

SIX

A PERVERSE GENERATION

By Grace Ellery Channing.

(Continued.)

"Girls," something has got to be done," said Anna, coming in upon her sisters one day late in the summer with a fresh pile of dishes to be added to those they were wearily engaged in washing. "I have just had a talk with the doctor. He says mother is in a very low condition, almost a typhoid condition," he called it, "but I know it is simply worry. She can't help knowing these awful expenses are going on."

Both girls suspended their work to turn anxious faces upon this new trouble.

"What can we do?" exclaimed Molly. "The nurse is absolutely necessary."

"No, she isn't. She says herself there isn't anything now I couldn't do for mother, with a little help."

"You!" The sisters looked incredulously at Anne. It struck them for the first time that she was changed; her very voice and manner were different. "You would break down," said Molly, but with unconscious respect.

"No, I shouldn't. Look at me. I'm as fresh as a daisy. It is you two who look like wrecks." For the first time, also, looking at each other, her sisters acknowledged that she was right. "It's these awful, everlasting dishes," sighed Louise, and Molly and she exchanged a silent look of despair.

"As for nursing," said Anna, "I just love it—truly, girls."

"I really believe she does," said Molly, slowly.

"It would save twenty dollars a week and board," observed Louise, thoughtfully.

"Of course," said Molly. "If you really think you can, and the doctor consents."

Anna filled a hot-water bottle with a businesslike air.

"There's only one thing," she said, with a twinkle of conscious triumph as she walked away, "I'll have to count me out of all household work."

The sisters looked after her and then at each other.

"No wonder she exults," said Louise, mournfully contemplating the pile of greasy dishes.

"But the sick-room is even worse," replied Molly, with a little shudder. "If Anna saves all that money and worry," she added soberly, "it seems to me we ought to be able to do something else."

"I shall do something—something desperate soon," returned Louise, eagerly. "I'd cut both my hair and go for mother, of course, cheerfully; but it doesn't seem to me that even for mother I can go much longer this way. I ache all the way from my head to the soles of my feet."

"Sisters!" exclaimed Molly. "It's my soul that aches. Just think of the life-time of this!—she glanced about the kitchen helplessly—"and never getting anywhere! There must be something else."

"There is," said Louise.

Then the two girls exchanged a glance of breathless interest. The following day Anna was installed as nurse. Mrs. Talbot missed nothing in her ministrations which was not compensated over and over by the knowledge of the heavy drain curtailed.

"Truly, love does work wonders," she thought as she lay and watched in astonishment the deft, noiseless movements of her youngest daughter, or felt the capable manipulation of her vital young hands.

"Perhaps this was needed," she concluded, musing upon the improvement in all her daughters; and she grew to accept with sweetness its heavy price—the long months of suffering and the permanent loss of much of her activity; for it would be months, if ever, before she walked without a cane. She would have been quite happy to have the shadow of those debts the sum of which the girls, by common consent, evaded.

"Wait till you are down-stairs," they invariably said.

"And, oh, girls, how shall we ever tell her!" exclaimed Molly, one day near the end of Indian summer, the real summer being long since past.

"Nonsense!" replied Louise, lifting her head with a gesture as new as Anna's pose. "We have done nothing to be ashamed of."

The color had come back to Louise's cheek of late, and Molly had regained her old brilliancy. An air of expectant tension pervaded the house; for the day so hoped-for and so dreaded drew near.

It came at last. Mrs. Talbot, beautifully dressed by Anna's hands, and leaning on her arm, was escorted to her old place at the head of the table once more. As she walked slowly through the unfamiliar rooms, her eyes registered approvingly the evidences of careful order, and she sat forth in festive array, and on the bright faces gathered about it. There was an emotion in each never worn in the old days, and Mrs. Talbot felt her own heart fill with silent thanksgiving. She glanced again lingeringly about the little circle, and made the mental comment that her daughters had grown, developed, gained an insensible something.

"The responsibility has done them good," she decided.

So they all sat down, and soup was served by a pretty maid in cap and apron whom Mrs. Talbot surveyed with transient surprise. The soup was a poem, and the fish and game which followed were harmonious developments of the original theme. The girls were in wild spirits, never letting the conversation flag for a moment, and Mrs. Talbot, weak still, in the emotion of this reunion, was content to enjoy them and the feast till the last course was served. The salad, a color-study in delicate greens and red, had followed the game, and a frozen pudding had steamed that. The guests were in one more with four little cups of steaming coffee the perfume of which preceded her as subtly as a rose's perfume the rose-garlanded Mrs. Talbot slipped hers with great satisfaction.

"I see," she said, as the door closed behind the smiling Hebe, "the pretty maid came in helping us quite a while—ever since we were so busy."

"Indeed?" Mrs. Talbot's voice expressed a quick alarm. "No wonder," she added hastily, with a faint smile. "You girls must be very tired."

She could not forbear observing, however, that they did not look it; nothing in their radiance suggested that they had ever known fatigue.

"Now that I'm about," she said cheerfully, "we begin to economize. I may not be able to wash and wipe dishes. What delicious coffee! Molly's, I imagine."

"Yes, all the feast is mine, mother," replied Molly, brightly, "and the table decorations are Louise's. Aren't they lovely? We called in 'our best talent,' as the bill-boards say, in honor of the occasion."

There was a moment's silence.

"I think," said Mrs. Talbot, slowly, leaning back in her chair and surveying her daughters, "your best talent was employed all through these months. The only one of my daughters whose work I could distinguish was Anna's—for obvious reasons. She gave up the privilege of serving in many ways to serve me in one." Here she smiled at her faithful nurse. "For the rest, I could never detect any degree of excellence; you all did equally well. I am very proud of my daughters. Nothing could have gratified me more."

Her glowing maternal glance swept the little circle, and rested upon three flushed and downcast countenances. Molly recognized the psychological moment, and her special obligation toward it, as the eldest, broke a difficult silence.

"Well, you see mother, dear, there never was any difference. I was always the cook and Louise did the other things. We—we specialized. The doctor said you must be kept comfortable and so—we did the best we could." She brought her explanation to a hurried close, as the expression they all knew so well crossed the mother's face.

It was quickly subdued.

"No doubt; no doubt you did it for the best," said Mrs. Talbot. After a moment, and with obvious effort, she added with a faint smile. "But who did all the things no one does best—your likes to do."

"All of us at first," said Louise; "and afterwards—Mary."

"Mary?" repeated Mrs. Talbot, in a tone which smote the girls. "Mary—that is the maid, is it not? You mean to tell me that you have employed a servant for some time?" Then as the three remained silent, exchanging dumb glances: "She must be paid and discharged tomorrow," she exclaimed with all her old decision. "The necessary expenses were already sufficient—more than sufficient."

(To be continued.)

A MISAPPREHENSION IN REGARD TO CHANGES SAYS AMERICAN CONSUL

MONCTON, Jan. 10.—Referring to the discussion regarding export certificates to the United States which was discussed at the council of the Board of Trade meeting last night, and concerning which the council decided to protest to the Canadian government, Mr. Beutelspacher, the local American consul, says there is a misapprehension. This, he says, exists in regard to the charges for the certificates. He claims, never had an agent, and the business was always done here in Moncton. He had an agent, but there are, he claims, only a few shippers there. Those shippers can have an agent appointed here, with power of attorney, and they save the expense and inconvenience which he slight. The only agency abolished, he claims, is at Richibucto.

Extensive repairs have recently been completed on the third floor of the I. C. general office here, being made for the purpose of giving more room to Auditor J. R. Bruce's department. There is a staff of fifty in this office, which has heretofore been greatly cramped for room. This evening the office has been extended the office space over the entire floor of the third story, giving ample room for the clerks.

Frank Nelson, Moncton boy, who has been in the west for a year, has returned home. He is convalescing from severe attack of typhoid fever.

Clairence McCready of the I. C. R. audit staff has returned after a trip along the line between this city and St. John. He was instructing the agents in the new bookkeeping system.

Edmund Fitzsimmons, aged twenty-two years, died recently at McLaughlin road. He was a son of the late Edmund Fitzsimmons, and returned recently from the United States.

TEMPERANCE LECTURE AT AMHERST LAST NIGHT

AMHERST, N. S., Jan. 9.—A meeting of the executive of the Cumberland County Temperance Alliance was held here today. This evening the ministerial association conducting the work of prayer gave over the time to representative address by the public temperance meeting. H. L. Hewson, president of the Hewson Woolen Mills Co., presided. The speakers were Rev. E. Smith of Leicester; Rev. V. Gaetz, Amherst, and Prof. Sawyer of the Nova Scotia Temperance Alliance. While the address were of a very interesting nature, Prof. Sawyer's was considered one of the ablest and most practical temperance addresses listened to for some time.

TAX DISTRIBUTION

TORONTO, Jan. 9.—It is officially announced that distribution among the municipalities of the province of the share of tax on steam railways will amount to eight cents per head, based on the census of 1901. There will be deducted ten cents per day for patients in asylums who are paying to such institutions less than \$1.50 per week. The new act practically doubled the tax on steam railways and the total receipts from this source to the end of December were \$375,680.

THE STAR, ST. JOHN N. B., THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 1907.

...You Cannot Afford to Miss ... This Grand Stock Reduction Sale Of Men's and Boys' Clothing and Furnishings

To fully appreciate this remarkable opportunity you must remember—

- 1.—That Our Regular Prices are beyond question the Lowest in St. John.
- 2.—That our entire stock of Men's and Boys' Clothing and Furnishings HAS BEEN REDUCED FROM REGULAR PRICES.
- 3.—That the reductions are from prices already lower than those prevailing elsewhere.
- 4.—That the clothing is unsurpassed in Tailoring, Up-to-dateness and Durability.
- 5.—That there are sizes for every man.
- 6.—That clothing is steadily advancing in cost, yet this sale gives you the chance to buy the best that can be made at what is really LESS THAN HALF USUAL PRICES.

Here's an Index to the Reductions:

Men's Overcoats		Men's Suits	
Regular \$6 Overcoats, -	Reduced to \$3.85	Men's \$6 Tweed Suits, Reduced to	\$4.50
Regular 8 Overcoats, -	Reduced to 5.90	Men's 15 Tweed Suits, Reduced to	10.69
Regular 10 Overcoats, -	Reduced to 6.85	Men's 18 Tweed Suits, Reduced to	12.69
Regular 12 Overcoats, -	Reduced to 8.75	Men's 20 Tweed Suits, Reduced to	13.50
Regular 15 Overcoats, -	Reduced to 10.00	Men's 10 Serge Suits, Reduced to	6.85

Boys' Norfolk Suits, ages 6 to 15 years, were	\$2.50, Reduced to	\$1.89
Boys' Sailor Suits, ages 3 to 10 years, were	\$2.30, - Reduced to	1.80
Boys' Three-Piece Suits, ages 12 to 17, were	\$3.50, Reduced to	2.65
Boys' Reefers, ages 6 to 17 years, were	\$2.50, - Reduced to	1.90
Boys' Overcoats, ages 6 to 17 years, were	\$3.75, - Reduced to	2.95

The Sale Starts Saturday Morning, January 12th.

Store closed all day Today and Friday, as it will take us all this time to get things in shape to make shopping easy for you.

Extra Salesmen Wanted

During this sale we will have need of extra salesmen. Apply at once at office.

GREATER OAK HALL,

KING STREET COR. BERNARD - - - - - SCOVIL BROS., Ltd., St. John, N. B.

BROKE AWAY FROM TOW AND WENT ASHORE

Light Barge Fast on the Beach—Will Probably Not be Floated.

VINEYARD HAVEN, Mass., Jan. 9.—The barge Woodbury which brought up the rear of a tow of three barges behind the tug Eddy, broke away from the tow this afternoon while passing through Quicks Hole, and went ashore on the west end of Pasque Island, where she was still ashore at dark tonight. The tug Eddy, which was towing the barge, was forced to stop and the barge was towed back to the shore. The accident was caused by the barge striking the rocks at the entrance to the hole. The barge was damaged and the crew was forced to abandon ship. The barge was later found on the beach and will probably not be floated.

BRIEF DESPATCHES.

GENOA, Jan. 10.—Elenora Duse, the actress, who has been ill here with pneumonia, is declared by her physicians to be out of danger.

MUSKOGEE, Mich., Jan. 10.—Captain John Withers, one of the oldest Great Lakes mariners, died here yesterday, aged 72 years. He started sailing when 14 years old and at 15 he held captain's papers.

MEXICO CITY, Jan. 10.—Persons here well informed on Central American affairs, believe that the Honduras revolution will be of no consequence.

GOLDFIELD, Nev., Jan. 10.—The miners' strike is considered settled. At midnight tellers were still counting the votes but it was stated that the majority of votes favored accepting the mine operators' proposition of \$5 per day for miners and skilled help, with \$4.50 for laborers.

NEW YORK, Jan. 10.—The body of a man burned beyond recognition with kerosene was found in a patch of weeds at Guttenberg, N. J. There is little doubt the man was murdered and he was an Italian. It is supposed he was the victim of the so-called "Black Hand."

RUFFALO, N. Y., Jan. 10.—The former residence of John G. Milburn on Delaware Avenue to which the late President William McKinley was taken after he was shot at the Pan American Exposition and where he died, was badly damaged by fire this morning.

LONDON, Jan. 10.—Sir Thomas Lipton has offered a cup for a yacht race in Hampton Roads during the Jamestown Exposition, to take place probably in September.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—Engineers Hildebrand and Conductor Hoffmann of the crew of the equipment train who were arrested last night after the coroner's jury inquiring into the Terra-cotta wreck had held them with others responsible for that wreck have been released on bail.

EARTHQUAKES FELT IN DIFFERENT PLACES

People in Towns of Norway and Sweden Were Alarmed—Pennsylvania Also Rattled.

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., Jan. 10.—A series of shocks, evidently earthquakes were felt in this section from 4.30 to 5.30 this morning. Buildings shook so that the families were awakened and rumbling sounds were heard over an area of about 200 square miles.

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, Jan. 10.—Two distinct and sharp earthquakes shocks were felt at 1.30 o'clock in Sweden in the town of Stockholm, and there was a great deal of damage to the houses at that place and the surrounding area.

CHRISTIANIA, Norway, Jan. 10.—Two severe shocks of earthquakes were felt here at 1.30 o'clock this morning accompanied by rumblings like thunder. Telegrams received here show that the shocks were felt in other towns in Norway. The disturbances caused considerable alarm but no damage has been reported.

MAIL ROUTE THROUGH CANADA TO BE MADE PERMANENT

LONDON, Jan. 10.—The plans of the so long discussed scheme for an all British mail route from London to the Far East by way of Canada, are in course of preparation for presentation to Parliament at an early date. The plan contemplates the establishment of a new port at Black Bay, County Mayo, and a railway ferry from Stranraer, Scotland, to Larne or Belfast for passengers and mail being carried from London to the steamer's side without change. It is asserted that the use of 25 knot steamers will bring Halifax within four days of London and that the voyage to Hong Kong and Australia ports will be materially shortened. If the plans mature, the Canadian Pacific Railroad Company is likely to be permanently identified with them.

ST. JOHN STUDENTS TAKE HONORS AT MCGILL

Miss Florence Estabrooks, daughter of Captain Leader Estabrooks of Carleton, made an extremely good record at the Christmas examination at the McGill University recently. Miss Estabrooks, who is now in her second year in arts, led her class in history and economics (one paper) and Latin. She was bracketed with another student for first position in Greek and was second in English.

Another St. John student who made a good showing is Albert E. McLaughlin, son of A. E. McLaughlin, Princess street. Mr. McLaughlin took honors in science subjects and was third in the honor list in first year physics.

Both of these students are graduates of the St. John High School.

Other New Brunswick men who are mentioned in the lists are R. B. Malcolm, K. W. Allen, C. G. Porter, St. John; W. Landry, Dorchester; H. Ritchie, Chatham; R. Winslow, Fredericton; W. L. Tracey, Tracadie; and Clement Kelly, Hampton.

RUSSIA AND BRITAIN TO LOOK AFTER PERSIA

Demoralized Finances the Principal Source of Trouble—Germany Trying to But In.

LONDON, Jan. 9.—It was declared in commercial quarters tonight that the understanding between Russia and Great Britain relative to the existing status in Persia includes an agreement to the effect that Mohammed Ali Mirza who now succeeds to the throne, will have the support of Russia and Great Britain, the two powers most directly interested in the Persian empire.

Cecil Spring-Rice, the British Minister to Persia, in one of his latest despatches to Sir Edward Grey, the foreign minister, stated that the possibility of serious disturbances, either internally or as a result of the interference of outside parties, will be most remote. He said that the demoralized financial condition of Persia is considered to constitute the principal danger of possible trouble. The country is practically bankrupt and mortgaged to Russia and Great Britain, while the customs are hypothecated to Belgium, and Belgium are in charge of the customs collections.

Germany enters into the field as having made strong efforts to establish a Persian bank for the purpose of increasing German influence. The present indications are, however, that English and Russian capital will operate along similar lines to those adopted by the respective governments. Persian authorities say that the production of resources of the country are so depleted that foreign capital experts as much influence in Persia as do foreign governments.

CANADIAN BRIEFS.

MONTREAL, Jan. 10.—The Wanderers defeated Montreal, 6 to 3, last evening.

TORONTO, Jan. 10.—Louis Reford, brother of Robert Reford, of Montreal, chairman of the Transportation Commission, died here today at the age of 53.

WILL INCREASE CAPITAL STOCK

TORONTO, Ont., Jan. 9.—The Bank of Toronto shareholders decided at their annual meeting today to increase the capital stock from four millions to ten millions and to pay a dividend quarterly.

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE

At Residence By Auction.

On Tuesday, Jan. 15th, at 10 o'clock a. m., at the residence of Mrs. Charles L. Corey, 234 Union street, consisting of Carpets, Oilcloth, Stoves, Parlor, Dining Room and Kitchen Furniture, Carpenters' Tools, Jack Screws, etc.

T. T. LANTALUM, Auctioneer.

ELMIRA COREY, Administratrix of Chas. L. Corey, deceased.

NOW RESTS WITH GOVERNMENT

Argument in Fredericton Sewerage Question Ended

Messrs. Skinner and Hazen Make Long Addresses—Decision Will be Given Early Next Month.

FREDERICTON, N. B., Jan. 9.—Argument in the matter of the appeal from the decision of the Board of Health refusing permission to this city to enter its sewerage into the river is occupying the attention of the Government today. Recorder Skinner occupied the entire morning in presenting the city's side of the case and made a strong argument. He read from different parts of the evidence and cited numerous authorities in support of his contention. He maintained that it was in the case of small rivers that sewage was first purified before dumping and that the refusal to allow the city of St. John would be detrimental to progress.

Mr. Hazen replied to Mr. Skinner in the afternoon, the hearing being resumed at 4 o'clock. Mr. Hazen made a strong argument from his standpoint and spoke until 6 o'clock, when adjournment was made until eight when he occupied about an hour longer. Recorder Skinner replied and finished at ten.

The government announced that they fully realized the importance of the case, that they would give it the most careful consideration and render their decision at an early date.

Mr. Hazen contended that the legislation called for the adoption of a modern system of sewerage and claimed from the evidence that the one adopted by Fredericton was not such. Mr. Hazen spoke of the finding of the Provincial Board of Health, a body composed of intelligent men and they had decided unanimously against the dumping of the sewage into the river. This decision could not be very well reversed unless the best of reasons were given. Mr. Hazen referred to a large number of petitions presented from the down-river residents and to the great number of dependents on the river for water supply. He referred to the opinion expressed by Dr. Atherton and the system here proposed as being abandoned by all civilized countries. He claimed that the city had shown by analysis that the water in the river was impure and that the length the testimony given by Dr. Fuller of New York. This gentleman, he claimed, was nothing more than a paid advocate, willing to give his testimony for the side by which he was engaged. The wells were unfit for use and filters could not practically be used on account of their limited capacity. The testimony fully established the fact that water received did not remove the germs, and so the great number who used the river ice suffered. Mr. Hazen claimed that a purification plant could be installed for \$75,000 and quoted several authorities to show that the system was not a modern one and condemned by sanitary experts.

Recorder Skinner in reply contended that the system was a modern one and that the English and American acts could not apply like this. He quoted from Engineer Barbour's evidence as to the system being modern, and also from that of Dr. Mason's in refutation of Mr. Hazen's claim that the river waters had not been analyzed. As to the filtering, he claimed that the house filters were all that were needed, as water only required filtering for drinking purposes. Mr. Skinner referred to the other matters touched upon by Mr. Hazen and closed at 10 o'clock.

The government met tonight after the conclusion of the sewerage argument. It was decided to call the legislature to meet on the fourteenth of February and the forestry convention to meet here the following Wednesday and Thursday, February 20th and 21st. Premier Tweedie said that the government would give its decision in the sewerage matter which will be the first Tuesday of that month. The government members will go to St. John in the morning, where a meeting of the hospital commission will be held.

RAILROADS.

CANADIAN PACIFIC CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS

Lowest One-way First-class Fare for Round Trip

Going Dec. 21, 1906, to Jan. 1, 1907, inclusive, good to return until Jan. 2, 1907.

Between all stations on Atlantic Division, and Eastern Division to and including Montreal.

Also, from and to stations on the D. A. R. and I. C. R.

To Stations West of Montreal

Dec. 24, 25, 1906, good for return until Dec. 26, 1906. Also, on Dec. 31, 1906, and Jan. 1, 1907, good for return until Jan. 2, 1907.

Lowest ONE-WAY FIRST-CLASS FARE TO MONTREAL, ADDED TO LOWEST ONE-WAY FIRST-CLASS FARE AND ONE-THIRD FROM MONTREAL.

Dec. 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25; also Dec. 28, 29, 30 and 31, 1906, and Jan. 1, 1907, good for return until Jan. 2, 1907.

Full particulars on application to W. H. C. MACKAY, St. John, or W. B. HOWARD, D.P.A., C.P.R., St. John, N.B.

INTERCOLONIAL RAILWAY

SPECIAL NOTICE

On and after

TUESDAY, JANUARY 15th, 1907,

Trains Nos. 85 and 86 will be discontinued between

HALIFAX AND SYDNEY

Through dining and parlor cars will be attached to trains No. 19, leaving Halifax 7:40 a. m. for Sydney; No. 20, leaving Sydney 7:30 a. m. for Halifax.

SPECIAL TRAIN

With buffet sleeping car attached. Will leave Truro Saturday only after arrival of No. 31 (Maritime Express) from Montreal for Sydney and Sydney for Montreal.

10-1 till 14.

EASTERN STEAMSHIP COMPANY INTERNATIONAL DIVISION

WINTER REDUCED RATES

Effective to May 1, 1907.

St. John to Portland \$2.00.

St. John to Boston \$2.50.

Commencing Tuesday, Nov. 13, steamers leave St. John Tuesdays and Thursdays, via Portland, Eastport and Lubec.

All cargo, except live stock, via the steamers of this company, is insured against fire and marine risk.

W. G. LEE, Agent, St. John, N. B.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

Advertisers are giving to the Star, we are compelled to request those who require changes in their Advertisements to have their copy in the Star Office before 9 o'clock in the Morning, to ensure insertion same evening.

Scotch Coal, and Broad Cove Soft.

C. E. COLWELL has on hand a stock of Scotch Coal, and is expecting, daily, some Broad Cove Soft.

Telephone West End, No. 17, C. E. COLWELL, 61n Old Port, West End

LOCAL OPTION IN ONTARIO

TORONTO, Jan. 9.—Complete returns have been received from 77 places in Ontario where voting took place on the local option by-law. A majority of votes was polled against local option in only twelve of these places. A majority was given for the by-law, but not the requisite three-fifths of the total vote cast in 21 places, and the by-law received over three-fifths of the vote in 56 places.

HEADACHES AND NEURALGIA FROM COLDS

LAXATIVE FROM GUMMINE, the world wide Cold and Grip remedy, removes the cause. Call for full name Look for signature E. W. Grove 25c.

CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP.

NEW YORK, Jan. 9.—Following a conference held between Dr. Emanuel Lasker, chess champion, and Frank J. Marshall, the American expert, it is announced that the first game for the championship and \$1,000 will be played January 20th. They will devote two weeks to the New York series, playing six games here, after which Brooklyn, Philadelphia, Washington, Chicago, Memphis, and Kansas City will be visited.