No Help For It.

The car was crowded; I saw that at | that I had a will of my own?" the first glance. But weren't they always so at this time of night? and what good would it do if I waited for another? I signalled the driver; he stopped. stepped on the platform, the gentleman of wind came along, rattled out hairpins, and away flew my curls far down the street? There was a titter of amusement from those who witnessed the catastrophe, and full of indignation, shame and grief for the loss, I hurried inside. But the car hadn't gone more | ing to my nerves. Having finished the | he politely. I blushed and was vexed at his quizzical glance, and wished in my heart that he | thought of him, and, wished that we'd | had been older, and not quite so good- met under more favorable circumlooking; for it wasn't the most romantic stances. adventure in the world, and I could fancy how ridiculous I looked, with my straggling, hay colored wisps of hair. (I had weighed down my head with chignons, frizzles, braids and curls, and, fashion knows what, until baldness followed, as a natural consequence.)

If it hadn't been for the lost hairpins, I might have fastened on my curls, but as often as I tried it, they slipped down from under my hat, until finally I gave up the attempt. Unluckily, too, I had come out without a veil; it seemed as if fate had meant to do her worst. You won't be surprised that, under such circumstances, I was heartily provoked when my "hero of the curls" persisted in hanging on to a strap directly in front of me. To be sure he did not turn his eyes in my direction after that first look, but I knew he was there, and it made me uncomfortable.

The crowd in the car thinned, and there were only three persons left when we reached the end of the route. My "hero" was one of the number. Papa's house stood a few rods distant, and I fairly ran towards it, the wind blowing dust in my eyes, and flapping my skirts in a way that was anything but graceful. I was all out of breath when I reached the gate. Cousin Mabel stood there staring as if she thought me demented.

"Why, Fanny, is that you?" and she burst out laughing. "Where is your

I rushed past her into the house. She followed. Then half laughing, I told her the story.

Mabel laughed at my discomfiture. Then being generous and kind hearted, in spite of her teasing propensity, she dropped the subject.

"You can't guess, Fanny, who has come to town," said Mabel, mysteriously. "He was in Paris during the siege, escaped miraculously, and reached town this morning; everybody is delighted; Aunt Sue, especially."

"Mabel, it isn't Horace Leigh?" "But it is. And his mother gives a party two weeks from to-night in honor of his arrival. We are all invited." "I won't go."

"But Aunt Sue has decided that you shall. She has selected your dress, a lovely peach blossom silk. 'Twill be a triumph of art, for Mrs. More is to make it, and everybody declares her ly taste exquisite.

My eyes brightened. What woman could resist such a temptation as this I wasn't going to give up, though, all in a minute. " Mamma might have consulted me."

and I pouted a little. "I am not going to be forced on any man, least of all Mr. Leigh.'

"Certainly not," retorted Mabel, smiling mischievously. "But, Fanny, confess now, you wouldn't like that fortune to slip through your fingers." "Yes, I would rather than to marry

Horace Leigh." sistently? According to report, he is handsome, dignified, and noble heart-

"I've heard all that, and more, too; but if he were perfection itself, it would not make any difference to me. He is Horace Leigh, the man Uncle John meant me to marry; that is all I want to know."

"You are incorrigible, Fanny." "May be so, but is it pleasant to have a stupid old will set out what your future is to be, whom you are to marry, and the penalty of disobedience?"

"How did your uncle ever come to make such a will?" questioned Mabel, curiously. "That is more than I can tell. heard he was in love with Mrs. Leigh.

Horace was a favorite of his, too, but was only twelve years old when Uncle John died. I was seven." "But the fortune-what becomes of

it if you refuse to marry Horace?" "He will have all."

"And if he refuses to marry you?"

"I shall have all." "Ah, yes, I see. What a funny will. That money is left to you both, only on condition that you marry each other. But it is a snug little sum, and if I were

you, Mr. Horace Leigh shouldn't enjoy it alone. When did you see him last?' longer one to her. "Not since Uncle John died. We were the best of friends then. But he went to college soon afterwards, then to

Germany, and has been travelling most of the time since." "Has he ever written to you?" "O yes, and I used to answer his let-

ters until I found out about the will. then I stopped." "Silly girl!"

"You wouldn't like it any better than I. Why, knowing what he does he is actually forced to make love to me, whether he likes it or not, if he is gal-

"No such thing. Let him sacrifice the fortune ?"

"There it is. How can he ever make a disinterested wooer? I do wish he had stayed in France. Mamma and Mrs. Leigh are even worse than Uncle John. They are determined to marry

us in spite of ourselves." divide the fortune, and each be inde- eyes. pendent of the other?"

"No; Uncle John forbids that, ex- dignity.

accept your fate, and husband, too." "Not I. Haven't you ever found out

Mabel laughed, and replied, emphatically, "I should think I had." "Then why do you persist in disbe-

lieving me, when I tell you I won't made way politely, and just then a gust the party given in his honor. You can

door vigorously.

My indignation subsided a little when I was combing my hair; it was quietthan a couple of streets, when a gentle- operation, and fastened on my curls, man entered, and without attracting no- | securely this time, I looked at myself in tice, quietly slipped into my hand the the glass, complacently. Not that I missing hair, loosely wrapped in a news- am vain, but then it's pleasant to have paper. I looked up gratefully, and met | bright eyes, a clear complexion, and a pair of eyes beaming with mischief gold-brown hair, even if the latter isn't and good humor. They were dark, and | nature's gift. If my "hero of the so was his hair, and the face was bronz- curls" could have seen me now, he'd ed, as if by travel and exposure. But be a convert to the wearing of false hair for ever afterward. I sighed a little at

But I hadn't much time for reflection before the supper bell rang, and such a hat perched on the top of a few little clang and clatter as it made was enough to drive me crazy. I ran down stairs stopping up my ears.

Brother Joe was standing in the hall, just as I expected, swinging it back and forth with all his might. He is ten years old, and as full of mischief as he

"Did you hear it, Fanny?" said he. 'I meant you should."

I snatched it out of his hand, carried it into the dining room, and took a seat at the table. "Heard the news, Fanny?" said

Of course I knew what she meant,

but I pretended I didn't. "No. What is it? Louis Napoleon

"Not exactly," and papa laughed. "Put Horace Leigh in place of Louis Napoleon, then you have it." "Yes, dear, he arrived this morning.

Mamma smiled in an ecstatic way. "Who? Louis Napoleon?" "That is a good one?" shouted Joe. 'You are an ignoramus, Fan. I know what the word means. The Teacher told me yesterday. Do you?"

"Hush, Joe, said Mamma, sharply. 'Fanny is not so dull as she pretends and knows well enough that I referred to Horace Leigh."

Then they all began to talk about him in an eulogizing strain, papa, mamma Cousin Mabel, even Joe. I was heartily sick of the subject when I rose from

The more I heard of Horace Leigh, the greater was my reluctance to see him, the stronger my aversion to the marriage | look Uncle John had planned. But mamma was a woman of will, and the whole household was arrayed against me, and I should have to treat him civilly, of course, and there was no telling what would happen after.

That night I resolved on my own course of action. Let events develope I went down stairs the next morning

dressed in a travelling suit of gray linen. Mamma started a little; so did Mabel. "I am going to Yonkers by the morning train," said I, sipping the coffee mamma handed me. "Shall be

back to-morrow night." What a fib ed enough to speak the truth, general- asked four.'

"Without so much as saying: 'by yer leave," burst out mamma, indig-"But you told me I could go any day this week."

"Last Saturday. Millie Hunt asked you. The roses are all in bloom now strawberries are plenty; it is just the time to make a country visit. I pro-

mised her I would come.' "Well then, you can go," she said, rather ungraciously, "and be sure that you be back to-morrow night."

"Yes, mamma," and I hurried out and we were detained. And oh, with What has set you against him so per- of the room, wondering whether she what a homesick felling I looked out would think me crazy if she knew what | into the darkness. My heart was heavy a wild project I had formed. Five minutes after I stood in the hall

ready for the journey. Papa and the carriage were at the door. "Jump in, Fanny," said he.

"And look out for your hair," said Mabel. But I had already done so: 'twas fastened securely to my head.

We reached the station in good season. Papa couldn't find me a seat at first, but finally a gentleman rose and offered me one. He had been occupying two, and so there was nothing particularly unselfish in the act. I don't recollect whether I took the trouble to thank him or not, but papa did, for his manners are after the "old school" type, polite

Then he kissed me, and said something kind and affectionate, and was

My destination was Townley instead of Yonkers. I had an aunt there, a spinster, opposed to marriage on principle (so she averred) and it was under her protection I meant to place myself until I succeeded in convincing Mr. Leigh of | that you are willing to exile yourself on my utter indifference, so far as he or the "will" was concerned. But I didn't dare disclose this intention, and so made the journey to Yonkers a pretext for the

It wasn't until we left Yonkers far behind us that hearing a newspaper rustle, I took a good look into the face of my companion. Imagine my surprise, my confusion when I recognized in him the dark-eyed, sunburnt stranger to whom I owed the hair on my headthe knight I'd dubbed 'hero of the curls!' I'd been so taken up with myself

that I had scarcely noticed him before, even when he had offered me a seat. Magnetized, doubtless by a prolonged stare, he raised his eyes suddenly.

Thereupon I dropped mine. "Wouldn't you like to look over the paper?" said he, courteously.

"Thank you;" and I accepted the paper, devoutly hoping that he would not discover my identity with the forlorn damsel whose hair he had rescued.

But he did, for glancing up shyly, I detected a faint smile lurking round the "But couldn't you arrange it so as to corner of his mouth and lighting up his It was an answer to the one I had sent.

Not another word was said by either it told her of it afterward; for of "Well then, Fanny, you'll have to of us until, having read the paper course he found it convenient to ac-

through, advertisements and all. I re-

much of a ruse as my trip, and that he Then, being of a social turn, probably, he tried to open the conversation, but pretext for getting away with me; and the only reply I made was either a mo eyes than in mine, and so great were nosyllable "Yes," or "No."

In one of the pauses of conversation marry Horace Leigh? I won't go to I dropped my handkerchief. He picked it up, saw my name in one corner startwear peach blossom silk, if you like; I ed, looked at me closely, then returned it with a faint smile of what seemed I ran out of the room, slamming the | both amusement and annoyance creeping over his face.

"Then it is Miss Fanny Hartly whom I have the honor of addressing?" said

I bowed somewhat coldly. "I have heard of you often from a mutual friend whom I met in Paris-Horace Leigh.'

"Ah!" and I threw into the exclamation all the scorn and contempt | by a look. 'Twasn't exactly love at first that I felt. "We left France together, embarked

on the same vessel, travelled in company. You knew of his arrival, did you not?"

His eyes were bent on me searching-

I thought the question impertinent, but answered it, nevertheless, adding, somewhat bitterly, that 'I should never be left in ignorance of so important an event as that.'

'Certainly not. And pardon me for saying it, but I'm a little surprised at your leaving the city just now. Mr. Leigh and myself are intimate friends, and I am acquainted with the fact that you are to be his future wife."

Was there ever such presumption? 'Sir!' and my voice shook with suppressed wrath, 'rather than marry Horace Leigh, I'd leap from the window to the bottom of that ravine,' pointing to one that lay on the side of us, with the air of a tragedienne. He winced almost as if I had struck

'May I ask you why?' 'Has he told you of the will?'

'Isn't that enough to part us forever. What delicate minded woman wouldn't shrink from being forced to marriage thus. We are to accept each other or lose a fortune; love has nothing to do with the matter, lucre everything; how can I be sure of his disinterestedness. or he of mine. That stupid will has been the bug-bear of existence long enough; I've run away from it now, and from Horace Leigh, too-'

I stopped abruptly. Angered by what he had said, I had disclosed more than I intended, and was cross at myself, remembering that he was a stranger and the friend of Mr. Leigh I checked the reply he was about to make.

'Let us drop the subject,' said I

'I'd rather not discuss it. 'Tis a personal affair, and-I drew myself up with dignity and gave him a freezing 'One question first. Is it the man himself you object to?

'Why? Is it his disposition or temperament or personal appearance that

'I know nothing of either.' 'Have you ever seen his photograph?" 'Yes. It is like you a little, -- in my heart I wished that it was so, and that Horace Leigh resembled his friend in other respects too, in that case I would not have objected to the conditions of I was surprised to see him show such confusion at this answer. 'Like me?' | SATURDAYS

he stammered. "Yes, there is a slight resemblance in the shape of the features and that is all. The expression is widely different. It cost me a pang, for I'm old fashion- But, instead of one question, you have

'Have I? And yet you haven't told me why you are so prejudiced against I laughed and shook my head, but 'What? Won't you give me an an-

He couldn't hide his vexation, and I began to be a little distrustful, he was such a devoted champion of Mr. Leigh. What if he should betray me to the enemy? A sort of reserve crept into my manner, conversation flagged; the shadow of Horace Leigh fell athwart us, 'Twas in vain that he tried to lift it or win me back to the old frank way of speaking. I was guarded, reticent. Something happened to the engine as lead, and there was a great lump in my throat, and tears rolled down my face in spite of all I could do.

"Poor child?" whispered some one at my side. At that I flushed up angrily. 'It will be 8 o'clock to-morrow before we reach Townley, and how will you

spend the night?' continued the same 'As the rest do' replied I, curtly. He went into another seat that I night have a better opportunity to rest. Never did I pass such a long, tedious night. I was awake most of the time, for if by chance I fell into a nap, it was brief and unsatisfactory. I welcomed the morning gladly, and the news that we were to breakfast at Townley; so did Mr.-Was it not strange that he hadn't told me his name yet? 'I have

a business appointment, otherwise I shouldn't have minded the delay,' ex-'When do you return?' said I, for now that we were going to part, I could afford to be civil.

'I cannot tell exactly, but within a week. And you? 'It is uncertain. May be not for months. He looked at me strangely. 'Are you so embittered against Mr. Leigh

his account?' I was full of wrath and consternation. Had I not forbidden him to mention that name in my presence? Just then we reached the station; people began to hurry past us; I turned to leave him without a word.

Stay,' he continued in a low voice, I have not told you my name yet. Can you guess it?' What did he mean? I raised my eyes, slowly scanned his face, and a faint perception of the truth dawned

Yes, the "hero of the curls" the genial traveling companion, was-"Horace Leigh?" exclaimed he, laughing, "The man from whom you thought to flee, but with whom you ran away.

could not resist the contagion of his Can you guess the sequel? Had we met under other circumstances, we might have hated each other; as it was we did the opposite.

Although covered with confusion, I

The explanation that I gave aunt The explanation that I gave aunt Martha, however, of the causes that led PURE DRUGS to my visit was jumbled up sadly. But she welcomed me cordially, and was partent MEDICINES, after my arrival, a letter arrived, demanding my immediate return home. But if mamma had known that Horace I put on at once an aspect of severe Leigh was in Townley, she would have and respectfully invite inspection. borne my absence with more equani-

One word as to the party. I wore the peach blossom silk and a new set of curls, and 'looked like a princess.' mamma said. And some one else endorsed her verdict, adding, 'but you didn't the first time we met.' I flushed with mortification. 'Such a chase as your bewitching eyes led me after those curls,' added

company me home. I more than half

suspected that his "business" was as

was only glad to seize on the slightest

will" found no more favour in his

not been acquainted incognita, the bar-

rier that separated us would never have

sight," and he laughed, 'but something like it, for when I met you the next morning, my heart gave a little throb of exultation, --'So did not mine,' interrupted I. 'Oh, you were vexed at first, and shy and embarrassed; but I finally broke through your reserve and caught glimpses of a charming, womanly nature and '-what is the use of repeating the rest? You will understand by this time

Traveler's Column.

that not only Mrs. Leigh and mamma,

but all concerned, are reconciled to

Uncle John's will.

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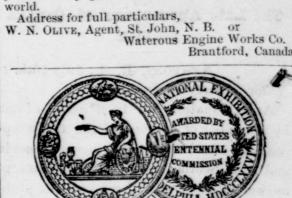
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