Vera's Love Affair

In the library, Gregory Dysart still sits in his usual chair, his arms on the elbows of it, his face as set as though death had laid its seal on it, save for the marvelously, horribly youthful eyes, so full of fire and life.

"You will be so good as to explain to Vera at once," begins Seaton in a dangerous tone, "how it was you learned of her being in the garden the other night."

"What night? She may have been out every night for aught I know; she tells me she is fond of moonlight," replies the old man impassively. "If you will be a little more explicit, therefore, I may be the better able to help you."

"You understand perfectly the night of which I speak," says Seaton, his face now livid. "Let her know without further delay who it was who informed you of her absence from the house." His father still hesitating, he takes a step forward. "Who?" he repeats, in a low, but terrible, voice.

"Grunch," replies Mr. Dysart, shortly: something in his son's face has warned him not to go further. In truth, he could hardly have told himself why he had kept back the truth, save through a malignant desire to hurt still more the girl who had defied him.

"You hear?" says Seaton, turning to Vera. "It was Grunch who betrayed you. You are satisfied now?"

"On that point, yes. I suppose I should offer you an apology," says she icily. "But," with a swift glance at his father, "how can I be satisfied, when——"

Her voice breaks.

"Sir," cries Seaton, addressing his father, with sudden passion, "why did you speak to her of this? Grunch's malicious tongue is surely too well known to move you now to anger or belief. Why have you deliberately insulted your brother's child?"

"There was no insult." The old man's clear voice is as calm, as unmoved, as though he were answering some ordinary question about the weather. "I may have told her as I tell her now that if she chooses to do such things as society disapproves of,she must only submit to the consequences and consider herself ostracized."

"Compromised, you said."

"Well, it is as good a word; you are welcome to it, replies he mildly, blowing a fleck of dust off the arm of his shabby coat with an unembarrassed air.

"I shall not permit her to believe that" says Seaton, firmly. "The whole affair arose out of the purest accident; it might have happened to anybody."

"Quite so. I entirely agree with you: and then, 'anybody,' is a woman, would have been ostracized—I beg pardon, I believe compromised is the word you prefer."

"Pshaw!" says Seaton with a quick motion of the hand, as if flinging the idea far from him, "let us have no more of such petty scandal. You forget," sternly, "that when you seek to compromise Vera, you condemn me, your son.

Dysart shrugs his shoulders.

"The man is never in fault; so your world rules," says he lightly.

"You persist, then, in your insult," says Seaton, going a step nearer to him, the veins swelling in his forehead. "You still say that she——"

"I say that and more," replies the old man, undaunted, a very demon of obstinacy having now taken possession of his breast. "I feel even bold enough to suggest to her the advisability of an immediate marriage with you, as a means of crushing in the bud the scandal that is sure to arise out of her imprudence."

"Go, Vera, leave the room," says Seaton, with great emotion.

"Why should she go? It seems to me you give her bad advice," says Mr. Dysart, looking from one to the other with a satirically friendly glance. "Let her rather stay and discuss with us your marriage with her."

If he had been so foolishly blind as to hope by this move to force Vera into an engagement, his expectations are now on the instant destroyed by his son. "Understand once for all, that I shall not marry Vera," says he, white with anger, and some strong feeling that he is almost powerless to suppress. "Were she to come to me this moment and lay her hand in mine, and say that she was willing so far to sacrifice herself, I would refuse to listen to her."

Vera, for the first time since her entrance, lifts her head to look at him. Was he thinking of Miss Butler? Was he true at last to her? A little bitter smile curls her lip.

"I thank you," she says with a slight inclination of her head toward her cousin, and with a swift step leaves the room.

CHAPTER XXX.

The worm of conscience still begnaw thy soul!

As the last sound of her footsteps dies away in the hall, Seaton once again faces his father. The shame, the humiliation, has gone from his eyes, but in their place is an anger, so cold, so relentless, that the old man's heart, callous as it is, sinks within him.

"I have endured a good deal from you," says Seaton in dull, measured tones. "I have made up my mind, within this last half-hour, to endure no more. Honor must be dead within you, the affection you profess for me a mockery. I shall not submit to be your puppet any longer."

"My puppet! Say, rather, that I am yours," cries Dysart vehemently."When I move, when I speak, is it not all to further your good?"

"Mine, mine! Was it for my good that you now grossly, unpardonably hurt and insulted that poor child, whom relentless fortune has flung into your hands? Good heavens, that you should breathe, and still have no power to feel the torture you can inflict on others! Is it nothing to you that her delicate young soul should be scorched and troubled, that all her girlish trust and softness should be killed in her? Yet the long course of harshness and indignity to which she has been subjected while under your roof has tended to that end. I, for one, refuse to stand by and see it. I am unable to help her; I shall at least spare myself the misery of seeing her deteriorate beneath your cruelty day by day." He moves toward the door.

"You mean that you go now, not to return?" With an indomitable will the elder man forces these words from between his fixed lips, with a calmness, a courage, too, that would have been admirable in a better cause.

"You have understood," returns Seaton coldly. His hand has now reached the door, he has drawn it partly open. There is no sign of relenting in his face, and all at once Dysart's evil courage forsakes him, and an agonizing pang contracts his breast. This, his son, is the sole thing life has left sweet unto him; his affection for this son the one pure stream that flows over the cankered, embittered existence that day by day grows more unendurable to him. To let him go means eternal darkness!

"Seaton, Seaton!" he shrieks aloud, as the door is almost closing on the young man, as the last moment of grace is expiring, "don't leave me, don't desert me! Don't go like that——"

Seaton, unnerved by that sharp, despairing cry, pauses, and finally returns to the room, closing the door behind him. Reluctantly he lifts his head and casts a most unwilling glance at his father. The old man is huddled up in his chair, his chin falling on his breast, his arms hanging loosely at his sides—he looks dying.

"Don't leave me in anger — whom have I but you?" he gasps, the words coming with difficulty. "Oh, the irony of it! All I do, all I plan, is for you, for your benefit alone, yet you are the one to thwart and oppose me."

"What I desire to know., is," says Seaton, giving voice now to a long-felt anxiety, but speaking in a gentler tone, though still with a frown, "why is it you are so strangely desirous of seeing me married to my cousin?"

"Strange! Why should it be a strange desire?" says Dysart, recovering himself as if through the influence of some mental shock. A dull color flames into his cheeks and his fingers clutch more tightly the arms of his chair. "There is surely nothing strange about my desire to see my only son married to the daughter of my only brother."

"Your only brother was hardly so specially dear to you."

"You argue from the accounts learned of later years; I from the memories of the days when you were not, and my brother and I were boys together. But let that pass. If I say there are other reasons, a thousand reasons," throwing out his hands, "why I should regard this marriage with a favorable eye, help me to the consummation of it."

"That is beside the present question. You say there are a thousand reasons why you would see me Vera's husband. Give me one."

"You are getting on in life, you are 28—or 29, is it?—you are no longer a boy; before I die I would see you with a home, an estate of your own."

"As Vera is penniless, you can hardly hope to see me with an estate of my own—you see, I am frank with you; I do not spare myself, I do not spare you —that reason is insufficient."

[To be Continued.]

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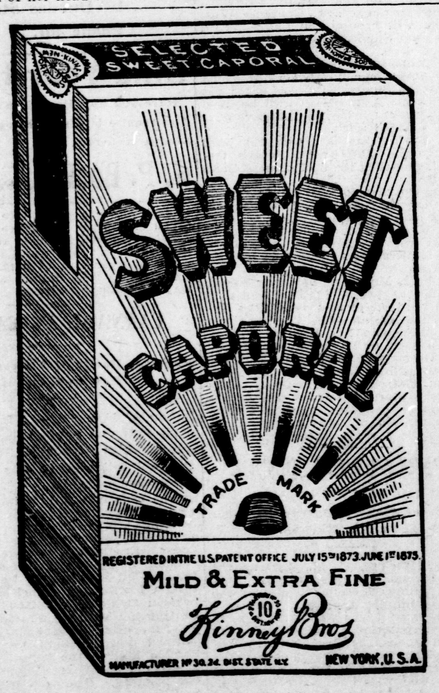

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LONDON LANCET.

HARRY PEEL BACK IN THE GAME; REINSTATED BY THE EXECUTIVE

Vice-President Frank Nelson, of the O. H. A., Resigns Owing to This Action.

Lovers of hockey in London will rejoice to hear of the action taken by the Ontario Hockey Association executive on Saturday night, when it decided to reinstate Harry Peel, of this city, to the amateur ranks.

Peel has been under the ban of the association for three years, having been professionalized in January, 1901, for playing with the Pittsburg team, and during that time a number of attempts were made to have him again placed in the amateur list. Twice the matter came before the executive, but in the face of the able manner in which the case was laid before the committee by Mr. A. B. Cox, that body declined the first time to take action. On Saturday, however, it was decided to admit Peel again to the fold.

Peel's reinstatement will mean a great deal for hockey in London, as he is admittedly one of the best of Canadian amateurs, whose presence on the ice will add much interest to the sport. He is a clean player, and his only offense was that he played with Pittsburg a part of one season. This offense, however, was less serious than the doings of numerous others, which have been lightly treated by the Toronto organization. Peel will immediately be placed on the St. John's A. C. team.

The action of the executive, however, did not meet with the approval of all the members, as the following dispatch from Toronto would indicate:

At tonight's meeting of the O. H. A. executive Vice-President Francis Nelson resigned. Since President J. Ross Robertson went to Egypt, Nelson has been in charge. He resigns because of what he considers the committee's violation of the principles of the association in reinstating Harry Peel, of London, who was disqualified several years ago and then went to Pittsburg, where he played for $20 a week, according to his own statement to the committee.

HARRY PEEL,
Reinstated by the Ontario Hockey Executive.

Peel's application has been annually refused till this year. A month ago the committee voted against the reinstatement, nine to one, that one being A. B. Cox, of London. Today the matter was again brought up, but the vice-president ruled it out of order. An appeal from the chair was carried and on motion Peel was reinstated by five to two.

Burk's Falls club and team were expelled for playing Robert Morrison in Guelph in a game with Bracebridge. W. Blashill must explain the use of his name by Morrison, or he will go, too.

The case of Aeneas (Reddy) McMillan, of Belleville, occupied a long time. McMillan, it is claimed, was not a bona fide resident since Oct. 1, and the position of the whole Belleville team is under suspicion. Belleville will be heard in reply on Monday, but meantime their Monday game with the Marlboros is postponed.

ABERDEENS HAVE A CLEAN SLATE; STILL LEAD SENIOR CITY LEAGUE

Y. M. C. A. Team Is Second, Being One Game Behind—General Hockey News.

The race in the Senior City League is somewhat one-sided to date, two of the teams having done very well, while the showing made by the other two does not make it appear as if they had much of a chance for the trophy. The Aberdeens have a clean slate, winning all of the five games played, while the Y. M. C. A. has four games won and none lost. The St. John's A. C. has won one and lost four, while the Seventh Regiment has not won a game, losing four. The Seventh and the Y. M. C. A. have to play off a game won by the former and protested.

PRACTICE GAMES.

As only two junior games are to be played tomorrow night, the four Senior City League teams will practice from 9:30 to 11 o'clock at the Jubilee rink.

PRINTERS PLAY.

One of the most "brilliant" exhibitions of hockey ever seen on local ice was played on Saturday night at the Princess Rink between the teams of The Advertiser and Free Press. Owing to the slippery sidewalks both teams were late in arriving, and when Referee "Billy" Macgregor, tolled the bell, there was only time to play ten minutes each way. After a struggle in which many sensational plays were made The Advertiser won out by the close score of 2 to 0.

For the winners, Steele, at point, worked like a Trojan, and the Pressforwards had their troubles to get by him, while the work of Watson in goal, was a revelation, for although he had to stop a perfect fusillade (?) of shots, he came through the fire unscathed. The remainder of the team showed up well, and it would make a long story to tell of the "great deeds" of the losers. The Advertiser lined up as follows: Goal, Watson; point, Steele; cover, Cy Edy; rover, Thomson; center, Wilson; right, Martin; left, Woollatt.

THE JAPS WON.

The Japs and Marguerites — teams representing local cigar factories—met on Saturday at the Jubilee Rink, the former winning by a score of 1 to 0.

WON AND LOST.

The Ailsa Craig Hockey Club went to Clinton the other evening and gave the team of that town its first defeat of the season in a fast, clean game. The score was 7 to 4. The following evening Ailsa Craig was defeated in Exeter in an exceedingly rough game by the score of 6 to 5. The Ailsa Craig team lined up as follows:

Goal—W. Alexander; point, D. McLean; coverpoint, H. W. Morgan; forwards, B. White, P. Parker, A. White, O. Alexander.

Delaware plays in Ailsa Craig on Wednesday night Feb. 17, and Clinton in Craig on Friday night.

LADIES AT HOCKEY.

The Marlborough and Anchor hockey teams of ladies met at the Jubilee Rink, the Anchors winning by a score of 1 to 0.

Napanee, Feb. 13. — Easton Embury, aged 20, one of the best hockey players in Ontario, died at his home here last night. Embury had been playing this season with the Picton Pirates, in the Intermediate O. H. A., and contracted a heavy cold, which resulted in his death.

TIE GAME.

Aylmer, Ont., Feb. 13. — The Woodstock Intermediate O. H. A. team, in the fastest game ever played on Aylmer ice, tied the home team last night, the score being 5 all.

FAST GAME.

Georgetown, Ont., Feb. 13. — The Toronto Marlboros' intermediate team defeated Georgetown in a very fast game of hockey tonight by 6 to 5. This gives the Marlboros the second round by 14 to 8.

MAY BE PROTESTED.

Toronto, Feb. 13. — A big crowd saw a fast intermediate game at the Mutual Street Rink tonight, when Stratford clashed with St. George's. The ice was in good condition. The visitors, with only one defeat against them this season, had some warm supporters along. In the first half the good play was marred by the referee's unsatisfactory behavior by ruling off six men for minor offenses. Half time score: Stratford, 6; St. George's, 0. In the second half Referee McCabe's judgment seemed all at sea, and he ruled men off without the slightest restraint. The majority of the scores were secured when the Saints had but three men left on the ice, and they were all the time one short, with both teams playing but six men a side at that. Score at finish, 12 to 1 in favor of Stratford. Referee McCabe was jeered repeatedly and left the ice under police protection. There may be a protest offered.

SAM LA ROCQUE STILL IN GAME

A Former London Ballplayer Signed to Manage Savannah Team This Year.

London baseball fans will remember Sam LaRocque, who played her several years ago. Sam is still in the game, the Savannah, Ga., club having signed him as manager for the coming season. LaRocque played with Savannah in the Southern League in 1894 and batted .318, and in 1896 he played with Dubuque in the Western Association and batted .330. His percentage at second base was .934.

In 1897 he went to the Lancaster team team of the Atlantic League, and stayed there for three years. His record the first year was as follows: Batting, .320; fielding (first base), .978. The second year he batter .310 and fielded .979 at first base. When the league disbanded he came to the London club, and batted .339 and his fielding average at first base was .972.

In 1900 he was in the Southern League and played with Birmingham for three years. His batting for the three years was as follows: First base, .312; second, .308, and third, .304. His fielding was .978 for the first year and .986 for the second, both at first base. The third year he fielded .977 at first base and .936 at second base.

In 1903 he played with Butte in the Pacific League, and batted .306. His fielding average for first base was .993. He led the first basemen for five years, and the batters for three. His many friends think he will make good. Of him, Mr. Boyer, of Savannah, says:

"I am well satisfied that in securing La Rocque I have secured the best available playing manager disengaged. The climate in the west did not agree with him or he never would have secured his release from Butte. I am of the opinion that he will lead the league in batting."

DOWNFALL OF A GREAT RACEHORSE

Kentucky Derby Winner Has a Sad Ending—Captured Many Big Events.

A sensational Kentucky Derby winner hauling fodder for common horses and cows is an unusually sad ending to the brilliant career of a great racehorse, but such is the closing chapter in the life of Typhoon II., which in the great classic event of 1897 defeated the mighty Ornament in a heart-breaking contest. After winning, in addition to the Derby, such races as the Brewers, Golden Rod, Westchester, Leuhrmann Hotel, and Peabody Hotel stakes and Memorial and Club Members' handicaps, Millionaire A. Featherstone bought the then great colt of J. C. Cahn for a price far into the thousands. As a four-year-old, Trainer Julius Bauer won several sensational races with Typhoon II. in the Featherstone colors, in one of which at six furlongs he carried the crushing weight of 145 pounds and ran the distance in 1:15 1-4. That was the last season he was on the turf, for, though for several years Trainer Bauer tried all his arts to get him to stand training, he never reached the starting post again. During these seasons, in hopes he would race again, Owner Featherstone ordered the son of Imp. Top Gallant gelded. Up to last year he was around Kenmore farm, a sort of a pensioner as a reward for his brilliant racing record, but in time the use of his paddock became necessary, and the Chicago turfman ordered Bauer to dispose of him as he pleased. The trainer, knowing a farmer friend who, while making him earn his oats, would provide the conqueror of Ornament with a good home the rest of this days, sent the son of Top Gallant to him, and the horse which was once worth a fortune thus reached his present ignoble position. The day he won the Derby and lowered the colors of the mighty Ornament, Typhoon II. was one of the most valuable horses in the whole world. In a few years he has reached the level of a plug, certainly an untimely life's close for such a brilliant turf performer and an end no spectator who witnessed his great race at Churchill Downs in 1897 would have had the assurance then to predict.

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SKATING.

BERT THOMAS WON.

Bert Thomas on Saturday night won the first heath of the two-mile city championship skating race at the Jubilee rink, Whit Thomas had the lead for the first twelve laps, with Pugsley second. Then Pugsley led for eight laps, when Bert Thomas passed both other contestants and held the first place until the 25th, the last lap. Thomas' time was 6 minutes 52 seconds. Ex-Ald. Dreaney, Thomas Maker and William Wilson were the judges Saturday night. Next Saturday the second heat will be pulled off.

THE TURF.

It is stated that the Ontario Government would soon find a way, in fact had found a way to close betting on races in pool rooms, Another authority said the betting would ultimately get down to hand books and telephone transactions. There would be no more taking of bets in assemblies or a calling off the races.

From present prospects racing about Detroit next year will open at Windsor in June and a meeting will be held there which will last through the month and perhaps into July. This at least is the view taken of the matter by those who have been in touch with Sam Wagner, of Chicago, the lessee of the track, and it is firmly expected that June will see the Windsor track in all its glory with the bang-tail meeting.

The executive of the Ontario Jockey Club have decided to add another $250 to the King's plate added money, bringing the total value of the race up to $2,900. It is not unlikely that the $3,000 mark will be exceeded, making it the richest King's plate ever run for, as well as the oldest existing fixture on this continent.

There are 1,149 nominations to the fixed events to be run at the St. Louis fair. The World's Fair handicap, valued at $50,000, will be run on June 25, and will be the richest and most important race of the year. McChesney, Hermis, Africander and Irish Lad are among the horses entered.

SATURDAY'S WINNERS.

At New Orleans—Our Nugget, 10 to 1; Dallas, 10 to 1; Fort Plain, 3 to 2; Rone, 20 to 1; Tribes Hill, 11 to 2; Thorneycroft, 10 to 1.

ATHLETICS.

HARVARD BROKE RECORD.

Boston, Feb. 13. — The indoor athletic meet of the Boston Athletic Association at Mechanics' Hall tonight brought together an assembly of runners, jumpers and strong men from nearly every college and athletic association in the east, with the result that various competitions were keenly contested. The feature was the Harvard-Yale relay race of two miles that closed the evening, which was won by Yale by 20 yards. Harvard, however, broke the mile relay race record in the race with Pennsylvania, lowering it from 3.09 to 3.08. Champion A. F. Duffy, of Georgetown, won the 40 yards invitation dash easily, and Alexander Grant, the well-known Pennsylvania runner, took the mile run from scratch. Lemoine, of Harvard, defeated Sheldon of Yale, in the shot put by 6¾ inches. In the two mile run G. V. Bonnage, N. Y. A. C., won, with W. E. Scott, or Cornell, second, in 9.57. In the team races Amherst beat Cornell.

INDOOR BASEBALL.

FUSILIERS TOOK HONORS.

Windsor, Feb. 14.—The indoor baseball championship of Michigan-Western Ontario was decided here, when the regimental team of the Twenty-first Essex Fusiliers beat the Fletchers, of Detroit, for the title by 10 to 2. The Fusiliers now will challenge the Sarnia team for the title of champions of Canada, which title the Sarnians won from the Victoria Yacht Club, of Hamilton, three years ago.

LACROSSE.

LACROSSE PLAYED ON SKATES.

Toronto, Feb. 13.—A game of lacrosse on skates was played at the Grand Central Rink this afternoon before a big crowd that greatly enjoyed the novelty and excitement of the sport. The teams were chosen from the Shamrocks and the Elms, junior C. L. A. champions, and was won by the Shamrocks by 7 to 4. The game was in two halves of half an hour each, and was played under lacrosse rules, though with teams in hockey positions. The sport proved very fast and the checking close.

BOXING.

SIGNED ARTICLES.

San Francisco, Feb. 13.—James Britt and "Young Corbett" have signed articles to fight on March 31 before the Hayes Valley Club, under the same condition as their previous arrangement to fight provided for.

MEXICAN KNOCKED OUT.

Anaconda, Mont., Feb. 13. — Aurelio Herrera, the Mexican, was knocked out in the third round in a contest last night with Louie Long. The fight was to have gone 20 rounds.

BASKETBALL.

MEDS WIN.

An exciting game of basketball was played in the Y. M. C. A. gymnasium Friday afternoon between the F. C. B. C. and the senior medical classes. The score was 6 to 0 in favor of the Meds. The team work of the business college boys was excellent, but the work of the medicos' guards was too fast for their opponents,while Gould and Rowntree's combinations were a puzzle to the knights of the ledger. The line-up was as follows:

F. C. B. C.—Forwards, Harty and Parker; center, F. Brown; guards, Wiggins and T. Brown.

Meds—Forwards, McKay and Rowntree; center, Hixon; guards, Gould and Le Fevre.

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