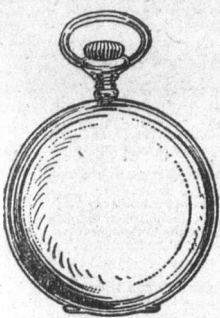


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## WHEN HE HUSTLED.

By Abbie F. Ransom.

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She stood by the window watching the retreating figure of the young man, too much absorbed to notice the entrance of her father until he was by her side. Without speaking she leaned her arm upon his shoulder and thus they watched until the young man was no longer in sight. Then her father spoke:

"It won't do, Elsie. You've got to tell him I said so. He isn't the one." The hand which had been caressing his hair was thrown out with indignant protest and the girl faced him, pained surprise in every curve of the dainty lips.

"What's wrong, father?" she demanded. Why haven't you said that before?"

The gray eyes gazing into her own held far more kindness than his words. They were full of stern decision.

"Because I haven't been sure. Now I am. Fred Denton can never support a wife. He isn't able to now, and he never will be. You've got to call it off."

"But, father," she began.

"It's no use, Elsie," he interrupted. "It isn't in him. A young man to succeed nowadays must get out and hustle, and that's something Fred Denton will never do. He spends his time in his office reading, reading, and that never brought patient to a doctor yet."

"Why, the other night there was an accident at Cedar Glens. Kensett was mixed up in it. Had a drunken chauffeur, and the whole car came precious near going over the cliff. Would have gone if it hadn't been for a young med. who understood sprinting and who saved it in the nick of time."

"As it was, Kensett got off with a broken collar bone, a friend of his came home with a smashed hand, and—well, you read it in the papers. That sawbones is fixed for life just because he happened to be on the spot and knew what to do and how to do it. But it wasn't Denton. He was in his office reading up the microbes of leprosy or some other outlandish disease."

"Fred was just telling me," began Elsie, when her father cut her short.

"Then, too, he had a little money in one of the banks. Where's that? He wasn't content to let it stay where it was. He asked me what I thought about Aurora stocks, and I told him they weren't worth the matches to burn 'em, but he invested in them. Where are they now? Whew! Now you see 'em and now you don't."

"Father, if you would only listen!" "Listen to what? The same old story of love in a flat and your \$500 a year? I've got a deal on hand and won't be home before tomorrow night. In the meantime you just give me that ring on your finger and I'll return it to Fred Denton, M. D."

Slowly his daughter drew off the ring, a curious expression growing in her eyes, one which her father was quick to observe.

"See here, Elsie," he said as he took it from her. "I want you to promise that if he calls you won't see him until I give you permission; that is, if I ever do."

"You are very unjust, father; if you would only listen!"

"I've waited too long already," he responded, starting off. "Mind your promise, Elsie; there isn't to be any more of this nonsense."

"Perhaps there'll be more instead of less," she murmured as the door closed behind him. Then she went up the stairs to her room with a tread as full of decision as his tones had been.

It didn't take long for her to reappear dressed for the street, and fifteen minutes later she surprised a certain young man who was very busily engaged doing nothing at all in a pleasantly furnished office of a downtown business block.

"He wouldn't give me a chance to say a single word," she concluded indignantly.

Fred Denton smiled complacently into her flushed face. There was no trace of the despondent lover about him.

"We won't try to explain," he said. "Suppose you take this trip to New York with me this morning? You look very bride-y," he answered. "White dress, white hat, white shoes and gloves. Really, Elsie, one would almost believe that you had dressed purposely for a wedding trip."

"Fred Denton, you don't believe!" she paused, crimson to the very ears. Then she added irrelevantly: "Father ran away with mother; I've heard him tell about it time and time again."

"Come on," Denton cried. "It doesn't seem right, Fred. Father has always been the kindest, the best father in existence, and he is doing this just because he loves me."

## NINETY DEATHS

Bear Silent Witness to the Ravages of Kidney Disease.

An alarming fact—but statistics show that in post mortem examinations as to death from all causes, that in over 90 per cent. of such cases kidney disease is present. This almost incredible statement is borne out by years of comparison by most eminent medical men. A warning to humanity that the percentage of those not cured with kidney taint is very small. South American Kidney Cure relieves in six hours—is nature's preventive—clears the clogged parts—heals and permanently cures. (3)

"That's just the reason we're doing what we are," was his ready response. "Come, dear, we haven't a moment to lose. You go to the Wilson avenue station and take the train from there, while I'll trolley it to Woodlawn and get on board at that place. Then no one will see us together until after we leave the city and we are all O. K."

A ten minutes' wait for the New York express is a time altogether inadequate for repentance and home going. Besides, there was the danger of discovery, and no one of Elsie Kingston's make-up ever flinched when danger was in the air.

Then there was her ticket to buy, her seat to secure and the ten minutes had come and gone before she thought of looking for friend or foe in that crowded railway car.

At Woodlawn station she saw Fred Denton swing himself upon the platform of the smoker, but the city streets were far behind them, and the train was speeding fast through the country meadows before he joined her. When he did, he held in his hand a little circlet of gold whose center held a very familiar diamond. Slipping into the seat beside her, he said:

"Better put this upon your finger. It's been away from its place too long already."

"Why, Fred," she gasped, "where did you get that?"

"Your father handed it to me a few moments ago."

"Father! Where is he? Where did you see him?"

"He's back there in the smoker," he replied nonchalantly. "He gave it to me just after the train left Woodlawn."

Her face went white.

"What did you say?"

"Nothing. I was passing through the car on my way to you when he hailed me and said in the pleasantest tone imaginable: 'Mr. Denton, I promised my daughter to give you this package. There isn't to be any answer.' I took it from him, with an 'All right,' and came on into the next car, sitting where I knew he could see me from his seat. Then I waited awhile and hunted you up."

"He told me this morning he was going away for a couple of days. Tears were very near his eyes. 'Oh, Fred, if he should see us and try to make a scene! What will we do?'"

"See here, little girl," said Denton tenderly, "you've got your engagement ring back again, haven't you? Now, in the course of three or four hours I intend to supplement that with a plain gold band. Don't you worry. Aurora stocks may have gone up in hot air, but I didn't. Your father wants you to marry a hustler. Now, you just watch me deliver the goods when he calls for them."

"First call for dinner! First call for dinner!" cried the porter on his way to the smoker.

"Shall we go now," Denton asked, "or do you prefer waiting a little?"

"Father always likes an early dinner," she answered, "and he'll be sure to pass through here very soon. There won't be so many in the dining car. Let's go now."

They found a vacant table in the far end of the dining car and seated themselves there. Scarcely had their order been served when Kingston entered. Elsie, raising her eyes, saw him standing in the aisle, and she gave a little sigh, which made Denton look quickly around. A moment more, and he was by their table.

"I will sit here," he said to the waiter. "Bring my plate to this table." When they were alone he spoke again, this time to his daughter.

"Is this the way you keep promises?" "You did not ask me to promise not to meet Fred," she answered, "so just after you left I went to his office."

"Then what?" he asked.

Rheumatism's Ruthless Hands Clutched him for Five Years—Two Bottles of South American Rheumatic Cure Gave him his Liberty.

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