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------OUR MISS FLEMMING

****************** Her name was down on the passenger list of the Iron Duke, bound from London to India, as Miss Bertha Flemming. She was fairly good looking, of excellent figure and was witty and magnetic. Before a day had passed all the single men and half the married ones were determined to get an introduction as soon as possible. In two or three days she had been introduced to every first class passenger of the sterner sex, and during the next two or three she picked and culled until what was known as the Flemming two or three she picked and culled un-til what was known as the Flemming crowd numbered about fifteen men. Twelve of these were young men or widowers, while the remainder were married men whose wives were in Eng-land or India. It was the money crowd of the shin.

of the ship.

When the ship had been out about a week cards were inaugurated to while away the spare hours. It was while away the spare hours. It was a matter of surprise to every one, as soon as the playing got fairly started, that Miss Flemming was so adept with the pasteboards and had such universal good luck. She handled the cards like the slickest gambler; and the jackpots came her way with wonderful regularity. On two or three occasions she manipulated the cards in such a way that had she been a man she would have been called down, but as it was she was given the benefit of the doubt. When she had won \$350 of me I cashed the chips and went out of the game, being pretty well satisfied in my own being pretty well satisfied in my own mind that I hadn't been given a square deal, and from that day Miss Flem-ming had no further use for me. When I tried to bask in her smiles as before the smiles were not at home to me. She had confided to me that she found me congenial, but there seemed to be

me congenial, but there seemed to be some mistake about that after I had decided to lose no more money.

Her greatest victim was the son of an English manufacturer who was going out to Iudia to spend some of his father's surplus cash. His exact losses when he decided to quit no one but himself could say, and he gave no information, but it was hinted that they formation, but it was hinted that they footed up a hatful of money. In the ourse of three weeks the Flemming



SHE HANDLED THE CARDS LIKE THE SLICK-EST GAMBLER.

crowd was dissolved. One after anof his spare cash, and Miss Flemming was certainly several thousand dollars

Soon after the poker games ceased we were treated to several sensations in succession. The first was the disappearance of several diamond rings and a bracelet which had been left on the plano by a player. After a little it was found that the jewelry had been taken while only six people were in the cabin. Four of these were married ladies, the fifth was Miss Flemming and the sixth a young man. The cabin was turned upside down in the search, but the missing valuables could not be found. Then every one of the six persons demanded that his or her stateroom and luggage be searched, but the captain hushed matters up by suggesting that one of the servants was the thief and that the plunder would in time be recovered.

Three days later a married woman mad a more sensational complaint to make. During her temporary absence from her stateroom some one entered it and stole \$500 in cash, a gold watch and a costly pin. Her stateroom was only two doors below mine, and at the time named I had caught a glinpse of some one entering it. I just got sight of a skirt, but I was sure in my own mind that it was one I had seen Miss Flemming wear.

The bold robbery was a shock to every one. No one's belongings would be safe until the thief was discovered. It was natural to first suspect the servants, and the captain had them before him in succession and tried his best to fix the guilt. While this was going on the mate and stewardess were searching quarters and baggage, but no trace of the plunder could be found. Some thought the thief had flung the stuff overboard to escape detection, but the majority settled down to the belief that one of the passengers was the guilty party.

Many who had

guilty party.

Many who had sums of money has and people began id in an unpleasant washy suspected the wasn't discovering

sure I could give a good guess as to who it was, but guessing and declaring are two different things. Miss Flem-ming was loud in her indignation and feverish in her anxiety. The average detective would have reasoned that she

rather overdid it.
Four days later another stateroon was entered and more jewelry taken, and right in the midst of the sensaand right in the midst of the sensa-tion a lady missed a pair of diamond carrings which she had put out to clean. So great was the lodignation and so intense the desire to catch the thief that all passengers and servants were held together on deck while a search was made of everything below. This search was most thorough and exhaustive, but not one of the missing valuables was located. It was, how-ever, the end of the thieving, as everyever, the end of the thieving, as every-thing in the line of jewelry was locked up in the purser's safe. The remainder of the voyage was anything but cou fortable, as every one felt that he might be under suspicion, and there were very few farewells exchanged at

I went up the country to Allahabad and had been there six months when an Englishman was arrested for trying to defraud a bank of a large amount of money. It was my province as a newspaper man to write up the affair and later on to come in contact with the accused. The instant I saw him I asked if his name was Flemming and if his sister hadn't come out to India on the large lights. Iron Duke. He laughed heartily at the question, but did not answer it until he found there was evidence enough to send him to prison for a long term. Then he explained that he was Miss Flemming herself. Not only that, but he admitted to being one Ransome, a thief and sharper badly "wanted" by the English police for many offenses against her majosty's laws found there was evidence enough to

against her majesty's laws.
Ransome had many times taken to female disguises when closely pushed, and he aped the young lady so well as to always deceive. Not a man or wo-man on board the Iron Duke had the least suspicion that he was masqueradleast suspicion that he was masquerading. As to the robberies aboard, I laid them at his door, and he smiled in reply. I have never had a doubt that he was the thief, though where he hid his plunder I cannot say. No wonder he had plucked us at cards, for he was a notorious sharp. He went to prison for fifteen years and died after half his sentence had expired. A year before his death he escaped, donned female attire again and was finally found serving in an aristocratic family as a parlor

Made Peace With the Editor.

An Oklahoma business man got mad at the editor of a local paper about something which appeared in print and notified the editor that he would in future have his printing done at a job office where they didn't have a paper to roast everybody. He thought, of course, the paper would have to quit business, but it kept going. but it kept going.

daughter was married, and they had a big wedding, but not a line appeared in the paper. Later on his wife gave a eception to visitors, but not a line appeared in print.

Later on the man's youngest child

died, but the editor apparently didn't know it. The next fall a mass meeting was held in town to see about public improvements, and this business man made a big speech. The meeting was written up in full, except this man's speech. This was skipped. Then the business man called and asked the edior what he had against him.

"You got mad last year," was the reply, "and said you were going to have your work done at the job printing of-fice, so I thought I'd just let your job printer print the account of your daugh-ter's wedding, your wife's reception, your child's obituary and your little speech."—Enid (Kan.) Events.

Wives of Great Men.

Tom Hood, says the Denver Times. "You will think," he wrote to her in one of his letters, "that I am more foolish than any boy lover, and I plead

foolish than any boy lover, and I plead guilty. For never was a wooer so young of heart and so steeped in love as I, but it is a love sanctified and strengthened by long years of experience. May God ever bless my darling—the sweetest, most helpful angel who ever stooped to bless a man."

"I want thee much," Nathaniel Hawthorne wrote to his wife many years after his long patience had won for him the flower "that was lent from heaven to show the possibilities of the human soul." "Thou art the ohly person in the world that ever was necessary to me. And now I am only myself when thou art within my reach."

The wedded life of Wordsworth with his cousin, "the phantom of delight,"

bis cousin, "the phantom of delight," was a poem more exquisitely beautiful than any his pen ever wrote. "All that she has been to me," the poet once said in his lafter days, "none but God and myself can ever know."

The Falls of Ignazu.

Though practically unknown to the world at large, the falls of Ignazu stand second only to Niagara. The stand second only to Nigara. The Iguazu river forms the boundary between Argentina and Brazil. Twelve miles above its junction with the Parana the river bed bends almost at right augles. The main volume of water, moving with great velocity round the inner or Brazilian bank, rushes into a long, narrow governer at the policy in the proper of the proper inuer or Brazilian bank, rushes into a long, narrow gorge, at one point in which the waters make a clear leap of 210 feet. This gorge does not intercept the whole volume of the river water and the surplus currents rush out past it into the wide elbow formed by the bend, descending in two leaps of 100 feet each in the horseshoe called the Argentine falls. The distance from where the waters enter the Brazilian pit to their last cascade on the Argentine side is 6,000 feet.

month, often year after year, in this same blind, hap-hazard fashion, and receives no permanent benefit.

Women take Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescrine.

fact that it cures womanly ills. It cures irregularity. It dries debilitating drains. It heals inflammation and ulceration and cures female weakness. There is no trusting to luck by those who use "Favorite Prescription."

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets clear the muddy complexion.

THE EAST INDIAN WAY. of the Perils That Arise Out of the Want Revenge.

A trade journal tells a sory of an-adventure which nearly cost one of its corespondents in India his life. The Indian merchant was a wealthy man who had got on weil with the natives, but two of his servants had had a quarrel over a girl whom they nati/es, but two of his servants had had a quarrel over a girl whom they both wooed. The merchant interterred in the fight. The unsuccessful suitor, Laj, began to make trouble, and his rival, the husband, walned the merchant against him. Nothing happened for some months. Then the merchant went away on business. On his return he was told that Laj bad been caught in his bedroom and locked up.

In the East this meant trouble. The merchant called his servants and had a thorough search made of the house. They examined every rivuk, bureau and bedstead, every picture, statue and crevice in the

trunk, bureau and bedstead, every picture, statue and crevice in the wall and crack in the floor expecting to find a hooded cobra or other poisonous reptile. They scrutinized every knob, hundle and garment to see if it had been smeared with poison or with jutics which attracted venomous creatures. Then they searched the wine-cellar, the pantry and the store room. But they found and the store room. But they found

searched the wine-centar, the panery and the'store room. But they found nothing.

The merchant was tired, and after eating, went to the cabinet where he kept his cigars. It was a large case of teak and plate glass, with an old-fashioned silver Indian lock.

As he was about to insert the key in the keyhole, Laj's successful rival, who had been active in the search, cried, "Look out, sahib, some one has been meddling with that lock!"

They examined the keyhole and found traces of wax. When they opened the case the merchant found everything apparently untouched. Five boxes of cigars were unopened. He had opened the sixth before he went away and removed a few cigars. As he took this box up he noticed on it the marks of dirty fingers.

The cigars looked as if they had not been disturbed. He was about to take one when he noticed that something was wrong with the head. A second and a third were like the first. In each a small, almost imperceptible rose thorn had been inserted, and on it-was a dab of brown slime, still moist, the same color as the cigar.

"To not touch them, samp," said the Indian. "They are poisoned."

The merchant sat down and wrote a note to the police. In half an hour an officer appeared with Laj under guard. The merchant stated the case to the officer, and taking one of the cigars, handed it to Laj with the command, "Take it and smoke it."

The man turned gray and refused. His guilt was proved.

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DIAMOND DYES Are Sold by all Dealers. Refuse Substitutes.

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Land Area of the World.

The total land area of the world, all the continental islamis being counted with the continents, as given this year by the leading German authorities, is 52,841,373 square miles. In the past six years, the area assigned to Europe has increased to 3,919,110 square miles; in other words, that continent is new credited with 123,533 more square miles of surface than in 1897, a result that is chiefly due to the extension of coast surveys along the Northern shores of Russia, te the rectification of other surveys and, te a small extent, to the inclusion of some lands in the European Arctic not hitherto counted because the information about them was too indefinite.

not hitherto counted because the information about them was tee indefinite.

In the same peried the area assigned to Asia has increased 15,448 square miles, to 17,231,175 square miles. Africa, with practically ne advance in her surveys, stands at the old figure of 11,629,176 square miles. America, including the American Aretic, is credited with 16,308,903 square miles. The South Polar regions, which are beginning to appear as an entity in terrestrial calculations, are estimated to contain 259,155 square miles of known land surface; and the discovery of a little island or two has added only twelve square miles to the domain of Australia and Oceania, which are lumped together at 3,493,854 square miles.

A Rocking Shrine.

The most wonderful temple in the world is built on a rocking stone on the summit of a mountain in Northern India, which is over 20,000 feet high. The rock weighs many thousands of tons, but is balanced on so fine a point that a comparatively light pressure is sufficient to make it sway. Hindu priests teach their followers that this rock was placed in position by the help of the gods, and thus they add considerably to the feeling of awe which they desire to create. Worshippers at this shrine must first make a perilous ascent of the mountain. Then they spend seven days of preparation in a temple built on the solid mountain before they are permitted to make the final passage to the mysterious rocking stone. To reach this it is necessary to cross a bridge over a great chasm, for nature and man have combined to make this Hindu shrine difficult of access. After crossing the bridge, the pilgrim mounts a ladder, to which he clings in terror for his life here and in the hereafter. The temple on the rock is necessarily small; three priests officiate there, but its mysteries no man is permitted to reveal. Europeans have seen it only from a distance.

Easy Time on Shoes.

An observant Canadian mother has noted that her boys never wear out their shoes so fast in the weeks just before Christmas. Her theory is that they are especially careful not to get on their uppers at this season, in order not to be put off with the necessary new pair as a Christmas present. Anything so useful, or so directly in line with ordinary purchase and bestowal, is abhorrent to the youthful mind brooding on holiday gifts. Skates are all very well—but shoes! No wonder a boy aims to appear well shod so as to turn Santa Claus' eye elsewhere. It is even said that approaching Yuletide reconciles impatient youth to the various forms of copper-bound and steel-clad "indestructible shoe." Ordinarily, they are as much averse as a cobbler to that instrument, at forture. indestructible shoe." Ordinarily, they are as much averse as a cobbler to that instrument of torture. One of Lord Rowton's jests, addressed to Queen Victoria, was, "Madam, you cannot expect a cobbler to believe in the immortality of the soul."

The General's Busy Day. General Baden-Powell of the British Army can use both his hands tish Army can use both his hands with equal dexterity. During the South African war, when he was at Pretoria, a schoolgirl at Durban had the temerity to write to him, and, knowing that he was something of an artist, asked him for "a tiny drawing which she could put into an artist, asked him for "a tiny drawing which she could put into her scrapbook." Her friends prophesied that she would not receive an answer, and her delight can be imagined when a letter was received from the defender of Mafeking. It contained a picture of a scarecrow, clad in a shabby torn coat, with a few hairs standing upright on his head, seated on a chair at a table, a mass of correspondence around him, writing busily with his left hand. Beneath it was written: "The above is a postrait of me, and shows you that I am too busy to draw you a picture.—R. S. S. Baden-Powell."

Piversity Your Orchards.

Fruit growers are frequently met who condemn certain varieties as the result of their own experience. In many cases could be named a large number of orchards that have proved flat failures where the difficulty was the result of carelessness in planting solid blocks of single varieties. It is a well known fact among scientific as well as practical men that many varieties are self sterile. It is therefore necessary to have other varieties blossoming at about the same time intermingled in the orchard to produce fertilization and consequently a profitable and paying crep, Farmers who contemplate planting orchards cannot be two careful about this matter. Diversify Your Orchards.

his head to understand what, it means.

"Why," explained his mother, "Mr. Skaggs has asked sister to marry him. That means that she will live in his house after this and he'll take care of her."

"Buy her things?" asked the boy; "Yes."

"Hats and dimers and lee cream and everything?" he persisted.

"Yas," was the answer.

The boy thought it all over for a momeat and then said:

"Well, ain't that man got nerve, though!"

HAPPY AND HEALTHY.

A Beautiful Canadian Girl Saved From Catarrh of the Lungs by Pe-ru-na.



Miss Florence E. Kenah, 434 Maria street, Ottawa, Ont., writes: Miss Florence E. Kenah, 434 Maria street, Ottawa, Ont., writes:

"A few months ago I caught a severe cold, which settled on my lungs and remained there so persistently that I became alarmed. I took medicine without benefit, until my digestive organs became upset, and my head and back began to ache severely and frequently.

"I was advised to try Peruna, and although I had little faith I felt so sick that I was ready to try anything. It brought me blessed relief at once, and I felt that I had the right medicine at last. Within three weeks I was completely restored and have enjoyed perfect

three weeks I was completely restored and have enjoyed perfect

"I now have the greatest faith in Peruna." WOMEN should beware of contracting conducive to catarrhal derangements. Few women escape.

Upon the first symptoms of catching cold Peruna should be taken. It fortifies the system against colds and catching the system agai

fies the system against colds and ca-those without the means to buy, and tarrh.

The following letter gives one young woman's experience with Peruna:

Miss Rose Gerbing is a popular society woman of Crown Point, Ind., and she writes the following:

"Recently I took a long drive in the country, and being too thinly clad I caught a bad cold which settled on my lungs, and which I could not seem to shake off. I had heard a great deal of Peruna for colds and catarrh and I The Hartman Sanitarium, Columbus, O.

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