

MR. ROYDON'S BRIDE

By Nancy Cavanaugh.

I CAN'T REALIZE it! And, what's more, I don't think I ever shall. If I were to see the ring on the third finger of my left hand, I should certainly think I had been asleep and dreaming. How did it all happen? That's an easy question to ask, but a hard one to answer. People always used to say, from my girlhood up, that Penny Lilhaven was born to be an old maid. I wasn't a pretty child. My eyes were too big, and my hair grew too low on my forehead, and there was a shallow look about my skin. And then I had a way of always putting things away and tiding up rooms after other people, and my trunks and bureau drawers were neat as wax, and I couldn't bear to see anything in the way of carelessness or disorder; so the people would look at me and laugh, and say: "Oh, she'll be an old maid, as sure as fate."



country, and came back to enjoy it among his friends. Ah! to think that there were so few left! Of course we had a great deal to say to one another, and a thousand and one questions to ask; and, as I don't claim to have anything of the saint in my composition, I don't deny that it did make me feel just a little hard when I saw him sit down by Edith Lonsdale and talk to her, and look into her honest blue eyes, before I had half told him what had happened in the village during the dreary years of his absence. But the feeling didn't last long. "It's natural enough, I'm sure," I reasoned with myself, "and only what I ought to expect. She is as pretty as a picture, and now, if Roy will fall in love with her, I can be just as happy in her happiness as if it had come to me—the blessing of a good man's love."

DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

VOICES OF OUR PRESS ON ISSUES OF THE DAY. How Would Our Farmers Like a Dose of the Hopkins Bill—Again What Has Congress Done—Free Commerce with All Nations. Representative Hopkins informs the public that his reciprocity bill is much "higher up and wider out" than was the third section of the McKinley bill. It is "comprehensive enough to cover all phases of our commercial relations with other countries." It specifies five different conditions under which the president is authorized to make commercial treaties, as follows: First, where the exports of such countries or colonies are in excess of their imports from the United States. Second, where their chief articles of export are admitted free into the United States. Third, where their exports are admitted into the United States at an average rate of duty lower than the average rate of duty imposed upon the productions of the United States by their customs tariff. Fourth, where they impose higher rates of duty on the products of the United States than are imposed on the same or similar products of other nations. Fifth, where they impose restrictions and regulations to govern the importations of merchandise of the United States that in the estimation of the president may be unjust, excessive and obstructive to commerce.

was best fitted to produce, each being perfectly free to exchange its surplus for the surplus of others to supply its wants. He was far in advance of his contemporaries even when he intimated that it might not be safe for one country to allow itself this commercial liberty so long as others did not do the same. With his clear vision he saw that complete commercial liberty was the ideal condition. It is not surprising that he did not at once rid himself so entirely of the influences of his intellectual environment as to see that what would be good for all it would pursue the same policy would also be good for each acting for itself. But when once his mind had grasped the great truth that universal commercial liberty would be conducive to the welfare of all men he was on the high road to the great, comprehensive conclusion which he condensed into one line: "I am for free commerce with all nations." Many a man who calls himself a Jeffersonian democrat today has a long road to travel before reaching that grand conclusion toward which enlightened mankind is steadily and surely moving.—Chicago Chronicle.

AT THE AMATEUR REHEARSAL. The Star Rode a Wheel in a Pink Silk Gown. "I think you were to enter on the right instead of the left," said the manager, according to the San Francisco Examiner. "Yes, that would be a great deal better." "But the left side of my hair is much prettier than the right," said the star, decidedly. "I can always do it better. The left has got to be toward the audience." "But you will have to face Sir Thomas anyway, and he is over here by the side-board," the manager explained. "Well, we'll turn the stage around," said the star, cheerfully. "I'm afraid that will confuse the others," said the manager, apologetically. "You see, there are only a few more rehearsals, and they have all practiced this way." "They can easily get accustomed to it," said the star. "In an amateur play looks do make such a difference. I've been in loads of them. Of course you are used to professionals, and that is quite different. I suppose they have to be fussy about exits and cues and things like that." "Yes, we consider them quite essential," murmured the manager. "With amateurs it's all clothes and looks," went on the star. "Now, tell me, would you wear pink Dresden silk or white moire in the second scene? I can't make up my mind." "But, considering it is a garden scene and you come in on a wheel—" "I won't wear a bicycle rig," broke in the star. "They don't suit my style at all. I'll do anything but that." "I suppose the bicycle might be left out altogether," said the manager, with a perplexed frown. The star turned on him indignantly. "Leave it out after I've broken half the furniture in the drawing room and ruined the carpet and torn three dresses learning that entrance!" she exclaimed. "Indeed, I won't. The audience can suppose I've been receiving at a tea and come home on my wheel—or anything else it chooses. I don't care." The manager gave up the point and reflected it was a good thing that stars were usually dependent on salaries. "I wish before the next rehearsal you could manage to learn a little more of your part," he said, deferentially. "Then we can tell better how it will go." "Oh, I'll know it all right when the time comes," said the star. "I never can make up my mind to learn it till the last minute. Why, last time I acted I left out two of my most important speeches at the dress rehearsal and mixed the others all up and the manager had perfect fits, but in the play the next night I didn't have to be prompted once. That's just the way I am. I can't help it."

Forge For Swigs. Next to alfalfa, sorghum is probably the best green forage plant for hogs. Wherever alfalfa grows, it is advised to plant alfalfa along with sorghum for hog pasture. A good authority as C. C. Georgeron of the Kansas station advises having a few acres in alfalfa for hog pasture the greater part of the summer, and in addition grow a piece of cane, cultivating it as when growing for sugar, and feed this in the fall to fattening hogs. Cripple. The iron grasp of scrofula has no mercy upon its victims. This demon of the blood is often not satisfied with causing dreadful sores, but racks the body with the pains of rheumatism until Hood's Sarsaparilla cures. "Nearly four years ago I became afflicted with scrofula and rheumatism. Made Well. Running sores broke out on my thighs. Pieces of bone came out and an operation was contemplated. I had rheumatism in my legs, drawn up out of shape. I lost appetite, could not sleep. I was a perfect wreck. I continued to grow worse and finally gave up the doctor's treatment to Hood's Sarsaparilla. Soon appetite came back; the sores commenced to heal. My limbs straightened out and I threw away my crutches. I am now stout and hearty and am farming, whereas four years ago I was a cripple. I gladly recommend Hood's Sarsaparilla." URBAN HAMMOND, Table Grove, Illinois. Hood's Sarsaparilla. Is the One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. \$1. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass. Hood's Pills. cure liver ills, easy to take, easy to operate. 25c.



It used to mortify me dreadfully. I was an old maid in good earnest when Roy came back. They say no woman passes the age of twenty-five without receiving at least one offer of marriage, but I believe I was an exception to that rule—I never had an offer. All the girls who had grown up at my side married, and became blooming wives and happy mothers; but Pen Lilhaven remained unsought and unwooed.

Edith, indeed! A mere child—a schoolgirl, whose whole heart, moreover, is wrapped up in Harry Burnham! Why, Pen, where have your eyes been? Where, indeed? Could I have been blind all this time—so resolutely, incorrigibly blind? "Do you love me, Pen? Don't look the other way; I will be answered!" I did love him; I had loved him long and tenderly, and I told him so, not without some blushings and misgivings, however. "Oh, Pen," he whispered, holding me close to his heart, "if you knew the years and years I had been looking forward to this time!"

The point specially deserving of attention is that Europe could serve us precisely as Mr. Hopkins proposes that we shall serve our neighbors to the south of us. England takes half of all our exports and admits them all free, with the exception of tobacco, which is taxed solely for revenue, as England produces no tobacco. On the other hand, we impose our highest duties on such articles as the people of Great Britain manufacture. Here are precisely the conditions, which, according to Mr. Hopkins, would warrant Great Britain in saying to us: "We take your products free of duty. Now we demand that you cut down your duties on our goods from one-half to three-fourths or we will clap high discriminating duties on your wheat, your flour, your cotton, your beef, your pork and the various other things you are selling us in great quantities." Great Britain can do that to us as well as we can do it to Brazil, and with as much assurance of success in bringing us to terms with the "reciprocity" club.

Why is the congress of the United States in session? It met early in December last. More than four months have gone by. Can it point to a single useful accomplishment? It is republican in both branches. The house, overwhelmingly republican, has made Mr. Reed, a leader of the republican party, speaker. Republicans have organized the committees of the senate. The party is in legislative power as a protest against hard times, and hard times, of course, have been charged up to the account of the administration. The party successful in 1894 encouraged dissatisfaction for which it was responsible and announced its ability to cure all evils from which the country is suffering. Give to the country a republican congress and watch the instant preparation of panaceas for public ills!

I want to help you grow as beautiful as God meant you to be when he thought of you first.—George MacDonal. Blessed is the hand that prepares a pleasure for a child, for there is no saying when and where it may bloom forth.—Jerrold. A life of real virtue, of nobleness, of true greatness, is not an accident. It comes, if it comes at all, from lofty aspirations, from incorruptible motives, long cherished and held sacred as life itself.—John Learned. Not only to the God that is above us, but to the God that is in us, let us direct our prayer; and to that God let our importunity be such that, like the man of the parable crying for bread at midnight, it cannot, will not, be denied.—John Chadwick. Much of life is only fragments—unfinished thoughts, broken sentences, interrupted efforts, pictures left uncompleted, sculptures only half hewn, letters only partly written, songs only begun and choked in tears. But not one of these fragments is lost if it has love's blessed life in it.—J. R. Miller. In our keen look at the strong outward practicalities of life, do not let us forget its inmost secret of power; that all noble thoughts, all noble possibilities of life, spring out of this Love, or touch their finest meaning in it; that there is no factor like it in the makeup of the world.—Brooke Herford. To be religious is not to be a seer of visions and a dreamer of dreams. It is not to be a dweller on the Mount of Transfiguration. It is not to be rapt in sweet and serene meditation. It is to be yourself, and being yourself, to take the nature which God has given you and use it in his service by using it for your fellow men.—Lyman Abbot.

WHAT IS ALABASTINE? A pure, permanent and artistic wall coating ready for the brush by mixing in cold water. FOR SALE BY PAINT DEALERS EVERYWHERE. FREE! A Tin Card showing 12 desirable tints. Also Alabastine Souvenir Rock sent free to any one mentioning this paper. ALABASTINE CO., Grand Rapids, Mich. CUT AND SLASH! SMOKING TOBACCO, 2 oz. for 5 Cents. CUT AND SLASH! CHEROOTS—3 for 5 Cents. Give a Good, Mellow, Healthy, Pleasant Smoke. Try Them. LYON & CO. TOBACCO WORKS, Durham, N. C. GASOLINE ENGINES, IRON AND WOOD. STEAM PUMPS. FAIRBANKS, MORSE & CO., 1102 Farnam St. Omaha, Neb. CRIPPLE CREEK. LINDSEY + OMAHA + RUBBERS! PISO'S CURE FOR GOUT, GRAVEL, RHEUMATISM, NEURALGIA, MIGRAINE, SCIATICA, BRUISES, WOUNDS, AND ALL PAINFUL AFFECTIONS. W. N. U., OMAHA—20—1898. When writing to advertisers, kindly mention this paper.