CHAPTER XVIII.

The Way of a Maid.

the desert. To-day it was an oasis and a battle ground. Franklin watched Mary Eilen as she passed quietly about the long, low room, engaged in household duties which she performed deftly as any servant. He compared these rude necessities with the associations amid which he knew this girl had been nurtured, and the thought gave him nothing but dissatisfaction and rebellion. Presently he rose, and excusing himself, went out to join Buford at the corral.

"Come," said the latter, "and I'll show you around over our improvements while we are waitin' for a bite to eat. If ever this land comes to be worth anything at all, we ought to grow into something worth while."

Yes," said Franklin, "It will make you rich," and as they walked about he pointed out with Western enthusiasm the marks of the country.

The "bite to eat" was in time duly announced by a loud, sonorous note that arose swelling upon the air. Aunt Lucy appeared at the kitchen door, her fat cheeks distended, blowing a conch as though this were Tidewater over again.

The long table was spread in the large room of general assembly, this room being, as has been mentioned. excavated from the earth, so that, as they sat at table, their heads were perhaps nearly level with the surface of the ground. The short side walls, topped with a heavy earthen roof, made of this sort of abode a domicile rude and clumsy enough, but one not lacking in a certain comfort. In the winter it was naturally warm, and in the summer it was cool, the air, caught at either end by the gable of the room, passing through and affording freshness to the somewhat cellarlike interior. Cut off from the main room were three smaller rooms, including the kitchen, from which Aunt i.ucy passed back and forth with mas-

Be somethers with water and the southers with the southers of the again with a deep layer of earth Franklin, standing upon a chair, put his shoulders under the sagging beams The Halfway House was an oasis in and lifted them and their load of disarranged earth up to the proper level on the top of the wall, while Buford built under them with sods. It was no small weight that he upheld. As he stood he caught an upturned telltale glance, a look of sheer feminine admiration for strength, but of this he could not be sure, for it passed fleetly as it came. He saw only the look of unconcern and heard only the conventional word of thanks.

As Mary Ellen stepped into the buggy for the return home her face had lost its pink. One of the mysterious revulsions of femininity had set in. Suddenly, it seemed to her. she had caught herself upon the brink of disaster. This tall and manly man, she must not yield to this impulse to listen to him! She must not succumb to this wild temptation to put her head upon a broad shoulder and to let it lie there while she wept and rested. To her the temptation meant p personal shame. She resisted it with all her strength. The struggle left her pale and very calm. At last the way of duty was clear. This day should settle it once for all. There must be no renewal of this man's suit. He must go.

It was Mary Ellen's wish to be driven quickly to the house, but she reckened without the man. With a sudden crunching of the wheels the buggy turned and spun swiftly on. headed directly away from home. "I'll just take you a turn around the hill," said Franklin, "and then we'll go in." "It isn't the way home," said Mary

"I can't help it," said Franklin. You are my prisoner. I am going to

take you-to the end of the world." "It's very noble of you to take me this way!" said the girl with scorn. What will my people think?"

"Let them think!" exclaimed Franklin desperately. "It's my only chance. ! can't do without you! It's right for us both. You deserve a better life

bout toward the house, which was indeed becoming indistinct in the falling twilight. As the vehicle turned about, the crunching of the wheels started a great gray prairie owl, which rose almost beneath the horses' neses. and flapped slowly off. The apparition set the wild black horse into a sudden simulation of terror, as though he had never before seen an owl upon the prairies. Rearing and plunging. he tore loose the hook of one of the singletrees, and in a flash stood half free, at right angles now to the vebicle instead of at its front, and struggling to break loose from the neckyoke. In a flash Franklin saw that he was confronted with an ugly accident. He chose the only possible course, but handled the situation in the best possible way. With a sharp cut of the whip he drove the attached horse down upon the one that was half free, and started the two off at a wild race down the steep coulee, into what seemed sheer blackness and immediate disaster. In some way, stumbling and bounding and turching. both horses and vehicle kept upright all the way down the steep descent, a thing which to Franklin later seemed fairly miraculous. At the very foot of the pitch the black horse fell, the buggy running full over him as he lay lashing out. From this confusion, in some way never quite plain to himself, Franklin caught the girl out in his arms, and the next moment was at the head of the struggling horses. And so good had been his training at such matters that it was not without method that he proceeded to quiet the team and to set again in partial order the wreck that had been created in the gear. In time he had the team again in harness, and at the bottom of the coulee, where the ground sloped easily down into the open valley, whence they might emerge at the lower level of the prairie round about. He led the team for a distance down this floor of the coulce, until he could see the better going in the improving light which greeted them as they came out from the gullylike defile. He did not like to admit to his companion how great had been the actual danger just incurred, though fortunately escaped. Franklin was humiliated and ashamed.

Franklin wheeled the team sharply

as a man always is over an accident "Oh, it's no good saying I'm sorry," he broke out at last. "It was my fault, letting you ride behind that brute. Thank God, you're not hurt! I'm always doing some unfortunate, ignoble thing."

"It wasn't ignoble," said the girl, and again he felt her hand upon his arm. "It was grand. You went straight, and you brought us through, I'm not hurt. I was frightened, but I am not hurt."

"You've pluck," said Franklin, Then, scorning to urge anything further of his sult at this time of her disadvanage, though feeling a strange new sense of nearness to her, now that they had seen this distress in common, he drove home rapidly as he might through the gathering dusk, anxious now only for her comfort. At the house he lifted her from the buggy, and as he did so kissed her cheek. "Dear little woman," he whisered, "good bye." Again he doubted whether he had heard or not the soft whisper of a faint "Good-bye!"

"But you must come in," she said. "No, I must go. Make my excuses," he said. "Good-bye!" The horses sprang sharply forward. He was

In her own little room Mary Ellen sat, her face where it might have been seen in profile had there been a light or had the distant driver looked round to see. Mary Ellen listened-listened until she could hear hoof and wheel no more. Then she cast herself upon the bed, face downward, and lay motionless and silent. Upon the little dresser lay a faded photograph, fallen torward also upon its face, lying unnoticed and apparently forgot.

(To be continued.)

WAY TO ACQUIRE ELOQUENCE

Former Governor Black Did It Trying to Sell Sewing Machines.

Ex-Governor Frank S. Black became governor of New York through his eloquence. When he took the gavel as temporary chalrman of the republican state convention of 1896 his name had not even been suggested for the nomination. After his opening speech, nowever, the whisper went around among the delegates, 'What's the matter with Black for governor?" The following day the regular candidates were dropped and Mr. Black was nominated. After the convention Mr. Black told some friends how he acquired his elo-

When I was a young man," he said. ! went down from Troy to New England to make my fortune. I soon found that fortune was not running after me, and, when my funds ran low, I took the only job in sight that of agent for a sewing machine. I traveled through the country districts selling machines, and in that way built up whatever eloquence I nossess. You have no idea how hard it was to sell a machine in the back woods in those days. Some of the farmers thought they were inventions of the davil, while others regarded them as swindling devices. Holding a convention spellbound is a einch compares to the difficulty I had in convincing a farmer that a sewing machine was a good thing."-Success,

Distilled Spirits.

at Chicago.

NEBRASKA STATE NEWS

NEBRASKA'S GAMBLING LAWS.

Defects That May Render Them Unconstitutional.

LINCOLN-Defects in Nebraska's before the supreme court. gambling laws may render them cube a paradise for gamesters.

An examination of the records at the office of the secretary of state has revealed the fact that an amendment to the title of the act of 1887 was not copied in the journal of the proceedings, probably readering the amendments void. There are no gamblers in one be sent there habeas corpus procoodings would at once be started.

The law amended is sections 214 and 215 of the code of criminal procedure, trouble this winter locating the thieves relating to gambling and the keeping that have been robbing their cars at of gaming tables, devices and ma- Nebraska City, chines of any description. Previous | Captain Bradner D. Slaughter, payto 1887 the penalty for gambling was master, has been ordered to Omaha to a fine of not exceeding \$100 or im- report to the commanding general of than three months. The penalty for duty in that gity. keeping a gaming table was a fine of The ladies of Albion gave a leap not less than \$50 nor more than \$100. year enchre party and dance in the The legislature of 1887 amended this opera house. The whole affair was law, the act being known as senate managed by the ladies of Albion, with file 98 of that session. This bill was out the ausistance of a man. introduced under the title of "A bill Gustave Wies of Geneva, who has for an act to amend sections 214 and the hallucination that unknown per-215 of the criminal code." Under this sons are trying to hypnotize him, was title it was read three times and pass- adjudged insane by the commissioners ed by the senate. No amendment to and taken to the state asylum. the title appearing in the records of bill for an act to amend sections 214 completed and most interesting proand 215 of the criminal code and to grams have been prepared for each. provide for the recovery of money or other property lost in gambling."

The journals of the house and senate fall to disclose when this amend- the cold storage company there and ment to the title was made. The bill in charge of the express company were was then read in the house for the wrecked, third time and passed under the original title. It was then presented to 215 of the criminal code and to pro- was sentenced to one year in the penvide for the recovery of money or itentiary. iginated. The law as signed by the court house for Burt county in the governor and as at present on file in near future, the secretary's office bears this letter

Skin Grafted Six Times.

NEBRASKA CITY-Word has been received from Omaha that Miss Ollie Holbrook has undergone the sixth operation in skin grafting to have her Shelby hotel was raised February 15. head covered. She had her scalp torn off on Christmas morning and the only one that had the disease, but the physicians in the hospital where she was taken from here have been all the time he was sich. trying to cover the head with skin cutting the flesh from her limbs.

Mourn Death of Dr. Swenson. OAKLAND-Dr. E. J. C. Sward of this city received a telegram from A. J. Colson of Omaha, now in Los An, the district court. The Ratekin girl geles, Cal., stating that Dr. Carl Swen- home is in Nebraska City and th son, president of Bethany college at Murphy girl's home is in Omaha. Lynchburg, Kan., died in Los Angeles very suddenly of pneumonia. Dr. Swenson is well and favorably known | Keeler, Samuel T. Bullis and Thoma here, as in his connection with the Lutheran church he has visited here frequently and also made several speeches here during presidential campaigns.

Saved Boy from Death.

NEBRASKA CITY-A young son of Mr. and Mrs. William Clinkenblard tried to board a moving train at the B. & M. passenger depot and fell under the car. Yard Master Jack Girardy chanced to be standing near at hand and rescued the little one just as the wheels of one of the coaches caught his clothing.

Brief in Lillie Case.

Hamer & Hamer, attorneys for Mrs. Lillie, charged with the murder of her husband, have filed in the supreme court a second brief in defense of their client. In it they state there is nothing to sustain the contention of the state that she killed her husband. They contend that Lillie was shot from | flesh, the west side of the bed and this, they claim, shows that Mrs. Lillie did man, had a narrow escape from death not do the shooting. They claim fur. at Columbus. While switching at pay all the bills that she had contract. fell from the top of a car while it ed by her deals on the board of trade and therefore the fact that her husband's life was insured would not do for a motive for the deed.

New Mill for Fremont.

FREMONT-Articles of incorporation of the Royston Milling company band even if she were not actually were filed in the office of the county clerk. The capital stock is \$50,000. divided into shares of \$100 each.

Flags at Half Mast.

kept at half mast for several days.

Not a Candidate for Senator. LINCOLN-D. E. Thompson, minis-

for an unmentionable Lincoln man

Perkins Out for Delegate. ST, PAUL-Clark Perkins, editor of farm near Harvard, is reported to the St. Paul Republican, has announced himself as a candidate for delegate than \$60 each. This is considered one from the Sixth congressional district of the best sales had and attracted

THE STATE AT LARGE.

Jules Lombard, the sweet singer of Omaha, has been admitted to practice

Congressman Hinshaw has recomconstitutional and then the state would menned the reappointment of Will'am Royer as postmaster at Seward.

W. A. Courley, a sewing machine peddier, was arrested at Edgar for insulting women and fined for the oftense.

Earl Kluck, the 9-year-old son of Gustave Kluck, living two miles north the penitentiary at present, but should of Richland, had his hand badly incorsted in the cogs of a feed grinder, The Missouri Pacific Railway com-

pany have been having a great deal of

prisonment in the county jail not more the department of the Missouri for

Preparations for the meetings to be the proceedings of the senate, it was beid March 29 to 31 by the four teachread in the house under the title "A era' associations of the state are about

By the turning of a truck at the depot in Nebraska City twenty-seven cases of eggs that were consigned to

Henry Orrell, who is charged with burglarizing a store at Berlin, went the governor under the title "A bill before Judge Jessen at Nebraska City for an act to amend sections 214 and and pleaded guilty to the charge and

other property lost in gambling, and Mayor A. M. Anderson of Tekamah to repeal said original sections." The has called a mass meeting at the court journals of both house and senate fail- house to consider the advisability of ed to show where this last clause or starting a movement to build a new

> Chairman Hall of the democratic state contral committee has called a meeting of that body at Lincoln; March 15, at 8 o'clock p. m., to consider the time and place of holding a state convention.

> The smallpox quarantine at the Charles DeVant, the proprietor, was six other persons stayed at the hotel

Robert McCleary fell from a load of ever since. All of the grafts that hay at Rogers and suffered internal they have put on from the bodies of injuries which caused death in a few other persons have sloughed off and minutes. When picked up he was unnow they are grafting from her body, conscious and could not tell how it happened. No one saw him fall,

> A Salida (Colo.) dispatch says: M. Allender and his son Earl, arreste for keeping two Nebraska girls for in moral purposes, were held for trial

Word has just been received by the sheriff of Burt county that Georg Gray, the parties who it is suppose robbed one of the Lyons, Neb., bank a month or so ago, had been arreste In Kansas City and would be held to une officials.

Regent Parker K. Holbrook of Or awa, Prof. C. C. Nutting, professor of zoology and curator of the museur and Architect Proudfoot will leav soon for the east, where they go t observe the museum buildings of th large eastern institutions that th new museum building which the un versity is soon to erect may be buil along the lines approved by the great est talent the United States affords.

John Trimble, a well known farme living several miles south of Hun boldt, sustained a severe injury in the overturning of a load of hay upon which he was riding. Whe he saw the load was slipping he jumped to the ground, crushing his left ankle so that the bones protruded through the

W. F. Jessup, a Burlington brakether that Mrs. Lillie was well able to Pleasant Dale he lost his balance and was in motion. He was so badly stunned by the fall that he was unable to crawl off the track, but the engineer succeeded in stopping the car within a foot of his body

The Nebraska supreme court has emphatically decided that a wife may testify to the exact age of her huspresent at his birth. This decision was filed in the case of Mrs. F. Bartes of Colfax county against the Ancient Order of United Workmen. Her husband was accused by the order of mis-As an expression of sorrow at the stating his age and the wife was the death of Senator M. A. Hanna the flag only witness. The district court reover the state house at Lincoln was fused her testimony, but the supreme court reversed.

Towns or villages must not aid a private person or corporation in the construction of water works. The suter to Brazil, is not a candidate for preme court declared an issue of \$4. United States senator, and in his state- 000 in bonds issued by the village of ment announcing this, published in his Grant, Perkins county, void and I. W. paper, the Lincoln Star, he comes out | Sherrill, the purchaser, will lose the amount unpaid.

The Duroc-Jersey hog sale by George Briggs & Son, held at their have made an average of a little more to the national republican convention many buyers from various parts of the state.



This is more important than it seems at first sight. Not until a farmer learns something about the weeds on his farm; their life, habits and the injury they are doing, will he be interested enough to try and eradicate them, says Professor L. R. Waldron of the North Dakota station. The quantity of weeds upon many of the Indians' farms in this state is notorious and it is here that we find the knowledge in regard to weeds, and consequently the interest taken in their removal, at its lowest ebb. It is when we find the weed question becoming a part of the farmer's conscience, a part of his moral life, that we have great Lopes for the future of that man's farm. This can come about only through the channel of education. An observing farmer learns in two or three years the weeds that are most abundant upon his farm, also those that are doing him the greatest amount of damage. He can also learn the names of these upon inquiry, or they can be sent to the experiment station, where information concerning them will be cheerfully furnished. A piece of land is infested with a certain kind of weed which becomes more abundant than all other kinds. The method of rotation the farmer is using increases rather than decreases the weed. If he knows the habit of this weed he can change his rotation soon enough to prevent its becoming very abundant. If he knows the appearance of the seed, he will quit sowing grain containing that weed seed. An example came under the writer's observation some time ago. A piece of land was infested with wild morning glory or bindweed. This weed is a perennial and spreads by means of deep-seated underground stems. The land had been seeded for several years in such a way as not to hinder the growth of this weed. By the middle of June the morning glory had almost complete possession of the field and from that time the wheat crop was doomed. Had the farmer known this weed and the nature of it a few years ago, he could have gotten rid of it without much trouble, whereas now the land is practically worthless and a large amount of labor will be necessary to exterminate it. If every farmer knew the Canada thistle on sight and kept a sharp lookout for it, many of the thistle patches could be gotten rid of easily; but, the plants become deep-rooted after four or five years and difficult to eradicate.

The Wheat Crop, 1903.

Below we give, by states and territories, the yields of winter and spring wheat, for the year 1903, as compiled by the United States Department of

WINTER WREAT.			
States and Ter- ritories.	Acreage.	Yield per acre.	Produc-
	Acres.	Bush	Bushets.
New York	544,039	17.8	9,683,89
New Jersey	118,456	14.0	1.588.38
Pennsylvania	1,669,131	15.6	26,039,44
Delaware	114,489	10.2	1.167.78
Maryland	809,667	12.5	10,120,83
Virginia	804,557	8.7	6,999,640
North Carolina .	633,060	5.1	3,228,60
South Carolina .	270,261	6.5	1,756,69
Georgia	299,958	6.2	1,859,74
Florida			
Alabama	112,133	9.1	1,020,419
Mississippi	3,569	8.0	28,55
Louisiana			
Texas	1.483,595	13.4	19,880,17
Arkansas	274.654	7.0	1,922,576
Tennessee	1,083.531	7.1	7,693,07
West Virginia	404,783	10.2	4.128.80
Kentucky	920,028	8.4	7,728,23
Ohio	2,065,950	13.7	28,303,51
Michigan	1,001,604	15.5	15,524,86
Indiana	2,399,403	10.0	23,994,030
Illinois	1,972,850	8.4	16,571,940
Wisconsin	182,764	18.6	2,469.78
Minnesota	*******	*****	*********
Iowa	80,156	15.9	1,274,490
Missouri	2.551.105	8.7	22.194,614
Kansas	5,951,146	14.0	81,316,044
Nebraska	2,183,494	16.4	35,809,303
Idaho	127,759	21.0	2.682,989
Washington	873,989	20.1	7,517,179 6,937,581
Oregon	368,126	18.9	6.937,58
California	1.868.410	11.2	20,936,193
Oklahoma	1,643,130	11.9	24,482,633
Indian Territory:	249,691	12.0	2,996,293
United States	32,510,510	12.3	399.867.250

EPRING WHEAT.

States and Ter- Acreage,	Yield per acre.	Production.
Maine Acces.	Bush 25.5	Bushels. 207,366
Vermont 1,708 Wisconsin 1 403,805 Minnesota 5,327,326 Towa (63),510	20.9 14.6 13.1 12.1	35.697 5,895.553 70.652.597 11,256.804
Missouri Kanana 220 000 Nebraska 501,830 South Dakota 3,221,130 North Dakota 4,349,632 Montana 98,735 Wyoraing 27,607 Colorado 279,082 New Mexico 44,712 Arizona 19,129 Utah 18,897 Nevada 21,426 Idaho 114,791 Washington 608,252	17.1 12.6 13.8 12.7 28.2 20.6 18.4 25.6 21.3 20.3 21.3 21.3 21.3 21.3 21.3 21.3 21.3 21	8 903 513 6 348 258 47 252 994 55 240 589 2 784 327 471 740 7 423 581 822 701 481 984 4 106 672 591 358 2 445 048

Go to the country where man lives close to nature's heart; study him as he there meets the problems of life, and you will find literature which is realistic in the best and truest sense. Men of the country are to our national life what the steel frame is to our mighty stone or brick structures when the crisis comes that shakes the nation to its foundation. It is the loyal hearts and clear brains of the country folks which save it from destruction. -(Ian McLaren) Rev. John Watson.

Farmyard manure is a universal fertilizer, suiting all crops, climates and soils. In the case of leguminous crops where great difficulty has been experienced in arranging satisfactory artificial mixtures, farmyard manure has always given excellent results.

sive tread. The table was no polished mahogany, but was built of rough pine | than this. You, a Beauthamp, of the

As though this were Tidewater again.

benches instead of chairs.

"You will oblige me, captain," said Buford as they rose from the table, "if you will be so good as to drive Miss Beauchamp over to the claim shanty after a while."

Franklin assented to this proposition with such eagerness that he blushed as he saw how evident had been his pleasure at this opportunity for a moment's speech alone with the girl who sat so near but yet so unapproachable. "I'll be delighted," said

Mary Ellen said nothing. The pink spot in her cheek was plainly deeper. It did not lessen as she stood watching the struggle the two men had in again hitching to the buggy the wild black horse. Seiging the tug with one hand and the singletree with the other. Franklin fairly swept the obdurate beast off its balance as he torced it to its place at the pole. His strength was apparent.

"Are you afraid to ride behind that horse?" asked he.

"I don't think so," she repiled simply, and her uncle helped her in, while Franklin steadied the team. Yet how Franklin hated the wild black horse now! All the way across the prairie during the short drive to the shanty ! the beast gave him plenty to do to keep it inside the harness, and he had no time for a single word. The girl sat silent at his side, looking straight ahead. At the shanty he helped her down. Ignorant, he saw not the tale of a bosom heaving, nor read correctly the story of the pink in the cheek. He believed rather the import of a face turned away, and of features set in a mask of repose.

There had as yet been no word. The claim shanty was indeed in some need of repair. One corner of the roof had fallen in, carrying with it a portion of the sod wall that made future for us both." the inclosure, and spilling a quantity of earth in the bed customarily occupled by Aunt Lucy when she "resided" here in company with her mistress in their innocent process of acquiring one hundred and sixty acres of land apiece by means of a double dwelling place.

In order to make the needed repairs to the roof, it was necessary to lay up again a part of the broken wall, place prior to covering the whole dark"

boards, and along it stood long old Virginia Beauchamps-good God! It breaks my heart!

"You have answered yourself, sir." said Mary Ellen, her voice not steady as she wished. "I live out here on the prairies, far from home, but I am a Beauchamp from old Virginia."

"And then?" "And the Beauchamps kept their promises, women and men-they always kept them. They always will."

"I know," said Franklin gently. "I would rely on your word forever. I would risk my life and my honor in your hands. I would believe in you all my life. Can't you do as much for me? There is no stain on my name. I will love you till the end of the world. Child-you don't know-

"Ah, you have your answer! Now, listen to me, Mr. Franklin. I shall keep my promise as a Beauchamp should-as a Beauchamp shall. I have told you long ago what that promise was. I promised to love, to marry him-Mr. Henry Fairfax-years ago. I promised never to love any one else so long as I lived. He-he's keeping his promise now-back there-in old Virginia, now. How would I be keeping mino-how am I keeping mine, now, even listening to you so long? Take me back; take me home. I'm going to-going to keep my promise,

sir! I'm going to keep it!" Frantfin sat cold and dumb at this all the world seeming to him to have gone quite blank. He could not at first grasp this sentence in its full effect, it meant so much to him. Yet, er his fashion, he fought mute, struggling for some time before he

dared trust his voice or his emotions. "Very well," he said. "I'll not crawl -not for any woman on earth! It's over. I'm sorry. Dear little woman, wanted to be your friend. I wanted to take care of you. I wanted to love you and to see if I couldn't make a

"My fature is done. Leave me. Find some one else to love." "You were the only one," said Franklin blowly, "and you always will

be the only one. Good-bye." It seemed to him he heard a breath, a whisper, a soft word that said "goodbye." It had a tenderness that set a himp in his throat, but it was followed almost at once with a calmer commonplace. "We must go back," then to hoist the fallen rafters into said Mary Ellen. "It is growing

The spirits distilled in the United States for the fiscal year amounted to 141,000,000 gallons; an increase of 13. 000,002 gallors over the previous year, although the number of distillantes diminished 497.