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And wander vaguely to a pleasant region, Where green fields glow with a sheen of summer sunset.

And narrow farther to a sylvan vista. Whence issue sounds to soothe the spirit's trouble;

To hear the laugh and gurgle of low waters, And young birds sing with a diviner

music. And young birds carol with a lovelier

And evening winds that walk with a fainter footfall Unto the white clouds and the bluer sky

depths; To rest a little some green willow under,

Whose branches whisper in that shadow garden,

And hold that hand which hath the tenderest pressure, And touch sweet lips just as thine eyes are

closing; This is that falling ere the sunset's fading. This is that dying ere the morn immortal!

To see blue-hooded violets reposing, Among the grasses twining to caress thee And kiss thy cheek as if thou wert a sister, And warm thee with their breath of heav-

enly odor, As if thou wert to them indeed a sister. To find some quiet in the willow vista, Some little slumber in that shadow garden; This is that evening of thy dreamless sleep-

This is that slumber ere the life immortal!

A gentle waking to a new beauty, A gradual unfolding to the soul life, As through a rose's chrysalis transported Into the blooming valley of that Eden; A slow unfolding of an early blossom; A tittle kneeling at the sapphire portals, And consciousness of all surcease of heartache,

Tumultuous tremor as the soul receiveth The grander splendor of the spheral chorus, The joy which "passeth human understanding."

This is that coming of another morning, This is the morning of the life immortal. [-Frederick Peterson.

YIK KEE.

After father died, some ten years ago, I found that for three years we had been living on credit I was 18, strong and well, but did not know how to work. In the little back room of the New York tenement house (by the way, the landlady seized my clothes for our rent) I considered my future. I had inherited a great faith in relatives from my father, so I wrote to seven. I received six polite notes, telling me to go to work, and the following letter:

Jonesboro, Col., Jackson's Ranch— Dear Nell: I'm your cousin Jack. Your father once gave me money to come west. I've took up land, got a comfortable home, no style or frills, but good folks to live with and healthy grub. I've got the best wife you ever see and seven youngsters. The city ain't no place for a friendless girl. Wife wants you to come. She'll be a mother to you. Come right off. I'll meet

Inclosed was a cheek sufficient to defray expenses; so I started. Denver was then only a large town, and the depot a barn-like structure. I got out of round-up and visit the ranches all of the cars and stood bewildred among all the emigrants and their bundles. Some one touched me cn the shoulder -a roughly dressed, broad shouldered of the owner. Cattle-stealing was freman, with long blonde beard and big

"Are you Nell!" he said. "Yes; and you're Cousin Jack."

"I knew you," he said, as he led the way, "by your black clothes an' sorrerful look, an' them big, blue eyes, like yer father's as two peas. We'll git the shadder outer 'em when we git home. Yer father was a mighty-good man. Bless yer dear heart, don't let them tears come. This 'ere's a dry country; we don't waste water."

Comforting me in his kind, rough way, he reached his team, a big, green wagon, drawn by two wild-looking steeds, which I afterward knew to be bronchos. A fat, blonde boy, about 12, held the reins.

"That's Ted," said Cousin Jack. "Ted, this is Miss Nell, your cousin; give her a hug." The fat boy solemnly obeyed.

After this he seemed to have a special claim on my affections because he met me first. Jack's wife was a jolly, plump woman, with brown eyes and curly hair. She always had a baby in her arms and another at her heels. She adored Jack. I never knew them to had purchased many cattle from his have a quarrel. I soon grew to love cousin, Gil Mead, and hoped to rival have a quarrel. I soon grew to love the life at the ranch. I liked the big, half-finished house, its untidyness and comfort; its pleasant, healthy atmosphere. I loved the children, the household pets; Shep, the sagacious dog; Thad, the clever cat; the hens and sheep; the horses, Dolly, Dot and Daisy, that did the plowing and the marketing at Denver, twelve miles away, and were so gentle and kind we used to ride them without saddle or bridle. I learned that cattle grew fat on the dry-looking grass, and gave the best of milk. I learned to love the broad plains and the glorlous sunsets, and to watch the distant bands of Indians with half fear, half interest. I helped cousin Mary, sewed, cooked, kept the house and children neat, and lifted many burdens from her weary shoulders. We were so happy. The children and I took long walks over the plains, and Ted and I took many rides on Dolly and Dot, and in the long winter evenings I told the children stories. Oche and Jack were dear triends Harry for Jack. Mary looked around for Yik conscious man, and then we, too, sped chusetts.

supplies. He went alone, and coming home later than usual, Ted and I and baby Mame went out to meet him. Jack looked sober and guilty, and seemed ill at ease. If he ever drank, I should have thought him intoxicated. In the wagon was a queer shaped heap under a horse blanket. I was sure it moved. When we got behind the barn

Jack said, sheepishly, avoiding my eye: "Well, Ted, I calkerlate I've got su'thing in that there waggin that'ul

astonish yer marm."
Little Mame pulled the blanket off the heap; she had been peeping under it all the while she was in the back of the wagon. There lay a human being. Such an object; short and squat, dressed in a queer blue blouse with flowing sleeves, wide trousers, and queer wooden shoes. He had small black eyes, a shaven poll, from which depended a long, thin quoue. His countenance was battered and bruised, his clothes torn and bloody.

"There was a row down to Denver," said Jack; "the Christian folks stove in these 'ere heathens' winders, tore their houses down, and killed half on 'em. I cleared out as soon as I could. When I got half way home I heard a noise back of me, and out crawled this thing. I was so dumbfounded I couldn't speak. He thought I was going ter send him back, an' he fell ter cryin' and jabber-in' in that yap of his, and clingin' onto my hand an' kissin' of it. It sorter turned my stomach. I told him ter set down, give him some crackers ter eat, covered him up an' told him he could live with me. What do you s'pose marm'll say?"

"Oh, Cousin Jack," I said, "of course she will not care. Your house is a refuge for all the wretched and unfortunate."

"Now, don't, Nell," he said, turning as red as a rose, and busying himself about the harness. The Celestial looked at us solemnly; Mame toddled up to did not move.

"Get out, John," said Jack, "you needn't be scared any more; we're at home."

He got out stiffly, and to my surprise, turned and lifted the baby down. She took his pig tail and pulled it in wild delight. He seemed grieved when I twinkling stars. We rode as fast as took her away. When Jack told Mary, our horses could gallop. Shep was make him a bed in the attic. The Celestial did not say much, but when Jack called him "John" he smiled a sad smile.

"Melican man callee John. Hump. Yik Kee."

So with due consideration for his feelings we addressed him as Yik Kee. He the bridge, across the fields, was the was of great use. He helped take care haystack of Mead, where was stowed We made him one of the family. He was always pleasant and smiling, but was a man of few words.

Cousin Jack added much to his inliving at a distance sold their hides to basely. him and Jack sold them to traders, who came around at certain times in the year. Harry White was a partner in the business. He used to go on a sort over the country. The cattle of the ranchmen roamed in vast herds over the plains, protected only by the brand quently practiced. Offenders in this respect were shown no mercy. They were convicted, tried and executed only in the court of Judge Lynch. I never blamed the ranchmen for this; it was impossible to guard the herds in the vast area over which they traversed, and the cattle must be protected in some way. Gil Meadt was a wealthy ranchman, who lived about ten miles from us. He owned the largest herd of cattle on the plains. They were branded with the vowels of of his hame, E. A., which could be recognized anywhere. He always shipped his cattle east to his brother in Chicago.

I feared the man. He was tall and gaunt, with deep-set black eyes and low forehead. His home was unhappy, his wife cross and ugly, and his children wild and unruly. This made him more than commonly disagreeable. I think it was in the fall of '74 that Harry White brought the big load of hides to Jack. Both were much pleased at the bargain they made. Harry gave

glowing accounts of a new customer-a ranchman from Chicago, who had taken up an abandoned homestead. He him in the number and quality of his herd. Jack packed the hides away to keep till December when he expected

One afternoon, not long after this, Gil Mead rode up to the house looking very agreeable and pleasant. A couple of strangers, also ranchmen, were with him. They wanted to look at the hides, one of them being a trader, Gil said. Jack was in Denver, so Yik Kee and I went to the barn with them. They looked the hides over carefully, and conversed in low tones, Gil with a sup-

courteously and took their leave. "Humph; no goodee," said Kik Kee,

pressed oath. Finally they thanked us

but he wouldn't say more. About 5 that evening, when we were at supper, a crowd of twenty-five or thirty men rode up on horseback. Jack came out and met them, inviting them in to take supper, in his generous, hospitable way. They wanted him to go to Denver with them; there was to be a casionally Harry White came over to meeting there of importance to ranchvisit us from his ranch, five miles men. The meeting would be at 8. They and I mounted, calling off Shep, who away. He lived with his old mother; had brought with them an extra horse sat on his haunches watching the un- ambition in politics out side of Massa-

neened a wife, Jack used to say, winking at me.

Nee to help her, but he had mysteriousing at me.

It disappeared. I faintly remembered giving out great volumes of black seeing his white, horrified face peering smoke, but the fire was dead. around the barn at the horses. I noted the visitors ate little-the food seemed | Dolly, who greeted her master with a to choke them. Some of them watched Mary and the baby in a queer sort of kissed his wife and babies good-bye, one | was the indomitable Yik Kee, who had of the visitors, an oldish man, coughed crawled all the way from the stack on huskily, and said: "Best if I kin stan' this." They all rode off, Jack the merriest of all, waving his hat till he was blaze had faded out. "Humph! no out of sight.

When we were clearing up the un-usual quantity of dishes Yik Kee appeared at the end window and beckthe three horses saddled. Shep was

lowing his master.

something." "What is it, Yik?" I said, sternly. "No fooling, now."

For answer he twisted his long pigtail around his neck, tying it under his left ear in a significant manner.

"Humph, he hangee; stealee cow." "Oh, Mary," I cried, remembering Gil Mead's visit and his strange acwildly.

"Humph, no," said Yik Kee. "Yellee sick," and he closed his eyes in a dieaway sort of manner. "Go nowtoo late."

We mounted.

"Mother'll think we're gone to ride," sticking out of his pocket. He was a him go. determined boy. Even in my despair, cling to him, and that they would have flapped in the wind, his long pigtail Mead, and had captured the gang and flew out behind, and he bobbed up and taken them to Denver. down like a kernel of corn in a corn-

It was a soft, warm night, lighted were riding toward Denver. We galing a roaring torrent. Beyond Can't catchee. Hangee at bridge. You goee!" He turned his horse and come by trading in hides. Ranchmen sped across the field, descrting us

and still; my cheeks were burning. We neared the bridge. The high mound of earth before us hid them from sight. We stopped our horses torches, some were preparing a rough gallows under the bridge; two were uncoiling a rope; some held the horses of the others beyond the bridge The men were masked now, and I could see by the lighted torches that their number was increased. Jack was very white and sad, but he showed no fear.

"I am innocent, gentlemen," he said slowly, "but I refuse to tell you of wohm I bought the hides." I understood him. Could Harry

White be a cattle thief? I felt as if I were growing mad.

"What shall we do?" whispered Ted, cocking his revolver. Suddenly a bright red light illuminated the heavens, followed by clouds

of black smoke, and a queer, crackling noise. A yell from the men, Gil Mead's voice above the rest. The haystack was on fire. It seemed to me in the glare around it that I could see a foreign looking human vanishing across

the plain. The men mounted their horses, Gil Mead at their head, and set off across the fields at a mad gallop. They must save the stack. They left Jack bound hand and foot and guarded by one

Shep, the wonderful dog, had kept by us until now, slinking in the dark shadows. Now gliding sidewise and seeing it, how much its grandeur is enstill, he reached the man on guard, whose back was to us, and with no warning growl, caught him by the throat with strong white teeth that the river itself is in accordance with could choke a coyote in a second. The man, who was in a sitting posture, fell back with a groan. Ted struck him over the head with the butt of the revolver, and pulled off the dog. I cut Jack's bonds with a knife. He looked at us wonderingly, and staggered to his feet.

"Never mind how we came, Jack," I said. "Quick, mount the horse beyond the bridge, and ride to Denver for your life. They will not harm a woman ard chi.d."

"Harry White," he muttered, the loyal soul that even could think of another's

"I will tell him." "No, no; not of this-only say if he stole the cattle to fly the country. They

will find out sooner or later." He galloped down the road. Ted

Ahead of us was a riderless horse, joyful whinny. Where was Yik Kee? Then Dot, my horse, shied from the way. When Jack, as was his custom, road at a recumbent black figure. It his stomach, so that he could not be seen, after lying in the disch until the catchee Chinee; heap sore," he said,

laconically, rubbing his stomach.

He mounted Dolly, and we rode on to White's ranch. Harry rushed out oned me. I followed him out. Ted at the sound of horses' feet, at midwas with him. Behind the barn were night. There, under the twinkling stars, I looked into his eyes, and told with them, released from confinement, hin the whole story. He showed no where he had been secured from fol- guilt, but only said he must stay the night at his ranch, for the men would "Foller 'em," said "ed, in an excited come back to Jack's for him, and then whisper. "Yik's afraid they're up to mounting his fleet colt rode off down the road. I comforted his mother as best I could. At daybreak we rode home.

Mary was in a wild state of alarm. Where had we been? Where was Jack? and how cruel we were to leave her alone. She said that at 1 o'clock three masked men had come to the house and searched it and the premises. tions, and dimly seeing what Yik Kee but had not molested her or the chilmeant, "I must tell Mary," I said dren, only asking where Jack was very sternly and sharply.

At noon, Jack, Harry, the sheriff and a party of armed men from Denver rode up, stopping only a moment to tell ine that they would be back at night. I dared not tell Mary, and she worried all the afternoon at their strange consaid Ted, as we galloped over the duct. At night Jack and Harry came plains. He was deathly pale, poor lit- home, looking tired but happy. Then tle fellow, but he sat erect and firm. I Jack told Mary, and she cried and clung saw his father's big Colt's revolver to him as though she could never let

It seemed the pleasing ranchman in my wild hope that I could save Jack from Chicago was one of a band of catby begging on my knees, that I could | the thieves. He sold the hides to Harry, who honest and open himself, was to kill me first, I could not help a smile slow to suspect wrong dealings in him. He looked at her curiously but at the comical figure Yik Kee present- others. The sheriff had caught the ed on horseback. His loose garments men skinning a cow that belonged to

The men concerned in the attempt to lynch Jack were sincerely sorry. Their regrets would not have availed much, only by the pale young moon and the however, if they had succeeded in their purpose. They gave each of their children ten acres of land; they gave the good soul found a thousand reasons close at our heels. Way ahead, when Ted sixty-five, and me, whom they why he should stay, and hurried to we reached the top of a little hill, we pleased to consider very plucky, 150 saw the crowd of horsemen. They acres. I telt rich enough, and time has made it very valuable land. The man loped on with renewed zeal. They on guard was our warmest admirer. He turned into a cross road leading to thought Ted, Shep and I wonders of Mead's ranch. On this road was a courage. He said when I came down bridge over Dry Gulch, which was in on the bridge with the open knife, he

nt his last hour had came. Gil Mead committed suicide not long after this. He was always queer. No of the children, did the washing (Mary sufficient to feed his domestic cattle one ever knew that Yik Kee set the did not fancy his method of sprinkling through the winter. We at last reached stack on fire. I tell you Jack reward-clothes), and helped Jack on the farm. the turn of the road. They were three ed the faithful fellow—gave him a good miles in advance, riding rapidly. Yik farm, taught him to work it, and built Kee stopped at the turn. "Humph! him a house. The funniest thing was, Yik Kee had a wife and three queer little children in China, and Jack sent for them, and Yik Kee and his family are as happy as they can be. The children We rode on, Ted and I. He was pale | play with Jack's (he has twelve now),

and get along finely together. In 1875 I married Harry White, which, I suppose, was foreseen from the beginning-at least Jack says anyand listened. The men had lighted body could have seen it. The most serene and satisfied face at the wedding was the Celestial's. In my inner consciousness, notwithstanding be was a "heathen Chinee," I have the conviction that as great a hero as is seen in modern times is the man of few words -Yik Kee. -[Our Continent.

A Great River of the North.

Life in Puget Sound.

The most interesting part of the journey was the passage of the Columbia. The bar at the mouth of the river is a great hindrance to its free navigation, and vessels are often detained for days, and even weeks, waiting for a favorable opportunity to cross. We waited five days outside in the fog, hearing all the time the deep, solemn warning of the breakers. Our steadfast captain, as long as he could see nothing, refused to go on, knowing well the risk. At the end of the fifth day he entered in triumph, with a clear view of the river, the grandest sight I have ever seen. The passengers seemed hardly to dare to breathe till we were over the bar. As we passed into the river I sat on deck, looking about. I had long looked forward to seeing this immense river, seven miles broad, rolling seaward, and the great line of breakers at the bar; but no one can realize, without actually hanced by the surroundings of interminable forests and the magnificence of breaks through the Cascade mountains in four miles of rapids, and still higher up, shut between basaltic walls, rushes with deafening roar through the narrow passage of the Dalies, where it is compressed into one-eighth of its usual width. For a long time I could not receive any other sensation or admit any other thought but of its terrific strength. The Indians say that in former times the river flowed smoothly where are now the whirling rapids of the Cascades, but that a landslide from the banks dammed up the stream and produced this great change.

A letter has been received at Erie, Pennsylvania, from General Butler, and has been made public, in which he declares that he is out of national politics forever, and that he has no

A LEAP-YEAR SCHEME.

Messenger Boys To Be Used as Escorts by Young Ladles.

Denver Tribune.

Denver's district messenger boys are always obliging. Their employers have concluded to put them to other uses than that of answering calls. The District messenger company yesterday issued a card stating that its messengers can be used hereafter by ladies as escorts. The card says the boys will be neatly uniformed, and that they will be handsome and polite. The boys can be had for thirty cents an hour. The scheme is said to be one peculiarly adapted for leap-year, when ladies are supposed to cast as de a certain amount of their modesty. Those who wish to go to the theater, and do not wish to ask somebody else's brother to accompany them, can find an escort-he may be diminutive, but it is better to have a half loaf than no bread-by ringing for a messenger boy. If the boy does not make his appearance promptly, the young lady or maid in the sere or yellow leaf can ring again. If the boy does not show up then the person who has been ringing the alarm can just bless the boy a little and ring again. Then she can retire and fix up anew her spirits, curls, bangs or sixes, as the case may be. After that the boy may knock at the front door. On being admitted he may be out of breath, but the lady, no matter whether old or young, should kiss him behind the left ear. She may, if she sees fit, call him a little wretch, but he will have the privilege of saying, "My dear Miss Flip, am I going to the ball or theatre with you this evening?" The lady may ask him if he knows how to use operaglasses properly, or or if he can dance; but the boy can do both, and these matters having been settled the lady with her gallant though youthful escort can start out for the theatre or a ball in a carriage-if walking is not good enough.

A Tribune reporter yesterday called at the office of the District Messenger company and approached the superintendent, whose duty it is to awake the boys who have fallen asleep in the chairs or on the stools, and inform that a gentleman at box — wants one of them to take a letter to his lady love, or that a lady wants some one to accompany her

to the theatre. "Have you secured any boys as handsome as newspaper reporters to act as escorts to young ladies?" was asked.

"Yes, sir," replied the superintendent, as a cruel smile played on his handsome countenance, "a fine crowd of noble looking boys."

"Do you think there will be any objection offered by the ladies to the boys acting as escorts?" "I do not think so. You know it is

leap year, and no young ladies will offer any objections." "Will the boys be used for anything

else?" "Oh, well, if a young lady is timid and should be out calling on her friends she can borrow a full dress suit for a

boy and send him out." "Do you think the innovation will

"No doubt of it. It is a novelty, and all society bells will think it the proper caper to have one of the youthful es-

"Are the boys well informed?"

"Yes, they are well posted on social events and theatrical matters. They are well read, and you can make up your mind that they will prove very agreeable companions."

American Beauty Slurred.

Sir Lepel Griffith in London Fortnightly. There can be no doubt that Americans honestly believe their women to be the most beautiful in the world; nor to them would there appear any extravagance in the remark of the New York Sun on the audience which attended Irving's first performance, "in respect of the beauty it contained, far surpassing any audience that Mr. Irving ever bowed to in his life." But the opinion of foreigners-I do not speak of Englishmen alone-is very different, and I have never met one who has lived long or traveled much in America who did not hold that female beauty in the states is exceedingly rare, while the average of ordinary good looks is unusually low. More pretty faces are to be seen in a single day in London than in a month in the states. The average of beauty is far higher in Canada, and the American town in which most pretty women are noticeable is Detroit, on the Canadian border and having many Canadian residents. In the western states beauty is conspicuous by its absence, and in the eastern towns, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York ts snow mountains. The character of and Boston, it is to be chiefly found. In New York in August I hardly saw a everything about it, especially where it face which could be called pretty. In November New York presented a different appearance, and many pretty women were to be seen, although the number was comparatively small, and at the Metropolitan opera house even American friends were unable to point out any lady whom they could call beautiful. A distinguished artist told me that when he first visited America he scarcely saw in the streets of New York a single face which he would select as a model, though he could find twenty such in the London street in which his studio was situated. The American type of beauty is extremely delicate and refined, and London and continental society will always contain some American ladies who may rank among the loveliest in the world. Such are known to us all, but are more common in Europe than America.

Mormon missionaries are traveling through Michigan.