## In the Fowler's Snarewww

PCHAPTER I. "The dear boy! It is almost too good to be true! By this time they must be married, and Temple-Dene is myed!" Lady Jane Templeton sal poing her feet restlessly on the floor; ter dark-blue eyes flashing and sparkling as again and again she read over a closely written letter spread out upon her lap.

food news the dest of all newsof come that day to the old home of he Templetons. The long, weary of grinding poverty were at an More, the atter ruin that threatsed Temple Dene was averted once and for all. Little wonder, then, that Lady Jane's eyes danced, and her mouth twitched with unaccustomed smiles.

"I must tell somebody!" she went on agitatedly. And she stretched out her hand to the bell handle.

"Send Miss Leila to me, Somers," she looked round to say to the footman who answered the summons.

While Lady Jane waited a slightly enzious pucker came into her brow. There's bound to be a shadow behind each human joy, however bright, and It would be a difficult task for her to tell the good news to the "somebody" whom she had summoned.

It was a cheerless, cold December day—the first of the month. From the distant belt of the Temple-Dene woods a faint mist was rising.

Could the blue skies and the warm sun ever have laughed down on world so dun and sodden? Would they ever again break through the gray pall of sadness?

all slim figure of a girl, with hurt, bewildered eyes and a drooping mouth was moving listlessly along the corridor in obedience to the footman's message, and in Lella Desmond's eyes the gray day seemed to fit in with her own "sorrow-shot" heart. almost hoped it would be always like this now dull and dun, lifeless and loveless.

"You sent for me, aunty?" She parted the heavy, faded blueplush portiers between the south and the east drawing rooms, and looked

straight at Lady Jane. "Oh, Lella, yes?" Her ladyship started and she spoke nervously. "Quick! How slowly you move, child! Come and sit here by me." She patted the blue satin couch on which she

Everything about and around the mistress of Temple-Dene was bluepale bine-for Lady Jane had been a bloude beauty of the fairest order in her palmy youth.

Time had faded the hangings and satin coverings, the frilled cushions and the hue of her own once rich robe, for Lady Jane Templeton was a misseably poor woman. Evil days had come upon her and her belongings, but they had not quenched the proud woman's spirft as they had that of her husband, Francis Templeton, the dreary, broken man, who sat all his ays in the library, a victim to a form

The masterful spirit of the woman had never rested, seeking a way out of the dark cloud that shrouded Temple-Dene. All her hopes of deliverance from sheer ruin were placed in Gervis, the helr and only child she and Francia Templeton ever had.

By day and night she had spent her ergies in rousing Gervis to the reseus of his family.

So the words that had trembled on the lips of Gerris Templeton day after day were unspoken after all. From sorbood his heart had been filled with me Image that of the girl, Letia Deand, his mother's eldest niece. They orphans Letla and Sybilters of Lady Jane's passionately mase brother. When he died ter gathered the desolate chilato her home bringing them up and

the instant the mother recogit the girl, Lella, had grown to one woman in the world for her the springs of love for her broth han from up. She almost bater on after she had gained her d siparated the two lovers. was Lady Jane's hour of tri-

to be gracios my dear Lella," she repeat

ook of fear ran through the a had crept slowly up to the

the buelly engaged adjusti-

a heard from Gerris. A won-

The words rang through the brain

of the listener.

God was possibly good to some folk -to Aunty Jane, for instance, and to the happy girl-heiress whose gold had bought up Leila's own heritage; but God seemed terribly cruel to her. He had stripped and robbed her of all that made life sweet and fair. So Leila sat dumb, twisting her slim, small fingers together on her lap; and Lady Jane's jubilant voice went on in her ears.

"Such a letter, my dear; brimful of all particulars and details. Everything I wanted to know is set down clearly. Dear boy, what a head he has for business! The settlements are most generous-quite extraordinary. If she dies without heirs, everything absolutely goes to Gervis; if he dies first, Temple-Dene is hers, supposing there is no heir. So in any case Temple-Dene is saved, and my life-prayer granted."

"It seems to be a good bargain for

Leila spoke at last, and her voice sounded harsh and bitter, though the elder lady did not notice it.

"A splendid bargain," she was repeating, in all innocence. "And, you see, Gervis was able to arrange the settlements himself without delaying. for I suppose you know, Leila, that Temple-Dene is already the dear boy's own by mortgage. All his uncle's money left to Gervis was swallowed up in it when he came of age; but that was, after all, a drop in the ocean of debts and difficulties.

"However, all that misery is now at an end. This dear girl's wealth will set the old place on its feet. My poor husband's life is a frail thread now. nigh spun out; but Gervis will see to it that my future is an assured one. And, of course, that in its turn touches yourself and little Syb. My home shall be yours always. So, Leila, the good news travels in a widening circle, and reaches one and all of us.".

Lady Jane laid her hand on the girl's shoulder, but Leila shrank away quickly.

"I shall be able now to take you out, my dear. You shall see the world and marry well. I shall manage that, never doubt it. Oh, how life has changed all in an hour! I can scarcely realize it that all the money worries are to be smoothed out. But my poor Francis! If he could only have held out as I have done. Indeed, he will not even comprehend the glad news when I carry it to him. Leila, they say there's a black shadow to every joy. What if-what if my poor husband's mind goes altogether? It would be better far if God took him!" Lady Jane stood up, shuddering

with horror. "I must go to him-Francis must be told." With a rustle of her faded slik skirts she left the room; but Leila sat on, clasping and unclasping her fin-

gers ceaselessly. Gervis married! For this girl the and of the world has come, then. another belonged the right of loving her lover. Yes, he had been hers. Of that, at least, she could never be robbed. Lefla, hurt and "sorrow-shot"

to the soul, felt bitter and sore.

For the last couple of years ever since the girl awoke to the knowledge that Gervis loved her-life had been a dream of happiness, into which no ray of doubt had crept. Then came the crash of all fair hopes in the knowledge that the love-dream must end. And now Gervis was married. With a moan Leila would have risen from the couch, but a pair of soft arms held her down

"Darling sis," a breathless, quick voice said, "I know! I have heard the news. Aunty has just told me. could kill him, I could! I hope all the sorrows and griefs in the world will come upon him and her, too. hope they will be unhappy ever after." The hot words came raining flercely. and a young face, working convulsively, was pressed against Leila's ice-

cold cheek It was Sybil, the younger sister, warped alike in mind and body, for the girl was deformed. A careless sume had dropped the tender infant on the flagstones in the hall, injuring her spine irremediably. Never would Sybil Desmond walk this earth straight and tall; and she had grown up with a wild, distorted frame of mind at enmity with all mankindall save the idolized sister, who was all the world to poor, missnapen Syb.

CHAPTER IL "And rours going to take me to England for Christman, to your own

"To our home, my wife. You must learn to say 'ours,' not 'yours,' Glad 20x40, 15 30, etc. The enumerator had gone around with a foot rule and palace car of a train speeding over had measured the length of the resithe Canadian Pacific railway. Outide was the white world of new-fallow, while in the car, with its micrors, its inlaid furniture, its flow ers and fruit its sliken hangings and its scenied warmth, the atmosphere

Englishman, upon whom all eyes were turned with admiration, first encountered the slim, round-eyed heiress of Hiram Fairweather, the Chicago man, whose corner in iron had made him world-famous.

Gladdy's mourning for the dead father had only just blended into tender grays and virginal whites, and the girl, liberally adorned otherwise with shy blushes, cunning dimples and happy smiles, was entering the widely welcoming arms of society.

Gervis Templeton was the first Englishman of good birth Gladdy had as yet known. Hiram Fairweather's "boom of luck" had not come in time for him to take his place in the topmost circles of American society.

It had arrived all too late for the patient, meek helpmate who was lying in a shady corner of a country churchyard, with tired, hard-working hands folded restfully.

It had come too late to polish their only child into a fashionable lady by means of a European education; but Gladys was young-scarcely nineteen -and rarety dainty of face and form, so society willingly accepted the rose, uncultured as it was, and petted her unstintingly. But society could not keep its new idol for long.

After the first shy look, the first few stammering words, Gladdy had no longer a heart to boast of, though she herself was innocently ignorant of the fact. For this girl tuers would never be any other man than the chivalrous English stranger whom fate had introduced into her life. No other love could ever take the place of that which filled her veins with its blissful ecstasy. Her simple heart secret was an open page-Gladdy knew no guile wherewith to hide it.

The astute dame of fashion who, for a certain handsome sum allowed by the trustees of the wealthy heiress, took Gladdy under her wing, contented herself with smiling blandly at the pretty love scene going on under her

"Happy's the wooing that's not long a-doing." Gervis Templeton did not let the grass grow under his feet until he had secured the matrimonial prize of the hour.

And, to do this young Englishman justice, he fully meant to "have and to hold . . . to love and to cherish," this fair, sweet woman whom he had won, until death should part them.

"He's got what he came over here for," moodily said one of many disappointed swains

"That's so," observed another. "It's always like that. Those dandy English chaps have only to throw the handkerchief, and the richest of our heiresses, as well as the smartest of our summer girls, are at their feet. Bah! It's sickening!"

"Oh, come," broke in a kindlier spirit, "surely it's not so barefaced as all that? Though, now I think of it. he does not seem over-head-and-ears in love with that little Fairweather girl. There's a look in his eyes as if he had missed the chief aim in life, and consequently didn't much care how things went."

Perhaps the last speaker was not wide of the mark. Gervis Templeton certainly had a past of his own locked carefully away-honorably away

For the young man meant the yows he took upon himself when he and trembling, shy Gladdy stood together at the altar. He would love and serve as well as he could the sweet, young helpmeet God was trusting to his care. Never should she know, if he could help it, that she had come second, not first, into his heart to remain there.

So another youthful pair set out for weal or for woe who might say as

(To be continued.)

King Khame.

Khama is king of the Bamangwato tribe. His 40,000 subjects are called Bechanas, because they live in Bechuanaland: but they resent this name themselves, and do not acknowledge it as a tribal term. Khama is an old man now-lean, hungry and as ugly as can be: but he is a very good old man, and in his way has probably done more real good to the cause of the natives in his part of the country than any other two dozen native chiefs. He will not allow any intoxicating liquor whatever to be sold anywhere within his dominions. He and all his people are strict teetotallers, and there is a heavy fine for making tschuala, or Kaffir beer, a comparatively harmless decoction of fermented mealie meal.

Many humorous features were developed in the taking of the census of 1900. One question was indicated by the remark "length of residence." which was expected to show how long the people living in various localities at the time of the census had been there. When the reports came in it was found that many of these queries

were answered in figures in this way:

Mamorous Consus Returns.

dences of the people they counted. Highest Chimney in World. Antworp has the highest chimp in the world. It belongs to the Silve Works company and is 415 feet high. The interior diameter is 25 feet at the base and 11 feet at the top.

BLESSINGS SHOWERED UPON AMERICAN PEOPLE.

Draws Comparisons Between Our Owi and Other Countries -Our Duty to Ex tend These Blessings to the World-Some Happy Conditions.

(Copyright, 1900, Louis Klopsch, N. Y.) Washington, Dec. 16.-Dr. Talmage preaches a discourse of Christian patriotism and shows the resources of our country and predicts the time when all the world will have the same blessings. His two texts are Revelation xxi., 13, "On the south three gates;" Psalm exivii., "He hath not dealt so with any nation." Among the greatest needs of our

country is more gratitude to God for the unparalleled prosperity bestowed upon us. One of my texts calls us to international comparison. What nation on all the planet has of late had such enlargement of commercial opportunity as is now opening before this nation? Cuba and Porto Rico and the Philippine Islands brought into close contact with us, and through steamship subsidy and Nicaragua canal, which will surely be afforded by congress, all the republics of South America will be brought into most active trade with the United States, "On the south three gates." While our next door neighbors, the southern republics and neighboring colonies, imported from European countries 3,000 miles away \$675,-000,000 worth of goods in a year, only \$126,000,000 worth went from the United States-\$126,000,000 out of \$675,000,-000, only one-fifth of the trade ours. European nations taking the four fingers and leaving us the poor thumb. Now all this is to be changed. There is nothing but a comparative ferry between the islands which have recently come under our protection, and only a ferry between us and Bolivia, Peru, Paragnay, Uruguay, Venezuela, Salvador, Nicaragua, Colombia, Costa Rica, Equador, Brazil, while there are raging seas and long voyage between them and Europe. By the mandate of the United States all that will be changed through new facilities of transportation.

The Nation's Advertisements.

In anticipation of what is sure to come, I nail on the front door of this nation an advertisement:

Wanted.-One hundred thousand men to build railroads through South America and the island of the sea under our protection.

Wanted .- A thousand telegraph operators.

Wanted.-One hundred million dol lars' worth of dry goods from the great cities of the United States.

Wanted .- All the clocks you can make at New Haven and all the brains you can spare from Boston and all the bells you can mold at Troy and all the McCormick reapers you can fashion at Chicago and all the hams you can turn out at Cincinnati and all the ruilroad iron you can send from Pittsburg and all the statesmen that you can spare from Washington.

Wanted.-Right away, wanted by new and swifter steamers, wanted by rail-train, lawyers to plead our cause. Wanted.-Doctors to cure our sick.

Wanted.-Ministers to evangelize our population.

Wanted.-Professors to establish our universities. "On the south three gates," yea, a

thousand gates. South America and all the islands of the sea approximate are rightfully our commercial domain, and the congress of the United States will see to it that we get what belongs to us.

And then tides of .ravel will be somewhat diverted from Europe to our islands at the south and to the land of the Aztecs. Much of the \$125,000,000 yearly expended by Americans in Europe will be expended in southern exploration, in looking at some of the ruins of the 47 cities which Stephens found only a little way apart and in walking through the great doorways and over the miracles of mosaic and along by the monumental glories of another civilization, and ancient America will with cold lips of stone kiss the warm lips of modern America, and to have seen the Andes and Popocatepetl will be deemed as important as to have seen the Alpine and Balkan ranges, and there will be fewer people spoiled by foreign travel, and in our midst less of the poor and nauseating imitation of a brainless foreign swell.

Some Happy Conditions. Again, in this international comparison notice the happy condition of our country as compared with most countries. Russia under the shadow of the dreadful illness of her great and good emperor, who now, more than any man in all the world, represents "peace on earth, good will to men," and whose mpress, near the most solemn hour that ever comes to a woman's soul, is anxious for him to whom she has given hand and heart, not for political fashioned humbler a famine which, though somewhat lifted, has filled hundreds of thousands of graves and thrown millions into orphanage: Austria only waiting for her genial Francis Joseph to die so as to let Hungary rise in rebellion and make the palace of Vienna-quake with insurrection; Spain in Carlist revolution has been pauperized; Italy under the erors of her king's assassination; China shuddering with fear of dismer perment her capital in poss

Compare the autumnal report harvests in America this year and the harvests abroad. Last summer crossed the continent of Europe twice, and I saw no such harvests as ar spoken of in this statement. Hear it, all you men and women who want everybody to have enough to eat and wear. I have to tell you that the corn crop of our country this year is one of the four largest crops on record -2,105,000,000 bushe!s! The cotton of the people. Are the people crop, though smaller than at some times, will on that account bring bigger prices, and so cotton planters of the south are prosperous. The wheatfields have provided bread enough and to spare. The potato crop, one of the five largest crops on record-211,000,000 bushels! Twenty-two million two hundred thousand swine slain, and yet so many hogs left.

The Story of Prosperity.

But now I give you the comparative exports and imports, which tell the story of national prosperity as nothing else can. Excess of exports over imports, \$544,400,000. Now let all pessimists hide themselves in the dens and caves of the earth, while all grateful souls fill the churches with doxology. Notice also that while other countries are at their wits' ends as to their finances this nation has money to lend. Germany, we are glad to see you in Wall street. If you must borrow money, we have it all ready, How much will you have? Russia, we also welcome you into our money markets. Give us good collateral. Meanwhile, Denmark, will you please accept our offer of \$3,000,000 for the island of St. Thomas? My hearers, there is no nation on earth with such healthy condition of finances. We wickedly waste an awful amount of money in this country, but some one has said it is easier to manage a surplus than a deficit.

Besides all this, not a disturbance from St. Lawrence river to Key West or from Highlands of New Jersey to Golden Horn of the Pacific. Sectional controversies ended. The north and south brought into complete accord by the Spanish war, which put the Lees and the Grants on the same side, Vermonters and Georgians in the same brigade. And since our civil war we are all mixed up. Southern men have married northern wives, and northern men have married southern wives, and your children are half Mississipplan and half New Englander, and to make another division between the north and the south possible you would have to do with your child as Solomon proposed with the child brought before him for judgment-divide it with the sword, giving half to the north and half to the south. No, there is nothing so hard to split as a cradle. In other lands there is compulsory marriage of royal families, some bright princess compelled to marry some disagreeable foreign dignitary in order to keep the balance of political power in | it here, it is a great deal worse there, Europe, the ill-matched pair fighting out on a small scale that which would have been an international contest sometimes the husband having the balance of power and so notimes the wife.

The Question of Wages.

Again, in this international comparison there is not a land whose wages and salaries are so large for the great mass of the people. In India four cents a day and find yourself is good wages; in Ireland, in some parts, eight cents a day for wages; in England, \$1 a day good wages, vast populations not getting as much as that; in other lands, 50 cents a day and 25 cents a day, clear on down to starvation and squalor! Look at the great populations coming out of the factories other lands and accompany them their homes and see what privations the hard-working classes on the other side of the sea suffer. The laboring classes in America are 10 per cent better off than those in any other country under the sun, 20 per cent, 40 per cent, 50 per cent. The toilers of hand and foot have better homes and better furnished. "How much wages do you get?" is a question I have asked in Calcutta, in St. Petersburg, in Berlin, in Stockholm, in London, in Paris, in Auckland, New Zealand; in Sydney, Australia, in Samoa, in the Sandwich Islands, so I am not talking an abstraction. The stone masons and carpenters and plumbers and mechanics and artisans of all kinds in America have finer residences than the majority of the professional men in Europe. You enter the laborer's house on our side of the sea and you find uphoistery and pictures and instruments of music. His children are educated at the best workingmen knew that while their wages may not be as high as they would like to have them, America is the paradise of industry.

Expenses of Government.

It is said that in our country have more dishonesty in the use public funds than in other lands. The difference is that in our country most every official has a chance-to steal, while in other lands a few people absorb so much that the others have no chance at appropriation. The reason they do not steal is because they cannot get their hands on it. The governments of Europe are so expensive that after the salaries of the royal families are paid there is not much left to misappropriate. The emperor of Russia has a nice little salary of \$8,and pauperized as seldom any hation a yearly salary of \$4,000,000. Victoria, of metal, sometimes the shape of the queen, has a salary of \$2,200,000. The royal plate of St. James palace is worth \$10,000,000. There is a host of attendants, all on salaries, some em \$5,000 a year, some \$6,000 a year.

equerries in ordinary, hereditary grand falcon berlain, clerk of the kitch in waiting, lords in waiting, grow the court chamber, sergeant-atbarge master and waterman bed chamber women, eight fadie the bedchamber, and so on and so All this is only a type of the fabu expense of foreign governments. this is paid out of the sweat and fied? However much the Germans I William, and Austria likes Joseph, and England likes her ous queen, these stupendous govern mental expenses are built on a groun of dissatisfaction as wide as Eur If it were left to the people of Engl or Austria or Germany or Rus whether these expensive establish ments should be kept up, do you doubt what the vote would be? Now. is if not better that we be overtaxed and the surplus be distributed all over the land than to have it built up and piled up inside the palaces?

Question of Monopolies.

Again, the monopolistic oppression

is less in America than anywhere else. The air is full of protest because great houses, great companies, great individuals, are building such overtowers ing fortunes. Stephen Girard and John Jacob Astor, stared at in their time for their august fortunes, would not now be pointed at in the streets of Washington or Philadelphia or New York as anything remarkable. These vast fortunes for some imply pinchedness, of want for others, A growing protuberance on a man's head implies illness of the whole body. These estates of disproportionate size weaken all the body politic. But the evil is nothing with us compared with the monopolistic oppression abroad. Just look at the ecclesiastical establishments on the other side of the sea. Look at those great cathedrals, built at fabulous expense and supported by ecclesiastical machinery, and sometimes in an audience room that would hold a thousand people twenty or thirty people gather for worship. The pope's income is \$8,000,000 a year. Cathedrals of statuary and braided arch and walls covered with masterpieces of Rubens and Raphael and Michael Angelo. Against all the walls dash seas of poverty and crime and

filth and abomination. Ireland today one vast monopolistic visitation. About 45,000,000 people in Great Britain, and yet all the soil owned by about 32,000. **Statistics** enough to make the earth tremble. Duke of Devonshire owning 96,000 acres in Derbyshire, Duke of Richmond owning 300,000 acres around Gordon castle. Marcus of Bredalbane going on a journey of 100 miles in a straight; line, all on his own property. Duke of Sutherland has an estate wide as Scotland, which dips into the sea on both sides. Unfortunate as we have

While making the international comparison let us look forward to the time which will surely come when all nations will have as great advantages as our own. As surely as the Bible is true the whole earth is to be gardenized and set free. Even the climates will change and the heats be cooled and the frigidity warmed.

NATURE IS STRANGE.

Its Impulses Illustrated by Teamster

and Hungry Dog Episode. Seated at the edge of the curbing was a weary teamster, while near by stood his horses crunching away at their noon portion of oats, says the Chicago News. Heaving a deep sigh, the teamster slowly ambled to the wagon and from under the seat drew forth a good-sized dinner pail. Resuming his seat upon the curb he mechanically removed the cover from the lunch bucket and began to eat.

His mind was far away from his surroundings, and with an occasional ominous shake of the head he muttered the thoughts that burdened his brain. The appearance of a lean, hungry-looking dog resting upon its haunches directly in front of him attracted his attention. gazed longingly at each morsel of fued which passed the man's lips. The man shied a bit of bread at the dog, who devoured it eagerly. One piece of food after another he tossed to the emaciated animal until the contents of pail had disappeared, all but a tough and dangerous doughnut. Breaking piece from the "sinker," he bade him eat it. The animal sniffed, but refused to take it in its teeth. Thinking that schools. His life is insured, so that in by tossing the morsel to the ground case of sudden demise his family shall | the animal might eat it, he did so; but not be homeless. Let all American the dog pushed it aside with his nose and disdained to eat it. This act on the part of the dog so angered him that he arose slowly and landed a wi cious kick in the dog's ribs, which the poor animal into the gutter, when it lay writhing in agony, "So you too, refused to take what I would re myself of, after having sacrificed averything else," said the teamater with that remark and a parting big at the prostrate animal, he hastily removed the nosebags from the horses mounted to the seat and drove away.

Horse Shoes for Lines.

The custom of keeping horseshoes for luck is said to have originated at the time when in every home was the picture of the patron saint. About the head of the saint was the distinguish 210,000. The emperor of Austria has ling halo, which was frequently made horseshoe. When anything he to the picture the halo was still and remained fastened to the order that the saint's influe still prevail. As the bit of