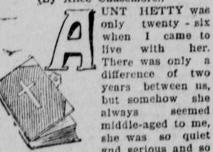


AN EASTER ROMANCE.

(By Alice Chasemore.)



and serious and so different from my restless, excited self. She was so sad at times that I could not help wondering if some time in her life she had not experienced some serious sorrow, for she had means and friends enough to make her life worth

living, and should have been happy. One day I found her weeping quietly with a little red book in her hand. I endeavored to calm her, to find out the reason for her sorrow, and then

she told me this story: "It happened when I was only eighteen. I was engaged to be married. My lover was four years older than myself; he was a mate of a ship, and a fine, dashing young fellow named Edward Blake. We had been engaged six months and were to be married a month later. The day was fixed, and Edward had arranged to give up the sea and take a situation on land. We were as happy as two young people could possibly be; but, unluckily, just a month before the time fixed for our wedding day, a picnic was gotten up by some of our friends, and Edward and I were of the party. There was a heard of him he was a captain; but handsome young fellow there named that is many years ago, and I do not Percy Sandys, the son of a neighboring know whether he is alive or dead. So clergyman. He was fresh from col- ends my poor little romance. There is lege, and full of fun and frolic. I chanced to be placed next to him at luncheon, and not knowing, as I afterward discovered, that I was engaged, he was specially attentive to me. I did not care for his attentions in my coffin when I die. Will you rememthe least, but I was in high spirits and ber this, dear?" only bent on the enjoyment of the moment and I did not check him as, perhaps, I ought to have done. Presently, I caught sight of Edward's face, and saw that he was looking terribly cross and angry. Foolishly I thought it rather good fun to make him jealous, and, on purpose to tease him, I pretended to take all the more notice of were a good many visitors staying in Mr. Sandys. When we finished lunch- the house, but they were mostly in eon the party scattered and strolled about the woods in various directions. I naturally expected Edward to accompany me, but he rather rudely, as

him, I paired off with Mr. Sandys.

Edward looked so savage that I

thought it better not to provoke him

any further.

"I shook off Mr. Sandys, and, walking away with Edward, began to scold | manner a slight acquaintance sprung him for his unreasonable jealousy. Of up between us. It had, however, gone course, I did not think I myself was in | no farther than a friendly nod or a refault; nobody ever does. A loving word would have made me penitent directly. Unfortunately, he was white with anger, and began to reproach me in a way that roused my temper, too, for I was quick enough to take offence in those days, Ruth, though I have learned better since. I can remember, as if it were yesterday, the nook in the woods where we stood, the sunshine glinting through the trees and lighting up Edward's flushed face and angry eyes. He reproached me bitterly-more bitterly, I think, than I deserved. He called me a heartless coquette, and I called him little-minded and told him he had made himself ridiculous by his unreasonable jeatousy. We got hotter and hotter, and finally he declared that if I did not admit that I had been wrong, and promise to behave differently for the future, all must be over between us. I did not care a straw for Mr. Sandys. and would fifty times sooner have had Edward with me, but I would have died sooner than have told him so then. So I gave him a bitter answer, and we both grew angrier still. His last words, uttered with all the intensky of passion, ring still in my ears, 1 can tell you them word for word: 'Hetty, if you let me go now, understand clearly you will never see my face again.' I did not quite believe him. Perhaps if I had I should still have let him go. At any rate, I was far too angry to give way then. 'Go,

had been tearing to pieces, in my passion, a little spray of hawthorne he had given me earlier in the day. I had pulled off the leaves one by one, and when he left me the bare stem was left in my hand, with one leaf only remaining. See, here it is, the last relic of my first and last love. God grant that in your whole life, my Ruth, you

She opened the little red prayer book in her lap and showed me, hidden in a tissue paper pocket, the yellow hawthorne leaf.

"This little book," she said, "was Edward's gift to me, and this old dry leaf is my only relic of the day when we parted in the wood, never to meet again in this world. Stay, I have one more treasure, see!"

She drew from her bosom a quaint old locket and put it in my hand. It was a miniature painting representing a young man in an old-fashioned naval costume. It was a handsome face, but stern and proud-looking, and I could very well believe that the original would have behaved as Aunt Hetty had described.

"But did you really part like that, auntie?" I said. "Did you never see him again?"

"Never. He did not go back to the picnic party, but joined an outwardbound ship the next day, leaving a brief note for my mother, stating that we had fortunately found out in time that we were unsuited to each other, and had, therefore, by mutual consent, put an end to our engagement."

"But that was very cruel, auntie." "I thought so then. Perhaps it was a little; but afterward I blamed myself far more than him. I had given the provocation; and I knew in my heart of hearts that one word of regret on my part would have made all right between us. But I was too proud to say it. I let him go with my eyes opened, and I have been justly pun-

"But have you never heard from him since, dear auntie?"

"Once or twice, but only indirectly, He had no relatives in our part of the country. I know that he gave up the sea and obtained a commission in some Indiana regiment. When last I one thing I should like to ask, Ruth, and that is partly why I have told you my story. You have seen my relics. They have been my greatest treasure in life, and I should like them put in I could not answer for tears, but I

kissed her hand and she was content. Two months ago, tired of our humdrum country life, auntie and I resolved to visit foreign parts. Accordingly, we went to Boulogne and took up our abode in a quiet boarding house in the Rue des Vieillards. There families or parties, and we did not mingle with them. Our vis-a-vis at table was a tall gentleman of soldierly appearance, who was always spoken of I thought, held aloof, and, to punish as the major. When he ventured to address an order to the waiting maids When the party got together again in French, the difficulties he got into were dreadful, and he always ended by gettnig angry with himself and them. I ventured to help him out of a difficulty once or twice, and in this



"GO, IF YOU WISH IT."

mark across the dinner table. With other visitors he fraternized even less. So matters stood until the night of Easter Sunday came, when we went to the little English church in an adjoining street. We were ushered into one of the pews appropriated for strangers and a minute or two later the major was shown into the same pew and sat down beside us. During the service the major, by an accidental movement of his arm, threw down auntie's little red prayer book. He picked it up, and was about to replace it, but as he held it in full view under the gas, his eyes chanced to fall upon it, and he started by sit means, if you wish it,' I said, as though he had seen a ghost. He and in another moment he was gone, I laid the book down, but he glanced

from it to Aunt Hetty, as if trying to satisfy himself on some point. The sermon came to an end, and the benediction followed, but I fear the major had no part in it. He took advantage of the moment when all heads were bowed to do a very unmannerly thing. He slyly put up his eyeglasses and read the name inside auntie's book. It was quickly done, and might have escaped notice, but I watched him closely. I could even read the name myself. It was in a bold, manly hand: "To Hester; June 28, 18-." I was aghast at such an act of impertinence, and glanced at auntie to see if she would resent it; but she had probably not noticed it, for she made no sign.

The congregation began to disperse, and we went out, but we were scarcely in the street when the major spoke to auntie.

"Madam, I am going to ask you a very singular question, but let me assure you that I have a deep personal interest in asking it. Will you tell me how you came by that red prayerbook you use?"

I shall never forget auntie's quickly-given answer, but I could tell by the faint flush on her usually pale face how deeply she was moved.

"You gave it to me, yourself, Major Blake, years ago."

Surprise, delight and incredulity struggled for the mastery in the major's face. He took off his hat and stood bare-headed, and that one little gesture told more plainly than the most passionate protestations could have done, that the old love had been kept a treasured and sacred thing. I think, from the smile on her mouth, as she tooked at him, that the same thought came to auntie,

"And you are Hetty! Yes, I know you now," he said.
"You had forgotten the eight years,

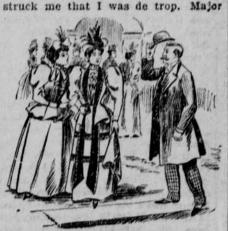
Major Blake. I knew you from the "And would you really have let me go without a word?"

"Why not? How could I know you would wish to be reminded of old times?"

"Reminded! I have never forgotten. I tried my hardest to forget and couldn't. Although you preferred an-

"Another! What other?" "Didn't you marry young Sandys?"

"I have never seen him since." At this stage of the conversation it



Will You Tell Me How You Came by the Red Prayer-book You Use?"

Blake, side by side with auntle, was walking slowly homeward, and on rection. When I reached home I found auntie and the Major sitting in the courtyard under the trees. The Major lifted his hat at my approach and said:

"Miss Danvers, your aunt and I are very old friends; indeed, many years ago we were engaged to be married, but an unfortunate misunderstanding separated us. We have lost many happy years, but I hope some still remain to us. I trust we shall have your good wishes.'

I looked from one to the other. "You dear, darling auntie, then you really are going to be married after all? Of course I wish you joy, and Major Blake too, from the very bottom of my heart!"

I don't know how the secret oozed out, but before another day had passed every one in the house knew that the handsome English major had met an old love in the person of the gentle little lady with the sweet smile and the soft gray hair, and that after a separation of eight years they were engaged to be married, and they were accordingly promoted to all the privileges of engaged lovers.

I must pass over the homeward journey and the astonishment of our friends at Fairfield when auntie returned engaged to be married. Some few of them had known Major Blake, but to most of them he was a stranger. Many were the questions and explanations before everything was accounted for to everybody's satisfac- Cuban rebellion and is becoming tion; but it was done at last. And then came the preparation of the trousseau; and at last the happy pair have been made one, and auntie is off to the Isle of Wight to spend her honeymoon. Hefore going she called me to her

room and said: "Ruth, dear, I am going to give you this little red prayer book as a part. and the plants will be put out in a ing remembrance. You know how I so dear to me. And if, when Mr. Right comes, Ruth, you are tempted to be willful or wayward, or to pain a heart that loves you truly, think of your Aunt Hetty, and the faded leaf, for not every mistake in life ends as mine did on Easter Day."

from the neighbors."

he sure and return 'em."- Detroit Free ,

will lie about what he pays for hig ch | they came from the house, without

AMENDMENT RECOUNT

THE RECANVASS COMMITTEE MAKES REPORT.

Legislature Declares the Constitutional Amendment Relating to Increase of Judges Not Carried-How Much is Lacking of a Constitutional Majority.

The Recanvass Finished.

The recanvass of the amendment vote has ended and the legislature has declared the constitutional amendment relating to the increase of supreme judges not carried. This action was taken when the joint recanvassing board submitted a report which showed that the amendment has not received a

constitutional majority.

As recanvassed, the amendment lacked 17,754 votes of receiving a majority of the total vote cast at the election, the necessary constitutional majority. The board reported that 201,375 votes were cast for senator and 203,552 votes for representatives; that there were 97,644 votes for the amend ment and 37,029 against it, and that the total vote of the state was 230,361 Taking the vote on senators for a basis for a majority, and the amendment lacked 3,044. Taking the vote on rep-resentatives and it lacked 4,133. Taking the total vote of the state as re ported by the commission, and the amendment lacked 17,537. According to the official vote, as returned to the state canvassing board, the amend-ment received 84,579, lacking nearly 31,000 of carrying. The aggregate in-crease for the amendment as found by the recanvassing board was 13,065.

The joint convention was called to order at 4 o.clock, with Lieut.-Gov. Harris in the chair. There were twenty-two senators and eighty-three representatives present. The chairman stated that the convention had met pursuant to an act authorizing the recanvass of the vote on the constitu-

tional amendment. Chairman Loomis of the recanvassing board handed up the committee report, which contained the vote by counties as recanvassed. The report contained the vote on senators and representa-tives, the vote for and against the amendment, and the total vote cast at the election. The report of the board was as follows, minus the tabular

statement in detail: To the legislature of the state of Ne-To the legislature of the sant braska: We, the joint committee appointed by the senate and the house representatives of the state of Nebras-ka, under an act to provide for the recount of the ballots cast on Novem-3, 1896, on the constitutional amendment relating to judges of the supreme court, and approved March 25, 1897, have completed the work assigned to us and herewith submit our findings. This report was signed the recanvassing board comprising Senators Canaday, Sykes, Heapy, Representatives Loomis, Fernow, Dobson and Gerdes, who conducted the recount and employed a large number of legis lative employes to do much of the work.

Footings of the table given with the report are as follows: Vote for senator. 201,375; for representative, 203,-552; for amendment, 97,647; against amendment, 37,029; total vote, 230,361.

Fire Insurance Business in 1896.

The auditor of public accounts has issued his annual statement of the risks written, premiums received, losses incurred and paid by fire and reaching a convenient street corner, I dosses incurred and paid by fire and other insurance companies, except life went off for a stroll in an opposite dinary accident. The report is for the and accident. The report is for the year ending December 31, 1896. report shows that joint stock fire insurance companies wrote risks amounting to \$89,739,366.28, receiving therepremiums amounting to 81,377. 686,43. The losses for the year reached \$553,188.09, and the losses paid for the year, \$620,609.50.

Nebraska farme's mutual insurance companies wrote \$10,427,092.92, re ceived an income of \$79,880.53, and paid expenses amounting to \$29,555,09. The losses paid foot up to \$55,252.76. and the amount of insurance in force is \$21,939,938,84.

Miscellaneous companies wrote \$12, 166,537.62 in risks, received \$70,304.20 in premiums, and paid losses amounting to \$16,706,82. Nebraska mutual companies, two of

which are at Omaha and two at Falls City, wrote \$581,986.69 in risks, re ceived \$32,553.75 in premiums and incurred \$153.70 in losses.

Will Try Tobacco Culture.

George Godfrey of Dodge county has leased thirty-five acres of land the Fremont stock yards and land company and will put in a crop of tobzeco. Mr. Godfrey experimented in growing tobacco several years ago on his farm cast of Fremont. which was successfully grown, but was spoiled in curing. The government also undertook to raise a crop at Columbus several years ago, but made a failure of it. Since he put in his first crop machinery has been invented which greatly facilitated the work. The price of leaf tobacco has been greatly increased by reason of the scarce, and in addition the tariff legis lation will tend to protect the grower. Mr. Godfrey has been in the eigurmaking business for years and und stands tobacco growing. During the season of cultivation of the crop he will give employment to from twelve to thirty-five men. A portion of the seed has already been planted in beds month.

have treasured it, and you won't value At the meeting of the Long Pine it the less, I am sure, for having been Chautauqua board the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Judge Morris; vice-president, Dr. H. P. McKnight; seeretary, W. W. Learn.

The joint committee appointed by the two houses to fix upon a time for final adjournment of the legislature "Jane," said the landlady, severely.

"there are the eggs for dinner? I told upon recommended that no bills be you to cook that dozen I borrowed placed on third reading after adjourn om the neighbors." | ment Thursday evening. This, too, was agreed to. Many members of the senate admit that it will be almost impossible to adjourn at the time agreed upon. In order to do so the appropria-The most honest man in the world, tion bills will have to be passed just as

PERISHED WITH COLD.

A Nebraska Man Loses His Life in a Western Storm.

A Kimball dispatch says: Word was received here this morning to the effect that two of the Johnson boys were found dead north of Chevenne, and as the other two have not made their ap pearance, they are thought to have been frozen to death. They were on their way from their home near La Grange to Cheyenne with hogs and were caught in the recent storm.

Casper (Wyo.) special: The body of the sheep herder found in the snow a week ago was brought into town to-day. His name was Richard Kirchhoff, and he has been in the western country for the past ffteen years. He came here from Shelton, Neb., and is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at that place. He was 35 years of age. He has a brother living in Russell county, Kansas, and two sisters in New York. The storm of last Monday was driving in character, but not very cold. It is thought that he left the sheep and started for camp and got lost. His body was found four miles from camp. He probably sat down to rest and went to sleep and was chilled to death. His body when found was not in a frozen state.

United Workmen Matters.

The hearing of the evidence in the Tate. injunction suit against J. G. grand master workman of the A. O. U. W., was begun in the district court of Hall county. The trouble arose in the home lodge of the grand master at Shelton, where charges were preferred against the latter for charging up transportation when he had been oth erwise provided with the same and for failing to properly account for money voted by the grand lodge several years ago for the members who were desti-tute through the effects of the drouth. The lodge trial was duly held at Wood River and the result of it was that Mr. Tate was fully exonerated. The latter thereafter desired to withdraw from his home lodge and asked for his clear-ance card. The Shelton Lodge refused to comply. The grand master then warned it that if it did not comply, he would suspend the charter of the lodge. It still refused and the order went out. Hence the application for injunction.

Sale of the Union Pacific.

General John C. Cowin, special counsel for the United States government in the foreclosure suits of the government against the Union Pacific railway, returned last week from Washington. He had been in conference with the attorney general and other government officials regarding the foreclosure. General Cowin said that he saw no obstacle in the way of foreclosure, but thought that event would come along as quickly as the necessary legal papers could be issued by the courts.

When will the foreclosure take place, General Cowin?

"It's difficult to tell the exact date," he replied, "but the decree will un-doubtedly be issued in May. Then it should not be more than a matter of sixty or ninety days after that until the foreclosure is complete."

Wyoming dispatches say that peo-ple from Lost Cabin report twenty inches of snow and no sheep losses to speak of. On Powder river the storm came with wind and no loss of sheep is reported. In the Salt Creek section there is about two feet and some loss. Bates Hole reports about the same, heaviest and considerable loss is re-ported. In the Ervay country the fall of snow was greater than around Green River, but no sheep camps have

been heard from. Sheep owners along the Platte river got the full benefit of the storm from all reports received. No total losses have been reported and the sheep killed are old ones.

Decide to Meet at Norfolk Again. The North Nebraska teachers' association, which closed its session in Norfolk last week was a great success. Though the weather was exceedingly disagreeable during the meeting, there was a large attendance and much interest was taken in the regular program. The election of officers resulted in the selection of D. D. Martindale of Knox county for president, Superintendent Williams of Platte county vicepresident. Miss Reed of Stanton secretary, and J. E. Paul of Humphrey treasurer. It was decided by a over whelming vote to have the next meeting at Norfolk. Stant · county having held the silk flag for four years, had the largest attendance, and was

A Spectatorium Planned.

again awarded the flag.

It has been decided by the executive committee of the Trans-Mississippi ex-position that what is to be called the "spectatorium." or the theater build-ing, will be constructed first. The aim is to make it a light, airy affair, and as pretty as possible. It will have three galleries and a seating capacity of about 3,500, the main part being surrounded by a foyer with standing room for 1,000. The estimated cost is 835,000, and an effort will be made to bring it below that figure.

A large part of the cost will return to the pocket of the association, for one of the most prominent spectacular managers in the country is ready into a contract for the use of the building for his entertainments, and guarantees a return to the exposition of \$24,000 out of the large percentage which he affers out of his receipts. will use the building every night in the week, and on two afternoons of each week, and the rest of the time it can be used for any purpose, such as the holding of conventions, congresses and concerts.

Little Boy Fatally Injured.

Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Steeves of Panama lost their little boy. On Mon day morning Mrs. Steeves took the team and top buggy and their little son tilen and started for her mother's. Mrs. Thomas J. Dickson. The wind was blowing very strong and her hat blew off. She left the team to get it and just as she attempted to get into the buggy again the team got away from her. The little bug was thrown from the buggy and struck near a culvert and was insensible when Mrs Steeves found him, and never gained consciousness. The team run about three miles before it was stopped.

Andrew Committee of the second second

TOUCHED FOR \$1,275.

HE MADE THE MISTAKE OF SHOWING HIS ROLL

Ae Oklahoma Stockman While Omaha Loses the Price of His Cat tle-Harry Malloy Arrested for

the Theft-The Money Not Yet Returned. Lost His Roll. A stockman of Oklahoma City, who

gave the police the assumed name of D. W. Wilson, says the Omaha Bee, was robbed of a roll of greenbacks, amounting to \$1,275, at the corner of Thirteenth and Farnam streets, shortly before midnight Friday night. The thief was Harry Malloy, better known as the "Cheyenne Kid."

The money consisted largely of the proceeds obtained from a big bunch of cattle brought to South Omaha and sold a few days ago. After disposing of the herd so successfully Wilson felt inclined to take in Omaha before going back to his home and consequently he came to this city in company with the "kid" and B. F. Hudelson. The party at once proceeded to round up the joints about the city and were well organized when they landed in a down town saloon.

they landed in a down town saloon.

In the latter place the three men fell in with a couple of disorderly women. The entire party drank considerable and almost came to blows. In the course of a quarrel over the payment for drinks Wilson pulled out his "roll" and exhibited it to all as evidence that he could pay for any-thing in the house. He then shoved it back into his hip pocket. This little proceeding was watched closely by

After this little squabble the party left the saloon and proceeded east on Farnam street. Wilson was walking in front with one of the women and the 'kid' was in the rear with the other. When Thirteenth street was reached Malloy stepped up to Wilson, put his hand in his hip pocket and pulled out the greenbacks. With the money in his hand he fled.

A report of the occurrence was at once made to the police and the whole party was locked up. Neither the women nor Hudelson could be connected with the crime and they were discharged. Wilson will be held as a complaining witness against Malloy. It was learned that Malloy was in South Omaha and having a high time with the stolen money. A couple of detectives were sent there and they succeeded in locating him. He was accessed in company with a couple of arrested in company with a couple of other young fellows, who were helping him to spend his booty. The men were brought back to this city and lodged

Nebraska Postoffice Changes. Washington special to the Bee: The readsman's ax, so far as postoffices go,

headsman's ax, so far as postoffices go, will in all probability begin to fall next week, the committee on postoffices and postroads of the senate having reached an agreement regarding the reporting back of nominations. These Nebraska nominations have already been made by the president: Leopold Hahn, Hastings, F. P. Corrick, at Cozard, and W. W. Hopkins, at Oakland. In the case of Hahn there is a disposition to allow Wahlquist to send in his resignation, but he evidently in his resignation, but he evidently wanted the honor of being beheaded without resigning, and the machine will get in its work next week. A number of other offices have about been determined upon by those having with considerable loss. On Casper the matter of postoffice patronage in the matter of postoffice patronage in hand. Among them are: W. E. Morgan, at Greeley; Dennis Tracy, Cedar Rapids; W. F. Ware, Plymouth; Charles F. Soule, Wallace, editor of the Tug at that place; J. W. Hann, Wauneta. Among those, it is understood, who have been favorably considered for places are John Hoog, at Palisade; S. M. Pinkerton, Inland; W. R. Pedley, Bertrand; J. L. Saunders, Stockville; F. C. Morse, Eddyville; H. N. Thorp, Brayton; W. A. Barber, Virginia.

That Indian Supply Depot. Ex-Senator Manderson received a letter from C. W. Bliss of the department of the interior to the effect that it was very doubtful if the movement to secure the location of an Indian supply depot in Omaha instead of at New York or Chicago would be successful. Mr. Bliss was urged to work for Omaha by Gen. Manderson. In the former's letter he assures Gen. Man-derson he will do so, but doubts very much if he can meet with success.

Omaha Bridge Case.

A Washington dispatch says the interstate commerce commission will not render a decision in regard to the Omaha bridge arbitrary short of a month or six weeks. The case has been under consideration, but no result was reached, owing to the fact that for some time the commission was reduced to four members, and it was desired to give Prouty, the new member, time to familiarize himself with the features of the case.

Adjournment Near at Hand. The talk about adjournment of the legislature is beginning to become more frequent. The recount commit-tee is expected to finish by Friday, April 2, and then the argument of th houses on the appropriation bills will be all that will stand in the way. The house has authorized the appointment of a committee to confer with the senate committee to fix the day for final adjournment. Belief is that adjournment will take place about April 7.

Seed for Hastings College. Upon application of Representative Sutherland 150 packages of garden and field seeds have been ordered to the Hastings college for experimental purposes.

Better Price for Cora. McCool Junction dispatch: Already the farmers of York county are receiving the benefit of a cut in rates. An advance of I cents a bushel for ear corn, not only here but in surrounding towns, is not caused by the corn i vancing if value of much as the; the rute for hanling has decreased. There is no doubt but what grain brokers are getting out rates on freight, and this 3 cents advance that farmers are getting means thousands of dellars more that the farmers of York are real-tion for their core.