

POETRY.

THREE TURKEYS.

Three turkeys came sorrowing home to roost... Each thought of the usual Christmas boost...

Three forms through the darkening barnyard stalk... With axes as sharp as sharp can be...

SELECT STORY.

A LORDLY LOVER.

By the author of 'A Mere Schoolboy,' 'The Ace of Spades,' etc.

CHAPTER VIII.

CONTINUED.

"Headache, have you? Then the air will do you good. Blow off your steam...

Mrs. Marsden may well congratulate herself on the success of her cure for headache...

She looks the door securely. Then, standing in front of her looking-glass...

"SWEETNESS OLIVE," Will you meet me at the old place on Thursday night at nine o'clock?

"Hard words break no bones," he says more lightly.

"That is true. But they may break hearts," she responds gravely.

"Come out of the way of such a danger, dear. Do not stay to be cruelly treated."

"I could not leave them all at home," she falters.

"You shrug her shoulders. 'They meant to be. Only they were vexed at what others said of me. Oh!'

"And I, Olive, if that would have meant greater happiness for you," he answers, quietly.

"Don't you believe it, dear? Don't you understand that I love you? And love is not altogether selfish, child."

"Tell me about Bert," she implores suddenly. And he notices, although she does not, whether her thoughts have flown directly to him mentioned.

"Ah, yes! I was forgetting. I hinted to you that it might be in your power to save him, did I not?"

"With a light heart and a gay mind, a man may find in a bachelor party in the wilds of Scotland all that there is of pure delight...

"That is the sentence which takes the greatest hold of all upon her. What would she not do to accomplish that?"

CHAPTER IX.

POSSIBLY the past month has not proved more agreeable to Lord Rixon than it has to the girl over whose bright young life he has brought so heavy a cloud.

"With a light heart and a gay mind, a man may find in a bachelor party in the wilds of Scotland all that there is of pure delight...

"But on almost the last day of that unfortunate visit, in spite of poor Algernon's prudence and care, the fatal break comes.

An interview takes place in which much strong language is used on both sides, for the host is roused at last, and the cousins part without so much as a good bye being exchanged.

"But how could we be married? There would not be time," the girl answers, seizing on the first objection which occurs to her.

"Married?" he repeats. "Oh, we could manage that quite easily. Run into port anywhere, and the thing is done. That need not stand in the way."

"I should not like to run away with you anyhow," Lord Rixon. Still, if it would prevent Bert being hanged,—"with a violent shudder,—"why, I would do almost that! Only, nothing should make me leave Rixon until I was your wife."

"It has not occurred to him that she would insist so strongly upon this particular precaution. He has trusted to her innocence and ignorance of the world, to blind her. Now he must try sterner methods than coaxing persuasion."

"But if you want to save Cartwright there is no time for delay. Of course, I should be glad to do anything that could give you ease and comfort; but this would be impossible," he assures her, more coldly.

"Then I shall not go with you. I don't believe Bert ever murdered Mrs. Gar-

THE LADY WHO WAS WEALTHY.

Mr. McGregor.

"Greatly to her own astonishment, for she has not the slightest claim on me. However, I only chose her name because I could think of nobody else, and also, with a laugh, 'because, if she's like all the other women I've known, that fortune and the condition attached will prevent her from marrying a man to whom I owe a grudge, and for whom I fancy she cares rather more than I wish. But there, nobody but you and me will ever hear of the will, so why discuss it? I shall have opportunity to make plenty of others before my time comes."

"I hope so, certainly."

"No, not even if I loved you, and I do not. No, Lord Rixon, one I thought that I did, but since Bert has been in prison—" "You cannot care for that common workman," he interrupts, with intense scorn. "I give you credit for better taste than that. You, with your many refinements and winning ways, cannot love a coarse creature like Robert Cartwright, the murderer."

"I do love him," she says, firmly. "I think I must have loved him for a very long time now, although I never really and truly was sure of it until I thought of him in jail, sitting there lonely and unhappy. Ah! with a fresh rush of tears, 'I would do anything to help him; but only on the condition that he would not wish it.'"

"And all this for a man, who, in my presence, declared he would never again ask you to marry him."

"I deserved it," she says, with a grave humility, which is wonderfully fascinating. "I ought not to have flirted with Dick Ainsworth, and with you, and—and half-a-dozen more; no wonder that he got tired of it all. But whether he cares for me or not, I love him, Lord Rixon, and shall until I die."

"Well, be it so; then I stay and give my evidence. And, remember, if Bert Cartwright goes to the gallows, it is your doing. Had you chosen, you might have saved him."

"Why don't you go without me? Ah! with a sudden, wild flash of hope—" "Go! If you love me, you say, go away! For my sake, save him."

"A very fine notion; and pray, why should I do that which would give you and your charming sweetheart to each other? No, no, Mr. Marsden make your own decision. It is in your hands, not mine, that this fellow's fate rests."

"She shivers visibly, but as the night is cold, she quotes in her wry voice, 'You cannot then have much for me.' He has not expected that retort."

"My darling, I adore you!" he protests, trying to throw his arm round her waist; but she pushes him from her.

"No, no; I am going home. I only came because of what you said about Bert. I believe, 'catching the expression on his countenance, 'that you had expected I would not have met you again for any other cause, and that was why you put that in.'"

"No answer. Her shrewdness has for the moment disconcerted him."

"And I was not the man if you were not in court to-morrow, they would have your former statements to go upon, so your absence, after all, would do Bert no good," the mist which has seemed to obscure her mind, suddenly clearing away.

"You have wanted to deceive me, Lord Rixon. You have supposed that because I was a woman, and you were a man, I should be less than you."

"Hush! Don't speak so loudly. Wait until these men have gone by, unless you wish all the neighbourhood to know your concerns."

"They had wandered on gradually, and with many a pause, until now they are close to the moss-grown tree which has, in other days, furnished them with a seat. Twilight is falling so fast, that the two people towards whom the earl has directed her attention, have hitherto quite escaped her notice. As she glances at them, Olive recognizes in one, notwithstanding his plain clothes, the chief constable of Rixonton.

"To break the sudden silence the earl begins to talk as he draws from the pocket of his dress-coat, a handkerchief."

"I positively have not worn swallow-tails for a month," he remarks to Olive, "if feels quite pleasant—Ah! what is that?"

"For as he has shaken out the spotless cambric, something which he has apparently drawn with it from his pocket, drops to the ground, and rolls to Olive's feet. She, listlessly, stoops and picks it up before he has time to reach it."

"Why, what is it?" she echoes, in astonishment. "Do you carry brooches about with you, Lord Rixon? And how is it glittering?"

"Pale as death, he makes one stride towards her and tries to seize her hand."

"Give it me," he commands, hoarsely—"It is rubbish. Only a piece of glass given to me."

"But something in the terrified expression of his features has brought to her a sort of vague enlightenment. In a flash there seems to rise before her eyes the placard which she, in common with the rest of the world, has read, containing the description of Mrs. Garraway's missing jewels. Is it possible—can it be, that this is one of them? Will this interview afford the means of clearing Bert after all?"

In a second she throws her hand behind her, clutching the ornament fast in her small, gloved fingers.

TO BE CONTINUED.

UNEARTHING HIDDEN GOLD.

A large amount of gold has been found in an Indian mound in Union County, Tennessee. Two weeks ago a Cherokee woman named McDonald, a granddaughter of Chief McIntosh, one of the famous chieftains of his tribe, appeared in the neighborhood with a map showing the location of a large amount of hidden treasure. She claimed that half a million dollars had been buried there by her grandfather. People were disposed to treat her as a crank, but finally the owner of the farm on which the treasure was located, agreed to open the mound for half of the treasure, if any was found. Three workmen commenced excavating and they found \$16 worth of gold dust and nuggets in a jar. Later they unearthed the iron box containing \$30,000 worth of the precious metal. Two Indian women claim there is a great deal more to be unearthed. Over two thousand gathered in the neighborhood of the mound and fifty armed men are guarding the treasure.

This may be an old one, but the teacher on whom it was "sprung" thought it was a little too fresh. Here it is: Johnnie—Miss Blank, will you work out this example in arithmetic? And he handed up a piece of paper on which was written: "If a farmer has two horses, names one of them 'Sweet Marie' and the other 'White Wings,' what is the color of the animals?"

Miss Blank blushed and said she didn't know.

Chestnut, muttered Johnnie, as he edged toward the door.

SHE WAS A SMART GIRL.

A very bright young man in a neighboring town received at a hotel a roset which he merited and which very properly subdued him. He was at dinner, and wishing to let everyone know how smart he was, commenced to say the water girls. He succeeded in driving several half crazy, but finally made the error of joking the wrong one. "Drive in the cow," he said, looking around for the milk picher. Taking the man by the ear the girl convulsed the guests and at the same time paralyzed the stranger by loudly remarking: "Come along, Aleck; it is easier to trot the calf to the cow than to drive the cow in."

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Practical Helen is eight years old. She came into the house with a thoughtful face and the question, "Mamma, dear, what is a stepmother?"

Her mamma explained that when God took little children's mamma's to be with Him He often permitted the papa to marry other mamma's, who would take their places and be kind to the little children.

Helen pondered the matter, then a light broke over her face, and she announced: "Well, mamma, if God were to take you to be with Him, I'll ask papa to marry Aunt Sally and save us children the trouble of getting acquainted with a stranger."

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ATE ITS MATE.

She—Is this a tender turkey? Dealer—Yes. She—How do you know? You have never eaten it. Dealer—That's so. That's so. But I ate the mate to him five or six years ago, and he was tender.

"A BOON TO HORSEMEN.—One bottle of English Spavin Liniment completely relieved a curb from my horse. I take pleasure in recommending the remedy, as it acts with mysterious promptness in the removal of hores of hard, soft or caloused lumps, blood spavin, splints, curbs, swellings, stifles and sprains.

GEORGE ROSS, Farmer, Markham, Ont. Sold by W. Carten and Alonzo Staples.

AT THE THEATRE.

She—Would you not like to go out and see a play? He—Why, no; I would not think of it. She—But, really, I shan't object in the least. He—How absurd! How can you say such things? She—Well, to tell the truth, I want to see a man myself, and I know he won't come over while you are here.

If too rapid eating causes dyspepsia, and it in its turn produces nervous exhaustion, debility, weakness, anaemia, etc., the first step in effecting a cure is to eat slowly. The second and most important is to take a course of Hawker's nerve and stomach tonic, which aids the process of digestion, invigorates the stomach, renews the vitality of the blood, relieves brain fatigue, and makes weak nerves strong.

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Woman Lawyer—What is your age? Woman Witness—I was born in the same year as yourself. Woman Lawyer—Witness excused.

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Simply apply "Swayne's Ointment." No internal medicine required. Cures tetter, eczema, itch, all eruptions on the face, hands, nose, etc., leaving the skin clear, white and healthy. Its great healing and curative powers are possessed by no other remedy. Ask your druggist for Swayne's Ointment.

Scene: An Irish cabin. Pat is ill. Doctor has just called. Well, Pat, have you taken the box of pills I sent you? Yes, sir, be jabers I have! But I don't feel any better. Maybe the lid hasn't come off yet!

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