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FARMERS HERE RAPIDLY ADOPTING THAT SYSTEM

Portland Firm Installs Plant on McCall Farm Near La Grande

E. Williams, representing the Dwight company of Portland, manufacturers of acetylene lighting plants for farms, was in the city Saturday in the interest of the company, now installing a plant for W. A. McCall. This new process is not exactly in its infancy, as there are some 200,000 plants in operation, erected by this company alone. At one time it was thought the plant would not meet the object of its invention but it has been perfected until the fire loss from this source is practically nil, compared to the losses from other artificial lighting. The U. S. statistics give the loss resulting from the various kinds of lighting and puts the figures at the following: Electric \$80,000,000, gasoline \$70,000,000, coal oil \$43,000,000. The cost of the new plant is said to be 2.5 of a cent per hour for a 24-candle power light. A number of these plants have been installed in the valley and the agent states that in the next few months many more will be in operation.

From the State of Utah

By F. A. MITCHEL

M. De Gournay, a citizen of Paris was sitting in his club reading a news paper when a young man approached him and said:

"Monsieur, pardon me for interrupting your reading, but I have a request to make of you. I am a citizen of the United States—Utah is where I hail from—and I have made a fortune in cattle, mines, merchandising—in short by every means except selling liquor over the bar. I came here to see Europe. At first everything seemed old fashioned, but in time I got used to your ways, and now I like them first rate, even to the way you commit matrimony."

De Gournay looked up at the speaker as he would at a curious kind of animal in a menagerie. The American proceeded:

"When we on the other side of the big salt lake make up our minds to do a thing in any other way than our own we never try to mix the two methods. I have a proposition to make, and I'm going to make it on the French plan. The other night at the American embassy I met one of your daughters. I have concluded to make you a proposition for her hand."

Whatever were De Gournay's feelings at this blunt announcement he did not give way to them. He stared at the speaker in a sort of wonder for awhile, then said with French suavity: "And you consider, monsieur, that you have adopted our method of opening a matrimonial negotiation?"

"I will admit that there is an American flavor to it—I mean a Rocky mountain aroma."

"Decidedly," said the Frenchman in well modulated tones, while he kept his eyes fixed on his interviewer, evidently studying him. Jack Henderson's face bespoke that free, uncultured frankness indigenous to a new country. There was not a diplomatic feature, not a trace of meanness, in it. De Gournay had five daughters and not enough property to give even one of them a dowry. This brusque proposal was no more to his taste than would have been the touch of the prickly cactus among which the westerner had lived. Nevertheless he did not propose to turn it down until he had discovered what there was in it.

He accepted Mr. Henderson's card and gave him permission to submit a few references—Americans in Paris, who knew all about him.

But the Frenchman's exterior did not correspond with his interior. Every American abroad is supposed to be worth millions, and De Gournay, as has been said, had five maidens to marry off. While looking with one eye at his newspaper he was watching the American's retreating figure with the other, and later, when he saw Jack leave the club, he arose from his seat, threw off his assumed indifference and started out on a still hunt to find out all he could learn about the suitor.

Two things he learned were eminently satisfactory—Henderson had made a large fortune, and his character was excellent. Nothing detrimental turned up. After a lot of red tape, as Henderson called it, he was permitted to call at De Gournay's home and have a look at the young lady he had applied for, Mlle. Estelle. In presence of her father and mother and three of her sisters. Jack declared when questioned about the visit that there was not as much chance for spooning as if the girl had been set up on the divan

and he given a job of driving a mule team in the canyon.

After a long delay, followed by a business meeting between M. De Gournay, Jack Henderson and two notaries, at which Jack settled \$500,000 on his bride to be, the couple were married at 10 o'clock in the morning by a maire, at 11 in a church and at 12 sat down to a wedding breakfast.

Jack was very happy, beside his bride, whom he had never met socially but once, when a lackey entered the room and handed her father a note. De Gournay paled, and the features of his face otherwise indicated that he had received a blow. Arising from the table, he left the room, and soon after the mother took the bride away also.

Jack saw that something had gone wrong, but kept his seat till the guests began to take their departure, when he, too, arose and went out to learn what had become of his bride. A servant informed him that she had left the house with her mother. Jack, astonished, asked for his father-in-law and was informed that he would find him in the library. Thither went the groom, to see De Gournay pacing back and forth in a fury.

"What's up?" inquired Jack.

"How did you dare impose upon me as you have done?" cried the angry Frenchman. "But I am rightly served, to trust anything that comes from barbarous America. Go away from this house and never come here again. As for my daughter, she will spend the rest of her life in a convent. Go!" Jack had once been fired on by Indians and stood in the way of a herd of stampeded cattle at the same time. But he liked it better than this.

"Please explain, monsieur," he said. "I have only since your wedding been informed that the people of Utah have as many wives as they like. My daughter shall not enter your harem." It was not till evening that Jack, having explained that he was not a Mormon, obtained his bride.

He Foo'd Them.

"A half dozen of us sat gossiping in the club one afternoon when Smith entered," said a New York clubman. "Oh, dear me!" I groaned. "Here's Smith. Here's Smith, just back from a three months' European tour. He's going to bore us to death with travel talk. I see it in his eye."

"Smith, sure enough, came straight toward us. He sat down, lighted a cigar, beamed on us and said:

"Well, boys, how goes it? I've just returned from a three months' European tour."

"We groaned."

"—and I'm going to sit here with you two or three hours."

"We groaned again."

"—and I want you to tell me every blessed thing that's happened since I've been away!"—Buffalo Express.

Didn't Like Dogs.

Hobson—Are you in favor of that new law? Dobson—Yes. I'm in favor of any law that reduces the number of dogs.—Judge.

Every misfortune can be subdued with patience.—Socrates.

However mean your life is, meet it and live it; not shun it and call it bad names.—Thoreau.



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