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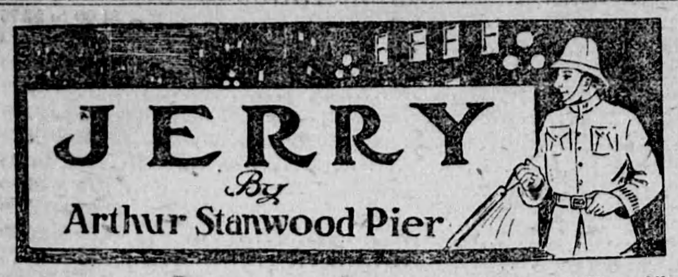

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CHAPTER XXX.

The intoxication of rediscovered love carried Jerry through one evening. In the morning he awoke to feel only the shackles and the shame.

He was ashamed because he did not know whether he loved Nora or not; he was shackled by poverty and by duties if he loved her and by his word to her if he didn't. And in his slow dressing that morning, while he was lacing up his boots, and while he was fastening his high collar beneath his upstretched chin, he gloomily wondered why he had chosen so to complicate his life. It all seemed unnecessary as it assuredly had been unpremeditated. A call that he had actually forced himself to make from a sense of duty—that it should have ended so! It was too astonishing.

He was conscious of a certain sense of relief as he reflected that in any event marriage was remote. And the moment that he began to feel relief because of that, a counteracting desire seized upon him. If he was bound to marry her anyway, he wanted to marry her now. Those kisses, that feeling of her body pressing against his and of her arms striving to hold him close and yet closer to her heart—they had roused the animal in him. He wanted more kisses, more embraces, and he wanted them passionately, without waiting.

At breakfast Kate tried, rather shyly, to enlist his interest. She asked him if he would do something for her, and with an effort at heartiness he answered, "Sure, I will. What's the big idea, Kate?"

Blushingly Kate explained that her graduation essay had been adjudged the best in the class and she had therefore been condemned to read it at th graduation exercises. And she wondered if Jerry would let her read it to him some time, and would criticize the way she did it.

"Of course, right now," said Jerry. "Only my criticism won't be worth much."

Kate got out her manuscript and began to read. The subject of her paper was loyalty. It was a schoolgirl's dissertation, adorned with extracts from her favorite authors, and she read it with a schoolgirl's self-consciousness, hurrying a little over the passages that had caused her the deepest emotion. Her voice, usually tranquil, quivered a little under the stress of this disclosure of her thoughts; she didn't once lift her eyes from the page. Jerry watched her with an amused and affectionate interest; she sat with hr neat little ankles crossed and her brown head bent over her manuscript, while with one hand she nervously kept gathering up and smoothing out a fold in her skirt. They were capable fingers that thus exercised themselves, and it was a pretty, well-shaped head that was bent over the manuscript, and the neat little ankles, now so sedately crossed, were often lively and twinkling enough.

"'We are loyal to our families, as a matter of course,'" read Kate. "'But there is a harder kind of loyalty that we must all try to achieve—the loyalty, the caprice of the moment or the temptation of the hour may turn our steps forever from the path in which should lie the duty of a lifetime.'—Oh, Jerry," she exclaimed, "is it awfully silly? Don't you want to laugh?"

"No, not a bit. Quite the contrary."

"You mean you want to cry?"

"Now, Kate, go ahead and read your piece. I'm interested. I think it's fine."

So she continued: "'It is the readiness or failure to perform the nearest duties, to meet and master the obvious responsibilities, that is the test of loyalty. There is no real loyalty in one who shirks or evades. There is no real loyalty in one who is selfish. There is ne real loyalty in one who shrinks from enduring or in case of need, giving pain. To every one probably must come some time a supreme test of loyalty, and only those will pass it who have borne themselves worthily in the daily tests of loyalty. "To thine own self be true, thou canst not then be false to any man."'"

"By George, Kate, it's fine," said Jerry. "And you doped it all out for yourself too. I dont see how you did it. Why, Socrates and Emerson have got mighty little on you."

After Kate had gone off to school, Jerry sat for a few moments meditating on her words of wisdom. They did not contribute to his happiness. That sentence about the temptation of the hour turning one away from the duty of a lifetime—was he to be a living witness to its truth? He didn't know, he really didn't know. Nora and her kisses and her clinging arms seemed even more compelling when he thought about them than when he was surrendered to them.

It was an odd thing that Kate should have evolved those aphorisms so pat to his situation. It was an odd thing that she should have got hold of such ideas—that unsophisticated, inexperienced young girl. Yet the whole essay showed clearly that she was still living in an ideal world; in that way it was the work of a young gir, simple, shy, and believing.

Jerry reflected on the contrast between Kate and Nora. He could not imagine Kate talking to any man as Nora had talked to him the night before.

CHAPTER XXXI.

On the morning when Jerry was meditating upon the singular applicability of Kate's monitory words to his own predicament, Nora felt impelled by the exuberance of her spirits, her sense of success and satisfaction, to go shopping. She had a tidy little sum of money now in hand, and there could be no better way of spending it than in the purchase of summer clothes—and no more propitious moment. So, with a sunny April face well suited to the sunny April morning, she took her way towards Bilbow and Slosson's department store.

In the suit department she wavered between a gray suit and a blue. She tried on each, and in each was almost convinced by the admiration of the saleswoman.

"Goodness!" said that person. "If I only had you to show off my suits for me I could sell twice as many as I do. You've just the figure, and things look so stylish on you. We've got two women here to walk round and show off clothes, but they don't put them on with the style that you do."

"Would you really give me a chance to do it?" asked Nora.

"I'm not the boss, but I'd be glad to advise Mr. Stratton to give you a trial. You might find it tiresome."

"Oh, no, it would be lots of fun to walk round in one pretty thing after another. I think I'll keep this suit anyway. Suppose you take me to see Mr. Stratton now, so that he can see just how I would show off a new suit."

The saleswoman arranged the interview, which resulted in Nora's being engaged as a model for a month, to display spring and summer costumes. She carried herself well, she was good to look at, she wore the standard size, and she could put on almost any color; Mr. Stratton told her that there was no reason why she shouldn't have quite a career as a suit model.

Nora went home, wearing her new suit and happier even than she had been when she was anticipating its purchase. Everything seemed at last to be falling just right for her. This occupation that was to be hers for a month was the most congenial possible. It very likely would lead to a permanent and attractive position with Bilbow and Slosson, if she cared to have a permanent position. Jerry might call it drifting if he liked, but it was drifting to some purpose. She would save every penny that she earned; there would be the less excuse then for their not getting married just as soon as Dave was free.

Two days later Mrs. Donohue took Kate to Bilbow and Slosson's to buy a dress for the graduation exercises. After accomplishing this, Mrs. Donohue, who had not yet grown too old to enjoy seeing the newest fashions in clothes, suggested that they go into the suit department and look round. So the bright-eyed little woman in the antiquated clothes and bonnet and the shy girl, who was painfully conscious that her own clothes were more serviceable than stylish, passed into the room where a lady all in lavender and carrying a lavender parasol strolled back and forth in front of some spectators who murmured their approbation as she passed.

"Land sakes! If it isn't Nora Scanlan!" exclaimed Mrs. Donohue under her breath. She made directly for Nora, and Kate, not knowing what else to do, yet extremely reluctant to intrude upon a person of such grandeur, followed at her heels.

(To be continued.)

What grows larger the more it is contracted? Debt.

Good Citizenship.

Has it ever ocurred to the majority that those priceless things—ideals of liberty and justice and right living—can be neither bought nor sold? They are not heirlooms and no parent can hand them down ticketed and tied like goverment bonds or enclosed, like jewels, in a strong box. They may be "recommended" and even insisted upon but are adopted voluntarily or not at all.

These facts offer food for serious thought on the part of those who are responsible for Canada's future. Whatever ideals it is desirable for the citizens of to-morrow to possess must be instilled into the consciousness of the children of to-day. The process is the tedious one of "line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little, there a little"—a process at times inspiring but more often than not discouraging. It is a process little realized in the main because its workings are unseen. Not until the generation stands ready for citizenship can it be seen that damage has been done. Only then is one aware of the existence of the harmful influence. Human careers are too precious to be submitted to this exploitation and the most serious duty confronting patriots to-day is the provision of influences that will produce high standards of living for generations to come.

Had this truth been recognized from any other than a largely theoretical stand point by the men and women of the preceding and the present generation it would not have been possible for the vicious theories promulgated by Frederick the Great (wrongly so called) to be working themselves out to-day in Prussian atrocities. There can not be too vigorous pushing of baby welfare movements or the establishment and maintainence of supervised playgrounds. By Scout movements, national health boards, carefully considered housing schemes, city planning and every other movement that centres in the cleanest, finest living. An examination into the things in which all were most keenly concerned a decade ago will not result in a list of these things as national interests. Every one of them must be absorbing interests if Prussianism is to be stamped out forever.

Delicious Carrot Cookery.

Delectable dishes are made from the "despised" and humble carrot. It is health-giving food, blood purifying and is truly delicious when the taste for carrot cooking has been acquired.

Carrot Butter.—Sift one pint each of stewed carrots and stewed dried apricots, add one pint of white sugar and one-half teaspoon each of ground cinnamon and nutmeg, mix well and cook slowly until thick, like apple butter. Seal in tumblers. This is good all the year round.

Baked Carrots.—Scrape as many carrots as desired, cut in halves lengthwise. Arrange in buttered baker on a bed of cracker crumbs, grate over them one large onion. Cover with beef stock, season with salt and pepper and one teaspoon of minced parsley. Bake one hour, or less if carrots are small and tender.

Carrot Salad.—Dice four cold boiled carrots, two cold boiled potatoes and chop four hard boiled eggs and two stalks of celery. Arrange on bed of shredded lettuce and dress with mayonnaise or French salad dressing.

Carrot and Celery Soup.—Parboil until tender four medium-sized carrots that have been scraped and sliced and one head of well blanched celery that has been cut in half-inch pieces. Drain and add one cup of milk, one cup of cream, and one pint of boiling water. Season with butter, salt, pepper and celery salt to taste. Let simmer for fifteen minutes. Serve hot with a little chopped parsley on top.

Carrot and June Pea Salad.—Dice four cold boiled carrots in tiny dice, add to them one cup of cold boiled June peas and one cup of chopped walnut meats. Mix with mayonnaise and serve on crisp lettuce leaf or in tomato cups if a lovely color combination is desired.

Carrot and Salmon Loaf.—Shred one can of red salmon, chop three or four cold boiled carrots, add two well-beaten eggs and one cup of bread crumbs, salt and pepper to taste. Mix well and add one tablespoonful of minced parsley. Form in loaf and bake until nicely browned. Garnish with curled lettuce leaves or parsley.

Carrot Cream.—Mash two cups of boiled carrots, add one pint of sweet milk, four well beaten eggs, one cup of sweet cream, one package of jelly powder, one-half cup of shredded cocoanut or chopped almonds, two cups of sugar, vanilla flavoring. Heat to boiling point, adding vanilla after removing from fire. Let get cold, then freeze. Serve with a bit of whipped cream and a candied cherry on top.

Carrot and Beet Pickles.—Boil and peel twelve carrots and twelve small beets until tender. Pack in jars with several tiny white onions and small green cucumbers in each jar. Pour over them a sweetened spiced vinegar that is boiling hot. Seal and put away for future use.

Carrot and Chicken Croquettes.—Chop one cup of cold boiled carrots and one cup of cold chicken. Add one egg, one tablespoonful of minced parsley. Salt and pepper to taste and just enough fine cracker crumbs to mix well. Form and dry a delicate brown in deep fat.

Carrot and Lamb en Casserole.—Dice four boiled carrots and two cups of cold roast lamb. Season with salt, paprika and two mint leaves pounded fine. Arrange in the casserole pour over the gravy left from the roast lamb. Bake until nicely browned. Serve with mint jelly or mint sauce.

Carrot and Raspberry Jam.—Clean six carrots and run through the food chopper, add one quart of fresh or canned raspberries and equal weight in sugar. Cook until quite thick. Seal while hot. This is delicious. Fresh berries are best. Rhubarb with carrots also makes a delicious jam.

Carrots with Canned Corn.—Chop three boiled carrots and add to them one-half can sweet corn. Fresh may be used and is better. Season with salt and pepper, add one cup of milk, one tablespoonful of butter and one cup of bread crumbs. Bake one-half hour.

Carrot Chopped Pickle.—Six raw carrots cleaned and chopped, one cucumber grated, two onions grated, one tablespoonful fresh grated horseradish, two cups of green tomato chopped and two cups of cabbage chopped fine. Cover with vinegar, two cups of sugar, salt and spices to taste. Heat and seal while scalding hot. I usually add whole white mustard seed, whole black peppers, cloves, cinnamon, celery seed and a half dozen pimentos or one red pepper shredded. This makes a delicious sauce for meats.

Carrots Candy.—Run three cooked carrots through potato ricer while hot, add one-half cup of sugar, one cup of chopped nut meats one package of lemon jello, one-half pint of boiling water. (Dissolve the jello in the boiling water). Mix. Let get cold, when quite cold cut in squares like caramels.

Food Control Corner

The Feed Division of the Live Stock Branch of the Department of Agriculture has secured a reserve of re-cleaned elevator screenings, upon which there is an export embargo in this country, and which are being sold at a fixed price of $36.00 per ton, bulk car load lots, Fort William, on and after December 1st. Freight will be added to this amount according to the distance from the distributing point.

The government has also secured a reserve of feed corn which is being held at Tiffin, Ont. This corn is sample grade feed corn of average quality, and quoted at $1.40 per bushel f.o.b. Tiffin, Ont.

For dairy men, the government has purchased a reserve of linseed oil cake meal which is offered for prompt shipment at $64.00 per ton Toronto and $66.00 per ton f.o.b. Montreal, in car load lots, packed in 200 pound sacks. In addition to these reserve supplies, the Canada Food Board placed an absolute export embargo on Canadian bran and shorts which are selling at a fixed price of $37.00 for bran, and $42.00 for shorts, net cash, Montreal freights, including sacks, and $31.00 for bran and $36.00 for shorts, Fort William, including sacks. Freight will be deducted or added to these rates according to distance east or west of Fort William and Montreal, respectively.

It has come to the attention of the Canada Food Board that a considerable amount of dried beet pulp or sugar beet meal has been accumulated at certain sugar refineries in Ontario, and is being quoted at $55.00 a ton, f.o.b. Chatham, Wallaceburg and Kitchener. In view of the urgent demand for finished cattle, feeders would be well advised to inquire into the value of this material and to utilize it wherever obtainable to advantage. It is the desire of the Food Board that this feed be used in Canada rather than to permit its export.

Farmers and live stock men are advised to form co-operative groups to purchase car load lots of government feed or feed from the regular trade, without delay, so as to avoid difficulty and delay incidental to winter transportation. Government feed will be supplied upon application to the Feed Division, Live Stock Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa. Bran and shorts, upon which there has been no basic advance upon the prices fixed some months ago, are handled by the regular trade, and not by the Feed Division.

From information as to live stock deficiency in Europe the Canada Food Board urges that no live stock be marketed until it is finished, as there will be a steady demand for meat and breeding stock from Europe with the re-establishment of normal communication and the release of ships from war services.

Blessed is he who keeps his troubles to himself.

THE CROWNING ATROCITY

Devilish Trick of Retreating Germans Just Before War's Close.

A young tank officer whom I knew before the war and whom I know to be truthful, tells me an honest-appearing British sergeant, in turn, told him that a week or two before the war's end the British, having cleaned up a nest of enemy machine guns, sent a detail out to bury the dead says an American writer. The squad had buried two Germans; then they came upon the body of one of their own men who had fallen in the fighting two days earlier, when the British made their first attack upon the Germans, only to be forced back and then to come again with better success.

The sergeant who stood sponsor for the narrative declared that, as he bent over the dead Englishman to unfasten the identification tag from the wrist, he saw something was fastened to the dead man's arm. This something was partly hidden under the body. Becoming instantly suspicious, he warned the other men to stand back; and then, kneeling down and feeling about cautiously, he came upon a bomb, so devised that a slight jar or a slight pull would set it off.

Before they fell back, the surviving Germans had attached this devilish thing to the corpse with the benevolent intention of blowing to bits the first man among the victors who should undertake the poor clay with intent to give it decent burial. The men, as I know, have been warned against gathering up German helmets and German rifles in places from which the enemy has retired, because such a souvenir has a way of blowing up in the finder's hand by reason of the hidden grenade that it attached to it, with the cap so arranged that a tug at the wired-on connection will set off the charge.

But this crowning atrocity, coming from British sources, shows that they had made improvements in their system. From sawing down fruit trees, from shoveling filth into the drinking wells, from wantonly destroying the cities that for years had sheltered them, from laying waste the lands they have been forced to surrender back into the hands of their rightful proprietors, the ingenious Hun had progressed in his military education to where he made dead men serve his purposes.

No man can plough a field by turning it over in his mind.

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