

His Strange Case.

I

She was my first love, and so far as I can tell, she may prove to be my only one. She is now a buxom wife, with four or five rosy, romping children, and I am still a bachelor. But time is a great healer, and I can now tell the story of my luckless suit with Dora Rudgwick without a pang.

Dora was the only daughter of a retired London medical man. At the time I first made her acquaintance her father had retired from practice and was a widower. I fell head over heels in love with the girl—though I can hardly believe it when I look at her to-day—and she consented to marry me if the old doctor gave his consent. She never professed to have any deep affection for me; she liked me, however, and was willing to become my wife if her papa approved.

But the eccentric old man would not bear it. I remember how dejected I was after he had told me, with considerable vigor, that I could not become his son-in-law, and how indignant I felt at his declining to give me any reason for his decision. The following day I met an old college friend in Bond Street—Douglas Bligh.

"You are not looking very bright," he said. "What are you worrying about?"

Bligh also was a doctor. He had walked the same hospital as old Rudgwick, only many years later. "A love affair," I confessed, with a forced smile.

"Ah! I thought something of the sort. Girl thrown you over?"

"No, not the girl—the father!"

"Oh, that's nothing! If the lady is willing, love will find out a way, and papa will come round."

"He is a pig-headed old doctor—I beg your pardon; but I suppose a doctor may sometimes be pig-headed like the rest of us?"

"Unquestionably. Do I know him?"

"Dr. Gordon Rudgwick."

"Oh, yes; I am acquainted with him. I also once met Miss Rudgwick. I congratulate you, old fellow. A charming young lady, 'pon my word! But the old man—ha! ha!—no wonder he rejected you!"

"Why?"

"You are too healthy!"

"Too healthy?"

"Yes; you ought to have some interesting and deep-seated disease—something complicated and lingering."

"I—what on earth are you driving at, Bligh?"

"Don't you know? He's—"

structure, beautiful, and striking cases that have ever enriched the literature of pathology.

"What, then, is the use of pathology if doctors are not to cure?"

"Pathology, sir, treats of diseases, their causes, effects, and symptoms. It is a branch of knowledge, an interesting abstraction, a recreation. It has nothing to do with treatment, cures, and such-like quackeries."

"But what may be sport to you is death to us?"

"Why, we must all die, and what could be nobler than to die in the cause of science? By the way, you were speaking to me about my daughter the other day."

I shook my head in a melancholy manner.

"Well, I have been thinking I spoke hastily. She is yours. I shall be proud to have you as a son-in-law. To watch the course of your complaint will be a privilege and a delight. Marry as soon as ever you like. I think you will find Dora somewhere about the house. See her and fix the sons which are considered valid in matter up."

But Dora was not to be seen that day. She had gone to her room in a fit of pique.

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When I called the next morning the housekeeper told me that Miss Rudgwick had gone on a visit to friends at Brighton, but had left a note for me. I opened it and read as follows:

"I overheard your talk with papa, and am so very, very sorry for you. I do so hope that your state is not so bad as you fear, and that you will not lose courage, and will soon get well."

"Of course everything must now be at an end between us. It would be madness to talk of marriage. I shall always think of you as a very dear friend, and I want you to believe that you will have my most sincere sympathy."

I put my letter in my pocket and went home. What a mess I had made of it! First I had gained the consent of Dora and failed to obtain that of her father; now I had obtained the doctor's consent and lost the daughter's. Fancy her overhearing all that I said, and thinking I was speaking the truth about the diseased state of my body! And yet, why should she have supposed I was lying?

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"Miss Dora has just arrived, sir. I'll tell her you are here."

I stepped into the drawing-room and waited. In a few minutes I heard the dear girl running down the stairs. My heart leaped with joy.

"How do you do?" she said, placing her little hand in mine, and looking into my eyes with infinite pity. "I do hope you are better. You are looking pretty well."

"My dear Dora, I was never better in my life. That was all untrue about my illness; I am in perfect health."

"Untrue?"

"All of it. I will explain it to you another time."

NIAGARA'S NEW BRIDGE.

THE GREATEST ARCH IN THE HISTORY OF STEEL CONSTRUCTION.

It Will Stretch 840 Feet in One Clear Span and Replace the Suspension Bridge, Which Is Less Than Ten Years Old, but Inefficient.

All the false work preparatory to the erection of what is destined to be the greatest steel arch bridge is in position, and soon the erection of steel will begin and be continued throughout the winter, in order that the proposed new structure may be finished for the expected heavy travel of next summer.

This steel arch is to be built across the Niagara gorge on the site of the upper suspension bridge, and its span will be the greatest in the history of steel arch bridge building. As compared with it, the new steel arch recently completed for the Grand Trunk Railway, two miles below, will appear very short.

At the point where the arch is to stand the cliffs are 1,268 feet apart, and the suspension bridge now resting there seems but a slender thread from bank to bank. The abutments for the bridge stand close to the water's edge on either bank. There are four in number, two on each side, and the distance between the members of the pairs is sixty-seven feet. These abutments were built, two years ago, as it was thought that the new arch would be completed long ere this, but the condition of the monetary and steel markets was not such as to inspire the company to proceed with the great and costly work until now.

In the construction of the abutments much care was taken to make them most substantial. The loose earth and rock of the slope of the banks was excavated until a

SOLID ROCK FOUNDATION was reached. This rock was then cut away in step form and on the foundation so created, another foundation of concrete was built. Through this mass of concrete four long, heavy iron rods were run and securely fastened, their tops projecting several feet above the face of the concrete mass. It was on this concrete that the stone work of the abutments was built, the four rods and four others running through the stones in order that they might be held securely. The tops of all the eight rods project above the tops of the coping stones in order to afford a fastening for the bed plates of the legs of the arch, of which each abutment will support one. The stone used in building the abutments are all very large, and derricks of great strength were employed in letting them over the cliffs to the point of use. The north abutments on the New York State side of the river stands very close to the portal of the Niagara Falls Power Company's tunnel, and in order to protect it a strong retaining wall has been built.

On the Canadian side the centre of the new arch will rest exactly on the centre of the present suspension bridge, but on the New York State side it has been found necessary to carry the centre a little to the south of the present centre of the suspension bridge in order that the abutments referred to may clear the tunnel portal. From these abutments or skewbacks the arch will rise with graceful lines, and the length of the arch proper will be no less than eight hundred and forty feet. The shore ends of the arch will be connected to the cliffs by trussed spans of beautiful lines.

Unlike the railway arch, this latest bridge will have but a single deck, the width of which will be about fifty feet. About 23 feet of its centre will be taken up with

DOUBLE TROLLEY TRACKS, on each side of which there will be carriage ways and walks, the latter to be slightly elevated. The width of the suspension bridge is but seventeen and a half feet, thus the new arch will be nearly three times as wide. It is estimated that over four million pounds of steel will be used in its construction, but the arch will not be so heavy in construction as the railway arch.

The bridge which will be superseded dates only from 1857. In that year the work of rebuilding the earlier bridge in steel was commenced. Shafts were sunk for new and stronger anchorages to take the strain of the two additional cables to support the additional weight of the superstructure as well as the wider floor. Two gangs of men worked day and night. Seven steel ropes two and a quarter inches in diameter, were put in each cable and placed in position, when the suspenders for supporting the trusses were attached. The trusses, in thirty-foot sections, were built out from each end until they met in the centre and were there connected, after which the work of removing the old wooden structure was begun. It was on the night of June 12, 1888, that the last portion of the old bridge was removed and connection was made with the new trusses, thus giving a double roadway from end to end, the original structure having been only wide enough for carriages to travel one way at a time.

On Dec. 15, 1888, the bridge was pronounced finished in all its parts. The bridge companies were congratulated by press and people for having built a structure, which, apparently, was destined to stand for years. But not so. Its life was less than a month. On the night of Jan. 9-10, 1889, the

Niagara gorge was visited by one of the most severe wind storms ever known. It came up out of the southwest, and with all its force tore down across the Horseshoe Fall through the gorge. It caught the bridge full on the side, and hour after hour the great structure swung to and fro. Throughout the night the storm raged. In the morning

A STRANGE SIGHT

was revealed. Down in the gorge, on the debris slopes of the bank, the beautiful bridge, which had been admired by thousands, lay bottom upward. The storm had loosened it from some of the suspenders, and the continued blasts set it in motion until its own weight aided in ripping it from all the suspenders, and it dropped into the gorge. The last man to cross it was Dr. John Hodge, who passed over to visit a very sick patient. That portion of the fallen structure on the banks was removed, but the greater part is still hidden beneath the rapid waters of the deep and dangerous gorge.

Within forty-eight hours after the bridge was swept away the directors had met and ordered a new structure, patterned after the one destroyed. On May 7, 1889, this bridge was opened to traffic, just one hundred and seventeen days after the storm. It is this bridge that is now to give way to the second arch across the gorge, it being less than ten years old, but quite inadequate to the demands of the times since the trolley has become such an important factor in taking people from point to point about the Falls.

When the suspension bridge is taken down it is to be rebuilt on the site of the old suspension bridge at Lewiston, which was destroyed by a wind storm on April 16, 1894, and never rebuilt. It is one of the famous landmarks, but, like the other famous bridges of the Niagara gorge, its end is near.

NEW HOPE FOR CONSUMPTIVES

The Investigations of the Medical Institute in Paris—Great Progress Reported.

A highly important therapeutic experiment has been progressing silently during the past few months at the Medical Institute, rue La Boetie, Paris, says the Figaro. From the results already obtained it seems that tuberculosis attacked vigorously by a rational treatment is about to capitulate, and in scientific circles, the idea is growing that in a short time the terrible malady will be eradicated. At all events, it is beyond question that henceforth consumptives in the first and second degree can be restored to health.

There is nothing mysterious about the method now employed. It consists purely of the simultaneous application of three methods well known to the medical faculty, the individual results of which have already proved satisfactory. These methods are formaldehyde inhalations, subcutaneous injections of serum of goat's blood, with the addition of a static electric bath.

The antiseptic power of formaldehyde is well known. In the opinion of the specialists in tuberculosis its action upon the Koch bacillus is decisive. The difficulty which was at first considered insurmountable, lay in its application. It is known that the inhalation of formal vapors in the pure state provokes violent coughing and intolerable irritation of the mucous membrane. Consequently it is dangerous to put delicate and sickly respiratory organs under their microbean toxicity. Therefore it became necessary to discover a sort of

GO-BETWEEN METHOD, and one of the discoveries of the Medical Institute of Paris is the introduction of a combination of formaldehyde and carbonic acid gas, an anaesthetic whose association renders possible daily inhalations of twenty-five minutes or more. The bacillus of Koch, combated directly in the caverns where it thrives prolifically, rapidly loses its vitality and ceases to multiply in a short lapse of time. The debilitating expectorations diminish, and the patient experiences a marked improvement.

The readers of the Figaro have not forgotten the impassioned debates to which the discovery of subcutaneous injections gave rise. It is now admitted that their dynamic action is considerable, and that the method of introducing by the hypodermic method a few centimetres of distilled water in the human economy produces an increase of vital force. If, instead of aqua simplex, a sterilized serum is employed, according to the methods in use in the Pasteur Institute, and if this serum is extracted from the blood of a goat, an animal essentially refractory to tuberculosis, the Koch bacillus attacked in its vitality by being forced to live in a liquid unsuitable for its propagation, fades out and dies in the blood of the patient that it was devouring. It is the blending of the two methods of treatment that constitutes the actual basis of the therapeutics employed in the hospital for young consumptives at Vallpinte, where the mortality has decreased in such a marked degree. But the Medical Institute of the rue de la Boetie adds to the first two a third procedure which consists in the application of static electricity. Under the influence of static electricity, an action upon the causes of which there is as yet nothing absolutely known, the patient regains his vitality, his resistance becomes accentuated, and it is not rare to find patients who seemed to be literally on their last legs getting up, recapturing their appetites, and rapidly gaining flesh.

The first results of the treatment inaugurated by the Medical Institute of Paris are so conclusive and the experiments are so favorable that all hope is admissible. Will lung disease be conquered at last? Perhaps.

FUNNIGRAMS.

"I sometimes think I was born too soon." "Oh, pshaw! Haven't you lived to see the chainless wheel?"

"Lend me a dollar, old man." "Can't; only have a half." "That's all right; you can owe me the other half."

He—"Yes, I loved a girl once and she made a fool of me." She—"Some girls do make a lasting impression, don't they?"

She—"Your friend Owen seems to have run into debt pretty deep." He—"Run into debt? He scorched."

She—"Don't you think there should be music in every home?" He—"By all means! What I object to is music next door."

Bertha—"Miss Spitecurls says she has remained single from choice." Belle—"Yes; but she didn't say whose choice."

"Yes, sir, I want to marry your niece." "Have you asked her mother?" "No, sir, I prefer the younger lady."

He—"I love you with all my heart." She—"That's very nice, but—but—"

He—"But what, darling?" She—"What about your arms?"

Her Luck.—Jenkins—"I wonder how it happens that Miss Kidd is always out when I call?" Jones—"Oh! just her luck, I guess."

He—"Give me a kiss?" She, decidedly—"I won't." He—"You shouldn't say 'I won't' to me; you should have said, 'I prefer not.'" She—"But that wouldn't be true."

"Mrs. Deftly has resigned the presidency of the Ceramic Club." "Why did she do that?" "She received Christmas presents of twenty-three hand-painted, pin-trays."

"Hiw did Flimgilt get rich?" "By his shrewd speculation." "And how did Fucash happen to lose his little property?" "Oh, he went and dabbled in stocks."

How would you define a patriot?" "I should say a patriot is a man who takes an interest in his country's welfare, even the morning after his party has been snowed under."

Edith—"Do you think it wrong to say 'darn'?" Perth—"Perhaps not; but when one is vexed, instead of saying 'darn,' I think it more ladylike simply to knit one's brow."

He—"I notice that the scientists have some hope of being able to communicate with the moon." She—"Good gracious me! I hope the man in the moon is no tattletale."

Really Impossible.—Tommy—"Paw, what is an extraordinary session of the legislature?" Mr. Figg—"One in which no fool bills were passed would be very much that kind."

He—"When I was young I decided to make one woman happy." She—"Well, as you have remained a bachelor you may certainly flatter yourself that you have done so."

Smith—"After trying for ten long years, I have at last succeeded in convincing my wife that I am perfect." Brown—"Are you sure of it?" Smith—"Of course I am. It was only this morning that she said I was a perfect idiot."

"You're late, young man. What's the reason?" "Had a toothache." "Ah! has the tooth stopped aching?" "Dunno." "What? Don't know! Why don't you know?" "Cause it's pulled."

"I heard that the crowd hooded you when you appeared at the Pedlington Theatre Royal." "False, my boy, false," replied the eminent tragedian. "All false. There was no crowd."

What Told by Major J. M. Macdonald.

hide, almost armed for both offence and defence. The formidable and ponderous one would not at all the answer. Nervous in which Major J. has had experience. It is about that in person relates the group of girls by a cow of overinqui-

difficult survey for road in East Africa, more than once dis- fair by the major's they resented the on other occasions d by curiosity to rate the caravan. aded, though, they n they came to close and that nimbly.

ing a solitary rhino- affords," says Ma- every amusing spec- cannot quite make of sight,—so he d wagging his en- side to side in great n up goes his tail ring down, only to ty or thirty yards stigations.

reflection, he then to the caravan, till whiff of scent he began makes a head- few yards. This is repeated until, caravan has safely inoerous is left in

er, the caravan is so slow, that a off; then the por- and scatter, and ps through the line with his tail in the done."

at the major per- a rhinoceros, he and much too a few minutes he indulged in a brisk tag about a dry- es, until he could to load and shoot. watched and en- but before many ere turned, and it as pursued, and the on.

" says Major Mac- can always turn a reserve your fire. least one barrel at and another at ten- was not one of d but for the fact a very active man, erous would have e would have con- As it was, the de off and got clear

sion a rhinoceros in and began to with a bale, to the of Pringle and his of his own bedding the bale, and that required a rich va- ing the operation."

ORKMANSHIP.

on by a Turin Work- der Wonders.

the microscopic work- ead. Nothing made e become more attractive e not very long ago arin. The story of ction, as told by a s fascinating.

boat, fashioned out the sail of the boat tudded with diam- e light at the prow An emerald forms stand upon which is a slab of the

is less than half e we come to the find that we have e. The maker e five thousand dol-

manship surely de- some of the older e were marvellous dswnd ivory dishes Oswald "Northing- before Pope Paul V. e perfect in every e. all as to be scarcely e eye, and were all e of the size of an

locksmith construc- e of eleven different e when it was fin- e attached, the whole e. Furthermore, e gold, consisting of e and when he had e lock and key, he e chain round the e found that the in- e with ease both

pliment to say that e can rank with e.

K.

What are you doing eazy boy? e-hasin' snails.

"But perhaps a cure—"

"Cure sir! Don't talk such sickly nonsense, or I shall begin to think it possible that you could do such a mean and dishonorable thing as to rob medical science of one of the most in-

structive, beautiful, and striking cases that have ever enriched the literature of pathology."

"What, then, is the use of pathology if doctors are not to cure?"

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"My dear Dora, I was never better in my life. That was all untrue about my illness; I am in perfect health."

"Untrue?"

"All of it. I will explain it to you another time."

"Then you are not going to die in six months?"

"I hope not—nor in six decades. Are you sorry?"

"Sorry? Of course not—but—"

"I have your father's consent to our marriage. Darling, you will now be mine?"

"Impossible!"

"How so?"

"Well—the fact is—I am married!"

I sprang back amazed.

"You see, I thought you were a doomed man—I heard it from your own lips. Marriage with you would have been mad—impossible. And papa's strange talk alarmed me, especially when he gave his consent. I was terrified, and feared his anger. So I went away to friends at Brighton. There I met Captain Ainsworth—he was my first love, and I have never really lost my affection for him. He asked me to marry him, and—well, I did so at once, as he is going out to India. You really cannot blame me, can you?"

No; I didn't exactly blame her, but I cursed my fate, and I told Bligh that he was the biggest fool in his profession—for which he has never thoroughly forgiven me, though he says he has.

POSSIBLY THE EXPLANATION.

Benevolent old gentleman, pointing a moral to village school children—Now, why do I take all the trouble to leave my home and come over here and speak to you thus? Can any boy tell me?

Bright Child, innocently—Please, surp'raps yeow loikes to 'ear yourself taak sur!

UPHOLDING JUSTICE.

My wife got even with that burglar who set the burglar alarm going and woke the baby.

What did she do?

She pulled him in by the collar and made him rock the baby to sleep again.

FOR WINDOW GLASS.

If your window glass is lacking in brilliancy, clean it with a liquid made of methylated spirits of wine and whitening, which removes specks, and gives the glass a high lustre.

A MODERN EDUCATION.

Proud Mother—At last, my dear, your education is finished, and you have diplomas from the highest seats of learning in the world.

Cultured Daughter, wearily—Yes, and now I'm too old to marry.

ACCOUNTED FOR.

Customer—Seems to me that razor is rather dull.

Barber—Mought be, sah. It was to a pabty las' night, sah.