

WON AT LAST
By Bernard Bigsby

(Continued from last week.)

CHAPTER XV.
A MOST REMARKABLE YOUNG WOMAN.

A pretty, petite figure tripping down Broadway, New York, attracts the attention of the loungers who always infest that busy thoroughfare, bent on staring every unproctored woman out of countenance.

Her face is unwontedly pale, and her big blue eyes look as though they had lately been bedewed with tears.

Poor Elsie Whitford evidently did not leave carking care entirely behind her, when she evacuated Oretown with so much happy precipitancy.

Her case was a singular one.

Death had stepped in to upset Mrs. Baxter's kind intentions regarding her young protegee, and the kind hand, which but two weeks ago had written Elsie so encouragingly, was stilled forever, and the house, which should have sheltered her, closed and empty.

A kindly-disposed servant, won by the girl's sweet face, had secured lodgings for her and given her the address of Mr. Theophilus Crall, Mrs. Baxter's man of business, to whose office Elsie was now hurrying.

Mr. Crall was disturbed when his clerk announced to him that a young lady, who would not send in her card, desired to see him on urgent business, for more than once that astute gentleman had found his sanctum invaded by feminine canvassers with just such excuses for admission.

"Tell her I'm engaged."

The message was curt and came like the cut of a whip to the frightened girl.

"Give him this letter," she said at last, recovering a little courage, "and tell him I am the person referred to in it."

"I wouldn't if I were you," the clerk said, sympathetically. "He'd never read it, but if it's a case of charity, why perhaps I might do something for you, miss."

Elsie flushed indignantly, then poured into the man's ear the story of her misadventure.

"Oh, he'll see you all right," was the glad assurance, and a minute later she found herself in the great man's presence.

"It must have been a great shock to you," Mrs. Crall confessed, with a little sympathetic cough, "and I understand you have no friends in New York?"

"None."

"Well, of course I shall be glad to afford you means to return home."

"But I do not mean to return."

"Good gracious, young lady, do you suppose you can remain in this big city?"

"Why, certainly. Surely in this vast place there is room for one more young woman to earn her living."

"But what could you do?"

"Anything that is honorable."

"Really, this is extraordinary. What nerve you western girls must be endowed with."

"Are there not thousands of girls in New York working for a livelihood?"

"Hundreds of thousands, but they are under the protection of their friends."

"I am sorry I troubled you," Elsie said, rising.

"Do not be impatient. Why, bless my soul, do you suppose that I am going to allow an innocent child like you to walk out into the pitfalls of this cruel place—what do you take me for?"

"If you cannot give me work to do, nor tell me where it is to be got, I shall accept no other aid from you."

Mr. Crall stared at her harder than ever.

"I think," he said, "you had better return to your lodgings, and I will inquire among my lady friends what is best to be done. You may rely on hearing from me by noon to-morrow at the latest. Even your activity can brook so brief a delay, I hope."

"Oh, yes, sir," Elsie said, giving him a look out of those lustrous eyes of hers that set the matter-of-fact old man's heart aglow.

Now, in accordance with instructions from Mr. Crall, which our heroine received in due course, she found herself waiting with all humility on a grand "society lady," one Mrs. Clarence Grindlay, in her Fifth avenue mansion, a suppliant for the position of nursery governess.

A gorgeous footman opened the door—such a radiant being as poor Elsie's backwoods experience had never imagined.

"Well, what is it?" he abruptly asked.

"I called on Mrs. Grindlay by the advice of Mr. Crall. In fact," she added, for she thought it would pay to be a little confidential, "I am seeking the position of nursery governess here."

"Oh, please sit down."

Elsie placed herself uncomfortably in one of the antique hall chairs, whose heraldic designs astonished the unspiculated child, that had been taught to believe that the citizens of this free and enlightened land were above such fripperies.

In a few moments there was the frill of a silk dress heard, and a stout, handsome woman, superbly dressed, ablaze in diamonds and gold, though it was barely yet mid-day, and accompanied by two young ladies, equally bedizened, made her appearance.

"Oh," she said, and looking Elsie critically over from head to foot, "you are the young person Mr. Crall has engaged for me as nursery governess—yes—I think you will do. Thompson, you can show her to the schoolroom."

And without waiting for an answer, she swept into a room, followed by her fair satellites.

Elsie's first glance at a nursery in a Fifth avenue mansion was a revelation she never, through weal or woe, forgot.

Three girls and a boy, varying in age from eight to twelve, were engaged in a pitched battle, pushing, pulling, thumping, punching each other like savages, and yelling at the top of their voices, while a distracted maid was vainly endeavoring to separate them.

"Miss Melie," the woman was screaming, "I'll tell your mamma; Master George, ain't you ashamed of yourself; Miss Julie, let go your sister's hair, you spiteful thing."

The combat might have continued to rage indefinitely, but an ill-directed blow from Master George's fist struck a case of stuffed birds, which fell crashing to the ground.

"You've done it!" "I'll tell ma, I will!" "Oh, you bad, wicked boy!" resounded on all sides.

Elsie seized the opportunity to step forward and make her presence known.

"I am the new governess," she said to the maid. "Are these the children I am supposed to take charge of?"

"They are; and thank the Lord you've come, miss; I'd sooner be shut up with a lot of caged tigers than be their keeper for another day."

"I'll tell ma!" yelled the sweet innocents in chorus.

"You will all take your seats and remain perfectly still," said Elsie, resolutely. "George, take this place beside me."

"Ma says governesses and servants are to say Master George, when they speak to my brother," observed the eldest pet pettily.

"And you, Julia, for your impertinence, will stand in the corner with your face to the wall, and, saying this, the young governess led the insolent child into punishment, which she was too much astonished at to resist.

Yet not long was it before Elsie had all the little ones round her, talking pleasantly and hopefully of to-morrow's lessons.

It was at this propitious moment that the door opened and Mrs. Grindlay entered the room.

In a moment Isabel broke loose again. The clamorous children gathered round their mother, screaming their troubles in her ears.

"She pinched my arm and made me stand in the corner," she wailed, calling brother "Master George." "She made us sit still, and wouldn't let us speak."

"You sweet little rebels, will you be quiet?" the silly mother whined, appealingly; but the luncheon bell ringing, they fled to the dining-room without ceremony, leaving Elsie face to face with her employer.

"I'm afraid you'll find them a little troublesome—they have such high spirits," the great lady simpered.

"They utterly lack discipline," Elsie said, gravely and bravely. "They would be much happier if you would allow the person in charge of them complete control of their actions. In fact, if they are not to be taught wholesome obedience, I shall decline at once the office of governess."

"Good gracious! What an extraordinary young person you are. Do you know that you are talking to a mother of seven? Do you think that Fifth avenue children are to be brought up in accordance with the rules and habits of humber homes?"

"I only know, madam, that the question of remaining in your service is of vital importance to me; but, unless you let me teach those little ones order, self-control and cheerful obedience to proper suggestions, I will not undertake the charge."

Mrs. Grindlay looked nonplussed.

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pertinence, no rude conduct, no smallness of any kind. They must be trained to habits of neatness, gentleness and courteous bearing."

"The most extraordinary young person I ever met," for the third time Mrs. Grindlay gasped.

"And the most sensible!" a man's voice added, with loud-toned emphasis. The ladies started in surprise, for they had not noticed anyone's approach.

"Oh, Uncle Marcus, how you made me jump!" Mrs. Grindlay ejaculated with a little move of petulance. "Why do you come creeping in in this fashion?"

The newcomer was an old man with strongly marked features, plainly dressed, but who bore an air of authority that bade Elsie hope for an ally, who would be able and willing to defend her.

"My dear Marion," the elderly man said decisively, "you may thank your fortune that your old uncle did come in at this minute, for you were about to lose an opportunity which might not occur again in your lifetime. If you have any regard for me you will not hesitate to secure this young lady's valuable services."

"I am sure," pouted the lady, "I would do anything to oblige you, but the present extraordinary conduct—"

"Nay, no buts; let me have my own way in this matter. Since poor Clarence's death your children have run riot. You are, like hundreds of other American mammas, spoiling them, my dear. Why, if they were angels instead of little bits of human clay, you—"

"Oh, Uncle Marcus, how can you go on so? I'm sure I would do anything to promote the happiness of the little darlings," Mrs. Grindlay sobbed.

"Of course you would," he continued soothingly. "So we'll make a beginning by securing the friendship and help of this young lady—is it a bargain?"

And thus Elsie gained a little triumph over the illfortune that had dogged her footsteps. Her position, while full of small crosses, was ameliorated by the continued support of the old gentleman who had so opportunely offered her protection. The children, quick to appreciate the new state of affairs, accorded their young teacher first sullen obedience, then willing respect, and at last, won by the earnestness of her temper, and gentle, affectionate disposition, loved her with all the ardor of their young natures.

Long before Uncle Marcus' visit came to an end Mrs. Grindlay had begun to see what a treasure she had in her governess; but Elsie's heart was troubled, for the kind old man who had done her such service announced his determination to leave them.

"I cannot tell you, my dear," he said on his farewell visit to the schoolroom,

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HARRISON'S POSITION.

General Michener on John C. New's Statement.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2.—A recent interview with General John C. New, stating that Mr. Harrison was not a candidate for the presidency, and that the ex-president would not select Mr. McKinley or Mr. Reed, if his advice were asked, has attracted marked attention in Washington among those who have been closely and officially connected with Mr. Harrison. Several of these gentlemen, including a number of the Harrison cabinet, conferred with a view to correcting any misapprehension that may have arisen. As a result, it was determined that General Michener, who, with General New, was in charge of the interests of Mr. Harrison at the last Republican national convention, would be asked to make a statement. General Michener's statement as given to the press is as follows:

"I think Mr. New has been misquoted. The public certainly understands by this time that General Harrison is in no sense a candidate for the nomination. Not being in the field there is nothing to withdraw from."

"That he would not select either Governor McKinley or Mr. Reed, if his advice were asked, is simply the opinion of Mr. New, if correctly quoted, and it should not be taken as expressing the sentiments of the ex-president. The making of candidates is an art that he never practiced in the past, nor is he likely to engage in it at this time."

"The guesses, or views, or opinions of his friends should be treated as such, and for anything definite or accurate, it would be well to await such expressions or actions as General Harrison may see proper to give the public directly."

Baltimore Wins the Penant.

The National League race ended Monday, and Baltimore is again the winner of the penant. Cleveland is a good second, while Philadelphia just beats Chicago out for third place.

Standing of the clubs:

Table with columns: Club, Won, Lost, P. C. Baltimore, Cleveland, Philadelphia, Chicago, Boston, Brooklyn, Pittsburgh, New York, Cincinnati, Washington, St. Louis, Louisville.

Westerners Have It.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2.—A report of Chief Engineer Wilson, who was sent from San Francisco to Seattle to investigate the capacity of the plant of the Moran Brothers, was entirely satisfactory. Secretary Herbert awarded that firm the contract for the construction of one of the three torpedo boats to be built for the navy.

The price to be paid is \$160,000, which is \$3,500 less than the original bid of the firm, who consented to the reduction in order that the department have a sufficient margin left from the appropriation of \$175,000 to supply the torpedo outfit and the guns for the boat.

Value of Foreign Coins.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2.—Mr. Preston, director of the mint, has issued his quarterly estimate of the value of foreign coins, which is to govern collectors of customs and others during the quarter ending December 31, 1895.

There are only three changes, as follows: Tael of China (Ties Tsin), \$2.70; tael of China (Che Foo), \$2.50; kran of Persia, \$0.90. Last quarter's valuations were made on a basis of .67163 and the present calculations on a basis of .6718 as the average price of silver per fine ounce of 480 grains.

Overworked Himself.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2.—A naval retiring board has just recommended the retirement of Chief Engineer Edward A. Magee on account of physical disability. Chief Engineer Magee is another of the many victims to overwork in the naval engineer corps, caused by insufficient force to handle the complicated machinery of a modern warship, and his break-down resulted from exhaustion and protracted work in bringing the coast defense ship Monterey from San Francisco to Callao and return.

Consumptive Convict Pardoned.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Oct. 2.—On the recommendation of the prison physician and board of inspectors, Governor Stone granted a pardon to Charles McDonald, who was sentenced at the January term of the criminal court of St. Louis to two years in the penitentiary for grand larceny. McDonald is afflicted with consumption and is in the last stages of the disease.

Matthews for President.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Oct. 2.—Governor Matthews will spend the last two weeks in October in Ohio making speeches for the Democratic ticket. It is thought here that about the time the governor goes to Ohio, political friends will begin to do some work toward securing for him the nomination for president next year.

Two Charged With Murder.

SEDALIA, Mo., Oct. 2.—Willard Dyer, who shot and killed Thompson Walker, a prominent young farmer, Saturday night, was held over by the coroner's jury for murder in the first degree. Lucy Bowers, who gave Dyer the pistol, was also held for murder in the first degree.

Get up a club for THE WEALTH MAKERS. Only 30c. from now until November 1st.

How's This!

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY and CO., Props., Toledo, O. We the undersigned have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligation made by their firm.

WEST & TRUAX, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O. WALKING, KINMAN & MARVIN, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system.

Shine Causes Blood Poisoning.

TRENTON, N. J., Oct. 2.—Anton Guiden, a German, is in a precarious condition, because of blood poisoning, caused by shoes overcharged by too

IN A CHICAGO CONVENT.

MAUDE STEIDEL IS FOUND AND FATHER WAGNER ARRESTED.

BAD FOR THE CLERGYMAN.

The St. Joseph Disappearance Mystery Solved—The Priest's Brother-in-Law Held for Abduction—Wagner Held for \$1,500 Bail—Intended to Resign and Marry the Girl.

CHICAGO, Oct. 2.—Maud Steidel, 15 years old, who disappeared from her home in St. Joseph, Mo., Sunday, September 22, and of whose abduction Father Dominick Wagner of that city was suspected, spent the night in the Harrison Street police station, this city. She was found at a West Side convent by officers from St. Joseph.

Albert Elandt of 1014 Diversey street, was arrested and locked up on a charge of abduction. He is a brother-in-law of Father Wagner.

It is rumored that Father Wagner persuaded the girl, who is good looking and large of her age, to leave St. Joseph and come to Chicago. Elandt went to St. Joseph and brought her to Chicago and placed her in a Catholic school on the West side. He said he knew nothing about any abduction and had only done what Father Wagner had told him to.

The police have in their possession a quantity of furniture which it is asserted was shipped by Father Wagner, and which seems to give an indication that he expected to set up housekeeping in Chicago.

An anonymous letter received by the mother of the girl gave the police the only clue to her whereabouts.

When Elandt was arraigned in court to-day, he declared that he was innocent of any intention to abduct the girl. Father Wagner had asked him to bring her here from St. Joseph and he had done so, also taking charge of the furniture shipped here by the priest. That was all he knew about the case, and he readily consented to return to Missouri for trial.

While admitting that she was to come to Chicago to live in rooms fitted with the priest's furniture the girl has no hard words for him. She is very pretty. She says she is going to St. Joseph to-day or to-morrow with her uncle. She declines to talk about the matter further.

Father Wagner Under Arrest.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Oct. 2.—Father Dominick Wagner, the priest suspected of having abducted Maude Steidel from the home of her mother in this city, was arrested by the police last night on a telegram sent from Chicago by Alexander Podvart, uncle of the girl. The telegram stated that Wagner's brother-in-law was under arrest in Chicago and that there was an abundance of evidence on which to convict Wagner.

Later developments seem to indicate that it was Father Wagner's intention to resign from the Catholic priesthood, go to Chicago and marry the girl and then engage in some sort of business.

This morning the priest was formally arraigned. He waived preliminary examination and was bound over to the grand jury, his bond being fixed at \$1,500, which, it is thought, he can raise. The grand jury is now in session and the case will be taken up at once.

Cherokee Intruder Bill Passed.

TABLEQUAH, I. T. Oct. 2.—The bill providing for the removal of intruders from the Cherokee nation passed both houses of the National Council. By the provisions of the bill 3315 heads of families will be paid for improvement made in the nation. The amount of land is held to be something like 100,000 acres but the improvements were valued at \$68,000 by the appraisers appointed by the interior department. The bill just passed by the council seems to be the end of the struggle that has been waged for twenty-five years between the Cherokee people on the one side and the intruders led by Watts on the other.

Killed While Hunting.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Ok., Oct. 2.—George W. Turner, a prominent citizen of Moravia, Iowa, and L. T. Hill, also of Moravia, came to Oklahoma last week to visit relatives and purchase land. Sunday evening they went out to view the country, taking their guns along. They saw a squirrel and Hill shot at it. The charge striking Turner in the breast killed him instantly. Over forty shot entered his body from the hips to neck.

Coal Strike Threatened.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Oct. 2.—A delegate meeting of twelve miners, said to represent twenty-one mines in the Springfield subdistrict, was held here yesterday, at which a resolution was adopted that a demand be made on mine operators for an advance in the price of mining to forty cents per ton, gross weight, the scale to go into effect on October 5.

No Money for Teachers.

ATCHISON, Kan., Oct. 2.—There is no money in the general school fund, and the Atchison teachers could not be paid off Saturday, although it was the first month of the term. It will be some months before there will be any money in the fund, and the teachers will have to wait for their salaries.

Judge Hollyman.

PALMYRA, Mo., Oct. 2.—Harmon D. Hollyman, presiding judge of the county court and one of the pioneer settlers of Marion county, died yesterday morning at his home near this city, after a brief illness.

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