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She caught his glance. "Mostly presents," she answered it, "from an aunt who has more money than she knows what to do with. The rest is just spurge. Ever since we were left alone Maizie and I have had to work. We could have gone to live with my aunt, but we wanted to be independent, to make our own living. And we've made it, though," laughingly, "we've been pretty hard up sometimes. So you see I'm not a butterfly, but just a working girl on her vacation. Have I lost caste?"

Needless question! As she asked it her chin—her prettiest feature, cleanly molded, curving gently back to the soft throat—went up spiritedly. He caught a picture of a struggle far more cruel than her light words implied. A wave of protest swept over him of tender protectiveness. He had to fight down an impulse to catch her close, to cry out that, therefore, he would assume her burden. He rejoiced intensely that he had found so rare a spirit, fragile, yet brave and equal to all the hard emergencies life had put upon her.

Then he took thought of his income and the brevity of their acquaintance and was abashed.

The Jim Gladstons met them at the club for a dinner at which David was host. It was a nicely appointed dinner, the best the chef could contrive; also it was distinctly an extravaganza. But David did not care. His spirits ran high in a gaiety that was infectious. It was a very successful party.

After that came two short hours on the veranda, while a three-quarters moon rose to shower the world with silver, gayety dwindled and a solemn tender happiness mounted. Then they drove homeward by a roundabout way to Jim's car. David and Shirley had the back seat for the most part in a free intimate silence that was delicious indeed.

Later Mrs. Jim found her guest dreamily braiding her hair for the night.

"Shirley," she began directly, "this is going too fast. David's too nice a



"Are you willing to be poor with me for awhile?"

Boy to be hurt. He's taking your flirtation seriously."

"I'm not flirting with him. At least I don't think I am," Shirley amended slowly.

"I thought you were interested only in rich men?"

"I did think so. But now—It might be fun to be poor—with him—for awhile. It wouldn't be for long. You said yourself he'll have a brilliant future."

"I think so. But it might be long coming. A professional career is so uncertain at the start. And it's never fun to be poor—unless you're equipped. Married life is more than parties and golf and dinners at the club. Shirley, dear," she concluded pleadingly, "do be sensible."

"Of course I will be. You forget I know all about poverty from experience." Shirley looked up suddenly, keenly. "Why do you warn me? Is there any reason why you're afraid to intrust me to David Quentin?"

"No-o," said Mrs. Jim.

How could she voice the question in her mind? It was, could she trust David Quentin to Shirley?

Still later, "Jim," she said to her almost sleeping husband, "I'm worried. I'm afraid David and Shirley will get themselves engaged."

"Won't hurt 'em," grunted Jim.

"But they might get married."

"People do it sometimes. Be good for him. Life's been too easy for Davy."

"I feel responsible. Couldn't you speak to Davy and warn him to go slow?"

"I thought," mumbled Jim, "you were a wise woman," and dropped off to sleep.

At the same late hour David was sitting at the window of his darkened room, smoking pipe after pipe, gazing raptly up at the moonlit sky. "By George!" he would breathe ecstatically—"By George!" as though he had been seeing something wonderful in ecclesiastical architecture. In fact, he was planning that wondrous house of love, none the less entrancing for that

Other young lovers

Every day during Shirley's two weeks' visit she and David were together, sometimes through Mrs. Jones' contrivance, with others often, by grace of their own ingenuity, alone, drifting carelessly down the most traveled stream of life. If Mrs. Jim's warning had awakened any doubts in Shirley's mind—and it had—the doubts were quickly laid by David's presence. She let herself drift—this in spite of certain very definite and very different plans which she had made for her future. (In her home city was one Sam Hardy, a money maker, very attractive, very devoted.) People saw it and were charmed. A young woman simply, daringly, unquestioningly yielding to love is a picture from whose wonder neither time nor repetition can subtract. Only to Mrs. Jim did it occur to ponder whether the impulse to surrender sprang from deeps or shallows.

And only Dick Holden, who was then David's chief chum, ventured to hang out a danger signal.

"My son," he said one day when he managed to find David alone, "I'm afraid you're growing susceptible to women."

"Always was. Any great harm in that?"

"Huh! If you'd had sisters," grunted the ungallant Dick, "you wouldn't ask that. You don't know 'em. You think they're nice, fluffy little angels, don't you? Well, they're not. They—they say catty things. And they've claws in their white, soft little paws, and they'd rather scratch than eat. And they don't understand men."

"Whoopee!" said David. "Do it some more."

"Huh! You think they're kind and sympathetic, don't you? You think because they look so fluffy up at you when you're gabbling about ecclesiastical architecture they're taking it all in. Well, they're not. They're thinking: 'He has nice eyes. Too bad he hasn't money!' I know. I've heard 'em talking behind the scenes. They don't understand the game of things. They only want a husband for a provider, and they soon let him know it. Then he might as well go lie down and die. Take it from me. Few men," Dick concluded, "survive matrimony."

David scoffed at this counsel.

"You blooming old cynic! You poor old he Cassandra! Where did you get all your wisdom? Just wait until you find some one!"

"Huh! I have found her, or, rather, she's found me. I could let her make a fool of me, but I won't. A long life and my own life for me. I'm wearing a sign, 'Nothing Doing!' You'd better get one just like it."

David roared again.

"All right, laugh!" growled Dick. "Rope, tie and brand yourself, and then some of these days when you're one woman's property and you find the other woman is just around the corner waiting—that's another thing, Davy."

But David turned his back on the counselor and fled. What did Dick know about it?

The dream was being realized, the lonely gaps filled. He was to have some one of his own to love and to serve. This time his heart was a captive for life; any one who had been in love a baker's dozen of times could tell that. He expected great things of love. He saw it as something exquisitely fine and beautiful and yet proof against the vandal fingers of familiarity; a joy always, a light for the dark places, a guide and comrade in stressful times and everlasting as the hills—just as the poets have always sung of it. Would any man wear a sign "Nothing Doing" in the face of that?

CHAPTER II.

"For better or for worse."

THE last afternoon of Shirley's visit came, clear and crisp, a strong west wind lifting the haze from the tinted hills.

They pretended to play golf, but their strokes were perfunctory, absent-minded. They talked little, and that in strangely low tones, always soberly. After awhile they gave up the pretense, sought a seat on a secluded sunny slope and fell into a long silence.

"Shirley!" he broke it at length.

"Yes, David."

"I'll hate to see you go back."

"I know. I'll hate to go too."

"It hurts me to think of your going back to work."

"Oh, I'm used to it." She smiled. A world of sweet courage was in that smile.

"Shirley—dear!"

She raised her eyes to his.

"A poor man—I suppose he's a coward to ask a woman to share— But it wouldn't be for always. You believe that, don't you?"

"I believe that."

"I'd try to make up for the lack of money with other things—worth more than money maybe. Are you willing to be poor with me for awhile?"

"Yes, David."

He sat very still. His face went white. A happiness so intense that it hurt flooded his being.

"You really—mean that?" he whispered.

Tears of tenderness stood in her eyes. She had the sense of having found a rare treasure, worth any sacrifice. She was a little awed by it and lifted to a plane she had never reached before.

"Of course I do." She laughed tremulously. "We'll wait six months, to give you a chance to get ready. Then I'll come to you. We'll start very small at first and live on what we have, whatever it is. If it's only \$75 a month we'll hold our heads as high as if we had millions. We'll make the fight together. I used to think I never could do that, but now I want to. And then when your success comes it will be partly mine."

Her head was lifted in the pretty brave gesture. The glow of a crimson sunset was about her. In her eyes was the glow of the flame he had lighted.

If only the spirit of sunset might abide with us always!

The witch often turns herself into an old cat and plays with her poor mice before she rends us.

Almost from the beginning of the engagement David's clients increased in number. During the six months which Shirley had set as the term of their waiting his income was almost as big as that of the whole year before, partly because he was taken in by Dick Holden, who had the knack of getting business, on a commission to which that energetic young cynic felt himself unequal. The fee thus shared was a substantial one.

"Our love," David wrote to Shirley, "was born under a lucky star. I believe we are going to have more than we expected. That makes me very happy—on your account."

Nevertheless when the six months were at an end he was not out of debt.

"David, dear," Shirley wrote when she had been scarce a month gone, "couldn't you manage to come on for a few days? Maizie thinks I'm crazy, and I want her to see you and be convinced that I'm not. And I want to show off my wonderful lover to my friends."

David, nothing loath, went—a night's journey into the west—to a city where hotels mounted high in the air and rooms were mounted with them. This journey became a monthly event. And when they were together thought of the exchequer took wings. There were theater parties, at which tired Maizie was a happy though protestant third. There were boxes of candy and flowers, seeing which Shirley would cry, "Oh, you extravagant boy!" in a tone that made David very glad of his extravagance. They loved; therefore they were rich. What had they to do with caution and economy?

"We can be engaged only once," they said. "Let us make it beautiful. Let us have something to remember."

Money, it seemed, was necessary to a memorable engagement.

Maizie at sight of him opened her heart. Shirley's friends hugged and kissed her and declared her lover to be all she had promised. The rich aunt regarded him with a disfavor she was at some pains to voice.

"Shirley tells me," she informed him, with the arrogant assurance of the very rich, "that you're poor. Then I think you're foolish to get married—to Shirley at least. I wanted her to take Sam Hardy. I hope you understand my checks will stop when she's married."

(To be continued)

Willing to share.

Mamma—Yes, darling, those dear little boys have no father and no mother—and no good Aunt Jane. Aren't you sorry for them?

Freddy (no great admirer of his stinky aunt)—Oh, poor little boys! (With cheerful alacrity)—Mummy, dear, may I give them Aunt Jane's Stray Stories.

Philosophy of Having a Good Time.

Take the "U" out of toil and you have oil. You can't take the hard work out of farming as easily as that, but a little run robe it of much of its drudgery. Good times are the oil in the toil of agriculture. That is what a great many sincere persons overlook who study economics more than human nature.

When we attempt to organize a farmers' association, what is done? Why right away a vast amount of talking is committed audent education and improvement. Both are good, of course, and the farmer, in common with all humanity, wants to improve—there's a difference between improving and being improved—but he's not always too sure that the association will effect the improvement.

To begin with, he is often not too well acquainted with his real neighbors—the men in the inside of the men he knows now show themselves only to kindred spirits. It takes a hard day's work he is prone to stay quietly at home in preference to driving several miles to discuss, under a smoky lamp, the old problems in much the same old way.

But there's one thing everyone wants—a good time. Everyone takes his recreation in some form—only there's nothing collective about it; each goes his own way at his own time. Really persuade the neighbors once that they can have a better time at the club meeting than they can at home, and they'll go without counting.

So that seems the logical starting point. A leader never finds it hard to get people to organize for pleasure—there's a good time.

And it leads to great things, too. As people become better acquainted mutual respect and confidence develop. That is the fundamental and first step to business co-operation.—Ontario Department of Agriculture.

HOW THIS NERVOUS WOMAN GOT WELL

Told by Herself. Her Sincerity Should Convince Others.

Christopher, Ill.—"For four years I suffered from irregularities, weakness, nervousness, and was in a run down condition. Two of our best doctors failed to do me any good. I heard so much about what Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound had done for others, I tried it and was cured. I am no longer nervous, am regular, and in excellent health. I believe the Compound cured my female trouble."—Mrs. ALICE HELLER, Christopher, Ill.

Nervousness is often a symptom of weakness or some functional derangement, which may be overcome by this famous root and herb remedy, Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, as thousands of women have found by experience.

If complications exist, write Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co., Lynn, Mass., for suggestions in regard to your ailment. The result of its long experience is at your service.

UNDERDRAINAGE PAYS

Proven Methods of Draining Low Land, Swamps and Springs.

Mutual Respect and Confidence Are the Keynotes of Successful Co-operation—How These May Be Developed In Any Community.

(Contributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

IN general the conditions making drains necessary are those where the gravitational or free water is either on the surface of the land or so close to the surface as to interfere with the proper growth of plant roots. The instances where the water is lying on the land, such as in pond holes, sloughs, pockets, swamps, etc., are very common in Ontario, and it is usually an easy matter for these conditions to be remedied. They may be remedied either by means of open ditches or a system of tile drains.

Where there is a large area of low-lying land which is uniformly wet, such as we have in the southwestern counties, namely, Kent, Essex and Lambton, tile drains augmented by open ditches are used, and sometimes when the wet land is the same or possibly lower than the lake level dikes are constructed and pumps installed to remove the water. Other instances where low-lying and flat lands require drainage are those which are occasionally flooded either during the spring freshets or during heavy rains. If no means has been provided for this water to be removed quickly the crops growing on this land will be killed out, and thus cause financial loss to the land owners.

In the case of underground springs we have a condition where the impervious layer of the subsoil has placed the underground water to be blocked and held to such an extent that it eventually comes to the surface. This can be prevented by having a tile drain put in a short distance above the springs so that the water may be cut off and conveyed to a proper outlet.

Another instance is that where irrigation is being carried on. In some of the irrigation districts the water is fairly saturated with alkali salts. When this water is used for irrigation it is spread over the land and eventually is evaporated from the surface of the soil or from the leaves of plants and trees by the sun, the alkali being left on the surface. This alkali accumulates until it becomes so strong as to prevent the growth of plants or trees.

To remove this alkali it is necessary to install a system of underground tile drains, then thoroughly flood the soil which is saturated with alkali, thus dissolving the alkali and allowing the water to pass off through the drains, thereby removing the alkali. After this has been removed it will be necessary to use a greater amount of water for irrigation of this soil, and after each irrigation as soon as the water has been evaporated to such an extent that the remaining water is almost saturated with alkali the free water remaining in the soil and containing this saturated solution of alkali must be allowed to run off through the drains.

Across many Ontario farms we see small creeks flowing at least part of the season. In most instances where this occurs the drain can be placed parallel to this creek, and except during the spring freshets or after very heavy rains the water will flow through this drain, thereby obviating the use of the creek. When this drain is installed the creek banks could be levelled, and instead of being a creek with ragged banks and weeds and small trees growing alongside, could be converted into a scop ditch. This ditch could be of such a nature as to allow farm machinery to cross back and forth, and would take care of the occasional heavy flows of water.

In all conditions where the ground water comes within two and a half feet of the surface of the soil it is necessary for this to be removed in some manner so that plants may have proper root growth.—W. R. Scott, B.S.A., O. A. College, Guelph.

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

(By REV. P. B. FITZWATER, D. D., Teacher of English Bible in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.)

(Copyright, 1918, Western Newspaper Union.)

LESSON FOR JANUARY 19.

The Passover.

LESSON TEXT—Exodus 12:1-36.

GOLDEN TEXT—For even Christ our passover was sacrificed for us. I Corinthians 5:7.

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL—Psalms 105:26-38; Matthew 26:26-29; Hebrews 11:28.

I. The Passover Instituted (12:1-23).

1. The time set (v. 2). With the institution of the Passover came a change in the order of time. The common year was rolling on as usual, but with reference to his chosen people the order is interrupted and everything is made to date from this. This signifies that redemption is the first step in real life. "Old things have passed away, all things have become new." Before this the man was dead in trespass and sin; now he has arisen to walk in newness of life. All before redemption counts for naught. The world thinks that real life ends when one accepts Christ, but this is a grave mistake. It is the beginning of real life.

2. The lamb set apart (v. 3). This previous setting apart of the lamb typifies the foreordination of Christ to be our Saviour. Redemption was not an afterthought of God (I Peter 1:18-20). This lamb must be a male without blemish, indicating that it must be both representative and perfect.

3. The lamb was killed by the whole congregation (v. 6). This shows that it was not for the individual only, but for the entire assembly. The setting apart of the lamb was not sufficient, it must be killed, for "without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins." The lamb might have been tied to the door of the Israelites that night, but there would have been no salvation, notwithstanding its perfection. Had Christ's spotless life continued till the present time and his matchless teaching gone on without interruption, not a single soul would have been saved, for "Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die it abideth alone." (John 12:24.)

4. The blood of the slain lamb was to be placed upon the sideposts and lintels of the door (v. 7). It was not sprinkled upon the threshold, as it must not be trampled under foot (Hebrews 10:29). When the destroyer passed through the land he passed over the houses where the door posts were sprinkled with blood. This blood was the evidence that a substitute had been offered for them. They could rest absolutely secure, because the matter had been settled according to divine arrangement. The blood was the ground of peace. The assurance is not when you feel your sins are pardoned, but "when I see the blood I will pass over you."

5. Israel feeding upon the lamb (v. 8-10). This denotes fellowship. Judgment must precede feasting. The eating of unleavened bread signifies that no sin is connected or allowed in fellowship with Christ. All who have entered into the power of the cross will put away sin.

6. They ate the passover ready for action (v. 11). The loins being girt about, betokens separation from sin and preparation and readiness for service. The feet being shod indicates their willingness to leave the land. The staff in the hand indicates their nature as pilgrims leaning upon a support outside of themselves. They were to leave behind them the place of death and darkness and march toward the promised land.

7. The uncircumcised denied participation in the feast (v. 43-49). Circumcision was typical of regeneration. The significance of the requirement is that only those who have become new creatures by the power of the cross have a right to sit at the Passover feast.

II. The Significance of the Passover (12:24-28).

It was a memorial institution, calling to mind the deliverance of the Israelites from Egyptian bondage—God's interposition on their behalf, freeing them from their oppression. This was to be taught to their children when they came into the land, from generation to generation.

III. The Awful Judgment (12:29, 30).

That night the destroyer passed through Egypt and slew the first born in every home where the blood was not found. An awful cry went up from Egypt that night.

IV. The Great Deliverance (12:31-36).

So mighty was this stroke that Pharaoh called for Moses in the night and requested him to be gone with his flocks and herds.

Air Around Pine Trees Pure.

According to a Finnish scientist, the air around pine trees is purer than around other trees, because their needles disseminate electricity into the atmosphere and ozonize it.

A Simple Sum.

The length of the night at any time of the year may be found by multiplying by two the time of the sun's rising. Doubling the time of its setting will give the length of the day.

From Innermost Being.

The things which come to us are not unrelated to us, but grow out from our inmost being.—Agnes Edwards.

The Women's Patriotic Society of Japan is probably the largest in the world, having over 1,000,000 members.

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