

THE GIRL AT THE HALFWAY HOUSE

A STORY OF THE PLAINS BY E. HOUGH, AUTHOR OF THE STORY OF THE COWBOY

CHAPTER XV.—Continued.

In the swift current of humanity then streaming up and down the cattle range, the reputation of the Halfway House was carried far and near; and for fifty miles east and west, for five hundred miles north and south, the beauty of the girl at the Halfway House was matter of general story.

For each of these rude, silent, awkward range riders, who stammered in all speech except to men or horses, and who stumbled in all locomotion but that of the saddle, Mary Ellen had a kind spot in her soul, never ceasing to wonder as she did at the customs and traditions of their life.

As for Edward Franklin himself, he could not in his moments of wildest egotism assign himself to a place any better than that accorded each member of the clans who rallied about this Southern lady transplanted to the Western plains.

destroyed her people, and banished her in this far wandering from the land that bore her.

"Providence did not bring me here to marry you," she said to Franklin keenly, "but to tell you that I would never marry you—never, not even though I loved you, as I do not. I am still a Southerner, am still a 'rebel.' Moreover, I have learned my lesson. I shall never love again."

Poor medicine as it is, work was ever the best salve known for a hurting heart. Franklin betook him to his daily work, and he saw success attend his labors.

He felt growing in his heart the stubbornness of the man of property, the landholding man, the man who even unconsciously plans a home, resolved to cling to that which he has taken of the earth's surface for his own. He knew that this perverted time could not endure, knew that the sweep of American civilization must occupy all this land as it had all the lands from the Alleghenies to the plains.

Of law business of an actual sort there was next to none at Elliville, all the transactions being in wild lands and wild cattle, but, as did all attorneys of the time, Franklin became broker before he grew to be professional man.



"I am still a Southerner—am still a rebel!"

received, Franklin none the less in time recovered sufficient equanimity to seek to avail himself of such advantages as still remained; and he resolved grimly that he would persist until at least he had been accepted as something better than a blundering boor.

Of lovers Mary Ellen would hear of none, and this was Franklin's sole consolation. Yet all day as he labored there was present in his subconsciousness the personality of this proud and sweet-faced girl. Her name was spelled large upon the sky, was voiced by all the birds. It was indeed her face that looked up from the printed page.

Against this overwhelming desire of an impetuous love there was raised but one barrier—the enduring resistance of a woman's will, silent, not strenuous, unprotesting, but unchangeable. To all his renewed pleadings the girl simply said that she had no heart to give that her hope of happiness lay buried in the field of Louisiana, in the far-off land that she had known in young-er and less troubled days.

Everywhere was shown the Anglo-Saxon love of land. Each man had his quarter-section or more. Even Nora, the waitress at the hotel, had "fled on a quarter," and once in perhaps a month or so would "reside" there overnight, a few faint furrows in the soil (done by her devoted admirer, Sam) passing as those legal "improvements" which should later give her title to a portion of the earth.

hood and laying the foundation of later fortune. Long since he had "proved up" his claim and moved into town permanently, having office and residence in the great depot hotel which was the citadel of the forces of law and order, of progress and civilization in that land.

The railroad company which founded Elliville had within its board of directors a so-called "Land and Improvement Company," which latter company naturally had the first knowledge of the proposed location of the different towns along the advancing line.

While studying in the British Museum a papyrus which was published 4,000 years before Christ, an Egyptologist recently found a clear and concise account of the treasures which the ancient sovereigns of Egypt buried in various parts of the Libyan desert, and now an expedition is being formed in London for the purpose of searching for this wealth.

There are seventeen metals which are more valuable than gold, pound for pound.

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herds of the buffalo. The face of nature was changing. The tremendous drama of the West was going on in all its giant action. This torrent of rude life, against which the hands of the law were still so weak and unavailing, had set for it in the ways of things a limit for its flood and a time for its receding.

The West was a noble country, and it asked of each man what nobility there was in his soul. Franklin began to grow. As he looked beyond the day of cattle and foresaw the time of the plough, so also he gazed far forward into the avenues of his own life, now opening more clearly before him. He rapidly forecast the possibilities of the profession which he had chosen, and with grim self-confidence felt them well within his power.

Franklin rebelled from the technical side of the law, not so much by reason of its dry difficulty as through scorn of its admitted weakness, its inability to do more than compromise; through contempt of its pretended beneficences and its frequent inefficiency and harmfulness. In the law he saw plainly the lash of the taskmaster, driving all those yoked together in the horrid compact of society, a master inexorable, stone-faced, cruel. In it he found no comprehension, seeing that it regarded humanity either as a herd of slaves or a pack of wolves, and not as brethren laboring, suffering, performing a common destiny, yielding to a common fate.

(To be continued.)

PARIS SLEUTHS WERE SLY.

Convinced Russia's Emperor That They Were Awake and Active. The Paris correspondent of London Truth tells this story of the manner in which the Russian government tested the efficiency of the French detective police when the czar was about to visit Paris.

A similar test applied in Rome had different consequences. The head of the Russian police remained there for a whole week without his arrival being suspected. On the evening of the sixth day he called on Count Nelidoff to report himself, to the great astonishment of that ambassador.

Pharaoh's Treasures.

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Miniature Typewriter.

The smallest typewriter ever manufactured was made in America fourteen years ago. It was four inches by three inches and weighed four and a half ounces.

Trades Unions Grow.

Unionism in the United States has grown in nine years from 800,000 to 2,000,000.

10,000 Plants for 16c.

This is a remarkable offer the John A. Salzer Seed Co., La Crosse, Wis., makes. They will send you their big plant and seed catalog, together with enough seed to grow: 1,000 fine, solid Cabbages, 2,000 delicious Carrots, 2,000 blanching, nutty Celery, 2,000 rich, buttery Lettuces, 1,000 splendid Onions, 1,000 rare, luscious Radishes, 1,000 gloriously brilliant Flowers.

This great offer is made in order to induce you to try their warranted seeds—for when you once plant them you will grow no others, and

Burrow Through Levees.

Engineers are alarmed at the inroads that crawfish and muskrats are making in the levees along the Mississippi river. The crawfish burrow into the levee and the muskrats follow to catch and eat them. Then the muskrats burrow right through the bank, and make so many holes of this kind that in time of flood a break is likely to occur.

Deafness Cannot Be Cured

by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; also cases out of ten are caused by a catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

They All Begin With D.

Ever think of the number of words beginning with D that are significant to the old? Distress, defeat, depressed, disgraced, degraded, detestable, despondent, dull, death, don't, down, dark, disheartened, devil, disappointed, dreary, donkey, delay, dim, dunce, deserted, duplicity, disturbed, disabled, decay, damage and dozens of others.—Atchison Globe.

Moon and Weather.

Speaking of the superstition that the changes of the moon influence the weather, Prof. Pickering points out that since the moon changes every seven and a half days, every change in the weather must come within four days of a change in the moon, and that changes will necessarily come within two days of a lunar change.

Public Opinion

"Public Opinion" says of "Free, Not Bound" the latest work from the pen of Katrina Trask, (G. P. Putnam's Sons): "It is noteworthy for its singularly unnumbered form, the purity and sanity of its feeling and the subtly delicate and refined interpretation of the greatest of human emotions."

Fad Is Picture-Postcards.

A Parisian lady has no fewer than 12,000 picture-postcards. She contemplates having every wall and ceiling of her house covered with them, and has just announced that it is her intention during the next five years to collect 50,000 more different specimens.

Dewey's Prize Money Not Large.

A good many editorial paragraphs are being written on the theory that Admiral Dewey is to get the whole of that \$29,723 prize money for the Spanish ships sunk in Manila bay. As a matter of fact, his share will be one-fortieth—\$743.33.

When Your Grocer Says

do not have Defiance Starch, you may be sure he is afraid to keep it until his stock of 13 oz. packages are sold. Defiance Starch is not only better than any other Cold Water Starch, but contains 16 oz. to the package and sells for same money as 13 oz. brands.

Chamberlain Is Versatile.

Mr. Chamberlain is said to be a remarkably proficient political stage manager, appreciating and knowing the value of a dramatic entrance quite as well as Sir Henry Irving or Mr. Beerbohm Tree.

Wiggle-Stick LAUNDRY BLUE

Won't spill, break, freeze nor spot clothes. Costs 10 cents and equals 20 cents worth of any other bluing. If your grocer does not keep it send for a sample to The Laundry Blue Co., 14 Michigan Street, Chicago.

To Supply Commercial Needs.

A project is being prepared to utilize systematically, as sources of electric power, the non-navigable water courses of France throughout the country.

Insist on Getting It.

Some grocers say they don't keep Defiance Starch because they have a stock in hand of 13 oz. brands, which they know cannot be sold to a customer who has once used the 16 oz. pkg. Defiance Starch for same money.

Slow Trolleys.

The Glorials of Rome complain that the trolleys of that city are far behind those of American cities and that they are often slower than omnibuses.

Those Who Have Tried It

will use no other. Defiance Cold Water Starch has no equal in Quantity or Quality—16 oz. for 10 cents. Other brands contain only 13 oz.

Valuable Metals.

There are seventeen metals which are more valuable than gold, pound for pound.

BU-KO BALM.

Cures cold in the head, throat and chest. Stops every ache and pain instantly. Don't stain. Ask the druggist. 50 cents.

The pouch of the average pelican is

large enough to contain seven quarts of water.



Two severe cases of Ovarian Trouble and two terrible operations avoided. Mrs. Emmons and Mrs. Coleman each tell how they were saved by the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—I am so pleased with the results obtained from Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound that I feel it a duty and a privilege to write you about it.

"I suffered for more than five years with ovarian troubles, causing an unpleasant discharge, a great weakness, and at times a faintness would come over me which no amount of medicine, diet, or exercise seemed to correct. Your Vegetable Compound found the weak spot, however, within a few weeks—and saved me from an operation—all my troubles had disappeared, and I found myself once more healthy and well. Words fail to describe the real, true, grateful feeling that is in my heart, and I want to tell every sick and suffering sister. Don't dally with medicines you know nothing about, but take Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and take my word for it, you will be a different woman in a short time."—MRS. LAURA EMMONS, Walker-ville, Ont.

Another Case of Ovarian Trouble Cured Without an Operation.



"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—For several years I was troubled with ovarian trouble and a painful and inflamed condition, which kept me in bed part of the time. I did so dread a surgical operation.

"I tried different remedies hoping to get better, but nothing seemed to bring relief until a friend who had been cured of ovarian trouble, through the use of your compound, induced me to try it. I took it faithfully for three months, and at the end of that time was glad to find that I was a well woman. Health is nature's best gift to woman, and if you lose it and can have it restored through Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound I feel that all suffering women should know of this."—MRS. LAURA BELLE COLMAN, Commercial Hotel, Nashville, Tenn.

It is well to remember such letters as above when some druggist tries to get you to buy something which he says is "just as good." That is impossible, as no other medicine has such a record of cures as Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound; accept no other and you will be glad.

Don't hesitate to write to Mrs. Pinkham if there is anything about your sickness you do not understand. She will treat you with kindness and her advice is free. No woman ever regretted writing her and she has helped thousands. Address Lynn, Mass.

\$5000 FORFEIT if we cannot forthwith produce the original letters and signatures of above testimonials, which will prove their absolute genuineness. Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co., Lynn, Mass.

WISDOM SOAP At Your Grocers 25 cents worth goes as far as 50 cents worth of any bar soap.

Facts—Not Fiction

READ THIS LETTER—It may set you thinking.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., October 10, 1903. HYGIENIC FOOD CO., Battle Creek, Mich.

GENTLEMEN:—I am recommending Mapi-Flake with good results to many of my patients, who are suffering with weak stomachs and indigestion. It is also good for growing children. The peculiar manner of its preparation, the starch being thoroughly dextrinized, stamps it the ideal food for everybody.

Sincerely yours, DR. WM. F. KIER, No. 3609 Lindell Blvd.

Healthful Delicious Economical "If to yourself some strength you'd take, Just start the day with Mapi-Flake."

Send top cut from a package of Mapi-Flake for handsome Color Barometer and Booklet. HYGIENIC FOOD CO. BATTLE CREEK, MICH.

Learn Hypnotism. Complete instructions in the development and practice of hypnotic power; also valuable information in mind reading and kindred subjects. Cloth bound; illustrated. Price \$1.00, prepaid. Address J. W. ROUNTON, FREELAND, Baltimore Co., MARYLAND.

GINSENG WILL NOT GROW. It is wanting money for you to try. My sad experience sent from, Enclose stamp. PROF. BUIZ, 28 E. Penn., Indianapolis.

GREAT OPPORTUNITY of FARM.—I own and offer for sale for the next 6 months, on grounds, changes in business, 13 improved farms near Tyer, Minn. Will make price and terms right. Send me descriptive circular to M. LAURENSEN, Tyler, Minn.

AGENTS. Agents Wanted.—Men, Women and Children. Free. Best out. Easy to sell. Samples and circulars free. Honest; no take. W. WALLACE, 1000 N. 1st St., St. Paul, Minn.

BAD BLOOD TELL'S. Free Advice on All Stood Diseases. DR. A. E. HARRIS, 120 W. 4th St., New York