

**Safety First**  
Nothing is more important to the Fur Buyer than doing business with a Honest-Reliable-Responsible-Safe Fur House.

**"Ship to Shubert"**  
The largest house in the World dealing exclusively in American Fur Furs, where you will always receive an Accurate and Liberal Assortment, at the Lowest Market Prices and the usual "Shubert" Efficient, Speedy, Courteous services.

Write for the latest edition of "The Shubert's Catalogue" containing valuable Market Information you must have.

**A. B. SHUBERT, Inc.**  
25-27 WEST AUSTIN AVE.  
Dept. C294, CHICAGO, U.S.A.

**The Web;**  
OR,  
**TRUE LOVE'S PASSION.**

CHAPTER XXX.  
In the Face of Death.

"Really, dear," she said to Norah, "Guildford Berton has behaved wonderfully, and he fills me with shame and remorse. Not one man in a thousand would have done what he has done, or have done it with better manner. He makes no fuss over anything; however much trouble it may give him. I wonder he hasn't insisted upon sitting up with the earl."

"He has," said Norah, gently, "but that was my place, Lady Ferndale, and I could not resign it to any one, not even to Mr. Guildford Berton."

The change from Park Lane to the Court did the earl neither good nor harm; but as Norah stepped out on the balcony on the evening of their return she drew a deep breath of thankfulness and relief, and tried to persuade herself that it was because of her fondness for the grand old place that she was so glad to get back.

As she stood leaning on the stone rail, and looking sadly and wistfully across the velvet lawns to the woods over which the autumn mist was gathering in a thin, veil-like cloud, Guildford Berton came out and stood beside her.

"I have come to say good-night," he said in his soft, slow voice.

"You—you are going home?" said Norah.

"Will you not remain the night?" she asked, as cordially as she could.

He shook his head.

"Thank you, no. I don't think I shall be needed; indeed, you will not allow me to help you. But if I should be, you will send a message to the cottage, will you not?"

"Yes, I will," responded Norah, and her tone was more genial than usual, for she could not help remembering all he had done for the earl and herself. "I should like to try and thank you, Mr. Berton," she began, but he put up his white thin hand deprecatingly.

"Please do not," he said, and his voice sank almost to a murmur. "I have done so little."

"You have done a great deal—everything," put in Norah, justly.

"So little compared with what I should like to have done!" he said.

"When my father is well he will be able to thank you better than I can do," said Norah.

"He cannot thank me half so well, even if I deserved or desired thanks," he murmured. "One word from you, Lady Norah, outweighs a world of gratitude, and would repay me for the sacrifice of my life."

Norah flushed, and then turned pale as the usual chill swept over her.

"I—I must go back now," she said. "I should like to say good-night to the earl," he said, and he entered the room with her.

The earl was sitting up, looking none the worse for his journey, which had been rendered as easy as gold—the great smoother of all things—could make it.

He glanced from Guildford Berton to Norah and back again, and his lips twitched.

"He seems no worse," he said. "Indeed, I think the change has improved him."

Norah went and took the wasted hand.

"You are better, papa?" she murmured, lovingly.

The old man looked at her for a moment, then at the pale, somber face beside her, and his lips twitched again.

Norah sighed.

"Do you think—sometimes I cannot help thinking—that there is something on his mind?" she said. "Something that he wishes to tell me or you? He looks from one to the other of us so strangely."

Guildford Berton was silent for a moment. An idea, startling in its audacity, flashed into his mind.

"Can you guess what it is?" Norah asked anxiously, forgetting in her eagerness that it was Guildford Berton she was addressing.

Still he remained silent, and Norah, struck by his silence, looked at him.

"You have some idea," she said.

"Please tell me what it is! It may be something that he wants me to do for him. What is it?"

"Yes, I have an idea," he said.

"But—he paused—"I do not think I can tell you to-night."

"Why not?" asked Norah, her forehead wrinkling, and looking from him to the set, vacant face.

"Not to-night," he said; "to-morrow, perhaps. No, Lady Norah, I—well, I have not the courage."

"Not the courage!" repeated Norah, looking at him with surprise as he stood with pale face and downcast eyes.

"No," he said. "If I told you my interpretation you would be angry; and I cannot afford that you should be angry with me."

Norah sank into the chair beside the bed.

"I do not understand," she said, coldly, her heart beating with an indefinable presentiment. "Why should I be angry, Mr. Berton?"

He stood with folded hands and downcast eyes, the image of meek self-sacrifice, of reverential respect; but his acute brain was hard at work.

He did not want to make a second mistake by prematurely declaring himself to Norah as he had done to the earl. And yet here was such a chance of breaking it to her, of forcing the old man, so to speak, to help him!

"Will you give me your promise that what I say to you shall not make

you angry with me?" he asked, in a low voice.

Norah looked at him with unfeigned surprise.

"I do not think you would say anything that should make me angry, Mr. Berton," she said, quietly.

He drew a long breath, as if he had come to a determination.

"Then I will tell you. I have your promise, remember, Lady Norah! You ask me if I can interpret the expression which the earl's face wears when he looks from you to me. The answer bears reference—close reference to you."

"To me?" said Norah, mechanically.

She was beginning to feel as the bird feels when it hears the rustle of the destroying serpent and feels its glittering eye turned upon it; a strange fascination that was a loathing and an attraction which she could not resist.

"Yes," he said, looking at her from under his eyes. "Will you carry your mind back to the night of the earl's seizure?"

Norah inclined her head slightly.

"You will remember that I came in late, and went to the earl in the library. I went to consult him about some business matter, but I found him strangely averse to discussing it. He seemed to have something on his mind. I have no doubt that the presentiment of his coming illness was upon him, and it was only natural that he should be dwelling upon the subject nearest his heart—yourself."

Norah's hand went forth, and found the earl's and held it.

"He spoke of you, Lady Norah, of the joy and comfort your presence brought him, and then—he paused and hesitated, but it was too late to draw back, and with a covert glance at her he went on, smoothly, softly—'and then he spoke of myself.'"

He waited to see if she would speak, but Norah remained silent.

"The earl and I have been such close friends for so long, Lady Norah, and he was so quick to notice any change in the demeanour of those about him, that it was not surprising he should remark an alteration in my manner, though I have tried to hide it from him, from all. That night he asked me what it was that weighed upon my mind. I tried to evade the question, but he had discovered the truth, and he frankly charged me with it. Can you not guess its nature, Lady Norah?"

Norah shook her head.

"He had been watching me, it seems, and had caught a glimpse of my heart, though I thought that I had succeeded in hiding it. Lady Norah, the earl, your father, asked me as bluntly as his courtesy would permit, if the change he had observed in me had any reference to you—and I admitted it. I told him the truth. I confessed that I loved you, Lady Norah!"

Norah's hand closed tightly on the earl's, and a shudder shook her. She could not have spoken to save her life, but simply sat, her eyes fixed upon him with wild incredulity and amazement.

He moistened his lips.

"The confession was wrung from me, I could not have kept it back; but even as I made it I felt how hopeless was the love which I had fought against and had fondly trusted I had hidden from every one. I knew—I have never forgotten—the difference in our positions. I realize it now, this moment, as keenly as I have ever done. But there is no gulf too wide for love to bridge. I had set my heart upon one as far above me as the stars in the heavens. But, though one may despair of ever reaching the stars, one may love them and look up to them with longing eyes. You have been my star, Lady Norah, and I have worshiped, I worship you still."

He paused, but she did not speak. His words made a horrible, almost meaningless, discord in her ears. She thought that she was asleep and haunted by some dreadful dream. She could not speak, even though she felt a wild desire to cry "Silence!"

"That was my confession, Lady Norah," he went on, almost inaudibly, but still watching her covertly, "and I expected to hear from the lips of the earl a denunciation of my audacity and—a dismissal. I waited patiently, as a criminal waits for the passing of the sentence which will

**A True Canadian Salt Windsor Table Salt**  
MADE IN CANADA  
THE CANADIAN SALT CO. LIMITED

consign him to lifelong misery. But it was not pronounced. The earl was not surprised. Remember that he had discovered my secret and read my heart. He was not surprised and—he was not angry. Heaven knows how much above my poor deserts he esteems me! So much that, in place of condemnation and rebuke, he spoke—Heaven bless him!—he looked gratefully toward the wan, drawn face lying back on the pillows—he spoke words of comfort and encouragement. Ah, Lady Norah, none but I and those dear to him can ever fully appreciate the nobility of his nature! It was I who shrank with unfeigned humility from confessing my love; it was he, the noble father, who, consenting to forget the difference in our rank, bade me hope."

Norah's gaze grew more full of horror.

"Even more than that," he went on after a pause; "he was good enough to tell me, with all the frankness of a father, that he had seen my love for you, and that he would not only give his consent to my suit, but his countenance and generous approval! Lady Norah, it is with the sanction of your father, with the knowledge that I have his best wishes, that I kneel at your feet and avow my love!" and he dropped on one knee and held out his hand to her almost in the attitude of worship.

It was not altogether aching; the signs of his emotion were visible in his white face and quivering lips, and his voice rang with the passion which possessed him.

Norah shrank back, still holding the earl's hand, and essayed to speak; but, though her lips opened, no word would come.

(To be Continued.)

**Incandescent Gas Lighting.**

Possibly, the feature of incandescent gas lighting most frequently noted by casual observers is the great ease with which tasks, ordinarily arduous under artificial light may be performed under the Weisbach gas mantle. The light has a peculiarly "soft" quality, difficult to describe, but which is readily recognized by those who have had experience with the gas mantle lamp.

In its general effect upon bodily health and comfort, the use of incandescent gas lighting is decidedly favorable. The currents of air set up by the burning gas improves ventilation, tending to expel the air vitiated by respiration and draw in fresh air to replace it. Harmful or dangerous disease germs are instantly destroyed in the flame. The extent to which this effect takes place may be verified by placing a gas lamp close to a ceiling without any provision for interfering with the up-rushing air currents. The charred particles which collect immediately above the lamp are before passing through the flames were laden with germs and microbes. Actual experiments have shown that the burning of gas lamps in rooms previously containing bacteria, resulted in absolute sterilization of the air.

Contrary to the popular notion the temperature of rooms lighted by incandescent gas lamps is seldom markedly greater than under incandescent electric light, even under unfavorable conditions of ventilation, while in rooms provided with the ventilating facilities required by the demands of hygiene, the temperature in gas-lighted rooms is frequently lower.

J.Y.F.M.W.

**Nov. 18th.**

**Just landing a cargo of Best Screened North Sydney Coal**

(OLD MINES).

**Our Usual Good Coal.**

**M. MOREY & CO.**

**Hello! Hello! Hello! Hello! Hello!**

**Here We Are, Here We Are, Here We Are Again!**

from **Smyth's**  
ESTABLISHED 1875

**With the usual Christmas Greetings and the Biggest, Brightest and Smartest Stock of Useful Xmas Gifts ever shown in the City of St. John's for Men and Boys. Some boast, eh! Just give us a chance to prove it. We can deliver the Goods. Here are a few of our many offerings:**

**COLLAR BOXES.**

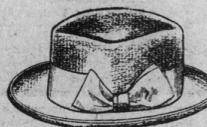
Of real leather, filled with 1/2 doz. of his favourite Collars. Make an economical as well as a very pleasing gift, \$3.75 box. Only \$2.50.

**HANDKERCHIEFS.**

Nicely boxed in 1/2 doz. lots, with a neatly embroidered initial. \$1.20 per box.



All that a man can desire in Shirts. We have the famous Jaeger make, all wool, neat patterns. Or a beautiful Indian Silk Shirt in a neat Xmas box would be most pleasing. \$2.50 to \$10.00.



A Christy or a Stetson Hat is sure to be welcomed by him. We have next spring's models in plain Felts or Velours for immediate wear. \$3.00 to \$10.00.



As a gift, Fancy Socks of silk or wool never fail to meet with appreciation. We have both; our Wool Socks being of the best, viz., Jaeger make, and not expensive either. 50c. to \$1.10 pair.



A Fancy Wool Vest (Jaeger) as a sensible gift would be most popular just now. \$3.50 to \$7.50.

**GLOVES.**

There are two kinds: Good ones that he can wear out, cheap ones that he is ashamed to wear out. We stock only the former.



A Smoking Jacket or a Bathrobe always gives pleasure to the recipient. We have them at all prices. \$4.50 to \$22.50.

Or a pair of Jaeger Slippers in wool or leather. \$2.50 to \$5.50.



Now for our Mufflers. As usual we are early in the market and in consequence we have a large variety to select from. Wool . . . . . \$1.25 to \$3.50 Pure Silk . . . . . \$2.00 to \$10.00



Our one specialty that we take particular pride in is our Neckwear.

Every desirable new effect will be found in this season's collection. New models and colourings, distinctive and attractive, from the silk laces of the Allies' world. Russian Bear Brown, Italian Greys, Belgian Blues, etc. Each boxed nicely, 75c. to \$2.75.

We have Silk Handkerchiefs and Socks to match many of the above.



Then for the little men, an Overcoat or Suit would surely complete the charm Christmas bears for them.

Our's are of class designs and excellent quality, at prices that will meet with your approval.

Nearly all our Suits have two pairs of pants. Bring along your boy to us and we will fit him while you wait.

**JUST A WORD TO THE LADIES.**

If you wish to please your gentleman friend, let us help you with the selection of his Christmas Gift. As he invariably buys his men's wear here, we know his tastes.

Our Service is as usual the BEST OBTAINABLE. REMEMBER it is always a pleasure to show patrons our Goods whether they buy or not. We take anything from our windows.

**SHOP EARLY, AND DON'T FORGET TO SHOP AT THE STORE THAT SETS THE PACE IN SMART STYLES FOR MEN!**

**Smyth's**  
GEO. KEARNEY Manager.

Phone Orders Given Special Attention on all Occasions. Our Number 726.

**War News**

**Messages Received Previous to 9 A**

INTERESTING.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—The Evening Sun prints the following: The engagement of Miss Beth Asquith, youngest daughter of the former Premier to Hugh C. First Secretary to the American Embassy in London, will be announced in the report here. Both were staying for the last fortnight of the vice-regal lodge. They left the same time to-day. Miss Asquith is not 21 years old. She is very fond of outdoor sports and an accomplished linguist.

NO DISTINCTION MADE

LONDON, Dec. 21.—"The Government can't admit distinction between the right of armed merchant ships and those of defensive purposes," said Edward Carson, First Lord of Admiralty, replying to a question in the House of Commons. Continuing, Carson said, "Merchant ships enjoy an immemorial right to defend their vessels against visit or search by any means of power; but they must not seek an enemy to attack them. This has been reserved to ships of war as far as I am aware, all neutral ships take the same stand." The First said the British Government is voting its continuous attention to theory and practice of defensive armament. Sir Edward says, no it was the aim of the German Government to confuse the defensive offensive action with the object of inducing neutrals to treat armed vessels as if they were men-of-war. statement Sir Edward made in to a question whether in view of attitude of the German Government the Admiralty would take steps to overcome the objections raised by any neutral country to arming merchant ships for defence, arrange to give such ships adequate protective armament and regulate the status of their officers and crew. The point made concerning German attitude was deducted from the man reply giving assurances Capt. Blakie of the steamer Calania would not be put to death of count of the fact that his vessel reported to have attempted to run German sub.

THE IRISH QUESTION.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—Arriving aboard the Adriatic, Liverpool, Sir Horace Plunkett, leader, predicted a provisional truce which will bring Ireland into closer harmony. He expressed the belief that Ireland give between 130,000 and 150,000.

**T. J. Edens**

By Rail to-day, Dec. 19, '16:  
**XMAS TURKEYS, DUCKS, CHICKEN, GEENE.**

Selected Dressed P. E. I. stock Don't miss it.

**FRUIT, Etc.**

**ORANGES**—Cal. Flor. Valencia TANGERINES.  
**APPLES**—Selected Table. LEMONS—California. GRAPE FRUIT. PEARS. GRAPES—Blue and Green. TOMATOES. OYSTERS. FINNAN HADDIES. KIPPERS.

Wallace & Co's. "MOST EXCELLENT" CHOCOLATES, 1/2 lb., 1 lb. and 2 lb. boxes. MORIS CHOCOLATES and CAKES.

Salted Almonds, Strawberries & Raspberries, Preserved in Bds. Sultana Raisins, 1 lb. cartons. Fruit Syrups, 15c. & 20c. bottles. Figs, Washed and Stuffed, bottled. Poultry Dressing.

**HAVANA CIGARS**  
ROCK & CO. HY. CLAY, CABANAS, BUCKTROUTS, BORNEO CIGARS.

**T. J. EDENS**

Duckworth Street and Military Road.

**If you want health,**

you can have it, by heeding Nature's laws. Keep the stomach strong, the liver active, the blood pure, and the bowels regular, and you will seldom be ill. Take good care of these organs, and at the first sign of anything wrong—promptly take Beecham's Pills.

**you certainly need**

the help and relief of this world-famed remedy, to keep the body in health. They quickly establish normal conditions, so the organs perform their functions as Nature intended. No other remedy will so surely strengthen the system, stimulate the liver, regulate the bowels and quickly improve the general health as

**BEECHAM'S PILLS**

Worth a Guinea a Box  
Prepared only by Thomas Beecham, St. Helens, Lancashire, England.  
Sold everywhere in Canada and U. S. America. In boxes, 25 cents.