

A Word With Subscribers

It is a popular misconception that in times of War a new paper makes money. As a matter of fact, any newspaper which tries to do its duty by its subscribers, loses money during war time. This is true of The Daily and Semi-Weekly Mail. Both of these papers, in spite of their tremendous increase in circulation, are not making any profit out of the war. This being the case, we have to ask our subscribers who are in arrears to be good enough to REMIT. If we are properly doing our duty toward you as a subscriber, we have to ask that you will carry out your duty to us by remitting promptly any amount that may be owing to us.

If you want to help us make our paper better, send us your subscription in advance. We assure you that we will spend it in improving our news service.

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The Lapse of Enoc Wentworth

ISABEL GORDON CURTIS

Author of "The Woman from Wolverton"

Illustrations by Ellsworth Young

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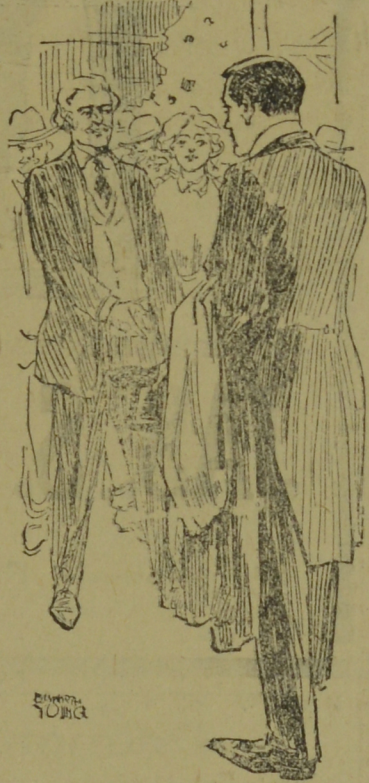
Oswald turned abruptly. Something in his quiet gaze made Singleton shift his eyes with a start of guilt. "I want to say a word to you," the Englishman's voice was stern, "and I want you to repeat what I say to every man in your fraternity. There may be a big story somewhere behind this—I cannot tell. If there is, if an enmity or a misunderstanding did exist, if there was a wrong done, or if anything lies behind these two men which we do not comprehend, leave it to them. They have buried it. Don't turn ghoul," he pleaded, "and dig it up, simply to make a curious, heartless world buy your paper for a day or two. I am sure there is a bond between newspaper men, like a warm-hearted brotherhood. Wentworth belonged to that brotherhood; he does yet—remember that."

Singleton stretched out his hand with an impulsive gesture. "Thank you, Mr. Oswald. You're a good deal of a man. I never knew you before. We all need a jog on the elbow once in a while. A newspaper man grows a buzzard when a story is in the air. He forgets how the other fellow feels. I'll pass the word around. I can promise you that not a man among us will do anything but take Merry's word for it. His confession is a big story in itself."

"Thank you," said Oswald with a cordiality which few men had seen in the dignified Englishman.

He stood talking with a group who gathered about him at the close of the play, eager as Singleton had been to discuss Merry's dramatic confession, when an usher interrupted them. "Mr. Oswald, you're wanted back of the scenes," said the boy.

Under the white glare of electricity a little group stood on the half-dismantled stage. The people in the cast were there—property men, the call boy, electricians, ushers, and the humblest employee of the house. The actors still wore their stage garb and make-up. Dorcas' hand was linked in her brother's arm. For a moment Oswald stood watching her. Her face



Merry Stretched Out a Welcoming Hand.

was flushed, her eyes shone, she seemed transfigured by happiness.

Merry stretched out a welcoming hand to Oswald. "We've been waiting for you, Oswald, to round out our circle," he cried gaily. "I had a Scotch grandmother. When she reached the western wilderness and built a home, she made her husband carve over the chimney-piece: 'We're a sibb tae ane anither here.' Once, when I was a little boy, she explained it to me. I understood. The English language won't translate these words, but they mean that there's nobody here but the best of friends. Because we are a sibb tae ane anither here tonight I want to break a secret to you. It is a more wonderful secret than the news I gave to the audience."

Merry looked about him with a quick, boyish smile. "I used to say I could not make a certain speech to save my life. Tonight I feel as if I were blossoming out. I seem capable of speeches behind the curtain as well as in front. I suppose happiness makes an orator of a man." He laughed joyously. "But—to my secret. This dear lady, whom you all love and honor, has promised to be my wife."

He held out his hands to Dorcas and caught hers, then he drew her into his arms as if they stood alone in some empty corner of the world.

THE END.

PROPHETS HAD WRONG IDEAS

Dismal Predictions as to Future of Our Country Somehow Failed to Materialize.

In the year 1788 Alexander Hamilton wrote of the electoral college system: "If the manner be not perfect, it is at least excellent; it unites in an eminent degree all the advantages the union of which was to be wished for." Yet, in a decade, the electors would not have thought of exercising their constitutional prerogatives.

Hamilton predicted that the house of representatives would have "no small advantage" over the senate in any dispute, since it would be the popular branch of the government, and because it would have the power of originating all money bills—a strong weapon in its hand. But the senate soon became the dominant partner, and the house found that the power to amend money bills exercised by the senate nullified the advantage of originating them.

At the close of John Adams' administration it is said that John Jay refused the appointment of chief justice on the ground that the bench would never attain "the energy, weight and dignity which were essential to its affording due support to the national government." This forecast John Marshall made absurd.

When Louisiana was annexed Senator White remarked in debate that "gentlemen on all sides, with very few exceptions, agree that the settlement of this country will be highly injurious and dangerous to the United States" and that its incorporation into the Union would be "productive of innumerable ills."

In 1811, in a speech on a bill to permit the organization of a state from a section of the Louisiana Purchase, Representative John Quincy Adams of Massachusetts asserted that if the measure should pass "the bonds of the Union would be virtually dissolved."

In the thirties a Scotchman, Patrick Shirreff, made a journey through the United States and published the results of his observations. At that time Chicago was a town of 150 houses. Of its future the traveler wrote: "Chicago will in all probability attain considerable size, but its situation is not so favorable to growth as many other places in the Union."

In 1862 Lincoln, in a message to congress, predicted a population of 129,000,000 for the United States in the year 1910 and of 187,000,000 in 1920. The estimate for 1910 was 47,000,000 too great. The difficulty was that the country did not continue to increase in population after 1860 in the same proportion that it had prior to that year.

Example of Plant Mimicry.

A most curious example of mimicry is supplied by a newly discovered South Africa plant, Mesembryanthemum lapidiforme. In summer the plant consists only of two half-buried leaves, each an inch or a little more long and wide, and these, shaped like a tetrahedron with blunt edges and angles and brownish red in color are so like the surroundings it is hard to detect the plant.

Two flowers one at each side are borne in spring, their stems being so thin that the ripe seed vessels are easily carried away by the wind.

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Applicant—I see, sir. I'll send my wife around.—Judge.

Keeping Busy.

"Does your family approve of your dancing?"
"No," replied Mr. Cumrox, gloomily. "They say I'm too old-fashioned. The dances I know are at least six weeks behind the times."

Wants to Capitalize His Prospects.
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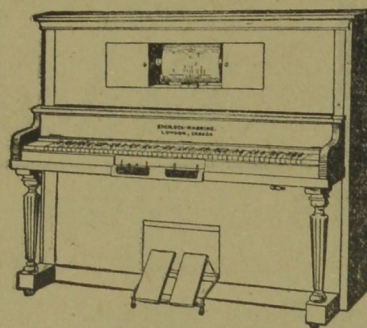
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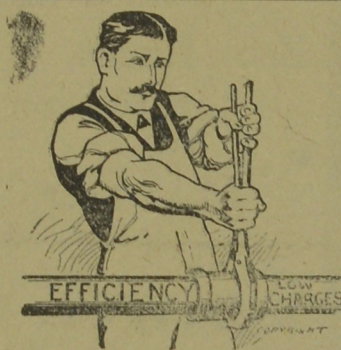
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