

SELECT STORY.

THE BEST GIFT.

The sermon was ended, the music low swelled, and louder its resonance grew; As the tinkling chimes of the silver dimes, Made harmony in each pew.

IF HE HAD RUL'D BY LOVE!

By the Author of 'A Queen Sort of Happiness.'

CHAPTER I.

THE WIDEST BEACH.

Where is the harm of my being with Mr. Royston when I choose? demanded Edith Devereux, defiantly, looking superbly beautiful, with her great, dark eyes gazing straight into her husband's face.

in the girl's present frame of mind. But she said: "Well, dear, of course I don't see what Devereux objects to in poor Royston. He's a very nice fellow, indeed; but then I am not your husband. It would be better, perhaps, to give in. You know, my love, we women always have to give way to our husbands in the end—it's our lot, I suppose."

"I'm not mine then," returned Edith, curiously, the angry flush rising to her very brow. Mrs. Erle's soothing seemed to have just the opposite effect from what the little woman probably intended. "I don't agree to that doctrine of the submissive wife; husband and wife are equal, and free. He'll know whoever he likes; I shall do the same. I shall ride with Royston—I'm going this afternoon—you needn't look shocked, Harriet; I'm going to show Vernon I'm not so easily broken in. Now let's talk of something else."

"Mrs. Erle laughed—the softest, prettiest, little laugh, that showed her white teeth, but did not stretch her mouth unduly. She was pretty in everything she did, though Vernon said there was a spice of the cat's prettiness about her.

CHAPTER II.

THE CHAIN SNAFFED.

Passing down the fragrant groves which ran through Devereux's estate to the adjoining one, Mrs. Erle, lightly tripping along, humming to herself, was accosted by a man's deep voice, and turning, she held out her hand with a smile to the tall, good-looking personage, who was proceeding in her way, but who had come from another path and now stood by her side.

CHAPTER III.

THE COAL STRIKE SETTLED.

As a result of the miners conference at London, Eng., under the presidency of Lord Rosebery, it was announced that it was settled by the conference that the miners should resume work at the old wages on Monday. They will work for these wages until February. The board of conciliation will hold its first meeting on Dec. 13. It will be constituted for one year.

FORTUNE'S FREAKS.

In unexpected turns of the wheel of fortune, elevating the unknown to places of power and debasing the mighty without warning, France leads the nations, in the surprising career of a man, the grandson of the millionaire may black boots for the grandson of the crossing sweeper.

had no direct interference to anticipate in her forbidden ride. She loved riding, she had a splendid horse, and was not going to forego it because her husband had chosen to consider a man she had known in her own home not a fit companion for her. She was going, however, really more out of bravado than anything else now; for her heart and her conscience were beginning to lift up their voices unconsciously, so that she had to drown them with keeping up her anger and her pride.

So she started for her ride in high spirits, and rode up later towards sunset, Devereux rode up to the door, she had not yet returned.

"Where is Mrs. Devereux?" he asked of the servant who took his horse. Devereux had been thinking all day that he had been too harsh with the young wife he so passionately loved. As usual, the temper over, he was yearning to take her in his arms and kiss her soft lips, and say a hundred sweetening words to her.

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loving pride he had brought home, Edith gone. Then came the revelation; he would go to her, follow her world over. She was his, he could claim her, the man said fiercely, then ground his teeth and dropped his head on his hands. What had she said?—and would he stoop to see? Could he keep her under lock and key?—could he make her love him? Well, if she were hard and cold, and proud, so would he be. Let her go, let her know what it meant to be a wife and yet not wife. She had gone to her people; there need be no scandal; in Europe no one even knew of his hasty marriage. He would see that she was under proper protection and had a proper allowance, though she had her own money.

So Vernon Devereux hardened himself; he never sought his wife. Probably if he had been older and wiser, he would not have accepted her flat so haughtily. He was careful for settled everything through them; never even wrote to her, but in a week from that time returned to Europe. He had called on his cousin, Mrs. Erle, and she had been terribly upset by the disastrous ending to this marriage. Vernon tried not to believe her sincerely, but what did it matter?—what did anything matter? He and his wife had shattered their lives somehow between them. No child of his would ever inherit a dollar or a roof of land from him—little Perry would come in for it all, he supposed, with a hundred acres of land.

"You can go," he said, in a strange altered voice, and walked up and down the veranda—did not quickly, not quivering, except internally, for not a word, not a word, he was in him, but grim and still. When he gave his passion rent, heaven alone knew what might happen.

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ALONZO STAPLES, April 29, 1893. Executor's Notice. NOTICE is hereby given that I, the undersigned, have been appointed Executor of the last will of the late JOHN A. MORRISON. All persons indebted to such Estate will please arrange with me at once, and all persons having any legal claims against such estate are requested to hand the same to me daily attended to within three months from this date.

DR. R. MCLEARN. Office and Residence, Corner Queen and Regent Sts. Office Hours, 8 to 10 A. M., 1 to 3 P. M., 6 to 8 P. M. Telephone 66. Fredericton, May 6th, 1893.

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