Aunt Diana The Sunshine of the Family

CHAPTER VII.

"Here beginneth the first chapter of Alison's fallures," whispered Alison, in a funny little voice, as she encountered Rogor on her way downstairs on Monday morning, and she laughed merrily as she shook her key basket exultantly in his face. Roger opened his eyes very widely at this, then he stepped back a few paces and looked at her admiringly.

"How ever did you get possession of that thing?" he exclaimed. "Do you know, Attie, my dear, that shabby little brown basket has been a bone of contention between Miss Leigh and Missle for the last month. Miss Leigh clings to it as her sole hope, and refuses to give it up. It has ended by Missie's neatly abstracting it at night. She has done it three or four times."

"Yes, I know. Poppie told me all about it. Well," in an amused tone, "I have only paid Missie in her own coin. Thanks to my good habits, I was dressed before she thought of waking, so I stole in, got my key basket, and wished Missie good moraing at the same time. I am afraid she will come down dreadfully cross."

"As though that were snything new," returned Roger, contemptuously, as he took up the paper and retired with it to the window, while Alison busied herself with the coffee pot. Shortly afterward there was an unwented sound on the

"If it were not perfectly incredible, I should say that was Itudel's footstep," Boger observed, in a doubtful tone,

"Oh, yes, it is Rudel," returned Alimon, brightly, "I woke him, and made him promise to get up. Miss Leigh says he has got into sad ways. Good boy, as Rudel entered, looking very much pleased at himself, and he bore without making a very wry face his sister's kiss on his forehead. Poppie, who came in a moment afterward with Miss Leigh, was not quite so retirent.

"What is that for?" she asked, with a child's innocency of granuar, but in much surprise, as Alison kiosed ber warmly, and said, "Good morning, Popple,

"Poppie means that we are not accustomed to these little civilities," put in Roger, as Alison looked perplexed for a moment, "nobody says good morning to anybody else at The Holms except Miss Leigh and I; we always do, don't we? shaking bands with her as he spoke. "Father just gives an inclusive good morning at the door."

"I am afraid you are very much shock ed, Alison," observed Miss Leigh, mournfully. "Mabel acts Rodel and Poppie such a bad example in this; no one thinks of such a thing except Mr. Roger, and he is always so very thoughtful."

When Mr. Merle came into the room few minutes later he seemed quite surprised at the unwonted cheerfulness. nodded to Altson, and then took up his letters, but she was not satisfied,

"You have not kissed me, papa," she said, as she carried him round his cup of coffee.

kinnen," he said, good-humoredly; "l'opple never comes to me for one. Poppie reddened, and bent over her plate in much confusion. Roger, who

was next to her, saw the child's eyes were full of tears. "I expect Poppie is afraid of bothering

ros," he observed. "You would like father to kim you sometimes, as he does Missie," he said, kindly.

"In that true, my little girl?" anked Mr. Merie, who had just caught eight of Posole's quivering lip. The poor child. who was very sensitive, was on the point of burnting into tears, but Alison happily

"Papa is too busy to think much about such things. You must go round to morrow and ask him for one, as I did to-day soked laughingly at him from behind her

The brightness seemed to rouse him offactually. He had looked pale and weary when he entered the room, but good-humor in infections.

"You look very nice, dear," he said, approvingly. "I like to see you there, Ali-

like to see her there, too," ob served Roger, boldly; "It is her proper Missie, who had just opened the toor, easieht both these remarks; they did not evidently conduce to her amiabilley. She gave Allson a withering glance as she passed by her, to greet her father, and, taking no notice of her or the othern. desired Rudel rather crossly to give her more room, and began her breakfast rathor aulkily

But for once her hamors were discemarded. No one troubled themselves about her, and the conversation was renewed with scarcely a break. Perhaps both Roger and Alison were doing their heat to enery it on, but their sense of effort was Boat in the general good. When breakfast was over, and Rodel

had rushed off to school, and Mr. Merle and Roger had gone over to the mill. All son asked her sister pleasantly how she proposed to spend the morning.

"That is my affair," she answered, very radely. "I am not accustomed to give an account of myself to gratify people's curienity. I may as well tell you, once for all, that I dislike interference."

Allson felt inclined to laugh-there was comething comical in Missie's mode of howing her temper, but she knew nothing revokes people more than to laugh at them, so she prudently refrained from showing her mirth. "I am just going wand the house with Miss Loigh while Popple prepares her lessons," she return-L as coolly as though Missie had given her a fair answer. "In another hour hall be quite at your convenience, if you

would like to practice with me." Thank you," returned Missie, with ressing politeness, "I have no need to speas on your valuable time; Eva will

be bern soon." "Oh, very well," returned Alison, still in perfect good-humor: "then I will get my essel ready in the school room and mint a little, if Miss Leigh will allow

Of course you must paint in the school returned her slater, tartly; "I supdo not intend to litter up this with that great ugly easel, and Eva I will be in the drawing room.

dare may when I have finished you taking Miss. Hardwick's so for her own purposes she took

into Alison's hands, keeping herself in the she caught sight of the snowy cloth under background and only acting as aide-de- the trees. camp, was soon explaining to the bewildered girl all her little pet theories with regard to kitchen and store room.

When Miss Leigh and Poppie went back to the achool room, Alison settled herself and her painting apparatus in the furthest window, and tried to forget all her perplexities in hard work, but while Popple droned over her leasons, Alison's thoughts would stray to a far different scene-to a shady room full of sweet flower scents, with a tall figure standing before an easel. "Oh, Aunt Di, if I were only painting beside you now." she thought, with a sharp, involuntary pain. "Oh, how beautiful! if I could only

paint like that." The words were spoken, with a sigh, just behind her. Alison started; she had been dreaming indeed; the midday run was streaming into the room. Poppie had put away her lesson books, and had run off, and Miss Leigh's place was empty, and standing just behind Alison's chair was a young lady dressed very simply in a gray linen dress and a broad-brimmed hat. At Alison's obvious start the young lady blushed and seemed

"Oh," she stammered, "I am afraid I startled you. You were so busy that you did not see me come in. I have been

watching you ever so long." "I must have been painting in sleep," returned Alison, with a frank laugh, but as she put aside her palette and rose, she cast a scrutinizing glance on the young girl beside her.

She was a slight, pale girl, evidently a little younger than herself; somewhat plain in feature, but with a pleasing, gentle expression, though a painful hesitation in her speech, almost amounting to a stammer, marred the effect of a singularly sweet voice. Even in that first moment Alison, who had a true artistic taste in all matters pertaining to dress, wondered at the bad judgment that could select dull, neutral tints for a complexion so colorless; the large hat overshadowed and then we must really go," she had ber features, and hid the soft hair that was her only beauty.

"You are Miss Hardwick, I suppose?" observed Alison, with a shrewd guess that this was the young sister of whom Miss Leigh spoke.

"Not Miss Hardwick," corrected the girl; "I am only Anna. Eva and Mabel sent me here because they wanted to talk to each other, and they always find me in the way. Will it trouble you if I stop here a little and watch you painting?" "Oh, no; not at all. We shall be nice

company for each other," returned Alison, in a friendly voice. "I have only this little bit of background to finish, and then I shall be free to talk to you."

Alison painted for a few minutes si iently; she was thinking. Then she laid "If you will excuse me a moment !

want to speak to your sister and Mabel, she said, rather quickly, "and then, if you like, we will go and sit in the garden until luncheon is ready."

CHAPTER VIII.

Missie loked up with a frown as her sister entered the room, but Alison took no notice of her. She walked up straight to Miss Hardwick, and held out her hand with one of her pleasant smiles.

"I have just made acquaintance with your sister," she said, with quiet tact "we are going in the garden, as the house feels so close this lovely day. I shall be so glad, and I am sure Mahel will be, "Oh, I thought only Punnie cared for too, if you will both stay with us to

"I thought you knew better, Alison," Missie interrupted, petrishly, before her friend could speak. "Dear papa is so nervous and worried about business and Roger's wretched management that he is not able to bear luncheon visitors. Eva

understands this, don't you, dear?" "Oh, yes, darling," returned Miss Hardwick, with effusion; "but perhaps your elster, being a stranger and not quite made a mistake. That is very natural." "Oh, no," returned Alison, trying to keep cool. "I am making no mistake. l'apa will not be in to hincheon, or me

brother, either, as they have business a little was out of town. So I thought, as he won't refuse either of us," and she we should be quite alone, that it would be bother him. For his coronation he ora good opportunity, Mabel, for you to have your friends."

Missio's pink cheeks became crimson with veration; it aggravated her to see Alison taking upon herself so quietly the duties of the mistress of the house; and she was still more injured that her father's movements had not been first notice! to herself. She took no notice of her sixter's remarks, and added no word, as Miss Hardwick accepted the invitation with great alacrity. When Alison left them, after a few more words, she listened reluctantly to Eva's criticism.

"I had no idea your sister was such a strlish person," she said, when the door closed on Alison; "she has fine eyes and a good figure, and she knows how to suit her own style in dress. She is not as pretty as con, darling, of course, but she has some claims to good looks."

Alison did not return these moderate compliments; she was not at all attracted by Miss Hardwick. She was a large, heavy looking girl, rather handsome, but her face had no play of expression, and her manner was decidedly artificial.

Alison spent a pleasant hour with her new friend under the lime trees. soon grew interested in Anna's artless talk. She was evidently very young for her age; though she was seventeen, she was still childish in manners. Probably she had been repressed and kept in the background by 'her sister.

you," Anna said. "Mamma and Eva say to ask them questions. I think I am fonder of talking than most people. Anthony says that makes me so trouble-

"Who is Anthony?" queried Alison, a

with us now. Eva says it is so nice, because we have no brothers, and he can take us about. Eva and he are great friends; she always calls him Tony. is such a handsome fellow, with a big black mustache like a cavalry officer. He to be good-natured.

what has become of your sister and Mabel? I propose that we have afternoon ten under these trees, and that you and with Sarah's help, should prepare a little surprise for them. Will not Poppie ence as quickly as they had sprung up.

be delighted?" Anna might have been a child from the way she clapped her hands; she had never enjoyed herself so much in all her life as during the next half hour, as she Alison dragged chairs across the lawn, and arranged the little ten table,

Allson was soon too busy to remember | severy version, and a serie was of some Missie's existence. Miss Leigh, who was in the center. Even Missie looked pleased desirous of resigning her household duties | when, on returning from their hot walk,

> "That is really a good idea," she observed, in a grudging tone, however; but Eva very nearly made her cross again by

"How delicious of your sister! I really would hug her for this. What a pity we never thought of this before, dear, and then Tony might have joined us!"

When Roger returned from his work, an hour earlier than he expected, he stood quite transfixed on the gravel walk; for certainly such a pleasant little picture had never been seen before in the garden of The Holms.

"You may have my chair by Miss Leigh," exclaimed Popple, eagerly. "Oh, the cakes are so nice, Roger, and there are two left."

"I must make you some fresh tea, you poor tired day laborer," observed Alison, as Roger threw himself into the wicker chair and removed his bat. "Oh., let me do it!" exclaimed Anna.

eagerly. "I know the way to the kitchen "Yes, and I will go, too," added Poppie. "There are some more strawberries.

"Bring me a big plateful," called out Roger, as Poppie frisked away; but he looked after them both rather curiously. His little friend looked different, somehow, he thought. Was it Alison, he wondered, who had put those coquettish look-

ing roses into the little gray gown? Anna's face looked dimpled and smiling. Her blue eyes quite shone when she came back. She and Alison and Roger had a long talk, while Miss Leigh listened and knitted industriously. Missle and Eva had wandered away again-most likely to avoid Roger. He had addressed Miss Hardwick with studied politeness, but she had tossed her head and hardly answered him. She would make no terms with the enemy who had wounded her vanity so grievously.

"We will take one more turn, darling, said to Missie; and in a few more minutes they heard her calling for Anna.

"Come, Anna, don't dawdle. We must really go pow."

"Good by. I have had such a happy afternoon, thank you so much," whispered Anna, with a timid kiss that Alison warmly returned. "One day you will

have me again, will you not?" "t'ome whenever you like, dear, I am sure we shall be good friends," returned Alison, forgetting the necessity of lower-

Miss Hardwick laughed affectedly as she heard the speech.

"You are a lucky girl to have got a friend so quickly. Is she not, Mr. Roger's Oh! I forgot; you are her friend, too, with a little spice of venom in her tone. "I shall be most happy to be considered Miss Anna's friend; and I am sure Alison will say the same," rejoined Roger, in his downright manner. "Good by,

(To be continued.)

Miss Anna."

THE PERSON OF THE PERSON WHEN HAITI WAS AN EMPIRE.

An Account of a Stather Fuony Incldent in History of the Republic.

The little republic of Haytl, which now and then chooses to enliven her domestic and foreign affairs with a socalled revolution, can boast of a rather tonny period of her history, says Harper's Wekly. In 1811 the negro general, Christophe, proclaimed himself emperor and, in spite of the smallness of his empire, surrounded himself with a pompous official household like the grand monarchs of Europe. He ended In 1820 by spicide and up to 1840 the little state could again enjoy its party fights and revolutions as a republic. In the latter year another negro, Gen. Faustin Soulonque, seized the government, and on Aug. 26 took possession of used to all the ways at The Holms, has the state as its proctained emperor. calling himself Faustin I.

> He established his government upon the pattern of Napoleon's. That he, who was born as a slave, had some difficulty in reading and writing did not and the coronation robe of the emperer of the French; to pay for them, of course, he deemed unnecessary, and the 'purveyors to his majesty" were glad to receive some part payments by and by. The civil list of the emperor was fixed at 150,000 gourdres (1 gourdre equal to 964 cents); that of the empress, black as her spouse, at 50,000 gourdres. Her court attendants included two ladies of honor, fifty ladies of the court and twenty-two waiting

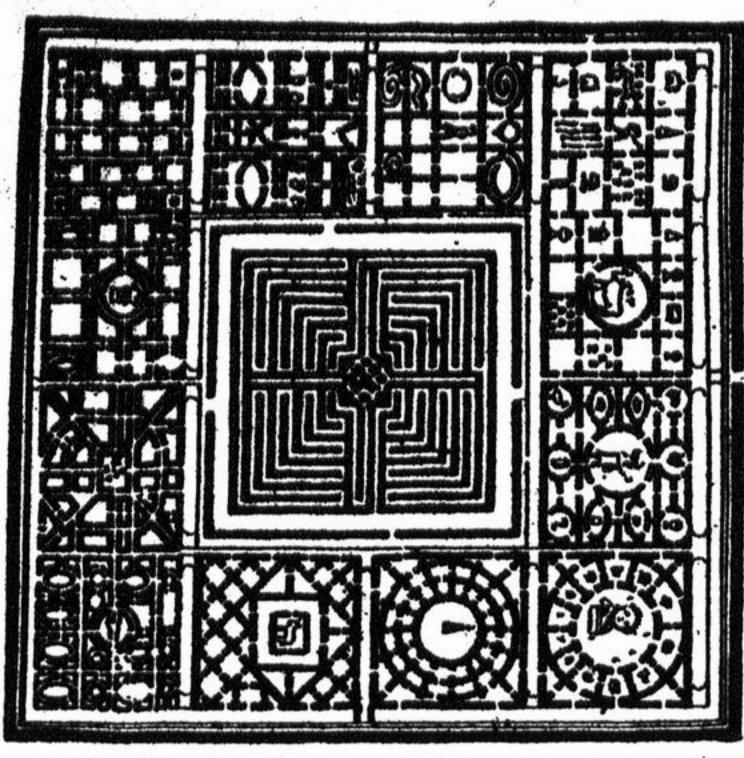
The court had a grand almoner, a manager of the imperial theater, a governor of the imperial palaces, etc. The emperor founded two orders of knightbood; the order of St. Faustin of military merit and the order of the legion of honor. His division generals and vice admirals be made princes and dukes, and the brigadier generals counts; every superior customs officer became a baron. All at once Haytt ing room with his guests. with its not quite 10,000 square miles and its population of about 900,000, and fifty-nine dukes, 100 counts, 336 barons and 340 knights.

The names of the brand-new aristocracy were taken from farms and "It is so good of you to let me talk to fautastic feudal estates which Faustin had created by mere word and given am such a chatterbox, when I begin ridiculous and burlesque names. John Joseph, the emperor's brother, was and one anxieties. These fears were named duke of Port-de-Paix (Portepe); Charles Alerte, great-bread-chamberlain, was Duke des Cachotsi (i. e., of the prisons); de Mare, Duke de la take one spoonful and order the serv "Oh, he is our cousin; he is staying Limonade; Linding, Duke de Marmelade. The most humorous names were riving, I found to my horror a strong those of some of the counts.

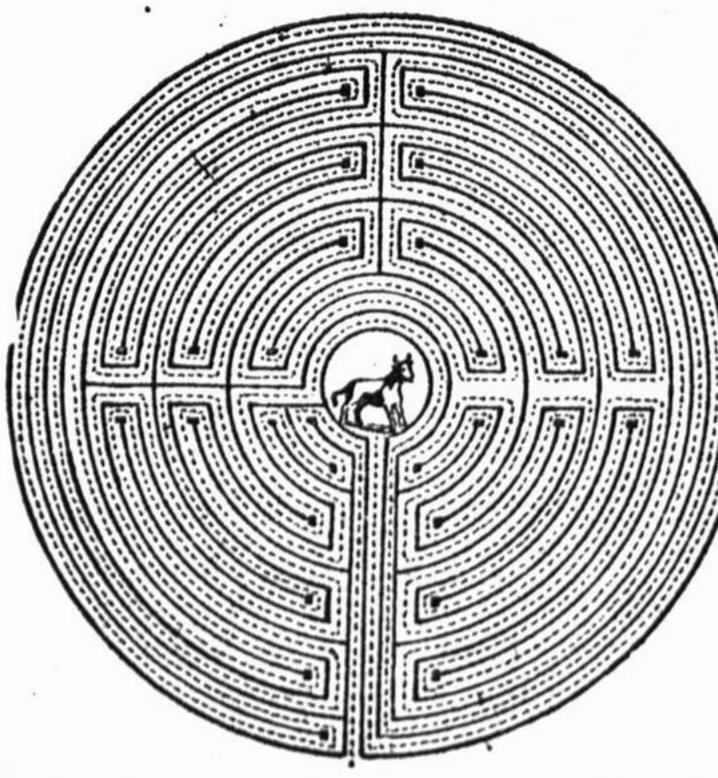
Fer du Nord; Noel Jean Jacques, Count de Coupe-Haleine (he was the librarian is in the army, you know. I am dread- general of the empire); Dumas Labfully frightened of him, because he laughs roudic, Count de la Tortue; one Count at me, but it is only his way, he means du Numero-Deux, one de Grand Gossier (large throat); des Geupes (wasps) Allson prudently refrained from all du Diamant, de la Bombarde, etc. One plained. It was the custom of the nacomments, but said, lightly, "Now we of the knights had to hear himself revolt made an end to this glorious monarchy, and wiped all these names, titles and dignities out of exist-

> A Bear Friend. "I hear yer frien' Tamson's married

"Aye, so he is. He's been a deat frien' tae me. He's cost me three waddin' presents an' twa wreaths,"-DunTWO MOST WONDERPUL MAZES EVER BUILT.



The Top Illustration Shows the Moeris Labyrinth of Ancient Egypt, Built of Solid Marble and Containing 3,000 Buildings -No Key Is Furnished to This Intricate Labyrinth.



The Dotted Line Shown on the Famous Knosses Labyrinth, in Crete, Will Serve as a Key to the Maze.

attraction at every exposition. Concy the monster. Island has several of them, all exceedingly simple in construction, but very difficult to find your way out of once you are fairly inside,

of ancient times, the plans of which but if the reader were penned in be are shown herewith. These are the tween the high walls of the mare and Moeris labyrinth, in Egypt, and the invited to try it again he would prob-Knowson labyrinth, in Crete.

The Moeris inbyrinth was square and | hopelessly lost, built entirely of marble. In it were

hand of victims, received the cine to to find a war in

The labyrinth or maze is a popular | the labyrinth from Ariadne and killed

The dotted guiding line, shown in the plan of the Cretan labyrinth, fur nishes a key to the minotaur's prison in the center. It will be noticed that Coney Island's mame, and even the every path in the mare has to be more famous and ingenious ones at traversed before the center can be Hampton Court, at Versailles and reached. Looking down on the plan Scheveningen, are mere toys compared of the maze this looks like a simple with the two most famous labyrinths and methodical way to reach the center. ably such lose his bearings and get

No key is furnished to the solution 3.000 buildings arranged in groups of of the Moeris labyrinth. Readers are twelve palaces. The outer wall was invited to find it for themselves if decorated with lines of statues; within they can. An entrance to the outer are the twelve groups of pulaces and palaces will be found in the top. There In the center are the gardens, the walks | are several short-cuts by which the of which constitute a maze within a center garden may be reached; it is not necessary to traverse the entire The Cretan labyriath was formed by group of 3,000 buildings. To reach the Daedalus for Minos as a prison for center of the garden will prove almost the minotaur to which twelve Athenian as much a puzzle as the Cretan labeyouths and maidens were offered every rinth. And having once reached the year. According to classical mytho- middle it will be just as hard, perhaps logy. Theseus, coming to trete with a harder, to get out again than it was

A MEDICATED SOUP.

~~~~~~ One often reads of the tremblings tierd the green gages lying innocently and anxieties which accompany the in a cut glass dish where the olives first dinner parities of the young wife should have been and housekeeper. Gerald Gordon, in "Life in the Mofussil," gives a bit of power of self-restraint. experience which shows that a youthful inchelor makes his debut as an entertainer with similar feelings of trepidation. Feeling almost as nervous as a girl for the success of his initial social enterprise in India, he entered the din-

The table looked very well. In the center was a large citron arcton, with the thick rind cut into ornamental shapes. The flowers were prettily arranged. When I viewed the dining room before the arrival of the guests I felt

well contented. The critical moment was when we sat down. I was prey to a hundred not allayed by seeing my right-hand neighbor only making a show of eating his soup. Then I saw the colonel ant to take it away. My own turn arflavor of caster oil in the concection. There were the Count des Cotes de | On looking round the table, it was clear that everyone else had discovered it.

The consumab, standing by the sideboard, was totally unconscious that anything was wrong, and I had to tell dle thirty-two blocks bunting the check him twice to remove the somp.

Later the horrible mystery was extive cooks to strain soup through a have talked all this time, and I wonder called Knight Coco. In 1858 a military cloth, and a clean one was provided every day for the purpose. In my establishment we burn castor o'l in the lamps. The duty of straining the soup that day was given to a wretched under-cook, who took a cloth which had tem, what could I have done?"-Chibeen used for cleaning the lamps,

> This was trying, but everyone tried to make the best of matters. The dinner went smoothly after this, until des-Among the dishes was one of green gages, with a lot of finfly cream I felt rather proud of this The colonel tasted it.

"Goodness." Dives." he shouted. Alas! it was too true. At the time I had given out a bottle of green gages I had also given one of fine Spanish olives. Now, for the first time, I no-

This was too much for the guests' laughed loudly and long. It was the soon hear the last of those olive tarts

### CHECKING A BUNDLE.

The Way the Tired Man Saved Himself Labor and Trouble. One day a man went into a very big store. He had a heavy package with

Not in the sense you mean, smartles but in the real sense. He had to go two blocks farther down the street and didn't want to carry the package. So he decided that he would leave it in the check room,

He asked a floorwalker who looked like a United States Senator, but who was a perfect gentleman, where the check room was. The floorwalker said "Threealslesoverdownstairsandoveron the Wahashside."

He went there, wherever that was, and found he had made a mistake. He knew it was blasself who had made the miscake, for as nice a man as a floorwalker with a Prince Albert on conidn't have made a mistake. Finally after he had lugged his bun-

deposited his bundle, he walked his two blocks to the other place and was through for the day. Then he solilognized: "How should I ever have got through or stood the wear and tear of that long two blocks carrying that bundle? It it hadn't been for the check room sys-

room, had found the check room and

"I don't believe in that doctor." Why?" "He didn't tell me everything wanted to eat was bad for me!"-

London Opinion. Hardly any man is clever enough to know how important he isn't.

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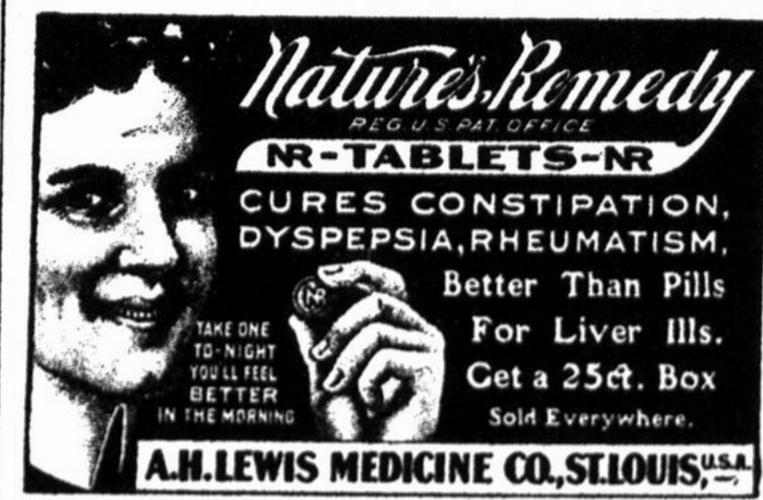


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