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THE CABLEMAN

AN EXCITING PRESENT-DAY ROMANCE

BY WEATHERBY CHESNEY

CHAPTER XIV.—(Cont'd)

CHAPTER XIV.—(Cont'd)

She spoke listlessly. Her mother's excitement seemed absurd. But even if it were not, so if the man had found the stone jar, and was carrying it off with him now—Elsa did not know whether she wished to stop him. Yesterday she would have fought fiercely to keep the contents of that jar safe to-day it seemed that their safety did not matter.

"No," said her mother. "Take us in quickly. He may not have found the thing. Anyway I must know at once."

She was trembling with excitement, but Elsa was quite calm. It seemed almost as though the hope, which in the daughter had died, was pulsing with strong life in the mother. But it was not the same hope. The things they desired were not the same now—probably never had been, perhaps never would be the same.

"Quick!" cried Mrs. Carrington again. "If the jar is not there, we shall have to follow that man!"

But the jar was where Elsa had put it.

At the first cast of her grapple, a coil of the picture wire round his neck was caught, and it came to the surface.

Elsa slipped off the cap of her hat, and then, having taken out the cork, drew from it the rolled packet. Mrs. Carrington snatched it from her hands, and tore it open.

"Wait!" cried Elsa.

"There was something in her tone which made the elder woman pause." "Well?" she asked irritably.

"Father gave me a message, which I was to deliver to you when I put that packet into your hands."

"Well?" said Mrs. Carrington again.

"He said that his last command to you, spoken through my lips, was that you were to respect the wish which you would find expressed in a letter to you which that packet contains. He said that you would understand, and that I should not."

With a frown Mrs. Carrington began to read the letter. It was a long letter, and she read the first word dependently. When she came to the end she said shortly:

"Take the boat out again."

Elsa began to scull towards the entrance. Before she had reached it, her mother gave a short laugh, and said:

"What do you think this packet contains, besides your father's letter to me?"

"I don't know," said Elsa. "Father spoke of proofs."

"Proofs of what? Of his innocence? You little fool!"

With something that was almost a sob, Elsa dropped her ear, and turned quickly to her mother, crying:

"Mother! he was guilty!"

"Yes," said Mrs. Carrington, and then, as Elsa buried her face in her hands, she added, with a mocking laugh: "I will read you a bit of his last letter to me."

With a sneer on her lips this woman who had called Richmond Carrington husband, read to the girl who was his daughter:

"Elsa believes in me. If it is possible for that belief to live, I charge you, Rachel, not to kill it. She will look to you for guidance. I have told her that the decision rests with you whether the effort to clear my name

is to be continued. Give her what reasons you will for ceasing to make the effort. Say that it is hopeless, that the difficulties are insurmountable, that our enemies are too strong—anything—except the truth, that I am guilty. You drove me into guilt, do this much by way of recompense.

Perhaps I know it is only perhaps, but I believe in the slenderest thread of hope in this—perhaps she will believe you."

Elsa sprang to her feet with a cry!

"Stop! That is his message to you? The last wish, which you were to respect?"

"It seems so," said Mrs. Carrington, smiling. "At any rate I can find no other."

"And this is how you respect it?"

"Yes," she said, "the whole thing is really too absurd."

Elsa gazed at her in trembling anger. For a moment she could not speak. Then with a low moan she cried:

"You are my mother, but I hate you!"

CHAPTER XV.

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The same two men were again on duty in the instrument room at Regina Grande who had been on duty the night when the cable message "Danger—Circus" came through, Scarborough again was sitting in front of the siphon recorder, and again Scott was lying in a cane chair, listlessly turning over the leaves of a novel. Specialization of function commonly took this form between these two.

No messages were passing over the cables, and for the last half hour Scarborough had been deep in thought. The task which he had taken upon his shoulders, when he undertook to solve the mystery which surrounded Richmond Carrington's death, absorbed the thoughts of most of his waking hours now; but the solution did not come. That there had been no actual murder had been proved by the evidence of the Portuguese doctor, who had certified that death was due to the sudden bursting of an aortic aneurism of long standing. But the doctor said also that it was impossible for Carrington should not have known of the existence of this aneurism, and that it was very unlikely that he would be ignorant of the fact that any unusual exertion would almost of a certainty be fatal. So much Scarborough could understand, but what he could not understand was why Elsa's father had, by making this exertion, doomed himself to an all but inevitable death. He had little doubt that the risk had been known, and dared with full knowledge. But why? What was the motive which had been strong enough to make Richmond Carrington brave death as the price of a country walk?

Presently Scott, the man in the cane chair, yawning, and threw his book down in disgust.

"What are you not managing to get into that novel?" he remarked.

"Sickening!" Elsa change places with you for a bit, Horace. Asphorin recorder that doesn't record anything is dull company, but the average modern novel is duller. [Bet you half a crown you can't read through four chapters of this one. Have a look at it, and pitch it into the stove when you've done."



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He came to the table and took Scarborough's place in front of the instrument. Scarborough went to the window from which he could see the white walls of the Chinlats in the distance, she knows!" he muttered.

Since the morning when she had declared passionately that she no longer desired his help Elsa had told him nothing. They had met frequently, and he had made a point of telling her everything. She knew, for instance, about the hooded woman, and she had in her possession the stone which had been found in the dead man's fingers, with the half obliterated cratches of his last message pencilled on it. But she had not met with confidence. Scarborough knew nothing of the letter which her father had written to her, nothing of her reasons for going alone to the Ring-Rock. He would probably not have known even of the fact, had not the rescue of Mona de la Mar and the others from the stranded Sea-Horse made it impossible of concealment.

He had told Mona that there had been no quarrel between him and Elsa, and in the "literal" sense, the words were true. They were met as friends. But formerly they had met as something more.

Scarborough turned away from the window with a sigh. The jarring note in his love-idyl hanging to-day as a very palpable discord, and he judged for the time to come when the harmony would reassert itself.

A message was coming over the cable. Scott began to take it down, and broke off with an exclamation.

"Hullo!" he said. "It's for you."

"For me? Can't be, I'm not important enough."

"Scarborough, Cable Station—that's you, isn't it?"—Go in and win, Finances arranged. Letter coming. From the flickering of the siphon, and proceeded in due form to write it down. "Why doesn't your friend use code?" he asked. "He's extravagant in words. Is this private, old man? Or may a fellow know what it refers to?"

"It is the answer to a letter I wrote some time ago," said Scarborough. "Amber is my uncle."

"The one who, to encourage thrift in the young, puts three sovereigns on the top of every one you show him at the end of the year? That uncle?"

"Yes," said Scarborough.

Scott whistled. "Then 'Finances arranged' sounds as though it might mean something handsome," said he. "What does 'Go in and win' mean? Stop, I'll guess. The girl at the Chinlats? Right?"

"Yes, right," said Scarborough, quietly.

Scott jumped up with a laugh.

"Then off you go!" he cried, "and good luck to you! I'll get one of the other men to take your duty. Don't waste time. Croesus, in the form of Uncle Amber, promises over the submarine cable—excellent institution, the submarine cable—to pay for the fun when you're married. Finances arranged! can mean nothing else; and for 'Go in and win,' I should wait for it. Go in and win, he says. Why don't you go?"

Scarborough had thrown himself into the cane chair, and showed no sign of wanting to go.

"Lucky beggars some fellows are," Scott went on, enviously. "It gives a man a pull to be born with an uncle. I've got no relatives nearer than my father, worse luck!—and he's as poor as all am. Look here, why don't you do as you're told, and go in and win?"

"Because I don't think I should win if I went in now," said Scarborough simply.

"Oh, that's it, is it?" said the other man with a laugh. "Did you hint as much to Croesus? His message doesn't suggest that you did?"

"But you're taken to doubting lately," Do you know, a countryman of mine once put the thing rather neatly? 'He either fears his fate too much, or his deserts are small.' You know the rest."

"Yes," said Scarborough. "The man who wrote that was hanged. I don't think Graham of Montrose is quite a safe guide, though he is your countryman. I'm not going."

"Then you fear your fate too much?" said Scott.

"Or my deserts are small. Have it which way you like. And suppose we drop the subject."

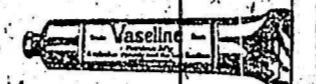
"When Scarborough wrote the letter to which this cablegram was an answer, Richmond Carrington was still alive, and the note of discord had not yet sounded in the love idyll. He had told his uncle that he meant to ask Elsa to be his wife, and he had not suggested that the risk was any doubt. But a mere clerk in the Cable Company is not in a position to marry, and the reason of Scarborough's letter was that he wanted to know whether his uncle's former offer of a place in his city house was still open to him. He had stated his reasons frankly, saying that he had no newly-developed desire to spend his days on a stool in a City office, but that he had a very present need of the £300 a year which his uncle had offered as a commencing salary if he agreed to sell open, he would close with it, because on £300 a year he thought that Elsa and he could manage, especially as his uncle had hinted that, given good work the salary need not long remain at that somewhat modest figure.

(To be continued)

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ON THE FARM

The Dairy Stable and Clean Milk.

On a farm where live stock is kept greater attention must be paid to cleanliness than on one on which there is no live stock. This is particularly true of a dairy farm, for the success of which thorough sanitation is a necessity.

To obtain the most sanitary conditions, the dairy barn should be built on high ground, with good natural drainage and sheltered from the cold winds of winter. Horse stables, manure pits, hog sheds, privies, and away not to contaminate the cow stables. There is always a tendency surrounding the stable area to get muddied and foul, but when the barn is situated on a high, well-drained spot this tendency is reduced to a minimum, as the lots soon become dry after rain, and in the spring when the frost leaves the ground. If the yard is level to be muddy, it may be improved by drainage and by the use of cinders or gravel. It should be free from mudholes, and manure should not be allowed to accumulate in it. In severe winter weather, or in the spring when the ground is soft and muddy, it should be hauled to the fields daily, and should be stored in a manure pit some distance from the stable and not in the basement of the barn or any place in the dairy stable.

An ideal site for a barnyard is on a south slope that drains away from the barn. A clean yard is a great help in keeping the cows from becoming soiled by mud and manure.

Drinking water for cows should be fresh and uncontaminated from any source. The well should be so located and protected that there is no danger of pollution of the water by the drainage from the barnyard, manure piles, or other sources. The water tank or trough should be so convenient to the stable that it is unnecessary to expose the cows to extreme cold or severe storms. It should be kept fresh pure water, and remove any doubt as to the ability of each animal to satisfy its thirst.

The construction of the dairy barn may be "less important" in keeping down the bacterial count of the milk than careful methods in handling milk. Proper construction, however, lightens the labor necessary to keep the barn and its equipment in a clean, sanitary condition. In the old-time basement dairy barn little attention was paid to proper ventilation and distribution of the light. This type of barn is not recommended and if used for housing dairy cows the lighting and ventilation should receive special attention.

A one-story dairy stable is a very good type. It should preferably be located west with its length extending north and south and have an abundance of window space. If the stable is located in the morning and afternoon sun. The construction should be such as to keep floor, walls, ceiling, and stable fittings in a clean and sanitary condition. The floor, gutter, and mangers should be hard, impervious to moisture, and free from cracks in which filth may collect. The gutter back of the cows should be large enough to hold the droppings; a width of 16 to 18 inches and a depth of 7 inches are usually sufficient. The gutter should incline so as to drain readily unless the liquid is taken up by absorbents.

All drains and waste pipes should be water-tight and air-tight. Every waste pipe should have a trap to prevent foul air from coming back through the waste pipe.

Those types of stables and mangers are best which present the least possible surface for collecting dirt and dust and the least obstruction to the circulation of air. Stalls of wood have many flat surfaces and cracks which are difficult to keep clean and in case of an outbreak of disease are not easy to disinfect thoroughly. Stalls and mangers made of metal pipe are more sanitary. A low, smooth manger without sharp angles is preferable, for it is easy to keep

clean. Cobwebs, dust, or dirt, should not be allowed to accumulate on the walls and ceiling. With bright, smooth ceiling and smooth walls, cobwebs and dirt should be little trouble from dust and cobwebs. White-wash should be freely applied at least twice a year, both to walls and ceiling, as it helps to purify the stable and to keep it light. An abundance of light is necessary—a square feet of glass per cow is generally sufficient if the windows are well distributed and not obstructed in any way.

Every cow stable should have a system of ventilation to keep the air fresh and pure and the cows comfortable without exposing them to injurious drafts. If the smell in the barn is disagreeable at any time, it indicates that the ventilation is deficient. At least 500 cubic feet of air space should be provided for each cow. The feed room, silo chute, and hay chute should be conveniently located, but at the same time they should be in a separate room to keep the odor and dust out of the stable as much as possible.—Canadian Farm.

An Incentive to Improve the Herd.

When the Dairy Act relating to paying for milk by test at cheese factories, comes into force there will be an incentive for patrons to select and breed their herds for butter-fat production. Under the old method of paying according to quantity, the patron with the low-testing herd was being paid more than his milk was really worth for making cheese, while the high-testing milk was sold below value. Numerous tests have been made which have proved beyond a doubt that there is nothing to be gained for milk, according to quantity, for cheese-making purposes. A difference of one-half per cent in the test makes a difference of twelve cents in the value of cheese made, from 100 pounds of milk when cheese is selling at fifteen cents a pound.

No dairyman wants to profit at the expense of his neighbor, and yet in many factory sections this is exactly what has been taking place. Evidently low-testing herds are in the majority or paying on a quality basis would have been universally adopted long ago, and there would have been no need of legislation in order that justice might be meted out to all patrons of factories.

The new Act, is in the interests of the dairy industry, and instead of there being only a few high-testing herds in a factory district as at present, it will tend to raise the average test and incidentally the returns from the dairy herds. Dairy men and cheese makers should co-operate and do all in their power to promote paying for milk according to quality. If the herd gives a low average test, there is a way of improving it. True, the test of the present herd cannot be raised, but by using a bull from high-testing ancestors the offspring usually prove to be better than their dams. The easiest and most satisfactory way of obtaining a high-testing, high-producing herd is to weigh and test the milk from each cow regularly, then save the heifers from the best. Attention must be paid to the breeding of the herd, and if his ancestors were only average the offspring cannot be much better. By paying attention to breeding, the average yield and quality of milk per cow will be much higher ten years from now than it is at the present time. If the average is raised by 1,000 pounds of milk per cow per year, it will increase the profit by at least ten dollars without additional expense, unless it is in the cost of the sire. The average milk and butter-fat yield can be increased,

and we believe it will be done, by the dairyman with milk testing per cent receives twelve cents more for each pound less than his neighbor who sells 3.4 per cent milk, he will soon begin to apply his brains and means for bringing his herd up to the 3.5 per cent, or even higher test. It isn't a matter of improved testing or specially prepared feed that makes the difference. It is the breeding that counts.—Farmer's Advocate.



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Fertility and Dairying.

Dairying is the system of farming that will maintain the fertility of the farm without the use of expensive fertilizers. For two seasons dairying maintains the fertility of the land. First, because in better there is almost no plow; and second, because 90 per cent of all the grain feeds purchased for the cow, as well as 90 per cent of all food raised on the farm and fed to the cow, is returned to the farm.

With barnyard manure and an occasional crop of clover, the land will remain productive indefinitely. When we stop to think of it, whenever we sell wheat, corn, or oats and get one dollar, we sell about 30 cents worth of our farm. When we get one dollar for selling butter, we sell about one-half a cent's worth of soil.

The land owner who makes his money selling the soil fertility, and in 10 or 15 years farmers will be worn out, is not a farmer, but a jobber. He holds the same relation to the soil that a timber baron holds to his forests. The tillers of the soil have not been kind to them; that they have inherited barren patches. We should dairy them, because there is present money and future for the farm.

J. P. Fletcher, in Farm and Dairy.

Wasn't Calling Her Dear?

Desirous of buying a camera, a certain fair young woman respected the stock of a local shopkeeper.

"Is that a good one?" she asked.

"Yes, it is," replied the shopkeeper.

"What is it called?"

"There's the Belvedere," said the handsome young shopman politely.

The young woman drew herself erect, fixed him with a keen glance, and asked again:

"Er—and can you recommend Belva?"

ROYALTY BEFORE THE CAMERA

The photographs of the royal family taken in the Bois de Boulogne while engaged in the picnic, the occasion of the last night of the Buckingham Palace, are being shown in a different photographic group of the royal family. When the Queen and other members of the royal family, when they were suddenly captured by the camera, were laughing and laughing at the camera, and then the Queen of Spain and the photograph of her majesty, King Afonso at that moment, and the explanations about the Spanish monarch, and the king Mr. and the sitting of the King Afonso at that moment.

NEWS FROM ENGLAND

NEWS BY MAIL ABOUT OUR BULL AND HIS PEOPLE

Occurrences in the Land That Helms Supremacy in the Commercial World.

Sir Wm. James chased 5,000,000 troops.

The first "Hant" country is "Pit" Rugby and the Association have a slow this year.

The death of Lewis Herbert Kinnow Lyster appointed deputy health for the "The Chancellor to be asked to be the subject of den.

A hut for sold expected the year yard of St. John's a Belgian school at Leichwell, and the open are being taught in tongue.

Between 15,000 members of the St. John's W. W. G. in the choir.

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