

LOVE AND LAW.

By the author of BONNY'S LOVERS

CHAPTER XV.—(Continued.)

"Was this what you were working for?" I demanded, with a sudden jealous suspicion.

"Perhaps I was!" she answered loftily. "I hope she will never be sorry that she chose wrong."

"I hope not!" I assented cordially.

"A real gentleman," repeated Miss Woodward—"as free-handed and free-spoken as a prince—a gentleman who knows how to treat a woman, even if she is only a servant—a gentleman I'd work my fingers to the bone for, and so would a good many more!"

"You did your best for him," I could not help saying. "You have nothing to reproach yourself with."

It was true, as Widdrington had said, that all the women were fascinated by handsome, dare-devil Charlie. What wonder that Nona had felt his power? I could only be thankful that the fascination had not gone deeper.

"No; I've nothing to reproach myself with," the maid assented. "And I'll pray night and day for my young lady, that she may see her mistake before it is too late."

And with this parting shot the resolute virago marched sternly from the room without a word of farewell civility.

I finished my interrupted letters, and then sought Nona. She met me with a dismayed face.

"Such a strange thing has happened," she exclaimed. "Woodward has left at a moment's notice. She would not give any explanation of her going, only said that she was sorry to inconvenience me, but circumstances obliged her to leave at once; and she has gone."

"The most extraordinary proceeding," chimed in Miss Elmelle. "I told Nona that she could insist upon Woodward's remaining until she had found another servant. If it had not happened that a young girl from the village is at liberty to take her place at once, it would have been most inconvenient and awkward; and Woodward was such an excellent maid. I suppose

common thief. You will not allow it—promise me you will not."

"It will not be so bad as that," I assured her. "Of course he must be made to surrender the will. However, we will not talk about him any longer. This is my last evening, you know, and I have a thousand things to say. The time is too precious to waste, my darling."

I left the Rectory on the following day. The next few months were passed in a dream of happiness which left me little thought for Charlie Branscombe or his concerns. Occasionally, it is true, I was brought into relations with Widdrington, for my connection with the office could not be abruptly terminated, and in the matter of Forest Lea I felt that I had a special responsibility to discharge. The detective was actively following up clue after clue as they came into his hands. His pride and his professional interest were thoroughly roused by his first failure, and he was bent on completing the case in which he had already worked so hard. Mr. Charles Branscombe had not left England—so much Widdrington was sure of. Probably want of means had prevented his going far from home and the numerous friends and adherents who were always ready to help him.

"I shall run him down yet," Widdrington confidently asserted. "He must be starved out sooner or later."

In the meantime Forest Lea was shut up and deserted, at the Rector's constant regret; and only a vague impression of the truth floated about the neighborhood, where my darling still remained, under the friendly protection of Mr. and Mrs. Heathcote.

She had promised to be mine in the summer, when the first anniversary of the good old Colonel's death had come and gone. Then we were to have a pretty wedding in the village church—a wedding all flowers and sunshine, such as became our hopes and our happiness.

I was fully occupied in preparing for that supreme event. I was refurbish-



"WHERE'S THE YOUNG FELLOW GONE TO?"

she has had some quarrel with the servants—and she never had a good temper."

"I wonder," began Nona, and then stopped suddenly.

"What do you wonder?" I asked.

"Nothing," she laughed, "only an odd idea of mine."

"Tell me your ideas; I like to hear them all."

"I was wondering whether Tillott's leaving had anything to do with Woodward's. I know she liked him, and thought him a great improvement on Charles; but then he was so much younger. Of course it was very silly of me to connect the two events."

"I don't know about that. I think it was very sagacious of you," I answered.

"Then there is something. What are you laughing at? What is it?"

"You are right, my dearest. Woodward's and Tillott's departures do hang together."

And then, Miss Elmelle having discreetly retired, I told Nona the whole story from beginning to end, only joining on her the secrecy which the dear little indiscreet Miss Elmelle could never have been trusted to preserve.

Nona's astonishment was unbounded.

"What a plot!" she exclaimed. "It is like a book; and Woodward, who seemed so quiet and so respectable, was helping it all. And that man Tillott was a detective. How strange it all is! I feel as if I were in a dream. The will was really stolen then, not lost, and—and now I understand; you puzzled me so when you persisted you had seen me at Molton, and that I had taken your bag. I was puzzled, and—and a little angry"—blushing.

"Yes, you were thoroughly mystified," I agreed.

"Oh! I do hope," said Nona, "that man Widdrington will never, never find Charlie—poor Charlie, who was my playfellow and friend, and my poor uncle's pet and darling, treated like a

my newly-acquired home—a lovely old house in Kent, amongst the hedges and woods of the Weald—and sparing no pains to make it a fitting nest for the sweet, gentle dove who was to reside over it.

In such happy occupation, with frequent visits to the Midshire Rectory, the months passed quickly away. I had no personal part in the next act of the drama which concerned Mr. Charles Branscombe, and must leave its chronicle to another pen.

CHAPTER XVI.

A little maid in a blue cotton gown and a white muslin cap was picking peas in a cottage garden. She was taking her work in leisurely fashion, sitting on a three-legged stool with her basket in her lap, and gathering the plump pods as they dangled close to her hand. The vines grew high that year, and the little maid as she sat was almost hidden in the green valley; not so much hidden, however, but that a hot and flustered police officer saw her as he tramped heavily up the path, and blurted out an abrupt question—

"Where's the young fellow gone to?"

She looked up with a pair of tranquil blue eyes, growing round with astonishment, as she repeated after him, in a strong country accent—

"Young fellow? What young fellow d'ye mean?"

She looked so fresh and so pretty, and the yellow fringe which peeped out from under her cap was so infantile in its innocent simplicity, that Mr. James Brown felt a momentary impulse, in spite of his frustration, to chuck her under the cool rounded chin, and even perhaps help himself to a kiss from her red lips. If he hadn't been so hot and so worried—where the dickens could that young rip have got to?—he would certainly have taken advantage of his opportunities. As it was he pursued his investigation and resisted the temptation.

"A young fellow in a light tweed suit

—he was making straight for here," he explained. "I saw him before me over the fields not ten minutes ago, and I'll swear I hardly lost sight of him. He must be in the house; there isn't another place this way—not even a shave of wood to hide him—and Smith and Varley would have stopped him further down. He must be in the house."

"Maybe, ye can ask," retorted the dame indifferently, reaching out her hand towards a group of pods, as if dismissing the subject.

The officer went his way, with just another admiring glance at the pretty figure in the charming green avenue.

The door at the cottage stood wide open; a black cat was dozing in the sun; all was quiet and sleepy; there was not a sound about the place. The officer's loud knock brought a stupid servant-girl with a snub nose and a wide-open mouth to answer his reiterated question.

"Where's the—the young gentleman who came in here just now? I want to speak to him."

"There's no young gentleman here," she replied—"only my master and misses, and they're both old."

"Where are they? Tell them Mr. James Brown wants to speak to them."

The girl preceded him into the parlor at the end of the passage, after knocking at the door, and gave his message verbatim—

"Mr. James Brown wants to speak to ye."

A decent old man of the retired tradesman class, disturbed in his afternoon nap, looked up with blinking eyes at the impatient constable, whilst his comely old partner put down the stocking she was darning, and prepared to interview the visitor.

"Good afternoon, sir," she said, civilly. "Won't you take a seat; it's warm walking."

Was it real innocence or only a sham? Mr. Brown was not going to be taken in; these people were probably allies of Mr. Charles Branscombe—old servants or something of that sort. The old gentleman's yawn was too demonstrative, and he did not mean to let the old lady's civility put him off the scent—he was quite up to that game. He glanced sharply around the room, behind the old man's ponderous arm-chair, at the cupboard door, even up the chimney, before he answered in his most official tone—

"A young gent entered this house about ten minutes or maybe a quarter of an hour ago, Mr. Charles Branscombe by name. I've got business with him—very particular business, if you'll let him know."

"Mr. Charles Branscombe," echoed the old man; "he's not here, and hasn't been, to my knowledge."

"Then it's without your knowledge," retorted Mr. Brown, who was getting cross. "I'll take my davy he's somewhere on the premises; and as I hold a warrant for his apprehension, I shall have to search for him—with your leave or without it."

"You're an ill-mannered upstart—that's what you are," exclaimed Mr. Walker, very wide awake now, and starting up to face Mr. Brown. "And I dare you to search my house—warrant or no warrant, I'm an honest man, and I've nothing to do with your scamps; and if I was ten years younger I'd kick you out faster than you came in—that's what I'd do"—warming as he went on.

"Hush, Samuel!" interposed the dame, laying her hand upon his arm, as he shook his fist in the intruder's face. "Never mind his manners—it's only his ignorance. We don't mean to resist the law; if he's got a warrant, let him show it, and he's welcome to search if he likes. He'll soon see it's no use. My husband is old, sir"—aside to Mr. Brown, as the old gentleman walked to the window, and wiped his forehead with his handkerchief—"and he's apt to be hasty when he's waked sudden out of his sleep. Let us see your warrant, if you please, sir."

(To be continued.)

MAN'S LUNGS SPRUNG A LEAK.

That Is Why the Cleveland Hackman Was So Greatly Swelled.

From the Cleveland Leader: It is not often that a thin man becomes alarmingly obese within twenty-four hours. This, however, was the experience of Martin McHugh, who is a hack driver, and lives at 216 Hamilton street. Wednesday morning he was too small for his clothes. Several hours later he had pronounced "hay window," his hands, feet, legs and arms were twice their natural size, and his cheeks assumed rotund proportions that surprised the members of his family. He did not stop there, but continued to grow big, finally being compelled to discard his clothing and take to a bed. Dr. D. D. Steur was called. He said it was evident that McHugh's lungs were leaking. This, according to the physician, became more evident when it was seen that with each breath the rotund portions rose and fell. In speaking of the curious case Dr. Steur said: "McHugh was injured by being struck with the thill of a wagon. He felt no immediate effects, but was obliged to go home later in the day. Every portion of his body seemed to ache. He then commenced to bloat, his body swelling to twice its natural size. When called in by the family I saw at once that one of the man's lungs had been injured and was leaking air. With Dr. N. Stone Scott I decided on an operation. The body was punctured. The air came out with alarming force. The disabled lung was then laid bare. It had been injured, a splinter having probably entered the casing. The wound was cleaned and the lung carefully sewed. From last reports the patient was doing nicely and will soon be at his old stand."

AFFAIRS OF STATE

Departmental and Executive Actions

ARMY AND NAVY MOVEMENTS

Events of More Than Ordinary Interest to the People of America—Official Actions Which Have a Bearing on Our Future History—Briefs for Busy People

Saturday, September 2.

President McKinley left Canton yesterday and will arrive at Washington this afternoon.

The transport Warren sailed for Manila with 1,150 recruits. The Sherman and Grant are to be repaired before sailing.

At the coming session of Congress Hawaii will be represented by William O. Smith, formerly attorney general of this country. He will be appointed by President Dole.

The Santa Fe railway has agreed to transport the Twentieth Kansas regiment from San Francisco to Topeka after the regiment has been mustered out and wait until the next session of the legislature for payment.

General Funston declares that cavalry is greatly needed in the Philippines, and says that the country, when dry, is superb for cavalry operations. Cavalry could overtake and hopelessly scatter and punish the insurgents.

At the conclusion of the Dewey celebration at New York Admiral Sampson will be relieved of the command of the North Atlantic squadron. This action is to be taken at the request of the admiral, who has already had much more than his portion of sea service in his grade. After a short leave of absence he will be assigned to shore duty, probably in command of the navy yards.

Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Taylor received a telegram from W. D. Haller of Blair, Neb., asking that no action be taken on the selection of a site for the public building at that place until he had given a hearing. Mr. Haller said in his telegram that he is representing the business interests of the city, but which site he will advocate is not known. He is expected to reach Washington within a day or two, and nothing will be done pending his arrival.

Monday, September 4.

Secretary and Mrs. Gage will leave Washington about September 10 to visit Chicago and other western cities.

Ex-Congressman Colson, from the Eleventh Kentucky district, has been stricken with paralysis, and is in a critical condition.

Following is the issue of Nebraskabraska pensions: Increase—Michael J. Barnett, Fremont, \$14 to \$17; William Foshender, Rising City, \$16 to \$17.

Chief Justice Chambers, of the Samoan islands, has arrived in Washington and will make a report to the president and secretary of state on Samoan affairs.

Admiral Sampson, with his fleet of fighting ships arrived at Philadelphia Monday, and this event marks the beginning of the thirty-ninth annual encampment of the G. A. R.

The Chicago trust conference has created much interest. Many delegates have been appointed by different state governments, and the arrangement committee will meet September 14 to 16.

Lieutenant Commander Winslow of Rear Admiral Sampson's staff, denies the report that the admiral is to be relieved of the command of the North Atlantic squadron at his own request. He says the admiral is enjoying good health, and wishes to remain with the squadron.

Tuesday, September 5.

Admiral Dewey has reached Gibraltar, where he will rest on land for awhile.

Assistant Secretary Melkeljohn will attend the reception of the First Nebraska regiment at Lincoln.

Governor Barnes of Oklahoma is to be removed because of irregularity in school land leases in which he is pecuniarily interested.

At the letter carriers' parade held at Scranton, Pa., labor day, 5,000 men, representing branches in all parts of the country, participated.

Following is the issue of Nebraska pensions: Original—Henry Louer, soldiers' and sailors' home, Hall, \$9. Increase—James Webb, Tecumseh, \$8 to \$12.

The British foreign office denies the statement cabled to a New York newspaper that concessions on the Alaskan boundary question have been decided upon.

General J. R. Webster of Lincoln has declined to accept the appointment of assistant attorney general to the secretary of the interior at a salary of \$2,000 a year.

President McKinley has given up his western trip, and will not come farther west than Chicago, where he will attend the laying of the Chicago postoffice corner stone on October 1.

President Loubet has issued a decree assembling the senate on September 18 as a high court. It is understood that the trials will include charges of conspiracy and attempts against the internal affairs of the state.

It is gossip in Washington that the president favors President Schurman's plan for the government of the Philippines. It is the commissioner system, similar to the one so successfully used in the government of the District of Columbia. The affairs of the government will be administered as far as possible by local officers, the head for the archipelago being a commission composed of an officer of the army, an officer of the navy, and a native.

Joke on a Bird.

J. S. Wilson of Denmark, N. Y., is in luck. He was in his field the other day and saw a large bird approaching with something in its talons. When near Mr. Wilson the bird, a large fish hawk, let fall a black bass that weighed two pounds, still alive. Mr. Wilson thinks the hawk mistook him for a game constable.

Transportation.

"There is something about Scribner's works that simply carries me away." "The train of thought, I suppose."—Truth.

According to the annual report of the commissioner of pensions there were 17,611 pensioners residing in Nebraska on June 30, and they drew \$2,737,364 during the past year.

On the recommendation of the superintendent of the West Point military academy, the president has directed the summary dismissal from the service of the United States of Capt. Philip F. Smith of the third class, for "harassing and annoying a fourth class man." Smith was appointed to the academy from the Fifth district of Nebraska, June, 1897.

Wednesday, August 30.

The transport Grant, bearing the Idaho, Wyoming and Dakota regiments was sighted shortly before 11 o'clock Tuesday night. The Grant left Nagasaki for San Francisco August 7.

United States Consul Bedloe is expected to reach Washington next week, to make explanation to the state department of the occurrences which led to his suspension as consul at Canton.

Major John A. Logan was recently appointed by the president a major in the volunteer army, but his name was accidentally omitted from the list. He has been assigned to the Thirty-third infantry.

The comptroller has approved the Hanover National bank, New York and the Bankers' National bank, Chicago, as reserve agents for the City National bank of Lincoln, and the Continental National bank of St. Louis, for the South Omaha National bank of South Omaha, Neb.

All haste is being used to dispatch the troops now waiting at San Francisco to Manila. It is expected that the entire casual detachment now at the Presidio will sail in about two weeks. The Pueblo left yesterday with 650 recruits. The Colorado regiment turned over their arms and expect to leave for Denver about September 8.

It is reported that the president's proclamation relating to the taking of the census in Cuba will be made public in Havana soon. Although it is well known that the taking of the census is intended as a preliminary step to the establishment of a republican form of government in Cuba, it is positively stated at the war department that there is nothing in the census proclamation to justify the assertion that the United States intends to give immediate independence to Cuba.

Thursday, August 31.

President McKinley yesterday forwarded to General Brooke at Havana his proclamation calling for a census of Cuba.

The United States transport Kilpatrick sailed yesterday from New York with 500 tons of relief supplies, food and clothing, for San Juan, Porto Rico.

Secretary of Agriculture Wilson is arranging for an exhaustive scientific investigation of the abandoned farms of New England. He is very sanguine in his belief that science can reclaim these once fertile farms.

It is reported that Aguinaldo has ordered the rebel generals in the province of Cavite to close in on and attempt to take the town of Imus, and it is added that troops are concentrating around the town from the lake country.

The big battleship Wisconsin which is being built at San Francisco will be ready for the trial trip inside of a fortnight or three weeks. Were it not for the delay in getting the conning towers from the east the Wisconsin would now be ready for the initial trial.

The insular commission, consisting of Major Kennedy, Judge Curtis and Major Watkins, which have given six months' study to the conditions of the island of Porto Rico, yesterday made its report to Secretary Root. It recommends a form of civil government for the island to take the place of the present military regime, and submits for adoption a code of laws.

The war department yesterday inaugurated a new policy in the way of franchises by granting a revocable license to Ramonede Valdez to construct a system of canals and electric lighting and power works on the Rio Plata at a point about seventeen miles above San Juan, Porto Rico. This is the first license of the kind yet issued. Mr. Valdez is a native of Porto Rico, and the war department has been induced to grant the license because the construction of the plant means the expenditure among the distressed inhabitants of Porto Rico of about \$200,000.

Friday, September 1.

After an absence of several months J. Addison Porter, private secretary to the president, has returned to duty at the White house.

The recent success of the German-American parcels post convention has caused France to desire a similar treaty, and negotiations are likely to be opened at an early day. The British government has likewise taken steps looking to a treaty on the same lines as Germany.

The president's visit to Canton is proving to be thoroughly enjoyable to him. He enjoys the chats with his neighbors, and is rested and benefited by the trip. Only the most urgent of public business is forwarded to him from Washington to receive attention, but even these keep the secretaries well occupied.

American troops made a sally into the woods near Cebu against the natives who recently ambushed four of our soldiers and drove them further into the hills. There were no casualties, but several heat prostrations occurred. General Lawton is extending civil government to towns in his division, and the plan seems to please. The inhabitants of the towns are to have entire charge of local affairs, may make tax levies, start schools and public improvements, and establish such civil offices as they see fit. The people were told that the tax money was to be expended at home, none of it going to the general government.

YOUNG MAN KILLS HIMSELF:

Refusal of Girl to Marry Him Prompts Self Destruction.

John Allen Lightbody, son of Isaac Lightbody, a well known and respected citizen, living near Daykin, committed suicide by shooting himself through the heart with a 38-calibre revolver. The young man had been keeping company with Miss Emma Helvy, who had several times recently rejected his offers of marriage. Last week he wrote a letter saying he had nothing to live for, and that he would kill himself if she persisted in her refusal to marry him.

Saturday he drove to Fairbury with a team and buggy to do some shopping. He left about dark and at 8 o'clock stopped at D. A. Smith's, three miles west, ostensibly to pay Smith a small sum of money he owed him, but really, it is believed, to be near the Helvy girl, who was stopping there. She refused to have any conversation with him, and he drove away. That was the last seen of him alive. Sunday morning the horse returned to Smith's where he had been accustomed to water, drawing the buggy with Lightbody's body in the bottom and the revolver lying by his side. A few miles further on, near the residence of Frank Helvy, there were tracks at the side of the road, which seemed to indicate that the rig had stood there all night. The body was cold and stiff. A coroner's jury rendered a verdict in accordance with the above facts.

FALLS CITY SENSATION.

Married Woman Caught by Husband Entertaining the Hired Man.

Fall City is evidently determined to keep itself known to Nebraskans. It has had several sensations lately that have let people know the town was in existence, but its latest soapade has proven to be the capstone.

Lincoln Meadows, the owner of the Star livery barn, has been visiting in Mound City, Mo., for several days. He told his wife he would be at home Thursday at 3 p. m. but instead he came in at 2:30 Friday morning. He found his hired man, Lon Caton, in bed with his wife and proceeded to make war upon him. In the scuffle, his wife, who was attempting to protect Caton, was severely cut in the left side by a pocket knife the enraged husband was trying to use on Caton. She also received a small cut on the neck. Caton escaped. Meadows has for some time suspected his wife of being untrue to him, and neighbors claim she has bestowed her favors on at least one other person besides Caton. Caton was at one time a common drunkard. Meadows took pity on him and furnished him with money to take the Keeley cure and gave him a job, boarded him in his family and has received as a reward for his kindness a blighted home.

Whitney Paroled.

Ezra S. Whitney, ex-county treasurer of Harlan county, has been paroled from the penitentiary by Governor Poynter. Mr. Whitney was convicted of embezzling county funds, in connection with a banker, and who was sentenced to serve two years and a half. He has served most of his sentence, but his friends have been anxious to have him liberated on parole. He was paroled last week on the application of his wife, who makes the usual agreement to furnish him employment. News of the parole was published last week in a Harlan county newspaper. The amount of county funds taken was \$6,000 to \$7,000. Mr. Whitney was elected county treasurer on the fusion ticket.

Boy Drowned in Mill Dam.

A boy named Charlie Becker was drowned at Franklin Saturday in the Republican river. He was about sixteen years old. He was with several other boys and went to the old mill dam fishing and in attempting to swim across a very swift and deep channel he went under and it was fifteen minutes before the body was recovered.

A Fall of Forty Feet.

Guy Crook, a Falls City boy, who has been visiting at the home of Wm. Tjaden of Humboldt, met with a very severe accident Thursday. While in the hay loft of Mr. Tjaden's large barn he stepped backward into an open chute and was precipitated to the basement, a distance of forty feet. One leg was broken close to the hip and was severely bruised, but was taken to his home the following day.

Body Found by Roadside.

The body of J. N. Rowe, of Harvard, was found by the roadside near Agra, Kans., last Saturday morning, where he had camped before. The manner of his death is shrouded in mystery.

Fell From a Ladder.

L. N. Macy, a painter of Lincoln fell from a twenty foot ladder while painting last Saturday. His injuries are severe, but not fatal.

Anti-Hallow'en

Lincoln has a band of anti-Hallow'ens who are mailing letters to various citizens, threatening vengeance on all who in any way participate in the old-time sport during the coming winter.

Run Down by a Train.

A special from Cedar Grove, Wis., says three men were instantly killed another seriously injured by being run down at a crossing by the north-bound limited train on the Chicago and Northwestern railroad.