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Established 1868

HEAD OFFICE - WINNIPEG

Paid Up Capital ..... \$ 5,000,000  
Reserve ..... 3,400,000  
Total Assets, over ..... 80,000,000

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## Aunt Priscilla's Money--and Jerry

by Elspeth Wilson.

**L**ETTERS! Letters for you, Lucy," called John McDougal cheerily, stepping into the bright farm kitchen one May morning.

Hastily laying aside her morning tasks, with little exclamations of pleasure his wife eagerly opened the letter bearing Boston's post mark, where dwelt her only sister, Margaret Staunton, while John scanned the morning paper.

"John!" she presently exclaimed, "sister Margaret writes that Nellie may spend the summer here."

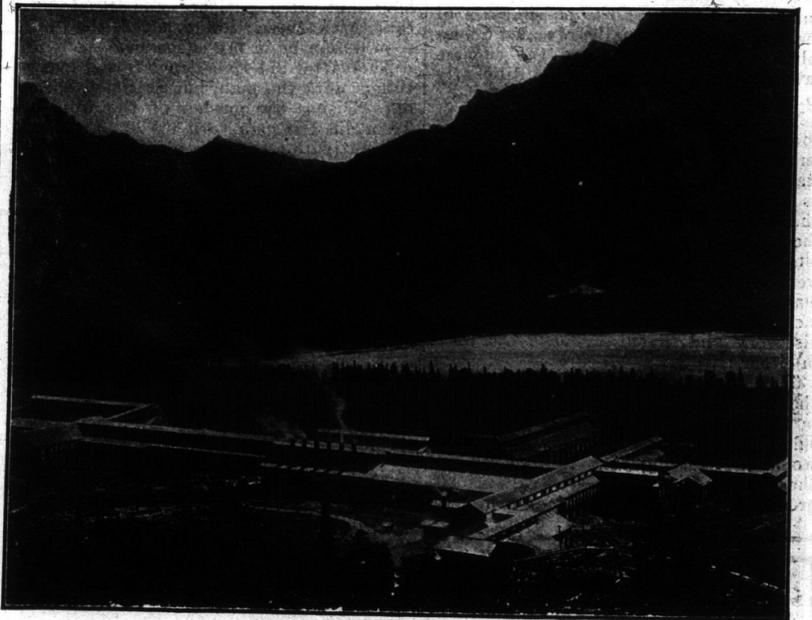
"Good!" cried John brightly, "that will indeed be a pleasure."

Consulting the letter his wife read aloud: "The strain of Nellie's final college year has robbed her of roses and animation which we all feel your Morton air will restore and she longs to again spend a summer in your dear sleepy little corner of creation."

a pensive air found in her niece's manner, remarked encouragingly: "Now tell us your troubles, Nellie. What is Aunt Priscilla's latest fancy?"

"A widower, Aunt Lucy, a preacher widower, too," replied Nellie with a nervous little laugh which clearly proved that Aunt Priscilla's match-making propensities were fast becoming a bugbear to the girl.

"You see Aunt Priscilla has decided to bestow \$20,000 upon this unworthy niece and is obsessed with the idea that she alone is capable to choose a grand match, this means ancestral lineage, ancient as that of the Duke of York. Fortunately her latest protegee is somewhat lacking in this respect, consequently a loophole of escape for poor me. Dear me! how I wish that \$20,000 never existed," concluded Nellie with a girlish laugh, for the mere recital of her woes had lightened them.



Cement Docks, Eekwash, Alta.

"Delightful," remarked Mrs. McDougal laying aside the letter, "she should be here in two weeks."

"I rather think," said John with twinkling eyes, "that we can banish college strain. Besides, Jerry will be home soon."

That evening on the wide verandah of their farm home which stood as a sentinel at the end of the sleepy village street, this couple discussed the expected guest, who ever brought sunshine with her.

"I suspect her Aunt Priscilla has again been matchmaking," said Lucy McDougal, sagely, "or matchbreaking, for Nellie's maiden aunt keeps uncomfortable watch over Nellie and her boy acquaintances, who invariably fail to please Priscilla. Elderly bachelors or uninteresting widowers she considers more proper guardians for Nellie and the money she will inherit should the match please her aunt. I sincerely hope she will not make Nellie unhappy over it all," sighed Mrs. McDougal.

"Never worry, urged her husband optimistically, "such things usually right themselves through time. Meanwhile Nellie will enjoy her summer here."

Directly opposite the McDougal's home lived a widow, Mrs. O'Neil, with her young daughter Mildred while her only son Jerome wrestled with his final medical exam's in a distant city. Light hearted Jerry O'Neil, with tumbled curls, Irish blue eyes and a delightful brogue that wheeled its way into the hearts of most stern Nortons and who made Nellie's visit, two years previous, a round of pleasure.

The evening of Nellie's arrival, two weeks later, found all grouped about the verandah. Mrs. McDougal, judging from

"Just banish Priscilla from your thoughts entirely," urged Uncle John, kindly. "I see Jerry O'Neil is home today a finished M.D.," and even as he spoke, up the path in headlong fashion sprang Jerry, followed by his demure little sister. Mrs. McDougal chancing to glance at Nellie noted plenty of roses and animation as she greeted her former friends.

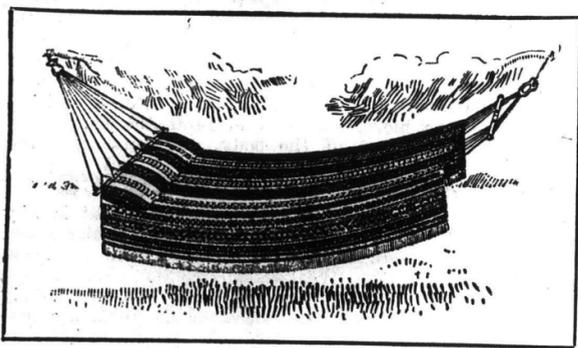
"Not a word of congratulations," warned Jerry gaily, "I'm tired to death of books, college and all that pertains thereto and for three months at least, mean to act as ridiculous as possible and forget the whole paraphernalia." Rising to leave a half hour later he remarked: "I hope the grind has not killed all energy for you, Nellie," as he noted a weary air hitherto unknown to the girl.

"I was feeling rather doleful" added Nellie brightly, when mother suggested placing myself in Aunt Lucy's hands and already I feel the wisdom of her advice," and she sighed contentedly, mentally thankful that here Aunt Priscilla's interference could not reach her here.

"I shall take your case in hand," said Jerry merrily. "I prescribe play and fresh air, beginning with a ride in the morning in my new carriage behind Starlight. How will that do for a start girls?" asked he boyishly, whose brogue when in a joyous mood was much in evidence and irresistibly amusing.

Thus sped the summer for Nellie and Mildred, riding, boating, sketching. Jerry proved himself a veritable Prince Charming, while Uncle John and his good wife smiled contentedly for clearly roses and animation were again in evidence. Swinging idly in the hammock one day in late summer, Nellie was aroused

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