

TANGLED THREADS

"Well, I'm off," said Mrs. Gass. "I hope with all my heart that your senses will come to you. And I say it for your own sake."

"They've not left us — that we know on," grumbled a man in a suppressed, half-insolent tone, as if he were dissatisfied with things in general.

"I hear you, Jack Allen. If you men think you know your own business best, you must follow it," concluded Mrs. Gass. "The old saying runs, 'A willful man must have his way.' One thing I'd like you to understand; that when your wives and children shall be left without a potter to their mouths or a rag to their backs, you needn't come whining to me to help 'em. Don't you forget to bear that in mind, my men."

Waiting for her at home, Mrs. Gass found Richard North. That this was a very anxious time for him, might be detected by the thoughtful look his face habitually wore. It was all very well for Mrs. Gass, so simply provided a little taste of existing troubles easily; Richard was less philosophical. And with reason. His own ruin — and the final closing of the works would be nothing less — might be survived, he had his profession, his early manhood, his energies to fall back upon; his capacity and character both stood pre-eminent; he had no fear of making a living for himself, even though it might be done in a humble way, some more fortunate than he, and not in his own. But there was his father. If the works were permanently closed, the income Mr. North enjoyed from them could no longer be paid to him. Mr. North's duties, whether derived from them or from Richard's generosity, would vanish like the mist of a summer's morning.

"What's it you, Mr. Richard?" cried Mrs. Gass when she entered, and saw him standing near the window of her dining-room. "I wouldn't have stopped out if I'd known you were here. Some of the men have been hearing a bit of my mind," she added, sitting down behind her plants and trying her bonnet-stings. "It's come to pawing the women's best gowns now."

"Has it?" replied Richard North, rather abstractedly, as if buried in thought. "Of course it must come to that, sooner or later."

"Sooner or later it would come to pawing themselves, if they could do it," spoke Mrs. Gass. "If this state of things is to last, they'll have no choice, and saying standing near the window of her dining-room. "I wouldn't have stopped out if I'd known you were here. Some of the men have been hearing a bit of my mind," she added, sitting down behind her plants and trying her bonnet-stings. "It's come to pawing the women's best gowns now."

"It is a question that I have been asking myself a little too often for my own peace — how long this state of things will last, and what will be the end," said Richard in answer to her last words, his low tone almost painfully earnest. "The longer it goes on, the worse it will be; for the men and for our selves."

"That's precisely what I tell 'em," acquiesced Mrs. Gass, tilting her bonnet and fanning her face with her handkerchief. "But I might just as well speak to so many persons."

"Yes; talking will not avail. I have talked to them; and find it only waste of words. If they listen to my arguments and feel inclined to be impressed with them, the influence of the Trades' Union upon it all again. I think we must try something else."

"And what's that, Mr. Richard?"

"Give way a little."

"Give way?" repeated Mrs. Gass, pushing her chair back some inches in her surprise.

"What I give 'em what they want?"

"Certainly not. That is what we could not do. I said give way a little."

"Mr. Richard, I never met you before."

"What I thought of proposing is this; To divide the additional wages they are standing out for. That is, offer them half. If they would not return to work on those terms, I should have no hope of them."

"And my opinion is, they'd not Mr. Richard, sir, it's them Trades Union people that upholds 'em in their obstinacy. They'll make 'em hold out for the whole demands or none. What do the leaders of the Union care? It don't touch their pockets, or their comfort. So long as their own nests are feathered, the working men's may get as bare as boards. Don't you fancy the rulers 't let our men's money? It's only by keeping up agitation that agitators live."

"I should like to put it to the test. I have come here to ask you to agree to my doing it."

"And what about shortening the time that they want?" questioned Mrs. Gass.

"I should not give way there. It is impracticable. They must return on the usual time; but of the additional wages demanded I would offer half. Will you assent to this?"

"It will be with an uncommon bad grace," was Mrs. Gass's answer.

"I see nothing else to be done," said Richard North. "If only as a matter of conscience I should like to propose it. When it ends in a general ruin — which seems only too certain, for we cannot close our eyes to what is being enacted all over the country in almost all trades — I shall have the consolation of knowing that it is the men's own fault, not mine. Perhaps they will accept this offer. I hope so, though it will leave us little profit. If we can only make both ends meet, just to keep us going during these unsettled times, we must be satisfied. I am sure I shall be doing right, Mrs. Gass, to make this proposal."

"Mr. Richard, sir, you know that I've always trusted to your judgment, and shall do so to the end; anything you thought well to do, I should never dissuade you from. You shall make this offer if you please; but I know you'll be opening out a loophole for the men. Give 'em an inch and they'll want an ell."

"If they come back it will be a great thing," argued Richard. "The sight of the works standing still, the knowledge that all it involves is standing still also, almost paralyzes me."

"Don't go and take it to the heart at the beginning now," affectionately advised Mrs. Gass. "There's not much damage done yet."

Richard bent forward, painfully earnest. "It is of my father that I think. What will become of him if all our resources are gone?"

"I'll take care of him till better times come round," said Mrs. Gass, heartily.

"And of you, too, Mr. Richard, if you won't be too proud to let me, sir."

Richard laughed a little, genial laughter, partly in amusement, partly in gratitude. "I hope the better times will come at once," he said, preparing to leave. "At least, suf-

ciently good times to allow business to go on as usual. If the men refuse this offer of mine, they are made of more ungrateful stuff than I should give them credit for."

"They will refuse it," said Mrs. Gass, emphatically. "As is my belief. Not them, Mr. Richard, but the Trades' Union for 'em. Once get under the thumb of that despotic body, and a workman doesn't say his soul is his own."

And Mrs. Gass's opinion proved to be correct. Richard North called his men together, and laid the concession before them; pressing them to accept it in their mutual interests. The men requested a day for consideration, and then gave their answer; rejection. Unless the whole of their demands were complied with, they unequivocally refused to return to work.

"It will be worse for them than for me in the long run," said Richard North. And many a thoughtful mind believed that he spoke in a spirit of prophecy.

(To Be Continued.)

BOTHWELL.

Agent for the ADVERTISER—James Fleming. Rev. Alex. Burrell, formerly pastor of the Presbyterian Church here, dropped in amongst his old parishioners on Tuesday last. His outward man seems to be well cared for; and being without any permanent charge he longs for missionary work.

Wednesday evening Miss Mary McGregor, of Bothwell, and W. H. Bradley, of Canton, Ohio, were united in marriage at the Methodist Church by Rev. W. Fausner in the presence of 35 invited guests and a vast assemblage of the fair lady's companions and friends with whom she had been associated for years as teacher in the common school, and also in Sabbath school work. At 6 o'clock precisely the entrance of the nuptial party, preceded by Ushers Jerome and Couch with their insignia of office, into the church, was the signal for Miss Pope, who gracefully presided at the organ, to strike up the delicious strains of the "Wedding March." The bride and bridegroom were just then the center of attraction—the former being elegantly attired in blue and red shot silk, carrying a lovely bouquet of white roses, accompanied by her bridesmaid (Miss Fanny Bell, of Toronto) who was dressed in cream, and also carried a handsome bouquet. Mr. George McGregor, the bride's brother, supported the bridegroom, and the invited guests being gathered around the altar the officiating clergyman entered upon his duties where-

by he speedily declared them man and wife until death doth them part. Amongst the visitors and invited guests we noticed Miss Glover, of London; Miss Holland, of Ingersoll; Mr. and Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Batt, of Toronto; Miss Matron, of Detroit; and of our townfolk, Miss Cook, Miss Bailey and Miss Sussex were prominent, also Mr. and Mrs. Simcoe Thomas. The happy couple, who were the recipients of many tokens of sincere friendship, left on the 8:15 train for their home in Canton, Ohio, amid the hearty good-byes which came from a crowded platform.

Courage, Sease.

Should be used in attempting to cure that very disagreeable disease, catarrh. As catarrh originates in impurities in the blood, local applications can do no permanent good. The common-sense method of treatment is to purify the blood, and for this purpose there is no preparation superior to Hood's Sarsaparilla.

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"I wish you would give me a receipt for this lovely cake, Mrs. Bouncer." "Certainly, Mr. Bouncer, but don't you think a receipt for your last quarter's board would do instead?"

Among the pains and aches cured with marvelous rapidity with Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil is carache. The young are especially subject to it, and the desirability of this Oil as a family remedy is enhanced by the fact that it is admirably adapted not only to the above ailment, but also to the hurts, disorders of the bowels, and affections of the throat, to which the young are especially subject.

A certain Chinese sect teaches that women who become vegetarians will be transformed into men in the great hereafter.

Give Holloway's Corn Cure a trial. It removed ten corns from one pair of feet without any pain. What it has done once it will do again.

Sara Barnhardt will visit the States until 1896. Having tired of tiger cats and box concertists, Sara wants to witness a Presidential election.

At Death's Door.—Dyspepsia Conquered.—A Great Medical Triumph.

GENTLEMEN.—My medical adviser and others told me I could not possibly live, when I commenced the use of Dr. J. C. F. & Lyman's VEGETABLE DISCOVERY for Dyspepsia. My case was one of the worst of its kind. For three years I could not eat meat and my weight decreased from 219 to 119 pounds. All the food I took for thirteen months previous to taking the VEGETABLE DISCOVERY consisted of milk. I am now entirely cured and have regained my usual weight, can eat anything with a keen relish and feel like a new man. I have sold over 30 dozen VEGETABLE DISCOVERY since it cured me, as I am well-known, and people in this section know how low I was, and thought I could not possibly be cured. They are eager to try this grand medicine. It certainly saved my life, as I never expected to recover when I first commenced using it. I am not exaggerating anything, but feel glad to be able to contribute this testimonial and trust it may be the means of convincing others of its merit as a certain cure for Dyspepsia. JEAN VALCOURT, General Merchant. (Signed.)

Wotton, P.Q.

Li Hung Chang's cup of experience will never be full until he dons European costume and loses a few suspender buttons.

"You insult a good dog," says the Manayunk philosopher, "when you speak of some people leading a dog's life."

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TEACHERS TALK.

Closing Session of the E. M. T. Association.

How to Teach Geography—Book-Keeping for Advanced Scholars—The Subject of Grammar.

SATURDAY MORNING.

The East Middlesex Teachers' Association resumed this morning at 9:30, Mr. Piewes presiding. Besides the Model School students there were about 100 teachers present and a few trustees.

Miss Bella Nichol, of Glanworth, had been assigned the duty of reviewing the course of geography that should be taken up in the second class. She treated illustratively how she would guide the observations of the young learners. She would by questions direct them to observe the habits, uses and kinds of animals, birds and plants, the changes of the seasons, the industries of the people, the natural and artificial productions of the neighborhood, the transportation of these products, the surface of the country—in short, the experiences of the children with earth, air, water and the activities of commerce should be explained. These topics come under observational geography. Map-making and teaching from the map were briefly touched on.

Mr. Dearnes, quoted from the celebrated report of the Committee of Ten and read the findings of that committee upon the kind of work that should be taught as geography in the junior classes. The report is very emphatic in its conclusion that the teaching of the subject should be based upon the children's own experiences of the children in what might be called elementary physics, physiography, meteorology, geology, botany, zoology and ethnology. The steps are: first, see; second, reproduce in words, drawing or modeling; third, study the productions of others, and throughout reason and ponder upon all.

A lively discussion ensued, chiefly as to what kinds of questions are suitable to test training in and knowledge of geography in elementary classes. Miss McKellar, of Glanworth, J. H. Downing, W. T. Amos, Geo. Bloomfield, Miss K. Woods, Miss Davidson, Miss Duffin, J. W. Atkinson and others discussed different points raised in the paper.

Among the questions proposed as types by Miss Nichol were: Describe the duties of the farmer, of the blacksmith, of the storekeeper; trace as far as you can articles you have seen raised on the farm; transportation; describe and tell the use of postoffice, telegraph, railway; why do ponds go dry; creeks and rivers overflow; origin and movement of clouds; signs of rain; comparison of shadow lines at different times of the day and different seasons of the year; describe the map, tell ways you have seen it used; describe trips, naming directions, to well-known places in the neighborhood.

Mr. E. Bryant, principal of the Hyde Park school, exhibited a set of single entry bookkeeping suitable for fifth classes and advanced fourth classes in public schools. He also dictated a number of typical queries especially intended to afford the basis for a variety of correspondence and business forms. He showed how various kinds of notes, drafts, bills, etc., should be entered in and carried through the different appropriate books.

Miss Alice Hodgins, No. 3, McGillivray, Miss McKellar and others discussed Mr. Bryant's treatment of this useful subject. Mr. J. H. Downing took the chair while Mr. J. W. Piewes, Delaware, took up the system of classification Dr. Atkinson in grammatical analysis, and proposed a method that would overcome confusion that arises from the usual classification into simple, compound and complex sentences. He calls every sentence either primary or compound and then classifies the parts as simple or complex. Various teachers proposed queries to illustrate the application of his method.

The association decided to hold its next meeting in May rather than in March.

Mr. Piewes was elected a delegate to the Provincial Association to be held in Toronto next April.

This closed an interesting and well attended meeting. Every section whose teacher was present could not help but be benefited, and the few whose teachers were absent were corresponding losers.

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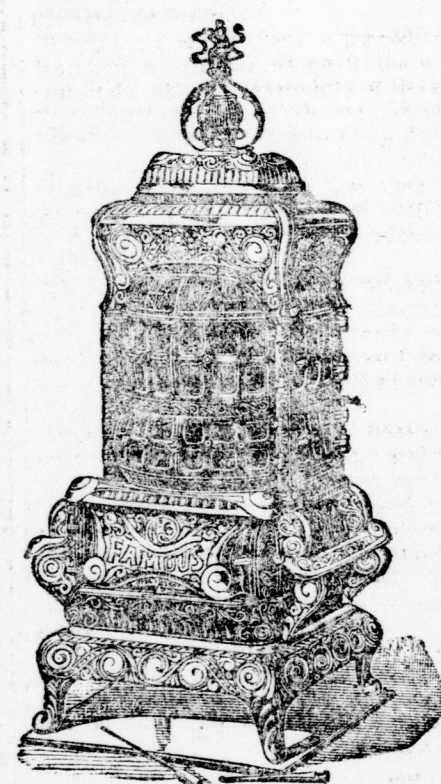
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