

## The Wooing of Nell.

"Oh," remarked the detective, highly satisfied at having tapped the fount of Meg's loquacity, "I should have thought she was too much of a fine lady for that, your Miss Nell!"

"Ah, but she wouldn't do it for anybody else," replied Meg, anxious to defend her mistress. "You see, she's a real one, only they're poor, very poor. And they don't keep no servant, say Miss Tinsdall does all the work herself. So you see, she's been kind to Miss Nell, and got the master to give her a fine education and French and the piano, why, Miss Nell don't seem to know how to do enough for her. That's how it is, sir. I'd be glad to take the milk myself, or we could easily get the boy to do it, only Miss Nell likes to do it herself like."

The detective was about to interrogate Meg further, when the voice of the housekeeper, shouting to her to know why breakfast was not ready, prevented him from doing so. And, much to his regret, he found on his next morning that the detective's suspicion had been justified into his mind by her master, and that she was communicative no longer.

Finding this source of information dry, therefore, the detective, who shrewdly concluded that Nell would not return until he had taken his departure, sent a boy off towards Strawn with his luggage on a barrow, and he did not go very far. Over-taking the boy, he made him leave his luggage at Strawn station; and as soon as the lad was out of sight, he had it taken to one of the inns of the place.

This done, he had his lunch, and walked back to the Blue Lion.

He did not want to put in an appearance until he knew whether Miss Nell had returned from her visit to her friend. But it was a slack time of day at the inn, and there was nobody about of whom he could ask a question. He managed to get a peep into the bar as he walked past the house, but there was no one there, either in front or behind. When he had hung about the place some time, keeping as much out of view as possible, he saw the robust figure of Meg at the side door. She was shaking out a cloth. She started and uttered a little gasp at sight of him.

"Why," said he, getting by a dexterous movement, between her and the door, "what's the matter? You look scared at sight of me?"

"Well, I don't want to have any more to say to you, and that's a fact," replied Meg, turning away with her hands on her hips. "It seems you're nothing better than a detective chap, what's come ferreting about the place asking questions and trying to get us all into trouble. Ugh! I'm ashamed to be seen talking to you!"

"Well, now, can't you see that it is for the good of all of you that this affair should be cleared up, and that it should be known who it is that has brought the bad name on the house?" said he persuasively. "I'm very sure your ladies must be frightened out of your lives to hear the things that are said. I'll end by your all going away from the place, like Miss Nell has done."

"Oh, but she's come back," replied Meg quickly, with the idea that there was reproach to her young mistress implied in the suggestion that she had been frightened away. "She didn't wait long after master sent her, I can tell you!"

"And she's in the house now?" asked the detective with interest.

"Yes, but not for you to see," retorted Meg, rudely. "You can worry me with your questions if you like, but you don't get at her, if I can help it."

At that moment a window was opened above their heads, and the detective, without answering the servant, looked up quickly. He saw Nell standing at the casement, crumpling a piece of bread which she put on the ledge for the birds.

Nothing more was said, and Meg, who stared up silently, until Nell, whose head was turned away, moved and perceived him. She blushed crimson, and was about to shut the window hastily, when he stopped her with an imperious gesture.

"Beg pardon, miss, but could I speak to you a minute?"

For an instant she seemed to hesitate, and in that instant he could see that she grew deadly pale. At last, however, she made a movement to signify assent, closed the window, and disappeared.

The detective, who thought he had reason to fear that she would again attempt to escape him, pushed brusquely past Meg, and opened the side door.

"What are you going in like that for, without so much as 'good-bye' to your leave?" asked she promptly.

"You heard the young lady say she'd see me," replied the detective, as, without further ceremony, he passed into the house.

At the foot of the stairs he met Nell.

"What do you wish to say to me?" she asked, in a low, tremulous tone. It was now so dark in the passage that they could hardly see each other's face.

"Well, in the first place, miss, I

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They are guaranteed to be the purest and most wholesome and palatable goods on the market. You can eat the pancakes without suffering from indigestion. One trial will convince you.

**Fitzgerald,**  
**Scandrett & Co.,**  
169 DUNDAS STREET.

should like to speak to you in a better light," replied the man.

"In here, then," said she, leading the way, after another moment of apparent hesitation, into the little sitting-room at the back of the house.

"There was a fire, and there was a lamp. The detective turned up the lamp.

"You'll excuse me, miss, but I want very particularly to see you while I speak."

She had gone round the little table, and was standing at the other side of it. With a sudden movement the detective swooped round upon her, and seizing her by the wrist in a firm grip, pointed to the palm of her hand.

On the soft pink skin there was a little blister, freshly made, with a red line of inflammation round the base.

"That is a burn, is it not?" he asked quietly.

The girl was white, and she trembled from head to foot. Her forehead grew damp, and glistened in the lamp-light. Her lips quivered scarcely able to form the answer which she uttered in a mechanical fashion.

"Yes."

"May I ask you to oblige me by telling me how it happened?"

She glanced up at him with a face that was rigid with fear.

"What—what does it matter? Why do you want to know?"

She seemed to him to be turning something over in her mind, and he at once assumed that she was trying to invent a plausible story to account for the mark on her hand.

"I'm sure you may guess, miss, that it is not my business to put you to inconvenience by asking unnecessary questions. But, of course, if you refuse to answer, I can't make you. Do you refuse?"

"Oh, no, certainly not," she replied quickly; "I was doing some ironing and the iron touched my hand and burned it."

"And when did this happen, miss?"

Again the girl hesitated. The detective took note of this fact also. He repeated his question.

"Today—this morning."

"I believe, miss, you were not here this morning?"

"I was not in this house."

"Have you any objection to tell me where you were, miss?"

Her white face flushed.

"I would rather not." Then, at once perceiving that he noted this fact against her, she added—"My only reason is that I was in the house of a friend, and I don't want her to be disturbed by your making inquiries of her about—about me."

The man smiled dryly.

"I'm afraid, miss, it's too late to trouble ourselves about that. As I want really to save you all the trouble and annoyance I can, perhaps you'll let me suggest where you were. Wasn't it at Colonel Bosta's, miss, at the house they call Shingle End?"

"Yes; but she doesn't know anything about this; I didn't tell her why I came."

"All right, miss; don't you worry yourself about that. I shan't put her to much trouble. I can promise you. At this stage of the business, it's only asking questions. But, of course, you understand that we have to make sure we get truthful answers."

Nell looked more anxious than ever, but she made no further objection.

"Do you want to ask me anything more?" she said quietly.

"Nothing more at present, miss. And I am much obliged to you for a few minutes' talk you've given me."

He did not hide—perhaps he could not—the fact that his spirits had risen considerably. Not only was there the mark of the burn in her hand, but there were a dozen signs—in the lightness of foot, her delicate, her shyness of figure, the softness of her hand, her hesitation in answering him—by which he began to feel absolutely sure that he was at last on the right track. Therefore he had to persuade her that he was on the wrong one.

"Of course, miss," said he, "it does not do to say too much when one is only investigating like this. But I may tell you that you've helped me considerably, and in a way you wouldn't think, to find out the thief who's given all the trouble."

Again the girl's face, with its delicate, tell-tale skin, blanched with a spasm of terror. But he didn't appear to notice it.

"And now, I may just add, in strict confidence, mind, as it's a thing I don't want to get known till I've actually caught the chap, that he's one of the best-known thieves from the East End of London, and has done time more than once."

As he said these words, with an expression of great cunning, Nell's face, as easily read as a book, exhibited first astonishment, then relief, and finally a joy which she tried in vain to hide. He could see, even though her downward eyes were cast and her mouth tightly drawn, that she could scarcely contain herself for the wild impulse of delight which had succeeded to the torments of his interrogatory.

There was a moment's pause before she could collect herself to reply in tranquil tones.

"Well, I'm sure my uncle, and all of us, will be very glad when you've caught him. Will you go through this way?"

And opening the inner door of the sitting-room, she directed him to go out through the back.

The detective smiled to himself when, after having refreshed himself at the bar, and apologized to George, he gave him a hint similar to that which he had given Nell, he found himself once more on the road to Strawn.

He had been so far eminently successful, but there was a man a link still wanting in the chain of evidence which was to connect pretty Nell with the robberies at the inn. As he had no intention of returning to his hotel, until he had made further investigations at Shingle End, he doubled back by way of the fields when he had gone a short distance along the road, and hung about between the Blue Lion and Colonel Bosta's house, taking advantage of every bit of hedge and tree to keep out of the range of chance observers.

And it was not very long before he found that someone else was on the watch also. The figure of a man, in a jersey and seaman's boots, with a felt hat on the back of his head, and a pipe in his mouth, soon attracted his attention. He recognized the man as Jim Stickels, a frequent customer at the Blue Lion, and a person of whom report spoke ill, as a confirmed "loafer" and idler, who only worked when he could not help it. He could not be quite certain whether Stickels saw him, but the fisherman was on the lookout for another person, and the detective had little doubt that he was being watched.

To be Continued.

Suffered With Neuralgia.

Wardsville, Ont., Jan. 9, 1897.—I had neuralgia of the stomach, and all through my system, and procured a bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla, and a bottle of Hood's Pills, and these medicines did me more good than anything else I have ever taken. I heartily recommend them to all. Esther Winger.

Hood's Pills are the best family cathartic and liver medicine, harmless, reliable, sure.

## The Milk Tests.

A London Township Man's Protest.

He Severely Criticises the Medical Health Officer's Report.

To the Editor of The Advertiser:

In reply to Medical Health Officer Hutchinson's report as to John O'Brien, when the doctor gets on the track I am the only county friend he has to lend a helping hand to put him on again. "A, B, C, 1, 2, 3" is a nice little rhyme. A little further on we will see what is in the little rhyme.

On Dec. 2, 1896, Dr. Hutchinson inspected our herd of dairy cows. Number of cows inspected 5, number clean, 25; number healthy, 25; number in good condition, 25; character of feed, 25; character of housing, 25; hay, corn and corn stalks, ground oats, wheat bran, millet and straw. When the report came out the stables were only second class. The stable doors, gutters and passages behind the cattle were first class, then concrete, then the floors were laid with lumber. So much for "A, B, C." On Nov. 17, 1896, Mr. Bell, through Mr. Lutzman, got the first sample of our milk; tested by Dr. Hutchinson, 4.00. Sample for Mr. Wm. Phoenix, taken out of the same large can on the instant, and sent to Mr. Phoenix, 4.00. He protested the doctor's analysis, and sent \$1 to Mr. Bell, who said to my son, "All right; I'll call on you when you would be expecting." For three samples, second sample taken on Nov. 27, by Mr. Bell, the Dr. Hutchinson sample tested 4.00. Government 6.15, and Mr. Phoenix's sample 6.00. This sample was churned a little on the 27th, and the same day's milk, and part of the contents, turned into butter, otherwise it would have tested more. Now for "1, 2, 3." No. 1 embraces all samples over 4.00, is that justice to anyone producing high percent milk? The sample that I protested was 4.00, the same day's milk tested 6.15 by the doctor, 6.15 by the Government, and 6.00 by Mr. Phoenix. What satisfaction did I get, or the public, either, as both samples were classed No. 1, as it appears in the report of Jan. 23 and Jan. 27? Why didn't the doctor get the sample of the second sample tested, when I won it? If the Board of Health did their duty they would have insisted on this point, as it appeared in the report. It was the one that lost the protest instead of winning it. The scope is too great between 4.00 and upwards, say 6.15, as any ordinary herd of cows well fed will beat 4.00. I will tell, for the benefit of the public or anyone it may concern, that in 1896 we had about fifteen good Shorthorn and Ayrshire grades. On Sept. 13 I bought a getting milster, and in 1897 I bought \$100. Some of his get has milked over 25 quarts and made 14 pounds of butter in seven days. To prevent breeding two years ago I got another, and in 1892 I bought Earl of Orgrove, No. 31,413, A. Y. C. C., also a Holstein, No. 1,413, A. Y. C. C., also a C. C., a pure St. Lambert, in 1895. These latter animals I have at the head of our herd. Now the females in those two milks get have butter records in seven days from 14 pounds 2 ounces, 18 pounds 8-12 ounces, 13 pounds 10 ounces, 14 pounds 10 ounces to 35 pounds 12-14 ounces in seven days—the last Mary Ann of St. Lambert, I could name many more, but this is sufficient.

We have of these male animals' get 40 females, old and young, 22 in milk at present. This is the way we divided the ladder so far, and hope with the blessing of Divine Providence to go to higher yet.

JOHN O'BRIEN.

Lot 20, con. 2, London township, London West P. O.

Canada's Mines.

Latest Developments in the Rocky Mountains Region.

Rossland, Feb. 3.—At Kootenay there are 83 shipping properties, and the prospects are that there will be at least 40 more before the end of the year.

The Big Three and Snowshoe report extensive strikes. Of the former the ledge is 15 feet high, and one at 100 feet, and a pay streak on the hanging wall over 2 feet wide, averaging a ton to the ton, the percentage of copper is quite high.

The Coloma will soon take rank with the Big Three and Snowshoe. It has 2 feet of high-grade ore in the tunnel, and a foot of solid ore in the bottom of the shaft. The ore assays 24 in gold, and 10 per cent copper.

The Butte is showing 3-12 feet of high-grade copper ore, which is bearing followed in the more precise work.

Rossland and Manitoba capitalists purchased the Siskiyew mine on Lookout Mountain, last week, paying \$10,000 for it. The new owners have commenced development.

In Slocum the Goodenough mine has accumulated a surplus and will pay a dividend of \$20,000 next month.

On the White Bear, at a depth of 16 feet, a solid body of ore, assaying about \$40 per ton, has been struck. The ore has widened gradually from the surface down to the present depth, and the ore has also improved in quality.

The Idaho mines report the sale of matte for the year at about \$40,000. They expended \$30,000 in improvements and development. The amount of ore now in sight is estimated at 150,000 tons.

On Coal Hill near Kamloops, on the Canadian Pacific Railway, a strike has been made in the Iron Mask mine. The whole face of the tunnel is in ore that assays 10 per cent of 80 in gold, silver and copper. The mine now ranks among the shippers of the district.

On Phillip's Arm, Straits of Georgia, a strike has been made in the Young Australian mine that assays \$80 gold and 13 ounces silver.

The War Eagle deal has been completed. The Toronto syndicate paid \$100,000 for the property, which cost the second owners \$17,000. By purchasing the Crown Point and consolidating it with the War Eagle, the new owners have increased the capitalization to \$2,000,000.

When the hair begins to fall out or turn gray, the scalp itches, dandruff, and we know of no better specific than Hall's Vegetable Sicilian Hair Restorer.

Warning pans containing perfume are now used to heat the beds of guests at English country houses.

Why will you allow a cough to lacerate your throat or let it run the risk of filling a consumptive's grave, when, by the timely use of Bickel's Anti-Consumptive Syrup the pain can be allayed and the danger removed?

This syrup is pleasant to the taste, and unsurpassed for relieving, healing, and curing all affections of the throat and lungs, coughs, colds, bronchitis, etc., etc.

# Announcement Extraordinary.

THE KOOTENAY EXPLORATION COMPANY, LIMITED, beg to announce that the price of their Treasury Stock has been advanced to 20 cents per share, and further advances will soon be made as it is the intention of the Company to offer part of their Treasury Stock on the London, England, market within the next 90 days, at 50 cents per share, and the price here will be made to correspond with the same.

This Company is on the same lines and under the same management as that which has made such a marked success of the COLORADO GOLD MINING & DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, and there is no reason why THE KOOTENAY EXPLORATION COMPANY, LIMITED, should not prove equally successful.

*We anticipate such results, and every investor who purchases our Treasury Stock at the present price may have his money back 90 days from date if then dissatisfied with his investment.*

We are able to make this offer for the reason that the COLORADO GOLD MINING & DEVELOPMENT COMPANY has paid and guarantees all expenses of the promotion of the KOOTENAY EXPLORATION COMPANY, LIMITED, leaving the latter Company's capital free to be used in the purchase of approved properties.

Under no circumstances will the KOOTENAY take up undeveloped property, or hazard its investments in "prospects," and the same business methods which have characterized the parent Company and brought it to the enviable position it now occupies will be applied to its auxiliary, the KOOTENAY.

Under our unparalleled offer you have an opportunity to participate in our success or dispose of your holdings without loss.

*Every certificate thus offered will bear an indorsement across the face of it stating it is redeemable at 20 cents per share, ninety days from date, upon demand.*

If you wish to "take a chance" we offer the same shares at 15 cents, which will participate equally in all the profits, but without the endorsement as above outlined.

We commend our proposition to those who wish to invest in a mining enterprise, but who cannot afford to take the risks that attach themselves to an ordinary mining venture. Send us your name and we will send your our prospectus; it will interest you and is worthy of consideration.

THE KOOTENAY EXPLORATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

J. GRANT LYMAN, Managing Director.

22 King Street East, Toronto, Ont., February 1st, 1897.

INTENDING SUBSCRIBERS MAY, IF DESIRED, APPLY FOR SHARES THROUGH JAMES MILNE, 88 DUNDAS STREET, LONDON, ONT.

## VETERINARY SCIENCE.

Interesting Lectures at Cherry Grove School House—A Profitable Meeting.

A very interesting meeting was held on Feb. 2 in the Cherry Grove school house, in West Nisour, when lectures were given under the auspices of the Veterinary Science Company on the anatomy, diseases and treatment of domestic animals. A number of prominent farmers of the neighborhood had requested the company's representative, Mr. W. T. Ayling, to arrange for the lecture, and the house was filled. The lectures were given by Mr. J. E. Hodgins, veterinary surgeon, and Mr. T. H. Haskett, both of the city of London, authors of "The Veterinary Science."

Mr. Hodgins dealt particularly with the horse, giving a very instructive lesson on its anatomy and on some diseases frequently met with, such as indigestion, colic and inflammation of the bowels, and how to distinguish them. He then took up the various lamenesses found in horses, described them and how to tell by the animal's action where the trouble is to be found, and how to cure it. Mr. Hodgins also gave many interesting facts regarding the medicinal uses in veterinary practice, and how to prepare them.

Mr. Haskett's address treated of cattle, sheep, pigs, dogs and poultry, with the most common diseases of each, and was equally interesting and instructive.

Mr. John Frain, one of the school trustees, presided, and made a model chairman.

At the conclusion of the lectures the audience asked numerous questions of the speakers, to solve difficulties the farmers had met, all of which were satisfactorily answered, the whole audience remaining till a late hour. This is the first lecture on veterinary science ever delivered in this county before a popular audience, and the interest manifested by the farmers was so great that by special request the lectures are to be repeated in other places.

The pleasure of the evening was greatly enhanced by occasional music by the Wellburn Band.

**Piles! Itching Piles!**  
SYMPTOMS—Moisture, intense itching and stinging, mostly at night; worse by scratching. If allowed to continue, tumors form, which often bleed and ulcerate. Becoming very sore. Swayne's Ointment stops the itching and bleeding, heals ulceration, and in most cases removes the tumors. All druggists, or by mail, 50 cents. Dr. Swayne & Son, Philadelphia. Lyman Stone & Co., Montreal.

Stanco, Stanovich, a horse trader, and Anna Grogolovich, a fortune teller, both gypsies, were married on Thursday at Springfield, O. The bride is quite pretty, and wore a blue dress and a lace curtain for a bridal veil.

## WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE.

Carson, Neb., Feb. 3.—The Woman's Suffrage Bill has passed the Senate by a vote of 9 to 5, and was sent to the Assembly, where it is thought it will be passed in the Assembly by a very small majority.

KILLED BY HER SWEETHEART.

Chicago, Feb. 3.—Julia Sheehan, 17 years of age, was shot and killed last night by her sweetheart, Joseph Cronin, who was handling a double-barreled shotgun, which he did not know was loaded.

TWO PEACEMAKERS MURDERED.

Stockton, Cal., Feb. 3.—Charles R. Dodge and Alexander Borland, two of residents of the county, were murdered last night at New Hope by C. P. Klepper, the senior member of the firm of Klepper & Co., general storekeepers and saloon-keepers in that town. The two men acted as peacemakers in a quarrel in which Klepper was a party.

Unlike most proprietary medicines, the formulae of Dr. J. C. Ayer's Sarsaparilla and other preparations are cheerfully sent to any physician who applies for them. Hence the special favor accorded these well-known standard remedies by the World's Fair commissioners.

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Will Give You All These.

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Cooking Stoves, Baseburner and Wood Stoves, Bedroom Sets and all kinds of Furniture; also one Organ, one Letter Press, and a lot of curiosities, suitable for churches or schools; new and second-hand stoves.

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