A GIRL IN A **THOUSAND**

He nodded carelessly to the count, sowed with excruciating politeness to he lady at his side, and then sauntered onchalantly away, not at all with the guilty appearance of a fellow who had been caught in the act of purloining bowed with excruciating politeness to the lady at his side, and then sauntered

the lady at his side, and then sauntered nonchalantly away, not at all with the guilty appearance of a fellow who had been caught in the act of purloining grapes in another man's vineyard.

Rex was fairly well satisfied with the progress he was making given a few days at such a rushing gait and he had reason to believe the craft of Count Rudolf would be hull down in the distance.

Still he knew the truth concerning Still he knew the truth concerning

the slip that often occurs 'twixt cup and

the slip that often occurs 'twixt cup and lip.

He even vouchsafed poor Bridgewater one or two fleeting recollections, which, considering the state of mind he exploited, was quite good of him. Even men in Cupid's toils should have hopes?

But bless you, there was the identical Bridge himself, smoking a huge cigar for a change, and evidently ready to waylay his friend after a fashion he had. Rex was in too jovial a humor to care. In his soul he was audacious enough to believe Miss Madge entertained more than a passing interest in a fellow answering his description, and of a necessity the world looked roscituted to his eyes.

Bridgewater saw this jovial humor and

Bridgewater saw this jovial humor and knew fortune had been kind to his friend—knew the trump cards had fallen to his lot in this particular deal.

"Well, is she an angel, still?" he asked gayly, slapping the big fellow on the back in a way all little men have of doing.

doing.
"She's a divinity," chanted Rex, "and

"She's a divinity," chanted Rex, "and more than that, my boy, under the society polish she is a brick, a girl in a thousand, a girl raised on the prairies of Texas, filled with delicious memories of wild stampedes over the boundless waste, of hunting and fishing trips to thrill the poor heart of a sportsman like myself with ecstasy. Jove! old fellow, I tell you she is the girl I've been dooking for these five years."

"Hear, hear! you make ______ feel that I've been neglectful of my duty, but, then," with a sigh of resignation, "it's no use for a slow-witted Britisher to attempt to keep up with you race-horse Yankees. In war and in love you gallop over all obstacles, and, by Jove! you get there every time. I shall be pleased to dance at the wedding, Rex. But how about the other, the ogress, the original of this confounded picture I've been carrying next my heart—here take it. of this confounded picture I've

of this confounded picture I've been carrying next my heart—here, take it or I'll destroy it, once for all."
"I say, hello, what does this mean?"
"Well, hang the thing; it gave me a bad half minute to-night—ugh!" at a he shrugged his shoulders like a Frenchman, a habit no doubt assumed with the adoption of the language of diplon are circles.

Rex laughed as a light broke upon "How did it happen, Bridge?" he beg-

The other looked peevishly at him.
"You've a deuced way of jumping at
conclusions, I declare; but I suppose it
must be told. Fancy sitting talking with
a charming girl, your heart going pittapat, and the language of love beaming
from your eyes, when, as you go to show
her a picture you once thought your
ideal, and which, by the way, resembles
her enough to be a twin sister, she
picks something up you've dropped. picks something up you've dropped, looks disdainfully, and then pushes it before you, saying she quite admires

"Good heavens? and it was this-

the heiress of dear uncle's million, the woman whose delightful countenance made a rover out of you, and may yet be the death of me," groaned the other. "Poor Bridge; but you explained; you

"The whole blessed story about your beastly business. But I'm still in blissful ignorance whether she took it for gospel truth or secretly believes I have slept with that photo next my heart, and am the most monumental liar in London."

tation and must stand by your guns," he said, solemnly, as a solution of the dif-

"I've a way of doing that—one of my few good qualities. After all, I have fair hopes of convincing her of my veracity, but when a man has been in the busines I follow for years, he falls into a peculiar way of elaborating that is very hard to overcome, and I fear she looks me with more or less suspicion."

me with more or less suspicion."
"Live it down, man, live it down.
When she knows you as I do she'd be-lieve everything you say, no matter how

staggering.

Bridge looked at his companion out of the tail of his eye.

"I see you're disposed to be humorous, old chap, but I'll take it for gospel

"How about the amulet, the lucky stone that she thinks will bring her grand success in the field where she's chosen to labor?"

"Ah, you mean the idol's eye, the red stone of Mandalay, the magical talisman of a great nation, without which disaster must of a surety overwhelm the rajah and his people. Well, the exchange was made unbeknown to the girl, who is just as hanny bless has sweet.

Who did it, and now search to the four Rex.

"Ras Ragoula—made an excuse that he wished to examine the queer stone through a glass in the interest of science, and exchanged them while so

science, and extraord doing."

"Ah, yes, and gave you what you de"the of your fellowship in

what color. What's the game, old man, 'two hearts with but a single thought,' you know?' Bridgewater fairly gurgled.

"This is for war, not love, my boyto delude those who, as you say, are bound in that little chamois bag she has fastened about her neck with a ribbon."

"Who did it, and how?" asked the curious Rex.

"Ras Ragoula—made an excuse that it wished to examine the queer stone through a glass in the interest of science, and exchanged them while so doing."

"Ah, yes, and gave you what you demanded by virtue of your fellowship in the order of St. Michael?"

"Yes," dreamily, as though the pronouncing of that name brought once more before his eyes the weird spectacle he had witnessed at the time he was intitated into the great Abyssianian secret order, when King Menelek, clad in his richest dress, and looking what he really was, the nightiest of savage monarchs, amid salfooking what he really was, the nightiest of savage monarchs, amid salfooking what he really was, the nightiest of savage monarchs, amid salfooking what he really was, the nightiest of savage monarchs, amid salfook of gunshots and a bediam of noises, nonferred upon his white friend the detree worn by few of his race beside the Russian Cyar.

"But I (ke it, this Ras Ragoula is a state of the price of th the order of St. Michael?"

"Yes," dreamily, as though the pronouncing of that name brought once
more before his eyes the weird spectacle
he had witnessed at the time he was initiated into the great Abyssianian secret order, when King Menelek,
clad in his richest dress, and
looking what he really was, the
nightiest of savage monarchs, amid salfos of gunshots and a bedlam of noises,
tonferred upon his white friend the degree worn by few of his race beside the
Russian Cpar.

"But I dke it, this Rus Ragoula is a.

Bridgewater smiled with the air of one who knew not doubt.

"Oh, no. First of all, his vow would prevent deception toward one who wore this medal. An Abyssinian would die before die are the same and the same are t

this medal. An Abyssinian would die before dishonor."

"Tm surprised at your childlike faith. Jove! one would think you a babe in swaddling clothes instead of a full-fledged diplomat."

"Wait. While I had a pretty fair measure of confidence in the general, I I wasn't quite so certain of the astrologer, whose business it is to deceive people even as he does himself."

"So you took precautions!"

"Rather. I marked the lovely crystal in a way that would always tell me its nature."

"Great head, my boy. But—you admit' the old fellow is a smart one—suppose

way."
"And his verdict?"
"He lost his breath—then swore it was the grandest, most royal ruby in he world, unmatched by any owned by he Shah of Persia or the Sultan of Turey, all of whose gems he had handled."
Rex clapped him on the back with uch delight and vim that the little man limst collapsed.

Mandalay, famous throughout three continents.

The American whistled softly.

"A royal beauty, by my soul! But since your hopes are all centred upon that thing, Bridge, for heaven's sake don't be careless and carry it around with you. Such a reckless chap might be waylaid at any time; and, besides, you told me there were wily native agents of the rajah searching London as with a fine-tooth comb. I've heard of the cord and crease method they have."

"What would you?" demanded the other, looking into his friend's face, seriously.

other, looking into his friend's face, seriously.

"Come, let me seal the thing up and have it deposited in the safe of the hotel, in may name. To-morrow, any time when you have made your arrangements for sending it out to Calcutta, we'll take it in broad daylight."

"You're a shrewd one, Rex."

"At least cautious, when handling a bauble worth perhaps a cool hundred thousand pounds to you. May I do it, Bridge?"

Bridge?"
"Certainly-right away, and thanks to you for suggesting it."

The operation was soon completed and Rex returned to his friend.

"Here's the receipt—I'd better keep it until we want the thing again. Now let the heathen rage, and imagine a vain

gospel truth or secretly believes I have slept with that photo next my heart, and am the most monumental liar in London."

CHAPTER XIX.

Rex hardly knew whether to laugh or groan when Bridgewater gave such a ludicrous as well as doleful account of his experiences with the black-eyed Salvation Army lassie

"In either case, you've made a reputation and must stand by your guns," he said, solemnly, as a solution of the dif-

'Am I awake or dreaming?" he said,

Bridge made no reply, only grinned. Bridge made no reply, only grinned.
"You're a wizard—you've got 'em in
every pocket—been learning tricks from
Ras Ragoula. Or else, by some clever
sleight-of-hand hocus-pocus, you gave
me an empty box to stow away in the
safe. Bridge, how could you?"
"Bosh! Don't you see how it is?
Look again, closer—think this glows
quite as well as the one I showed you
first?"
"What! You hed two invitation."

"What! You had two imitations The other nodded his head affirma-

The other nodded his head affirmatively.

"She carries one and you the other?"

"True, most sapient seer—you can see through a milstone with a hole in it, can't you?"

"And I suppose you'll be having a little soft chamois hag just like hers to contain the talisman—hang it around your neck with a ribbon, you didn't say what color. What's the game, old man, 'two hearts with but a single thought,' you know?"

"Sne'll never believe that when she knows you better, and understands how that stupendous brain of yours has more than once saved the country from actual hostilities with powerful Thioet lamas or Burmese rajahs, now our ailies."

alites."
"Bosh! Only a weakling as yet, with much to learn. Don't confuse me with flattery, dear boy."
"Then, in case what you say comes to pass, there's only one thing for you to do," pursued Kex.
"Tell it to me, in Heaven's name."
"Turn to a rea sweater with a big 'S'

"Turn to a red sweater with a big 'S' on the bosom—join the Salvation Army, and use your influence with Gen. Booth to be appointed a captain or a major. I'll warrant you'll do the good cause justice, and make Rome howl—there'll be a rattling of the dry bones in White-chapel and other benighted regions not a mile from St. Paul's ir you don the red-

banded cap."
Instead of laughing, Bridgewater look-

before dishonor."

"I'm surprised at your childlike faith. Jove! one would think you a babe in swaddling clothes instead of a full fledged diplomat."

"Wart. While I had a pretty fair measure of confidence in the general, I wasn't quite so certain of the astrologer, whose business it is to deceive people even as he does himself."

"So you took precautions?"

"Rather. I marked the lovely crystal in a way that would always tell me its nature."

"Great head, my boy. But—you admit the old fellow is a smart one—suppose Ras Ragoula also had a friend, a good friend, remember, whose trade was that of a cutter of precious stones, and who for love of him would at short notice turn out a pretty good fac-simile of the ruby, near enough to deceive you, at least?"

Again Bridgewater laughed with the air of a man who has fortified all his weak points, and is confident of his strength.

"I even thought of that, and, having a friend in a big jewelry establishment, I took the thing to him as soon as I got away."

"And his verdict!"

"He lost his breath—then swore it was the grandest, most royal ruby in the well-amendating a tight of the strength.

"I know it, and such a look shot over his breath—then swore it was the grandest, most royal ruby in the verdict."

when discovering the lamb within reach of his leap.'

the Shah of Persia or the Sultan of Turkey, all of whose gems he had handled."

Rex clapped him on the back with such delight and vim that the little man almost collapsed.

"Well done, Bridge!" he said.

"Yes," gasped the other, adjusting his glasses. "very nearly done that time, but please don't do it any more, that's a good fellow."

"You must show it to me some time."

"Thou here."

He glanced around carelessly, took a package from his pocket, pulled off the lid of a cardboard box, and thrust it in front of Rex.

The latter held his breath.

Looking like a small egg, yet of a fierce reddish hug, unequalled in brightness, lay the magnificent prince of crubies, the lost idol's eye, that for long decades had glowered upon millions of cringing worshippers in the temple of Mandalays, famous throughout three continents.

The American whistled softly. "Take care—they have fearful meth-

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It will take several days before you can get patterns.

Saved Girl's Life.

Welland, Jan. 7.—Donald McElvride on Saturday saw Irene Haffy struggling in the Welland River, having broken through the ice. He grabbed her, but the ice broke and he went in, but hung to the drowning child. Help soon came, and both were saved, although it was a narrow scape from death. narrow escape from death.

The treaty between the United States and Great Britain referring the fisheries disputes to The Hague Tribunal will probably be signed next week.

Heard Her Death Sentence

SATURDAY, JAN. 9, 1909 AT R. McKAY & CO'S.

TREMENDOUS VALUE-GIVING

FOR THE FIRST SATURDAY OF OUR GREAT JANUARY CLEARING SALE

Every woman who wants to save, should in justice to herself visit this store to-morrow and secure a portion of the great bargains offered for to-morrow's selling. This great January sale bulletin presents most unuual opportunities for every woman to supply her present and even future needs at the most remarkable savings. Shop in the forenoon.

Immense Saturday Clean-up Sale of Women's, Misses' and Children's Wool Mitts and Gloves

Elbow Length Mitts and Women's Golf Gloves/Jersey Wrist Golf A Popular English Gloves Worth Regular 35 and Gloves Worth Regular Walking Glove Worth 50c Sale Price 29c 45c for 29c Pair Pair

25 dozen Sam To-morrow is

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25 dozen Sam-	To-morrow
ple Mitts and	
Gloves, in misses'	
and ladies' sizes,	
in the best	
shades of brown,	
green, navy, grev	
and white, sold	
everywhere for	
50c, our Satur-	
day sale price	black and wh

Women's Mer-cerized Jersey ment and sale of wrist Golf Gloves this popular also woollen Golf Glove for winter

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seamless fingers,
perfect fitting,
worth regular
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.... 39c pr. Glove for winter
wear, made of
heavy kid, one
regular sassorted tan
shades, worth reregular \$1, sale
price 89c pair

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Worth Regularly 75c to \$1.25, Saturday Sale Price 50c Each On sale to-morrow, a splendid assortment of Black Silk Belts, finished with pretty steel buckles, out they go to-morrow all one

Handkerchiefs 4 for 25c, Former Price 10c Each 200 dozen Mercerized Handkerchiefs, with dainty colored every one worth regular 10c, Saturday sale price 4 for Net Lace Bows, Former Prices 25c and 35c, Saturday Sale

The Greatest of all January White Goods Sales Now Going On

Startling Sale in the Baby Dept. *1.50 Dresses for 79c | \$5.00 Velvet Dresses for \$2.49

Cashmerette Dresses, made with

Saturday Specials in Blouses

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\$2.50 Tailored Blouses for \$1.98 \$2 Blouses for 49c
On sale Saturday, 4 dozen of odd
Waists, in cashmere, lustre, cashmerette and black sateen, sizes 36
to 40, to clear Saturday for 49c

\$2.00 Tailored Blouses for \$1.98
with tucked front, edged with pale blue, attachable collar and cuffs, all sizes, worth regularly \$2.50, Saturday only

\$1.98

Warm Winter Hosiery and Underwear---Great Reductions

Ladies' Natural Wool Under-

wear 89c
Ladies' Natural Wool Underwear,
shaped vests, all sizes; drawers,
both styles, full sizes, perfectly unhrinkable; a good warm garment;

Infants' Hose 2 for 25c

Infants' Black Wool Hose, plain and ribbed, some have double knees, sizes 4, 4½, 5, 5½ and 6, worth 25c pair, clearing sale Saturday 2 for ...

old regularly at \$1.25, special price aturday. S9c Infants' Vests 25c Ladies' Wool Cashmere Hose Ladies' Plain and Ribbed Wool Infants' Vests 25c
Infants' White Wool Vests, string neck, button fronts, Rubens' fine material, worth 35c, Saturday only 25c

Sheather Wool Vestmere Hose word and Rebbed Wool Cashmere Hose, sizes 8½, 9, 9½, spliced toe and heel, seamiess foot, for material, worth 35c, Saturday only, 3 for \$1.00

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A good assortment of styles and col-ics, also fancy stripes and checks, 34 and lengths. Splendid heavy Coats, Reg-ar \$10 and \$12.50, on sale Saturday orning at \$3.95

\$45.00 Fur-lined Coats . . . \$48.00 Fur-lined Coats \$29.50 \$125.00 Persian Lamb Coats \$79.50 \$40.00 Astrachan Coats ... \$55,00 Mink Muffs \$15.50 Persian Lamb Muffs \$11.50

Immense Clearing Sale of Dress Silks Starts To-morrow

8,000 Yards Warranted Qualities for 59c and 69c, Worth Up

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GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY SYSTEM Niagara Falls, New York—2.30 a. m., *5.67 a. m., *0.02 p. m.
*7.06 p. m.
*7.08 p. m.
*7.10 iagara Falls, New York—2.30 a. m., *5.5 a. m., †9.05 a. m., *9.57 a. m., *5.02 p. m.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY.

7.40 a.m. for Toronto, Lindeay, Bobcaygeon, Tweed, Kingston, Ottawa, Montreal,
Quebec, Sherbrooke, St. John, N. B., Hallfax, N. S., and all points in the Maritime
Provinces and New England States.

8.35 a.m. for Toronto, Tottenham, Beeton,
Alliston, Coldwater, Bala, the Muskoka
Lakee, Parry Sound, Point au Baril, Byng
Inlet and Sudbury.

10.00 a.m. (daily) for Toronto, Tottenham,
Beeton, Alliston, Coldwater, Bala and all
points on Muskoka Lakes, With
Stemman, Sault St.

12.25 p. m. for Toronto, connects Tuesdays,
17.25 p. m. for Toronto, connects Tuesdays,
17.25 p. m. for Toronto, connects Tuesdays,
18.25 p. m. for Toronto, Tutenham,
Beeton, Alliston, Coldwater, Bala and
all points in the Northwest and British
Columbia.

2.15 p. m. (daily) for Toronto, Tottenham,
Beeton, Alliston, Craighurst, Myrtle, Lindsay, Bobcayeon, Peterboro, Tweed, Brampton, Fergus, Elora, Orangeville, Owen Sound,
Arthur, Mount Forest, Harriston, Wingham,
and immediate stations.

8.66 p. m. for Toronto.

8.15 p. m. for Toronto.

8.15 p. m. for Toronto.

8.15 p. m. for Toronto.

8.16 p. m. for Toronto.

8.16 p. m. for Toronto.

8.17 p. m. the Markey of the Markey,
William, Winnipeg, Canadian, Northwest,
William, Winnipeg, Canadian, Northwest,
Kootneay and British Columbia Points.

Trains leave Toronto 7.50 a.m., (daily),
9.30 a.m., (daily), 1.15 p.m., 1.10 p. m..

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n. Niagara Falls, Buffalo. New York and Boston Express *20.30 a. m.
n. Niagara Falls, Buffalo express Falls, Buffalo accommodation . **4.50 p. m.
Suffalo & New
York Express . . . *8.15 p. m.
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viving Hamilton at 6.20 p. m., and on
viving at 9.58 a. m. Dining car
or car an trains leaving Hamilton
or car an trains leaving Hamilton

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Detroit, Chicago and
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Hrantford and Waterford Express **10,35 a.m.

Brantford and Waterford Express **10,35 a.m.

Ledo and Cincincut express **2,10 p. m.

Brantford, Waterford

press . **3.10 p. m.

*7.20 p. m. Brantford, Waterford and St. Thomas . . *8.30 p. m.

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RAILWAY. EAST BOUND

WEST BOUND WEST BOUND.

urlington to Hamilton-6.09, 7.10, 8.10, 9.10, 19.10, 11.10 a. m., 12.10, 1.10, 2.10, 2.10, 4.10, 5.10, 6.10, 7.10, 8.10, 9.10, 19.10, p. m., akville to Hamilton-7.40, 9.40, 11.40 a. m., 4.40, 5.40, 9.40, p. m.

SUNDAY SERVICE.

EAST BOUND.

o Burlington—8.10, 9.10, 10, 10, 11, 10
10, 1.10, 2.10, 3.10, 4.10, 5.10, 6.10,
9.10 p.m.

o Oakville—8.10, 10.10 a. m., 12.10,
8.10 p.m.

WEST BOUND.

HAMILTON & DUNDAS RAILWAY.

SUNDAY SERVICE.

Leave King St. West, Dundas—8.25, 9.55, 1.35 a. m., 1.29, 2.20, 3.20, 4.20, 5.20, 6.29, 20, 8.29, 9.05, 10:05 p. m.

Leave Terminal Station, Hamilton—9.15, 1.00 a. m., 12.40, 1.30, 2.30, 3.30, 4.30, 5.30, 3.0, 7.30, 8.39, 8.15, 10.15 p. m.

HAMILTON, GRIMSBY & BEAMS-VILLE ELECTRIC RAILWAY.

WEIEK DAY SERVICE.

Leave Hamilton-7-10, 8:10, 9:10, 10:10, 11:10
a. m. 12:10, 1:10, 2:10, 3:10, 4:10, 6:10, 6:10, 7:10, 8:10, 9:10, 11:10 p. m.
Leave Beamsville-6:15, 7:15, 8:15, 9:15, 10:15, 11:5 a. m., 12:15, 1:15, 2:15, 3:15, 4:15, 5:16, 6:15, 7:15, 8:15, 9:40. SUNDAY TIME TABLE.

Leave Hamilton—9.10, 10.10, 11.10 a.m., 12.45, 2.10, 3.10, 4.10, 5.10, 6.10, 7.10, 9.10.

Leave Beamsville—7.15, 8.15, 9.15 a.m., 12.15, 1.15, 2.15, 3.15, 4.15, 5.15, 6.15, 7.15, 8.15.

BRANTFORD & HAMILTON ELEC-TRIC RAILWAY.

Leave Hamilton—6.30, 7.45, 9.00, 10.30 a. m., 12 60, 1.30, 3.00, 4.30, 6.00, 7.15, 9.00, 11.00 p. m. Leave Brautford—6.30, 7.46, 9.00, 6.30 a. m., 12.00, 1.30, 3.00, 4.30, 6.00, 7.15, 9.00, 1.30 a. m., 12.00, 1.30, 3.00, 4.30, 6.00, 7.15, 9.00, 1.100 p. m. SUNDAY SERVICE.

Leave Hamilton—9.00, 19.30 a. m., 12.00, 1.30, 3.00, 4.30, 6.00, 7.30, 9.00 p. m. Leave Brantford—6.00, 10.30 a. m., 12.00, 1.30, 2.00, 4.30, 6.00, 7.30, 9.00 p. m.

The Apple on the Berry Bush.

To those particularly interested in the growing of apples an experiment made at Delta, Idaho, will be of value. In the spring of last year Thomas and Francis Hauck, two miners, who keep a garden and grow strawberries and vegetables, experimented in grafting a scion of a four-year-old apple tree into a scrvice berry tree body, and to their delight the limb not only grew but blossomed this year and two well developed yellow apples ripened. The tree from which the scion was cut has never bloomed, yet the scion when grafted into a berry bush blossomed and bore fruit the next year.—La Grande Observer.

"The audience is throwing vegetables," company. "Nothing but vegetables," retorted the caustic manager. "Go out in front and tell them also that the dogs have got to eat."—Louisville Courier-Journal. To those particularly interested in the

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