

the steward, who was to accompany him home with it.

The couple left the ship and proceeded down the East India dock road side by side, the only incident being a hot argument between a constable and the engineer as to whether he could or could not be held responsible for the language in which the parrot flew at to insult upon the steward happened to drop it.

The engineer took the cage at his door and, not without some misgivings, took it up stairs into the parlor and set it on the table. Mrs. Gannett, a simple looking woman with sleepy brown eyes and a docile manner, clasped her hands with joy.

"Isn't it a beauty?" said Mr. Gannett, looking at it. "I bought it to be company for you while I'm away."

"You're too good to me, Jen," said his wife. She walked all round the cage admiring it, the parrot, which was of a highly suspicious and nervous disposition, having had boys at its last place, turning with her. After she had walked round him five times, he got sick of it and in a simple, saffrony fashion said so.

"Oh, Jen," said his wife.

"It's a beautiful talker," said Gannett brightly. "and it's so clever that it picks up everything it hears, but it'll soon forget it."

"It looks as though it knows what you are saying," said his wife. "Just look at it, the scold!"

The opportunity was too good to be missed, and in a few straightforward lines the engineer acquainted Mrs. Gannett of the marvellous powers with which he had chosen to endow it.

"But you don't believe it?" said his wife, staring at him open mouthed.

"I do," said the engineer firmly.

"But how can it know what I'm doing when I'm away?" persisted Mrs. Gannett.

"Ah, that's its secret," said the engineer. "A good many people would like to know that, but nobody has found out yet. It's a magic bird, and when you've said that you've said all there is to say about it."

Mrs. Gannett, wrinkling her forehead, eyed the marvellous bird curiously.

"You'll find it's quite true," said Gannett. "When I come back, that bird'll be able to tell me how you've been and all about you. Everything you've done during my absence."

"Good gracious!" said the astonished Mrs. Gannett.

"If you stay out after 7 of an evening or do anything else that I shouldn't like, that bird'll tell me," continued the engineer impressively. "I'll tell me who comes to see you, and, in fact, it will tell me everything you do while I'm away."

"Well, it won't have anything bad to tell of me," said Mrs. Gannett composedly. "unless it tells lies."

"It can't tell lies," said her husband confidently. "and now if you will go and put your bonnet on we'll drop in at the theater for half an hour."

It was a prophetic utterance, for he made such a fuss over the man next to his wife offering her his opera glasses that they left, at the urgent request of the management, in almost exactly that space of time.

"You'd better carry me about in a handkerchief," said Mrs. Gannett wearily as the outraged engineer stalked home beside her. "What harm was the man doing?"

"You must have given him some encouragement," said Mr. Gannett severely. "made eyes at him or something. A man wouldn't offer to lend a lady his opera glasses without—"

Mrs. Gannett tossed her head, and that so decidedly that a passing stranger turned his head and looked at her. Mrs. Gannett accelerated his pace and, taking his wife's arm, led her swiftly home with a passion too great for words.

By the morning his anger had evaporated, but the misgivings remained. He left after breakfast for the Curlew, which was to sail in the afternoon.

chance bringing her parcel to the charge.

"Don't do that," said her friend hastily.

"Why not?" said the other.

"Language!" said Mrs. Gannett solemnly.

"Well, I must do something to it," said Mrs. Cluffins restlessly.

She held the parcel near the cage and suddenly opened it. It was a flaming scarlet, and for the moment the shock took the parrot's breath away.

"He don't mind that," said Mrs. Gannett.

The parrot, hopping to the farther corner of the bottom of his cage, said something feebly. Finding that nothing dreadful happened, he repeated his remark somewhat more boldly and, being convinced after all that the apparition was quite harmless and that he had displaced his craven spirit for nothing, hopped back on his perch and raved wickedly.

"If that was my bird," said Mrs. Cluffins, almost as scarlet as her parcel, "I should wring its neck."

"No, you wouldn't," said Mrs. Gannett solemnly and, having quieted the bird by throwing a cloth over its cage, explained its properties.

"What?" said Mrs. Cluffins, unable to sit still in her chair. "You mean to tell me that your husband said that?"

Mrs. Gannett nodded. "He's awfully jealous of me," she said, with a slight smile.

"I wish he was my husband," said Mrs. Cluffins in a thin, hard voice. "I wish Cluffins would talk to me like that. I wish somebody would try and persuade Cluffins to talk to me like that."

"It shows he's fond of me," said Mrs. Gannett, looking down.

Mrs. Cluffins jumped up and, snatching the cover off the cage, endeavored, but in vain, to get the parrot through the bars.

"And you believe that rubbish?" she said scathingly. "Bah, you wretch!"

"I don't believe it," said her friend, taking her gently away and covering the cage hastily just as the bird was recovering, "but I let him think I do."

"I call it an outrage," said Mrs. Cluffins, waving the parcel wildly. "I never heard of such a thing. I'd like to give Mr. Gannett a piece of my mind. Just about half an hour of it. He wouldn't be the same man afterward. I'd parrot him."

Mrs. Gannett, soothing her agitated friend as well as she was able, led her gently to a chair and removed her bonnet and, finding that complete recovery was impossible while the parrot remained in the room, took that wonder working bird outside.

By the time they had reached the docks and boarded the Curlew Mrs. Cluffins had quite recovered her spirits. She raved about the steamer asking questions which savored more of idle curiosity than a genuine thirst for knowledge and was at no pains to conceal her opinion of those who were unable to furnish her with satisfactory replies.

"I shall think of you every day, Jen," said Mrs. Gannett tenderly.

"I shall think of you every minute," said the engineer reproachfully.

He smiled gently and gazed in a scandalized fashion at Mrs. Cluffins, who was carrying on a desperate flirtation with one of the apprentices.

"She's very light hearted," said his wife, following the direction of his eyes.

"She is," said Mr. Gannett curiously as the unconscious Mrs. Cluffins shortened her parcel and rapped the apprentice playfully with the handle.

"She seems to be on very good terms with Jenkins, laughing and carrying on. I don't suppose she's ever seen him before," said the engineer.

"Poor young thing," said Mrs. Cluffins solemnly, as she came up to them. "Don't you worry, Mr. Gannett. I'll look after her and keep her from moping."

"You're very kind," said the engineer slowly.

"We'll have a jolly time," said Mrs. Cluffins. "I often wish my husband was a seafaring man. A wife does have more freedom, doesn't she?"

"More what?" inquired Mr. Gannett huskily.

"More freedom," said Mrs. Cluffins gravely. "I always envy sailors' wives. They can do as they like. No husband to look after them for nine or ten months in the year."

Before the unhappy engineer could put his indignant thoughts into words there was a warning cry from the gangway, and with a hasty farewell he hurried below. The visitors went ashore, the gangway was shipped, and in response to the clang of the telegraph the Curlew drifted slowly away from the quay and headed for the swing bridge slowly opening in front of her.

The two ladies hurried to the pierhead and watched the steamer down the river until a bend hid it from view. Then Mrs. Gannett, with a sensation of having lost something, due her friend assuring her, to the want of a cup of tea, went slowly back to her lonely home.

In the period of grass widowhood which ensued, Mrs. Cluffins' visits formed almost the sole relief to the bare monotony of existence. As a companion the parrot was an utter failure, its language being so irredeemably bad that it spent most of its time in the spare room with a cloth over its cage wondering when the days were going to lengthen a bit.

Mrs. Cluffins suggested selling it, but her friend repelled the suggestion with horror and refused to entertain it at any price, even that of the publican at the corner, who had heard of the bird's command of language and was bent upon buying it.

"I wonder what that beauty will have to tell your husband," said Mrs. Cluffins as they sat together one day some four months after the Curlew's departure.

"I should hope that he has forgotten

that nonsense," said Mrs. Gannett, reddening. "He never alludes to it in his letters."

"Sell it," said Mrs. Cluffins peremptorily. "It's no good to you, and Jimson would give anything for it almost."

Mrs. Gannett shook her head. "The house wouldn't hold my husband if I did," she remarked, with a shiver.

"Oh, yes, it would!" said Mrs. Cluffins. "You do as I tell you, and a much smaller house than this would hold him. I told Cluffins to tell Jimson he should have it for £5."

"But he mustn't," said her friend in alarm.

"Leave yourself right in my hands," said Mrs. Cluffins, spreading out two small palms and regarding them complacently. "It'll be all right, I promise you."

She put her arm around her friend's waist and led her to the window, talking earnestly. In five minutes Mrs. Gannett was wavering, in ten she had given away, and in 15 the energetic Mrs. Cluffins was en route for Jimson's, swinging the cage so violently in her excitement that the parrot was reduced to holding on to its perch with claws and bill and could only think Mrs. Gannett watched their progress from the window and with a queer look on her face sat down to think out the points of attack and defense in the approaching fray.

A week later a four wheeler drove up to the door, and the engineer, darting up stairs three steps at a time, dropped an armful of parcels on the floor and caught his wife in an embrace which would have done credit to a bear. Mrs. Gannett, for reasons, of which lack of muscle was only one, responded less ardently.

"Ha, it's good to be home again!" said Gannett, sinking into an easy chair and pulling his wife on his knee. "And how have you been? Lonely?"

"I got used to it," said Mrs. Gannett softly.

The engineer coughed. "You had the parrot," he remarked.

"Yes, I had the magic parrot," said Mrs. Gannett.

"How's it getting on?" said her husband, looking round. "Where is it?"

"Part of it is on the mantelpiece," said Mrs. Gannett, trying to speak calmly, "part of it is in a bonnet box up stairs, some of it's in my pocket, and here is the remainder."

She fumbled in her pocket and placed in his hand a cheap two bladed clasp knife.

"On the mantelpiece?" repeated the engineer, staring at the knife. "In a bonnet box?"

"Those blue vases," said his wife.

Mr. Gannett put his hand to his head. If he had heard aright, one parrot had changed into a pair of blue vases, a bonnet and a knife. A magic bird with a vengeance!

"I sold it," said Mrs. Gannett suddenly.

The engineer's knee stiffened inhospitably, and his arm dropped from his wife's waist. She rose quietly and took a chair opposite.

"Sold it?" said Mr. Gannett in awful tones. "Sold my parrot?"

"I didn't like it, Jen," said his wife. "I didn't want that bird watching me, and I did want the vases and the bonnet and the little present for you."

Gannett pitched the little present to the other end of the room.

"You see, it mightn't have told the truth, Jen," continued Mrs. Gannett. "It might have told all sorts of lies about me and made no end of mischief."

"It couldn't lie," shouted the engineer passionately, rising from his chair and pacing the room. "It's your guilty conscience that's made a coward of you. How dare you sell my parrot?"

"Because it wasn't truthful, Jen," said his wife, who was somewhat pale. "If you were half as truthful, you'd do," vociferated the engineer, standing over her. "You, you deceitful woman!"

Mrs. Gannett fumbled in her pocket again and producing a small handkerchief applied it delicately to her eyes.

"I got rid of it for your sake," she stammered. "It used to tell such lies about you I couldn't bear to listen to it."

"About me?" said Mr. Gannett, sinking into his seat and staring at his wife with very natural amazement. "Tell lies about me? Nonsense. How could it?"

"I suppose it could tell me about you as easily as it could you about me," said Mrs. Gannett. "There was more magic in that bird than you thought, Jen. It used to say shocking things about you. I couldn't bear it."

"Do you think you're talking to a child or a fool?" demanded the engineer hotly.

Mrs. Gannett shook her head feebly. She still kept the handkerchief to her eyes, but allowed a portion to drop over her mouth.

"I should like to hear some of the lies it told about me," said the engineer, with bitter sarcasm. "If you can remember them."

"The first lie," said Mrs. Gannett in a feeble but ready voice, "was about the time you were at Genoa. The parrot said you were at some concert garden at the upper end of the town."

One moist eye came mildly from behind the handkerchief just in time to see the engineer stiffen suddenly in his chair.

"I don't suppose there even is such a place," she continued.

"I believe there is," said her husband jerkily. "I've heard our chaps talk of it."

"But you haven't been there?" said his wife anxiously.

"Never!" said the engineer, with extraordinary vehemence.

"That wicked bird said that you got intoxicated there," said Mrs. Gannett, in solemn accents. "that you smashed a little marble topped table and knocked down two waiters and that if it

hadn't have been for the captain of the Pursuit, who was in there and who got you away, you'd have been locked up. Wasn't it a wicked bird?"

"Horrible!" said the engineer huskily.

"I don't suppose there ever was a ship called the Pursuit," continued Mrs. Gannett.

"Doesn't sound like a ship's name," murmured Mr. Gannett.

"Well, then a few days later it said the Curlew was at Naples."

"I never went ashore all the time we were at Naples," remarked the engineer casually.

"The parrot said you did," said Mrs. Gannett.

"I suppose you'll believe your own lawful husband before that dashed bird!" shouted Gannett, starting up.

"Of course I didn't believe it, Jen," said his wife. "I'm trying to prove to you that the bird was not truthful, but you're so hard to persuade."

Mr. Gannett took a pipe from his pocket and with a small knife dug, with much severity and determination, a hardened plug from the bowl and blew noisily through the stem.

"There was a girl kept a fruit stall just by the harbor," said Mrs. Gannett, "and on this evening, on the strength



"Sold it! Sold my parrot!"

of having bought three pennyworth of green figs, you put your arm round her waist and tried to kiss her, and her sweetheart, who was standing close by, tried to stab you. The parrot said that you were in such a state of terror that you jumped into the harbor and was nearly drowned."

Mr. Gannett, having loaded his pipe, lit it slowly and carefully and with tidy precision got up and deposited the match in the fireplace.

"It used to frighten me so with its stories that I hardly knew what to do with myself," continued Mrs. Gannett, "when you were at Suez."

The engineer waved his hand imperiously.

"That's enough," he said stiffly.

"I'm sure I don't want to have to repeat what it told me about Suez," said his wife. "I thought you'd like to hear it, that's all."

"Not at all," said the engineer, puffing at his pipe. "Not at all."

"But you see why I got rid of the bird, don't you?" said Mrs. Gannett. "If it had told you untruths about me, you would have believed them, wouldn't you?"

Mr. Gannett took his pipe from his mouth and took his wife in his extended arms. "No, my dear," he said brookingly; "no more than you believed all this stuff about me."

"And I did quite right to sell it, didn't I, Jen?"

"Quite right," said Mr. Gannett, with a great assumption of heartiness. "Best thing to do with it."

"You haven't heard the worst yet," said Mrs. Gannett. "When you were at Suez—"

Mr. Gannett consigned Suez to its only rival and, thumping the table with his clinched fist, forbade his wife to mention the word again and desired her to prepare supper.

Not until he heard her moving about in the kitchen below did he relax the severity of his countenance. Then his expression changed to one of extreme anxiety, and he restlessly paced the room, seeking for light. It came suddenly.

"Jenkins," he gasped, "that little brute Jenkins! That's what he was writing to Mrs. Cluffins about, and I was going to tell Cluffins about it. I expect he knows the letters by heart."

Some Consolation.

"Well, sir," said the judge, glaring down over his spectacles at the prisoner who had been convicted of habitual drunkenness, disorderly conduct, vagrancy and confirmed kleptomania, "have you anything to say why sentence shouldn't be passed upon you?"

"Your honor," answered the culprit, throwing his chest lightly up in the air, "I've been found guilty, haven't I?"

"Yes."

"And no matter what I say, it wouldn't affect your determination to incarcerate me, would it?"

"Not in the least," cheerfully assented the judge.

"Then why did you ask me if I had anything to say why sentence shouldn't be passed upon me? Was it your purpose to raise false hopes in my breast or was it simply out of respect to my tradition? If the first, you betray a disposition malignant in its cruelty; if the second, a foolish regard for silly superstition. I am loath—"

"Six months!" cried the judge.

"To believe that one of your gray head and thought lined visage would be guilty of either offense against the law laid down by reason, but—"

"One year!" yelled the judge.

"Appearance are against you. Far be it for a man in my position to try and humiliate the judiciary, but—"

"Two years!" howled the judge. "Muzzle that man! Drag him out!"

..... JUNE SALE

\$25,000 of well selected Dry Goods & Shoes will commence Friday, June 1 at the following low price to all.

..Mail Orders Filled Same Day as Received..

White Goods Sale

1,000 yds white India linen, 6½c quality for 4c

1,000 yds white India linen, 7½c quality for 5c

1,500 yds white India linen 8 1-3c quality for 6½c

1,200 yds white India linen, 10c quality for 7½c

1,000 yds white India linen, 12½c quality for 10c

1,000 yds white India linen, 15c quality for 12½c

We also show an elegant line of white Dimities

We also show an elegant line of Dotted Swiss

A great many other fine white fabrics suitable for fine summer wear.

June Sale

On fine Dimities and ardeny

We just close out 2,500 yds of the latest patterns, same as worth up to 25c, they go in the June sale at 10c and 12½c

June Lawn

20 pieces of dark neat Butterworth, 6c, on sale 3½c

40 pieces light dark Butterworth, 6½c, on sale 4½c

25 pieces of light dark Butterworth, 10c, on sale 7c

June Sale

On fine Dimities and ardeny

We just close out 2,500 yds of the latest patterns, same as worth up to 25c, they go in the June sale at 10c and 12½c

June Corset Sale

Lot 1, the best summer corset 25c

Lot 2, our regular 50c quality corset for 30c

Lot 3, our regular 75c quality corset for 48c

Lot 4, our regular \$1.00 quality corset for 74c

Underwear

Ladies' gauze vest for 5c

Ladies' gauze vest for 6½c

Ladies' gauze vest for 7c

Ladies' gauze vest for 10c

Ladies' gauze vest for 12½c

Muslin Underwear Sale

Muslin drawers 19c

Muslin drawers 24c

Muslin drawers 29c

Muslin drawers 39c

We also show complete line of new up-to-date furnishings for ladies.

Ribbon Sale

200 pieces, 5, 6, and 7 in wide, all colors, on sale 24c

Kid Glove Sale

\$1.25c gloves for 98c

We also give trading coupons for elegant Dinner Set.

REMEMBER FASTEST GROWING WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRY GOODS STORE IN THE WEST

Tucker Bros. Co.

Northeast Corner 10th and P Streets, Lincoln, Nebr.

LEGAL NOTICE

Lilla Parsons, Annie Parker, Phoebe Maud Jones, John Charles Jones, Albert Bush, Sarah Sheldon, Emily Owens, Mrs. John Say, Benjamin Bailey, Mr. Barber (Station Agent), Nathan England, first name unknown, Thomas Sheldon, Mrs. Henry Crocker, (formerly Mary Griffiths of Lincoln), Litley Park, Redland Park, (first name unknown), Henry Horwood, Richard Lethbridge, Litley Park, Reverend George Parker, will take notice that on the 15th day of May 1900, Oliver C. Link, plaintiff herein filed his petition in the district court of Lancaster county, Nebraska, against said defendants and others, the object and prayer of which are to quiet and determine the title to the following described land, to-wit: The northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section thirty one in township ten, north range six, east in Lancaster county Nebraska. Also all of the south half of the northwest quarter of said section thirty one, excepting a tract of five acres known as the Mullon tract, and described by metes and bounds as follows: Beginning at a point on the east line of the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of said section thirty one, with north line of said forty acre tract, running thence south along the said east line 218.5 feet, thence west parallel with north line of said forty acre tract 62 feet to the east line of the right of way of the Nebraska railway, thence following the east line of said right of way north 338.4 feet, thence east parallel with the north line of said forty acre tract 75.9 feet to place of beginning, and also excepting the right of way of said railway through said land.

Also all of the north half of the northwest quarter of said section thirty one, excepting a tract of five acres known as the Mullon tract, and described by metes and bounds as follows: Beginning at a point on the east line of the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of said section thirty one, with north line of said forty acre tract, running thence south along the said east line 218.5 feet, thence west parallel with north line of said forty acre tract 62 feet to the east line of the right of way of the Nebraska railway, thence following the east line of said right of way north 338.4 feet, thence east parallel with the north line of said forty acre tract 75.9 feet to place of beginning, and also excepting the right of way of said railway through said land.

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