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BETTER THAN GOLD

"Mamma!" cried May Stephenson as she ran into the kitchen and threw her school books on the table with a bang; "Is there anything in the world which is worth more than money?"

"Why, my daughter!" exclaimed Mrs. Stephenson, stopping her ironing as she spoke, "what put such an idea into your head? Haven't we got money enough to live on? What if we are not as rich as some people are?"

"I'm not talking about that, mamma dear," said May, as she pulled off her jacket. "It was Carrie Pratt and Winifred Smith who put the idea into my head. You know they have rich parents, and they think that money is everything. Why, tonight, coming home from school, Mary White told me that Carrie said that the only fault with me was that my folks are poor. She said that nobody could ever become anybody who is looked up to but those who have money. Grace Bradshaw says she is not going to school with her uncle in going to send her to a private school, and when she grows up he's going to die and leave her all his money."

"Well," said Mrs. Stephenson, having recovered from the abruptness of the original question, "what started the discussion today?"

"Why," said May, putting on her apron so as to help her mother at her work. "Mary said there's going to be a biograph entertainment at the hall a week from next Tuesday. Carrie, Grace and Winifred came to school saying that they are going. One girl said her folks couldn't afford to let her go, but she would like to go very much, and that set Winnie talking about poor folks, and you know how those girls talk when they are started."

"Yes, I know," said Mrs. Stephenson, as she turned over what she was ironing to the other side. "Do you want to go to the show?"

"Why, I'd like to," said May, looking at her mother's earnest face. "I know it would be extravagant and foolish, and—well, I don't care whether I go or not. What I want is an answer to my question, 'Is there anything in the world worth more than money?'"

"Why, yes," said Mrs. Stephenson. "A noble character, an unblemished reputation, a heroic act, are all worth many times more than money. People are no better because they have it. It is simply good fortune if they have it."

"Before Mrs. Stephenson could mention her going to the entertainment, May snatched the broom from its corner and hurried upstairs to sweep. Once there she almost cried, but by force of her will she controlled her feelings.

"I want to go so bad!" she said to herself at first, but, clutching the broom and beginning to sweep rapidly, she whispered so only the walls could hear: "Poor mamma, I won't ask her to let me go. She is so tired and it would be so foolish for me to spend money to go anyhow." So she soliloquized and busied herself with sweeping the room while, downstairs, as the golden rays of the descending winter sun glided the face of Mrs. Stephenson as she prepared for evening meal in the dining room, and the round face of the timepiece on the mantel as it joyfully counted the seconds, until Mr. Stephenson should return from his work at the store, to the home which the sweat of his brow had provided.

Everything there was not quite as expensive as the same things in other better furnished homes, there was a certain neatness and homelike cheerfulness within the little house which some of the finest and most fashionable residences lack.

Mrs. Stephenson was a cheery, hard-working woman, and had lived long and stood high in the village wherein she lived. Jack Stephenson, her husband, was as honest and conscientious a clerk as had ever worked in a store, and diligently for eighteen years in Field & James' general merchandise store. May was his only daughter and the sunshine of his heart. She was his idol; his only child. But his finances kept him from doing for her everything he wished. This evening he was in an exceptionally good mood. His employers had told him he deserved extra compensation for the services he was rendering them, and they voluntarily proposed to increase his salary. It was with extreme pleasure that he entered the house.

"Where is May?" said he, while taking of his overcoat.

"She's upstairs sweeping," replied Mrs. Stephenson. "The show is coming along and the poor girl wants to go. I can see she hates to ask me, but she is feeling real bad because those rich Pratt and Smith girls are going, and she knows we can't afford to let her go."

"Well," said Jack, as he hung up his hat and sat down to supper, "I'll own I've been hard on the girl in keeping her away from entertainments, and—well, wife, I've got my salary raised, and just step upstairs and tell her to come down—that I said she could go this time."

So it was that arranged. May was overjoyed when she learned from her mother that she could attend the entertainment. She went joyfully to supper. The time passed swiftly by, minutes flew into hours, hours flew into days, and it seemed but a short period had elapsed when the entertainment, accompanied by a stiff, cold wind, was at hand. The entertainment consisted of a "Biograph," showing war pictures, fitted with the customary film belts, and the big screen was placed in a little back room of the stage, but the rest of the edge space was covered by the cords holding the screen in position.

Of course there would be no music, but the piano and some chairs used by the orchestra remained in the "pit" close to the stage. Like all opera houses, the seats were a story above the ground, and the front was partitioned off into vestibule, box office, etc. But, unlike most theaters, this was built over the house, and the original building was needed—there would never be a fire there. This description may seem, at present unnecessary, but you will soon need it if you follow the story.

May went to the show as if given a seat there. The house was filled rapidly. Ladies, children and young people formed the audience. The three rich girls occupied a box at right side of the house. The Pratt girl had her brother with her, the Smith girl had her brother with her in the box. It was the first time she had been treated with him for a whole evening without her mother's presence. "We three girls can manage him all right. Why, he's no trouble at all," she had said when

she asked her mother to let her take him to the show.

"Suppose there should be a fire," said Mrs. Pratt with a premonition danger. "Why, there can't be a fire," said Carrie, by way of exhortation. "There never has been one, and there never will be one in the opera house," she continued.

"Do as you wish, then, my daughter," said Mrs. Pratt, but be careful of little Robert." So Robert attended the exhibition.

At 8 o'clock the first picture appeared on the screen and many others followed. At 10:15 the box office man and manager of the opera house left the theater proper, knowing there was but one more picture to be presented. So of the opera house people, only the man behind the lantern remained, and he was unused to the opera house.

He said the last picture would be "Fire on board ship." As he spoke, a film of the belt caught from the light, instantly setting fire to the entire belt. In a moment, before the spectators had time to react, a huge tongue of flame leaped from the top of the instrument, setting fire to the cur curtain over the entrance at the side.

Instantly all was on fire and little streams of flame were licking at the woodwork.

"Fire!" screamed the Pratt girl, and fell back in a dead faint. Some one opened a window and shouted "Fire!" outside.

The wind rushed in and spread the flames.

In a moment all was confusion, but it was seen to be impossible to leave the entrance, which was in the center of the fire.

The cry of "Fire!" had sent the two men hurrying within, but they were stopped by the smoke and flames. The manager rushed out to bring the fire department of the little town. The ticket seller rushed around to enter by the rear door and returned with a face as white as marble.

"Fire!" he gasped, taking hold of the manager's shoulder, to steady himself, "the department can't save them. They are doomed."

"Why, what's the matter now, friend," you don't understand it," cried the ticket seller in a broken voice. "Fact is, the rear door is bolted on the inside and I—bolted it on the inside myself the first part of the evening!"

The manager almost fell, overcome by the intelligence. "Why don't the hook and ladder come," he cried, to the fire department. "I told 'em to come all right."

"The wagon's broken down," exclaimed one of a crowd of persons now arriving.

"Something must be done immediately," cried the ticket agent, "or all will perish."

The town fire bell was now ringing wildly and crowds of frightened and agonized parents were arriving, only to learn that their loved ones were in the hands of the fire. They were all but no one had the same idea as the others.

The passing of the precious time, the smell of burning wood and the muffled crackling of the flames was becoming oppressive. Frenzied men pushed forward and a force of firemen now arrived. They had brought some apparatus from the injured truck. Work against the flames now began in earnest; the men were cheered as they commenced entering the vestibule. But after a short interval of heroic work the firemen were driven out.

"Can't get in that way," said the chief. "We didn't get here soon enough. I'm afraid we can't save 'em. Matey, tell three others to go back and bring the extension ladders just as quick as you can."

It was a terrible business, the truck's breaking down at a time like this.

The manager's hat was off and sweat, not merely of nervousness, but of terrible anxiety, poured down his face.

"What, aren't the ladders here?" he cried.

"No," said the chief. "We didn't know how serious it was."

"Then they are doomed," exclaimed the manager. "Those people will suffer from the smoke before the ladders get here."

Meanwhile an even greater terror swept over the imprisoned audience. From the moment of the cry of "Fire!" pandemonium had reigned within the opera house, and as the fire spread the frenzy was terrible to behold. Women fainted, children screamed, and to cap the climax, the few men present had the wildest ideas of the way to escape.

When it was found that they could not get out, they asked the manager what to do. He could not help matters, however, as he knew nothing of the theater's mode of escape. By this time some seemed dazed, others seemed almost crazy with fright and fear, which increased as the seconds passed.

May, of all the audience, was cool and collected. She did not at first move until the smoke nearly drove her from her seat. A plan formed rapidly in her brain.

As she saw the fire increasing she said that something must soon be done or they would perish. Although but a short time since the fire started, the rear woodwork of the room was almost covered by the tongues of crackling flames.

The three rich girls had fainted away, and unnoticed because of the screaming and groaning, little Robert, attracted by the flames, had escaped from the box and was toddling straight toward the crackling fire.

Pushing from her seat, May pushed her way through the crowd, seized Robert and raised him into her arms.

The attention of the crowd was occupied by a man in the other end. "Let's prepare ourselves for the worst," he cried. "We cannot escape."

May usually thought before she acted. She had now no time. A moment, and the dense smoke would suffocate them. The man's cry emboldened her, and the audience turned as if run by a clock-work. "I am a young girl, but I am sure of what I say. Be cool and keep up your courage and follow me!"

She was the only one not thoroughly frightened.

"It is no use waiting longer for them to rescue us," she cried. "Just make way for me, please."

Magnetized by her cool movements, the crowd made way for her. May, bearing Robert, rushed down the aisle, mounted a chair, then the top of the piano, and from there sprang to the stage. She then fastened the cords holding one side of the lower part of the screen and passed through.

The crowd, picking up those that had fainted, pushed their way along and followed her. They were wild to be safe once more. She led the way through the wings, down some dark steps, and then groped along until she found the wall until she had found the door. Finding

DEWEY PREDICTS WAR

SAYS OUR NEXT CONFLICT WILL BE WITH GERMANY.

Declares Himself in Favor of a Larger Navy to Cope with Any Power.

Trieste, (Special.)—I had a conversation with Admiral Dewey on board the Olympia yesterday. In reply to my remarks that Germany had intended to interfere at Manila, he said:

"Yes, Prince Henry of Prussia is a man of the type of his brother, the German emperor."

"And Admiral von Diederichs?" I asked.

"He was relieved from his Manila post on the 15th of August, and his arrangement of long standing and because his time was up, not as a concession made in friendliness to the American government. Germany's policy is to prevent other powers from obtaining what she cannot acquire herself."

After we had spoken of Samoa as evidence of her policy, the admiral said:

"We need a large and thoroughly equipped navy that can cope with any other power. England is naturally ally, and differences such as these about the Venezuelan border and the fisheries do not interfere with a friendly understanding existing between the two nations. Our next war will be with Germany."

Admiral Dewey remained on board the Olympia today and received Mr. Hoelsfeld, the United States consul, and a number of other callers.

The commander of the Trieste garrison offered the band of the Eighty-seventh regiment, and sent an armed escort to the funeral of Isaac Raak, the seaman of the Olympia, who was buried this morning with military honors. The offer of the band was declined, as it was thought that Raak would have preferred to have the music furnished by his own comrades, although the compliment paid by the commander of the garrison was highly appreciated and the offer would otherwise have been accepted.

Fully 5,000 persons witnessed the ceremony. The burial service was performed by Pastor Edicus of the Lutheran church, to which denomination Raak belonged.

Admiral Dewey sent a wreath of flowers to the high, and the colors were at half mast on the Olympia.

When the Olympia leaves here on Tuesday she will sail in the evening. The first port touched at will be Naples, where Admiral Dewey will be received by the mayor.

The Olympia may call at Leghorn, and then proceed to Gibraltar, remaining there several days. She will then sail for Madeira, where she will make another stop, and then proceed to New York.

BANDIT ACCUSES ACOSTA.

Says the Cuban Officer Was Chieftain in Safe Robbery Plot.

Havana.—Chief of Police Galia of Guanajuato has captured Enrique Rivera, the ringleader of the banditti engaged in the recent safe robbery at Marfil. Rivera was taken in a ruined building near Guanajuato.

In telling his story the bandit chief says he was asked by Major Jose Acosta of the Cuban army to help raid Marfil, and was told that there was no danger in the enterprise. Acosta, according to Rivera's tale, took him to the Cuban barracks where the plot was arranged with Sergeant Formin of Acosta's regiment and five or six others. Arms were supplied the men and the telegraph wire was cut by order of Acosta.

The band arrived at Marfil at 8 p. m., and all hands assisted in carrying the safe some distance away, where it was opened with an ax, each man helping himself to some of the money it contained.

On the return the party arrived at the Cuban quarters at Guanajuato at 1 o'clock in the morning. Rivera says he delivered a portion of the money he had received to Acosta and some to Major Buines, and believed others of the party gave money to Buines. When the first man concerned in the raid was arrested Acosta ordered all the members of the band to get as far away from Guanajuato as possible. Rivera says Acosta stole many mules and horses and also had a plan to rob the hotel at Guanajuato.

SAN DOMINGO NEXT.

AMERICAN WAR VESSELS SENT TO GUARD OUR INTERESTS.

May Finally Result in Annexation of the Republic—Germany May Take a Hand in the Squabble.

Washington, D. C.—(Special.)—American men-of-war will be on hand to look out for American interests in the event of a revolution and any undue foreign interference following the assassination of President Heurieux of the Dominican republic.

As a result of the conference between Secretary Hay and Secretary Long telegraphic orders were sent for the cruiser New Orleans to sail at once from Newport and the gunboat Machias to sail as soon as repairs are completed from St. Thomas for San Domingo. The New Orleans is expected to reach San Domingo about Tuesday of next week. The Machias is having repairs made, which will require about eight days to complete. She is not expected to get the start of threatened trouble about August 5 or 6.

No specific instructions have been given either of the naval commanders. Telegraphic instructions sent them simply directed the protection of American interests. The New Orleans is commanded by Captain Edward Longnecker, a capable and efficient officer, in whom the department has the greatest confidence. The commanding officer of the Machias is Commander Leavitt C. Logan.

Officially the authorities say that the vessels are being sent to the Dominican government solely as a precautionary measure; that the press dispatches indicate political intrigues which may result in a revolution, and that American interests in the little republic are paramount to those of any other country, it is a part of prudence to have ample force at hand to see that full protection is given to those interests.

As to the possibility of annexation as an immediate outcome of the assassination of Secretary Hay and Secretary Long think that it is going too fast to expect such a result, and rather discourage this kind of talk. They are not sure, however, that the United States may be forced to serious responsibilities in connection with the future government of San Domingo.

While no definite information has been received here regarding the plot which resulted in the assassination of President Heurieux, it is believed to be probable that it was planned and executed by partisans of Jimenez, the revolutionary leader. It is known that Heurieux had lived in fear of assassination for many months. He had frankly announced that he proposed to continue in the presidency as long as he lived.

German interests in the republic are considerable, and President Heurieux was strongly backed by them. The future of the republic may depend largely upon the course taken by the foreign element in this crisis. The course of the German government in the present crisis will be watched with considerable interest by the American government.

The finance of San Domingo are in a sad way, and merchants doing business here have little hope of any material improvement, unless this government in some way takes control of matters.

BALFOUR'S FIRM ATTITUDE.

Transvaal Must Come to Time or England Will Force Issue.

London.—(Special.)—The aspect of the South African crisis has been little changed by the latest news, but the question seems to have arrived at a deadlock. The blue book issued today, which brings the history of the crisis down to July 23, is chiefly interesting as showing that the Cape ministry approved President Kruger's latest proposals as adequate and that the Transvaal refused friendly consultation with the British government before passing the franchise bill. It is understood that negotiations have ceased since this period, between Great Britain and the Transvaal.

The firm speech of Mr. Balfour, at a conservative luncheon yesterday afternoon which was the subject much discussed in the lobbies of the house of commons last night, had a double purpose—to impress President Kruger with the necessities for further concessions, and to silence the rumors of a lack of solidarity in the British cabinet on this question.

The South African debate comes on in the house of commons today, and Mr. Balfour's strong lines supporting Mr. Chamberlain, is meant to discourage any indirect speeches that may proceed from the liberal side of the house, founded on Lord Salisbury's reticence, which has been interpreted as a disapproval of Mr. Chamberlain's policy.

MAY GET AFTER FLOUR TRUST.

Minnesota Officials to Test Effect of Anti-Trust Law.

St. Paul, Minn.—(Special.)—The state of Minnesota may undertake to enforce the anti-trust law that recent week into effect. A conference with that end in view was held in Attorney General Douglas' office. There were present Congressman Towney, who drew up the original bill; Representative Dwinell, who worked for the passage of the measure in the house; and is included in the case as an attorney. W. S. Edgar of the Northwestern Miller who has the information regarding the organization of the milling trust in Minneapolis, and Attorney General Douglas, upon whom will devolve the duty of beginning the prosecution. The object of the conference was to prepare the way for bringing action against the milling trust, and it is expected that this will be done within a few days. No final decision was reached, much being left to the consideration of the anti-trust law, the provisions of which, according to some of those present, had no bearing on the case under discussion.

GOMEZ ON HIS DIGNITY.

Says all Newspapers Lie and Denies Interviews.

Havana.—(Special.)—General Gomez has declared that a majority of the alleged interviews with him, published in the local papers, were entirely without foundation, and that he has decided to write, himself, anything he may hereafter have to say to the press.

"I believe all papers lie," said Gomez, "and that those of one country are in this respect no better than those of another. In future I will give over my own signature, or through the Associated Press alone, anything intended for publication."

General Gomez refused to discuss the presidency of the dominican republic, claiming to know nothing regarding the matter.

When questioned concerning the rumors circulating in the cafes as to his aspirations regarding a Dominican republic, Gomez' actions proved his contempt for the stories, yet in the clubs and cafes he is seriously accused of conspiring to bring both Hayti and Cuba under the dominion of the United States. In alluding to the charges, Gomez made use of a contemptuous term, which is used among Cubans to signify towards, and said that he did not believe many men belonging to the army would have anything to do with such people, who, he said, do not represent Cuba, yet cause much misrepresentation. He also classed a number of papers in the same category.

General Gomez' wife and family left Santo Domingo on board the Maria Herrera and are expected to arrive in Havana on Monday next.

With regard to the rumor that Gomez will be the next president of the republic of Santo Domingo, it is stated here that the most popular candidate is General Juan Jimenez, who took part in the attempted insurrection of June, 1894, and who is now in Havana. It is possible, however, so it is reported, that a revolution takes place, Senator Jimenez' opponents may offer Gomez the leadership.

El Diario de la Marina and La Lucha express the opinion that, considering the present expansion policy, the United States may intervene in Santo Domingo.

SYMPATHY FOR DE NEGRIER.

London.—The Daily Chronicle's Paris correspondent says: Though no movement has followed General de Negrier's resignation, I am bound to say that though he has not received the open approbation of the other generals, General de Negrier is overwhelmed with expressions of sympathy from all parts of France. He was evidently one of the proactively "taxi" of the country, and he made no secret of his disappointment when M. Deroulede's attempt failed.

"It was General de Negrier who demoralized President Faure by predicting that the Dr. was revision would lead to the collective resignation of scores of generals and officers. His popularity in the army is undoubted."

STEPS FOR OIL EXCHANGE.

San Francisco, Cal.—The recent development of the petroleum fields in Fresno county has so interested the capitalists of the coast that steps are being taken for the organization of an oil exchange in this city. Within the past thirty days some twenty odd corporations have been organized in this city for the handling of oil and the buying and selling of oil properties.

Horse Clipping.

In the old days, with comb and shears, it took a man eight hours to clip a horse, and he had to be an expert to do it in that time. With the introduction of the hand clipper, such as is used for clipping men's hair, into this use, the time required for clipping a horse was reduced to half a day. Later these clippers came to be operated with hand power, by use of a crank, and then the time required for clipping a horse was still further reduced.

In one of these hand-power clippers the clipper is attached to the end of a flexible shaft, which is made up of short links of steel wire linked together like a chain. To keep this flexible shaft from kinking and twisting when it is turned it is incased and carried in a flexible tubing. The shaft is made to turn by attaching one end of it to the axle of a wheel, which is turned by means of a belt from it to another wheel which is turned by a crank. These wheels are supported, the larger one, to which the crank is attached, on a standard resting on the floor; the smaller one, to which the flexible shaft is attached, at the end of an arm supported by the standard. Turning the wheel turns the flexible shaft within its flexible tubing. The shaft is attached to the clipper with an eccentric. When the shaft turns the eccentric works the clipper just as an ordinary clipper with handles would be worked by hand, only many times faster. The operator simply holds the clipper and guides it over the surface to be clipped. Nowadays this sort of clipper is operated also by machine power, a gas engine being used for this purpose, and with power clippers horses are clipped in less time still.

In a horse-clipping establishment where machine power is used the gas engine is belted to a shafting machine fast to the ceiling, from which the power is transmitted by belts to two pulleys, one on either side of the room, attached to the ceiling by hangers in the usual manner. Hanging from each of these pulleys is a long flexible shaft with its flexible casing, with a clipper attached to the end. The flexible shafts are turned by a crank, one on each side of the room, which are supported, the larger one, to which the crank is attached, on a standard resting on the floor; the smaller one, to which the flexible shaft is attached, at the end of an arm supported by the standard. Turning the wheel turns the flexible shaft within its flexible tubing. The shaft is attached to the clipper with an eccentric. When the shaft turns the eccentric works the clipper just as an ordinary clipper with handles would be worked by hand, only many times faster. The operator simply holds the clipper and guides it over the surface to be clipped. Nowadays this sort of clipper is operated also by machine power, a gas engine being used for this purpose, and with power clippers horses are clipped in less time still.

Ten Thousand on a Strike.

Chicago, Ill.—(Special.)—Ten thousand men were thrown out of employment and work was stopped on 200 buildings in the city of Chicago, during the second day of the strike of the union brickmakers of Cook county. The tie-ups came first on the smaller jobs, on which the contractors had made precaution to increase the supply of bricks in anticipation of the strike. The bricklayers and hod carriers were forced to quit for the want of material, and following them the carpenters were compelled to lay down their tools.

An effort will be made for an amicable adjustment of the difficulties between the brick men and the north side manufacturers at a meeting which has been called. All the interests will be represented that are interested. Unless a conference with that end in view was held in Attorney General Douglas' office. There were present Congressman Towney, who drew up the original bill; Representative Dwinell, who worked for the passage of the measure in the house; and is included in the case as an attorney. W. S. Edgar of the Northwestern Miller who has the information regarding the organization of the milling trust in Minneapolis, and Attorney General Douglas, upon whom will devolve the duty of beginning the prosecution. The object of the conference was to prepare the way for bringing action against the milling trust, and it is expected that this will be done within a few days. No final decision was reached, much being left to the consideration of the anti-trust law, the provisions of which, according to some of those present, had no bearing on the case under discussion.

Bad Man with Bills.

Washington, D. C.—(Special.)—Chief Wilkie of the secret service has received a telegram announcing the arrest of James L. Scott of the Laird, Ky. It appears that last April, Scott, under an assumed name, advertised in one of the Cincinnati papers for a companion. The advertisement was answered by a Cincinnati man, who then received an inquiry as to whether he was an employer. The latter subsequently was turned over to the secret officers, who continued to correspond. It developed that Scott wanted a man to engrave \$1 and \$2 silver certificates, and after he had fully committed himself he was arrested and held under bond by the United States commissioner. He will be tried for using the mails for purposes of fraud.

Must Give Back the Coin.

Washington, D. C.—(Special.)—United States Minister Merry was today instructed to represent to the government of Nicaragua that, in the opinion of the state department, the \$5,000 loan granted by General Terry from the American merchants in Bluefields be delivered to them. The merchants were required to pay this amount of money on goods that had previously assessed by the revolutionary party, while the latter was in control at Bluefields. Our government objected to this double collection and the money was placed in escrow with the British consul at Bluefields, awaiting the decision of the legality of the last collection.

Will Be a Hot Reception.

New York.—The committee on plan and scope of the Dewey reception committee held a meeting today. It was decided to have a display of fireworks in all five boroughs at points to be designated, with an electrical display for three nights at the New York and Brooklyn city halls.

A report having gone out that newspaper men from other cities would be treated as guests of the city, the committee made a report to the effect that while newspaper men would be treated with every courtesy, that would not mean the city would assume their hotel bills or other personal expenses.

Replies from fourteen governors accepting the invitation to take part in the parade were received.

He Paid \$4,000 For a Kiss.

A well known and beautiful English actress, having heard of the exploit of an American sister of the stage in offering a kiss at auction, and being asked to assist at a charity bazaar, announced that a caress from her own rosy lips would be given to the male willing to pay most for it. The bidding was brisk and had advanced to \$150, when the sum of \$4,000 was offered. This put all other amorous competitors out of the race, and the blushing actress turned to the purchaser, the colonel of one of the British line regiments, who came forward, but instead of slipping the sweetest himself, presented his little five-year-old grandson, explaining that he had purchased the kiss as a birthday present for him. The actress took the child in her arms and discharged the debt with interest, and the charity, in which the colonel was interested, was the "Kiss for the Granddad" whim. It is said, though, that the last colonel did not go kissless after all.

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STRIKERS ARE DETERMINED.

New York.—The striking freight handlers on the Pennsylvania and Lehigh Valley railroads held a meeting today. The strikers to the number of about 200 decided to follow the lines of the strike as already adopted, and said they would keep up the strike for six months, if it became necessary. They declared it would be necessary to have further aid the freight handlers on the Baltimore & Ohio would also be called out.