

The Rose of Wentworth

She did not even look up at him as she briefly answered:

"Yes, paleface, she will come."

The closest observer would not have mistrusted that they had spoken to each other. He had, to all appearance, dropped a flower, stooped an instant to recover it, and then passed on.

Once or twice he passed back and forth again, then, yawning wearily, he leisurely sauntered away to his tent.

Minosa watched him from beneath her dusky lashes, but not a movement betrayed that she was in any way interested in his action, and after he had disappeared, she gradually sank forward until it almost rested upon her bosom, while her body swayed back and forth as if overcome with sleep.

A burst of merriment appeared suddenly to awake her, making her look up, to find several pairs of eyes mirthfully regarding her, and the young girls, gathering about her, began to banter her upon her drowsiness at that early hour of the evening.

This, as she had intended, gave her an excuse for retiring, and, rising, she made some laughing rejoinder, and then ran lightly away to her own wigwam.

Half an hour later Will heard a gentle scratching on the cloth of his tent just by his pillow.

"Minosa," he whispered.

"Let the paleface speak, Minosa will listen," came in a low, sweet tone to him.

"Minosa, why do your people hold me a captive here?"

"Is not the paleface kindly treated?"

"Yes, but I long for my own land and my own people."

Will thought he heard a gentle sigh at this, but the next moment she answered, though her voice did not sound quite natural.

"The paleface would make a brave warrior. If he could be content, he might become a great chief by and by."

"No, no, that would be impossible," he returned, with an unsteady gesture of disgust.

"Tell Minosa why."

"Because—because—listen, Minosa! You have always been a child of the forest; you have been free and unfettered as a bird, and no other life would be possible for you; that is, you could not enjoy any other life."

"Like it if some one should carry you away to a large city and shut you up in small, close rooms, never allowing you to go out and where you could never get a breath of your native air, or see one of your own people?"

"Minosa would die," she said, briefly.

"Her heart would break!"

"Yes, that is it. I am in a strange, wild country, my liberty is taken from me, and my heart is breaking to go back to my friends and my country."

"The paleface is a man, and the hearts of the brave do not break," the girl replied, with an accent of scorn.

"Perhaps not, but I am weary, and I might not die, but I am very unhappy to be detained here against my will."

"Ah! if only the paleface could be happy here, Minosa would live but to serve him, and—should be a great chief."

There was a sadness and an earnestness in the sweet voice of that thrilled listener.

He started, as a thought flashed upon him.

Could it be possible that this beautiful Indian girl was learning to love him? and was that the secret of her past attentions to him and of her wish for him to remain and become one of her people?

He hoped that such was not the case, at all events, he resolved to nip any such sentiment in the bud.

"That could never be," he said, gravely. "My heart is with my own people, and I must go back to them. Will you help me, Minosa?"

Surely a sob smote his ear at this. He was not quite sure, but it was very like it. Then the girl said, in a passionate voice:

"When the paleface goes home, far across the sea, Minosa—dies!"

Her voice died away to a hoarse whisper at the last word.

It was as he had feared, after all. The mischief was done—the Indian maiden loved him; and for a moment he was speechless—appalled.

"Hush!" he said, at length. "you must not say that, for by and by some noble brave will ask to take you to his wigwam, and you will be very happy, while I—listen now, for this is a secret which I could not tell to every one. I must go back to England, for I love a beautiful, golden-haired maiden there, who, I fear, is even now mourning me as dead. Now you see why I cannot remain willingly with your people, even were not this kind of life distasteful to me. But, Minosa, if you will assist me to get away, I will I can go back to those I love. I shall talk to his bed, where a messenger, friend."

He listened and waited for some reply to this, but none came. At last he arose and looked out. There was no one there—the spot where Minosa had knelt to talk with him was empty; she had stolen away as quietly as she had come, and he knew not what would be the result of his petition to her. So, something of apprehension, he threw himself again upon his pile of robes, and was ere long asleep.

He scanned the faces of the warriors somewhat anxiously the next morning as he went among them, and for several days after, but no one appeared any different to him; he was not more closely watched, and he began to think that if Minosa did not mean to help him, he at least intended to keep his desire for escape a secret.

However, he was every day becoming more desperate, and resolved that he would improve the first opportunity that offered for his escape—take his life in his hand, and try to make his way to some white settlement.

But one morning he arose with a strange feeling of lassitude upon him, shooting through his whole body. His tongue was parched and dry, his head

dizzy, and a fear began to haunt him that he was going to be very ill.

Every day he grew weaker, and he grew worse, and before he had finished dressing himself, he was obliged to crawl back to his bed, where a messenger, sent to bring him into his absence, found the morning meal, found him, groaning in pain.

The doctor was summoned, and upon seeing his patient, he gave vent to a long sigh.

He proceeded to put him through a thorough steaming process; but it was all of no avail, for every hour only the most desperate remedies, such as blisters, were tried, and before night he was unable to move, for he was bound hand and foot by the chains of that relentless demon—rheumatism.

It would be tedious to follow him through the long season of pain and weakness, of loneliness and almost constant agony, and the time he spent in his bed, but his strong constitution at length conquered, and he began slowly to move.

But she never complained—never spoke of herself, though there was a hopeless tenderness in her eyes which smote him like a sword.

Alas! while she was so attractive and gentle that he began to feel a real affection for her.

His strength returned and his convalescence progressed rapidly, she did not come so often, while she seemed to have grown suddenly weak and spiritless herself.

Once she was absent several days, and upon inquiring of Arrow where she was, he replied in a tone that was almost fierce, and with a despairing look:

"Minosa droops," she says the Great Spirit has called to her."

"Surely she cannot be ill as that!" Wil cried, in great surprise.

The Indian bowed his head upon his breast and did not answer, but Wil could see that his teeth had almost bitten through his lip in his effort to restrain all feeling, while his hands were clinched so tightly that they had become livid.

Fears actually started to the invalid's eyes; he could hardly believe that the beautiful girl was fatally ill; yet he remembered how hollow her cough had sounded the last time he saw her, and how, several times, she had involuntarily put her hand to her side as if a sharp pain had suddenly pierced her.

Arrow soon recovered his composure, and then told him that Minosa had been out in a storm and taken a sudden cold; that during his illness, she had several slight hemorrhages, and only a day previous she had been attacked with one more violent than the others, and was now confined to her couch.

This made Wil very sad, for he had been greatly interested in the bright, intelligent maiden, and it seemed most monstrous that she must die so young.

Another week passed, and then she came again to see him, and he was shocked at the change which the past fortnight had wrought in her, though she did not appear nearly so sad as she had done the last time he saw her.

"I am sorry you have been sick, Minosa," he said, holding out his hand in greeting to her.

She laid hers for a moment within it, and almost burned him with its fever heat.

"Minosa will be better soon," she answered, quietly, as she sat down beside him.

Then, fixing her dark eyes on a mournful look on his face, she asked, significantly:

"Can the paleface be patient a little longer?"

Will's heart bounded into his throat at the question, for something told him she had devised a way for him to escape from his captors.

[To be Continued.]

There are four millionaires in Britain to one in France.

CONSOLIDATION OF THE GOULD LINES IS THE LATEST MOVE

Fewer Passes Are To Be Issued by Roads Next Year.

Cassatt Said to Have Lost Influence On the Pennsylvania.

Invention by Which Telegraph and 'Phone Messages Can Be Sent Over Wire at Same Time.

George J. Gould has informed some of the largest stockholders of the Pennsylvania Railroad of a plan for the consolidation of all the lines under one security.

The plan proposed is to submit to a vote of the stockholders, inasmuch as the Gould family and affiliated interests own control of all the roads in the Gould system, there is little doubt of a prompt endorsement of the plan proposed.

The Gould system now comprises 17,000 miles of railroads, and important additions to existing lines are under way. The largest part of the system is west of the Mississippi, and it has been suggested that, for purposes of convenience in operation, the different lines

be grouped into three divisions. The first division, comprising the lines east of the Mississippi, would be under the management of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

The second division, comprising the lines between the Mississippi and the Rocky Mountains, would be under the management of the Chicago and North Western Railroad.

The third division, comprising the lines west of the Rocky Mountains, would be under the management of the Great Northern Railroad.

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one. In fact, several new cars now in service on that road are already supplied with the improved device.

The commonest article of hand baggage now seen on railroad trains is the dress suit case, and yet travelers are not permitted to place them in the overhead racks for the reason that the latter are too small to accommodate them. Acting in pursuance of his duty the brakeman removes the cases in order to protect the passengers.

On one of the eastern railroads the racks hold the suit cases, and one of the traveling men most interested in bringing about the reform cited an instance where a mother placed her sleeping infant in one of the racks and carried no fears for its safety.

It is probable that the new equipment ordered by western railroads will be provided with racks similar to those adopted by the officials of the New York Central line.

The Government employ in Washington, D. C., who are residents of the Western and Northwestern States, will pay full fare if they want to travel on the Gould lines. The railroads can see no reason why their money is not as much legal tender as that of other companies, and the latter have voiced their beliefs in agreement.

They say that there will be no special rates for men in Government service. The Government will not establish custom, since for many years, Government employes have received no special treatment.

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Mr. N. Y. They are for the Lake Shore and will be used on the James-town and Franklin lines. The engines weigh 22,000 pounds each, 20,000 on drivers and 2,000 on axles. The engines are the last of an order of 25.

United Action To Be Taken to End Much Abused Privilege.

Judging from indications there will be a dearth of losses issued by the railroads across the line during the coming year. The pruning process has been under consideration for some time, but it has not been until recently that the passenger traffic officials decided some action must be taken in concert to rid the railroads of the abuses consequent on the issuing of passes to persons other than employees.

The provisions of the Elkins law are responsible in the main for the determination of the railroad officials to restrict the privilege. According to this law railroads are forbidden to seek business by giving annual or trip passes over their lines to non-employees.

The law is intended to put a stop to the practice of giving passes to non-employees, and it is intended to put a stop to the practice of giving passes to non-employees.

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WHENCE COMES THIS MIGHTY HEALING POWER?

All the Land Wonders at the Remarkable Cures Effected by Professor Adkin.

HEALS DISEASES CALLED INCURABLE. Ministers, Doctors and Professional Men Tell How He Has Cured the Blind, the Lame, the Paralytic, and Many of the Very Brains of Death.

FREE HELP FOR THE SICK. Professor Adkin Offers to Help All Sufferers From Any Disease, Absolutely Free of Charge. Professional Men Investigate His Powers.

Prof. Adkin does not ask one cent for his services in this connection. They will be given to you absolutely free. He has made a wonderful discovery, and he wishes to place it in the hands of every sick person in this country, that he may be restored to perfect health and strength. Mark your letter personal when you write, and no one but Prof. Adkin will see it. Address Prof. Thomas P. Adkin, Office 1208 A, Rochester, N. Y., U. S. A.

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