

CROSE DEATH WITH HIM TO LIFE WITHOUT HIM.

A Story of Woman's Devotion and Man's Perfidy from the French Criminal Records.

All sorts of hard things are said about French women—that they are wicked, that they paint, that they don't know how to love.

Let amateurs of this sort of nonsense reflect over the case of Marie Leboeuf, a young school teacher at Nogent-sur-Marne, who by her death, the greatest lesson of her life. It is a lesson to men!

Marie was a good girl, of good family, her parents residing in Paris. She was beautiful.

Not long after she took charge of the village school the good folk of Nogent began to observe a young man who came back and forth from Paris without minding the journey, for no other apparent reason than to look into the blue eyes of the proud, brown haired girl he was courting—at least every one in Nogent-sur-Marne took it for granted that their long walks over the hills or beside the river meant a courtship.

But all this and Marie's smiles and hot blushes did not mean courtship; they meant death. The stranger was a gentleman in clothes and ways and flattery—all that goes to work a woman's ruin. In other respects he was—but let the grave cover his dishonor.

DEATH'S PRELUDE.

Not a shadow of suspicion touched Marie, who went on with her work, happy because sure of her lover's loyalty. Then came the day when she learned the lesson that the more a woman gives a man the less the man gives back. M. Valentin Deras, a man of the world, her idol, her betrayer, coolly announced his intention of marrying an heiress.

Of course M. Valentin Deras was sorry! Marie said nothing, or little. What was there to say? As the days went by she grew whiter and ate little. Then she prepared to die. She put everything in order, left minute directions, and then waited for Valentin, who had promised to spend the next Sunday with her. He came and was delighted to find her all smiles. "She's got over her little trouble," he reflected, manlike.

What a jolly time they had that Sunday, to be sure! The villagers who saw them all remarked it. Never had Marie Leboeuf looked so lovely; never had her eyes burned with such a tender fire as they looked into the face of her sweetheart.

THE FATAL SHOT.

As the sun peeped through her lattice the next morning Marie rose from beside her lover, who was still sleeping heavily. Noiselessly she took a revolver from the drawer where it lay ready and approached the bed. A last kiss, a last look, and then without a tremor she placed the barrel against his white temple and fired.

Blood splashed over the pillow. Marie slipped on her peignoir and went down stairs.

"M. Deras is ill," she said to the concierge; "run for a doctor."

The doctor came, found a corpse, and hurried away to notify the police.

Meanwhile Marie Leboeuf had gone back to the chamber, and, tearing off her clothes, had stretched herself beside the body—beside her Valentin, whom she loved madly and whom she had murdered. She covered him with her kisses; she smeared her face with his warm blood, and then, hearing footsteps approaching she cried out in a clear voice:—

"May this serve as a warning to others!"

Then she fired a ball into her own temple and fell dying upon the dead body.

IN DEATH UNITED.

A terrible scene ensued. Valentin's death had been almost instantaneous, but Marie lingered for six hours in mortal agony, her arms locked in a last embrace about the form of her loved one, her eyes fixed with a glassy stare upon the features she had so often caressed.

The doctor could do nothing; the police could do nothing; only stand there and watch—a horrified group, waiting for death to quit the writhing form. The climax came at the end, when the poor girl with a last effort raised herself, her betrayer's blood pouring from her lips, and with a great cry, "Valentin!" fell forward lifeless.

Cake and Dessert.

Blanc mange may be made firm by the use of gelatine, Irish moss, sea-moss farina, corn-starch or arrowroot. The cheapest of these thickenings are corn-starch and sea-moss farina. The latter, being the more delicate, may be used in preference to corn starch. For chocolate blanc mange put one quart of milk in the double boiler and on the fire. Sprinkle into it one level tablespoonful of sea-moss farina. Cook for half an hour, stirring frequently. Scrape one ounce of plain chocolate and put it into a pan with four tablespoonfuls of sugar and one tablespoonful of hot water. Stir this over the hot fire until smooth and glossy. Add the dissolved chocolate to the cooking blanc mange; also add one-third of a teaspoonful of salt. Stir well, and pour into a mold that has been rinsed in cold water; set in a cold place for several hours and serve with sugar and cream.

SPICE CAKE.—To make this cake successfully Mrs. Rorer, who originated the recipe, emphatically says you must have sour cream. Seed and chop one pound of raisins. Dissolve a level teaspoonful of soda in a level teaspoonful of warm water and put it with one-half cup of molasses. Now add to this at once one cup of sour cream, stir for a moment, then add one cup of brown sugar. Beat into it three and one-half cups of pastry flour; beat thoroughly for about two minutes; add one tablespoonful of cinnamon, one of allspice and the raisins well floured. Put into a square pan and bake in a moderate oven for one hour.

GRAHAM BREAD.—Scald one cup of milk; add to it one-quarter of a yeast cake dissolved in two tablespoonfuls of warm water, one-half a teaspoonful of salt, a tablespoonful of molasses, and stir in one-half a cup of white bread flour; now add sufficient graham flour to make a soft batter, cover and set away until very light; then stir in enough graham flour to make a stiff batter, turn into a greased pan, cover, and when it doubles its bulk bake in a moderate oven three-quarters of an hour.

A corn musician has a great advantage over one who is not yet born.

Hints for the Guest-Room.

In fitting up a guest-room there are many little comforts needed by a traveler which it is pleasant to have in place. One of the most important articles, which is often forgotten, is the writing-desk. There should be a little desk fitted up with pens, ink and stationery and stamps in every guest-room. Such a piece of furniture should be small, not taking up too much room. It should have a key, which the guest may take possession of if she desires. There are many people who cannot sleep without some dim light burning in the room; and a night-lamp should be on a stand ready for the use of such a guest. Night-lamps are made in such dainty forms at present that they are a pretty bit of bric-a-brac when not in use. Among the prettiest night-lamps are the fairy-lamps, which shed a soft, clear light through the room. The advantage of the night-lamp is that it sheds no impure gas as a larger lamp does when turned low. The night-lamp is turned up to its fullest extent and therefore sends out no such unwholesome gas. It should contain just oil enough to last for a night.

Bees in Spring.

It would be poor policy to feed a horse through the winter, and then let him starve to death just as the working season commences in the spring. It would be just as bad policy to winter a colony of bees through the winter, and then let them starve to death in the spring, and while the loss of the bees would not be so great, the principle is the same. Feeding bees in the spring requires great care. If fed carelessly, or any gets spilled by accident, robbing will be very apt to result, and if robbing once gets started, there is no telling where it may end. The best way to feed bees is to take out a comb that is empty, or which has no brood in it, and fill with syrup of sugar, two thirds sugar and one-third water; put the comb in a pan sufficiently large to hold it and pour the syrup in. When one side is filled as full as it is possible to fill it, turn it over and fill the other side in a similar manner, then insert the comb in the centre of the hive, and if it has been well filled that hive is provisioned for a week. Some make a practice of feeding a small quantity each day, to stimulate brood rearing. This is too much trouble unless there is some special object in view, such as the rearing of drones by some one who wishes to rear queens early.

Meaning of Old World Names.

Siberia signifies "thirsty."
Sicily is "the country of grapes."
Caledonia means "a high hill."
Asia signifies "in the middle," from the fact that ancient geographers places it between Europe and Africa.
Italy signifies "country of pitch," from its yielding great quantities of black pitch.
Hibernia is "utmost" or "last habitation," for beyond this to the westward the Phoenicians never extended their voyages.
Britain is "the country of tin," great quantities being found in it. The Greeks called it Albion, which signifies either "white" or "high," from the whiteness of its shores or the high rock on the western coast.

Youth paints the circus bill for old age to tear down.

The less an author hears about himself the better. It is my rule, very strictly observed, not to read the criticisms on my writings. For years I have found this abstinence necessary to preserve me from that discouragement as an artist which ill-judged praise, no less than ill-judged blame tends to produce in us.—[George Eliot.]

The Electric Light

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By order of the Board,
D. COULSON, General Manager.
The Bank of Toronto, Toronto, April 27, 1922.

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