

She Admired Bravery

By F. A. MITCHEL

It was in the late autumn, Edith and I were walking in the woods kicking up the dead leaves, for there were only a few left on the trees. We were both young, I twenty-two, Edith eighteen. I was sweet on Edith, and when a man of that age is sweet on a girl the first idea that enters his head is that she can only love a heroic personage who combines every manly attribute. When a man of forty gets sweet on a woman he fears that she won't consider that he has money enough to make it worth her while to marry him.

While Edith and I were walking along to the pleasant sound of the kicked leaves I was thinking about how many virtues I must possess to win her. It was in wartime, and I naturally supposed that military glory would count for a good deal.

"We're getting quite a number of instances of bravery from this war in Europe," I remarked.

"Yes," she replied, "they're splendid. Just think of a young earl not yet thirty years old, with the life of a nobleman before him, giving his life for his country."

"Would you like to be the widow of such a man?"

"I would grieve for him, but I would glory in having had such a husband."

This was not encouraging for me, a man of peace. It was some time before I tried to find out any more of those traits I did not possess, the absence of which would induce Edith to turn me down.

"I read an account some time ago," I said, "of a Belgian soldier who was placed in front of a company of Germans who were attacking his countrymen. Seeing him, the Belgians lowered their rifles. 'Fire!' he cried. 'For heaven's sake, fire!' A volley swept the Belgian and the Germans away together."

"What a noble sacrifice!" exclaimed Edith fervently.

"Do you suppose," I said, "that if you had been that Belgian's wife and a witness of the scene and his countrymen had looked to you to approve his order to fire you could have made the sacrifice yourself?"

This was a poser. Edith made no reply for quite awhile; then she said that she would have preferred to compromise by having them fire on her. I was not disposed to let her out in this way and persisted in having a direct answer, whereupon she said that she was afraid the test would be too much for her. She might be able to make the sacrifice and she might not. Of one thing she was certain. Her heart would be buried with that noble Belgian.

It was apparent to me that to win Edith I must do something heroic.

"Do you know," I said, "I have concluded that this war is a struggle between reaction and progress. I consider it the duty of America to join in it on the side of progress."

"So do I," was the prompt reply.

"What is true of a nation is true of one of its individual citizens."

"That it is my duty to fight for the world's progress. I'm going abroad to enlist."

Edith looked grave.

"Don't you think it my duty?"

"No; I don't."

"Why not? Haven't you agreed with me that it is our duty as a nation to fight on the side of progress, and what is the duty of a nation is the duty of its individual citizens?"

"Yes; I suppose so. But I think it would be very foolish for you to go all the way over there—to get yourself shot."

I looked down sideways at Edith. The idea of my making myself food for powder evidently troubled her.

"I sail next week."

There was no comment on this for awhile. Presently Edith asked me in a faltering voice why I had said nothing of this before. I was some time framing my answer. When it came I spoke in a choked voice:

"Because I dread a parting."

"With whom?" She kept her eyes bent on the ground.

"You," I faltered.

I went on to tell her that I loved her, and she confessed that my love was returned.

"How hard for us to part," I said, "on the eve of our betrothal!"

"We will not part," she said firmly.

"My duty calls."

"What duty?"

"To progress, civilization, the cause of freedom."

"Let it call."

"I might have an opportunity to die one of those noble deaths we have been talking about."

"You'll do no such thing. You'll stay at home."

"But think how proud you will be of your soldier lover."

"I don't want a soldier lover."

"Must I go unsupported by the knowledge that you are willing to sacrifice?"

"You'll not go at all."

We were sitting on a low horizontal limb of a tree. Edith threw her arms around me to hold me from going to fight for an idea which I had no idea of fighting for. I gave in at last and consented to remain at home.

After we were married one night we heard burglars below. My wife in order to prevent my going down to attend to them called the dog and let her bark and bark the way.

Something interesting
When Irving wanted to be nasty he could be, remarked an old Lyceum hand once. His patience with the rank and file was extraordinary, but where a rebuke was deserved Irving's biting sarcasm was quite up to the occasion.

There was in one production a super hero, though he had only a couple of lines to speak, made his entrance in such a way as to lead one to believe he was sustaining the leading role, and his behavior to his fellow actors was equally unwarrantable. Irving soon got on the track of this man and ran him to earth at rehearsal. In due time the super entered, haughtily saying: "My lord, the carriage is waiting."

"Let's have it louder," said Irving. The man repeated it in a louder tone, whereupon Sir Henry demanded that it should be repeated again still louder. Yet again did he make the super repeat it, and louder still, and yet again was the same demand made. The man was becoming enraged and at last shrieked out the words:

"Very good," said Sir Henry, "very good, indeed, but couldn't you just manage to put a shade of temper into it?"—Pearson's.

Great Seal of the United States.

The great seal of the United States is kept locked up in a rosewood box in the vaults of the state department at Washington. Its custodian will impress it upon a document only on receipt of a formal warrant signed by the president. The use of it or indeed the possession of an impression of it without such a warrant is a grave offense, punishable like the most serious forgery. It cost \$10,000 and is Uncle Sam's most sacred possession. When it is imprinted upon a document—a Thanksgiving proclamation, for instance; this is of parchment and beautifully engraved—such document is filed in the archives and only printed or typewritten copies are sent out. Governors of states are entitled to receive copies signed by the president and secretary of state personally. Other persons unless specially favored receive only printed copies.—New York World.

Man and His Dog.

He lies in front of me curled up before the fire, as so many dogs must have lain before so many fires. I sit on one side of that hearth, as so many men must have sat by so many hearths. Somehow this creature has completed my manhood; somehow, I cannot explain why, a man ought to have a dog. A man ought to have six legs; those other four legs are part of him. Our alliance is older than any of the passing and priggish explanations that are offered of either of us. Before evolution was we were. You can find it written in a book that I am a mere survival of a squabbling anthropoid ape, and perhaps I am. I am sure I have no objection. But my dog knows I am a man, and you will not find the meaning of that word written in any book as clearly as it is written in his soul.—G. K. Chesterton.

Detecting Erasures.

If paper upon which erasures of writing have been made is exposed to the vapor of iodine the roughened surface takes a different tint from that portion which has not been tampered with. If the erasure has been lightly made, only the ink or pencil lead being rubbed away and the mark left in the fiber of the paper, iodine vapor causes the writing to reappear. This is because wherever the paper has been roughened more iodine is absorbed than by a smooth surface. This test is effective within three months after the making of the alteration.—Exchange.

No Bargain.

The strap had been applied to a five-year-old unruly. "Now, the next time I have to punish you," said the stern parent, "you will go to bed for a day in the bargain."

Whereupon the weeping unruly observed:

"Is that what you call a bargain?"—Detroit Times.

Tipping His Hand.

Rankin—Uncle Sol Sandbuster pretends to be an experienced chauffeur, but I know he hasn't owned a machine very long. Phyl—What makes you so certain of it? Rankin—When he left home this morning he absently chucked a bag of oats in the back of the automobile.—Youngstown Telegram.

Relieving His Feelings.

"Father, don't men call themselves bachelors before they get married?"

"Yes, my boy."

"And what do they call themselves after, dad?"

"Hush! It isn't fit for little boys to know."—Exchange.

Your Own House.

A man may be said to have done better than the average if, when he dies, the house in which he lived is in his own name and free from mortgage.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Natural Result.

"Mayne blushed when she found I was trying to read her face."

"Well, people usually do blush when their faces are getting read."—Baltimore American.

Husbands.

There are two kinds of successful husbands—those who fool their wives and those who don't try.—Washington Herald.

There is never any good to be expected of young men who confess their sins and repent and straightway fall into the same.—Pittsburgh Courier.

WITNESS TO THE DEED

By M. QUAD
(Copyright, 1914, by the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.)

My mistress in Gainsboro road had lost a £5 note in the house, and the thief was the parlor maid. I knew it from her actions, and three months after I left the house she was caught in a similar offense and owned up to the first theft. However, the crime was laid on me, and because I made indignantly and perhaps impudently protest I was flung out of the house at half an hour's notice and refused a character. I was idle for the next three months. The first thing demanded when I applied for a place was a character. As soon as it was learned that I had none it was useless to talk further. It was for this reason that I finally paid a fee to an intelligence office in Margate street and was at length sent for to take a place at general housework. It was an old man named Dyson who wanted me. He was willing to take me without a character because he would have to pay less wages and because, as he grimly asserted, there was nothing lying around loose in his house for me to steal. As we sat face to face I sized him up as mean and penurious, but I did not see any evil in him. He had an aged and infirm wife, he told me, and I would be the only servant.

It was not for me to pick and choose. I must have a place and hold it long enough to get a character again. I went with him miles and miles out on the Holborn road, and we at last arrived at the cheaply built and cheap looking cottage he occupied. It was a place devoid of almost all conveniences and had been selected for its cheap rent. I found the old wife deaf, almost blind and palsied, and it was apparent that she had no care whatever.

I soon had evidence that he was in love with a widow in the neighborhood, or at least he desired to be free so that he could marry her. My natural impulse on finding out how he felt toward his wife was to flee the house, but I have explained how I was situated.

In the course of a couple of weeks he declared that the cellar was full of rats and gave me money and commanded me to buy arsenic. He recommended me to go to a store miles away and to say that I wanted it for my complexion and to give my own name. I went to a drug store only two blocks away and gave his name, and when he discovered this he was highly indignant for a day, and I rather expected to be thrown out. However, in the course of three or four days he developed another plan. After coaching the old wife he left me alone with her for the first time, and she begged me to get her some laudanum for toothache and not to mention the matter to him. It was easy to tell that she had been coached what to say, and I refused to buy the drug. A few days later as I was preparing her a soup I had to leave the kitchen for a minute. When I returned the soup was giving out a strange odor, and being satisfied that her husband had poisoned it, I, of course, threw it away. He scolded about my waste, but when I looked him squarely in the eyes he dropped his and had no more to say.

I had been with the Dysons five years when the climax came. The old woman was holding her own if not getting better, and the husband's impatience had a savage edge to it. Their bedroom was on the north side of the house. All along on that side was a deep excavation for a factory.

At 10 o'clock one night I lay wondering if he really meant to take her life and how he would finally accomplish it, when I heard a half suppressed scream from his room. I got softly out of bed and went to the farther door, and looking through a crack, I saw that the window was up and that he stood before it with his wife in his arms. She was hanging on to him with fingers of steel and making a great struggle. I heard him breathing heavily and snarling and growling as he tore her fingers loose, but I did not know what he planned to do till of a sudden he staggered to the open window and flung her out. She screamed as she went to her death, and in my fright I echoed the scream. I remember the man rushing across the room at me, of his dashing open the door, of his striking me down, and then came darkness which lasted for weeks. He had struck me with a piece of iron and fractured my skull. He then carried my body downstairs and bore it a quarter of a mile away and flung it into another excavation. Before taking me from the house he put on my hat and cloak, and thus it appeared to those who found my unconscious body next morning that I had been coming home the night before and fallen into the pit. As to his wife, he gave the alarm and brought the police and made out that it was a case of suicide. While he was fast asleep, as he claimed, she had stolen to the window and leaped to her death.

His story went, and it was several months before there was any contradiction. I had a fractured skull, brain fever and pneumonia and for weeks and weeks lay as one dead. When I mended my memory was confused, and it was seven months before I told my story and put the police on the track. Long before that Dyson had married the widow and sailed for America, and though efforts were made to find him nothing came of them. Never did a man deserve the hangman's rope more, and yet if I were today he is free and sits in the seat of the law.

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Sheriff's Sale
By virtue of an order of sale issued from the District Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska, upon a decree of foreclosure rendered in said court wherein Ruben W. Risberg is plaintiff, and Albert F. Larson et al are defendants, and to me directed, I will on the 18th day of January, 1915, at 2 o'clock p. m. at the east front door of the court house in North Platte, Lincoln county, Nebraska, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash to satisfy said decree, interest and costs, the following described property to-wit:
Southeast quarter (SE 1/4) Section Seven (7) Township Ten (10) North of Range Thirty-two (32) Lincoln County, Nebraska.
Dated North Platte, Nebraska, December 14 1914.
A. J. SALISBURY, Sheriff.

Notice of Sheriff's Sale.
By virtue of an execution issued by Geo. E. Prosser, clerk of the district court of Lincoln county, Nebraska, upon a judgment rendered in said court in favor of Fred R. Ginn et al against William Huffer, I have levied upon the following real estate as the property of said William Huffer to-wit: All of lots seven (7), eight (8) and nine (9) block five (5) in Trustees Addition in North Platte, Nebraska, and I will on the 29th day of January, 1915, at 2 o'clock P. M. of said day, at the front door of the court house of said county, in North Platte, sell said real estate at public auction to the highest bidder for cash to satisfy said execution, the amount due thereon, in the aggregate being the sum of \$368.63 and \$10.70 cost and accruing cost.
Dated December 28, 1914.
A. J. SALISBURY, Sheriff.

Legal Notice.
In the District Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska,
William Schaepler, plaintiff, vs James E. Lane, mortgagee named in the mortgage in the petition herein described the unknown heirs or legatees and devisees of said James E. Lane, deceased; the unknown heirs or legatees and devisees of Josiah Harrington, deceased, as assignee from said James E. Lane of said mortgage and the real estate covered and clouded thereby, to-wit: E 1/2 NW 1/4 and E 1/2 SW 1/4 section 24, township 12 North, range 32 West 6th P. M., defendants.

Each and all of the defendants above named and described, will take notice that William Schaepler, plaintiff herein, on the 18th day of August, 1914 filed his petition in the office of the Clerk of the District Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska, against the defendants hereinbefore in the title named and described, the object and prayer of which are to obtain a decree of said court to quiet in the plaintiff the title to said described real estate to-wit: E 1/2 NW 1/4 and E 1/2 SW 1/4 section 24, township 12 North, range 32 West 6th P. M., against the apparent and unenforceable lien arising by virtue of the mortgage thereon, made by Alton L. Martin to James E. Lane, dated March 10, 1894, recorded March 24, 1894 in book 13, page 473 of the mortgage records of said Lincoln County, which said mortgage has been fully paid and satisfied and due and legal assignment of same was made by said James E. Lane to said Josiah Harrington, now deceased, the last named having executed and delivered good and sufficient release of said mortgage, but both said instruments, to-wit: said assignment of mortgage and release thereof, so as aforesaid duly executed, acknowledged and delivered, have been lost or destroyed without recording and all without fault or laches on behalf of said plaintiff, who prays for said decree without redeeming or offering to redeem therefrom, full satisfaction of the same having been made, and for equitable relief generally.

You, the said defendants, and each of you, are required to answer said petition on or before Monday the 18th day of January, 1915.
Dated December 8, 1914.
WILLIAM SCHAEPLER, Plaintiff.
By King & Dittner, his attorneys.
Osceola, Nebr., DS-4

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T. S. COVER
Lunch Room Just Opened
Regular Meals 25 Cents. Try us.
310 Front Street.

Referee's Sale.
By virtue of an Order of Sale issued in the District Court in and for Lincoln County, Nebraska, on the 21st day of December, 1914, in an action of partition wherein Samuel Moore and Theodore Smith are plaintiffs and Roy Hewitt, Edna Hewitt, George Hewitt, Lester Hewitt, Glenn Hewitt, Olive Smith and Arlie Smith, all minor heirs and C. J. Hewitt, father and natural guardian of defendants Roy Hewitt, Edna Hewitt, George Hewitt, Lester Hewitt and Glenn Hewitt and Josie Smith, mother and natural guardian of defendants Olive Smith and Arlie Smith, respectively are defendants, I will sell at Public Auction, at the East Front Door of the Court House in the City of North Platte, Lincoln County, Nebraska, on the 25th day of January, 1915, at the hour of one o'clock P. M. the following described real estate, situate in Lincoln County, Nebraska, to-wit: The Southeast Quarter of Section Twelve (12), Township Ten (10), North of Range Thirty-three (33), West of the 6th P. M.

The terms of said sale will be cash in hand.
Dated North Platte, Nebraska, this 21st day of December, 1914.
O. E. ELDER, Referee.

E. C. HODDER, Attorney.
645 Omaha National Bank Building

Notice to Non-Resident Defendants.
The defendants, Arthur Battles, Hannah Battles, Stella A. Dowd, Edna Dowd, first and real name unknown, F. J. Whitehead, first and real name unknown, F. J. Whitehead, first and real name unknown, Mrs. A. J. White, first and real name unknown, L. R. West, first and real name unknown and Mrs. L. R. West, his wife, first and real name unknown, and each of them are notified that on the 18th day of November, 1914, George E. Warren filed a petition in the District Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska against said above named defendants, impleaded with others, the object and prayer of which are to foreclose his certain mortgages executed on the 27th day of April, 1912 by the defendant, Arthur Battles in favor of the U. S. Live Stock Company, a corporation, upon the following described property, situated in Lincoln County, Nebraska, to-wit: One mortgage for \$500.00 on the north one-half of the southeast one-fourth and the south one-fourth of the southeast one-fourth of the southwest one-fourth in Section seven (7) Township ten (10) North of Range thirty-two west of the sixth P. M. in Lincoln County, Nebraska, recorded in Book 42, Page 307 of the Mortgage Records of Lincoln County, Nebraska, to secure a first mortgage coupon note or obligation to said U. S. Live Stock Company, a corporation, dated the 27th day of April, 1912, and plaintiff alleges that there is due upon said note or obligation the sum of \$1099, with interest thereon at the rate of 6 per cent per annum from the 27th day of October, 1914; one mortgage for \$500.00 on the north one-fourth and the southeast one-fourth of section seven (7) in township sixteen north, of range thirty-two west of the sixth P. M. in Lincoln County, Nebraska, recorded in Book 42, Page 309 of the Mortgage Records of Lincoln County, Nebraska, to secure a first mortgage coupon note or obligation to said U. S. Live Stock Company, a corporation, dated the 27th day of April, 1912, and plaintiff alleges that there is due upon said note or obligation the sum of \$1099, with interest thereon at the rate of 6 per cent per annum from the 27th day of October, 1914; one mortgage for \$500.00 on the southeast one-fourth of section one-fourth and the west one-half of the southeast one-fourth all in section twenty-nine in township sixteen north of range thirty-two west of the sixth P. M. in Lincoln County, Nebraska, recorded in Book 42, Page 308 of the Mortgage Records of Lincoln County, Nebraska, to secure a first mortgage coupon note or obligation to said U. S. 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