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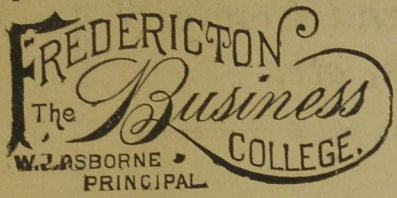
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The Chalice of Courage

Being the Story of Certain Persons
Who Drank of it and Conquered
A Romance of Colorado

By **Cyrus Townsend Brady**

Author of "The Ring and the Cross,"
"The Island of Regeneration,"
"The Better Man," "Hearts and
the Highway," "As the Sparks
Fly Upward," etc.

Illustrations by Elsworth Young
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been suddenly made aware of her dress, if she had burst into the drawing-room without announcement, for instance. Her skirt was distinctly short, she wore heavy hob-nailed shoes that laced up to her knees, she had on a bright blue sweater, a kind of a cap known as a tam-o-shanter was pinned above her glorious hair, which was closely braided and wound around her head. She wore a silk handkerchief loosely tied around her neck, a knife and revolver hung at her belt, a little watch was strapped to one wrist, a handsomely braided quilt dangled from the other, a pair of spurs adorned her heels and most discomposing fact of all, by her side rode a handsome and dashing cavalier.

How Mr. James Armstrong might have appeared in the conventional black and white of evening clothes was not quite clear to her, for she had as yet never beheld him in that obliterating raiment, but in the habit of the west, riding trousers, heavy boots that laced to the knees, blue shirt, his head covered by a noble "Stetson," mounted on the fiery restive broncho which he rode to perfection,

there at long intervals and ranch houses were found in every clearing, but these were few and far between and for the most part Armstrong and Enid Maitland rode practically alone save for the passage of an occasional lumber wagon.

"You can't think," began the man, as they drew rein after a splendid gallop and the somewhat tired horses readily subsided into a walk, "how I hate to go back and leave you."

"And you can't think how loath I am to have you return," the girl flashed out at him with a sidelong glance from her bright blue eyes and a witching smile from her scarlet lips.

"Enid Maitland," said the man, "you know I just worship you. I'd like to sweep you out of your saddle, lift you to the bow of mine and ride away with you. I can't keep my hands off you, I—"

(To be Continued)

POISONOUS TREES

Many Woods Cause Severe Skin Eruptions

Nettles, poison ivy and poison sumac are by no means the only plants which have a poisonous effect on the human skin. Poisonous substances exist in many trees, and even after they have been cut and sawed a sufficient quantity of the poison remains in the lumber, so that workmen who handle it are liable to infection.

Amberwood is impregnated with a powerful poison, according to Dr. Heinz Graf, who investigated the subject for the German Botanical Society. Two different kinds of wood are included under the term amberwood—the genuine East Indian or Asiatic satinwood, or "silkwood," and the satin hardwood or amberwood. The two are quite different in external appearance. Nestler succeeded in extracting the active substance only from the latter. This is a stearlike substance soluble only in ether. A small quantity of it placed in contact with the skin of the underarm, in the course of about five hours produced a tensely swollen yellowish blister surrounded by a red area of inflammation. After the bursting of the blister an ulcer remained which required four weeks to heal.

What is known as "cocobolo" wood contains a poisonous substance easily soluble in alcohol and benzol, less so in water. It is apparently an ethereal oil. The placing of fine sawdust of this wood on the moist skin causes first a violent smarting. Following this, red spots or pimples appear, accompanied by redness and inflammation of that part of the skin, followed by scaling.

Similar phenomena are caused by the plant *Cortusa Matthioli*, but they are even stronger, since blisters are produced. Touching the plants is enough to cause irritation, and the infection may be transmitted to other persons by hands so infected. The bearers of the irritating substance in this case are gland-hairs, as in the case of the primrose. This substance is a crystallizable sap which can be extracted from gland-hairs.

The sawdust of the Mexican blue-gum is harmful when the skin is especially sensitive from some other cause.

ODDS AND ENDS OF INTEREST

At the narrowest point the Straits of Gibraltar are about 15 miles wide.

It is believed that the first Olympic Games were held in the year 1468 B.C.

In 1868 Canadian Banks had but 136 branches.

Of the mortality among the peoples of the world, one-seventh is caused by consumption.

To travel the entire length of the Atlantic cable a message takes approximately three seconds.

According to the most expert statisticians, the Atlantic Ocean has an area of 24,536,000 square miles.

Russian law forbids people to marry more than five times, or to contract a marriage after the age of eighty.

Sixty miles of thread woven from the fibre of a species of Italian nettle weighs only two and a half pounds.

The value of the attar of roses industry of Turkey is estimated at \$1,000,000 annually.

There are between 5,000 and 10,000 hot springs of every variety in the Yellowstone National Park.

Horsehair is said to make a substitute for rubber in the manufacture of automobile tires.



Mr. James Armstrong Was Desperately in Love With Enid Maitland.

he was ideal. Alas for the vanity of human proposition! Mr. James Armstrong, friend and protegee these many years of Mr. Robert Maitland, mine owner and cattle man on a much smaller scale than his older friend, was desperately in love with Enid Maitland, and Enid, swept off her feet by a wooing which began with precipitant ardor so soon as he laid eyes on her, was more profoundly moved by his suit, or pursuit, than she could have imagined.

Omne ignotum pre magnifico! She had been wooed in the conventional fashion many times and oft on the sands of Palm Beach, along the cliffs of Newport, in the romantic glens of Mount Desert, in the old-fashioned drawing-room overlooking Rittenhouse Square. She had been proposed to in motor cars, on the decks of yachts and once even while riding to hounds, but there had been a touch of sameness about it all. Never had she been made love to with the headlong gallantry, with the dashing precipitation of the west. It had swept her from her moorings. She found almost before she was aware of it that her past experience now stood her in little stead. She awoke to a sudden realization of the fact that she was practically pledged to James Armstrong after an acquaintance of three weeks in Denver and on the ranch.

Business of the most important and critical nature demanded Armstrong's presence east at this juncture, and with him there was no way he could put off his departure longer. He had to leave the girl with an uneasy conscience that, though he had her half way promise, he had her but half way won. He had snatched the ultimate day from his business demand to ride with her on the first stage of her journey to the mountains.

CHAPTER II.

The Game Played in the Usual Way.

The road on which they advanced into the mountains was well made and well kept up. The canon through the foothills was not very deep—for Colorado—and the ascent was gentle. Naturally it wound in every direction, following the devious course of the river, which it frequently crossed from one side to the other on rude log bridges. A brisk gallop of half a mile or so on a convenient stretch of comparatively level going put the two in the lead far ahead of the lumbering wagon and out of sight of those others of the party who had elected to go a horseback. There was perhaps a tacit agreement among the latter not to break in upon this growing friendship, or, more frankly, not to interfere in a developing love affair.

The canon broadened here and

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