

VALENTINE, - NEBRASKA
MAINE'S DEAD DUG UP

151 COFFINS PLACED ON BOARD THE TEXAS.

Germany Issues a Denial of the Story that Her Flag Has Been Hoisted Over Samoa—Tragedy in a Dallas, Texas, Elevator.

Havana: The removal of the dead of the Maine was not accompanied by any ceremonies over the bodies. As the coffins were dug up they were placed in the chapel in the cemetery till the disinterments were completed. At 10 p. m. Dec. 20 ten wagons formed a procession, carrying 151 coffins to the Machina wharf under a guard from the battleship Texas. They were placed on steam lighters and taken to the warship.

The Texas left here at 10 a. m. next day. All the remains were thoroughly disinfected. A difference was found between the number of coffins entered on Chaplain Chadwick's list, which was 154, and the actual number of coffins exhumed. Search was made through all twenty-two graves in which the coffins were buried, but three were not found. Father Chadwick said the difference could be explained by a clerical error at the time of interring, as he was very busy at the wharf giving instructions and identifying the bodies, and could not superintend every detail.

GERMANY ISSUES A DENIAL.

Has Not Hoisted Her Flag Over Samoa Isles. Washington: The following statement was made by the official German authorities here:

A press telegram of the 13th inst. from Apia, via Auckland, reports that the German consul in Apia solemnly proclaimed the annexation of Oahu and Hawaii by Germany to a number of Samoan chiefs on board a German man of war, and that on the same day he hoisted the German flag on the supreme court.

This does not cover the reports received in Berlin from the German consul in Apia, and, according to the instructions which he received from Berlin, seems absolutely untrue. The German consul likewise wired on the 13th inst., but he simply stated certain Tanau chiefs refused to pay the head tax imposed by the three consuls, hence they had been ordered to leave the district by thirteen chiefs. The three consuls instructed the thirteen chiefs to send the aggressors to Apia for trial. This has been agreed upon.

GUILTY OF TRAFFIC IN DEAD

Frank Thompson, Recently Arrested at St. Louis, Convicted.

Memphis, Tenn.: The jury in the case of E. D. and Frank Thompson, charged with conspiracy to violate the law with reference to pauper dead in this state, brought in a verdict of guilty and the defendants were fined \$250 each.

Frank Thompson was recently arrested in St. Louis with four dead bodies, which, it is alleged, were being shipped to medical colleges in the north. The two men will have to answer to three other similar indictments.

MAY BE A MURDER.

Quarrel Over a Nickel Caused Shooting in Omaha.

Omaha: Omaha was the scene of another shooting affray the other evening. It occurred at the old Kirby Hotel, Twenty-seventh and I. Streets. Two men were injured and a policeman received a bullet through his clothing. John Fyda, the proprietor of the saloon, is seriously if not fatally wounded, and Frank Pyska, the man who started the shooting, is suffering from a slight flesh wound. The trouble started over the payment for a glass of beer.

TRAGEDY IN AN ELEVATOR.

Two Dallas Lawyers Engage in a Duel to the Death.

Dallas, Tex.: F. M. Etheridge, one of the most prominent lawyers of this city, shot Attorney E. O. Harrell, equally well known, inflicting four wounds which subsequently resulted in death. The shooting was done in a crowded elevator in the North Texas building. Harrell fell with a pistol half cocked in his hand. Etheridge was arrested. The participants in the tragedy had quarreled about professional affairs.

TO DEGRADE LI HUNG CHANG

Apparent that China Is to Meet Demands of France.

Pekin: Li Hung Chang has been appointed acting viceroy of Canton. It is believed this is preparatory to his degradation in compliance with French demands.

Butchell College Destroyed.

Akron, Ohio: The main building of Butchell College, including all the laboratories, libraries and men's and women's dormitories, was burned to the ground Dec. 22. The loss is fully \$100,000, with \$65,000 insurance.

Michigan Saw Mill Burned.

Bay City, Mich.: The saw mill and salt block of McEwen Bros. & Co., together with 6,800 barrels of salt, were burned Dec. 21. The loss is \$78,000, with \$24,000 insurance.

Kansas Volunteer Kills Himself.

Topeka, Kan.: Frank McFadden, a member of Company A, Twentieth Kansas, committed suicide here by taking morphine. While in the Philippines he was detailed to act as assistant manager of the Manila military railway.

For Democratic Convention.

Washington: Chairman Jones of the national Democratic committee has issued a call for a meeting here Feb. 22 to fix the time and place for holding the next national Democratic convention.

WOOD IS WARMLY RECEIVED

Cordial Welcome Extended New Governor on Arrival in Cuba.

Havana: Gen. Leonard Wood, new governor general, arrived here Dec. 20 and received the salutes for a major general from Cabanas and for a governor general from Punta, fired with petards by Cubans. Gen. Wood was deeply affected upon hearing of the death of Gen. Lawton, and was unable to converse for several minutes.

Every launch in the harbor, barges and rowboats were hired and decorated with bunting. Gen. Wood boarded a launch supplied by the entertainment committee while a salute of twenty-one rockets, each having American or Cuban flags attached, was fired. Much enthusiasm was manifested on every side. A large crowd received Gen. Wood at Michina wharf and upon landing there he was greeted with hearty cheers. He was then driven to the Hotel Inglaterra.

Gen. Wood called at the palace at noon and was received by Gen. Brooke.

The welcome given Gen. Wood was, according to all the residents, without parallel in the history of the island. The elaborate display of bunting in the harbor and the multitude of boats and bands showed the hastily formed reception committee did excellent work. Everywhere was a heartiness in the cheering that was quite unusual.

GETS HIS GUNS BACK.

Buller Is Said to Have Recovered Abandoned Cannon.

London: A Durban, Natal, special, dated Saturday, Dec. 16, says: It is rumored Buller called for volunteers to recover the abandoned guns at Tugela River; that a party issued from the camp after midnight and brought in the guns, which were uninjured.

London: It still seems to be doubtful whether the guns Buller abandoned at Colenso are in possession of the Boers.

According to a dispatch to the Associated Press from Durban, sent on the evening of the battle, and which was received here Dec. 20, the guns remained where they were left by the British troops and were covered by the heavy guns of Hildyard's brigade, which was occupying an entrenched position. The dispatch adds that the Boers had thus far not attempted to cross the river and carry off the guns, while the advice of the Associated Press from Pretoria, under the same date, say an official Boer dispatch reports two guns, thirteen wagons and a quantity of ammunition were captured, besides 208 prisoners.

TAXABLE AT RENTAL VALUE.

Bell Telephones Cannot Be Assessed at Their Actual Value.

Columbus, Ohio: By a decision of the supreme court Dec. 20 a new method of tax valuation, far-reaching in its effect, has been established in Ohio. The decision directly affects the telephones of the Bell Company, which are held to be taxable at their rental value, estimated at \$233 each, instead of \$3.40 each. The suit was brought by the attorney general through a friendly arrangement with the auditor of state and W. H. Halliday, auditor of Franklin County. The last named refused to list the telephones of the Bell Company at their rental value and suit in mandamus was brought to compel him to do so. The court gives a judgment for the relator.

TRAIN IS HELD UP.

Passengers Robbed in a Missouri Pacific Train.

Kansas City: The passengers on the Missouri Pacific's Ohio and Nebraska City passenger train, which left here at 9:30 p. m. Dec. 20, were robbed by two masked men who boarded the train in Kansas City, Kan. They levied their forced contributions after the train started, holding up the passengers in the Pullman sleeper, securing five gold watches and about \$100 in money. No shots were fired and no one was injured. At Nearman, six miles out of the city, the train slowed up for the station, and the bandits dropped off and disappeared.

RISING IN CAPE COLONY.

Five Hundred Colonists Threaten to Attack a Railroad.

London: A Cape Town dispatch, dated Dec. 16, says: Five hundred colonists of Victoria, west district, have perfected an apparently anti-British organization and threaten to attack the railroad station, which is in a direct line between Cape Town and De Aar.

THREATENS PORTUGAL.

The Standard Intimates that Neutral Laws Are Violated.

London: The Standard hinted editorially Dec. 20 that if Portugal continues to allow supplies of war material and foreign volunteers to reach the Transvaal through Delagoa Bay, England will have something to say in the matter.

Law is Unconstitutional.

Springfield, Ill.: The Illinois supreme court on Dec. 19 held the anti-department store law passed by the last legislature to be unconstitutional. The decision was on appeal from the Cook County criminal court imposing a fine on the proprietor of a Chicago department store for selling certain kinds of merchandise where other kinds of merchandise were sold.

Fire at Florence, S. C.

Florence, S. C.: The fire which started in the Florence Hotel destroyed that building, the Bank of Florence, the opera house and the city hall. These are the principal business houses of the city. The loss is \$150,000; partly insured.

Funeral of Lieut. Brumby.

Atlanta, Ga.: The funeral of Flag Lieutenant Brumby took place here Dec. 20. Immediately upon its arrival the body was escorted to the capitol, where it remained in state under military guard from 10 a. m. until 2 p. m.

Transport Nelson Discharged.

Washington: The chartered transport Nelson, which recently arrived at San Francisco from Manila, has been discharged from further service for the government.

DIE IN THE FLAMES.

Fatal Fires in Two New York Tenement Houses.

New York: Seven lives certainly, probably nine, were lost in two big tenement houses which burned early Dec. 19. Five charred bodies were found on the upper floors of a burned tenement at 102 Second Street and Third Avenue, known as the Menter, and five women and a little girl, all badly burned, were carried from the blazing house to near-by hospitals. There is thought to be a slight chance of any of the six surviving. Three members of a family of four perished. The fire is supposed to have started in the cellar. The air shaft and stairs aided the fire in gaining headway. When the firemen arrived many occupants were hanging from windows and they were rescued by ladders.

A few hours later a deadly fire attacked a five story tenement on Tenth Avenue, burning to death Mrs. Martha Wox and child, George, 2½ years old. It also started in the basement. When discovered it had such headway it was impossible to enter. The families in the upper part of the house fled to the roof, whence they easily reached the street.

FORT CROOK MURDER CASE

United States Court Will Take Action in the Matter.

Washington: The war department has settled in advance an interesting question as to the application of civil or military law in the case of a soldier killed by two sentinels of the Tenth Cavalry while trying to escape near Fort Crook, Neb.

The state authorities were about to step in before the court-martial, when Attorney General Griggs, at the instance of the war department, on the 19th inst., telegraphed United States District Attorney Summers at Omaha to appear for the defense and place his services at the disposal of Gen. Merriam. This means that the United States courts will take action and the case cannot be tried by the state of Nebraska.

ANDREWS ASKED TO RESIGN

Resolution Introduced in Chicago Condemning His Speech.

Chicago: Public advocacy of Great Britain's side in the South African war by Dr. E. Benjamin Andrews, superintendent of public schools in Chicago, was the cause of resolutions being introduced in the city council on the 19th inst., calling for his resignation or his immediate suspension and removal from his position by the board of education should he ignore an invitation to step down. The head of the public schools was subjected to a heated denunciation by Alderman Cullerton, the mover of the resolutions. The resolutions were referred to the committee on schools.

STARS FOR MAIL CARRIERS.

Use of Stripes to Show Length of Service Is Abolished.

Washington: The postmaster general has ordered that hereafter the length of service of letter carriers shall not be indicated on the uniforms of carriers by stripes, but by stars. For five years' service they will wear one black silk star, and two for ten years'; one red silk star for fifteen years', and two for twenty; one silver star for twenty-five years', and two for thirty; one gold star for thirty-five, and two for forty years'.

Dewey Accepts Invitation.

New York: Admiral Dewey has written to President Pulsifer of the Brooklyn Union League Club accepting for Mrs. Dewey and himself an invitation to attend a private dinner and reception to be given in their honor by the club on the evening of Feb. 8.

Sol Smith Russell Is Ill.

Chicago: Sol. Smith Russell was obliged by illness to dismiss his audience at the Grand Opera House Dec. 19. The breakdown occurred in the first act of "The Hon. John Grigsby."

Deroudele Gets Two Years.

Paris: Paul Deroudele, president of the League of Patriots, was sentenced to two years' imprisonment for libeling senators composing the high court of justice.

Allen Is Sworn In.

Washington: In the senate Dec. 19 Senator Allen, the newly appointed senator from Nebraska, appeared and took the oath of office.

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

Chicago—Cattle, common to prime, \$3.00 to \$7.75; hogs, shipping grades, \$3.00 to \$4.50; sheep, fair to choice, \$3.00 to \$4.50; wheat, No. 2 red, 67c to 68c; corn, No. 2, 31c to 32c; oats, No. 2, 22c to 23c; rye, No. 2, 50c to 52c; butter, choice creamery, 24c to 26c; eggs, fresh, 19c to 21c; potatoes, choice, 35c to 50c per bushel.

Indianapolis—Cattle, shipping, \$3.00 to \$6.50; hogs, choice light, \$3.00 to \$4.25; sheep, common to prime, \$3.00 to \$4.00; wheat, No. 2, 66c to 68c; corn, No. 2 white, 30c to 32c; oats, No. 2 white, 26c to 28c.

St. Louis—Cattle, \$3.25 to \$7.50; hogs, \$3.00 to \$4.25; sheep, \$3.00 to \$4.50; wheat, No. 2, 70c to 72c; corn, No. 2 yellow, 30c to 32c; oats, No. 2, 24c to 25c; rye, No. 2, 52c to 54c.

Cincinnati—Cattle, \$2.50 to \$6.50; hogs, \$3.00 to \$4.25; sheep, \$3.00 to \$4.25; wheat, No. 2, 70c to 72c; corn, No. 2 mixed, 32c to 34c; oats, No. 2 mixed, 25c to 27c; rye, No. 2, 60c to 62c.

Detroit—Cattle, \$2.50 to \$6.75; hogs, \$3.00 to \$4.25; sheep, \$3.00 to \$4.25; wheat, No. 2, 70c to 72c; corn, No. 2 yellow, 33c to 34c; oats, No. 2 white, 26c to 28c; rye, 56c to 58c.

Toledo—Wheat, No. 2 mixed, 70c to 71c; corn, No. 2 mixed, 31c to 33c; oats, No. 2 mixed, 25c to 26c; rye, No. 2, 55c to 57c; clover seed, \$4.00 to \$5.00.

Milwaukee—Wheat, No. 2 northern, 65c to 67c; corn, No. 3, 30c to 32c; oats, No. 2 white, 25c to 26c; rye, No. 1, 55c to 57c; barley, No. 2, 44c to 45c; pork, mess, \$10.00 to \$10.50.

Buffalo—Cattle, good shipping steers, \$3.00 to \$6.75; hogs, common to choice, \$3.25 to \$4.50; sheep, fair to choice, \$3.00 to \$4.50; lambs, common to extra, \$4.50 to \$5.75.

New York—Cattle, \$2.25 to \$6.75; hogs, \$3.00 to \$4.50; sheep, \$3.00 to \$4.75; wheat, No. 2 red, 72c to 74c; corn, No. 2, 40c to 41c; oats, No. 2 white, 31c to 32c; butter, creamery, 23c to 28c; eggs, western, 26c to 22c.



CHAPTER III.—(Continued.)

There was dead silence in the room. Martin Ray grew pale. The girls looked startled and surprised. The silence was painful.

"My children," said Martin Ray, "I leave it to you." He turned his head away, too proud at that moment to let the expression of his face be seen.

"And I," said Gen. Hatton, looking at each of his nieces, "leave it to you also. My dead sister's children, do as you will; but do not forget your mother's words."

With a cry the girls clasped their arms around each other. In that moment they felt quite alone in the world. How were they to make such a choice? To Leah's mind recurred the memory of her fervent prayers for some one who would deliver her from her "furnace of fire." She looked into the blue eyes of her sister.

"It is what I prayed for," she whispered. Then slowly, as the waters of a great sea divide, the two girls separated, sadly, mournfully, looking back with lingering regret, yet never faltering; and Leah, the child whom Martin Ray had loved, of whom he had been so unutterably proud, whom he had hoped to see his political successor, beautiful, dark-eyed Leah, went to her uncle and laid her hand upon his.

"I prayed to heaven for deliverance," she said, "and you have brought it. I accept your offer." With a bitter cry Martin Ray turned to her. There was dignity in the sorrow of his voice and face.

Loving arms were placed around his neck; a loving, beautiful face was laid against his. "I will never leave you, father," said Hettie. "I will give my life to you."

So for some minutes they stood—the general with his arm thrown round Leah, as though from that moment he would shield her from all harm and from every one; Hettie clasping her father's neck, her face wet with tears.

"I accept your offer, uncle," said Leah, in a calm, clear voice; "and I shall always believe that heaven sent you to me." "I will never leave you, father," cried Hettie. "My love shall make up to you for the loss of Leah's!"

CHAPTER IV. Gen. Sir Arthur Hatton and his niece were soon settled in their new and magnificent home. To Leah it seemed as though she must be in the whirl of a dream. Her own story was to her very much like one of the fairy tales that had delighted her when she was a child.

"I am a real Cinderella," she said to herself, with a smile. But in no way did she resemble that humble little maiden. She was proud by instinct and by nature. She was proud of her mother's name of Hatton, of the good old family from which her mother came, of the blood that ran in her veins from her mother's side.

She was proud of being true to herself, of being loyal to what she believed to be right principles. The compact made between her uncle and herself had not been broken. The name of Ray had been given up, and she had adopted that of Hatton.

People are not curious. It was sufficient to know that Leah Hatton was the adopted daughter and heiress of Gen. Sir Arthur Hatton, K. C. B., one of the wealthiest and most famous men in England. But when Leah had taken possession of the suite of rooms prepared for her, when the magnificent dresses had been put away in the wardrobes made of cedar wood, when the superb store of Indian treasures had all been examined, when she had grown accustomed to the luxury of a lady's maid and a groom, of horses and carriages, her heart turned with a great and wistful yearning to Hettie. The remembrance of that loving sister, who was the only drawback to her perfect happiness.

She was alone in the cozy morning room one morning when Sir Arthur came to seek her, his face full of delight. "Leah," he cried, "can you guess what strange good fortune has happened to me?" She looked up at him with the brightest of smiles.

her, and it was cruel to wish to take her away. But when the duchess showed him all the advantages to be gained he yielded at once.

"You have asked me to complete your niece's education," she said; "in no way can it be done better than by taking her abroad. A few weeks with me in Paris and in Rome will change her altogether; she will be a different girl."

He fixed his eyes lovingly on Leah. "Do you think it well to change her?" he asked, slowly. "She seems to me perfect."

"If you intend to make her a woman of the world, she must change in some respects," said the duchess, a little impatiently. "Leave her to me, Sir Arthur; I will promise that you shall be satisfied with the result."

And after that Sir Alfred offered no further opposition. The Duchess of Rosedene was detained for a considerable time on the Continent by a severe illness of her husband, and in reply to her anxious entreaties the general allowed his beautiful niece to remain with her. Although his heart yearned for her, he knew that the care and training which the duchess could bestow were invaluable, and were such as he could not have found elsewhere. He was content to wait.

During Leah's absence he purchased a magnificent mansion in Belgravia, to which, in loving memory of his native town, he gave the name of Harbury House. The decorations were so magnificent, the furniture was so elegant and costly, that public attention was drawn to the house, and it soon became known that Sir Arthur had made this purchase for his adopted niece and heiress, who was now in Italy with the Duchess of Rosedene, and who was—so rumor said—so beautiful as a vision.

The duke's health having been quite restored, the duchess had arranged that the traveling party should return to London at once. It was then the very end of April, and the season had begun. A drawing room had been held, at which some fair young faces had been seen; but she knew that none could have equaled that of Leah Hatton.

The duke had a grand old mansion named Park View. The duke and duchess went there on their return. Sir Arthur was invited to meet them, and from their house he was to take Leah home. He was impatient to see her. The long absence had wonderfully improved her. He grew pale as he went up to her and kissed her in silence; for his emotion was too great for words.

The duchess had been right after all. Nothing but constant association with an accomplished and refined woman of the world could have given such high-bred ease and grace to her.

The next drawing room was held the following Tuesday. When, after a few days of anxious preparation, Leah stood before Sir Arthur, dressed for the presentation, he owned himself perfectly well pleased. The duchess, whose taste was irrefragable, had chosen her court dress; and the general had presented her with a suite of diamonds—stones that shone and scintillated with every movement—diamonds that made many envious.

"Are you quite satisfied with me, uncle?" she asked, with a smile that deepened her bright loveliness. "Quite," he answered. "I always thought the fashion of wearing feathers awkward until now."

The duchess called for her, and they drove away to the palace together. The day was fine, the crowd great. Many of the royal family were present. There were diamonds in the land; but Leah outshone them all, as a planet outshines the stars.

She never forgot the moment when she stood first in the presence of the gracious lady who rules the vast empire over which the sun never sets. True loyalty rose in her heart, and she thanked heaven once more that she had been saved from what seemed to her worse than "a furnace of fire." She could never have spoken against the Queen, or led the hearts of her people from her. She smiled to herself a half-sad smile.

"How can I guess, uncle, when you have already all the good fortune in the world?" "I have my share of it, Leah; that is quite certain. But this piece of good luck is something quite unlooked for and unexpected. You have heard me speak of a very dear friend I had many years ago—a young captain in our regiment—Harry Egremont?"

"Yes," replied Leah, who delighted in nothing so much as in listening to her uncle's stories of Indian life. "Yes, I remember the name."

ed were dazzling ones. The young Earl of Barbary was handsome, talented and passionately fond of her. No, she would not be Countess of Barbary. There was not the Duke of Lincoln, who had country seats, a town mansion and untold wealth, who would have made her his duchess. She would not be Duchess of Lincoln; and she had no other reason to give than that she did not love him; and the one thing she longed for in this life was love.

"Love!" said the duchess. "It will come with marriage." "Not the love I want," she replied; "that must come before. I want a romance in my life." "It is the way with those dark-eyed girls," said the duchess. "What a pity it is!"

The Duke and Duchess of Rosedene had become very much attached to Leah, and when the season ended they begged the general and her to come to pay them a long visit at Dene Abbey. They were to remain there during the autumn and winter. Sir Arthur at first did not quite like the idea, and a compromise was made. The whole party were to visit Brentwood first and remain there for six weeks; then they were to go to Dene Abbey and stay there as long as Sir Arthur wished—an arrangement which pleased every one. Leah by this time had grown to love the duchess so much that she never liked to be separated from her for long together.

Brentwood was looking its best at the end of July. The general had invited several guests to Brentwood, and the party promised to be a very pleasant one.

"At some future day you will be sole mistress of this beautiful place, Leah," said the duchess, as they were walking one morning on the great terrace. "I suppose so," she replied; "but I never like to think of the time. I wish that my uncle could live as long as, if not longer, than I shall."

"I have had an adventure this morning," said Sir Arthur, as they sat down to luncheon. I find that the young master of Glen is expected home during the week. I lost my way in the woods, and came out quite close to the mansion; I have been all over it."

"Where and what is Glen?" asked the duchess. And Sir Arthur smiled as he said: "I ought to be a poet to answer you; it is almost impossible to do so in prose. Glen is simply one of the most lovely spots I know in England."

"More beautiful than Brentwood, uncle?" asked Leah. "Quite different, Leah. Glen was once the dower house of a queen; three hundred years ago it came into possession of the Carltons, and has been theirs ever since. It is simply perfect. Your eyes are almost dazzled by the gleam of sunlight in the waters of the many fountains and by the bright colors of the flowers. The surroundings, too, are most picturesque."

"I should like to see it," said the duchess. "So should I," added Leah. "Fair ladies," cried Sir Arthur, "you shall see it whenever you will. The house itself looks so cheerful, one would never think that it had once been the scene of a tragedy."

"Was it?" asked the duchess. "Tell it to us." "I am a newcomer," said the general, "and naturally enough I know but little about it. But one of the gardeners at Glen spoke of the story this morning. I asked him how long the house had been closed, and he said fifteen years. Of course, I asked him how that was, and he said that Lady Carlton could never bear to enter it again, and that, after the accident, she had taken her son, Sir Basil, to Italy, where she spent the remainder of her life, but that he, now that his mother was dead, was coming back to live here."

"What was the accident?" asked the duchess. "A very horrible one. She had but two children—a girl and a boy; the daughter, Adela, was seven years older than the son. She was a very winning girl, the very joy of Lady Carlton's heart. She fell in love—I forget who the lover was—and everything was arranged for the wedding. She was then eighteen and the young brother only eleven. On the night before the wedding Lady Carlton gave a grand ball, and Glen was filled with a gay crowd of guests; they danced until the very walls seemed to rock. The old man told me that the bride was like some lovely, laughing fairy. Just as the ball was closing, and when the happiness and gaiety were greatest, a terrible cry was heard. It came from the upper room, the grand old banquet hall, where kings and queens had feasted. The guests rushed out, only to witness a most horrible scene. The beautiful bride, with terrible cries, was seen flying across the hall, her bright gossamer robes all aflame. Her light, fluttering ball dress had caught fire, and the draught of air fanning the flames, they met lover her head and enveloped her. For a moment everyone was paralyzed; then one of the guests, a gentleman, caught up a thick rug and rolled it around her. He was burned terribly, but he extinguished the flames. It was too late. When the hapless lover hastened to the hall he saw the girl lying in her agony on the ground, her golden hair burned, her face distorted, her pretty dress of white lace and white water lilies all hanging in scorched shreds around her. She spoke a few words to him, and then they carried her upstairs to die."

"What a terrible story!" said the duchess. "When Lady Carlton recovered from the shock," added Sir Arthur, "she went abroad, and took her son with her. She died at Naples last year, and the master, Sir Basil, is coming home."

"It will be a great trial to him to return to the scene of such a catastrophe," said the kindly duchess. "You must ask him here as often as you can." "The house is so cheerful, so bright and beautiful, you would never think that a tragedy had happened there."

"There is a tragedy associated with most houses, but the world does not know it," said the duchess. "I pray heaven," said the general, "that there will never be one in this!" (To be continued.)

Very Short. "I think I'll try to reduce my weight," said the corpulent corner grocer. "You've been reducing it too much already," responded the customer with the fourteen-ounce pound of sugar. "Don't worry, lest you obtain wrinkles."