

Maida's Secret

By the Author of... "A Gipsy's Daughter," "Another Man's Wife," "A Heart's Bitterness," Etc., Etc.

fact only by bending very low over her sewing, which she attacked with sudden vigor. During the silence which followed the dame bustled in.

"Happy? Yes, so she should, bless her heart—with everything to make her happy, and with a handsome husband waiting for her to name the day. What a pair they will make!"

"Well, Master Guy, tired of waiting? I've been as quick as I could. Now, don't look at your watch. You must wait a bit longer and tell me the news. Perhaps Miss Mildred will be so kind as to play and sing for us. Ah, Master Guy, it's a treat. You didn't notice the piano, did you? Not you, I'll be bound."

"Yes, I did," said Guy, and he went and opened it and looked at the graceful, quiet figure. "Will you be so kind?"

"She rose instantly, and without a word, sat down at the piano. She ran her fingers over the keys, and then, seeing that Guy still lingered by the instrument, looked up and said: "You must go and tell the dame all the news, Mr. Hartleigh."

"You turned away reluctantly, and went back to his chair, and was instantly assailed with eager questions put in a hushed whisper. He, with more than half his attention fixed on the slender figure at the piano, answered in the same tone, but very soon sank back, and gave himself up to enjoyment.

"Ask her to sing," he whispered, and became again, then the exquisite voice rose softly into an old English ballad. Guy covered his eyes with his hands and listened with all his heart. There was a silence after she had finished. Guy could think of nothing to say; but if the dame had taken any note of his face she would have seen that she had looked of weariness of which she had complained had gone away as completely as if it had never been there.

"No, no," murmured the girl at her feet, with a sad look in her soft eyes, and throwing one arm over her head on it. "I am not tired of hearing it. She loves him of course, and—ah—loves her, does she?"

"Of course. Why, half the country is in love with her; and small blame to them, I say." "And does he talk about her? Has he—has he said so to you, dame?"

THEY SUPPORT CHARITIES

Good sportsmen are proverbially generous, and race-horse owners the most generous of all. The late Duke of Devonshire was unquestionably the originator of the idea of giving racing prize money to charitable institutions, and the practice immediately found favor, especially with those cases who wanted to fight down the objection to horse-racing.

He gave upwards of \$400,000 of his winnings on the turf to charities, which was a larger amount than any one might think, because to represent actual prize winnings, as the Duke never under any circumstances betted.

"I wonder when they will be married," she said. "Soon. Sir Richard has set his heart on it, and it won't be long before it's done. It's the hope of his life, don't you see? He wants the Hartleigh land, and the Hartleigh money to go together. Oh, it'll be soon, no doubt. She'll make a beautiful bride, with all the Hartleigh diamonds shining on her. The diamonds haven't seen the light of day since poor Lady Hartleigh went, poor soul!"

"Poor lady! It is a sad story. Ah, if she might only have lived!" "Ah!" sighed the dame. "The gentle creature you ever saw, and all so timid and frightened of Sir Richard. Not one of us servants didn't understand him better than she. Poor soul! Well, well, that is dreadful time is all forgotten now, for her child has come to her own again."

"Her child!" whispered the voice at her knee. "To be Continued."

THE ANTIQUITY OF MAN

Prof. Matthew Flinders Petrie Sums Up the Latest Evidence. Prof. Matthew Flinders Petrie, in a lecture in London, summed up in a few sentences the latest evidence of the antiquity of the human race.

Antiquarians now have to deal with Egypt as the nature of it, an unbroken chain of historic record for 5000 B.C., besides actual objects which carry history back 2,000 years further, thus giving 9,000 years to human history. This is yet far from the beginning.

There were traces which showed that civilization must have come from another country, but where no one has the slightest idea. The earliest graves have figures of a type discovered similar to that found in France and Malta, proving that the race extended from Africa into Europe. Then there are figures of women who were captured from still earlier races, which probably were of a more primitive age. Beyond this there was a time when the climate of Egypt was totally different from to-day, when a rainy season of intense intensity fell, and when animals, of which all trace has been lost, inhabited the country.

Other lands might show the age of man to be more remote by physical evidences but nowhere could we feel more plainly the certainty of the antiquity of man than where 9,000 years of history are found and not yet being us into the vast periods of those climatic and geological changes through which man had kept up the chain of life to the present day.

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WORLD'S NOVEL BICYCLE

IT IS MADE ENTIRELY OF 15-CARAT GOLD. Owners of Precious Bicycles—Why and Where They Were Made. The average man, who very properly thinks a sum of \$50 a sufficient price to pay for his bicycle, there is more than a suggestion of the mythical in the stories of bicycles which cost their owners far more than if they were manufactured in solid gold, says the London Daily Mail.

There is, however, at least one bicycle in existence which is worth four times its own weight and two-thirds of its rider's weight in gold. In its original form, as seen at the Vienna Exhibition, its value was only \$500. It was purchased by a South African millionaire, who was so struck by the beauty of its lines that he spent no fewer than \$20,000 in adorning it with costly stones—diamonds, rubies, and emeralds—from the handle-bar to spokes and wheel-rims.

An almost equally sumptuous machine is in the possession of an Indian prince. This bicycle is literally decorated with "the wealth of Oromus or Ind." Every part of it is thickly plated with pure gold, and very rare is encrusted with rubies and turquoise, even the saddle seat being a marvelous mosaic of these precious stones.

A BICYCLE OF GOLD. The wife of one of the Russian Ambassadors, a man of immense wealth, is said to have a bicycle made entirely of 15-carat gold, while each handle bears her monogram and coat of arms in emerald and diamonds. The actual value of this remarkable machine is at least \$50,000, and its entire cost was 19,000 roubles.

By bicycles as sumptuous and costly as these to many and many of our society lady riders is a great drop. Some of these machines are most exquisite productions in silver and ivory, and can be bought for the comparatively modest sum of \$500. The frame of such a machine is plated with silver, chased in beautiful designs. The cranks, pedals, and handle-bars are made of ivory, while the saddle and tool bag are of morocco, with solid silver mounts.

The Duke of Portland is another well-known owner whose horses have done much for the cause of charity. For some considerable time after his marriage, he regularly handed over his horses' winnings, to the Duke of Devonshire's charities, and the Duke of Devonshire's charities, and at one time when his Grace did more on the turf than now, his horses were responsible for no meanly large sum of money.

Without doubt lightning was the first and most common of the phenomena ever observed by human beings. To this day it remains the least known and least understood of natural electrical manifestations, except, perhaps, the aurora, says the Electrical Review.

LUDELLA

TO MERCHANTS: If you are not handling LUDELLA... The energy of an individual flash is perhaps NOT VERY GREAT. Often the conditions are such that the discharge takes an oscillating character, producing violent surges of current. No very accurate measurements have been made upon the currents involved, but it is taken to be of the order of 1,000 to 5,000 amperes.

Protection of property and life from lightning flashes has been a subject that has entrained the attention of natural philosophers since Franklin sent up his historic kite. The net result of more than a century of attempt to secure protection has been the lightning rod in its more or less inefficient forms, and the discovery that buildings of modern construction having metallic roofs and often metallic frames as well as several high chimneys are attacked by lightning. The total number of deaths due to lightning in any given summer is comparatively very small—in the ratio of about one to 100,000 population in the United States.

In cities the destructive influence of lightning is exceedingly small, although occasional fires are caused by it, especially where gas pipes abound. Protection of electric circuits from lightning has been an interesting subject for research for a number of years, and several highly efficient devices have been constructed for this purpose.

OTTAWA MAN WHO WRITES THIS TIME GRANTS FULL PERMISSION TO USE HIS NAME IN BEHALF OF DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS. Was in the Clutch of Bright's Disease—Suffered all the Symptoms of this Fearful Malady—But He Took Dodd's Kidney Pills in Time.

GERMAN MUSICAL BICYCLE. Perhaps the most remarkable of all known machines is the "musical bicycle," which is appropriately "Made in Germany." Attached to the handle-bar are the handles of a musical organ, which is worked by the front wheel of the machine. When the rider begins to pedal he sets this truly wonderful machine in motion, and his spirits are exhilarated by an endless succession of operatic and dance music, which might well convert a sane rider into a raving lunatic withing the space of an hour's journey.

FACTS ABOUT LIGHTNING. Common Errors as to its Nature and Destructiveness. A REMARKABLE CASE. Dr. Opticus (examining patient's eyesight)—You are now eighteen feet from the test paper. Can you read that? Patient—No, sir. Dr. Opticus—Approach two feet nearer. Now? Patient—No, sir. Dr. Opticus—This is strange! Come four feet nearer. Now? Patient—No, sir. Dr. Opticus—Most remarkable case I ever met. Stand you feet away from the chart. Can you read now? Patient—No, sir. Dr. Opticus—Great Scott! Young man, yours is the most remarkable case that has come within my experience. You astound me. Have you any idea why you can't read these letters? Patient—I never learned to read.

THEIR SIMPLE MONETARY SYSTEM. Chicagoan (in London)—How much is this book? Shop-lady—Three-an-six, sir. Chicagoan—That's nine, of course—nine what? Dr. Opticus—Most remarkable case I ever met. Stand you feet away from the chart. Can you read now? Patient—No, sir. Dr. Opticus—Great Scott! Young man, yours is the most remarkable case that has come within my experience. You astound me. Have you any idea why you can't read these letters? Patient—I never learned to read.

MOST UNFASHIONABLE. Mrs. Oldskul—She's a very cultured lady, isn't she? Mrs. Swellman—O No. Very bad form. Mrs. Oldskul—But she seems to be very musical. Mrs. Swellman—That's just it. Whenever she attends the opera she insists upon listening to the music.

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GOD PRESERVE OUR NATIVE LAND.

Words and Music by J. DAVENPORT BERRISON. God pre-serve our na-tive land, Fair Can-a-da the free, May 2. Should for- sign ev-er land'er treat with, God so la-tion fell, God 3. Be pre- sent with our re-lers, Lord, And all their coun-cils guide; From

His right hand pro- tect our land, And guard her lib-er-ty. guard the right and knav-ish tricks of pol-i-tics, Turn Thou their hearts a-side.

Then shall each val-ley, each moun-tain and plain, E-cho in cho-rus ro- The glad re-frain-

Can-da, fair Can-da, God's bless-ing rest on thee; May

Can-da, fair Can-da, God's bless-ing rest on thee; May

Can-da, fair Can-da, God's bless-ing rest on thee; May

Can-da, fair Can-da, God's bless-ing rest on thee; May