



During the anxious times of illness

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## Lady Wyverne's Daughter.

CHAPTER IV.

"Stop, Agatha!" cried another voice, more musical still, but with a strange ring of passion in its tone. "I feel half angry with Enid; after all, she was too patient. I would never do as she did, would you?"

"Yes," was the reply. "When my Geraint comes, if he ever does appear, I would do all that Enid did, and more."

"So would not I," cried Inez.

Lord Lynne hardly noticed her. His heart went with Agatha's answer, and something like a wish shaped itself in his mind that he might be Geraint and win her love. His eyes seemed to drink in the fair beauty of her face. He hardly looked at the beautiful Andalusian by her side.

He came forward then, and both sisters rose at his approach. It was an embarrassing moment for them all; but no chivalry of the olden time ever exceeded Lord Lynne in grace and courtesy. Inez had self-possession enough to have met—well, it is difficult to say what would have daunted her. Certainly Lord Lynne did not. She received his condolences and apologies with the same languid grace and dignity with which she had received her father's caresses and her sister's demonstrations of affection. She might have been an empress receiving an ambassador. She looked everything that was beautiful and majestic, but not at all like a girl who would be glad to be Lord Lynne's wife, if he asked her.

Agatha's greeting of her cousin was characteristic of herself. If Inez forgot for a moment, or appeared to forget, the strange will that linked them together, her sister did not. A crimson flush covered her face, and her shy eyes fell when her cousin

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## Blue-jay

"was not the Senora Monteleone kind to you?"

"Kind?" she replied; "yes, of course, whenever I saw her; but she was an invalid for many years before she died. Tell us about your mother, Lord Lynne. Is she pleased to come to live at Lynnewolde?"

"I am sure she is," replied Philip, warmly. "You will like my mother. I have always considered her one of the most perfectly well-bred women in the world. You are both left in some measure to her care. You know your father wished you to live with my mother until—"

Here Lord Lynne stopped, and a warm flush rose to his brow. Not in the presence of that sweet and gentle Agatha, or her imperially beautiful sister, could he utter the word that trembled upon his lips; not in their presence could he say one word which would recall to them the will.

"Until we are married," said Inez, coolly; "and if we never marry at all, Mrs. Lynne will have three children instead of one."

It was gracefully said, and then, for the first time, Inez saw something like admiration in Lord Lynne's face as he turned toward her. It was not for her beauty, though, but for her ready wit and grace.

That afternoon, Mrs. Lynne arrived, and then, for the first time, the two sisters felt at ease in their cousin's house. That evening the family solicitor and Sir Harry Leigh joined them, and they all united in persuading the daughters of the late Lord Lynne to continue their residence in the house where their father had lived and died—at least for a time, until some other arrangements could be made. Mrs. Lynne declared that she should never be happy at Lynnewolde if her nieces quitted it. Their father had wished them to make their home with her, that she might be guardian, chaperone, and friend.

The prospect of leaving Lynnewolde, even for a home of their own, as beautiful if not as stately, was not pleasing to the girls, who loved this, the home of their race. Lord Lynne said he should be in London a great deal—he was going also to Scotland—and he begged them to remain, that his mother might not feel lost or lonely.

So it was decided at last, to the great joy of every one, including the servants and retainers, who gloried in the proud beauty of Miss Lynne, while they loved the gentle rule of Agatha. Mr. Gregson was relieved; it saved him an infinite amount of trouble. Sir Harry Leigh was delighted, for he had long contemplated a marriage between one of the heiresses and his son and heir, Allan. Mrs. Lynne was pleased, because she loved the girls and wished to take a mother's place to them. Philip was glad, as any man would be, that the house he called his own was to be cheered and brightened by the presence of two young and beautiful girls.

Philip had thought much of the will and its conditions. He liked money, but he loved honor more. He knew that without money, his title and Lynnewolde would be but a farce. How could he keep them up on a few hundreds per annum? Yet he had made up his mind, and no Lynne had ever changed it. If he did not love either of the girls, and if they did not love him, he would never ask one or the other to be his wife. In that case

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the money must go. He was quite decided; he would never marry any girl because he had been told to do so; nor would he ever marry for the sake of money. There was plenty of time before him—two long years. Then his thoughts flew back to Florence Wyverne. Oh, no, he did not love her; it had been but a passing fancy. He liked Agatha Lynne much better; yet he thought kindly of Florence, and remembered her looks and tones on that morning that seemed now so many years ago.

"I will neither win nor win, yet," said Philip to himself. "I will wait. Wisdom and truth and goodness must determine my choice."

(to be continued.)

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### Are Your Dreams Funny

Have You Had Any More Amusing Than These?

Almost everyone has had a humorous dream at some time or other. Have you? If so, write a brief account of your funniest dream, and if we accept it for publication in "Tilt-Bits" you will be paid half a guinea for it.

An instance of the ridiculous incidents the mind pictures during sleep was provided by an experiment applied to sleepers by a mental specialist not long ago.

A very hot water-bottle was placed at a man's feet, and he dreamt he was walking on hot lava in the crater of Vesuvius.

Another sleeper whose brow was sprinkled with water dreamt he was in Italy drinking the wine of Corvieto. A third, whose nose was tickled with a feather, dreamt that a doctor was covering his face with plaster of Paris and then pulling it off, causing him excruciating pain.

An even better instance of a humorous dream is recorded by a Harley St. specialist.

"One of my patients," he writes, "a meek little man who had been a clerk and then came into some money, underwent an operation. When he awoke he told me he had had a dream in which he found himself placed on a platform facing a great crowd of people. Mr. Lloyd George and the Prince of Wales had just made speeches, and it was the clerk's turn to get up and address the audience. "In the dream the clerk was to be principal speaker of the evening, and the occasion was the presentation of a good-conduct certificate to a diminutive Boy Scout."

Mr. G. K. Chesterton once declared that the most extraordinary dream of which he ever heard was modestly mentioned by a quiet lady, who said she dreamt she ate Queen Victoria. Mr. Chesterton added that he himself once dreamt he was chased by a boiled lobster.

Mr. Augustine Birrell has a dream which has been constantly recurring through his life. He fancies he is walking somewhere in a desert, and suddenly encounters the ghost of Sir Isaac Newton, who approaches him and says how ignorant he is of all that has happened in the world of science.

"Now," the ghost says; "quick, tell me all. I have only fifteen minutes to remain."

Mr. Birrell says he always finds himself tongue-tied, and the ghost invariably stalks off, remarking, "Oh, that ignorance!"

Ironed and Mangled.

In his book, "Humours of a Parish," the Rev. W. B. Money records a funny dream he had. Among his parishioners were three men who were particularly solemn and staid.

In his dream he was delivering a sermon. The congregation consisted

of the three solemn men, who were all attired as Christy minstrels!

Children often experience funny dreams, and of these Dr. C. W. Kimmins, of the London Educational Committee, tells many stories.

After a Royal visit to Peckham, a girl of five dreamt "the King and Queen were under my bed eating bread and butter, and a lot of ladies with them."

Funniest of all was the dream of a boy of eight, who said: "I dreamt I was going to be put in the bath to be washed. After I was washed I was wrung out in the mangle. Then I was hung on the line. I was hanging on the line when it started to rain. My mother took me in and ironed me. The iron was hot. And then I woke up."—Tilt-Bits.

### How Salt Influences the Complexion.

There have been many theories as to why there should be black, white, yellow and red people in the world. It has even been asserted that Adam was black.

The latest theory regarding the colour of the skin is that it turns entirely upon the question of salt. The writer of an ingenious book brings together a mass of evidence to show that the darker a race the more it lacks salt as an item of diet.

It seems that in some parts of Africa salt is such a luxury that the Negroes suck rock salt as we would confectionery. They describe a rich man as one who eats salt with his meals.

A Royal Drink.

The author of the salt theory states that each Briton eats about sixteen pounds of salt every year. In India, however, salt is taxed, and the average consumption per head may not be more than three or four pounds. As everybody knows, the natives of India, although they would resent being called "black men," are certainly not white.

It is remarkable how wide is the difference in complexion, say, between the natives of Samoa and those of New Britain. Anthropologists would say they were of different races, and probably they are, but it seems that "access to salt" is the cause of the difference between the blacks and the light browns!

So scarce is salt in Tahiti that Captain Cook, the great navigator, described how salt water was a royal drink, taken with great solemnity, a sip at a time, on coronation occasions.

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### Cataloguing the Stars.

The discovery of 2,000 new nebulae, or clusters of stars, has been announced by the Harvard University astronomers, who are making observations at Arequipa, Peru. They have also measured the distance and size of the large Magellanic Cloud, a cloudlike cluster of stars, and estimated it to be 110,000 light years from the earth.

Dr. A. C. Crommelin, of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, S. E., said to a "Daily Mail" reporter that this announcement is a summary of many years' work in observation and photography. He added:

"These newly discovered nebulae are probably very faint. For the brighter nebulae were catalogued long since. When the great Crossley Reflector (giant telescope) was first installed at the Lick Observatory, California, it was estimated that there were 500,000 unknown nebulae in the whole of the heavens. It is satisfactory that the completion of the catalogue is proceeding so rapidly."

The Magellanic Clouds in the southern heavens are systems analogous to the Galaxy, or Milky Way, in the northern heavens, and are named after the voyager, Ferdinand Magellan, the first circumnavigator of the globe.

Professor Harlow Shapley, who is in charge of the observations, has probably reached this approximate estimate of the distance and size of the large cloud by measuring the apparent diameter of the faint globular clusters that it contains. He has established that the size of these clusters is generally constant.

The previous estimate of the distance was about 80,000 light years. A light year is the distance travelled in a year by light. It is 5,876,000,000,000 miles.

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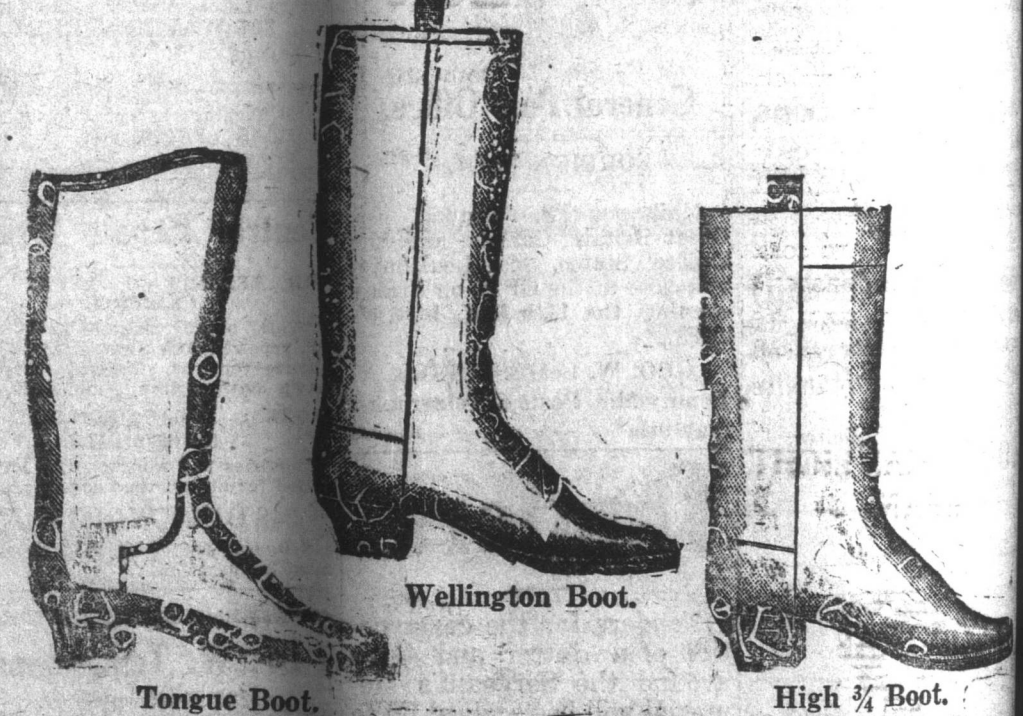
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