WHY SHE REJECTED A LORD.

Why did Lord Verriner wander in strange and tropical climes, explore Japan and Timbuctoo, and attempt to cross the Himalayas? The noble earl only tried to get married, once, and in the story of that wedding is contained the reason for his becoming such a distinguished traveler and growing such a very long beard.

Lord Verriner had been going the pace ever since he came into his title and got hold of his property; and, at the time of which I am speaking, though the former necessarily remained intact, the latter was practically non-existent. He had borrowed from his boot-maker, his tailor and his jewelers, after having previously exhausted the patience and generosity of money lenders. Gambling, racing, etc., had in fact ruined him. But still his title and position had a marketable value; for he was one of the oldest and most distinguished families in England. This marketable value was not only of one kind. Lenders and book-makers would no longer listen to him, even though he was the handsomest man of his day, with the most perfect manners, and one of the pets of that small circle of society which sits up aloft like a party of cherubs, regarding sorrafully the morals and manners of the respectable folks below. But in spite of the lost credit of Lord Verriner among the money lenders he was still a spoilt darling among the women. And it occurred to him one day that here was his market. He must do the usual thing; marry money which wanted a title in exchange.

Thinking the thing over, he saw that most of his fellows who had succeeded in getting out of a similar predicament by these means had married American girls. This, he thought, would be a tolerable easy thing to do. English women appeared to him to require more attention and to be less businesslike and more sentimental in their matrimony affairs. He decided to look out for an American. Verriner believed he understood women thoroughly. He was an excellent actor, and could cloak himself with a languid and profoundly bored manner which was a great success among the women of his own social status. He preserved his languor always when in society, except in the smoking-room, for, as he well knew, it was safe. It prevented his ever getting into hot water. Underneath this quiet surface a volcano blazed, and a very unpleasant volcano, too. Verriner had the most frightful temper which he was accustomed to let loose upon his lady friends, his servants, his horses and dogs. The two first left him; the last showed their resentment in different ways. He was never safe from a bite in his own stables; and his dogs kept out of his sight.

This was the man who, a month or two after he had made up his mind to do it, had discovered a new American beauty, just over from the States for the London season, with dollars and greenbacks enough to reinstate any ruined lord. Verriner thought her really very tolerable, and was much amused by her independent and lively manner, which contrasted well with the profound languor he always maintained in her presence. His handsome face, his intense quiet and repose and the position he could give her, pleased Hetty Leigh, for they had for her the charm of novelty. She could not resist so big a catch as this; it was worth all her greenbacks to enter the Marlborough house set under the wing of this quiet, handsome fellow. And so, when Verriner lazily but respectfully proposed, Hetty Leigh accepted him with open and undisguised delight. In fact, she clapped her hands as soon as the thing was done, and said: "My! won't the girls at home stare!"

Mrs. Leigh nearly fainted—as nearly as a wiry middle-aged American lady can—when she heard the good news. She had come over with one object; to marry her Hetty to a lord. And it was all "fixed up!" before the season was fairly begun. And Hetty's husband was such a handsome, quiet man; and Hetty's wedding would be the grandest event in the London season!

It was all settled, and everything went on merrily. Hetty and her mother were asked to all the best houses; the girl who was to be Lady Verriner must be royally entertained by everybody, even though many of the women would have been glad to throw vitriol in her pretty, piquant face. How Hetty dressed! Her toilets alone were enough to make any woman hate her, even if she had not the additional and unpardonable privilege of being rich enough to pay for Lord Verriner to be always carrying her cloak and fan, and keeping out of the way of her brain. Well, the time came for her wedding. It was the very height of the season, and as Mrs. Leigh had foreseen, it was to be one of the events. More than one great personage had promised to be present, including that very great personage who gives the tone to English society. The noble ones of the land had been bidden to meet them. The wedding presents were a sight indeed, and the list of them in the papers made the mouths of burglars water with longing. The trousseau was a wonder, too, and made sad the hearts of many great ladies.

Verriner was well content. If he had to be married at all, every thing must be good form. And it promised to be so. He had taken the trouble to secure the presence of the great personages and the people whom they cared to meet. No other wedding of the season could hold a candle to his; he felt quite satisfied about that. He knew himself to be superb creature, and he was pleased with dame fortune for showing her appreciation of the fact. The morning came, and when Verriner rose he felt nervous for the first time in his life. There certainly is some thing very trying about a wedding morning, even to the most hardened. He ate no breakfast, but began at champagne before he dressed, and went on with it during the process. His best man, the young Marquis of Broadlands, came in to look after him. He found Verriner trembling; he had never done this on the morning of a duel, or after a night over the cards, or the moment before a race was run on which his all was staked.

"What is the matter, Verriner?" inquired the young marquis, in much amazement.

"Suppose the prince shouldn't come!"

"Oh, nonsense; he always keeps his word. Make haste, or we shall be late at the church."

Verriner drank another glass of champagne, and they started. The church was already beginning to fill as a church only does fill on such occasions as this, with the stream of the upper ten thousand. Verriner was pleased, for in his heart this apparent cynic was as vain as the school-girl. Soon after he arrived the prince came, and at last "every one" was there except the bride.

The wedding dress did not come home till the very last minute, and then it was found that the white silk lace with which the lovely little flower-adorned bodice was fastened had been left out in the hurry. Hetty's maid went off in a hansom to the milliner's, and at last all was right, and the prettiest and brightest-eyed bride of the year was ready. And quite cool, too, though she was so late. For Hetty was a girl who never got fevered or flurried. She took life very easy, spite of her vivacity of manner. Certainly she was late, and it was very shocking, considering that an august throng awaited her; but it could not be helped, and she thought Verriner valued her greenbacks sufficiently to bear the trial in patience.

But by the time the bride and her mother reached the church Verriner had lost his head. He read the thing simply as an insult put upon himself, and that before the only audience in the world he cared a straw for. He began to feel like a horse with a bit between his teeth when sharp spurs are struck in by an ignorant rider. Broadlands, who knew his temper, looked at his face and wondered what he would do. They were waiting in ambush in the vestry. At last there was a faint murmur; the bride had arrived. Verriner hurried around and reached the church door just in time to meet her as she stepped into the porch.

"How dare you put such an insult upon me?" he hissed into her ear, "you the daughter of a dirty oil merchant! By heavens, I'll make you pay for this when we get away!"

Hetty looked straight in the face of this furious man, a face hideous with rage. No lady had ever seen such a look on his face before. But he thought this girl was absolutely in his power now. No one heard what he said but himself; and it was all over in an instant. Broadlands seized his arm as he led him away, and the bride was taken possession of by a stately looking American—like Hetty's father, he, too, had struck ile—who was to give her away.

Bride and bridegroom met again at the altar. Hetty looked quite cool, but her gray eyes were very pale. Verriner, by a tremendous histrionic effort, had recovered himself, and wore his usual soft languor. The ceremony went on, and everybody assumed the right expression. The bridegroom was asked whether he would take this woman, etc. He answered quietly, but clearly, "I will." When, however, the dignitary who officiated turned to Hetty and asked her the same question an awful thing happened. Quite coolly, without apparent emotion, she replied: "I will not!"

Her high-pitched American voice penetrated right through the church, and every body heard the appalling words. The whole assemblage stood still as if petrified, for a moment; and then Mrs. Leigh broke the silence by rushing to her daughter and seizing her arm.

"Are you mad?" she whispered.

"No," answered Hetty, quietly, but in those fearfully audible high-pitched tones, "I'm sane. I ain't going to marry a man who the moment he thinks he's got hold of me, talks to me as if I were a nigger. He called my papa a dirty oil merchant. No, thank you, sir," turning to Verriner, "take your title and the rest of it, and sell 'em to a meaker sort than I am. To know all the best people don't make up for being bullied at home. It ain't good enough. Besides, when I do marry I mean to marry a gentleman."

Every word of this speech was heard by every body. Having finished it, Hetty courtesied to Verriner, and then swept down the central aisle, followed by her disconforted bridesmaids and her now weeping mother. People looked at her as she passed with mingled feelings; wonder, admiration, horror, awe.

"What a trump of girls!" said Broadlands to himself, "I'd like to marry her, I declare!"

But his attention was distracted by Verriner, who having cast an agonizing glance around, saw that the people were hiding their faces in their prayer-books and handkerchiefs, and that their shoulders shook. He fled through the vestry, Broadlands following him. What a murmur of talking and laughter rose from the distinguished congregation as it left the church and got into the long string of carriages which waited outside! There was no wedding breakfast, but there were the most delightful afternoon teas that day, for everybody who had been present had to relate the story to innumerable friends. Verriner left town by the first train to Dover, and when he was next heard of had been living for some time in a very distant and very warm country. He was among savages, and his ferocity had earned him an enviable distinction in the most elevated circles.

As for Hetty, she braved her mother's tears and her friends' reproaches without dismay. She was quite convinced she had done the right thing. And so were her friends when, in the first snows of winter, they were bidden to a grand country wedding, which made the "trump of a girl" the Marchioness of Broadlands.

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—This widely celebrated Institution, located at Buffalo, N.Y., is organized with full staff of eighteen experienced and skillful Physicians and Surgeons, constituting the most complete organization of medical and surgical skill in America, for the treatment of all chronic diseases, whether requiring medical or surgical means for their cure. Marvellous success has been achieved in the cure of all nasal, throat and lung diseases, liver and kidney diseases, diseases of the digestive organs, bladder diseases, diseases peculiar to women, blood taints and skin diseases, rheumatism, neuralgia, nervous debility, paralysis, epilepsy (fits), spermatorrhœa, impotency and kindred affections. Thousands are cured at their homes through correspondence. The cure of the worst ruptures, piles tumors, varicocele, hydrocele and strictures is guaranteed, with only a short residence at the institution. Send 10 cents in stamps for the Invalid's Guide-Book (168 pages), which gives all particulars. Address World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N.Y.

The Russian naval squadron which joined the fleets of the other powers at Crete during a critical junction in the dispute between Turkey and Greece has departed from Suda bay.

—You need not cough all night and disturb your friends; there is no occasion for you running the risk of contracting inflammation of the lungs or consumption, while you can get Bickle's Anti-Consumptive Syrup. This medicine cures coughs, colds, inflammation of the lungs and all throat and chest troubles. It promotes a free and easy expectoration, which immediately relieves the throat and lungs from viscid phlegm.

Russia proposes to send a friendly squadron to the United States with several grand dukes.

Public Notice.

—All testimonials in favor of Hallamore's Expectorant are from well known residents of Toronto. Mr. S. J. Willcock, 129 Spadina avenue, says: "I have used Hallamore's Expectorant for coughs and colds for thirteen years, and would not be without it. It never fails to cure me." edx

Australia opposes allowing France to annex the New Hebrides under any conditions. The colony of Victoria has instructed its London agent to protest in the strongest possible way against the proposed annexation.

—Why go limping and whining about your corns, when a 25 cent bottle of Holloway's Corn Cure will remove them? Give it a trial and you will not regret it.

"Mother," said a little girl to her parent, who takes a great interest in charitable institutions, "I wish I were an orphan." "Why so, my dear?" "Because I should see more of you, for you are all the time going to the orphan asylum."

—Mr. S. Lachance, a leading French druggist of Montreal, says: During my holiday trade, the new perfume, the "Lotus of the Nile," was much called for, the result, as I found, of the ladies who had used it, talking so much about it to their friends. I never saw a perfume that seemed to please everybody so effectually. 36

"Come, old fellow, don't take your losses so much to heart," said one Wall street broker to another who had just lost heavily; "come, bear up!" "I will!" replied the other with determination; "never again will you find me upon the bull side."

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Mrs. Boggs—"What a terrible fall your father got yesterday, Harold; do you know what the doctor called it?" Harold (engrossed in arithmetic)—"Yes'm; compound fractions."

—Consumption—For the cure of this distressing disease there has been no medicine yet discovered that can show more evidence of real merit than Allen's Lung Balsam. This unequalled expectorant for curing consumption and all diseases leading to it, such as affections of the throat, lungs, and all diseases of the pulmonary organs, is introduced to the suffering public after its merits for the cure of such diseases have been fully tested by the medical faculty. The Balsam is, consequently, recommended by physicians who have become acquainted with its great success.

The father of the family is probably old Pete Roleum.

—Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator is pleasant to take; sure and effectual in destroying worms. Many have tried it with best results.

A Pennsylvania woman has named her twin daughters Gasolene and Kerosene.

—People who read and reflect, after reading, upon the many published testimonials regarding Northrop & Lyman's Vegetable Discovery and Dyspeptic Cure, can scarcely fail to perceive that evidence so positive and concurrent could not be adduced in behalf of a remedy of doubtful efficacy. The facts proven by such evidence are that it roots out impurities of the blood, restores digestion, enriches the circulation, and regulates the bowels and liver.

Song of the Eskimo—There's Snow Place Like Home.

It Acts Like a Charm.

—Ex-Ald. George Evans, 449 Queen street west, testifies to the efficacy of "Hallamore's Expectorant" as follows: "It is undoubtedly far superior to all other advertised remedies for coughs and colds, especially in the case of children, with whom it acts like a charm." edx

A minister may, occasionally, be carried away with the inspiration of his theme, but he generally gets back in time to take up the collection.

—There are cases of consumption so far advanced that Bickle's Anti-Consumptive Syrup will not cure, but none so bad that it will not give relief. For coughs, colds and all affections of the throat, lungs and chest, it is a specific which has never been known to fail. It promotes a free and easy expectoration, thereby removing the phlegm, and gives the diseased parts a chance to heal.

"Is that sailor intoxicated?" "Well, I wouldn't swear to it, but he looks as if he had just doubled Cape Horn."

—TOOTHACHE—Do you suffer with it? Go buy a bottle of Pain-Killer and find relief in the twinkle of an eye—for toothache it is a specific.

"Who shall decide when doctors disagree?" Alas! sometimes the undertaker.

—Jacob H. Bloomer, of Virgil, N.Y., writes: "Dr. Thomas' Eclectric Oil cured a badly swelled neck and sore throat on my son in forty-eight hours; one application also removed the pain from a sore toe; my wife's foot was also much inflamed—so much so that she could not walk about the house; she applied the Oil, and in twenty-four hours was entirely cured."

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