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THE COBBLER'S STORY.

By Lawrence Bertram.

TOM DEVINE, the cobbler, pushed up his spectacles and gave me a whimsical glance.
'It's cur'us,' he remarked, 'it's cur'us what a difference it makes to a man's family how he is put out of the world! Hang him, and his folks feel disgraced forever; cut off his head with a guillotine, and—'
The old man made a flourish with his head, as though the matter were one for serious congratulation.
'Leastways,' he added, returning to his mending again, 'that's the way some folks think. Lord! Now set up M. Lafitte was about it, to be sure, and all on account of an ancestor of his who happened to lose his head on the scaffold with Louis XVII!

'Madre d'amor! Odi tu—il mio dolor!'
'Schubert's Prayer to the Virgin,' I said, smiling a little as the old man stumbled through the words.
'The same,' he assented, 'so ma'm'selle told me afterward, when she writ down the words for me. Ah, sir, her voice brought me to my knees; leastways,' he corrected, 'that's the way I felt like doing.
'Madre d'amor! Odi tu—il mio dolor!'
'Ma'm'selle's voice broke at the end, as though she was sobbing, and a young man who had stopped on the pavement to listen, reverently took off his hat.
'Heavenly! I heard him say; then catching sight of me through the window, he put it on again and entered the shop.
'There was no beating about the bush with that young man, and somehow, I liked him for it.
'Who is the singer?' he asked at once.
'Little French girl,' says I, 'named Mlle. Justine.'
'Justine what?'
'Lafitte.'
'Lafitte,' he repeated, as though the name seemed familiar to him somehow. 'How old is she?'
'About 17,' says I, making a rough guess.
'The front door clanged to just at that minute, and a light footstep was heard.
'I peeped out.
'There she is now,' says I, 'Mlle. Justine herself.'
'Like a shot he was out of the shop, but in a few minutes returned.
'Exquisite,' he said, his voice trembling a little. 'Her face is as exquisite as her voice.'
'Well, to make a long story short,' broke off the cobbler, 'that young man had fallen desperately in love with ma'm'selle, but how to make her acquaintance was a problem that was troubling him.
'Ef you was only poor, now,' says I, 'you might get a chance, but—'
'The young man did not wait for me to finish.
'I'll come to-morrow in my plainest suit of clothes,' said he, 'Thank you, Mr. Devine, for solving the riddle. You can send me up to do a little repairing, you know—a friend of yours, a steady fellow, looking for a job, and so forth.'
'Well, the plan worked, and bless me, sir, if Edward Pendleton, rich and well connected, didn't spend about half his time looking at ma'm'selle, and talking to the old man.
'And so the days passed on; ma'm'selle in spite of her shabby dress and skimpy fare, growing rosier and prettier every day.
'It was the night before Christmas, and mossoo left his bench and sat silently down by Ned.
'Presently mossoo's thin white hand moved toward the pocket of his worsted jacket; and then, as the lapel of a pocket flew up, Ned caught a gleam of something which brought him to his feet with a cry.
'What is it?' cried mossoo, seared out of his senses. 'My poor Ned, what hast thou?'
'A diamond!' shouted Ned, grasping the old worsted jacket, and tearing a piece of it away. 'See, see, the jewel has been hidder' within the lining of your jacket all this time.'
'Twas ze will of God,' said the old Frenchman, a little later. 'Ah! sometimes my heart was like to burst. To die thus—to leave my wife, my little Justine. Who would care for them?'
'I, sir,' said the young man, 'your son.'
'A little warm hand at that moment crept into his own.
'Hast heard, dost know?' said the old man.
'I know,' she answered, soft like, 'a happy smile lighting up her face.'
'Well,' I prompted, as he sat silent for awhile, 'there is something more to tell.'
'Well, Mossoo lit the lamp, and Ned was about to ask him for his daughter, when the old lady's voice was heard from the corner.
'And now,' says she, 'we'll give it all up and go back to France.'
'We will, ma mie,' said mossoo, kneeling by her bedside. 'We will no longer strive for ze impossible. Ze documents—'
'Documents?' said Ned.
'I think I have told you before,' said mossoo, 'of ze Marquis de Lafitte, who was martyred upon ze scaffold with—'
'Louis XVI,' said Ned, who had heard it 50 times. 'Yes, sir, I think you have.'
'But that which I have not told you, went on mossoo, 'is that one of his remaining family fled to America, and became the proprietor of a large estate. He died unmarried. The property is in alien hands. I thought—I had hoped—'
'Lafitte,' said Ned—'Lafitte! Singular that it never occurred to me before! And then he told the family how and why he had deceived 'em, confessing himself to be Edward Pendleton, the junior partner of the great law firm of Pendleton & Pendleton, who for some time had been looking for the heirs to the Lafitte estate, but up to the present had found no clew.
'And soon after that I lost my lodgers; but bless you, sir, they don't forget me. Mr. Pendleton, he always will think that but for me he would never have got acquainted with ma'm'selle.'
—Carter's Monthly, Chicago.

Bad Digestion, Bad Heart.

Poor digestion often causes irregularity of the heart's action. This irregularity may be mistaken for real organic heart disease. The symptoms are much the same. There is, however, a vast difference between the two: organic heart disease is often incurable; apparent heart disease is curable. If good digestion be restored.
A case in point is quoted from the New Era, of Greensburg, Ind. Mrs. Ellen Colson, Newport, Ind., a woman forty-three years old, had suffered for four years with distressing stomach trouble. The gases generated by the indigestion pressed on the heart, and caused an irregularity of its action. She had much pain in her stomach and heart, and was subject to frequent and severe choking spells which were most severe at night. Doctors were tried in vain; the patient became worse, despondent, and feared impending death.



A CASE OF HEART FAILURE.
She was much frightened but noticed that in intervals in which her stomach did not annoy her, her heart's action became normal. Reasoning correctly that her digestion was alone at fault she procured the proper medicine to treat that trouble and with immediate good results. Her appetite came back, the choking spells became less frequent, and finally ceased. Her weight, which had been greatly reduced was restored and she now weighs more than for years. Her blood soon became pure and her cheeks rosy.
The case is of general interest because the disease is a very common one. That others may know the means of cure we give the name of the medicine used—Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. These pills contain all the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood and restore shattered nerves.

His Meditations.
Soon after Singleton's first baby was born Mrs. Singleton went upstairs one evening and entered a room where her darling lay asleep. There she found her husband standing by the side of the crib and gazing earnestly at the child. As she stood still for a moment touched by the sight, the tears filled her eyes and she thought:
'Oh, how dearly Charles loves that boy.'
Her arms stole softly around his neck, as she rubbed her cheek caressingly against his shoulder. Singleton started slightly at the touch. 'Darling,' he said dreamily, voicing his thoughts, 'it is incomprehensible to me how they can get up such a crib as that for \$2.50.'—N. Y. Journal.

How's This?
We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that can not be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.
F. J. Cheney & Co., Props., Toledo, O.
We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by their firm.
West & Truax, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O.
Walding, Kinnan & Marvin, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, Ohio.
Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Price 75c. per bottle. Sold by all Druggists. Testimonials free.

Hall's Family Pills are the best.
Characteristic.—'Your clam chowder,' remarked the diner to the restaurant cashier, as he paid the amount of his check and stowed away a pint of toothpicks in his vest pocket, 'is distinguishable above all the other clam chowders I ever ate. In what way?' asked the cashier, who did not know whether to be pleased or not. 'By its clamlessness.'—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

There is a Class of People
Who are injured by the use of coffee. Recently there has been placed in all the grocery stores a new preparation called GRAIN-O, made of pure grains, that takes the place of coffee. The most delicate stomach receives it without distress, and but few can tell it from coffee. It does not cost over 2 as much. Children may drink it with great benefit. 15 cts. and 25 cts. per package. Try it. Ask for GRAIN-O.

Nearly all women are good, but few are great.

THE MARKETS.
New York, Jan. 12.
LIVE STOCK—Native Steers \$4.40 @ 5.35
Sheep 3.50 @ 4.80
PORK—Minnesota Patents 3.70 @ 4.00
WHEAT—No. 2 Red 1.04 1/2 @ 1.01 1/2
CORN—No. 2 52 @ 52 1/2
OATS—No. 2 25 1/2 @ 29
BUTTER—Creamery 14 @ 20
CHEESE—Light Skimms 6 1/2 @ 7
EGGS—Western 18 @ 21
CATTLE—Shipping Steers \$3.65 @ 5.50
Texas Steers 3.70 @ 4.40
Stockers 2.25 @ 3.75
Feeders 3.70 @ 4.25
HOGS—Light 4.40 @ 5.00
Rough 3.35 @ 3.45
SHEEP—Wool 13 @ 17
Dairy 12 @ 17
EGGS 13 @ 21
PORK—Mess, May 9.25 @ 9.50
LARD—May 4.75 @ 4.80
FLOUR—Patents 4.80 @ 5.50
GRAIN—Wheat, No. 2 81 1/2 @ 81 1/4
Corn, Cash 26 1/2 @ 26 1/2
Oats, No. 2 Cash 22 1/2 @ 22 1/2
Rye, No. 2 45 @ 45 1/2
Barley, Choice to Fancy 35 @ 40
MILWAUKEE.
GRAIN—Wheat, No. 2 Spring 87 1/2 @ 88
Corn, No. 2 27 1/2 @ 27 1/2
Oats, No. 2 24 @ 24
Rye, No. 1 47 @ 47 1/2
Barley, No. 2 42 @ 43
PORK—Mess 9.25 @ 9.25
LARD 4.70 @ 4.75
DETROIT.
GRAIN—Wheat, No. 2 Red 90 1/2 @ 91
Corn, No. 2 28 1/2 @ 28 1/2
Oats, No. 2 23 1/2 @ 23 1/2
Rye, No. 2 47 1/2 @ 48
ST. LOUIS.
CATTLE—Native Steers \$4.40 @ 5.30
Stockers and Feeders 3.00 @ 4.15
HOGS 4.40 @ 5.00
SHEEP 4.00 @ 4.65
OMAHA.
CATTLE—Native Steers \$3.70 @ 4.85
Corn and Feeders 3.40 @ 4.85
Stockers and Feeders 3.32 1/2 @ 5.24
HOGS 4.32 1/2 @ 5.24
SHEEP 3.00 @ 4.40

The Cuban Scare.
Although the diplomatic entanglement with Spain over Cuba to some extent influencing the stock market, Wall street expects no serious complications. Nevertheless serious complication with other maladies may be expected to follow an attack of biliousness which is not checked at the outset. The most effectual means to this end is Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, an admirable remedy, moreover, for dyspepsia, malaria, kidney trouble, constipation and nervousness.

A Valid Objection.
A man who had been convicted of burglary in St. Louis was asked the usual question:
'Prisoner, do you know of any reason why sentence should not be pronounced on you according to law?'
'Why, your honor, of course I do. If I am to be cooped up in Jefferson City it will break up my business here.'—N. Y. World.
Like Oil Upon Troubled Waters is Hale's Honey of Horehound and Tar upon a cold. Pike's Toothache Drops Cure in one minute.

A Golden Era
is the title of an illustrated pamphlet issued by the general passenger department of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway on mining in Colorado, California and other Western States.
Klondyke is an illustrated folder about Alaska and its gold mines, with rates of fare and information as to how to get there and what to expect after arrival. Both publications may be had free of expense by sending four (4) cents in stamps to pay postage to Geo. H. Heafford, General Passenger Agent, Chicago, Ill.

It Has a Foreign Sound.
Mrs. White—Does your daughter speak French fluently now?
Mrs. Brown—Well, she speaks something fluently, and it doesn't sound at all like English, so perhaps it may be French.—Somerville Journal.
All sorts of aches and pains—nothing Better than St. Jacobs Oil. It cures.
He who wrongs the child commits a crime against the state.

WHAT MAN DOES NOT LOVE BEAUTY?

Mrs. Pinkham Counsels Young Wives to Keep Their Attractiveness. A Letter From a Young Wife.

Seven-eighths of the men in this world marry a woman because she is beautiful in their eyes.
What a disappointment then to see the fair young wife's beauty fading away before a year passes over her head!
I feel as if I would like to say to every young woman who is about to be married—'Strengthen yourself in advance, so that you will not break down under the new strain on your powers.' Keep your beauty, it is a precious possession! Your husband loves your beauty, he is proud to be seen in public with you; try to keep it for his sake, and your own.



The pale cheeks, the dark shadows under the eyes, the general drooping of the young wife's form, what do they mean? They mean that her nerves are failing, that her strength is going and that something must be done to help her through the coming trials of maternity.
Build her up at once by a course of some tonic with specific powers. Such as Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. You can get it at any druggist's.
Following we publish by request a letter from a young wife—of her own accord she addresses it to her 'suffering sisters,' and while from modesty she asks to withhold her name, she gives her initials and street number in Chambersburg, Pa., so she can easily be found personally or by letter:
To my 'Suffering Sisters'—Let me write this for your benefit, telling you what Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has done for me. I am but nineteen and suffered with painful menstruation, leucorrhoea, dizziness, burning sensation back of ears and on top of my head, nervousness, pain and soreness of muscles, bearing-down pains, could not sleep well, was unable to stand without pain, and oh! how I longed to be well!
One day I wrote to Mrs. Pinkham telling her all, knowing I could do so in perfect confidence.
She wrote me a lovely letter in reply, telling me exactly what to do. After taking nine bottles of the Compound, one box of Liver pills, and using one-half package of Sanative wash, I can say I am cured. I am so happy, and owe my happiness to none other than Mrs. Pinkham.
Why will women suffer when help is near? Let me, as one who has had some experience, urge all suffering women, especially young wives, to seek Mrs. Pinkham's advice.—Mrs. R. S. R., 113 E. Catherine St., Chambersburg, Pa.

'A FAIR FACE MAY PROVE A FOUL BARGAIN.' MARRY A PLAIN GIRL IF SHE USES SAPOLIO

PAINT YOUR OWN WALLS AND CEILINGS. MURALO WATER COLOR PAINTS FOR DECORATING WALLS AND CEILINGS. Purchase a package of grocer or paint dealer and do your own kalsomining. This material is made on scientific principles by machinery and milled in twenty-four tints and is superior to any concoction of Glue and Whiting that can possibly be made by hand. TO BE MIXED WITH COLD WATER.

DO YOU COUGH? DON'T DELAY TAKE KEMP'S BALSAM THE BEST COUGH CURE. It Cures Colds, Coughs, Sore Throat, Whooping Cough, Bronchitis and Asthma. A certain cure for Consumption in first stages, and a sure relief in advanced stages. Use at once. You will see the excellent effect after taking the first dose. Sold by dealers everywhere. Price 25 and 50 cents per bottle.

CANADA MANITOBA, ASSINBOIA, ALBERTA, SASKATCHEWAN. 160 ACRES IN WESTERN CANADA FREE. If you want Agricultural Land, yielding from \$15 to \$20 PER ACRE yearly, become a settler in Western Canada. Good Crops, Good Prices, railroads, schools, churches, first in abundance. For Illustrated Pamphlets, Maps and low railroad rates, apply to Department Interior, Ottawa, Canada, or to C. S. BROUGHTON, Canadian Gov't Agent, 1228 Monmouth Building, Chicago, Ill. F. B. HAYES, Can. Gov't Agent, Read City, Mich.; D. CAVEN, Can. Gov't Agent, Box 420, Mich.; N. BARTHOLOMEW, Des Moines, Iowa; Dr. HARRY MURPHY, Stratford, Iowa. 'The Corn Belt' is an illustrated monthly paper, thoroughly reliable and full of information about western farm lands. It will guide you in securing a cheap home in a prosperous and healthy community. Send 25 cents for a year's subscription to 'The Corn Belt,' 20 Adams St., Chicago. IOWA FARMS For Sale on crop payment, \$1 per acre cash balance; crop early and paid for. J. Mulhall, Waukegan, Ill.

PISO'S CURE FOR CONSUMPTION. CURES WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS. Best Cough Syrup, Tastes Good. Use in time. Sold by druggists.