True Independence.

'I won't go-not if I can help myself. The girl who said it was a straight, lithe creature, with a slender waist and well turned head, and a face rather bright and sensible than merely pretty. She was tripping down the steps of a handsome house, as she spoke: the house which had long been her home, but was not to be much longer.

The girl was Rachel Challoner. Her father, Robert Challoner, went to his busines in the city daily, by early train, and Rachel and one of her sisters almost always walked through the great beech wood between the house and the railroad to meet him when he came down at night.

What is it? Do men who travel daily on trains become careless? Thousands of times. in the years since he had lived at Beech Hills, had Mr. Challoner got on and off the platform in perfect safety. But coming down one night he made some mis-step, and -they carried a shattered broken form

home to his family. As is often the case, his affairs proved invoiced to a degree nobody had dreamed of. There would be enough left for a living for the widow and four girls, but not in the style they had always maintained.

Mrs. Challoner was one of the those pretty. helpless women who knew very well how to spend money, but had not the least idea how to take care of it. Harriet, Laura and Sue, the three older daughters, were fair copiesvery fair indeed, for they were great beauties

Not a grain of practical sense in any of them, except the youngest and plainest of them all, our Rachel. When the fact of the smallness of their means was known to them, mamma and the three beauties only looked helplessly at each other, and said: 'What shall we do?'

Ray said: 'That isn't enough. I shall support my-

'Good gracious, Ray! What could you do?' cried the female chorus. 'I don't know. But I can find something,'

stoutly returned Ray. 'Wash dishes, nothing better offers.' 'Oh, horrid! And you couldn't make

your shoes at that!' cried the chorus. 'Then I'll go barefoot,' returned Ray, as stoutly as before.

But while they lamented, came a letter from an uncle of Mr. Challoner's, a rich old bachelor, whom everybody called queer He wrote that he was going to Europemight settle in Paris-didn't have any womankind, and didn't want to live and die alone. If they chose to go abroad with him, they might come to Boston. He would pay expenses, and add a thousand a year to their income. In return they might take care of and amuse him, Would they go?

To go to Europe, especially to Paris, had been a life-dream with the beauties. Go? should think so! If money had been ten times as scarce as it was, and half-a-dozen putcheky old uncles to take care of instead

Mrs. Challoner drew a long, long sigh of relief and put the question at once. Three "Yesses" greeted her instantly. One faint "no" from Rachel. 'Rachel Challoner! what do you mean?'

cried the girls, while mamma looked annoyed and surprised-not so much surprised, either! Ray was always the odd chick among her stately swans.

'I mean I don't want to be dependent on Uncle Simon or anybody else, 'said Ray. 'I want to stay here and work for myself,' 'Nonsense! What could you do?' they

asked a second time, 'I told you before that I didn't know.

And I don't yet. But I'll find out.' 'Don't be foolish, Ray,' said her mother. What if Uncle Simon does supply the money? He has plenty and we might as There may be good chances

'Sue, you can have my chance, for the money and the matrimony, too,' said Ray, rising and putting on her hat.' 'Where are you going?' asked Mrs. Challoner, as Sue lazily said, 'Thanks.'

'To walk. In the beech wood. Ray was the only one who went to the beech wood now. The girls could not bear the sight of it, but it was her greatest com-

fort, and she felt as if she never wanted to go away from it. 'I won't go!' she repeated, as she left the broad walk and turned into the wood. 'It will be good for mamma and the girls, I am glad for them. For me-I can't bear to

think of a life of idleness, dependent upon somebody else for all I have. And I don't want to go away-this was papa's country and he loved it. I cannot leave it-I can't leave him. I have two hands? Why shouldn't I work? Other girls have-and so 'Of course you can! But what is it, Ray!

Ray turned suddenly, but not frightened She knew that voice—that slow, soft drawl belonged to nobody but Teddy Lucienher old friend, Ted.

'Oh, it's you, Teddy!' she said. 'Was ! talking aloud? I'm sure I got scolded enough at home for that silly habit.' 'You certainly were talking aloud, Ray.

But I wasn't eaves-dropping, and I didn't hear any harm of myself, either.' 'I wasn't talking about you, it was myself this time,' said Ray, smiling.

'Any secrets?' asked Ted. Then Ray told him all about it. Teddy Lucien was their near neighbor. They had played together as children, and always been good friends. Ted was a good fellow and Ray liked him. The rest laughed at him and called him 'dandy,' but Ray excused him. If he was a little weak, what He was a rich man's son, and never had anything to do but dress and amuse himself, and there was a kind heart

She could talk with her old playmate him from the Teddy of six months ago. easier than with any one else, so he soon knew all about Uncle Simon's letter, and all the rest of it, except that she meant to go | when I got so near you. to work. She would not tell that, even to him, until she had some sure foundation to Teddy?' asked Ray. build upon.

in Ted, she always said, and they shouldn't

Teddy sided with her at once. 'Oh, no, you mustn't go, Ray,' he said,

'I'd miss you dreadfully.' 'Wouldn't have any one to quarrel with, 'Tisn't far, come and see, Ray.'

would you?' said Ray, laughing. "We don't always quarrel. You've been two, into Sixth street, and there over a my good friend and helped me out of many handsome china store he showed her the a scrape, Ray, and I don't want to lose it sign, is black and gold, 'Garner & Lucien, all, you know. But-where will you stay?' and on an open work brass banner below it 'I don't know yet,' answered Ray. 'But she read, 'Fine China, Lamps, and Glass.

I'll find some way to manage it. Then Ted seemed to grow thoughtful, and sometimes did not hear what Ray said as they walked along. But when they were parting, he said:

'Ray, maybe I'll have something to tell work with my hands, I do with my head, you before long.'

what scrape Ted Lucien had got into now. | too, Ray, and see your mother and the But she forgot it in a day or two, over | girls.'

her own plans. She hoped she had found They were standing at the window now, her work, and she wrote an eager letter to as if examining the costly treasures inside. plead for her. A letter which had brought | but Ray had turned her face and did not her an answer even before she hoped for answer. one, and decided the vexed question at

For she steadily refused to go to Europe, and Mrs. Challoner and the girls were werried to know what was to be done with her when they were gone. The afternoon after her answer came, she

Children Cry for

went out again to the beech wood, and when she saw Theodore Lucien leaning against a huge trunk waiting for her, she hastened to him, thinking, regretfully, 'I forgot all about Ted!'

Ray?

for it. Ted, didn't you have something to gant wife is one of its happiest women.

'Yes, I did,-I have Ray. It is about your going off with the rest-I know a way if you'll take it, and stay.' 'Rhyme without reason,' laughed Ray, thinking that she knew a better one, 'What is it, Ted? I'm sure you're kind to interest

I wish I was sure you thought so! Or, would after you hear it,' said Teddy, dubiously. 'Ray-would you-marry me?' Ray looked up thunderstruck. She had never dreamed of such a possibility. 'Why, Ted Lucien, are you mad?' she

His face dropped instantly through its 'Don't make sport of me, Ray!

answered. 'But, Teddy, dear, what in the world have you got to keep a wife on?' 'Father will give me plenty,' he said, eagerly. 'And I'd be so good to you, I would indeed! I'd do everything to please

you, Ray!' 'I know you would,' said Ray, gently. 'Then couldn't you-please, dear?' he

'Oh, Teddy, I couldn't, indeed, couldn't,' and Ray's heart ached as she had to say so coolly that which she saw was glving the generous fellow pain. 'You don't like me, then?' said Teddy,

'Ever so much, dear Ted. I love you, as a friend, brother, playmate, anything except 'Then it's no use. But I do love you,

Ray. And I-I was worried for your 'Thank you, Ted. But my future is provided for. See here. Ted?' She drew a

letter from her pocket, and held it toward him, adding, 'Read this?' But he put his hand behind him. 'No Ray. I don't want to read your

love letters. I suppose some fellow has been more lucky than I have, that's all.' 'No, Teddy. This is a business letter, not a love letter. Please read it.'

Ted took the letter. It was from a well known city firm, and it gave Miss Rachel Challoner a situation as brokkeeper, at nine hundred dollars a year, and that was how Ray was provided for. Teddy was astonished and judignant, and protested with all his

It was not fair for her to work and all the rest to be idle, he said. Why couldn't she go and enjoy herself, too?

'I shouldn't enjoy it at all, Teddy,' she said. 'It would make me miserable to drag on, dependent upon my relations for all I had. It's no disgrace to work, Teddy! I love people who are energetic and industrious and all that. I honor workingmen and women above all others,'

'Then I suppose if I had been a mechanic the subscriber with hands as black as coal, I'd have stood a better chance with you?' said Teddy,

'Yes you would, Teddy! I couldn't love any man who was a mere idler, dawdling through life without any purpose. Suppose all men [were like that! Would we have any great work done? Any fine buildings or railroads or telegraphs or

'Or any wives, if the girls were all like you, Ray!' interrupted Teddy. 'I dare say you're right, but it's dreadful hard on a fellow. Is there no hope at all for me, Ray?' Ray saw that he was deeply in earnest, and it really pained her to say to him that there was no hope. But she couldn't help it. It had all come so suddenly-even if he were not a dandy idler, she never thought of loving Ted-she was sure she didn't, and

she couldn't marry without that. So she still said nay to him, and to the rest when they begged her to give up her plan and go to Europe with them. They were off at last, reluctantly going to

Boston without her, while she established herself in a pleasant boarding-place in th

And to her great surprise, a few days after mamma and the girls were gone, she received a letter from Uncle Simon, enclosing a check for five hundred dollars.

ill thought he would be. He wrote a very kind letter, saying he honored her for her brave independence, and sent her the gift lest she might be sick and so lose her salary, and need means. And he told her if she found her work too hard, his offer to the rest was always open to her, and he would send

her money to come to them any time. Poor, lonely little Ray sent Uncle Simon a grateful letter, wet with her tears, and then took up her work and did it as well as she could, trying her best to be happy. She seldom went down to Beech Hills, though many old friends would gladly have received her. A visit now and then to her father's grave of a Sunday afternoon and back at once to her duties was all she allowed her-

She never saw Teddy. And it troubled her more than she would own. 'I was his best friend, and I did not think he would have so utterly deserted me,' she

often said, longing for the sight of his kind, But one afternoon, six months after she went into Fletcher and Burke's store, as she was going from her work (it was during the warm season, when the stores close at five

street face to face. He greeted her warmly, and it struck her at once there was something different about 'Why don't you come over and see me?' said he presently. 'I thought you would

o'clock) she met Teddy Lucien in Market

'Got near? Where? What do you mean, 'Didn't you know I was your neighbor in the city?' asked he.

'No, indeed! Where and how, Teddy?' 'Come round here and I'll show you.

She walked with him round a block or

She looked at Teddy in utter amazement,

'Me?' he finished for her . 'Yes, it is. I've joined your work-army, Ray. If I don't and manage the plan, for I'm junior in this Very well. I walk out here almost every establishment. I do the work, too, for I'm day. Of course I'll help you if I cav, said | going over to Bremen and Dresden shortly. Ray, and wondered as she went up the steps | to buy fineware. It's likely I'll go to Paris,

Teddy bent a little and got one glance at

her, and then he said quickly: 'Ray ! couldn't you go with me and see them, too? Come, darling, I am serving to win you. How long must I serve for my Rachel? May I have her now?' Ray lifted her face, bright, beaming, with

Pitcher's Castoria.

the tears sparkling in her eyes, and said : 'She isn't worth having, Teddy, but if you

And so Fletcher & Burke lost their bookkeeper, but Mrs. Ted Lucien never had 'I was wishing for you,' he said, as she cause to regret doing what she did with hercame near. 'How bright you look to-day, self, and to-day her husband is one of the leading business men of a great city, and 'Do I?' said she. 'Well, I've disposed of has no more time to study the cut of his coat some little worries, I suppose that accounts or the twist of his moustache, while his ele-

No June Camps this Year.

It is a settled fact that there will be no June camp of military instruction this year, and the extent of the annual training in September will be dependent altogether upon the manner in which the matter is viewed by Parliament. Already several military members of the House bave approached the Government with a view to urging that the entire force be drilled this year. There are, however, other members of Parliament opposed to one dollar more being spent on the militia, and there is yet another class, for whom John Charlton is spokesman, who desire the militia expenditure cut down, if not entirely abolished. Major-General Herbert coincides in the view put forward by 'Indeed I didn't mean to,' Ray instantly | Col. Denison, Col. Tyrwhitt and other members, that if Canada is to have a militia force at all it must be effective. To drill the entire force means an additional expenditure of \$150,000, and the question therefore requires thoughtful consideration.

One Secret of Health and Happiness. The political battle is over, but the battle with disease must be constantly and unceasingly waged, else the grim reaper will come ut victorious, and loved ones will be gathered to their long home. On all sides may be seen pale and listless girls, who should be enjoying the health and glow of rosy youth. Everywhere we are met with women young in years, yet prematurely old, who suffer in silence almost untold agonies, the result of those ailments peculiar to the female system. To all such, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills come as a blessing. They restore wasted vitality, build up the nervous system, enrich the blood, and transform pale and sallow complexions into glowing, rosy cheeks that alone follow perfect health. In a word they are a certain cure for all these distress. ing complaints to which women and girls are peculiarly liable. A trial of these pills will convince the most sceptical of their wonderful merit. For suffering men Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are equally effacious. For overwork, mental strain, loss of sleep, nervous debility, and all those diseases that lead to broken-down manhood, they are a certain specific, stimulating the brain, reinforcing the exhausted system and restoring shattered vitality. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are nature's restorative and should be used by every weak and debilitated person. For

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B.

Chatham, 18th May, 1891.

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All blood humors and diseases, from a com-

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He was not angry or offended, as they had lithought he would be. He wrote a very itching, but this quickly subsides on the removal of the disease by B.B.B. Passing on to graver yet prevalent diseases, such as

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AND THE

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Chatham, N. B.