

LOVE FINDS A WAY.

BY JEANNETTE H. WALWORTH.

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Miss Malvina begged her not to be frivolous with such unlifting gravity that the bright face became overcast again as, with a hysterical catch in her voice, Olie added:

"Oh, what a lovely world this would be if all our friends would just keep well and happy and go on living forever until we are all ready to start for the next world in a big family party, and the sun would shine all the time, and flowers be in bloom always! Oh, Miss Viny, I hate sorrow! I hate to cry!"

She was doing it copiously, however. Her dimpling smiles had all been drowned, her sparkling eyes grown dark with the gloom of her crude protest. Miss Malvina put an arm about the small, grief-stricken figure and murmured a platitude into the ear nearest her:

"My love, man is born to trouble as the sparks fly upward."

The girl shook her off impatiently. "Oh, what makes you say that? The preacher will be using those very same words presently. They always do at funerals. But I'm not a man, not a spark, and I don't want to fly upward. There, now!"

Miss Malvina, feeling vaguely guilty and distinctly repentant, lapsed into silence. She was entirely unprepared with weapons of defense against this original line of argument. "Suppose we don't reason about it at all, dear, but just submit," she said meekly.

"We may as well," said the young girl, with a resigned sigh, "as submission neither alters nor softens the hideous facts."

But the word "submission" was written on one of the returned leaves in Olivia Matthews' book of life. It meant nothing as yet. They drove the short remaining distance in depressed silence—through the shadow of the valley of death—the gray little equipage and the vivid girl.

"Mother! Spillman, having emptied her bowl of cold tea, was computing the passage of time by her craving for food. Surely Malvina could not be away much longer. There she was

"A letter—a long, big letter."

now! The porch door was creaking, but the vibrations of the porch door were caused by a heavier footfall than Miss Malvina's.

It was Jimmy Martin, who was mending the bean arbor that day. He carefully wiped the garden soil off his clumsy feet before advancing farther into the neat sitting room. It was his second invasion since Miss Malvina's departure. "Mother! Spillman greeted him tartly.

"How much work are you likely to get done prancing in here every minute or two? I hired you to mend the bean arbor, not to nurse me, James Martin!"

"This is only twice, missis, and my word's out. I was to look in on you occasionally. I've found something out yander that maybe you have lost. That's what brought me this time."

"What is it?"

"A letter—a long, big letter. Mighty mused up it is, though. I'm thinkin' the old sow must have snuted it under the fence when she was makin' up her bed. I saw a bit of white gleamin' when I went to nail on a new base-board to the fence."

Mrs. Spillman put out a withered hand eagerly.

"What's written on the back of it, James Martin? My eyes are not what they used to be."

"Nothin' as I can make out for the dur-r. It's just a long, big, thick, du-r envelope, and it may have been there months from the looks of it."

"I know. It's mine. Give it to me. And, James—the old lady fumbled in the long pocket of her wrapper—"how's the half a dollar. I pay you that for bringin' me this paper and for holdin' your tongue about it. Do you understand?"

"But, mum—"

"I pay you to hold your tongue, James Martin. One word about this envelope, and never another hour's work from me will you have. Now get back to the bean arbor." And James, knowing the minister's widow to be a woman of her word, pocketed his half dollar and shuffled back to the bean arbor.

Long before Miss Malvina got home, walking this time, with her brown serge held carefully above her dusty shoe tops, her mother had mastered the contents of the soiled envelope and secreted it between the back of her

chair and its chintz slip cover, where, she declared, with a triumphant chuckle, it should stay. Matthews or no Matthews, Malvina or no Malvina, until she had decided for herself whether it was for Tom Broxton's good to have it found or lost.

CHAPTER III.

WAS IT A GHOST?

"Could ye not watch for me one hour?"

With a sense of fright and recreancy impelling him, Tom Broxton deserted his bed at a bound, to stand, dazed and trembling, amid the familiar surroundings of his own bedroom.

Had he dreamed the utterance, or had the reproach been whispered into his slumber dulled ears by voice of mortal or spirit? He passed his hand rapidly over his bewildered brow and tried to pierce the encircling gloom with startled eyes. Was it a part of his hallucination that the gloom increased as he stood and stared?

BOERS ASSEMBLING AN ARMY

Getting Men Together to Fight Lord Roberts' Force.

Cronje Has Held Out Now for Ten Days and There was Nothing Monday Night to Indicate His Collapse. Gen. Buller Has Faced Last and Strongest Position on His Way to Ladysmith—Whites' Guns Working.

London, Feb. 27. (4.20 a.m.)—The Boers are assembling an army near Bloemfontein, with which to dispute the invasion of Lord Roberts. This intelligence comes from Pretoria by way of Lorenzo Marquez. The commandos are described as "Hastening from all quarters of the two republics."

Some 30,000. No estimate is made of their numbers, but the withdrawal of the Boers from most of the places where they have been in contact with the British, except the district near Ladysmith, may raise the resisting force to 20,000 men. This figure assumes that the Boers have between 60,000 and 75,000 men in the field.

The gathering of this army across the path of Lord Roberts, gives significance to Gen. Cronje's steadfast defence. He has engaged the corps of Lord Roberts for ten days now, and whether he is relieved or not, he has given time for the dispersed Boer factions to get together and to prepare positions to receive the British advance when Cronje is overcome and Lord Roberts moves forward.

It is difficult to conceive that the Boers are strong enough to take the offensive and to rescue Gen. Cronje from his precarious situation.

May Hold Out for Days. The War Office had nothing after midnight to indicate his collapse, and he may hold out for a few days yet. The correspondents seem to have no exact information regarding his resources. Some say he has plenty of food, but is short of ammunition; others assert that Lord Roberts has food supplies, but kept abundant supplies of cartridges.

Gen. Buller on Saturday faced the last and strongest positions of the Boers who bar his way to Ladysmith. The strenuous fighting indicates a fight between armies rather than rear-guard actions protecting a retreat. On Thursday and Friday he lost 43 officers killed and wounded, representing probably a total of from 400 to 500.

Whites' Guns Working. Gen. White's guns worked on Saturday upon the Boer positions, and a helicopter from Ladysmith reported that the Boers were retreating, and that larger rations were being issued in view of the fact that relief seemed at hand.

Nothing has been heard from Mafeking since Feb. 12.

A despatch from Paardeberg, dated Friday, to The Times, says that several thousand Boers are now hovering in that neighborhood.

BOERS ARE CONCENTRATING

Thirty Miles Outside of Bloemfontein—Steyn Favors Peace.

London, Feb. 27. —Advices to The Daily News from Lorenzo Marquez, dated Friday, Feb. 23, say: "It is reported here that 5,000 burghers have left Ladysmith for the Free State. The Boers are concentrating their forces 30 miles outside of Bloemfontein, and the Free State Government is moving to Winburg. 'Reinforcements from all parts are passing through Bloemfontein hourly.' President Steyn has telegraphed President Kruger that Lord Roberts is within a few hours of Bloemfontein, and he urges that every male commander should be should be

Boers Massing at Bloemfontein. Cape Town, Feb. 25, Sunday. —The Boers are concentrating to defend Bloemfontein.

Lord Roberts, who has obtained a commission in Thorneycroft's Horse, has gone to join Sir Redvers Buller.

DUBLIN FUSILIERS AGAIN.

They Volunteered to Take Grobler's Kloof and They Did.

London, Feb. 27. —The Times has the following from Pietermaritzburg, dated Friday, 23: "The Dublin Fusiliers have again distinguished themselves by volunteering to take Grobler's Kloof, which they did. This gallant battalion, which began the campaign 850 strong, can today be said to muster on parade between 100 and 200 of its original members."

BULLER'S CASUALTIES HEAVY.

Many Officers Killed and Wounded Between Feb. 20 and Feb. 25.

London, Feb. 27. —Gen. Buller, in a despatch to the War Office, reports that the British casualties Feb. 20 were 12 killed and 99 wounded among the Somerset and Dorsets, and that on Feb. 22 and 23 12 officers were wounded. An additional list of the casualties sustained by the Fifth Brigade under Gen. Buller, on Feb. 23 and 24 has also been wired, which includes 7 officers killed, 23 wounded and 1 missing.

Gen. Buller's death list contains the names of three lieutenant-colonels: Thackeray of the 1st Royal Irish Fusiliers, Sitwell of the 2nd Royal Dublin Fusiliers and Thorold of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers.

A New Paardeberg List. An additional list of the British casualties at Paardeberg, Feb. 18, is announced, and gives a lieutenant and eight men killed, a lieutenant



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and seven men missing and 38 men wounded.

Boers Not Raising the Siege. London, Feb. 27. —Mr. Winston Churchill, in a despatch to The Morning Post, from Erere Camp, dated Sunday, says: "The idea that the Boers are raising the siege of Ladysmith is premature. The advance is being pursued in the face of the most stubborn opposition and of heavy losses. President Kruger's grandson is among the Boers killed."

Cronje Can't Mount Guns. London, Feb. 27. —A despatch to The Daily Chronicle from Paardeberg, dated Friday, Feb. 23, says: "Gen. Cronje's attempt to mount guns was frustrated by our artillery."

See Train Had a Smash. Ottawa, Feb. 27. —The "Soo" train from Montreal Sunday night ran into a snowplow near Grenville, and completely wrecked the van of the plow train, injured Conductor D. T. Howard, of 784 Somerset street, Brakenau O. Sauve of Montreal, Engineer M. H. Charrier of Hintonburg, and damaged both engines so badly that they had to be left at Grenville. The injured men were brought to the city at 12.25 noon yesterday, and Sauve was taken to the Water street hospital, and it is feared he may be seriously injured. The passengers in the train were not hurt in any way.

California in Bad Shape. Portland, Me., Feb. 27. —The Albatross liner steamer California, which went on the rocks off Ram Island ledge Sunday morning, was found yesterday to have 25 feet of water in her hold, and as she appeared to be leaking at all points it was considered unlikely she could be saved. Part of the cargo, which consisted largely of perishable goods, has been ruined. The passengers, who, owing to the rough sea, had remained on board, were rescued by the steamer Forest Queen yesterday.

Alex. Smith Has Returned. Ottawa, Feb. 27. —Alex. Smith, Liberal organizer for Ontario, has severed his connection with that active branch of the party. He will be succeeded by Mr. Threlkeld of Toronto, who has been Mr. Smith's assistant for some years.

Hardy Died Yesterday. Teeswater, Ont., Feb. 27. —Geo. Hardy, whose skull was shattered by a limb of a falling tree a week ago Monday, died yesterday.

THE MARKETS.

Wheat News is Bearish—A Decline at Chicago—Liverpool Futures Firmer—The Latest Quotations.

Chicago, Feb. 27. —General wheat news yesterday was bearish. There was a decline of 1/8c here, with a moderate speculative trade. Foreign trade was stable.

Liverpool, Feb. 27. —Wheat futures were firmer yesterday, closing 1/8d higher than Saturday for July.

WHEAT AND ALEOAT. The visible supply of wheat in the United States and Canada, together with the amount afloat to Europe, is \$1,844,000 bushels, an increase of 2,785,000 bushels for the week. A year ago the total was 61,440,000 bushels, or 20,404,000 bushels less than at the present time.

Following were the closing prices at important wheat centres yesterday:

	Cash.	Feb.	May.	July.
Chicago	\$0.64 1/2	\$0.64 1/2	\$0.65 1/2	\$0.65 1/2
New York	0.72 1/2	0.72 1/2	0.73 1/2	0.73 1/2
St. Louis	0.68 1/2	0.68 1/2	0.69 1/2	0.69 1/2
Toledo	0.70 1/2	0.70 1/2	0.71 1/2	0.71 1/2
Detroit	0.71 1/2	0.71 1/2	0.72 1/2	0.72 1/2
Minneapolis, No. 1	0.64 1/2	0.64 1/2	0.65 1/2	0.65 1/2
Minneapolis, No. 2	0.63 1/2	0.63 1/2	0.64 1/2	0.64 1/2
Minneapolis, No. 3	0.62 1/2	0.62 1/2	0.63 1/2	0.63 1/2
Liverpool	0.64 1/2	0.64 1/2	0.65 1/2	0.65 1/2

Close: Spot wheat, dull; northern spring, 6s; futures steady; March 5s 8 1/2d, May 5s 8 1/2d, July 5s 8 1/2d.

Grain—Wheat, white, bush, \$0.70 1/2 to \$0.71 1/2; red, bush, 0.70 to 0.71; life, bush, 0.70 1/2 to 0.71 1/2; barley, bush, 0.40 to 0.41; rye, bush, 0.33 to 0.34; peas, bush, 0.41 to 0.42; beans, bush, 0.41 to 0.42.

Seeds—Red clover, bush, \$5.00 to \$5.75; Alsike, good No. 2, 5.50 to 6.00; White clover, bush, 1.00 to 1.35; Timothy seed, bush, 1.00 to 1.35.

Hay and Straw—Hay, per ton, \$11.00 to \$12.00; Straw, sheaf, per ton, 7.50 to 8.00; Straw, loose, per ton, 4.00 to 5.00.

Dairy Produce—Butter, lb. rolls, \$0.20 to \$0.25; Eggs, new laid, 0.22 to 0.25.

Poultry—Chickens, per pair, \$0.60 to \$1.00; Turkeys, per lb., 0.12 1/2 to 0.14; Ducks, per pair, 0.80 to 1.00; Geese, per lb., 0.08 to 0.09.

Fruit and Vegetables—Apples, per bush, \$2.00 to \$3.00; Potatoes, per bag, 0.45 to 0.50.

MONTEAL LIVE STOCK. Montreal, Feb. 27. —The receipts at the East End Abattoir yesterday morning were 550 head of cattle, 50 calves, 75 sheep. The demand was good and prices well maintained. Cattle, choice sold at 4 1/2c to 5c per pound; good, at 4c to 4 1/2c per pound; lower grades, at 2c to 3c per pound. Calves sold from 3c to 3 1/2c each. Sheep brought from 3c to 3 1/2c per pound; lambs sold at 4c to 4 1/2c per pound. Hogs sold at 4c to 4 1/2c per pound.

ST. CATALO CATTLE MARKET. East Buffalo, Feb. 27. —Cattle closed dull yesterday; generally 15c to 25c lower on the undesirable grades.

Sheep and Lambs—Active demand. The market ruled firm and higher on all the good grades. Lambs, choice to extra, \$7.40 to \$7.65; good to choice, \$7 to \$7.40; common to fair, \$6.25 to \$7. Sheep, mixed \$5.75 to \$6.75; wethers, \$8 to \$8.25; ewes, \$5.25 to \$5.50; yearlings, \$6.50 to \$6.75.

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