

# Coming of Simon Friend

with strains of music that charmed the listeners with their sweetness. Every man there got a scolding that night for being out so late and when the advent of the lame stranger and his wonderful power of entertainment was offered in apology then all the women fell on the absent Simon tooth and nail. They called him a lazy vagabond and threatened to make the town too hot to hold him. But it was not a week before they were trying to get a peep at him, and tormenting their husbands to bring him home so the children could hear him play, and commending him for keeping them away from the tavern. But Simon was so shy of women that none could get near him, by which sign they knew him for an old bachelor.

It soon became apparent that Evansville without its Simon would be Handlet without its Dane. From being the poor, pinched object that had drifted in among them he waxed fat and metaphorically "kicked." Nothing was too good for him, and his lameness and rheumatic pains made him a pathetic burden. But he entertained the whole village—at least the male part of it. He told stories that every grandfather had known in his youth as if they had happened to him, changing them just enough to make them fit it. He played all the old airs, and many of the new ones on his mouth organ, which he made to imitate every known musical instrument. And as a reward he lived in clover. True, his "apartment" was over a stable, but it was warm and comfortable, and if his food did not come to him he shut himself up and sulked until the best of everything eatable was provided. A whole year he lived there like a nabob, and then two calamities happened. The first one was personal—Simon fell and broke his leg. He would not be removed from the walk where a runaway team had thrown him until the doctor, who was his friend and chum, came himself; then he had everyone sent off, and leaning on the doctor and dragging the broken limb, he hobbled to his lodging near by. There the doctor assisted him to bed, set the broken member and undertook such care of Simon as he could give him in off hours. And just at that time the women of Evansville, led by the doctor's sister, went off on a still hunt.

Simon's room now became the piece de resistance in the make-up of the village: The broken leg kept the entertained in bed, but offered no obstacle to social enjoyment. Nothing was imbibed stronger than hard cider but conviviality obtained just the same. The doctor watched the case and took care of his patient. He told the crowd that the broken leg was knitting finely and almost any day Simon would be up and around. Then he would leave his patient for anxious visits to the express office. Something or someone was expected. The second calamity was the last of poor Simon. He heard it coming and would have jumped out of the window but his chums were using his prostrate form for a card table, and a sporty game was in progress when the door opened and a woman stalked in. A tall, gaunt woman with a leather-consistency of feature and no front teeth.

"I've found ye," she hissed, while the most of the Evansville women were crowding into the doorway. "Oh, you good-for-nothing reptile, you sneak, you unhuman wretch to desert your lawful wife and leave seven children to starve!"

Simon sat up on one elbow. "Sally, did I ever do anything for the children?" he asked in a surprised and injured tone.

"Never, you shrinking varmint, 'cept to play with them while I worked. Many's the time—" turning to the crowd—"has he held the baby while I cut the wood to cook his meals."

"Industry must prosper," interrupted Simon, "and I allus knew the Lord would provide."

"Get up, you lazy vagabond!" screamed his wife, "get out of that bed and come along home."

"But your husband has a broken leg," said one of the men. "You surely wouldn't drag him away before he can walk. The doctor here can tell you that it's a bad break."

"What do you say?"

"It is true, sir. I shave for pay only at home."

"Come, come! You are jesting. I cannot be put off. Make your charge what you like, but shave me!"

"Again I say, sir, it is impossible!"

"How impossible? Isn't it your trade?"

"It is, but at this moment I am not disposed to exercise it."

In spite of renewed bribes and entreaties Jasmin remained firm, and the millionaire went away unshaved.

**Women and Worry**

Granting that a woman's nerves are more apt to become deranged, to borrow a French word, than a man's are, a fact which we have no wish to try to account for, we are not at all sure that it is because she is more subject to the smaller worries of life than a man is or indeed that she is really more subject to them. It is true that the cares of the household, productive as they are of much grievance and trouble, fall chiefly on a woman's shoulders; but, on the other hand, a man's ordinary business or profession is quite as full of small annoyances and worries which are every whit as irritating as those that beset his wife.

The difference, we should say, between the two sexes lies rather in the manner in which they meet their troubles than in the apportionment of those troubles. We would not readily dispute the theory that it is the steady and persistent pressure of these small worries which works a change in the nervous system more

surely than any great and sudden trouble, just as the drop of water hollows the stone, but we are inclined to believe that the reason in this case why one stone is hollowed sooner than the other is to be found in the greater softness of the stone and not in the greater frequency of the drop.—London Spectator.

**Collapse of Corn**

Chicago, July 15.—Corn fell with a thud at the opening of trade today. Fair weather, lower cables and immense receipts broke the market jagged, and incidentally it is thought broke John W. Gates's corner in July options. The opening was weak, 1 to 2 cents down from yesterday's close at 80c to 79c. In first hour of business, 10 1/2 cents was knocked off the price of July, 69 1/2 cents being the price, or a loss of 20 1/2 cents since the fancy price of 90 cents, which this option brought during the recent rainy weather. Receipts were very large, 827 cars, 298 of contract grade, private elevators marketing 116 cars and 50,000 bushels, making a total of 414 cars and 50,000 bushels of contract on the market for today. This, with that of 550,000 bushels in yesterday and prospects of half a million bushels a day for some time yet and delivery closing day two weeks off, stampeded the crowd. All hands argued that no corner could withstand such abundant offerings.

**French Agent Honored**

St. Johns, Nfld., July 15.—Ribalier des Iles, who for 17 years has acted as French agent at St. Johns, ranking in the French service as consul-general, but who was refused official recognition by the British and Newfoundland governments because France refused to permit a British consul at St. Pierre, has been promoted to the rank of minister plenipotentiary, and recalled to France with a decoration for conspicuous services while here. This action, it is presumed here, indicates a new development in the French shore question.

**Sanguinary Feud.**

Flat River, Mo., July 15.—As a result of the well-known Dooley-Harris feud, Frank Harris shot and killed William Dooley last night near Loughborough. Dooley shot William Harris on a train at Deer Run last Wednesday. Each family has sworn to kill the other, and some of the men have already been killed. Two men are now taking up the fight.

**\$50 Reward.**

Stolen Sunday, June 8th, one maul-anute dog, very dark grey, white breast, light chops, light grey stripe running from point of nose up between eyes, front legs white, hind feet white, extreme tip of tail white, belly light color, always carries tail curled over back or left side, nose very small like a fox or coon. I will pay the above reward for any information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of the thief and recovery of dog.

Answers to name of Prince.  
F. J. HEMEN,  
Klondike Nugget.

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# Snubbing a Snob.

Jasmin, the Gascon poet and barber, once treated a rich snob to the snubbing he deserved. Jasmin had been reciting his poems for the benefit of the poor and had afterward been escorted in triumphal procession to his hotel. Next morning while he was still in bed some one knocked at the door, a vulgar nabob entered and installed himself without invitation in a chair.

"My dear Jasmin," said he patronizingly, "I am a banker, a millionaire, as you know. I wish you to shave me with your own hand. Please set to work at once, for I am pressed for time. You can ask what you like for your trouble."

"Pardon me, sir," said Jasmin, with pride, "I shave for pay at home only."

"What do you say?"

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# Swart River

one hundred and fifty dollars shall forfeit and pay to the party weighing one hundred and fifty pounds, or less, one hundred and fifty dollars payable immediately after the out of the money in the final stakeholder, and optional with the party not to engage in said contest.

either party hereto failing and ready to engage in said contest shall forfeit and pay to the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250), payable immediately after the out of the money in the final stakeholder, and such default shall not carry the same be the result of a licensed practicing physician in Yukon territory that the default is physically caused in said contest.

whereof the party hereto set their names at Dawson, Y. T., this first herein written day of July, 1900, NICK BURLEY, JOHN LEEDEMAN, ROBERT CASHIN, R. M. BROWN.

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