

In The Waiting Room

By Emily Watson

(Copyright, by Joseph B. Bowles.)

The notes of a popular song echoed sentimentally through the big station waiting room. With one accord the despondent occupants of the benches, turned to look in the direction whence it came. A young man had entered at the south door and was making his way across the floor. His clothes were those of the well-to-do mechanic; over his shoulder was slung a canvas bag of tools. Behind him came a colored porter bearing a step ladder.

The young man paused beneath the big station clock and glanced up at the dial. The hands pointed to nine, in open disregard of the fact that the afternoon sun was streaming in through the western windows. "Darn thing's taken to going two hours fast a day," explained the porter.

"Put the ladder here," said the young man, "and we'll soon see what's gone wrong." Still carolling, he mounted and began observations.

It still wanted three-quarters of an hour to the departure of the New York express, when a girl entered. She glanced round the room, then crossed over to the full length mirror, which hung on one of the walls. After a critical survey of herself she opened a satchel and drew out a hand-glass, a comb and a perforated chamois powder bag. Raising her spotted veil she combed to a still greater height her already exaggerated pompadour, readjusted the angle of her hat, carefully powdered her face and studied in the hand-glass the result of her operations. Finally satisfied, she pulled down her veil, returned the toilet articles to the bag, and shut it with a snap. She smoothed down her jacket, hitched out of place by the raising of her arms; and then, shoulders well back, and with an exaggeration of the fashionable gait, she haughtily strolled to an empty bench and seated herself.

The clock-maker had finished his job to his liking, and was stowing away his instruments, preparatory to



"I Suppose You're Awfully Mad with Me."

descending the ladder. At the sound of his singing the girl started, and looked nervously round.

"Jim!" she murmured incredulously. Then, after a moment's hesitation, rose and stealthily moved to a bench directly in front of the clock.

The girl was elaborately gazing in a direction away from the clock, and had assumed a pose calculated to show at once the lines of her figure, and the abstraction of her mind.

"Nelly," said the clock-maker, standing humbly before her, "Nelly"—Slowly she forced her thoughts and her eyes from the far distance, and looked him up and down. For a moment a little bewildered frown drew her neat eyebrows together, then a smile of enlightenment brought a dimple into play.

"Why, if it isn't Jim Morris!" she exclaimed.

"I came to fix the clock," he explained. "I'm a clock-maker, you know. But I suppose you've forgotten that as well as everything else."

"I've such a lot of gentlemen friends," she apologized, "and it's so long—"

"It's only three months," said the young man, reproachfully. "I suppose," he went on dejectedly, as he sank into the bench, "I suppose you're awfully mad with me?"

"Why Mr. Morris, the idea!"

"Of course I ought to have known anyone as pretty as you was bound to have more fellows than one," he continued, "and I oughtn't to have chewed the rag when I saw you playing up to Michael Donovan, and swallowing his compliments as if they were Huyler's best, but—his voice grew choky—"

"you don't know, Nelly, how a chap feels when he loves a girl. Why, he'll plan for hours how to bring one kind look to her eyes, and he'll hug himself for days remembering a smile—and then when he sees her looking up to another man, and blushing and dimpling the way he's come to believe she only does to him—why it's awful—that's what it is," and he brought his hand so violently down on the bench that his tools were set on a jingling. "But even if I was jealous," he went on, "that wasn't any reason I should have acted the way I did. Insulted you by refusing to take your word when you swore that you

meant nothing—left you alone at the picnic to get home any old way you could, and gone off and sulked for three months. I don't deserve you should forgive me, and that's a fact."

"I'm sure I forgave you long ago," interrupted the girl softly.

"Nelly," incredulously. "But what are you doing at the station? Not going away? I couldn't stand for that you know, now I've got you again."

"I am going to New York."

"And so it's because you're going to New York that you are so fine, and look so pretty?"

"Do you like my things?" she asked, eagerly. "Do I look pretty, really and truly?"

"Your things are up in G, and you're as pretty as a picture, Nelly. But what's the use of words. If all these people weren't here I'd show you what I think of you. What are you going to do in New York?"

She looked at him sideways. "I am going," she said slowly. "I am going to be married to Michael."

He gave a gasp. "That's not true, he cried. She shrugged her shoulders. "Nelly," he besought, "forgive me. I shouldn't have said that, but you gave me a fright. I know it isn't true. I know you're just teasing me. But I've lost my nerve and I can't stand for it. Say you don't mean it."

"What's the use of my saying anything," she asked him, "when you think I'm not telling you the truth? I'm going to marry Michael Donovan. For two years I was straight to you, and put up with your jealousies and tempers, and turned down lots of better men because—well, because I was silly about you. But when you threw me off, and left me to be a public laughing stock, did you think I was going to put on sack cloth and ashes, till you got good and ready to come back to me? Not much!"

"You needn't say any more," interrupted the man, "I quite understand, Miss McCullough. Well, I hope you'll be happy and have lots of good luck." He lifted his hat with awkward dignity, and turning on his heel, marched towards the door.

The girl watched his retreating form with frightened eyes, then "Jim," she called, almost under her breath. "Jim." He heard her and came striding back.

"Well?" he demanded.

"I—I didn't speak," she stammered. "I beg your pardon, I thought you did. Oh, Nelly," he cried, "you can't mean to do this thing. If Michael were a decent sort I'd not have a word to say. But he isn't. Why, he hasn't a friend in the world. It was knowing the things I do about him that made me so fazed when I saw him hanging round you. Nelly, even if it's all over now, I ask you, please wait!"

The girl gazed at him spellbound, her hands nervously opening and closing.

"Why, Nelly," with a sudden joyful conviction, "I believe you love me still."

"Oh, Jim," she sobbed, "I do—I do. But I've given Michael my word, and I'll have to keep it."

"Why look here, Nelly," he pleaded, "if it's a question of keeping promises, you promised me long before you promised Michael, and it's the first promise that holds in law, you know."

"East bound express, stopping at Hudson, Poughkeepsie and New York," chanted the station official. The girl made to rise to her feet, but the clock-maker's arm drew her back.

"Sweetheart," he whispered, "you don't want to go and marry Michael do you?"

"No," said the girl, "I don't want to marry Michael, but—"

"But what?"

"Well, you see," she explained, "it's like this: I told all the girls at the store that I was going to get married; and about my trip to New York, and if I go back and tell them there wasn't any wedding, and there wasn't any trip, why they'll josh me to death. Jim—it's dreadful for me to say it—but you love me, don't you Jim? Let's go away to New York, you and me, now, and let us get married. Then they couldn't throw anything up to me."

"But Nelly," he protested, taken aback, "what would the boss say if I went off at a moment's notice that way?"

"I guess he'd say nothing, seeing you went to be married."

"Look at my clothes," he cried. "And, sweetheart, I haven't the money to buy a ticket, let alone to get married with."

"I've got the money, Jim," she whispered, "I've saved."

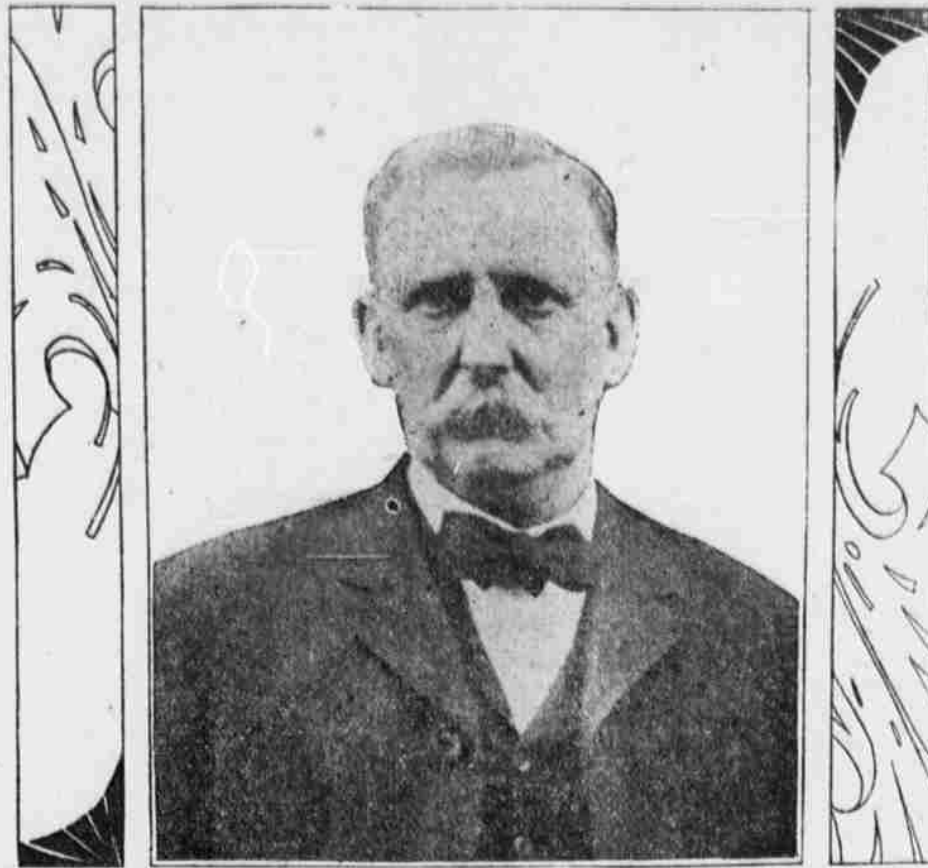
"Nelly," he said, desperately, "I can't take your money like that. I'd be a regular sponge."

"East bound express, stopping at Hudson, Poughkeepsie and New York. All aboard," called the official with a tone of finality.

"Oh, well," the girl acquiesced, "I don't wonder after the way I've behaved that you don't want to marry me."

"Not want to marry you!" cried the clock-maker, "not want—hold on there," he shouted to the gateman, "we're going." Thrusting his arm through the girl's they ran together towards the closing wicket.

Discovered Compound for Burning Ashes.



From stereograph, copyright, by Underwood & Underwood, N. Y.

John Ellmore, a cobbler of Altoona, Pa., says that he has discovered a compound for burning ashes which revolutionizes the industrial world. He says that tests have demonstrated that ashes treated with the compound make a fire hotter and at the same time cheaper than the fire produced by the burning of coal. Should the new process prove practicable, it is asserted, the price of fuel, especially coal, will be reduced to but a fraction of its present cost. Another advantage claimed for the new compound is that it almost wholly does away with smoke.

COAL IN SPITZBERGEN.

ANTHRACITE DEPOSITS OF GREAT VALUE BEING WORKED.

Mines on West Coast Have Proved Most Profitable—First of Arctic Islands to Send Fuel to Market.

Washington.—The prospect brightens that Spitzbergen may become a source of anthracite of some importance. The more the archipelago is examined, the more promising, it is said, are the coal mining prospects along some of the coasts, and in a number of the valleys. The railway, which was built three years ago to a little inland from Advent bay to bring coal down to the shore, is to be extended further into the main island to tap new sources of supply recently discovered. This is in about 78 degrees north latitude, or a little more than 800 statute miles from the north pole. In order to make the short railroad already in operation available the year around the miners built it all the way under cover. Many tons have been hauled down to the shore on these tracks to await the arrival of steamers that have carried several loads of excellent coal to European markets.

The chief discoveries of coal have been made in ice fiord, the deep indentation of the west coast, and especially in Advent bay, where the railroad was built. Here about 50 miners are living in small, warm dwellings. They have already proved the practicability of winter mining, and two years ago they installed electricity to illumine the long Arctic night in the coal mine, and in their little settlement, so that they may add to the coal output every month in the year. It was in Advent bay that Mr. Conway, who made the first crossing of Spitzbergen, replenished the coal supply of his little steamer 11 years ago.

The world will not be indifferent to any important coal resources which the Arctic regions may afford. Some day it may be drawing appreciable supplies from Greenland, and news of fresh discoveries of coal in any part of the accessible Arctic will be heard with interest.

Meanwhile Spitzbergen, the first of the Arctic islands to send coal to market and to be the goal of tourists

every summer, is still a neglected waif whom none of the family of nations has yet sought to adopt. Some benevolent party of tourists may give it a flag of its own, unless the protection of one of the nations is extended over it.

SNIFF KISS ORIGINAL CARESS.

Ancients Did Not Understand Art of Osculation, Says Professor.

Philadelphia.—The climax of interest at the recent session of the American Oriental society was reached when Prof. Hopkins of Yale read his paper on "The Sniff Kiss in Ancient India."

The paper was a history of the kiss as we know it. The learned professor traced it from its birth and proved that the earliest peoples and earliest times knew it not. That there might be no mistake he labeled the kiss of today "the genuine kiss" and "the perfect kiss." Oddly enough, he finds that the genuine kiss was invented by a woman. The description is given in the epic of ancient India which treats of the science of love.

"She laid her mouth to my mouth," recites the poet, "and made a noise which gave me pleasure."

With that discovery, said Prof. Hopkins, grew the fashion which has since known no abatement.

"The early peoples," he continued, "knew nothing of the kiss in any form. Had they known of it they would have told something of it in the mass of records that has come down to us, for, surely, an act which conveys such pleasure could not have been forgotten."

"With the development of the genuine kiss, the sniff kiss disappeared, never to reappear. It had served its purpose and soon was forgotten."

Mothers Have 38 Children.

San Francisco, Cal.—Statistics prepared by the immigration board at this port show that according to the claims of all the Chinese who swore they are native born every Chinese woman in this country must have been the mother of 38 children. This interesting condition was made known when the figures collected from various points in the country were tabulated.

SOCIETY OF ETERNAL YOUTH.

New Iowa Organization Fines All Sick Members.

Des Moines, Ia.—"The First Society of Eternal Youth" is the name of an organization founded here, which has for its object the prolongation of life, and which purposes to fine every member who becomes sick. That the association is in earnest is evidenced by the fact that 100 men already have enrolled in the scheme, the preamble of which reads as follows:

The special object and business of this society shall be to renew and perpetuate the mental, moral and physical youth and strength of all its members; to build up and continue in the highest degree the mental vigor in each individual member; and imperatively requiring from each and every member that he live the life of health, thereby contributing his share in banishing the specter of disease and death from the face of the earth.

Any member who is reported sick from any disease, and so remains sick and is confined to his bed for a continuous period of three days or more, shall be fined in a sum not less than one dollar nor more than ten dollars for the first offense. For the second offense under this article any member shall be suspended from membership, and for the third offense of any member in violation of this article expulsion from the society shall be the penalty.

All members upon joining must sign a pledge that he or she will continually assert that there is nothing but custom and habit of thought that causes people to be sick, grow old, or die.

Nitrate of Soda to Be Imported.

Mobile, Ala.—The first cargo of nitrate of soda ever brought to this port has arrived on board the steamer Brantwood from Chili. Further shipments will follow to supply not only the territory adjacent, but those points in the middle west where the inland freight is cheaper than from Baltimore and Philadelphia.

A few cargoes have been received at New Orleans during the past 18 months. Nitrate is used in this country for a variety of purposes, the principal ones being for the manufacture of powder and fertilizers; particularly in the latter field consumption of same has increased rapidly, especially in the south.

Chili, it is said, is the only country in the world where nitrate of commercial value is found.

Etiquette of a Real Gent.

Weary Willie—I'll talk straight, sport. I'm dyin' for a drink. Gimme a quarter, will yer? Galley—But you don't need a quarter to buy one drink. Weary Willie—One? Why, I ain't de kind of a gent w'at'll drink at another gent's expense an' not ask him ter join me.

WILL EAT SALTPETER

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS TO SETTLE MOOTED QUESTIONS.

Year's Experiments in Interest of Beef-Eating Public—One-Half to Be Fed on Meat Cured with Solution.

New York.—For a period of from six to twelve months a squad of vigorous and healthy men will be the subjects upon whom a small company of savants, working in the interests of humanity in general and beef-eaters in particular, will test the effects of meat that has been cured with saltpeter and other supposedly injurious preservatives.

This was settled the other day, when what will be known as the national commission for the investigation of nutrition problems was formed in New York at the Fifth Avenue hotel.

This organization will act under the auspices of the University of Illinois and it is composed of Prof. H. S. Grindley of that institution, Prof. R. H. Chittenden of Yale university, Prof. J. J. Abel of Johns Hopkins university and Prof. A. P. Mathews of Chicago university.

The movement was inaugurated by Prof. Edmund J. James of the University of Illinois, who will also take an active part in its progress. The experiments will be carried on at the University of Illinois, and it is said that they will be the most thorough of the kind ever undertaken in the United States.

"There has been great difference of opinion among experts," said Prof. Grindley, "as to the effect of certain preservatives used in the curing of meat and the commission will direct its attention first to the determination of some of these important questions. The first experiments will be to discover the effects upon the human body of the saltpeter used in curing meats."

"It is a well-known fact that saltpeter taken in considerable quantities is a poison, but whether the small amount consumed by the eating of cured meats is in any way injurious has long been a mooted question.

"The data obtained will be of prime importance in aiding the enforcement of the present pure food laws and of the utmost importance in aiding in the formulation of further just regulations as to the use of this and other preservatives in food products."

The "saltpeter squad," as it might be called, will be boarded in a specially equipped house in such a way that the weight of all foods eaten by each man can be accurately determined and the food completely analyzed. A physician will keep a daily record of the physical condition and health of each member of the squad.

The diet of half the men will include cured meat products now on the market containing saltpeter and the other half will be fed on a diet exactly similar except that the cured meats will contain none of the preservatives.

Another interesting feature of the experiments will be that efforts will be made to have the men housed pleasantly and their meals so presented to them as to eliminate if possible the influence of the mental condition of the squad on the processes of digestion and nutrition.

It is the purpose of the commission also to make experiments of a similar kind upon the lower animals, so that at the end of the work the animals may be killed and a thorough examination made by the most approved methods to determine the effect of the saltpeter upon the internal organs connected with the processes of digestion and assimilation.

TO END ROCKING OF SHIPS.

British Expert Offers Hope to Seasick Travelers.

London.—Ships that will not rock is the heavenly dream of Sir William White, late chief constructor of the British navy, held out to ocean travelers as likely to be realized at some future time.

Sir William put before the members of the Institution of Naval Architecture recently the results of experiments with Dr. Schlick's gyroscopic apparatus for steadying ships. The experiments were carried out on a German first-class torpedo boat, the apparatus (a flywheel one meter in diameter, oscillating on trunnions, and making up to 3,000 revolutions a minute) being placed in a compartment before the boiler room.

In all cases, said Sir William White, the practical effect was to extinguish the rolling motion of a ship almost immediately. The torpedo boat was practically deprived of rolling motion, and was simply subjected to heaving motions. To use Dr. Schlick's words:

"The waves seemed to disappear under her, and she rose with a gentle motion vertically upwards, and sank again just as gently into the trough of the sea without even spray coming on board to any extent worth mentioning."

Steamships of high speed, continued Sir William, formed a class in which the steadying effect of gyroscopes would be of great advantage, and there would be no difficulty in fitting them. It might be anticipated that experiments would be made before long with gyroscopic apparatus in destroyers and in the smaller classes of cruisers.

DON'T GRUMBLE AT TRIFLES.

Twenty-five Bushels Wheat and Forty-five Bushels Oats Per Acre Here in Western Canada.

Salteats, Sask., 8th December, 1906.

To the Editor. Dear Sir, I willingly give you the result of my four and a half years' experience in the District of Salteats.

Previous to coming here I farmed in Baldwin, St. Croix County, Wisconsin, and as I have heard a great deal about the Canadian North-West, I decided to take a trip there and see the country for myself. I was so impressed with the richness of the soil that I bought half a section of land about five miles from the town of Salteats. I moved on to the land the following June and that year broke 90 acres, which I cropped in 1904, and had 39 bushels wheat per acre. In 1905, with an acreage of 160 acres, I had 24 bushels wheat and 35 bushels of oats per acre. In 1906, with 175 acres under crop, I had 25 bushels wheat and 45 bushels of oats per acre.

From the above mentioned yields you can readily understand that I am very well pleased with the Canadian West. Of course, I have had to work hard, but I don't mind that when I get such a good return for my labor.

To anyone thinking about coming to this country I can truthfully say that if they are prepared to work and not grumble at trifles, they are bound to get on. Some things I would like different, but take the country all round, I don't know where to go to get a better.

Yours truly, (Signed) O. B. OLSON.

Write to any Canadian Government Agent for literature and full particulars.

Coming Popular Craze.

Signs are not wanting that amateur photography will have a vast increase of raw recruits in 1907. From the cloistered retreats of the learned it has transpired that we are on the verge of discovering the art of direct color photography. And the masses—there is abundant evidence of it—are beginning to turn their eyes towards this hobby which promises so many wonders for the near future.

Deafness Cannot Be Cured

by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed, you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is closed, deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; and cases out of ten are caused by Catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surface. We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars, free.

J. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

Sold by Druggists. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Chivalrous English Candidates. In a recent municipal election at Chard, England, two male candidates withdrew in order that two women might have an uncontested election.

In a Pinch, Use ALLEN'S FOOT-EASE.

A powder. It cures painful, smarting, nervous feet and ingrowing nails. It's the greatest comfort discovery of the age. Makes new shoes easy. A certain cure for sweating feet. Sold by all Druggists, 25c. Accept no substitute. Trial package, FREE. Address A. S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y.

Les often tread on the toes of true unshod truth.

The Evolution of Household Remedies.

The modern patent medicine business is the natural outgrowth of the old-time household remedies.

In the early history of this country, EVERY FAMILY HAD ITS HOME-MADE MEDICINES. Herb teas, bitters, laxatives and tonics, were to be found in almost every house, compounded by the housewife, sometimes assisted by the apothecary or the family doctor.

Such remedies as picra, which was aloes and quassia, dissolved in apple brandy. Sometimes a hop tonic, made of whiskey, hops and bitter barks. A score or more of popular, home-made remedies were thus compounded, the formulae for which were passed along from house to house, sometimes written, sometimes verbally communicated.

The patent medicine business is a natural outgrowth from this wholesome, old-time custom. In the beginning, some enterprising doctor, impressed by the usefulness of one of these home-made remedies, would take it up, improve it in many ways, manufacture it on a large scale, advertise it mainly through almanacs for the home, and thus it would become used over a large area. LATTERLY THE HOUSEHOLD REMEDY BUSINESS TOOK A MORE EXACT AND SCIENTIFIC FORM.

Peruna was originally one of these old-time remedies. It was used by the Mennonites, of Pennsylvania, before it was offered to the public for sale. Dr. Hartman, THE ORIGINAL COMPOUNDER OF PERUNA, is of Mennonite origin. First, he prescribed it for his neighbors and his patients. The sale of it increased, and at last he established a manufactory and furnished it to the general drug trade.

Peruna is useful in a great many climatic ailments, such as coughs, colds, sore throat, bronchitis, and catarrhal diseases generally. THOUSANDS OF FAMILIES HAVE LEARNED THE USE OF PERUNA and its value in the treatment of these ailments. They have learned to trust and believe in Dr. Hartman's judgment, and to rely on his remedy, Peruna.