

POOR COPY

THE UNION ADVOCATE, WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 1901.

ONE GIRL'S ROMANCE.

Poor School Teacher Becomes Heir.

LAUREL VALLEY, Tex., July 17.—Seven or eight months ago Maxine Doubleday, a pretty Texas girl, was engaged in teaching a country school in order to support herself and widowed mother. Now she could easily buy the whole county in which she lived and have a million or more to spare. This extraordinary change in the fortunes of this young girl was brought about by one of those peculiar little circumstances which are often of such a puzzling nature in their final import as to lead philosophical observers to conclude that they are not altogether the work of chance.

While visiting friends near Bryan, in Brazos county, Miss Maxine accidentally made the acquaintance of several students of the A. and M. college. One of these was a young man named Ley Payson, who lived at Cordova in the republic of Mexico. The two young people were thrown together at a picnic and while wandering about under the shade of the trees Mr. Payson remarked:

"You're a rather a peculiar name, but it is familiar to me from the fact that it is borne by one of the wealthiest Americans in my country."

"It would be funny," replied the Texas girl, "if your rich countryman should turn out to be my long lost uncle."

"In that event," said the young man, "a princess might envy your good fortune, for he was never married and he often grieves because he has no heirs in Mexico to inherit his vast estate."

"My uncle," said Maxine, "was a captain in the Southern army. His first name was Maximilian and he was a Missourian. I was named after him."

"Did he go to Mexico with Gen. Jos. Shelby?" Payson asked.

"He certainly belonged to Gen. Shelby's command," replied Miss Maxine, "but my father never heard from him after the war ended. It has been supposed that he was slain in battle."

"It is the same man, as sure as fate," said Payson with much earnestness. "I happen to know the old man well, and there may have been some cause for his conduct which was entirely unknown to his relatives and friends in Missouri. For instance, an affair of the heart. Did you ever hear of a pretty girl, with long curly tresses and great dark eyes like your own, who gave your uncle a picture and lock of hair and a little testament when he marched away from a town called Hannibal to join Price's army?"

It was the young girl's turn to look amazed.

"Hear of her?" she exclaimed, "why she is my mother!"

Quickly unclasping a little locket from her throat, Miss Maxine touched a spring and held it open before the young man's eyes.

"No further evidence is needed," said he. "The rich man in Cordova is certainly your uncle. He has that same face on a large canvas in a costly frame, and it hangs in his favorite room."

Soon after this conversation occurred young Payson was recalled to Mexico and it is presumed that he lost no time in breaking the news of the discovery that he had made to the rich man of Cordova. Subsequent events have proved that motives of a tender nature influenced him to take a deep interest in bringing the old man and his pretty niece together.

Miss Maxine was now pretty well convinced that she had discovered the long lost uncle whom the whole family had mourned for as one who had reposed with the dead for nearly forty years, but she

is a plain country girl and her imagination did not run riot building castles in the air. One evening not long afterward, while mother and daughters were seated under the vines in front of their cabin, a schoolboy ran into the yard and threw a letter into Miss Maxine's lap. The girl's prophetic soul set her nerves to quivering, and she was not surprised when she saw the foreign postmark. The letter was from Old Mexico. On breaking the seal she soon discovered that the rich American in Cordova was really her long lost uncle. The old gentleman wrote that he had heard of his niece and her mother through his young friend Payson, who had recently returned from Texas. He said he was now an old man and a very lonely one. Fortune, he declared, had doubtless favored him beyond his worth, and he felt that the discovery of his niece would make him one of the happiest of mortals if he could only induce her to pay him a visit. He enclosed a draft for \$500, and after writing in a blunt way Mr. Lee Payson's description of her, he added that if she concluded to comply with his request she must expect to do him the favor of becoming his heir and submit to the inheritance of his estates. Miss Maxine, with a puzzled look, was about to say:

"Why, mamma, he does not mention you, but up-n turning the letter over she saw another line. It simply read: 'Induce your mother to come with you.'"

About the middle of last January Miss Maxine and her mother went to Mexico. A few days ago the young girl returned to her old home in Laurel Valley for the double purpose of visiting friends and adjusting a business affair of some importance. In the beautiful and fashionably dressed young woman, surrounded by servants, none but the most intimate friends could recognize the little school teacher who wore a calico dress in the little log schoolhouse at the Cedars a few months ago. The fortunate young lady has made her former pupils many handsome presents.

In answer to the inquiries of friends, Miss Maxine says: "When my mother and uncle got together in Mexico a cloud that had hung over our family since the great war was removed. Many mysteries were explained, and the two old people were like children in their great happiness. As a result my mother is now also my aunt."

"Two millions, did you say?" exclaimed the Mexican consul at San Antonio, as he turned to a group of Texans after assisting Senorita Maxine on board of the Monterey Flyer. "Two millions, senors, Don Maximilian Doubleday, of Cordova, is one of the richest men in Mexico."

It is the only land of the Montezumas that fortune plays such pranks.

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Ned—She asked me to return her letters.

Jack—Well, did you?

N.—Oh, yes, I returned them. And I dropped 'em or four from their tails in with them.

He—I dreamed last night that I was in heaven.

She—What woke you up, the next?

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A lady who was visiting at the house of a friend when attacked this describes the unique manner in which she relieved a serious case of sore throat: "I awoke one morning with my throat so sore and swelled internally that I could scarcely swallow. I had read that the fumes from burning sulphur were good for diphtheria, and a similar remedy flashed across my mind. I lit a match and inhaled the sulphurous smoke from it. Of course it made me cough, but it relieved the smarting in my throat instantly. While breathing I tried two others and went down to breakfast hoarse, but the soreness was gone."

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composed of men and women that spend heart and soul in the vain effort to overcome a lack of vigor in the body. To replace vitality by the use of Dr. Chase's Blood Purifier will build up the system to have strong nerve, you must eat more, digest more, assimilate more. How can it be done? By using Dr. Chase's Blood Purifier, a powerful, purifying, muscular health giving power. Get Dr. Chase's today and make your blood strong and pure. At Shaw's Pharmacy.

Mr. Moth—You must have this terrible fly paper.

Mr. Fly—I do, but my uncle was head stuck on it.

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"He craved," said Mr. Barnes is not receiving the serious consideration that it once enjoyed.

People want to hang cowboys. Yes—and usually at the time when you are most desirous that they shall not.

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Take Laxative Balm Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. Dr. E. A. Grove's signature on each box.

Helet—They tell me you had a crowded house on the night of your benefit. How did you manage it?

Barnes—Invited all my creditors.

A great many men owe their success in life to their wives.

Yes, answered Mr. Meekton complacently. If there were more women like Henrietta in the world there would be more kind and obedient husbands.

Pe, I want all the money you can spare this summer.

Dear me, daughter, are you going to Russia or India?

No, pa; I'm going to graduate and get married.

Tommy—What, all that padding for gran'pa, mammy?

Mummy—No, my dear; that's for you.

Tommy—what, that little bit?

Tess—You g. Mr. Saphhead tells me his first name is Noah. What do you think of that?

Jess—Soun's funny, doesn't it?

Tess—Funnier! It's ridiculous.

Noah had so much trouble to go in when it rained.

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