

THE HAPPY THINGS OF A UNIFORM OF THE BURGLAR PLUMBER.

By Octave Thanet.

(Copyright, 1894, by Octave Thanet.)

Miss Elmer Merrylee went to bed Thanksgiving evening in a graceful frame of mind, at least in a frame of mind that may pass for graceless in a woman of such kindly nature as Miss Merrylee. "You may go, Robbins," she said to her faithful maid, "and you and Harriet (Harriet was the cook) and Matilda (Matilda was the waitress) may all go to that party at James' (James was the gardener). I shall not need any of you."

"I hate to leave you alone, Miss Elmer," said Robbins, hesitatingly. "Knowing Miss Merrylee, well enough not to ask her would she be afraid. She did not do much better to blurt out: 'They do say there's burglars in town, ma'am.'"

"Very well," responded Miss Merrylee with unshaken calm—whatever her faults timidity never was charged to her—"be sure you lock all the doors and windows securely. And you may as well—Miss Merrylee's keys were all right and that the silver is all in the safe. Good night, a pleasant time to you."

Robbins knew when her mistress used this tone that argument would be vain, so, discomfited and with more than one painful glance backward in the hall, she slipped out. Miss Merrylee began to walk up and down the room. It was an attractive room, with the soft, ivory gleam of the paint and the sprightly old-fashioned flower patterns on the cream walls. There were thickly hung with water color sketches and pen and ink wash drawings, which gave an air of artistic familiarity, like faces seen in a dream, and sometimes by some clever people of long memories were traced to a favorite illustrator, being, in fact, by famous artists, their original drawings for well known magazines.

One perceived also an old-fashioned air that came from the presence of certain chairs and tables luxuriantly carved in dull ebon oak or tinted in old mahogany. In one corner of the room a cabinet showed all the dazzling and shining things that the omniscient squire of Salsma, the delicate forms of old Sevres, the dainty fancies in Meissen and the soldier's opulence of color and shape by the great English masters. She never called it a boudoir, and nothing made her more indignant than to hear the name from any one else. "Do I look like a woman who could have a boudoir?" she had been known to demand, almost with fierceness. "A boudoir is a place where girls with sleepy hair recite poetry and write notes on scenic views and make their tea that they sip with souvenir spoons. Look at my spoons, they are truly artistic; and that Eve sprawling by that ridiculous river on that Capri of Monte Capri delicious! Taste my tea—a friend brought it to me from Russia; did you ever taste such tea in a boudoir? I think not!"

Miss Merrylee's tea was celebrated by all who were so fortunate as to drink it, but it was not the tea table with the eyes of a curious spectator instinctively turned, it was a heavy Italian chest, the lid adorned by two curiously wrought iron handles, the chest itself of aged-stained oak, having diverse vague and gray tracings of a classical style, the work of a convent and the murder of faithful guardians by vandal robbers in the eighth century. By a natural divagation of the mind the chest had become Miss Merrylee's safe, and contained, it was said, a bona fide safe, wherein was deposited the famous Merrylee's plate, some descended from Cardinal Merryweather, now presented by brother officers to the late General Merrylee. Also therein sparkled the jewels which had been inherited by Miss Merrylee's mother, and which she would not have been deprived in a large city and were regarded with awe in an Iowa town.

Miss Merrylee, though a spinster and no longer young, was not without a certain dress, on proper occasions. In general, she wore simple costumes, always of black, which recognized but did not slavishly defer to fashion. Her dresses were of rich satins and velvets and lace as ancient as her china. In person Miss Merrylee was tall and thin, but she had a mantua maker that understood how to make her she was young and her hair was black. Miss Merrylee's Roman features might have seemed large, however finely chiselled. Now, framed in such a personal danger, she was mostly described as "so distinguished." She was of a fine carriage, a figure to notice on a street, especially as she had a trifling mind, and when she walked had the habit of swaying her shapely right hand from side to side, as if addressing an invisible audience of well-wishers. She had a warm heart and a quick temper, and she had been known to arrest (with the aid of sympathetic bystanders) at least half a dozen processions of brass bands that did not keep a single cent in the house. In pious places she petted a majestic St. Bernard, who sometimes accompanied her in the line of duty.

Whatever her eccentricities—Miss Merrylee was greatly beloved by her fellow townsmen and those who knew her. She was a woman of a kind heart, ever, a will of her own. And she was one who, in the language of holy writ, kept her promise to her husband. She was, sometimes, an impetuous temper, but her impetuous declarations out of which she could not always extract herself without great exercise of her wit. She was a woman of a kind heart, ever, a will of her own. And she was one who, in the language of holy writ, kept her promise to her husband. She was, sometimes, an impetuous temper, but her impetuous declarations out of which she could not always extract herself without great exercise of her wit.

"Stuff!" said Miss Merrylee, who used strong expressions sometimes, being by birth and breeding quite too great a lady to distinguish herself from the vulgar. "There's no stuff and nonsense! There are no leaks, but I'm not going to argue with you, Helen; I shall get a plumber and have you come Thanksgiving."

Then, discerning a peculiar smile on the amiable features of Helen's husband, she smiled gravely. "He will not belong to the union if I have a word to say. I shall get a plumber I shall wait until the pipes tangle to pieces!"

But the imported plumber who was to put the forces of organized labor to rout did not come, although, such is the extraordinary working of the feminine logic, he was offered a wage as high as any and grasping union plumbers had been refused. Miss Merrylee was sure he had either been bought off or assassinated by the union; but she was not a woman to be so easily tendered by Helen's husband, to-wit, that, knowing the man's habits, he had cause to suspect he was simply celebrating Thanksgiving in an unholly manner on his own account.

Pullman and worked there till the strike came. I didn't strike, but I joined the A. R. U. afterwards, so as to get the relief. The strike lasted so long I used up all my savings, and then I went back, after all. So I'm a little out of practice. But I guess I can satisfy you. I'll try hard."

"You shall have a chance, anyhow. So you will go to Pullman's, and I'll see you get back there when the strike ended."

"They didn't take all the men, ma'am, and I heard of a job in Chicago, so I moved there; and I got it sure enough, but it only lasted a little while; and then I wrote to the new factory they was starting here, the glucose works, and I got a job, but the first week I come down with typhoid fever and worked with the fever on me, and I did not think of going to the factory, but I was sick for weeks, and when I got up again, there was nothing I could get, and the baby come just then, God bless it, and I guess the nursery had none too welcome for he's been hollering ever since. Doctor says he needs some kinder food, Nestlé's food, or some such name, and I wanted to get it, for I some way don't just want him to die if he is weak. Then I wanted to get my woman things; she's an awful nice woman, I'll say that, and about all we've got she's earned washing. I have been out a week, washed about 100 miles of goods, begging for a job everywhere I heard jobs were to be had; but you see we are strangers and there ain't enough work to go 'round 'round the shoe factory 'cross the river, and seen all the turkeys in the winders, and remembered how there wasn't a bite in our house for today nor tomorrow, and looked at the rich folks that don't love their families a mite better'n I love mine, I got kinder wild, I guess. I never had 'gredded' rich folks before my money. I was willing to work hard, and I was willing to have my money; but now it seems as if there wasn't an inch of room for me and my family on this earth! We'd panned every last thing we could panned and there was a starving."

"That goodness gracious!" exclaimed Miss Merrylee, who had with difficulty refrained from interrupting him before, "why didn't you go to the Associated Charities or to the Industrial Aid Society?"

"We ain't used to being poor; we didn't know about them places. Lady, I tell you, it ain't the poverty poor that gets gredded the hardest when there's hard times; it's the folks that has a little leavin' on other folks, and they just lop over a leetle heavier; but it's the decent folks that never knew the way to the poor overseer's office before, or even to the poor overseer's catch it. They suffer and don't holler about it."

"I see," said Miss Merrylee; "go on." "There ain't much more, said the man, very neatly folding up his paper. "I got my wife I had got a job and I would have the money for a turkey for tomorrow; not to fret, I'd get some advanced. I went straight out, meaning to enter some of the houses, and get enough to buy a Thanksgiving dinner. I prowled about for a long time, first deciding on one house and then on another. Bye and bye I saw all the folks in your kitchen, and the light was on, and I went in. I got that lady all alone by herself, and I can get some money easy. So I come."

"But how did you get in? The windows are boarded down stairs." "Yes'm, they look like good windows. But I come in by the door, the kitchen door. I reasoned like the girls would have some place where they hid the kitchen key and I could pry it up. Most likely they had under the door mat. That's where it was, too."

"They shall have a latch key, every one of them. Of course you got in. But didn't you wake the dog?" "No, ma'am; he jest slept like the dead. Them big dogs jest like men about sleeping, they sleep so sound."

"But when you came up the stairs, what did you do about the mat at the foot of the stairs? The lights on me to have sprung up and the bells rung the instant your foot touched the mat." "Why, you see, lady, said the burglar, apologetically—he had a fear that he should be hurt by the failure of her carefully planned burglar traps—"you see, I naturally struck a match, now and then, to see my way, and when I come to the mat, which she laid on the tray. 'He seems like a decent sort of submerger, unfortunatly—thus ran her meditations while she provisioned the burglar with a match, and she went on after me down stairs. If he does, I'll and the girl will have to hurt him."

HOW IMPORTANT

When buying a carpet to have one that is satisfactory both in style and quality. The best makes cost but little more, they are worth the difference—better wool, better dyes, better work, gives better satisfaction. We are offering in our Drop Pattern Sale some of the very best makes of goods at about 2/3 price: Drop Patterns Best Ingrains - 45c yard " " " Tapestry Brussels - 70c " " " " Body Brussels - 85c " Why "drop patterns," because manufacturers have dropped them from their line and we cannot duplicate them-- you may find some better patterns in our stock, but no better goods. See these as early as you can, it may save you something.

Orchard & Wilhelm CARPET CO. 1414-16-18 Douglas St. [Complete Drapery Dept. 2nd Floor.]

PROGRESSIVE DENTIST. Latest and BEST Methods in All Branches.

A Large Dental Practice Built up by doing the best work at Reasonable Prices. Dr. Bailey's Name has become a household word—the first that is suggested when one wants dentistry done. Dr. Rowland W. Bailey 30 South Paxton Bldg., 16th and Farnam. Telephone 1855. Lady Attendant. German Spoken.

FORSYTH'S PROUD RECORD Sketch of the Fighting Colonel of the Famous Seventh Cavalry. COOLLY BLUFFED THE BRITISH MARINES Distinguished in the Civil War, He Adds to His Laurels on the Western Plains—Deserved Promotion to a Department Commander.

The departure of Brigadier General James W. Forsyth from Fort Riley, Kan., to take command of the Department of California, removes from the mid-west one of the most distinguished Indian fighters now living. He has been identified with the development of the west for twenty years, the scourge of savage outlawry, the promoter of peace by fighting for it. He has seen hard service during the war and on the plains, and his promotion is a distinct reward of merit. Colonel, now General Forsyth, was born at Maumee, O., and graduated at West Point in 1856. The year after his graduation he was married to a daughter of William Dennison, Ohio's war governor, and immediately went to the far northwest, where the difficulties of the British boundary line were at their height. To Forsyth came a unique honor that grew out of the Fifty-fourth or fifty-fifth controversy with Great Britain of ten years before.

In the settlement of the disputed boundary line of the northwest in 1846-7 the United States did not get the territory at 54 degrees 40 minutes, neither did it fight, but there was left dispute San Juan Island, situated in the straits midway between Vancouver Island, British Columbia, and the mainland of the United States, and it was while he was stationed as a second lieutenant on this island that Forsyth exhibited the soldierly qualities of dignity, courage and audacity which afterward distinguished him in the war of the rebellion.

PICKETT AND FORSYTH. Forsyth graduated from West Point Military academy two years after his friend George Edward Pickett, afterward a famous confederate general, had graduated. Forsyth at his own request was assigned to duty at Fort Bolingbroke, Washington territory, where Pickett was in command as captain. Old General Harney, who was in command of the Army of the Coast one day visited Bolingbroke, and ordered Captain Pickett to take his little company of fifty-five men and seize San Juan Island. The order was a welcome one, and before the sun had set Camp Pickett had been pitched on the island and the American flag unfurled above it. General Harney sailed away to Monterey, Cal., where his headquarters were.

In due time Sir James Douglas, governor of British Columbia, received information of the occupancy of the island by American troops and sent three vessels of war to dispossess them. The approach of the vessels was the signal for Captain Pickett to prepare to repulse the British marines should they attempt to land, and Lieutenant Forsyth was sent to the beach with a detail of soldiers to watch the boats.

AT WOUNDED KNEE. In 1891, at dawn of winter, Forsyth took the Seventh to Pine Ridge to put down the trouble among the Sioux. The battles of Wounded Knee and the surrounding region are recent history, though the action which brought him close to the people, through great crowds on Decoration day, Fourth of July, and the special occasions which fort life brought into existence, so it is little wonder that the people throughout Kansas are at once sorry to see him leave the fort and glad that he has received his merited promotion.

HOW IMPORTANT

When buying a carpet to have one that is satisfactory both in style and quality. The best makes cost but little more, they are worth the difference—better wool, better dyes, better work, gives better satisfaction. We are offering in our Drop Pattern Sale some of the very best makes of goods at about 2/3 price: Drop Patterns Best Ingrains - 45c yard " " " Tapestry Brussels - 70c " " " " Body Brussels - 85c " Why "drop patterns," because manufacturers have dropped them from their line and we cannot duplicate them-- you may find some better patterns in our stock, but no better goods. See these as early as you can, it may save you something.

Orchard & Wilhelm CARPET CO. 1414-16-18 Douglas St. [Complete Drapery Dept. 2nd Floor.]

PROGRESSIVE DENTIST. Latest and BEST Methods in All Branches.

A Large Dental Practice Built up by doing the best work at Reasonable Prices. Dr. Bailey's Name has become a household word—the first that is suggested when one wants dentistry done. Dr. Rowland W. Bailey 30 South Paxton Bldg., 16th and Farnam. Telephone 1855. Lady Attendant. German Spoken.

FORSYTH'S PROUD RECORD Sketch of the Fighting Colonel of the Famous Seventh Cavalry. COOLLY BLUFFED THE BRITISH MARINES Distinguished in the Civil War, He Adds to His Laurels on the Western Plains—Deserved Promotion to a Department Commander.

The departure of Brigadier General James W. Forsyth from Fort Riley, Kan., to take command of the Department of California, removes from the mid-west one of the most distinguished Indian fighters now living. He has been identified with the development of the west for twenty years, the scourge of savage outlawry, the promoter of peace by fighting for it. He has seen hard service during the war and on the plains, and his promotion is a distinct reward of merit. Colonel, now General Forsyth, was born at Maumee, O., and graduated at West Point in 1856. The year after his graduation he was married to a daughter of William Dennison, Ohio's war governor, and immediately went to the far northwest, where the difficulties of the British boundary line were at their height. To Forsyth came a unique honor that grew out of the Fifty-fourth or fifty-fifth controversy with Great Britain of ten years before.

In the settlement of the disputed boundary line of the northwest in 1846-7 the United States did not get the territory at 54 degrees 40 minutes, neither did it fight, but there was left dispute San Juan Island, situated in the straits midway between Vancouver Island, British Columbia, and the mainland of the United States, and it was while he was stationed as a second lieutenant on this island that Forsyth exhibited the soldierly qualities of dignity, courage and audacity which afterward distinguished him in the war of the rebellion.

PICKETT AND FORSYTH. Forsyth graduated from West Point Military academy two years after his friend George Edward Pickett, afterward a famous confederate general, had graduated. Forsyth at his own request was assigned to duty at Fort Bolingbroke, Washington territory, where Pickett was in command as captain. Old General Harney, who was in command of the Army of the Coast one day visited Bolingbroke, and ordered Captain Pickett to take his little company of fifty-five men and seize San Juan Island. The order was a welcome one, and before the sun had set Camp Pickett had been pitched on the island and the American flag unfurled above it. General Harney sailed away to Monterey, Cal., where his headquarters were.

In due time Sir James Douglas, governor of British Columbia, received information of the occupancy of the island by American troops and sent three vessels of war to dispossess them. The approach of the vessels was the signal for Captain Pickett to prepare to repulse the British marines should they attempt to land, and Lieutenant Forsyth was sent to the beach with a detail of soldiers to watch the boats.

AT WOUNDED KNEE. In 1891, at dawn of winter, Forsyth took the Seventh to Pine Ridge to put down the trouble among the Sioux. The battles of Wounded Knee and the surrounding region are recent history, though the action which brought him close to the people, through great crowds on Decoration day, Fourth of July, and the special occasions which fort life brought into existence, so it is little wonder that the people throughout Kansas are at once sorry to see him leave the fort and glad that he has received his merited promotion.

Burlington Route NEW SHORT LINE TO ILLINOIS

CONSUMPTION SURELY CURED. TO THE EDITOR—Please inform your readers that I have a positive remedy for the above named disease. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been permanently cured. I shall be glad to send two bottles of my remedy free to any of your readers who have consumption if they will send me their express and post office address. T. A. Elcom, M. C., 183 Pearl St., New York.

DOCTOR SEARLES & SEARLES SPECIALISTS. WE CURE Chronic Nervous Private and Special Diseases

Treatment Mail, Consultation Free Catarrh, all diseases of the nose, Throat, Chest, Stomach, Liver, Blood Skin and Kidney Diseases, Lost Manhood and all Private Diseases of Men. Dr. Searles & Searles, 1111 Farnam Street Omaha, Neb.

diated at his post in 1866, the honors of the victors. For a decade he has had command of the Fort Leavenworth military school, and of Fort Riley, and has been the most noted cavalry officer in the Department of the Missouri. The chief characteristic of his administration has been his interest in and his unvarying courtesy to the people of the state, which has made the reservation the most popular picnic ground that could be selected. In addition to these frequent visits, which brought him close to the people, through great crowds on Decoration day, Fourth of July, and the special occasions which fort life brought into existence, so it is little wonder that the people throughout Kansas are at once sorry to see him leave the fort and glad that he has received his merited promotion.

In appearance Forsyth is an ideal soldier, with snow white beard and hair. He is a strict disciplinarian, yet is beloved by his men and many a soldier boy of the old army cavalry will have a big lump in his throat when "the colonel" takes the seat-bound express at the little station among the trees for his new home. As head of the training school for cavalry, for which the large riding hall was built, he has done the mounted service much good, and Fort Riley itself owes much of the beauty and adornment which make it one of the nation's best equipped posts to his efforts.