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IS THIS TRUE?  
Recently General Yul was  
to have been in some way  
out of Ladysmith by the  
nd invaded home a broken  
responsibility to the re-  
a mortification at having  
dying Chief and wounded  
the hands of the enemy, con-  
the hardships he had him-  
told here, but actually  
in print and concealed by  
Office. It is a great shock to  
his many friends, as the  
which he had carried out  
it and joined forces with  
he had earned promotion for  
regard to the retreat, the  
s that while Gen. Symons  
of his wounds Yul learned  
troops of the 18th. Thus  
had gone so confidently  
he might have had fallen  
up and been taken prisoner  
a man. Annihilation stared  
to save his life. This  
no course but to abandon  
his supplies, his stores  
recruitments and take re-  
light toward the main force  
George Stewart White at

List of Casualties.

Dec. 22.—A War Office de-  
partmental circular, Nat-  
t of casualties on Monday  
of seven men killed and  
wounded, all non-commis-  
sioned and men. The names  
inmate concerned in the  
unrecorded tortie from  
on that date.

Churchill is Safe.

Dec. 22.—Lady Randolph  
has received a cable de-  
m her son, Winston Church-  
captured by the Boers  
and taken to Pretoria, and  
ape from there was an-  
ce. 14th. He says he has  
fe at Delagoa Bay.

Offer of Scouts.

Dec. 22.—(Special).—Lt-  
an, of St. John, N. B., has  
New Brunswickers to go  
at his expense to South  
would go in charged him-  
self to offer as only mounted  
artillery are going.

Dec. 22.—In spite of the de-

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nation and his entrenched  
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in position would be  
make a counter move with  
y and cavalry. Consequent-  
movement on the part of  
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Ch from Cape Town, dated

Dec. 17th, says that General  
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# FOR LOVE AND BIRTHRIGHT

—OR—  
PLOT VS. PRINCIPLE.

"It is a great crime to steal a will, Miss Gordon," he repeated, imitating her manner and tone. "You had better give it to me."  
"Even if I did, I could tell that I had found it; I should do so."  
"You would have to prove your statement, and, since you could not possibly have been so dishonorable as to read it—"  
"No, indeed," she interrupted, flushing. "I do not know one word that it contains."  
"Then you could not prove the property is to be divided," he sneered, with a triumphant air.  
"Mr. Carpenter, you are arguing," Ruby replied, with dignity. "I shall not give you the will."  
"Oh, yes, you will, Miss Gordon."  
"Indeed!"  
"I shall compel you to do so," her companion retorted, in a tone and with a look that made her heart quail for an instant.  
She thought a moment, then she said:  
"Mr. Carpenter, I wish to do what is right about this matter, and I suppose it would seem rather strange to give it to you in the presence of a third party."

He saw that he had made a great mistake in allowing his anger to get the better of him; but he never could bear to be opposed in anything. He might have temporized with her—promised anything that she asked; and when he once got the will in his possession, he would not have hesitated to burn it before her eyes, and then let her prove, if she could, that such a document existed. It would have been a doubtful question to settle, while no one would have been the wiser as to its contents.  
After a few moments, however, he said:  
"Very well, I accept your condition. I will call Thomas, who has just returned from the station, and he shall be the third party."

"I should prefer that you would call Mrs. Coxon," Ruby said, and remembering for the first time that she had not seen the housekeeper that morning.  
"Mrs. Coxon is not at home to-day," Mr. Carpenter answered. "But I am not afraid that Ruby would make a confidante of her, so he had posted her off at an early hour to superintend the cleaning of his bachelor apartments in the city, and she would not be back until evening; meantime, he was determined to secure and destroy the will—after that she might tell whom she pleased."

"I am sorry," Ruby said, greatly disappointed, for she knew that Thomas was coming completely under his master's thumb, and would doubtless swear to suit him. "For, in that case, I shall feel obliged to wait until I can see Mr. Ruggles again."  
"And Edmund Carpenter is in despair," he said, but Ruby was resolute; he had not believed that she possessed a title of such determination.  
"I shall not permit you to remove your trunk to-day," he said, angrily, imagining that she might have the document concealed in it.  
"Very well," she returned, quietly. "I presume you will allow me to take a few necessary articles in a traveling bag?"  
"Yes; but I must see you pack them."

The young girl's lips curled with scorn, not unminged with amusement. "Thank you," she returned. "I will pack them in the presence of one of the servants, and yourself, if you desire."  
"Ruby Gordon," he cried, "I believe that document is concealed about your person!"  
His eyes glowed fiercely, and he took a step or two toward her, as if to search her for it.  
With the agility of a squirrel she flew to the bell-rope and rang a sounding peal that woke echoes all through the house.  
Then she turned upon him her face burning with indignation.  
"Do not dare to come a step nearer!" she cried, dauntlessly.  
"You forget that the door is locked, Miss Gordon, and no one can come to your aid," he said, with an evil smile. "You will unlock it at once, or I will cry for help, and arouse every servant in the house, and proclaim the truth before them," she retorted, defiantly.

He knew she would do as she said, and, as a step sounded in the hall, he walked to the door with a crestfallen air, and unlocked it, for he did not wish a scene, and, besides, another plan was taking form in his mind.  
The next moment a maid appeared. "Mary," said Ruby, turning to one of her waiting maids, "the girl, 'I am going away this afternoon. Will you come upstairs and help me do some packing?'"  
"Indeed I will, miss," was the ready reply.  
"Did I understand that you wish to superintend the work, Mr. Carpenter?" Ruby asked, with sarcastic politeness.  
"No; pack and take away whatever you like," he answered, turning abruptly upon his heel, and leaving the room; for he had become convinced that the will was concealed about her person, and he must adopt some other measure to secure it.

Ruby uttered a sigh of relief, and, feeling afraid she would be obliged to go away after all without her treasure, for she should not dare attempt to get it while the man was in the house.  
CHAPTER XXXIX.  
Ruby Falls Into a Trap.  
Ruby hurried her things into her trunk with all possible despatch, finding action her only safeguard, for she was so excited by her recent interview that she must have broken down on the way if she had allowed herself to give way to her thoughts.  
In the midst of her packing she glanced from the window and saw Edmund Carpenter driving away in the morning.

A sense of safety cheered her as he disappeared from view, and she hoped that she should never meet him again. "Now is my time to get the will," she thought; and leaving Mary to fold some clothing, she sped down stairs to the library.  
But the door was locked, and the key missing.  
Ruby was bitterly disappointed; but she stole out upon the veranda, thinking perhaps she might get in at one of the windows. She hated to go away without that will, for the house might burn, or a hundred things happen before she could return to secure it. But every blind was closed, and she was obliged to give up and return to her work up stairs.

It was then half-past two, and at three a carriage came dashing up the driveway and stopped before the door.  
Ruby ran to put on her wraps and waterproof, and was ready by the time her trunks had been strapped upon the carriage.  
The gentleman said I was to come for you, and then take him up on the way back," the coachman said to Ruby, as he held the door open for her to enter the carriage.  
"All right," she replied, and sprang quickly in. The door was shut, and the next moment she was speeding toward the city.  
The rain seemed to come down almost in sheets, so that it was almost impossible for Ruby to distinguish the names of the streets through which she passed. But at length the hack stopped before a plain house in a quiet street, with which she was unfamiliar.  
The man sprang to the ground, ran up the granite steps, and rang a bell. A neatly-dressed servant soon answered his call, and he stood talking with her a moment, after which he entered the house.  
He was absent several minutes, and Ruby wondered what could detain him so long.  
Presently he came out again, and, opening the carriage door, he said:  
"It's rather unfortunate, miss, but the gentleman has been suddenly taken sick, and can't care to come out in the rain. He's sorry to disappoint you, but he says would you just step up and see him for a minute; then I am to drive you to some quiet hotel, or anywhere you may choose to stop for the night."

Ruby's face fell. She was bitterly disappointed, for she had made up her mind that she would be easily settled in the comfortable farmhouse at Redville before night, and now it was evident that she must wait at least another day, or until the storm was over, if Mr. Ruggles was ill.  
But of course she would go up to see her kind friend; then she would send her trunk to the station, and go to spend the night with her friends, Florence and Annie Partridge.  
She alighted and passed into the house, the hackman sliding her from the rain with an umbrella.  
A servant girl met her in the hall, with a pleasant smile, saying:  
"This way, if you please, miss," and led her up stairs.  
The house was large, the halls and stairs richly carpeted, and there was an air of quiet elegance about everything that impressed Ruby.  
The girl led her up three flights, and she was nearly exhausted when she got to the top of the last one.  
"It's a long climb, miss," the maid said, in a tone of apology; but the gentleman wanted a room at the top of the house, where he could get good air."  
She opened a door as she spoke, and ushered Ruby into a pretty parlor, with a bedroom opening out of it.  
But no sooner had she stepped over the threshold than the door was quickly closed again, there was a sound as of the click of a key turning in the lock, and—Ruby Gordon was a prisoner.  
She knew, without being told, that Edmund Carpenter had sprung this trap upon her.  
He had sent a carriage early, in order to be before Mr. Ruggles, and had brought her to this place to try to break her spirit and make her give up the will.  
A feeling of dismay took possession of her as she realized that she might be kept there for weeks, perhaps months. Meantime, Walter's trial would come off, and she alone knew of the plot that had been laid to ruin him; she alone could save him from shame and imprisonment, for he would surely be convicted if Estelle's denials were found upon his person, as his enemy had planned.  
"I can sit at the window, day in and day out, and watch for some one whom I know; then I will break a pane of glass and cry out for help. There must be some way to get out of this dreadful place," she said, resolutely.  
Just at this moment she heard steps outside her door, then something heavy set down in the hall.  
The next instant the key was turned, the door opened, and Edmund Carpenter walked into the room.

CHAPTER XL.  
"I Will Brave It Out to the Bitter End."  
Lifting her flashing eyes, her cheeks crimson with indignation Ruby sprang to her feet.  
"What does this outrage mean?" she demanded.  
He did not pay any attention to her words, but said to some one outside:  
"Bring them right in!"  
And the next moment a man came in, bringing one of her trunks, and she could see the other one standing in the hall.  
He deposited them where Mr. Carpenter indicated, and then passed out without so much as glancing at Ruby.  
Edmund Carpenter shut and locked the door after him, and then turned to his captive, with a triumphant smile on his dark face.  
"These rooms are not quite so spacious and airy as those at Forestvale, but I trust you can make yourself comfortable in them for a while," he coolly remarked.  
"What does this mean?" she repeated.  
"It means that you will be a compulsory guest until you give me that document which I asked you for this morning; and not only that, but you must also give me your promise never to mention that you found it."

"I shall do neither one nor the other," Ruby retorted, resolutely.  
"If you have it concealed about your person, as you led me to suppose a few hours ago, I shall soon have it," her companion said, regarding her searchingly. "For I have commissioned a woman to search you."  
Ruby's lips curled, and she flashed a glance of triumph at her enemy.  
"I am perfectly willing to be searched, Mr. Carpenter, but your accomplice will not find what she seeks," she coolly replied.  
The man looked nonplussed at this statement. He had been very sure that she had it about her, and that that was why she had flown so eagerly to the bell that morning when he attempted to approach her. He had imagined that if he could make her a prisoner he could easily bring her to terms; or that, failing, he believed he could attain his object by having her forcibly searched.

But her coolness and defiance startled him, and he felt that the risk he had been so cunning for him after all, and had hidden it somewhere, so that she could have it forthcoming whenever she chose.  
"What have you done with it?" he demanded angrily.  
"I shall not tell you," she answered, quietly, and actually experiencing a thrill of triumph in being able to defy him.  
He sat in sullen silence for several minutes.  
You have not yet answered my question, Mr. Carpenter," she said.  
"What question?"  
"In whose house am I?"  
"It is the house of a respectable physician, a particular friend of mine, one who sometimes is prevailed upon to treat patients of a refractory and wilful nature," he replied, watching her with an evil smile as he made the statement.

"Am I supposed to be a patient?"  
"Well, not exactly; you are simply a boarder."  
"In other words, you have bribed the man to keep me here to suit your purposes. But, Edmund Carpenter," Ruby continued, taking a step toward him, and lifting her right hand to emphasize her words, "your friend may keep me here as long as you see fit to pay him for it; I will brave it out to the bitter end; but I forbid you to enter my presence again. I will not see you—I will have nothing whatever to say to you."

CHAPTER XL.  
Walter Makes a Wonderful Discovery.  
Meanwhile Walter was faithfully attending to the duties of his position in Chester. Mr. Count was satisfied with the manner in which he had managed the contract which he had been forced, from the press of other business, to entrust him with, and from that hour she began to feel that she had a dreadful foe; but she still kept on with her work, for I had to be fed and clothed, and sent to school. But at last her strength gave out, entirely, and she had to keep her bed; then I had to stay at home to take what care I could of her, and to salt papers to help her out the little that she was still able to earn at her fancy work; for she persisted in making her beautiful flowers even after she was too weak to sit up, and I took them out to be sold. Of course, matters grew worse and worse with us, and finally we became so destitute that I used to ask people now and then to give me a little money to keep my mother from starving; and at last, as I have already told you, I met Mr. Carpenter and begged a nickel from him.

"I went home with me, and found that my mother was one whom he had loved before she left her native place, when she was Miss Martha Burton's heiress. There had been a quarrel, or misunderstanding of some kind, and he was driven away from her, and, of course, after he found us, our destitution was an end, for he provided for our every want, giving my mother every luxury and delicacy which money could buy; and when at last we were over, and I was an orphan, he took me to his own home, and treated me like his own son as long as he lived."

"Bless the man for a noble deed!" ejaculated madam, with considerable emotion. Then she added: "But have you never tried to find your father's relatives?"  
"To be continued."

Popovers.  
You will want something a little out of the common for the Christmas breakfast cakes, why not experiment with popovers? They are very easy to make if only directions are closely followed, and they are a welcome change from the more heavy breakfast goods made with baking powder. To one cup of flour add three-fourths of a level teaspoonful of salt and seven-eighths of a cupful of milk. Beat thoroughly one fresh egg and add to the mixture a few more boxes, as a precautionary measure, and I would earnestly advise those suffering from this painful trouble to give Dr. Williams' Pink Pills a fair trial and be well pleased.  
Dr. Williams' Pink Pills cure by going to the root of the disease. They renew and build up the blood, and strengthen the nerves, thus driving disease out of the system. Avoid imitations by insisting that every box you purchase is enclosed in a wrapper bearing the full trade mark, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People.

To Cure a Cold in One Day.  
Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. 25c. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box.  
Large Salaries.  
The biggest salary on record was paid to George Gould. For ten years' work his father gave him \$5,000,000. The account went down as "for services rendered." That was at the rate of \$500,000 a year. The highest salary ever paid a railroad president was the \$750,000 a year that went to Sir William C. Van Horn when he was president of the Canadian Pacific.

Miller's Compound Iron Pills; only 25 cents for 50 doses.  
Pat's Retort.  
An Irishman went to a Scotch contractor several times and asked him for a job. The Scotsman, tired of the man's perseverance, told him to go to the devil, and see if he could get a job there. "Ah, sure, I'm sure, I've been to the devil," said the Irishman, "and he's taking nobody on but Scotsmen."

Ald. Rumball is a candidate for the Mayoralty in London, Ont.  
It is often by those who do not speak for R that the truth of God is most clearly spoken.—Dr. Fairbairn.

## MOULDER AGAIN.

This Time William Bowen, of Brockville, is Cured of Backache by Dodd's Kidney Pills.

Moulder's Seems to be a Fortunate Trade—Second Moulder Dodd's Kidney Pills Reported Recently to Have Cured.  
Brockville, Dec. 20.—Last week the papers reported the case of Geo. Barkley, a Hamilton moulder, who was fortunate enough to find a cure for Rheumatism. This, it turned out, was Dodd's Kidney Pills, the most famous kidney medicine in the world. There is a moulder in Brockville, who also has a word to say regarding Dodd's Kidney Pills.

William Bowen suffered with Backache in a severe way. Backache is not a mere affection of the muscles or an ache in the back-bone. Many people think this is the case. They have spent money and time rubbing liniments into the back. This is quite useless, as no amount of rubbing can reach the kidneys where the ache is actually located. Backache is kidney-ache and should be treated as such. Otherwise it may develop into Bright's Disease or some other form of Kidney Disease in its fatal form. Mr. Bowen says of his cure:  
Brockville.

Dodd's Medicine Co.:  
Gentlemen,—I have been troubled with pain in my back and in the region of my kidneys, and I was advised by Mr. Stagg, butcher, of Brockville, to take Dodd's Kidney Pills. I was very bad, being hardly able to stand the pain. I am now completely cured, and can highly recommend Dodd's Kidney Pills to anyone troubled with Backache. The men in the shop will all vouch for my case.  
I remain, yours, etc.,  
Wm. Bowen.

## WHENCE THE DATE.

Christmas Not Always Celebrated on Dec. 25.

Those who do not lose sight of the religious aspect of Christmas may be interested to have the fact recalled that the 25th of December has not always been the day fixed as the birth of Christ. Before the Fourth Century many people believed that April 20th was the eventful day, others May 20th, and in Egypt the belief prevailed that it was January 6th. The Greek church has long held that the birth of Christ for a long time had no settled feast, but merely commemorated the great event on Epiphany. St. John Chrysostom, in a Christmas sermon, preached on December 25th, 386, said that the day had not been clearly known to his hearers longer than ten years, "but it had been familiar from the beginning to those who dwell in the West." From this it appears evident that the December 25th was in the Fourth Century adopted by the Church in the East in conformity with the traditional custom in Western Europe.

## COULD NOT DRESS ALONE.

A Nova Scotia Farmer Tells of His Intense Suffering From Rheumatism and How He Found Relief.

(From the Bridgewater, N. S., Enterprise.)  
Such suffering as rheumatism can cause is almost unendurable. Only those who write under its pangs can imagine the joy of one who has been freed from its torments. Mr. J. W. Ferguson of New Brunswick, is one of those who have been released from pain, and who believes it is his duty to let others know how a cure can be found. Mr. Kokenham is a farmer, and like all who have been released from pain, he is a grateful man. He writes: "I suffered from rheumatism for a long time, and I would earnestly advise those suffering from this painful trouble to give Dr. Williams' Pink Pills a fair trial and be well pleased."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills cure by going to the root of the disease. They renew and build up the blood, and strengthen the nerves, thus driving disease out of the system. Avoid imitations by insisting that every box you purchase is enclosed in a wrapper bearing the full trade mark, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People.

The Congress of Peru has approved the extradition treaty with the United States.  
DALLEY'S SUMMER REMEDY  
Has never failed to cure Diarrhoea, Dysentery and Summer Complaint in the last 25 years.

Very Suggestive.  
"That was a horribly suggestive prank the gnomes played last night," said the dignified Federal officer with the slightest suspicion of a smile hovering about his lips as he spoke.  
"What prank was that?"  
"Why, they took a sign reading 'Stripes Wanted' away from the front of a cigar factory and placed it in front of one of the city theatres where the ballet is popular."—Detroit Free Press.

The final returns from Gimli elect Mr. Baldwin, Conservative, for the Manitoba Legislature by eight majority.  
Mr. Howard Douglas, Superintendent of the Banff National Park, who is now in Ottawa, reports that the buffalo and other live stock in the park are thriving and increasing in numbers.

## THE MODE IN FOOTWEAR.

Stylish Slippers to Don With Evening Toilettes.

## POPULARITY OF THE SANDAL.

The styles for evening foot coverings have changed very materially from the ordinary-shaped Oxford of light-colored suede, or all-over patent leather, that were in vogue several seasons ago. Never were they prettier than they are at the present time, and their more decorative shapes and trimmings make them infinitely more dressy adjuncts to a charming toilet than the plainer, clumsier faced Oxfords. Our illustrations show some of the latest vogue.



The Langtry.

The first is called the Langtry, and its tongue is its most unusual feature. The long effect of this shoe from the toe to the end of the tongue makes the foot appear more slender, while its fullness and length give much more apparent height to the instep, which is always most becoming to the foot. It is of all-over black patent leather, with cut-steeled buckle, mounted on satin. The heels and tongue are trimmed with satin in black, red or white, as milady's taste chooses.



Beaded Evening Slipper.

The beaded evening slipper in the second sketch forms a tasteful and proper combination with the black evening gowns which are so universally jet trimmed or flitter spangled this season. Here it is of black satin, beaded in black jet, but it may be had in all-over black kid, beaded in beige beaded to match any white satin, beaded in crystal. The black satin ones in jet are really the most tasteful, although the bronze is much liked also.

The Knickerbocker, the third pretty slipper, is not unlike the Langtry, only where the Langtry is all-over patent leather, this has just the patent leather vamp. The tongue is a different shape, and the buckle, which is a covered one, has a pointed strip of black satin drawn through it extending on either side.



The Knickerbocker.

Last, but not least, is the sandal, an old style revived, which has attained a wide popularity. Our picture shows it of black patent leather with three straps, but it may be had with two straps as well. A dainty cut-steeled ornament finishes the front.

Notice that the Louis XV. heel is on everyone of those evening slippers.



The Sandal.

It may be trying to walk on, but as long as fashion decrees it ma belle must have it. These styles also may be had in a number of delicate tints in silk, with trimmings in keeping, to suit the color of evening costumes, or the smart shoemaker will take a piece of your gown and make you a pair to order to match for a trifle more expense.

## Secret Drawers in Furniture.

"Most people seem to think," said a maker of furniture, "that secret drawers and hidden receptacles in furniture only exist in novels and plays, but this is by no means so. I very frequently take orders for such items, and I employ a clever woman designer, who shows positive genius in planning places of concealment which no amount of tapping or measuring could reveal. In most cases even were the hollow receptacle discovered the woodwork around would have to be cut away, so complex are the fastenings. Most of the orders come from women—and rich people, of course—and I have no doubt that a desire to hide articles from too curious servants dictates the orders."

## Walking Miles and Miles.

An average walk takes a dancer over about three-quarters of a mile; a square dance makes him cover half a mile. A girl with a well-filled programme travels thus in one evening: Twelve waltzes, nine miles; four other dances at half a mile apiece, which is nearly a fairly big estimate, two miles more; the intermission stroll, and the trips to the dressing room to renovate her gown and complexion, half a mile; grand total, eleven and a half miles.

A dose of Miller's Worm Powders occasionally will keep the children healthy.