

# A FAIR MAIDEN'S NO.

The Story of an Unprecedented Courtship and a Betrayed Trust.

(Not Yet Published in Book Form.)

But Carroll's compassion, at the corner of Canal street and the Bowerly, took a still more liberal turn. Here was a woman, and a woman of the Italian who looked as if he might be a contentarian and who was grinding strains of the forlornest feebleness from a hand-organ that seemed scarcely bigger than a fair-sized music box. Carroll bent over this withered and yellow being and asked him in English if he had no better means of livelihood. The answer was at first a dreary grind and a fluttering shake of the head. "He no on'tan," soon followed, and the superannuated minstrel went on turning his organ crank, which served to massacre and parody the "Di quella pira." Carroll's eyes grew misty. He flashed through his mind, "Here am I with \$1,000,000, with an income of \$50,000 a year, and yet the creature will probably sleep to-night on a bed of rage." He stood listening for a few minutes, to the drowsy and nasal falsetto that blent so wistfully and quaintly with the clash of waltzes, the tramp of pedestrians, the buzz of random converse. Then he yielded to an impulse and laid a \$5 bill on the surface of the wheezy little instrument. Suddenly the oddest effect occurred. The dwarfish Italian shot out an olive hand, skinned as a bird's claw. His dead-black eyes bulged from their sockets. He rose tottering and gurgled forth a torrent of Italian which his hearer's knowledge of Latin made him vaguely comprehend. In 10 seconds as many people had gathered about him. He eyed them all with suspicion, clutching his bank note as a starving dog might clutch a bone. His small eyes were two beads of black flame as they riveted themselves on Carroll. Somebody near the latter mistook this transport of gratitude for anger, and asked our benefactor somewhat gruffly if he had "been given" anything to the poor organ grinder. But here the Italian, understanding, sent a shower of negatives at the speaker, and began kissing his hand, with rapturous vehemence, at his new found friend. Under cover, as it were, of the noisy amusement roused by monkeyish grimaces and foreign chatter, Carroll slipped away.

He retraced his steps up town, now, and regretted the publicity which had befallen him. But he was doomed to undergo a keener regret, for in the shadow of Hamilton street, as he changed his case, he saw a man, evidently tipsy, strike a woman at the door of a tavern. An assault of this sort was so horrible to him that he answered with a faint cry the shrill cry of the woman. In another minute he was at her side and saw the blood (doubtless only from her nostrils) dabble and besmear her face. The man was a burly, thick-set fellow, but Carroll, nevertheless, thought of that. His own strength was very great, and he knew it. Though a born student, he had from boyhood loved and cultivated athletic pastimes. It seemed to him, as he faced the ruffian, that he had never in all his life been so angry. He forgot afterward if he said anything, but he remembered very clearly what he did. It sent the man stumbling backward, for it was a blow full between the eyes. Then he waited from the retaliatory attack, with stern frown and clenched hand, on guard before the man, with a tirade of oaths, could reach him, the woman had swung herself between him and began to shake her ensanguined fists in his face. And then a hand caught him by the collar of his coat and wheeled him away. A huge policeman stood glaring at him with uplifted club. From every side had surged an abrupt sea of faces. Carroll knew in an instant what those bright buttons must mean. He had the profoundest respect for law, and his rage at the assault of the woman quickly cooled as he began to realize the situation of the officer of what he had just witnessed and endeavored to avenge. The officer was at first brutal, pushing him towards the curbstone through the grimy mob that swirled in and out with amazing fleetness. But soon Carroll's look and voice appealed to him, and it was lucky indeed that they did.

"You get away as quick as you can," he said, "and don't thank your stars that chap didn't shoot. He's the kind that does, and I'll bet he's got a six-shooter somewhere in his clothes. You're a gent, ain't ye? Look here, if that carriage'll take ye if ye can hire it. Better step right in." The carriage referred to was at hand. Its driver had stopped it on its way toward one of the liveliest thoroughfares of the city. He had been with it to a funeral at Calvary, and had just discharged its occupants at their home a few blocks off. He was partly drunk from copious potations at Calvary, and he had both he and his fare had lingered thus late. He saw the situation, however, with what might have been called the swift glance of greed. But he did not then realize what a delicate ignorance of the town fate had confronted him. As the policeman spoke he opened the carriage door and waved his club commandingly for Carroll to enter. Carroll acquiesced, and at once, when he had seated himself, with the vehicle, it rolled away. But after it had got five or six streets further up town it paused. The driver called from his box. Carroll drew down a window pane and looked out.

"Where to?"

"Carroll gave his address and then added: 'It can't be very far from here, is it?'"

That question was what in his own vernacular the driver would have called a "give away." It strongly hinted that his present patron was a possible stranger. Still, he was cautious, and answered:

"Well, it's a pretty good ways. Ain't you been long in the city?"

"I've never even seen it till a few hours ago," returned Carroll, with magnificent candor. He hardly paid heed to his own words; he was thinking of his late adventure, and beginning to wonder if he had not behaved with wildly foolish temerity.

The driver had learned all that he wanted to know. He promptly proceeded to send his vehicle rolling here, there and everywhere, at last stopping before the old Courtine House in Lower Fifth avenue. When Carroll alighted he coolly told him that the fare was \$5. Carroll paid it, though his calmer mental state made him conscious of a swindle, and the astute Jehu rattled away, cursing his own modesty at not having demanded \$10 instead of \$5.

Chalmers Channing sought his friend before noon the next day. Carroll made a clean breast as to all that had occurred. Channing listened with a bewilderment that soon faded into explosive mirth.

"My dear Carroll," he at length cried, "you positively require a keeper for several weeks to come."

Carroll watched him with a sort of

JULY.

O month of noise, when the girls and boys held carnival unconfined.

And the blackberries nod toward the sheltered soil.

The little stone wall behind.

The long scythes pass through the away-ing grass.

When the horses bend and strain, And we work with a will, for over the hill.

Come the clouds that tell of rain.

The butterflies veer and then draw near Like flowers endowed with wings.

And the sparrows start with fluttering heart.

As the reaper all swiftly swears, By the garden wall the hollyhocks tall Are slumbering at their ease.

And of callers a score besiege each door, The troops of velvet bees!

So dear July in the earth and sky Blends beauty and laughter gay: With sun and flowers she twines the hour.

To weave an entrancing day, In the late untrodden trees are drouled.

And from pasture and meadow land The small streams creep to the pools that sleep.

Their breasts by the breezes fanned, And why, oh why, should this mild July The lion be called of men?

While summer sleeps in the tangled deep Of the woodland's silent gleam?

JERSEYVILLE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Jerseyville, July 3.—On the 28th June the Workmen held their annual social in the beautiful lawn of Bro. William Bishop. The social was in every way a success. The attendance numbered not less than 700 persons. After an excellent supper, the literary and musical programme was supplied by the Briggs family, of Mount Pleasant, and Jim Fax, of Toronto. Proceeds, \$180.

Mrs. John Syvarts and son, Gelon, spent Dominion Day with friends at Niagara Falls.

A pleasure party from the village spent a pleasant day in the city of Hamilton on Monday, Dominion Day. A game of baseball was played on evening between the Aces, of Jerseyville, and the Baptist team, of Jersey settlement, resulting in an easy victory for the Baptist Club.

The S. S. picnic of the Methodist Church will be held in Mr. Wm. Vansickle's grove, on Thursday afternoon. An enjoyable time is anticipated.

The funeral of Mr. Thomas Wilson took place on Monday and was very largely attended, there being a large circle of friends and relatives. Rev. Mr. Yorkston, the new pastor, conducted the services. Rev. Mr. Miller, of Lynden, was also present and took part in the services.

WEST FLAMBOUR COUNCIL.

The Council met on June 27th; members all present. A number of accounts were presented and ordered to be paid. William Fortmann was appointed path-master in place of William Powell, who declines to act. The clerk was instructed to ask for tenders for the erection of a new bridge across the creek at Little's mill. That portion of the Dundas and Waterloo road extending from the old toll-house to the line between lots 7 and 8 in the first concession was by-law added to road division No. 11. On motion the Council adjourned until Monday, August 13th, at 10 o'clock a.m.

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