

NOT TOO LATE.

She was not seven. I was nine; I loved her madly, and she knew it, I knelt and begged her to be mine, She said she really couldn't do it.

At thirty-eight her hair is gray. Her roses brighter bloom than ever; To-morrow is my wedding day; 'Tis late, but better late than never. -J. Benton Wilde, in Munsey's Magazine.

The Actor's Story.

BY JOHN COLEMAN.

CHAPTER XIV.—CONTINUED.

And the two men went at it hammer and tongs. Dempster had met his match for the first time in his life, and in a quarter of an hour he lay on his back, beaten within an inch of his life.

The poor little porter perceived "a divided duty," he came and snarled at the victor as if going to bite him, then apparently he altered his mind, and licked his hand. After that he went over to his master, and licked the beaten giant's face.

Without another word Jamieson turned his back and strode over to the lodge. When he got there he said to the woman, "Your master has been badly beaten, and wants assistance. You will find him lying in the glen out yonder."

Then he walked back to Aberdeen, muttering, "My poor friend! That's one slight installment on your account anyhow!"

CHAPTER XV.

Only a Tramp.

Night was falling at the Gairloch House when a conveyance drove up and stopped at the hall door. The driver got down, and began to bring forth sundry boxes and to load the cart with them.

Curly stood looking at his retreating figure till it faded altogether into the mist of evening; then, without a sigh or sound, he dropped like a stone on the highway, where Duncan M'Tavish and Jeannie M'Pherson found him lying some hours later.

"That is where she lives. Oh, no! It can't be—that's impossible."

He resolved to write to Jamieson at once, but his impatience would not allow him to wait. He would go immediately. Then his pride stepped in—he did not wish her to see him thus changed and worn—thus ragged and wretched. There could be no harm anyhow in going near the place—

There stood the house and the garden, exactly as he had left them two years ago—nothing seemed changed except himself. Yes—she must have changed, too, else she would not have sent him that cruel reminder of his weakness and degradation.

At this moment a tall, spare man left the house, and came rapidly to the spot where Curly sat. The poor wretch could contain his patience no longer, so he accented the stranger.

"I beg pardon, sir," said he, "but is Mr. Jamieson still staying at the house yonder?"

"Mr. Jamieson is not staying at the house," replied Mr. McCrawley Gittens for it was he, "nor has he stayed there since the day of the funeral?"

"The funeral! What funeral? Whose funeral?"

"Miss Flora M'Allisters."

"Flora M'Allisters!"

"Ay—she was buried three days ago." And so the limb of the law passed on.

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CHAPTER XVI.

Elsbeth's Weir.

As far as care and kindness could alleviate Curly's sufferings they were alleviated, and gradually he came to himself. By degrees he resumed his old relations with Willie, and at last he was enabled to get about leaning on the other's strong arm.

Several weeks elapsed, and Jamieson's slender resources were running short, but fortunately the time for the commencement of his engagement at Glasgow was drawing near.

Dr. Miller wished Curly to stay with him, but he pleaded so piteously not to be left behind that Jamieson couldn't find it in his heart to say him nay. So after arranging to send half his salary every month toward the costs of the lawsuit, Willie decided to leave Aberdeen for Glasgow on the following day.

With his heavy riding whip he struck him a tremendous blow on the head, which brought him to his knees, and would most certainly have split his skull open had it not been for his tall chimney-pot hat.

Turning round he saw Dempster riding down the street, his eyes blood-shot and his face aflame. Whether he came to seek Willie with murderous intent, or whether the devil got the better of him at the sight of the man who had beat him, can never be known till the day of doom.

It is a pity, however, that the moment he saw the two young men he put spurs to his horse and rode furiously at Jamieson. With his heavy riding whip he struck him a tremendous blow on the head, which brought him to his knees, and would most certainly have split his skull open had it not been for his tall chimney-pot hat.

Reversing his hand like lightning through the thong, Dempster sent the heavy buckhorn head, with its cruel fanga hurting through the air. Had that blow reached its aim there would have been an end at once of Willie Jamieson, and consequently this story would never have been written.

At that very moment, however, Curly, with something of his old alertness, at the imminent peril of his own life, sprang upon the bride of the horse and backed it. As the huge brute reared in the air the tremendous impetus of the blow fung Dempster forward, and he fell head foremost on the curb of the pavement, with a sound that was heard at the other end of the street.

As he fell one foot remained inextricably entangled in the stirrup iron, and the horse galloped madly round the corner to the right, dragging the body of the dead man after him. And thus it came to pass that Curly was avenged, and that by his own hand and deed, the Laird of Strathmines fulfilled Elsbeth M'Diarmid's weird!

CHAPTER XVII.

Face to Face.

Jamieson's engagement in Glasgow extended, on and off, for some years, during which his modest income was mortgaged for law expenses, so that he was able to save little or nothing. Curly's acting days were over; but he wrote a beautiful haqd, and employed himself in copying parts, MSS., etc., for the theatre. Of course he didn't make much by this; but he contributed some small portion toward the household expenses, always hoarding up a little treasure for an especial purpose.

Year after year, as regularly as the 1:th day of May approached, he disappeared. Generally he returned about a month afterward, and assumed his place without a word. Willie guessed pretty well where he had been; but they quite understood each other, and no word ever passed between them on the subject.

They grew older, and the world grew grayer and gloomier for both, and the case of "Jamieson and Miller vs. M'Allister and others" continued to impoverish the poor player.

Mr. McCrawley Gittens, having exhausted every artifice that pettifoggery and chicanery could suggest was at length brought to bay, and the final hearing came on, which resulted in a verdict for the defendant. The very next day Jamieson gave notice of appeal. Then commenced affidavits, interlocutories and I don't know what all. Anyhow, the whole thing had to begin de novo. Of course the lawyers, as usual, took their time over it. But there is one comfort, you can have a good deal of law for a little money in Scotland—i. e., compared with the cost of the article in England.

While this precious lawsuit dragged its slow length along, Jamieson was acting in Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham, Sheffield, the York circuit, etc. Wherever he went Curly accompanied him. At last engagements were difficult to obtain in England, so the friends returned to the Land of Cakes. But alas! a new generation had arisen, which knew not Willie! Younger men had stepped into his shoes, and poor Jamieson had to retire, and take a back seat, until he sank to be as we had seen him the night before, leading man at the Theatre Royal, Paisley.

And now comes the remarkable coincidence to which I have before referred.

As Pike got to this portion of his narrative we reached the summit of a hill at the bottom of which, some two miles off, lay Stuart Town, through which we had to pass during almost the last stage of our journey. As we paused to contemplate the prospect, and indeed to take breath, for we were both a little blown, our attention was attracted to a solitary foot passenger, about three or four hundred yards in front, who came walking along briskly toward us.

Despite his shabby clothes he had the air and manner of a gentleman. His figure seemed wiry and elastic; his hair fell about his neck in a profusion of snow-white silky curls; the collar of his shirt was turned down over a frayed black silk handkerchief, revealing a singularly beautiful neck; he carried his head erect; his eyes seemed fixed on vacancy, and his whole manner was so engrossed and preoccupied that he scarcely observed us until within a stone's throw, when to my astonishment, Pike gave a long, low whistle as he exclaimed:

ALWAYS READY.

Suwaroff Took Off One Spur When He Wanted to Sleep.

Suwaroff, Russia's great military commander, was a little man, insignificant in everything but that intangible power of mind and character with which physical strength is never to be compared, says Youth's Companion.

He had been sickly in his youth, but became hardy under the stimulus of cold bathing and the benefits of a plain diet. Buckets of cold water were thrown over him in the morning, and his table was served with fare which guests would fain have refused, but dared not lest he should think them effeminate.

He despised dress and delighted in drilling his men in his shirt-sleeves, sometimes with his stockings literally down at the heel.

But his hardness of life and action had its effect on the men he commanded. He was often up and about by midnight, and would salute the first soldier whom he saw moving with a piercing cock-crow, in commendation of his early rising.

During the first Polish war he had given orders for an attack at cock-crow, and a spy in the camp carried the news to the enemy. The attack, however, really took place at 9 o'clock on the evening when the arrangement had been made for Suwaroff, suspecting treachery, had then turned out the troops by his well-known crowing.

The enemy, expecting the event in the morning, were entirely unprepared and fell easy victims to his forethought.

"To-morrow morning," said he to his troops on the evening before the storming of Ismail, "an hour before daybreak I mean to get up. I shall wash and dress myself, say my prayers, give one good cock-crow, and then capture Ismail!"

It was hardly possible to find him off the alert.

"Do you never take off your clothes at night?" he was asked.

"No," said he, "but when I get lazy and want to have a comfortable sleep I generally take off one spur."

HIS MISTAKE.

Why He Wanted to Gain Strength to Do the Job.

He knocked at the kitchen door timidly and asked for something to eat.

"You can have it if you will say some word for me," said the lady.

"I shall only be too happy," he responded, "but I must ask you to give me something to eat first, for I am weak from hunger."

She had her doubts about a bargain of that kind, but she took him in and set him down before a large slice of left-over steak.

He attacked it at once with a knife and fork, but after a few minutes laid down his implements of war.

"You will excuse me, I hope," he said rising.

TO THE TWO HOUSES.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO CONGRESS.

Brief but Plain Talk in Reference to the Financial Difficulties that Beset Us—The Country's Troubles Charged Up to Unwise Congressional Legislation—The President Recommends Repeal of the Sherman Law as One of the First Most Important Steps—Early Action Essential to the Country's Welfare—Our Needs of a Stable Currency.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 8.—[To the Congress of the United States.]—The existence of an alarming and extraordinary business situation, involving the welfare and prosperity of all our people, has constrained me to call together in extra session the people's representatives to Congress, to the end that through a wise and patriotic exercise of the legislative duty with which they solely are charged present evils may be mitigated and dangers threatening the future may be averted.

Our unfortunate financial plight is not the result of untoward events nor of conditions related to our national resources; nor is it traceable to any of the afflictions which frequently check national growth and prosperity.

With piteous crops, with abundant promise of remunerative production and manufacture, with unusual invitation to safe investment and with satisfactory assurance to business enterprises, suddenly financial distrust and fear have sprung up on every side, and numerous moneyed institutions have suspended because abundant assets were not immediately available to meet the demands of frightened depositors.

Surviving corporations and individuals are content to keep in hand the money they are usually inclined to save, and those engaged in legitimate business are surprised to find that the securities they offer for loans, though heretofore satisfactory, are no longer so readily accepted. Loans are fast becoming conjectural, and loss and failure have invaded every branch of business.

I believe the things are principally chargeable to congressional legislation touching the purchase and coinage of silver by the general government.

This legislation is embodied in a statute passed on the 16th day of July, 1890, which was the culmination of much agitation by those who favored, and who had been considered a truce, after a long struggle between the advocates of free silver coinage, and those intending to be more conservative.

Undoubtedly the monthly purchases by the government of 4,000,000 ounces of silver, enforced under the statute, were regarded by the public as a means of being fixed certain guarantee of its increase in price. The result, however, has been entirely different, for immediately following a spasm of panic, the price of silver has begun to fall after the passing of the act, and has since reached the lowest point ever known in our history.

Meanwhile, not only are the evil effects of the present law constantly accumulating, but the results to which its execution must inevitably lead is becoming palpable to all who give the least heed to financial conditions.

This law provides that in payment for the 4,000,000 ounces of silver bullion which the secretary of the treasury is commanded to purchase, he is to amount to the same in gold or silver coin, at the discretion of the secretary of the treasury, and that said notes may be redeemed on demand in gold or silver coin, at the discretion of the secretary of the treasury, and that said notes may be redeemed on demand in gold or silver coin, at the discretion of the secretary of the treasury.

Up to the 15th day of July, 1893, these notes had been issued in payment of silver bullion purchases to the amount of \$147,000,000. While all but a very small quantity of this bullion remains uncollected and without usefulness in the treasury many of the notes have been redeemed in gold, and the balance of the notes, which are now in circulation, amount to a little more than \$4,000,000, and that during the same period about \$143,000,000 of gold has been taken out of the treasury in gold for the redemption of such notes.

The policy necessarily adopted of paying these notes in gold has not spared the gold reserve of the government, and the amount of gold in the treasury has been reduced to a very small quantity, and the government is now unable to purchase silver bullion, and has as a consequence for the first time since its creation been encumbered with silver.

We have thus made the depletion of our gold easy, and have tempted other and more appreciative nations to add to their stock. The means of opportunity we have offered has not been neglected, and the result has been that large amounts of gold which have been recently drawn from our treasury and exported to other countries, and the excess of exports of gold in 1892, amounted to more than \$7,000,000.

Between the 1st day of July, 1890, and the 15th day of July, 1893, the gold coin and bullion in the treasury has decreased more than \$12,000,000, and during the same period the silver coin and bullion in our treasury increased more than \$147,000,000. Unless government action be constantly issued and sold to replenish our exhausted gold, only to be again exhausted, it is apparent that the operation of the silver purchase law is to the effect of draining the gold in the government treasury, and that this must be followed by the payment of all government obligations in depreciated silver.

At this stage gold and silver must part company, and the government must fall in its established policy to maintain the two metals on a parity with each other. Given over to the exclusive use of a currency of depreciated silver, according to the standard of the commercial world, we could no longer claim a place among nations of the first-class, nor could our government claim the performance of its obligations, for such an obligation has been imposed upon it, to provide for the use of the people the best and safest money.

If, as many of its friends claim, silver ought to occupy a larger place in our currency and the currency of the world through the operation of the gold-silver parity agreement, it is obvious that the United States will not be in a position to gain a hearing in favor of such an arrangement so long as we are willing to continue our attempt to accomplish the result single handed.

The knowledge in business circles among our own people that our government cannot make its fiat equivalent to intrinsic value, nor keep inferior money on a parity with superior money, is its own ruin. In our efforts, has resulted in such a lack of confidence at home in the stability of currency values that capital refuses its aid to new enterprises, while millions are withdrawn from the channels of trade and commerce to become idle and unproductive in the hands of hoarding owners. Foreign investors, equally alert, not only decline to purchase American securities, but hasten to sacrifice those which they already have.

It does not require a lengthy statement to say that the apprehension in regard to the future of our finances is groundless, and that there is no reason for lack of confidence in the purposes of the government, or in the premises. The very existence of this apprehension we have in hand were the maintenance of a specific known quantity of silver at a value which would enable us to do so might be estimated and kept within the standard view of our unparalleled growth and resources, might be favorably passed upon, and the performance of its obligations, but such a parity in regard to an amount of silver increasing at the rate of \$20,000,000 annually, with no fixed termination to such increase, it can hardly be said that problem presented whose solution is free from doubt.

The people of the United States are entitled to a sound and stable currency, and to money recognized as such, by every change and in every market in the world. Their government has no right to injure them by financial experiments, or to impose the policy and practice of other civilized states, nor is it justified in permitting an exaggerated and unreasonable reliance on our national strength and ability to justify the soundness of the people's money. This matter rises above the plane of party politics.

It vitally concerns every business and calling, and enters every household in the land. There is one important aspect of the subject which especially should never be overlooked. At times like the present when the evils of unsound finance threaten us, the speculator may anticipate a harvest gathered from the misfortunes of others, the capitalist may protect himself by hoarding or may even find profit in the fluctuation of values; but the wage earner—the first to be injured by a depreciated currency—and the last to receive the benefit of its correction—is practically defenseless. He relies for work upon the ventures of confident and contented capital. The very thing which, in his condition is without alleviation, he can neither prey on the misfortunes of others nor hoard his labor.

One of the greatest calamities our country has ever known, speaking more than fifty years ago, when a derangement of our currency had caused commercial distress, said, "The very man who has the deepest interest in a sound currency, and who suffers most by mischievous legislation in money matters is the man who earns his daily bread by the sweat of his brow, his condition is without alleviation, he can neither prey on the misfortunes of others nor hoard his labor."

These words are as pertinent now as on the day they were uttered, and ought to impress upon us that a failure in the discharge of our duty, at this juncture, especially injure those of our countrymen who labor, and who, because of their number and condition are entitled to the most watchful care of the government.

It is of the utmost importance that such relief as congress can afford in the existing situation be afforded as speedily as possible. "He gives twice who gives quickly," is directly applicable. It may be true that the embarrassments from which the country is suffering arise as much from evils apprehended as from those actually existing.

We may hope, too, that calm counsels will prevail, and that neither the capitalists nor wage earners will give way to unreasonable panic, and sacrifice their property or their interests under the influence of exaggerated fears. Nevertheless, every day's delay in removing one of the causes of the mischief already done and increases the responsibility of the government for its existence. It is, therefore, demanded, that the right to expect from congress they may certainly demand that legislation contemplated by the ordeal of three years' disastrous experience shall be removed from the statute books as soon as their representatives can legitimately deal with it.

It was the purpose of the present congress in special session early in the coming September, that we might enter promptly upon the work of tariff reform, which the true interests of the country clearly demand, which so large a majority of the people, as shown by their suffrages, desire and expect, and to the accomplishment of which every effort of the present administration is pledged. But while tariff reform has lost nothing of its immediate and permanent importance, and must in the near future engage the attention of congress, it has seemed, which that the financial condition of the country should at once and before all other subjects, be considered by your honorable body.

I earnestly recommend the repeal of the provisions of the act passed July 14, 1890, authorizing the purchase of silver bullion, and such other legislation as may be put beyond all doubt or mistake the intention and ability of the government, to fill its pecuniary obligations in money universally recognized by all civilized nations.

GROVER CLEVELAND, Executive Mansion, Aug. 7, 1893.

WHAT NIRVANA IS.

Meaning of This Much-Misunderstood Term—The Extinction of Personality.

The word "Nirvana" has been much misunderstood, says the Paris Revue. To get a clear comprehension of it you must bear in mind the doctrine of Buddha. According to him, in order to attain the supreme end, you must understand exactly the four truths, which are: The nature of pain, its causes, its termination, the way which conduces to this termination. Pain is birth, love, fortune, old age, death—in a word, everything which constitutes the personality. The cause of pain is the sensation which produces wants, the thirst for action and for living.

The termination of the pain comes when this irresistible thirst, this individual activity is completely exhausted. The way of salvation is the means of extinguishing this thirst, of putting an end to this activity. You attain salvation by passing through four states.

The first state is that of conversion, of the knowledge of truth. The second is the last but one preceding the new birth, in which the individuality is in some sort reduced to its minimum. In the third state, which is the last of corporeal life, the being is no longer capable of desire or hatred; he has become "venerable," arhat; and his last word expresses that he has got rid of all aspirations, of all ideas of permanence, of all feeling of his own wisdom, of all trace of ignorance. When he has reached that point he dies physically and enters into the fourth state, Nirvana. This word is generally thought to mean absolute material extinction. Such an interpretation is not exact.

Nirvana is the extinction of activity, and consequently, of personality, and nothing more, since life is but an illusion, an appearance, a partial manifestation of the substance, of which existence is a palpable fact.

But whether the substance exists or not after the vanishing of our personality is of no importance. We shall no longer be subject to pain, to evil, to good, to the frightful yoke of life. The elements which compose our individuality, detached at last from each other, will enter into the absolute repose from which they will go one by one to form other beings.

Chewing the Cud.

Cows and other ruminating animals have several stomachs. Into the first of them the food passes as it is eaten. When the animal has finished its search for food it forces a part of the food from the first stomach back into the mouth and chews it leisurely a second time. This portion of the food is the animal's cud. Almost always the cud is vegetable matter, though when a cow has "lost her cud" the artificial cud provided by the owner contains some animal matter, as a rule.

A Sad Case.

Mrs. Blied—Is your son, who has gone to New York, a good worker?

Mrs. Maskey—Oh, yes; he is very industrious. Why, in the last letter he sent home he said that on arriving in New York he met a man who worked him for all he was worth. But his wages must have been poor, for he sent home for more money.

Electricity preaches the early emanation of the mule.

The World's fair board of lady managers is all torn up over the quarrel between Mrs. Meredith and Mrs. Hall.

Senator Washburne says that he not immediately push his anti-optic bill in the senate.

Many large bells are now being made of steel instead of bell metal.

Great Britain has but one medical, while this country has over 300.

Earthquakes are due to the pressure of plication or folding of the upper strata. The same tension or compression which produced the mountain ranges is here in action. As the interior of the earth contracts and tends to leave the crust behind. The weight of the crust, however, is greater than it sustains, and is therefore compelled to wrinkle. The geologists explain great ridges and furrows which cross the continents and river basins, they compare this folding of the earth's crust with the wrinkling of the skin of a dried apple. While the process of wrinkling or folding is going on, the equilibrium of the rock strata, in consequence earthquakes occur, continue with greater or less violence until the equilibrium is again restored.

Give the Counterpart.

One day during the war, while a Tennessee regiment was stationed in the city of Nashville, an Irishman was put on guard duty on one of the principal streets in the city. He thought it his duty to challenge every one who came along, just as he would in camp. By and by a well-dressed citizen approached. "Halt! Who there?" says Mike. "A citizen," answered the man. "Advance, citizen, and give the countersign." "I don't know the countersign," said the citizen; "and if I did, I think it strange and unusual that it should be demanded in a public place like this." "Well, be jabsers then," said Mike. "Ye don't pass this way till ye've 'Booner Hill'." "Bunker Hill," said the man, with a grin. "Right on!" said the sentinel at "present," the citizen went on about his affairs.

Mailing a Book for One Cent.

I wonder how many people in England who handle the Congressional Record every day are aware that it enjoys a unique distinction in the matter of postage rates? I have certainly nestled with my own eyes a hundred times the efforts of strangers in my city, who have bought a Record to take home, to get it properly weighed and stamped. Their trouble is thrown away. In the view of the postal Record is a Record, regardless of weight; and any Record will go to part of the United States for one cent. I wonder whether it is a big book containing an eight-hour speech by Senator George, or a house debate over the pension question, or is boiled down to a single sheet, holding only prayers of the two chaplains and a couple of resolutions to adjourn—Field's Washington.

Cataract Cannot Be Cured With LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they not reach the seat of the disease.

With LOCAL APPLICATIONS, as they not reach the seat of the disease, a blood or constitutional disease, and in order to cure it you must take internal medicine. Hall's Cataract Cure is taken internally, acts directly on the blood and mucous faces. Hall's Cataract Cure is not a medicine. It was prescribed by one of the physicians in this country for years, as a regular prescription. It is composed of the best tonics known, combined with the blood purifiers, acting directly on the mucous surfaces. The perfect combination of the two ingredients is what produces wonderful results in curing Cataract. For testimonials, free. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Props, Toledo, Sold by druggists, price 75c.

Jokes and their Admirers.

The woman who talks had the man who writes jokes in her tentacles. He was squirming. "Really," she said ebulliently, "do you ever manage to write all these things? I couldn't do it to save my life."

Snake Charming.

In India and Africa the charmer pretend the snakes dance to the music but they do not, for they never hear a snake has no external ears, and he gets evidence of sound through his skin, when sound comes in contact with him to vibrate. They hear also through the nerves. They hear also through the nerves. They hear also through the nerves. They hear also through the nerves.

Three Harvest Excursions South via Wabash Railroad.

On Aug. 22nd, Sept. 12th and Oct. 12th the Wabash will sell round trip tickets to all points in Arkansas, Texas, Tennessee (except Memphis), Mississippi and Louisiana (except New Orleans), at one fare, plus good returning 20 days from date of issue. For tickets or folders giving a description of lands, climate, &c., call at Wabash Office, 1502 Farnam Street, or write to G. N. CLAYTON, Northwestern Pass. Agent, Omaha.

Good Housekeeping for August is a full complement of valuable and interesting papers, among which appear account of Miss Parlos's visit to Chicago Fair, and some of the best seen there; another installment of serial, "A Noble Girlhood"; a sensible article on "Pickling and Serving," by Margaret Fayerweather; a discussion of "Servants and the Quarters," by Mrs. Oliver Bell; a sound commendation of M. D. Food," by Isabella Gardner, a notable paper on country cooking, in connection with city home, by Mrs. Norton. There is a good story by Mrs. N. A. M. Roe, two pages of music, innumerable suggestions to housewife, together with much poetry and the usual magazine departments. The Clark W. Bryan compilers, Springfield, Mass.

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