

The Heiress of Heathdale

Besides these, she had been hard at work upon a story of her own, which she intended to show the publisher, hoping to win his approbation and assistance in bringing it before the public. Dressing herself plainly, but with taste she started out one morning with her treasures, and presenting herself at the publishing house referred to, asked to see the proprietor.

The gentlemanly clerk led her to a private office, where she found a pleasant-looking elderly gentleman, who regarded her with a curious, interested and courteous gaze, and then politely asked her business with him.

"Some time ago I saw an advertisement in your name, relating to Christ-mas souvenirs," Virginia began, "and as this is the date on which they were required to be delivered, I have brought my contribution for your inspection."

The gentleman bowed, but hesitated a moment before replying.

Virginia's manner and language told him that she was a story, and he did not like to say anything to wound her; but the advertisement to which she referred had distinctly stated that competitors were under no obligation to present a personal interview regarding their contributions. They were either to be sent by mail or left at the office until an examination by the proprietor should decide who the fortunate winner of the prize might be.

"Ah!" he began, "I understand you desire to leave the specimens of your work with me."

Virginia flushed, for his tone was rather frigid. Then she recovered herself, and her face lighted with her rare, beautiful smile, which went directly to the publisher's heart.

"Yes, sir," she answered, laying a package upon his desk. "Of course, I understand that I am not to expect a private examination of my work. I had no intention of annoying you with the matter. I am willing to take my chances with others. But there is another matter upon which I would like to consult with you if you can spare me a little time."

She now drew forth a more bulky package from her bag.

"Some manuscript, perhaps, which you would like examined?" responded the gentleman, glancing at it, speaking indifferently.

"No, not manuscript according to the common acceptance of the term; and yet, in reality, it supports it."

"Can you not leave it with me? I will look at it with pleasure later; but his tone was not very encouraging."

"I should prefer not to do so, because there is not very much time between now and Christmas, and if you do not approve of it I shall like to take it elsewhere," Virginia replied, untying the ribbon which bound her package, and removing the wrapper, she laid before him a little book about eight inches square and comprising some twenty or thirty pages.

It was composed of half sheets of the heaviest and nicest of unruled paper, tied together in three places with beautiful little cords and tassels of pale-blue silk.

On the cover, in a lovely design composed of mountain ferns, most exquisitely executed, there was written in a dainty hand, the title—"Gleanings from the Heights."

The gentleman uttered a low exclamation of pleasure as his eye fell upon this.

His attention was riveted; there was no indifference in his manner now.

"Did you do this?" Mr. Knight, the publisher, asked, looking up after a close examination of the dainty cover.

"Yes, sir," Virginia answered, with a quiet smile, and, seeing that she had gained her point, that he would not leave it until he had seen the whole, she sat down near him to await his verdict.

Page after page was turned and on each there was a lovely group of mountain foliage, flowers, or ferns, all beautifully executed in pen and ink, while underneath the design, or cunningly woven around it, was written a dainty Rhondome appropriate verse or couplet, quotations from various authors, with snow and then a bit of real heart rhyme that had been the outgrowth of Virginia's own sad experiences.

Everything, in the little indicated, had been taken from the mountains—from those heights where she had spent the last few years of her life.

It had been her custom, after gathering the wild, beautiful things, to carefully arrange them and then copy them upon paper.

This amusement had served to pass away an otherwise tedious hour, and she had a portfolio full of these charming designs, which were likely to prove of great value to her in the future, as she said.

Mr. Knight took ample time for his examination of her work, so much, indeed, that Virginia began to grow weary and anxious to get back to her little one.

But at last the gentleman leaned back in his chair, took off his spectacles and turned his keen, searching glance full upon his visitor's face.

"Madam," he said, "it is not my custom to speak extravagantly upon any subject; but I am bound to admit that this is the finest thing of its kind that I have ever been my privilege to examine."

A beautiful colour sprang into Virginia's cheeks at this most high praise. She had known that her work was well done, but she had not expected to be told of it quite so frankly or emphatically.

She bowed and murmured her thanks for his appreciation.

"What do you want to do with it?" Mr. Knight asked.

"Get it published as a holiday souvenir, and make it pay me a handsome sum for my trouble," Virginia responded in a business-like tone and then was half frightened at her own boldness.

The publisher's eyes twinkled with amusement.

"What would you consider a handsome sum?" he inquired.

Virginia thought a moment; then she replied:

"You have offered one, two and three hundred dollars as prizes for the simple souvenirs described in your advertisement, and surely a work like this must be worth much more."

"Very true, but will you name some price for it. I confess that I should like to take it, if you do not value it too highly."

Virginia was astonished at this. She had not expected to be asked to name her own price. She had supposed, if her work was approved at all, to receive some moderate offer, which she could accept or decline as she saw fit. But she shrank from setting a value upon her work. It was her first effort and she had no more idea of its worth as a work of art, than a child.

"Sir," she returned, "I will tell you frankly that I never did anything of the kind before; that is, I have never attempted to dispose of any of my work, and I do not know what it ought to bring me. I have been suddenly thrown upon my own resources and it occurred to me that I might turn my one talent to some account."

"You are quite right," the publisher replied, "one talent will prove a very valuable one, if rightly employed," interposed the publisher, smiling.

"Thank you," returned Virginia, flushing again. "And now, since my work has been approved, will you kindly make me an offer?"

"Well, Miss—What shall I call you, please. I like to know the names of people with whom I am dealing," Mr. Knight observed, with a business like air.

A sudden shock went over Virginia, making her tingle to her finger tips at this question.

It was the first time that she had been asked to give her name since coming to St. Catharines.

She had lived so like a recluse that there had been no occasion and she had never decided what she would be called. She could not use her husband's name.

If she had more time to think she might have answered the publisher differently; but as it was she said, hastily, and not without some confusion:

"My name is Mrs.—Alexander."

Mr. Knight started slightly and threw a serious glance at her.

"Alexander, Ah, I used to know—But, pardon me, I was about to make you an offer, I believe."

He seemed to consider a moment, then continued:

"I will give you five hundred dollars for this little work, just as it stands and if it proves to be a success, after it is published, I will add ten per cent. of the sales to that amount."

Virginia could scarcely credit her hearing at this generous offer.

She had not dreamed of anything like it, and bright visions of future prosperity for herself and her child, stirred through her own efforts, alone, fled through her mind.

But she did not lose her self-possession or betray her excessive delight at the unexpected proposal.

"What am I to understand by your words, 'if it proves a success,'?" she asked.

Again the publisher's eyes twinkled. He knew that she was a novice in dealing with business men, but he saw the light in her eyes, and practical, and finding her talent valuable, meant to make the most of it.

He meant, however, to do so well by her that she would be satisfied to give her services exclusively to him.

"Well," he replied, "if the sales reach a thousand copies I shall consider the book a success."

He knew well enough, if he could get it out in season, he could sell three times that number, for he saw a wonderfully unique and attractive affair.

"More than that," he continued, "if you are pleased to accept my offer I should like to engage you to prepare two or three designs of a similar character for the Easter trade."

Virginia smiled, and, seeing that she had gained her point, that he would not leave it until he had seen the whole, she sat down near him to await his verdict.

Page after page was turned and on each there was a lovely group of mountain foliage, flowers, or ferns, all beautifully executed in pen and ink, while underneath the design, or cunningly woven around it, was written a dainty Rhondome appropriate verse or couplet, quotations from various authors, with snow and then a bit of real heart rhyme that had been the outgrowth of Virginia's own sad experiences.

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"Very true, but will you name some price for it. I confess that I should like to take it, if you do not value it too highly."

Full of Goodness

Ceylon Tea is Pure, Delicious and Wholesome.
Lead packets only.
By all Grocers.

25c, 30c, 40c, 50c and 60c per lb.
Highest Award, St. Louis, 1904.

is he, and I am sure I cannot be mistaken, for those eyes are like no others in the world. What shall I do?"

She was rapidly nearing her own door, but a sudden purpose impelled her to keep on and go straight by, without even a glance or a look that way.

A block or two beyond she came to a store where she sometimes went to purchase articles that she needed. She entered, and, going to a counter, called for the first thing that she could think of, but kept her eye on the door to see if the man had followed her.

Yes, there could be no doubt that her steps were dogged, for the man passed even as she looked.

His keen glance searched her out immediately; then he paused, turned, and walked slowly back.

The store was on a corner, and there were two entrances to it, one on the front, one at the side.

(To be Continued.)

Elegant and Artistic
Flat and Rug Patterns
Which Can be Made Up in the
Homes of Users of
Diamond Dyes.

Thousands of Hooked Mats and Rugs are made yearly by users of Diamond Dyes. The making of these Mats and Rugs is popular with the ladies of Canada, and will be more so this season.

John E. Garrett, New Glasgow, N. S., the manufacturer of these artistic Mats and Rugs, patterns, will send free of charge to any address in Canada sheets of designs, showing sizes and prices.

TO TEST TREATING LAW.

Action Against Himself by Rev. James Simpson, Charlottetown.

Halifax, Oct. 9.—A novel point has been raised in connection with the treating amendment to the prohibition law of Prince Edward Island by Rev. James Simpson, of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Charlottetown.

In a letter to the press he says he has obtained the opinion of eminent lawyers in Ontario, who advise that "to give or dispose of any intoxicating liquor in any other place than heretofore provided for by the act" covers everything, including giving the sacrament in the church, treating in private houses or elsewhere, and placing wine on the table at private dinners.

In order to test this he has laid information against himself for giving the holy communion and has challenged the prosecutor to proceed against him.

He has also laid information against the committee of the Charlottetown City Council, who, he alleges, provided liquid refreshment for Prince Louis of Dattenberg at the City Hall during the recent visit, and also intends to lay an information against those who supplied similar refreshments to the Prince and officers at the athletic sports. Mr. Simpson claims that if the poor man is fined one hundred dollars for treating a friend, then it must cost the city fathers a like amount for treating the Prince.

The intention of the case which Mr. Simpson attacks is to prevent evading the provisions of the act by giving away intoxicating liquor.

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WAS IT ALL SPENT.

Alleged Discrepancy in Advertising of Mutual Life.

New York, Oct. 9.—Richard A. McCurdy, President of the Mutual Life Insurance Company, will appear as a witness before the Armstrong Insurance Committee to-morrow.

Members of the committee believe that the Mutual's affairs which have developed into a sensational result. They have heard of the amount of money appearing in the company's records as having been expended in 1904 for advertising purposes is more than \$200,000 in excess of the amount actually paid out.

In this connection it was pointed out that the company's records as having been expended in 1904 for advertising purposes is more than \$200,000 in excess of the amount actually paid out.

The item of stationary included in the total of \$1,134,833.83 also will be a subject of enquiry by the committee.

The insurance company records show that the Mutual in 1904 paid out on this account \$600,101.21, as compared with \$275,060.39 paid out by the Equitable and \$490,395.83 expended by the New York Life.

C. C. Fields, the Mutual superintendent of supplies, F. J. was learned to-day, is the same Fields who has been mentioned as one of the Mutual's chief legislative "supervisors."

Mr. Fields will be called before the committee to testify in detail concerning the administration of his department. He will be asked to show the records of his purchases for the supply department for the past five or six years, and for a statement of all money which has been passed through the hands on account of the Mutual.

It is pretty certain now that James H. Hyde will voluntarily appear before the investigating committee and testify on the same conditions as other witnesses.

Day line steamers make last trip of season from New York on October 21 and from Albany on October 23.

The cheap excursion to New York via West Shore and Albany will give people a chance to take the trip. This is included in the price of the ticket, which is \$9 for the round trip from Suspension Bridge or Buffalo. For further information call on or write Louis Deago, Canadian Passenger Agent, 601-2 Yonge street, Toronto, Ont.

Last Trip of the Season.

The last gibbet used in England is stored away in Leicester jail. The local British Museum authorities have both failed in their efforts to obtain possession of the relic, and to a correspondent who expressed a desire to photograph it, the Secretary of State has just replied regretting that he cannot accede to the application.

Be Prudent When Good Chances Come Your Way

Do not let chances like the present ones come and go without inquiring into them and taking advantage of them as they appear of worth to you.

Prompt, cheerful attention, with all store comforts at your command, makes this an easy place in which to shop, while the latest and best, tastefully displayed makes this a pleasing store to look through.

Pearl Buttons 5c Dozen

60 gross of Pearl Buttons in the 2 and 4 hole line, 12 to 22, a hand polish sea shell pearl button, suitable for finishing fine garments, regular .10 and 15c dozen, on sale .05c dozen, on sale .05c dozen.

Sample Ends of Embroidery 5c and 10c the End

60 cartons of sample ends of very fine Embroideries and Insertions in Swiss, Nainsook, Cambric, 1 to 12 inches wide, all party blind and open patterns; come in 1/4 to 1 1/2 yards, worth up to 25c, on sale .05c to .10c the end.

Baby Ribbons 4 Yards for 5c

200 pieces of double faced Satin, Corded Silk and Satin Taffeta Baby Ribbons in pretty shades of sky, pink, cardinal, Nile, yellow, purple, mauve, black, white and cream, regular 2 yards for 5c, on sale .4 yards for 5c.

Fine Cashmere Gloves 25c Pair

50 dozen of fine Cashmere Gloves in navy, brown, black, nicely finished with fancy embroidered points, 2 dome fasteners, sizes 6 to 8, very special price, 25c pair.

Bead Necklaces 19c

12 dozen of pretty Bead Necklaces in the pearl, coral, turquoise blue, with patent clasps, regular 35c, to clear .19c.

Another Splendid Silk Sale

500 Yards Colored Louise Silk, Regular 75c, for 59c Per Yard

Another fresh shipment of this popular Silk, and will go on sale to-morrow morning priced at a saving for you; on sale for one day only, a guaranteed silk with a brilliant finish, a splendid dress silk. Secure a length to-morrow, reg. 75c quality, on sale at .59c per yard.

Popular Dress Materials at Special Sale Prices

Our \$1.00 Venetian Cloth on Sale at 79c Per Yard

Cloths as you know are correct and reduced for you just as the wanted time, in all the newest shades of blues, greens, reds, greys, and black, reg. value \$1.00, on sale at 79c per yard.

New Designs in French Flannel Waistings at Per Yard 50c

We have just passed into stock a splendid shipment of pure wool Flannel Waistings, in all the very latest designs for popular wear, at per yard 50c.

Nainsook 15c

43-inch Nainsook, soft, sheer finish, thoroughly shirred, splendid for baby's wear and fine underwear, worth 25c, special .15c.

Sheeting 25c

10 pieces Bleached Sheet, plain and twill, round, heavy thread, from dress, full 2 yards wide, special value .25c per yard.

Table Napkins 1c 75

30 dozen Table Napkins, 1/2 size, fine, even linen, splendid range of patterns, always sold at \$2.25, special .1c 75.

Pillow Cotton 15c

Even finish English Pillow Cotton, round, heavy thread, 42 and 44 inches wide, special value .15c per yard.

DRINKERS AND SMOKERS.

Revenue Three Dollars a Head of the Population.

Ottawa, Oct. 9.—The drinkers and smokers of Canada last year contributed to the Dominion Revenue Department show the consumption of spirits last year to have been 1,031 gallons per head of population. This is an increase over the year before, when the consumption was 852 per capita. However, the consumption of spirits is slightly on the decrease, as in the twenties it was frequently above a gallon and a half per head, and in later years it has generally run below a gallon. The consumption of beer is increasing. Last year it was 4,822 gallons per head, about the same as the year before. The average since sixty-nine has been 3,221 gallons per head. It is reported that the consumption averaged about two gallons per head. The wine consumption last year was 99 barrel per head, the average since 'sixty-nine is 123 barrel. Tobacco was last year consumed to the extent of 2,686 pounds per head. The year before it was 2,765, and the average since 'sixty-nine 2,184 pounds. The statement of quantity and excise and customs payment last year per head is:

Spirits Amount and excise1,031 gals. \$1,842
Beer4,822 gals.207
Wine900 gals.940
Tobacco2,686 lbs.1,005

WHEN THE THROAT TICKLES.

You know the germs of catarrh are at work. Kill them at once with Catarrhazone. Doctors say it's the one sure cure, and free from deleterious drugs. Remember the name—"Catarrhazone."

True Bill for Manslaughter.

Peterborough, Oct. 9.—The fall assizes opened here to-day before his Lordship Mr. Justice Street. The grand jury brought in a true bill of manslaughter against Charles Gow, who is charged with firing the shot that killed Thomas E. Hill, of Drummer Township. It is expected that Gow's case will be proceeded with to-morrow.

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At R. McKAY & CO'S., Wednesday, October 11, 1905

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