

FRAN

BY JOHN BRECKENRIDGE ELLIS

ILLUSTRATIONS BY O. IRWIN MYERS

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SYNOPSIS.

Fran arrives at Hamilton Gregory's home in Littleburg, but finds him absent conducting the choir at a camp meeting. She repairs thither in search of him...



cut-glass paragon, your religion-stuffed fellow that calls itself a man. "Fran afraid? That's a joke! I tell you, she's thinking only of Mr. Gregory." "I'm sorry for Mrs. Gregory," Robert allowed...

Gregory's brain. What a mocking fatality, that it should have been Grace to send Robert on his terrible errand— an errand which must result in ruin!

ing. "You will not agree to it? To what? You are unreasonable. What subject have I brought up?" "It is very true that we have drifted too far apart to be as we were in the beginning...



starting to the door to intercept her, "I want you to stay. I'll have no secrets from you, Lucy. I want you to hear what these gentlemen have to say..."

CHAPTER XVII.—Continued. It was impossible for Abbott to receive all this as a whole; he took up the revelations one at a time.

"Oh, she's his, all right, only child of his only legal wife—that's why she came, thinking her father would do the right thing, him that's always praying to be guided aright..."

"Then," Abbott stammered, "Mrs. Gregory is..." "Yap; is with a question mark. But there's one thing she isn't; she isn't the legal wife of this pirate who's always a-preying upon the consciences of folks that thinks they're worse than him."

"But Fran wants Mrs. Gregory spared—" "Abbott, when I think of Grace Noir spending one more night under the roof of that burrowing mole, that crocodile with tears in his eyes and the rest of him nothing but bone and gristle—"

"Bob, if she leaves that house in the morning, for ever, won't you agree to silence, for Mrs. Gregory's sake—and because Fran asks it?" "Fran's another angel, bless her heart! But you can't work it."

"Half an hour will do the business," said Abbott stoutly. "Come!" "Be sure to call for Mr. Gregory by himself," said Robert, as they walked swiftly back to the Gregory residence.

Gregory, well-nigh overwhelmed with the realization of what he meant to do, grasped the door for support. Presently he spoke, brokenly, "Lucy, how true that is—we do, indeed, need Him every hour."

She ceased playing abruptly, and ferent worlds. Do you ever feel that answered almost in a whisper, "Yes." "Perhaps it is my fault," said Gregory, "although I know that if you had taken more interest in what interests me, if you had been true to the Faith as I have tried to be—"

"I have been true to you," said Mrs. Gregory. "Of course—of course—there is no question of our being true to each other. I feel that I am not wholly to blame. Lucy, it has been my fault and it has been your fault—that is how I look at it."

"How very dark you have it in here!" said Grace reprovingly. "Of course Mr. Clinton has been shown the back-parlor, where it is light. I will go to him there, and leave you two—" she paused irresolutely, but neither spoke.

"Right in there," said the maid's voice, from the hall, and Abbott Ashton and Robert Clinton entered the half-light. While Robert was greeting Mrs. Gregory with exaggerated pleasure, in order to escape facing her husband, Abbott spoke to the other with an odd sense of meanness, as if he partook by mere nearness, of the other's cowardice. "I wish to speak to you for a few minutes, Mr. Gregory."

Robert, who all this time had been asking Mrs. Gregory if her mother was well, if Simon Jefferson was no worse, if Fran was hearty, if Grace Noir was at home—and private business. "I have no business," Mr. Gregory exclaimed, in fear, "that my wife need not know."

the past, and at the same time be a help to Bob." "I don't understand," Gregory gasped blankly. "Me neither," muttered Robert. "It's very simple," Abbott maintained. "The Springfield interests want to give you a blow, and give Bob a helping hand. Therefore, you are to transfer your secretary to his store, where a bookkeeper is needed."

"Oh, indeed," interposed Grace Noir icily. "I am a mere pawn, I presume, to be sent where I am wanted. But I would like to ask Mr. Clinton if he found out anything about Fran, while he was in Springfield?" "Fran is all she claims to be," Robert declared bluntly. (TO BE CONTINUED.)

When a man gets something for nothing he is pretty sure to think it might have been something better. Death from Electric Shock: Ceasation of Life is Due to Contraction of the Fibrils or Muscular Fibers of the Heart.

MUCH VIRTUE IN GOOD YAWN

Beneficial Exercise, Though It Might Be Well for One to Select the Time and Place.

Yawning may be rude—especially in company—but it is a good thing for you to do. For one thing, it ventilates the lungs. When you take an ordinary breath the lungs are not completely filled, nor are they thoroughly emptied by an ordinary respiration.

This air in time becomes foul and affects the blood, and through the blood the nervous centers. Certain blood vessels get tickled, as it were, and nerves get tickled, as it were, and the result is a yawn, stretching the lungs to their fullest extent, filling them with clean, fresh air and driving the foul air out.

know that yawning is even beneficial to your hearing. The cracking sound which you so often hear when giving an extra big yawn is due to the stretching and opening of the eustachian tubes.

When you feel inclined to yawn, then, do so. It is Nature's way of cleaning out your lungs and air passages.

Some years ago an ass was employed in the Isle of Wight, in drawing water by a large wheel from a very deep well. When the keeper wanted water, he would say to the ass, "Tom, my boy, I want water, get into the wheel, my good lad, which Thomas immediately performed with promptness that would have done credit to a nobler animal; and no doubt he knew the precise number of times necessary for the wheel to go around on its axis, to complete his labor, because every time he brought the bucket to

the surface of the well, he constantly stopped and turned his honest head to observe the moment when his master laid hold of the bucket to draw it towards him, because he then had just one more turn to make to bring the rope to the top. It was pleasing to observe with what steadiness and regularity the poor animal performed his labor.

Pawnshop Sentiment. A watch had just passed from the hands of a seedy young man into those of a pawnbroker. Before the young man got out of the shop the broker called him back.

"Here's a picture—a woman's picture—in the back of this watch," he said. "You'd better take it out." The young man flushed.

DEATH FROM ELECTRIC SHOCK

While every one knows that an electric shock, if powerful enough, will cause death, there are very few who know exactly the cause, and from a description given in a recent English magazine, quoting an authority on the subject, the whole matter is simple.

GOING TO BUILD?

Then Better Buy Builders' Hardware With the Tag That Absolutely Insures Quality. Russwin Locks. Do you want Door Locks that will work right? Then buy Russwin Locks, known for durability, safety and elegance.

For Sunburn, Insect Bites, Ivy Poison or any other skin inflammation use Tyree's Antiseptic Powder and get quick relief.

Usually So. "What is an optimist, pa?" "A man who doesn't worry when he sees things all coming his way."

For Effect. "Pa, what is a pulpiteer?" "A pulpiteer, son, is a preacher who makes frequent use of the pulpit tear."

Liquid blue is a weak solution. Avoid it. Buy Red Cross Ball Blue, the blue that's all blue. Ask your grocer. Adv.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for Children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic.

One of the bells in a new Paris cathedral weighs 20 tons, while its accessories add another 10 tons.

Rheumatism Is Torture. Many pains that pass as rheumatism are due to weak kidneys—the failure of the kidneys to drive off uric acid thoroughly. Here's proof. A SOUTH DAKOTA CASE. W. R. Smart, Belle Fourche, S. D., says: "Rheumatism caused me terrible suffering. I had to give up work. I had to be lifted around and was perfectly helpless. Doan's Kidney Pills acted like magic in driving away the rheumatism. It soon left me entirely and I haven't had an attack since."

Your "Best Play"

is made when your physical condition is normal. Sickly persons are always badly handicapped because they lack the stamina and strength necessary to win. Try a bottle of HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS. It restores the appetite, aids digestion and in every way helps you back to health and strength.

THOMPSON'S EYE WATER. Quickly relieves weak, inflamed eyes. Sold everywhere. 25c. Booklet free.

Nebraska Directory. W. N. U., OMAHA, NO. 38-1913.

BOILER REPAIRS. Expert boiler makers send anywhere— anytime. WILSON STEAM BOILER CO., Omaha.

Watch Your Colts. For Coughs, Colds and Distemper, and at the first symptoms of any such ailment, give small doses of that wonderful remedy, now the most used in existence.

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GOING TO BUILD? Then Better Buy Builders' Hardware With the Tag That Absolutely Insures Quality.

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Eagle Padlocks. A Steel Padlock With Six Brass Levers. The Lock That Has Stood the Test of Time.