned a belle in her father's magnificent home, when, like a thunderbolt from a clear summer sky, came that father's failure and death in quick succession, with the lessons experience only teaches, of friends deserting in the hour of need—little by little learning the necessity of standing alone and seeing hope drifting further and further in the distance, until the present, with its absolute emergencies, roused her to action. The small head, set so regally on the slight, sloping shoulders, held itself more regally still; the red, full curved lips, were pressed more proudly together, as Irene buckled on her armor for the fray. The hardest part was over now. Her mother had been told the worst which could befall them. She must now take her from this spot, hallowed by memory, before the descrating feet of strangers entered it. A few days' search and she was rewarded by finding in a quiet house a suite of rooms which met at once her purse and requirements, in sad contrast to the elegant luxuriance with which she had been surrounded her life long, but where, at least, her mother was saved the sight of the red flag, which seemed to her to be dyed in her heart's blood.

"Is there nothing you would wish to save, Miss Arthur?" questioned a voice at her side on the morning of the sale.

She turned haughtily toward the stranger, but something in his clear, blue eyes bent upon her witnessed the words held honest meaning.

"I beg your pardon, sir," she answered, unable to disguise wholly the pride these latter days had developed so forcibly—"I have not the pleasure of your acquaintance."

"It is for me to beg pardon. I forgot I might not be known to you personally, though I am the auctioneer appointed by the estate. Your father once did me a great kindness, and though I would not seem intrusive, I shall like very much to preserve any article you may desire."

"With many thanks, sir, I desire to to receive no favors," she replied, coldly, and passed on, to take one fleeting look ere she fled to the place she must now learn to call home, to be haunted all day by the sound of the auctioneer's hammer and the voices of strangers desecrating the halls.

But, when in the dusk of the evening, a cart stopped before the door, and one by one articles hallowed by association—her father's chair, her own desk, her mother's favorite pictures—were brought in, her feelings so long repressed gave way to a burst of tears. Who had done this thing? For one moment the honest blue eyes that had met her own that day rose before her. But no; such delicacy belonged not to their owner's rank in life. Nor was it a stranger's work. Some one must have known her well to have selected the few things it had been such bitter warfare to part with. They were, indeed, like old friends sent to comfort her, as in the weary days that follow her eyes would rest upon them in her bitter struggle for the daily necessities of life for herself—the luxuries which to her mother had become necessities. Business had thrown her more than once with Earl Kenneth, the owner of the blue eyes. There had been matters connected with the sale which compelled her to meet him, until he grew to her almost as a friend, and at times she would almost forget the social gulf which separated them—she, the once wealthy banker's daughter; he, a man who had risen from the humblest ranks, but whose soul was that of a nobleman. The friends she had once known she no longer knew. They rode; she walked, and must stand on the curb to let their carriages drift by.

Earl's pleasant voice and cheery smile her mother, too, grew to welcome, with the few choice flowers or early fruit he ever laid so quietly in Mrs. Arthur's hand, growing daily thinner and paler.

But one evening as he sat by Irene's side alone, very calmly, very truly, yet with a certain humbleness, he told her that he loved her and asked her to become his wife.

"I cannot bear to see you struggle," he said. "Once, as you well know, I could not have asked you to become my wife, and though I have not forgotten, dear, that I am a man who has only honor and ambition, I yet can take you from this life of toil, can shield you with my breast, can toil for you and yours if you will give me the precious assurance I seek."

Was the man mad? The pride she'd forgotten in these quiet months now surged upward as she turned toward him with pale and sparkling eyes:

"Sir, you insult me!"

"No man insults a woman with his honest love, Miss Arthur," he answered, the pride in hers bearing its reflex on his face. "I loved you—nay, I love you! My love you scorn. I can never offer it again, Miss Irene; but remember—should you ever need it, it is always yours, ready to do for you, to suffer for you, to die for you!"

"Why does not Earl come?" questioned the invalid. "I want to see him—I miss him. Write, Irene, and tell him he must call this evening."

She wrote in obedience:

"Mamma asks for you. She knows nothing. If you will drop in occasionally to see her I will be glad."

It cost her pride a struggle to send even this; but it also brought a thrill of something like pleasure that she should meet him once more. The weeks had seemed strangely long without him. Why had she thus answered him? Of course the thing he had asked was impossible; but, ah, how cruelly she had spurned him!

Had he forgotten it? She expected some traces of sorrow on the handsome brow; but when he entered, in obedience to her summons, the frank smile lit up his face as, devoting himself to the invalid, he spoke to her only when courtesy required. Somehow these weeks seemed to have improved him, too. He had acquired a polish—or was it only indifference—where love had reigned.

"Men easily forget," she thought, and, with the thought she sighed.

The winter wore to an end, and slowly the invalid grew weaker and more weak. The shock had been greater than her nervous system could stand, and she sank under it day by day, until the exertion of moving from her bed to her couch became too great, when, for the first time, the realization burst upon her daughter that she was soon to be alone indeed. Earl, during these months, came and went as of old; but sometimes Irene asked herself if his words to her had not been a dream.

Not once did his eyes rest on her with the old look—not once did he hold for a single moment the little fingers within his own—and a sense of empty disappointment, none the less bitter because unacknowledged, brought to the proud young eyes many an unshed tear. But the bitterer sorrow was in store, as the invalid's rest approached more and more near, until the Angel of Death stooped and gathered her to his breast. Earl was there at the last, and as she lay so quietly on her pillows—they thought her spirit had flown—she suddenly roused and laid her daughter's hand in his.

"Take her," she said; "I give her to you."

Then the eyes closed forever.

"Do not mind it; she meant only as a brother, Irene," he said, in comfort, days after, to the weeping girl, and Irene wondered why she could not as such accept it.

So the weary days merged into weeks, the weeks into months, and the proud young spirit learned its own bitterness. She saw Earl rarely now—there was no longer the invalid's impatient demands upon his time. Some of the old friends had come forward in this second hour of suffering; but through all she missed him, and the thought that he had learned forgetfulness brought her no comfort. She was thinking of him one evening when he entered.

"I am going away, Miss Irene," he said, "will you bid me God-speed?"

The old pride struggled for mastery against the choking in the slender throat, but the words she strove to utter refused to come.

"I have been studying law during these years of hard work, and am now able to wait for the practice I hope will come. You will think of me, sometimes, Irene, and if in trouble remember the words I once said, that I stand always ready to act the part of a friend. Is even this asking too much?" he added, as her silence continued.

Had he, then, forgotten all his words—the love he had said was hers forever—or did its pale ghost lie buried too? But she must speak; she must not let him know.

"Good bye!" she faltered; then, spite of herself, the words she had thought locked in her heart burst from her: "Earl do not go; I cannot bear it."

"Irene!" Where had his icy indifference fled now? His face was pale; his voice trembled in his struggle for calmness. "What matters it to you?"

"Everything!" she exclaimed, as her pride lay with folded wings at her feet. "Or if you must go, take me with you!"

"Irene, do you know what your words mean—that I can take you only as my wife? My darling, is this true?"

But in answer the sprang into his open arms, dimly realizing that the color mantling her cheeks was the abhorred red flag with which she had announced herself to the highest bidder, but Earl, holding her close to his heart, will yield his prize nevermore.

A FEW HITCHES.

DIFFICULTIES ATTENDING A LONG ISLAND FUNERAL.

Brooklyn Eagle.

"Do you print Long Island news in yere paper?" asked a solemn-looking man of manifestly agricultural proclivities, timidly approaching the city editor of The Eagle.

"We do when we can get at it. What do you want?"

"You see, I live out here a piece beyond Jamaica, and the other day some of the neighbors got up a funer'l to pass away the afternoon, and I went to it. Thought perhaps you' like to say something about it in your paper."

"Anything peculiar about it?"

"No, I can't say that there was. There was little hitches here and there, but we pulled her through all right. You see the corpse was our only clergyman, and we didn't have another parson to preach over him, so we had to make it a popular funer'l and all hands take a shy at it. The proceedings were very interesting."

"That's a novel kind of performance," mused the city editor, "what did you do?"

"Haml well, the sisters brought some wax flowers, because the natural one's haven't sprouted yet, and they fixed him up in pretty good shape. Then we held a meeting and appointed a committee on prayers, and a committee on hymns, and a committee on speeches, and an executive committee, and it was through them committees that we had the hitches. When the funeral came off, the presiding officer called for a report from the committee on prayers to start in with, and Judge Waller presented the report, which was a very fine effort, and called forth considerable enthusiasm, until the constable presented a minority prayer and demanded a vote on its adoption. The judge made an able speech in defense of his prayer, and went for the constable, because at the last election he had made certain pledges which he hadn't kept. The constable said that had nothing to do with it. The question was which prayer would do the greatest good to the biggest number, and he submitted that his report knocked the hind sights off the judge's, and was something that the community had reason to be proud of. Lawyer Screen, one of the minority, quoted several decisions in favor of the prayer, and concluded by saying that Judge Waller had drawn upon himself the condemnation of the township by the position he had taken in the Dolan assault and battery case. Things was getting pretty warm, and I moved to lay the whole question on the table, which was carried by 104 to 17."

"So you didn't have any prayer?"

"Didn't have any prayer. Then the president called for the report of the committee on hymns. Mr. Samson raised the point of order that the organization of the funeral was only temporary, and said that the executive committee had a list of officers they wished to present for the permanent organization. The president ruled him out of order, as he was too late. Having gone into the funeral, he must abide by the organization as it was. Mr. Samson got angry, and asked his friends to follow him to the schoolhouse and about forty of 'em went."

"Bolted, eh!"

"Bolted, and organized in the school-house. The regulars went ahead, and it was found that the committee on hymns had joined the bolters, and on motion of Col. Sample, a special committee of three was appointed. While they were hunting up something appropriate the president introduced Gen. Watmer, of Quogue, who discussed the tariff question with marked ability, and then Mr. Phœnix, of Babylon, who urged a reorganization of the democracy with a view to a solid front in 1884. By that time it was getting late and the committee was called in, but they couldn't agree on a hymn and were discharged. I moved that we sing 'Sweet By and By.' Judge Waller offered an amendment striking that out and substituting 'What Shall the Harvest Be?' Then I went for that judge and suggested that his harvest would be hemp. A motion was made to lay both hymns on the table, and that was carried."

"So you had no hymn?"

"Had no hymn. We could hear the bolters singing 'John Brown's body' over in the school house, and I see they were getting ahead of us, and so I asked that the committee on speeches be ordered to report. Mr. Kelly, the chairman, said they had prepared and agreed upon five speeches which would take three hours to read, but they would settle the status of the deceased and at the same time show that the debt of the county had been reduced 40 per cent. under a republican administration. On motion, leave was given to print the speeches, and the reading was dispensed with."

"So you had no speeches?"

"Had no speeches bearing directly on the corpse. Of course we had debates. Well, sir, I moved that we adjourn to the grave, and bury the lamented, and that was carried. When we got there we found the bolters had popped in ahead of us, and had organized their outdoor meeting, with Mr. Sampson as chairman, and Mr. Ely as secretary, and an executive committee of five. They told us that the offices of vice-president and treasurer and a representation of two on the committee had been left open for us, and we could come in or there would be no funer'l. Then we had 'em. Lawyer Screen drew up an injunction restraining the bolters from interfering, and Judge Waller signed it. That busted the soreheads, and we dropped the body into the grave."

"Is that the end of it?"

"That's the end of the funer'l, but the matter is in the courts. Mr. Samson has got out a quo warranto to know by what right we did it, and I don't think the thing will be settled till fall. There are good lawyers on both sides, and we've made up our minds to make that funer'l stick if it takes every cent in the county treasury. Will you make an item of it?"

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These proposals will be opened on the 30th day of April, 1881, and the Commission reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

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ap30-d10t-w1t

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PROPOSALS FOR INDIAN SUPPLIES AND TRANSPORTATION.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, Office of Indian Affairs, Washington, March 23, 1881.—Sealed proposals, indorsed Proposals for Beef, Bacon, Flour, Clothing or Transportation, &c., (as the case may be,) and directed to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Nos. 65 and 67 Wooster Street, New York, will be received until 11 a.m., of Monday, May 2, 1881, for furnishing for the Indian service about 800,000 pounds