

A GIRL'S STRATAGEM.

"Kate," said Levia Winslow, looking half-defiantly at her cousin, "I won't stand papa's opposition to Harry any longer. You know Harry is a perfect gentleman, honorable and industrious, and it is only because he is comparatively poor that papa objects to my marrying him."

"But what can you do, Levia? Your father is as determined that you and Harry shall not marry as you seem to be contrary-minded," Kate Winslow said, smiling at her cousin's desperate air. Levia came closer and whispered in Kate's ear:

"We're going to elope! And you must help us—won't you, dear?"

"Don't, darling; don't think of such a thing. Wait and try persuasion with your father. When he finds out that your heart is really set on Harry he surely will relent," pleaded Kate earnestly, for she knew how hot-headed her Kentucky uncle was and feared the result of an elopement.

"Pshaw! Kate, I've tried persuasion and everything else until I'm tired, and I promised Harry last night that you and I would go to Louisville Thursday on the morning train. He and Phil Lee will get on at La Grange and we will go over to Jeffersonville and get that famous squire to marry us. Then Harry and I will begin life together on his little farm and be happy ever afterward," she ended, with a delighted laugh.

Kate argued with her for some time, but finding that her cousin had fully determined upon the elopement she at last gave a reluctant assent to accompany her, hoping that all would be for the best.

Had it not been that she knew that Harry Carroll was all that Levia fondly pictured him, she would never have consented; but she knew that it was only a lack of riches in the suitor which caused Judge Winslow's objection to the match, and she believed that Harry would make her cousin happier than any one whom the judge might choose.

The plan worked smoothly, and Thursday, at noon, two young men, accompanied by two charming, pretty girls, stepped off the train at the Louisville & Nashville depot in Louisville. As they did so they noticed a policeman among the crowd, holding a telegram in his hand. When he saw the little group he started toward them.

"It's all up with us, Levia," groaned

ter. He found only his niece, Kate, in the room, coolly reading a paper.

"Where is Levia?" he gasped in dismay.

"Well, my dear uncle," said Kate, calmly, "I am not sure, but I think that Mr. and Mrs. Harry Carroll are just leaving the city for their country home. At least," looking at her watch, "it is just train time."

"What do you mean, girl?" cried the judge, redder and angrier than ever.

"I mean this, uncle," Kate answered bravely, "that, as the policeman could not tell us apart, I assumed Levia's name and came to the station house as a prisoner and left her and Harry to carry out their plans. Now, uncle, be angry if you want to, but be angry with me, and do not destroy Levia's happiness by uttering words you will some day repent."

The judge was so astonished at Kate's stratagem that he cooled down a little and she took advantage of this to plead powerfully for the young couple, pointing out the good points in Harry's character, and depicting the love he bore for Levia so skillfully that Judge Winslow finally said:

"You should have been a man, Kate, and studied law, for I think you would have made a success. At least you have made me suspend judgment upon these young culprits, and I will punish Levia only by receiving you into the place she formerly occupied in my heart."

Kate smiled happily as she prepared to return home with her uncle, for she well knew that no human being could ever take the place in his affections which belonged to his only child. And she was correct in her judgment, for her uncle allowed his natural generosity to triumph over his offended pride and received Mr. and Mrs. Harry Carroll kindly when they came the next day to beg for his forgiveness. Kate, who insisted that she was the real culprit, was as truly forgiven on condition that she would take part in no more elopements.

SUCCESS IN FICTION.

The Best Writers Are Those Who Regard it as Their Chief Mission.

Mr. James Bryce, who has achieved fame as an essayist on economic problems and as a political analyst, contemplates devoting his pen to fiction, says a writer in the St. Louis Republic. It is not stated whether his motive is amusement or profit. Perhaps it is a mixture of both. If he achieves popular applause, he will disclose a versatility unsuspected by those who have perused his efforts along the more serious lines of literature. It appears that nearly all literary men at some time in their lives have been attracted toward the task of making novels. The tenuous and witty Dr. Holmes yielded to the temptation, and Lowell was credited with a strong hankering. The erudite and didactic George William Curtis wrote one novel, and showed the possession of a conscientious regard for the reading public by not repeating the offense. Bayard Taylor also invaded the field with much promise of success, but wisely concluded that the novelists' vocation did not fit his talents. There have been several noted writers of English who might have proved shining successes as novelists. Among them might be classed the brilliant and meteoric Macaulay, whose thrilling prose and inspiring verse indicate the possession of those qualities of narration and imagination which are perhaps the most effective weapons in the armory of the novel writer. Yet, Macaulay's luster as a historian was so great that he might have dimmed it by essaying fiction. Froude, who was a master of prose, failed in the domain of novel writing. The general consensus of critics seems to be that, while the novelist's faculty is not altogether denied to men great in other departments of literature, its best rewards come to those who feel it to be their chief mission.

Flood Sufferers in Texas.

The Brazos valley flood is the most damaging overflow that has occurred in this state during the last half century. In width the waters extended upon an average fully ten miles along the entire distance, and in length at least three hundred and fifty miles. They spared nothing in their destructive course. Dwelling houses and barns upon the river bank, horses, mules, cattle, hogs and crops of all kinds have been swept away. The greatest sufferers have been those who till the fields. Only a few of them are owners of land. They are either renters or employees of the farm owners, working either for daily wages or for an interest in the prospective yield. As a rule, they are very poor—entirely dependent upon their labor for support. The crops ten days ago were in splendid condition and gave promise of a most bountiful harvest, equal to the best that has been realized for many years. All that is gone, and these people now have nothing but the scanty clothing in which they escaped from the waters. Fortunately, however, the loss of life has been small. Our people have responded most generously and are laboring earnestly and liberally to relieve the great distress. Citizens of New York and Boston have voluntarily contributed about \$22,000 and St. Louis about \$2,000, for which we feel grateful.—Joseph D. Sayers, Governor of Texas, in Collier's Weekly.

Crime and Population.

An English statistician declares that crime, considered in decennial periods, bears a constant relation to population.

That evil is half cured whose cause we know.—Churchill.

CLEAN GUESS.

Which Netted a Broken and Sick Man a Little Fortune.

New York Mail and Express: "Did you ever have a big piece of pure luck when you really needed it badly?" said one who is at present a high railroad official. "I did once, and never again. It happened in Denver in 1882. I was broke. I had just come out of the hospital after a long tussle with pneumonia and I was unable to do manual labor, which was the only thing I could find. One afternoon, when things were at their very worst, I was sitting in the old Charplot hotel and overheard two men talking very secretly about a big strike in some mine. I inferred from their conversation that it was somewhere in the San Juan district, but they didn't mention the exact location or the name of the property. When they went out I noticed a tiny piece of ore lying on one of the chairs, where it had evidently been dropped while they were examining some specimens. It was brown quartz, literally full of gold. It was ore that made a fellow's heart jump just to look at it, and while I was turning it between my fingers it all of a sudden flashed into my mind that it must have come from the Lady Alice. They had taken stuff from it once, but the vein had 'pinched out,' and the property was supposed to be N. G. Its stock had dropped to nothing. Of course, it was only a guess," continued the speaker, "and there were several hundred chances that it wasn't the Alice at all. I did some quick thinking. There was a banker up town who owned a lot of Alice stock, and in two minutes I was on my way to his office. 'Look here,' says I, when I finally got into his den, 'I have information worth a lot of money to you; what is it worth to me?' 'Not a cent down,' says he, promptly, 'but 10 per cent if I get it.' I handed him the piece of ore; it was about as big as the end of my thumb. 'They've struck that in the Lady Alice,' says I. 'To my surprise he turned pale as death and yelled for a clerk. 'Run after Smith!' he bawled, and bring him back with that stock!' Smith, it turned out, was the messenger, and he was then on his way to deliver a bundle of Alice stock for which the banker had just been offered a couple of hundred dollars. He had thought it a good trade until he saw my ore. Smith came back and the banker tried his best to pump me, but I wouldn't tell him any more. If he had known I was only guessing he would have kicked me out, but the fates were with me. The next day the news of the discovery got to the public; it was Alice, sure enough, and the stock went scotching skyward. Meanwhile the fellows in on the secret had bought up all they could. My banker scooped in a big pot of money and I got \$2,500 for my share."

CATCHING HIS FISH.

It Was Done When His Friends Were Not Looking.

It isn't right to spoil a good fish story, but it is just as well to tell the truth about such things once in awhile. At the recent outing of the McFarlane Hunting and Fishing Club at Penetanguishine, Can., the prize for the largest one-day catch of fish was awarded to Philip S. Fling, says the Pittsburg News. Since the members of the club came back to Philadelphia they have heard rumors that there was something wrong about his phenomenal catch—twenty-eight large bass, not to speak of a number of other fish that were not counted. This is really how it happened: The club occupied a large boathouse. On an island a half-mile away their guides lived. On the return of a member from a day's fishing the guide first rowed him to the boathouse, where the fish he had caught were counted, weighed and scored. Then the guide took the fish to the island to be cleaned. Mr. Fling was out one day and he had nothing but hard luck. He had only two small fish on his string when the sun began to sink. He waited until all of the other boats were in and their fish counted and taken to the guides' island. Then he ordered his guide to row him to the windward of the island where they would be hidden from view of those at the boathouse. He landed there and going to the quarters of the guides he picked out all of the big fish that had been caught by the other clubmen that day and put them on his string. He and the guide then made a wide sweep in the boat and approached the boathouse from the leeward. There was a commotion when the fish he brought were counted and weighed. Everybody wanted to know where he got them. Some accused him of finding good fishing grounds and keeping the location to himself. He "confessed" at last that he had caught them up at the "old wreck." The next day every member of the club had a line or two in the water at that point. But they didn't catch anything worth mentioning.

Careful Inspectors.

In Sweden yarn is not allowed to be sold if it contains .0099 per cent of arsenic. A carpet has been condemned by the inspectors because it contained one thousandth part of a grain of arsenic in sixteen square inches—that is, one grain in a piece of carpet ten feet square.

Took Her Part.

Angy New—Yes, I quarreled with the leading man, and as all the others in the company side with him, I resigned. Sue Brette—But didn't any one take your part? Angy New—Only my understanding—Stray Stories.

Feminine Exclamation.

A Boston paper says that about 200 women have been licensed to preach. The rest have not taken the trouble to get a license.—St. Louis Republic.

PEN AND INK MARKS.

HOW THEY ARE ANALYZED BY THE EXPERTS.

How Handwriting Is Identified—The Examiner Makes His Deductions from Specimens Submitted—Not Always Accurate.

When a piece of disputed or suspected handwriting is submitted to an expert, his first care is to note its general appearance. He observes what seems to be the characteristic habits of hand in the writer, the style, shading and connection of letters, their relation to the base line of the writing and other significant points. The same process is applied to specimen of the alleged writer's general hand, writes Daniel T. Ames in Ainslee's Magazine. The next step is to disintegrate the writing so that the letters repeated in both specimens may be compared in detail when placed side by side. In this way divergencies or resemblances, which might not appear to the eye in the body of a paper, are made perfectly clear. If any of the letters show signs of hesitation or retouching, as frequently happens in forgeries, they are photographed through the microscope. By this enlargement retouches or traces are brought out so that they can be seen plainly by the untrained eye. Having made his examination of the whole writing, step by step, the expert summarizes the results, numbering corresponding parts, and calling attention to discrepancies or resemblances as they occur. By this process his conclusions are made perfectly clear, in all ordinary cases, to anybody who reads his report. In exceptional circumstances, such as court trials, he may go before a jury with blackboard and pencil and show exactly how a forger wrote a certain letter, as well as the way in which the persons whose writing habitually formed it. If his deductions are accurate, the results, presented in this graphic manner, usually are convincing to all intelligent and unprejudiced observers. It is one of the advantages of graphology that, ordinarily, its conclusions may be made as plain as the nose on a man's face.

BRIGHT MEN HAVE BIG HEADS.

Phrenologists Agree on the Value of Large Cranial Development.

From the Sioux City Journal: "All things being equal," said the phrenologist, "size is the measure of power. That is, a man with a small head can not get to be president of the United States, nor can a real small man attain to that position. They have a comparison of the men who have been presidents of our nation, consisting of the relative size of their heads and their respective weights, which goes to show that they have been tall men and that they have had large heads. Phrenologists also state that because a man has a large head it is no reason to believe that he has an unusual amount of brain power. But they say that he has the best opportunity for development, and he can cram more learning into his head than the man with the smaller head. People with thin heads are usually ruled by the broad heads. The protuberance immediately above and behind the ears denotes executive force and ability, and a man with a narrow head has little of this power. The best lawyers and statesmen have wide, broad heads. The argumentative faculty, which is located in front on each side of the top of the head, is well developed in these persons, so that it gives the cranium its shape. You can generally tell whether a man is refined in his tastes by the width of his forehead above the eyebrows. If he has a good development above his eyes he is a man who knows what is going on in the world about him. You can tell a man's generosity and his sympathetic powers by the size of his head at the forehead portion on top. You can also determine something about his own estimation of himself and his ability to stand by a point if he thinks he is in the right by knowing the exact size of his head from the middle of each ear to the crown. His fighting qualities and his ability to make his way in the world are denoted by slight elevations behind and above the ears. The size of a man's head is determined by running a measure around it just above the eyebrows to the back of the head, passing over the occipital bone."

A Senatorial Slender.

Two ladies visiting in Washington during one of the sessions of congress went to the capitol to hear the proceedings in the United States senate. Most of the galleries being filled, they approached the doorkeeper of the senators' gallery, where admission is by card. As they did not possess this passport, the doorkeeper suggested that they procure one from any senator that they might be acquainted with. "But we do not know any senator," they replied. "Well, it is very much to your credit," said the doorkeeper. "Pass right on, ladies."—San Francisco Argonaut.

Odd Collecting Fad.

Among the latest collecting fads is a search after odd trade signs and circulars. The collectors declare there is more fun in it than anything in the collecting line yet attempted.

But the Man Fought Sky.

Miss Oldgirl—It is not for lack of opportunities that I have remained single. Miss Pert—No, I dare say you have given the men plenty of chances to propose.

INEXHAUSTIBLE.

Is the Supply of Rattlesnake Skins—What They Are Used For.

Washington Star: "Speaking of the uses to which queer kinds of leather are nowadays put," said a resident of West Pike, on Pine creek, Pennsylvania, to the writer recently, "reminds me of a factory in my town where rattlesnake skins are employed quite extensively for making a variety of belts, slippers, gloves, neckties and waistcoats for winter wear. For several years prior to 1897 the firm had been making horse hide gloves and mittens for motormen and railroad men, but in the fall of the year mentioned they began to use rattlesnake skins, for which there was no market. The material was found so pretty and so well adapted for the purpose for which it was utilized that orders for the output of the factory were soon received from every prominent city in the United States. The factory, which I believe is the only one of its kind in the country, is now doing a thriving business in goods made of this novel kind of leather. The skins come to the factory salted and with the heads off. Sometimes the rattles are still attached to the tail. The skins are tanned and prepared for use in the factory, where the operation requires thirty days. The curing process removes all the disagreeable odor peculiar to the raw skin and brings out the natural brightness of the black and yellow mottle to perfection. The supply of rattlesnake skins is said to be practically inexhaustible. They come from the northern tier of Pennsylvania counties, from the Lake George region, Colorado, Wyoming and Michigan. The skins are worth from 25 cents to \$2 each, according to size, those of the black, or male rattler being the most valuable. The rattles are converted into scarf pins and sold at fancy prices to people who are fond of such curiosities."

MANY A SLIP

Twist the Cup and the Lip Was Again Demonstrated.

New York Tribune: He was from Kentucky, and a well-known member in the club of an Eastern city. As he entered the smoking room a number of his friends, as they rose to meet him, glanced with anticipatory relish at a five-gallon demijohn he was carrying. Placing the jug on a convenient table, he said to the waiting group: "There is some of the finest bourbon that ever came out of the blue grass regions of Old Kaintuck, and little of the same vintage remains there now. So precious is it that for fear of accident I have carried it all the way in my hand. For thirty years embraced and kissed by staves of oak, that grand liquor has rested beneath the eaves in the garret of the home of my ancestors. It contains no next morning's headache, but holds the songs of birds and the smiles of beautiful women. Drink only four glasses and you belong to the rich of this earth. Drink six, and you will sit with kings and be their equal. To you, Langford, as the most revered of those present, I give the honor of the first glass." The oldest man present, and one who prided himself on his knowledge of all things gastronomic, rose at the words. Picking up the demijohn by the handle, he attempted the barkeeper's swing, which, when perfectly executed, brings a jug to rest in the croch of the elbow, but, alas! for poor human intentions, the jug swung by the waiting elbow, and dashed itself to fragments on the tasseled floor. Feelings too deep for utterance overcame the horror stricken group, as a simultaneous reach for pockethandkerchiefs was made.

PHOTOGRAPH TABLES.

New Idea That Will Be Welcomed in Every Household.

A new table is being shown in the swell furniture stores which could easily be duplicated in less expensive materials and placed in more than one room in the house. We all know how photographs accumulate and how hard it is to keep them from dust and also from fading. This table is designed especially for photographs and will fill a long-felt want. It is about as large as the old-fashioned work table, and, like it, has a top which opens, disclosing a box inside which is divided into compartments of different sizes for the reception of photographs. The top is of plated satin brocade, so arranged that pictures can be poked in here and there, and when opened the top forms quite an ornamental background for the faces of our friends. The imported model is very beautifully and expensively upholstered in heavy Pompadour brocade of an ecru color, powdered with small flowers. In copying this pretty invention for the preservation of photographs cheaper wood can be used, and the covering may be of some inexpensive silk, cretonne or plush.

The Remora Fish Not a Come-On.

R. Semon, while sailing in the Torres Straits and along the coast of Australia, threw overboard the remains of crabs of which he had eaten. Immediately there appeared from under the ship several fishes which captured these pieces and then disappeared under the vessel. Mr. Semon recognized the remora, which, with the aid of the suction fin on its back, hangs on the bottom of vessels and the bellies of larger fishes, mainly sharks, and has itself carried along. By concealing a hook in some bait Mr. Semon succeeded in landing one of them, but a second specimen could not be obtained, because the school noticed the capture of their comrade, and could not be tempted to any amount of baiting.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

LESSON I, FOR SUNDAY, OCT. 1.—PSALMS 122.

Joy in God's House—"I Was Glad When They Said Unto Me, Let Us Go Into the House of the Lord"—Psalms 122: 1.

1. "I was glad when they said." It is always a joy to be summoned with others to something good. This Psalm is supposed to have been sung just as the pilgrim band climbed up the hill to the walls of Jerusalem for one of the great feasts, the social joyous occasions of the year to the Jews. It was so good to be at the Holy City, the center of life and religion of country and of nation, the focus of all that made the nation what it was; it was so good to be at the end of their exile, at the close of their long, hard journey—that they sang out their praises so loud that the other pilgrim bands could hear them and take courage.

2. "Our feet shall stand." R. V. are standing. "This is a lively expression of the satisfaction and delight of one who finds himself on this high day of festal joy within the sacred walls, mingling with the throng of worshippers who crowd the courts of the temple, and taking his part, with a full sense of his privileges as an Israelite, in the solemn services of the feast."—Perowne. "Jerusalem," the capital city, "the joy of the whole earth," the symbol of all that was highest and best in the nation, the type of the New Jerusalem.

3. "Built as a city that is compact together." Either in contrast with the scattered dwellings of the country villages, "a compact line of stately buildings of the capital," or, more probably, in allusion to the fact that "there are no more waste places, no more gaps and heaps of ruin."—Perowne.

4. "Whither the tribes go up, this expression is a strong proof that this is an early Psalm; for it was a part of the Machiavellian policy of Jeroboam to put a stop to this custom, lest such occasions should be made the means of restoring the national unity (1 Kings 12: 26).—Perowne. Jerusalem was the place to which it was commanded that the tribes go up; this act was a part of the divine system, and the custom was restored at a later day. "Unto the testimony of Israel." Better, as R. V., for a testimony unto Israel, proving their devotion to God and his cause. They "give thanks unto the name of the Lord." The very joy of life is to praise God. Those who dwell in God's house will have the spirit of praise, and they will always have an abundance of things for which to praise him. The shining from God's house brightens everything, puts sunset glories even on the clouds, and transfigures the whole of daily life.

5. "For there," in Jerusalem, "are set thrones of judgment." It was the seat of religious metropolis. Justice, righteousness, the hatred of all oppression, all wrong of every kind, are the characteristics of the true city of God. "The thrones of the house of David." David and his successors, especially "great David's Great Son," who ruled in the city of God, and his rule is righteousness evermore. All sin is treason to the great King.

6. "Pray." Because God is the source of the blessings needed, and they can be given only to those who so put their trust in God, and so love and care for the city of God, as to pray for her. The best blessings cannot be received by a prayerless soul. They fall on it as rain on a desert. "The peace." Rest from enemies, peace among its people, peace with God, peace in the soul. "Of Jerusalem." Jerusalem means "Habitation of Peace."

7. "There is a play upon the word 'peace.'" The Hebrew word for peace is shalom, and the Hebrew word for "prosperity" is shalvah, while the Hebrew form of "Jerusalem," which means "City of Peace," is Yeru-shalaim. So that, in effect, the poet wishes shalom and shalvah on "the City of Peace."—Shedd Cox. "They shall prosper that love thee." Because that means the love of what Jerusalem stood for and was the means of imparting to the world—the knowledge of God, the character of God, all that was holy and loving and true.

8. "Peace be within thy walls." To those who belong to the city and that which it represents—true Jews, true people of God, within the fold. Prosperity within thy palaces. "The companion dwellings, the homes of the people."

9. "For my brethren and companions' sakes." He was not selfish in his hopes and prayers. His was no lonely heaven. He "breathed a spirit of the noblest and most unselfish patriotism."—Perowne.

10. "Because of the house of the Lord." He will seek the good of the city, for the sake of God's house within it.

11. "Because of the house of the Lord."

MIXED PICKLES.

It makes a difference not only whose ox is gored, but whose ox does the goring.

Love has unquestionably accomplished much for good, but up to date it has not changed any leopard's spots. Even if we cannot give forth rays of sunshine, it is not necessary for us to go out of the way to cast shadows.

A man will not persevere as much over a week's haying as he will in trying to raise a car window to oblige a pretty girl.

A New York paper asks: "Is the bicycle fatal to beauty?" Well, much depends whether or not you light on your beauty spot.

It may not be polite to count the change when a friend obliges you by changing a bill, but it is just as well to do it if you want your cash to balance.

Most men are either far-sighted or near-sighted. Before marriage they see good qualities that their sweethearts don't possess, and after marriage they don't see the good qualities that their wives do possess.

The greatest and strongest nature are ever the calmest. A fiery restlessness is the symbol of frailties not yet outgrown. The repose of power is its richest phase and its clearest testimony.

The First Trust.

The Man in Charge—Say, the first trust in this country was the Standard Oil Company, wasn't it? The Man in Charge—No! Brigham Young had the first one!—Indianapolis Journal.

Mormonism Alarming England.

Mormonism is gaining ground in England to such an extent that the advisability of introducing a prohibitive measure in parliament is being seriously considered.