BY LA CARRE. It was a cool, beautiful September morning, and Kate Howard sang blithe ly as she flitted through the wide hall which ran the length of the grand old house, which was ber home. passing the library door, when her tather called her to come in. On entering she found him with an open letter in his hand. MOTEJAS

"I have just received word from my friend Seymour, that he will visit us next week," said he.

Kate shrugged her shoulders: "papa's friends" are not generally very entertaining to young people.

"He will be accompanied by his pephew, for whom he has been guardian, who has just returned from an extended foreign tour. He is a young man of excellent family, and heir to an immense fortune. It has long been Seymour's wish-as, also, mine-that you and his nephew should marry when you had reached suitable ages. You are now twenty, and that is quite old enough. They will be here on Tuesday and I desire that you look your best, and be as agreeable"-

He was interrupted by, Kate, who being possessed of considerable spirit. did not relish being summarily dispessed of. "Do you think I am going to marry a man I don't know, and never saw?" she asked, indignantly.

"Do you wish to sell me, as if I were a share in railroad stock, or had no more heart or soul than a lump of coal?" "Kate," said her father, sternly, "to

whom are you speaking?" "I don't care!" she cried, excitedly. "] hate Seymour and all his relations, and if his nephew were rich as Crœsus. would'nt marry him! There!"

It had been a favorite project of her father's, and Kate had heard it hinted at ever since she had been out of school. She had only laughed. The idea of things assuming such a tangible shape had not occurred to her.

In vain her father coaxed, scolder threatened. Kate was obstinate and declared she'd "never even speak" to the obnoxious suitor. Thus the tempestuous interview ended, and Kate indignation. Throwing herself on a low couch, she gave vent to her feelings in a flood of angry tears. She soon dried her eyes, however, and began to think about the means by which she could vanquish the enemy. One thing was certain. She wasn't going to stay home to be bored by a conceited swell who parted his hair in the middle, and drawled his words-nossibly lisped. No; anything was better than that, Why not go to Grandfather Howards'? They were always wanting her to visit them. Why not go now? So she immediately wrote to them, saving she was coming, and telling when to be at Stanley (the nearest station) to meet her. Grandfather Howard lived in the country, about one hundred miles from the city. He was a warm-hearted. pleasant old gentleman, and he and his wife lived alone in a great stone farm-

house. The passeful quiet of their lives was occasionally enlivened by a visit from grandchildren. These, however, were not frequent, so when Kate's letter arrived announcing her coming, it was quite an event to them. The spare chamber was aired and rearranged, and an endless variety of good things prepared to tempt her appetite. "For." said Grandma Howard, "the dear child is fed on confectionery and French cookery, and good wholesters food will do ber good."

Monday was the day appointed for

her arrival, and at 5 o'clock that afternoon Mr. Howard got out the faiting top and drove to the depot at Stanley. Kate was accustomed to doing as she pleased, so Monday marning found her at the depot awaiting the arrival of the train. Her brother Charlie was with her, and when the train came in he deposited her safely in the car, with the brotherly advice "not to step from the frying pan into the fire' and fall in love while she was gone," gave her a parting kiss, and she was left alone, without a friend in the crowded car. She opened the new book she had brought, but finding it uninteresting, began to look about her to see who were her fellow passengers, for nothing so amused her as the study of character.

The car was crowded. Near the front was a nervous old lady who held her ticket tightly grasped in one hand almost every evening found him and her portemonnais in the other almost every evening found him at the farm house, occasionally with his at the farm house, occasionally with his line of the product of the pr to steam transportation. Near her a yankee peddlar was trying to convince a stout old gentleman at his side that tunely thrown in his way, but are evi-

"Pardon me madame but this is the

She moved slightly to make room, and But it must be. a young gentleman sat bende ber. Taking out a newspaper, he was soon house. Mr. Alland came as usual, and Kate had an opportunity to study her next day. "I have made a long visit."

brows, were blue as the sky. "He must be twenty-five," thought the matters bot closely she was scrutinizing him, till the blue eyes were suddenly raised from the paper and met hers with a frank and rather curious look.

such a rude act, Kate drew down her old story of love. She must have been vall and gazed studiously on the pass- a willing listener, for the hours rolled ing landscape. Station after station by unheeded, and Mr. and Mrs. Howard she would be in Stanley, free from Seyour and his nephew. The very thought was refreshing. She almost laughed as parture would cause both the "contracting parties," as brother Charlie maket her father earn Mr. Seymour.

Her reverie was broken by stranger, who courteously offered a book he had just taken from his satchel. Kate accepted his proffered kindness, and more for politeness' sake than any other reason, began to read. A quick jerk a crash as if the heavens were falling, a sudden stop, and Kate was presipitated into the arms

of the gentleman at her side. Everybody was frightened. The lasatchel containing the "superior blacking," and the maiden lady still held fast to her pocket-book as she cried out: "I allus said so! These cars are companying her.

mighty umafe!" No one knew exactly how it happened. but the engine had been precipitated down the steep embankment dragging the baggage-car with it. Fortunately no one was injured, though some were considerably shaken. Of course everything was confusion, the gentlemen all left the cars, and several ladies also. Kate knowing the danger, if any, had passed, remained in her seat. The stranger, after ascertaining the extent of the damage and probable delay, returned. Kate questioned him, eagerly. "There is," said he, "no danger, the engine has been precipitated down the embankment and it will be several

hours before the train can move on." "What is the distance from Stanley?" "Only a mile and a half. As it is my destination I am going to walk I shall be glad," he added, "if when I get there

can be of say service to you." "Thank you," she replied, "I, too, am only going to Stanley, and as the distance is so short, I will walk, too."

He picked up her light hand-bag and is own more substantial satchel, and together they left the car. The ice of conventionality being broken, they conversed pleasantly on different topics and very entertaining and agreeable Kate found her strange companion.

He, oh reader, is the veritable nephew of Seymour.

Having no desire to be married to a supporting boarding-school miss, as he mentally pictured Kate, he had left his guardian to proceed alone to the house of his old friend, while he went to Stanley to visit an old college chum. As he walked and talked with Kate he thought more than once, if some one as bright and witty as she had been his uncle's choice, his would not have been so terrible a fate after all.

The converstion turned on books, and they were in the midst of an animated discussion concerning their favorite authors, when the depot at Stanley was reached, and Kate was warmly welstood a young gentleman, to whom he had evidently been talking. This young and after a hearty make, turned and in-troduced him to Mr. Howard as Mr. Cecil Alland. After the usual greek ings Mr. Howard presented his granddaughter to both the young men and Kate had the opportunity of thanking Br. Alland for his kindness to her. She rather wendered at the peculiar smile which pervaded his countenance, as her grandfather pronounced her name, but it passed away as he acknowledged her thanks, by a graceful bow, and assured her "Twas nothing."

Mr. Howard, after a cordial invitation to Mr. Davids to bring his friend to the farm house, took Kate to the carriage, and they rode away. A short drive over a smooth quiet road, brought them to the farm house, and grandma Howard received her guest with open arms. Kate found her visit, as she expected, rather quiet, but the woods were beautiful and she took frequent rambles beautiful and she took frequent rambles, bringing as trophies of her search great handfuls of lovely leaves, or a bold success of Helmbold's Buchu has led to the production new scene in her sketch book. Sometimes she would take a book and read an hour in the calm autumnal solitude.

her. Evidently she was not much need | bost, but oftenest alone. He knew Kate | Inheritors of vast wealth are prover tunely thrown in his way, but the evitable wind of other prows. Like children his "blacking" was "the best that's made, sir." Glancing down the ear the usual number of gentlemen engrossed in their newspapers, and of lades in novels, met her eye. These, with a few tired, dirty children, and an invalid which, contrary to their designs and them to their designs and them to the made thrown them logather. Kate had been are none, thought she, "who beet as if there was a history connected with them."

There was a history connected with them."

The was gaing out of the windows the days pass swiftly, for they stopped at the master of the windows the grown to except life. At the master of the windows the street of the windows the care of the windows had lingered still. Even after hearing ished her richest treasure—health. But

It was her last evening at the farmapparently buried in its contents and Kate told him she was going home the black, and the eyes, shaded by heavy gave him a graphic description of the stormy interview with her father, and her escapade, adding, "He must have equally dreaded me, for he didn't come with his uncle, and I ran away for nothing, after all."

"For nothing, Kate?"

A warm hand grasped hers, and a

W Ask your dragges for Rilert's Extract of had long been dreaming, when he

forhead and was gone, wer an ... The next day found them seated she thought of the discomfiture her de the train steeming toward the city. Kate was rather troubled as visious of her father's indignation flitted-through her mind—for he was determined she should marry a wealthy man, and her lover, alas! assured her he was mot should marry a wealthy man, and her lover, alas! assured her he was mot some finishing. Frice 2 cents. For saie in should marry a wealthy man, and her rich. But as she glanced at his manly form, and thought of the rich graces o his mind she felt she would not give him up for all the wealth the world contained. When they reached the city Kate wished him to allow her to a

pressed the last burning kine upon her

home alone. "I know papa will be furious, and he might say something you would not dies shrieked and gentlemen looked like. Indeed, I'd rather see him for anxious. The peddler grasped his and prepare his mind for what's coming, you know, she said, laughing, But with the same curious smile she had before observed, he insisted on a

"Better have it over with at once," he

So it was with secret misgivings sh entered her own drawing-room, and found her father and brother there. The usual home greetings were over. and Kate felt rather than saw her lover draw her father aside, and in a low tone say something which she knew conconcerned her. Mr. Howard demanded in an icy tone:

"Who, and what are you, sir?" To which he answered something that caused her father to break into a hearty laugh as he seized him by both hands and led him to where Kate sat. "My dear daughter," said he; "here

Cecil Alland, Mr. Seymour's nephew. He wishes to marry you, but as you have so emphatically declared you'd never speak to bim. I am obliged to tell him his suit is hopeless." But Kate was already in her lover's

To this day (and they have been married a year) he teases her about her escapade. - Cincinnati Times.

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True to his promise Mr. Davids brought his friend out to call and after that almost every evening found him call depot 104 South 10th St., Phila, Pa.

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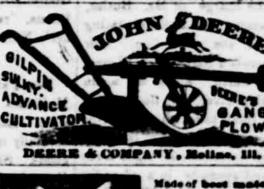


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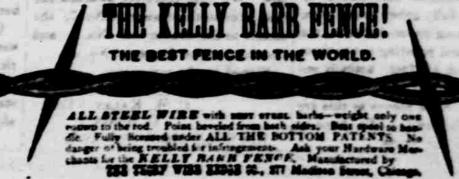
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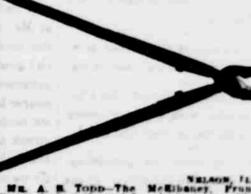


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