

A Girl's Life Ruined.

CHICAGO, May 11.—A sad romance in which a beautiful young girl's ruined life and the astounding depravity of a boy scarcely of age are the leading features, attained its climax yesterday at the Palmer house. Ten weeks ago yesterday the Hon. E. A. Jackson of Sharon Springs, N. Y., a prominent and leading politician in that part of the state, accompanied his wife to the wedding of a friend and then took the same train with the bride party to Albany, where as a delegate he was to attend the republican state convention. On Mrs. Jackson's return to her home everything indicated the flight of her daughter, Christa, fifteen years old. Investigation proved that the day of the wedding and of the father's departure for Albany had been selected long in advance by the men who were bent on the girl's abduction and ruin. These men were Louis Marcott, a young man who had been visiting his grandfather in the town, and George Hoffman, the son of a carpenter in Sharon Springs. Marcott seemed to have something of a hypnotic fascination for her and after secretly associating with him for some time she agreed to take \$5,000 from her parents to carry out his plans. They took the train for Syracuse and later arrived at Detroit. Here a dispute arose between the two men as to which had the better right to the young girl. This led Hoffman to take most of what remained of the stolen money and return to New York where he was arrested. The distracted father caused the entire state to be searched for his daughter, but his influence kept the disgrace to his family from the general public. In less than two weeks he spent a large sum on the search, the fruitless character of which almost killed both parents of the unfortunate girl. The arrest of Hoffman, however, led to the fact that the other two were headed toward Chicago where they expected to stay at the Palmer house under the name of Carpenter. Steriff Black, a personal friend of Mr. Jackson, was at once authorized to come to this city. He found the pair Monday and yesterday morning a dispatch ordered him to return, and in the afternoon he took his prisoners eastward. The childish looking fifteen-year-old girl is so pitifully a broken down condition after her experience of but two weeks with her young abductor, as to be almost unrecognizable.

Blaine Adheres to His Declaration.

NEW YORK, May 11.—Postmaster Manley of Augusta, Me., one of Secretary Blaine's most faithful followers, has been in Washington for several days and has held a number of consultations with Mr. Blaine. Before leaving for home, Mr. Manley, according to a Washington correspondent, said: "There is nothing in this new talk about Mr. Blaine and the presidency. When he wrote his letter of last February to Clarkson, in which he stated that his name would not go before the convention for the nomination, he meant it. He has not changed his mind since then. He says frankly to those who speak to him on the subject that he feels better than he has for a long time and he knows of no reason why he should not live for years, but he is conscious that he could not endure a great and unusual strain. He does not intend to place himself in a position where such a strain could not be avoided."

Fifty Feet Above.

HELENA, Ark., May 11.—The river has risen only three inches in the last twenty-four hours and it is at a stand at Memphis the worst is believed to be over. The stage is now nearly fifty feet above low water mark and two feet below extreme flood tide and a great deal of damage is reported below.

Fifty Miners Killed.

ROSLYR, Wash., May 11.—Fifty miners lost their lives by an explosion in the Northern Pacific coal mine here this afternoon. The number of dead cannot be accurately given, but it is believed that all those in the mine at the time of the explosion were killed. The work of rescue was begun promptly and up to nine o'clock ten mutilated and blackened corpses had been removed from the mine. The explosion is supposed to have been caused by an accumulation of fire damp.

It is not definitely known as to the number of men who were in the vicinity of the disaster, but it is believed that between forty-five and fifty men were in the three levels that were affected by the explosion. Large relief forces are at work and at this time two bodies have been recovered. These men were working nearest the opening and at some distance from the point when it is supposed the explosion occurred. Most of the men were 1,500 to 2,000 feet further in the slope and in the immediate vicinity of the accident. There is no doubt either in the minds of the miners or the company's officials but that every man was instantly killed by the explosion.

Struggling Minister—"There was a stranger in church today." Wife—"What did he look like?" "I did not see him." "Then how do you know there was a stranger among the congregation?" "I found a good quarter in the contribution box."

THE HAUNTED CHAMBER.

"THE DUCHESS"

CHAPTER VIII.

"Dear Sir Adrian," says Dora Talbot laying down her hat upon a garden-chair, and forsaking the game of tennis than proceeding to go forward and greet her host, "where have you been? We have missed you so much. Florence"—turning to her cousin—"well you have not, indeed? I am quite tired of my last visit."

Lord Esau, a middle-aged gentleman of somewhat appurtenant looks, immediately indignantly in the prospect of a change in the game. He is married, has a large family of promising young ladies, and a fervent passion for tennis. Mrs. Talbot having crossed a very contemptible adversary, he is charmed at this chance of getting out of her.

"So Florence, you have returned, joins the game, and the play continues with unabated vigor. When however Lord Esau has scored a grand victory, and all the players declare themselves thoroughly exhausted and in need of refreshment, Sir Adrian comes forward, and walks straight up to Miss Delmaine, to Dora's intense chagrin and the secret rage of Arthur Dynecourt.

"You have often asked to see the 'haunted chamber,'" he says; "why not come and visit it now? It isn't much to see, you know; but still, in a ghostly sense, it is, I suppose, interesting."

"Let us make a party and go together," suggests Dora, enthusiastically clasped her hands—her favorite method of showing false emotion of any kind. She is determined to have her part in the programme, and is equally determined that Florence shall go nowhere alone with Sir Adrian.

"What a capital idea!" puts in Arthur Dynecourt, coming up to Miss Delmaine, and specially addressing her with all the air of a rightful owner.

"Charming," murmurs a young lady standing by; and so the question is settled. "It will be rather fatiguing journey, you know," says Captain Ringwood, confidentially, to Ethel Villiers. "It's an awful lot of stairs; I've been there, so I know all about it—it's worse than the treadmill."

They all ascended the last flight of stone stairs; and presently their host opens the door, and reveals to them whatever mysteries may lie beyond. He enters first, and they all follow him, but, as if suddenly recollecting some important point, he turns, and calls loudly to Captain Ringwood not to let the door shut behind him.

"There is a peculiar spring in the lock," he explains a moment later; "and if the door slammed to, we should find it impossible to open it from the inside, and might remain here prisoners forever unless the household came to the rescue."

"Oh, Captain Ringwood, pray be careful!" cries Dora falteringly. "Our very lives depend upon your attention!" "Miss Villiers, do come here and help me to remember my duty," says Captain Ringwood, planting his back against the open door lest by any means it should shut.

The chamber is round, and has, instead of windows, three narrow apertures in the walls, through which can be obtained a glimpse of the sky, but of nothing else. These apertures are just large enough to admit a man's hand. The room is without furniture of any description, and on the boards the dark stains of blood are distinctly visible.

"Dynecourt, tell them a story or two," calls out Ringwood to Sir Adrian. "They won't believe it is veritably haunted unless you call up a ghost to frighten them."

But they all protest in a body that they do not wish to hear any ghost stories, so Sir Adrian laughingly refuses to comply with Ringwood's request.

"Are we far from the other parts of the house?" asks Florence at length, who had been examining some writing on the walls.

"So far that, if you were immersed here, no cry, however loud, could penetrate the distance," replies Sir Adrian. "You are as thoroughly removed from the habitable parts of the castle as if you were in the next county."

"How interesting!" observes Dora, with a little simper. "The servants are so afraid of this room that they would not venture here even by daylight," Sir Adrian goes on. "You can see how the dust of years is on it. One might be slowly starved to death here without one's friends being a bit the wiser."

He laughs as he says this, but long afterward, his words come back to his listeners' memories, filling their breasts with terror and despair. "I wonder you don't have this dangerous lock removed," says Captain Ringwood. "It is a regular trap. Some day you'll be sorry for it."

"How pale you are, Mrs. Talbot?" remarks Sir Adrian, suddenly, wheeling round to look at her more closely. "Has this damp old place really affected your nerves. Come, let us go down again and forget in the sunshine that blood-dripping deeds were ever committed here or elsewhere."

"I am nervous, I confess," responds Dora, in a low tone. "Yes, yes—let us leave this terrible room forever."

"To be it," says Sir Adrian gayly. "For my part, I feel no desire to ever re-enter it."

"It is very high art, I suppose," observes Ethel Villiers, glancing round the walls. "Uncomfortable places always are. It would be quite a treasure to Lady Betty Trefeld, who raves over the early Britons. It seems rather thrown away upon us. Captain Ringwood, you look as if you had been suddenly turned into stone. Let me pass, please."

"It was uncommonly friendly of Ringwood not to have let the door slam and so imprisoned us for life," says Sir Adrian, with a laugh. "I am sure we owe him a debt of gratitude."

"I hope you'll all pay it," laughs Ringwood. "It will be a nice new experience for you to give creditor something for once. I never pay my own debts; but that doesn't count. I feel sure you are all going to give me something for my services as door-keeper."

"What shall I give you?" asks Ethel coquettishly. "I'll tell you by and by," he replies, with such an expressive look that for once the saucy girl has no answer ready, but, blushing crimson, hurries past him down the stone stairs, where she waits at the bottom for the others.

As Florence reaches the door she pauses and stoops to examine the lock. "I wish," she says to Sir Adrian, a strange subdued excitement in her tone, "you would remove this lock, do."

"But why?" he asks, impressed in spite of himself, by her manner. "I hardly know myself; it is a fancy—an unaccountable one, perhaps—but still a powerful one. Do be guided by me, and have it removed."

"What—the fancy?" he asks, laughing. "No—the lock. Humor me in this," she pleads earnestly, far more earnestly than the occasion seems to warrant. "Call it a silly presentiment, if you like, but I honestly think that lock will work you evil some day. Therefore it is that I ask you to do away with it."

More High Water.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 14.—The Missouri river is within one and one-tenth inches of the highest water ever recorded here by the signal office gauge. It will rise another foot by tomorrow morning, so says the observer. This means that the entire village of Harlem will be flooded and the bottoms along the Kansas river will all be overflowed. The rise during the night was steady, and this morning the condition along the stock yards district and at the packing houses is very serious. The packing houses have been compelled to shut down and at several places it was necessary to remove material from the lower floors. At the stock yards cattle and hogs were removed with difficulty. In Argentine, Armourdale, and Kansas City, Kan., the water is flowing through the streets in the lower parts of the town and washing through many of the houses. All along the levee of the city the water is encroaching on the shore and business is almost entirely suspended. Until the water goes down reports from all points in Kansas and Missouri show that there is no hope for immediate relief, for it is still rising and cloudy. The reports from up the Missouri river are most discouraging, as there the river is making great inroads into the land and threatening to engulf large areas of farms.

Abraham Fell Indicted.

CHICAGO, May 14.—The federal grand jury practically ended its labors and returned no indictment against anyone connected with the alleged coal and stone trusts. Several witnesses were examined, but they knew little or nothing. District Attorney Milhurst is convinced that any investigation of the Reading combine will have to be begun at the New York end. The grand jury, however, has done some work in another direction. It has voted to indict Abram Fell of Buffalo, N. Y., the agent of the Delaware & Lackawanna Dispatch, a fast freight line composed of the Washburn, Grand Trunk and Delaware, Lackawanna & Western roads. The indictment will charge Mr. Fell with conspiring with agents of Swift & Co., the Chicago packer, to give rebates on oleomargarine and other meat products in violation of the interstate commerce laws. The case against Fell is said to be very strong.

Fenley's Successor.

ST. LOUIS, May 14.—It is reported in railroad circles that General Passenger Agent Euzenbarck of the Maple Leaf route has been to Chicago to succeed W. A. Fenley as chairman of the western railroad association.

Great Torrents.

AGASSIZ, Kan., May 14.—It is raining again in Kansas; great torrents of rain are being poured in Central and Eastern Kansas. The Republican river at Junction City is five miles wide and the "Big Blue" at Manhattan is over the bank. The Kansas river at Topeka is now over its bank and still rising. Reports from the west say that a ten foot rise may yet be expected. If this be true and the appearances are all that way the three bridges that span the river at this point are all doomed. The water has already done great damage here flooding houses, warehouses, factories, etc. The railroad track is under water, and street car travel with the eastern suburbs is totally suspended. An immense amount of drift is floating down the river, including sheds, barns, houses, cattle and hogs.

A Systematic Assassination.

CHEYENNE, Wyo., May 14.—News from the Buffalo district is of the most disturbing character. The murder of George Wellman is believed to be the opening of the campaign by the rustlers, who will now begin the systematic assassination of those who opposed them in their troubles. It is asserted by cattlemen here that the recent proclamation sent out from Johnson county inviting everyone to participate in the round-up, and guaranteeing protection, was intended to lure the big ranchmen back into a country where they could be easily killed. No faith whatever, is expressed by the prisoners at Fort Russell in the alleged efforts of the authorities at Buffalo to capture Wellman's murderers. They deem it possible, however, that the Masonic order, of which the murdered man was a member, may yet hunt them down. Gibson and Craig, the missing round-ups, have not yet been heard of, and the gravest apprehension is felt as to their fate.

Hanged For Murder.

NEW ORLEANS, La., May 14.—Etienne Des Champs was hanged here yesterday afternoon for the murder, with chloroform, of Juliette Distock, a young girl. He attempted suicide by the same means, and was found lying beside his victim, both entirely nude.

Robbed of \$2,300.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., May 14.—Paymaster Fox of the Solvay Process company was waylaid and robbed of about \$2,300 by masked men about 10 o'clock yesterday forenoon. The robbery took place near the town of Gebbs while the paymaster was driving to the quarries of the company at Split Rock with the money to pay off the workmen. The robbery was committed by two masked men armed with guns, and as Fox was unarmed he was unable to offer any resistance.

ALL OVER NEBRASKA

York hopes for five more soon. Creighton has a new property. About 20,000 sheep are in Sioux county. The Webster alliance will build a hall. Plattsmouth is to have a sale liquor store. Auburn school girls have an anti-slang club. A cigar factory with 100 employees has been organized at Kearney. R. A. Templeton is to buy a 2,400 acre tract of land near Kearney. A little steamboat will be built north branch of the Elkhorn. Ex-Governor Dawes is appointed attorney for the state for the next year. Two circuses will show in May 19. It will be a grand one on that day. Sixteen stones have been placed in graves at Blair. Gage and Johnson will unite in a normal institute. It can be arranged. Indianola has built a sidewalk this year, and will have more this summer. A musical society, called the Choral society, has been organized at Nebraska City. It is rumored that the iron bridge between Milford and Coalinga is to be laid this summer. Thirty Covington men were poisoned by eating the meat of a local butcher. An effort is being made by the city officials of Newark to install an electric light plant for the city. Frank Maurer of the Kansas bar received \$1,500 from the law firm received in the last July. Gresham business men are interested in the schools by their for maps, essays on the history of books. A man near Stockton thought to be a cross between a coyote and a coyote. All the Sidney school boys walked out the other day of alleged discourteous treatment at school board. Two boys of Kimal, Ariz., started for Chicago to be at the world's fair. The Danish lodge at the valley wish to picnic at June 5, if taffes and the grounds are furnished. On account of some of the Wahoo school boys not carried and pictures circulated for another year. Several military details in the neighborhood of Auburn packed a lot of goods to be sent but the goods never came. The gumbo burning at M. at Utica will be during the laying of the preparing for the actual. J. Sterling Morton has of General Cass which to Cass county on the dedication of the new. The Nuckolls county Superior to attach a writ of habeas corpus on a damage, but concluded. The Elmwood school building a corn stalk twenty was found under the built twenty years ago. E. L. Oviatt of Liberty received a four foot piece of the stockade of Anderson which he proposes to take. A Beatrice man has a hounds which he has tired sulky. They will be at the Chautauque fairs. John C. Watson has Nebraska City command Templar with a gravel crystal and handle of wood. Mrs. J. E. Wilson of cleaning clothes with a stove, and a fire was though it was smothered of carpet. Sam Edgerton, a teacher at Warren Taylor, Jr. The bullet struck Edgerton's school. A lawsuit between Margraves, two of Richards county, over has gone into the court at Omaha. The Jefferson county Fairbury is competing \$61,800 besides furnishing beautiful and substantial ornament to Fairbury.