DAYTON HERALD.

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DAYTON .....OREGON.

WEEK'S DOINGS

General Review of Important Happenings Presented in a Brief and Condensed Form.

The Japanese have begun using the Chinese railway to move men and supplies.

The Japanese are concentrating in three groups with a view of flanking Liao Yang.

Another fierce land and sea battle has been fought at Port Arthur which was very costly to both sides.

Great Britain's views as to contraband goods are thoroughly in harmony with those of Secretary Hay.

Chicago packing employes find the boycott against retailers not the success expected, as they are hauling their own ice.

Unless Turkey meets the terms of Hay by the time the fleet reaches Smyrna, Minister Leishman will leave his post.

A Chicago flagman gave the wrong signal and in the collision which resulted five people were killed and a number of others injured.

The bodies of seven more victims of the terrible Colorado disaster have been recovered. Eighty-two dead have been found and 32 others are known to be missing.

Turkish soldiers attacked and murdered a large number of Armenian women. Two Turkish garrisons have been turned into graveyards by the avenging Armenian men.

The Japanese fleet has met a reverse off Port Arthur.

New York butchers will join the packers' strike.

The government has abandoned the Harney valley, Oregon, irrigation project.

General Stoessel, in command at Port Arthur, is reported to have committed sucide.

The British steamer Calchas, from Tacoma, seized by Russians, has been towed into Vladivostok.

Eihgty-two bodies have been recovered from the wreck near Pueblo, Colo., and more are known to be lost.

Famine conditions at Port Arthur are becoming appalling and hospitals are crowded with sick and wounded.

Russians are busy strengthening the defenses of Port Arthur for the final struggle, which they are expecting at anyt ime.

More rumors that Port Arthur has fallen continue to arrive in St. Petersburg, but it is believed in the Russian capital that the Japanese are still unable to capture the outworks.

German papers condone the sinking of the steamer Thea.

An attempt was made on the life of the president of Uruguay.

Kuropatkin's position at Liao Yang has strong railroad defenses.

The destroyer Goldsborough will soon have another trial on the Sound.

Packers continue to add to their forces and are confident of victory.

No new forest reserves are to be created in the West until after election.

A railroad collision at Boxeman caused the death of a traveling engineer.

French troops are being hastily forwarded to Tonquin by the French government.

Bids on Grand Ronde reservation lands are to be made public and sent on to Washington.

Lack of news from Port Arthur for several days is interpreted at St. Petersburg as good news.

Thirty thousand Chicago stockyard strikers paraded the streets to music of bands and headed by a platoon of police.

Japan has sent a strong fleet of gunboats and torpedo boats up the Liao river to head off the retreat of the Russians to the west.

Montana stockmen have sent a deputation to Chicago to try and patch up peace.

The Russian government has given orders that no more merchant steamers be sunk.

The Japanese have taken advantage of mountain passes to outmaneuver the Russians east of Liao Yang.

The fall of Port Arthur and the surrender of General Kuropatkin are predicted to occur on the same day.

Alton B Parker, Democratic nominee for president, has resigned from the bench of the New York court of appeals.

Two Russian cruisers from the Baltic are chasing a steamer which left England for Canada, carrying ammunition for Yokohama by way of the Canadian Pacific railway.

Information has been given the federal inspector of an infraction of the law by the beef trust.

The Chinese general, Ma, may cut off retreat of Kuropatkin if he tries to escape the Japanese by going through Mongolia.

Germany has a fleet near Chefoo.

Ex-Governor James T. Lewis, of Wisconsin, is dead.

Port Arthur is preparing for a final stand against the Japanese.

While the battle was raging July 31 the thermometer was up to 102 degrees near Haicheng.

The old Grimes hotel at Seaside has burned. It was one of the oldest buildings at the coast.

The Japanese army attacking General Kuropatkin is estimated at 200,000.

A fast train on the Frisco system was derailed in Indian Territory and a number of persons injured.

While trying to come ashore from a stranded yacht a number of persons were drowned in Nova Scotia.

MEANS MOVE TOWARD MUKDEN.

Japanese Concentration Shows Attempt Will Be Made to Cut Line.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 11.—Although Lieutenant General Sakharoff reports that there is no change in the situation around Liao Yang, it is evident from the special dispatches to the Associated Press from Liao Yang and Sintsintin that the Japanese are continuing their preparations for a flanking movement which may possibly alter the nature of the expected engagement at Liao Yang, and which may also further delay the crucial development.

The conentration of a strong Japanese forces at Saimatze indicates an intention to press forward toward Mukden, and if possible to cut the communications and prevent General Kuropatkin from retiring northward. General Kuropatkin is evidently aware of this move, and is sending out reconnoitering parties from Sintsintin along the Saimatze road. This is shown by the slight encounter with a Japanese outpost within 30 miles of Sintsintin. The Japanese are also bringing strong forces from Yinkow.

Column marching from Niu Chwang with the evident intention of flanking Liao Yang from the westward, included 10,000 Chinese from the island of Formosa, who are Japanese subjects. The Associated Press correspondent at Liao Yang points to the alarming character of this develoment, and fears that the example may prove contagious. If the local Chinese are induced to join the Japanese it will be impossible to distinguish the Formosan and Manchurian Chinese. This revives the spector of Chinese embroilment, with the more remote possibility of foreign entanglements.

There is considerable anxiety regarding the presence of General Yuan Shi Kai, commander in chief of the Chinese forces, and General Ma, with strong forces of troops in the north, lest, should a convenient opportunity present itself, they would be tempted to overstep the bounds of neutrality.

ALASKA MAY FIND FAULT.

Department Does for Bankers What It Would Not for Territory.

Washington, D. C., Aug. 11.—The postoffice department, by issuing an order today at the behest of capitalists and bankers of New York, eliminating all weight restrictions on first class mail matter addressed to foreign countries where domestic rates do not apply, lays itself open to criticism of discriminating against Alaska. Last winter an effort was made to induce the department to waive the weight restrictions on first-class mail matter, so that Alaska miners might ship their gold to states by mail in packages weighing more than four pounds, but this privilege was denied. Shippers represented through congressmen that they were now at the mercy of the transportation companies, who were charging exhorbitant rates to bring gold to the states, and they therefore sought the privilege of shipping by mail. The department then held it could not amend its regulation. Now, however, it amends the regulation in order that the banks may more conveniently ship their securities abroad.

VEST IS NO MORE.

Ex-Senator Passes Away at His Home in Missouri.

Sweet Springs, Mo., Aug. 10.—After lingering for weeks between life and death, ex-Senator George Vest passed peacefully away yesterday. He had been so near death for the last three days that the end came without a struggle. He was conscious until about 2 o'clock Sunday morning, when he sank into a state of coma from which he never aroused. He lost the power of speech Saturday morning, but for several days before that he talked very imperfectly, and during the last 36 hours of his life his breathing was barely perceptible. The flutter of his pulse was all that showed that life still remained.

At the bedside when the end came were his wife, Dr. Jarvis, the family physician; Senator Vest's son Alexander, his daughter, Mrs. George P. Jackson, and her husband, and Mrs. Thompson, a niece of Mrs. Vest.

The remains were taken to St. Louis last evening for interment in the private car of A. A. Allen, vice president and general manager of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas railroad.

Will Inspect Submarine Mines.

Washington, Aug. 11. — Captain George F. Barney, of the artillery corps, was today detailed for special duty as inspector of submarine mines, and will proceed to the harbors of San Diego, the mouth of the Columbia river and Puget sound for the purpose of inspecting and reporting on the condition and sufficiency of submarine mining material and the scope and extent of submarine instruction in those harbors. Upon completion of this duty he will report to the commanding officer of the artillery district of Puget sound.

To Search for Hidden Treasure.

New York, Aug. 11.—The British yacht Cavalier, owned by Major Maud, a member of the Royal army reserve, has left Ecquimbo for Galapagos islands, says a Herald dispatch from Valparaiso, Chile. Those aboard the yacht are going in search of the treasure which is said to have been hidden there a long time ago. The Cavalier met very rough weather near Mocha island, where the crew temporarily abandoned the vessel and suffered great hardships. The yacht carries two guns and 100 rifles.

Capital City Finally Chosen.

Melbourne, Victoria, Aug. 11.—The location of the federal capital, so long in dispute, is believed to have been finally settled by a vote today in the house of representatives, approving Dalgaty, in the Bombaal district. Dalgaty had previously been selected by the senate. Dalgaty is situated 296 miles south of Sydney, New South Wales, and is 23 miles from the nearest railroad station. The population is under 300.

Japanese Losses Put at 23,000.

St. Petersburg, Aug. 11.—The Russ estimates that the Japanese losses thus far as a result of the siege of Port Arthur, aggregate 23,000 men.

OREGON NEWS OF INTEREST

LINEN MILL FOR SALEM.

Plant Costing $100,000 Will Be Opened Early Next Year.

Salem—Without asking for a dollar of subsidy or for financial assistance of any kind from the people of this community, Eugene Boese and associates will establish a linen mill in Salem this winter and have it in operation soon after the first of the year.

The plant to be established will require an initial investment of $100,000. It will employ during the first year a force of 100 persons, two-thirds of whom will be women and children. It will handle a ton of flax fiber a day, and will use the product of 3,000 acres of land sowed to flax.

This very gratifying outcome of the flax fiber experiments and investigations may be credited in a large measure to the efforts of the Oregon Women's Flax Fiber association, the leading spirits of which were Mrs. W. P. Lord, Mrs. O. N. Denny and Mrs. H. L. Pittock. Seven or eigth years ago those zealous women began the experiments which demonstrated the high quality of the fiber from Oregon grown flax. Since that time the attention of flax experts has been attracted to Salem, where the experiments were conducted. Though the Oregon Women's Flax Fiber association discontinued its work because it had accomplished what it had started out to do and was not able to carry the work further, its efforts were productive of results whose importance cannot yet be estimated.

SOUTHWARD FROM SEASIDE.

Extension of Astoria & Columbia River Road Again Discussed.

Astoria—The extension of the Astoria & Columbia River railroad from Seaside south is again being discussed, and this time there is evidently some basis for the rumor, although nothing official on the subject can be obtained. Below Seaside is a fine ledge of rock, and some time ago there was talk of opening it up to secure rock for the jetty extension. Engineer Hegardt, of Fort Stevens, and Superintendent McGuire, of the railway company, have made an inspection trip over the proposed line, and examined the rock in the ledge. They are said to be well pleased with the result of their investigations. When the extension is built, it will also be used to bring logs for the Seaside Lumber companny from its timber holdings in that vicinity, and the assertion is made that A. B. Hammond has made a contract with the mill company to haul it his timber, also located in that section, at $2 per thousand stumpage.

Tests Detroit Granite.

Albany—Major J. W. Abbott, of Washington, D. C., the national good roads expert who has charge of good roads work of the government in Oregon, was in Albany and tested the granite from the Detroit quarry. The granite is to be used on the roads of Marion county, and a street in Salem will be paved with the rock as an experiment. Major Abbott stated that the granite was of an excellent quality for building purposes, but might be too hard for road work. It will, however, make an excellent foundation for a pavement or road.

Pleased With Grand Ronde.

La Grande—Professor L. B. Greene, of the Minnesota argicultural college, who is making a tour of the state in the interest of the O. R. & N. Co., accompanied by Industrial Agent Colonel Judson, are in the city and have been looking over the Grand Ronde valley. It will be given a write-up in the Eastern press. Professor Greene spoke of this valley as being one of the finest and most prolific he had seen in all his travels, and was particularly interested in the growing of beets and the immense sugar factory in La Grande.

Finds by State Land Agent.

Salem—Gold mine discoveries could scarcely be more profitable than some of the finds State Land Agent West has been making during his brief term of office. He has come across 1,880 acres of good reserve "base," of which his office had no previous knowledge, and the base has been used to select lieu land which has been sold for $9,400. The state school fund is that much better off. Mr. West ha made a number of discoveries of this kind and has no trouble in using all the "base" he can find.

Nugget Worth $476.

Grants Pass—Word has been received of the finding of a very valuable nugget near Holland, about 40 miles from here. The nugget is valued at $475, and is said to be nearly the shape of a shoe and to be very smooth and symmetrical. The find was made by "Jake" Glippel at his place on Holen creek, near Holland. The fact that this find was in the vicinity of the Briggs claims gives it an added interest.

Opening Road to Blue River Mines.

Eugene—The work of rebuilding the wagon road to the Blue River mines will begin next week with a force of 30 men and 15 teams. The amount raised by private subscription will be about $3,000 and an equal amount will be given by the county court, making a fund of $6,000, which will put the road in good condition.

Farmers' Line in Linn County.

Albany—Another link in the chain of telephone lines that is rapidly connecting all the villages and hamlets has been completed. This one is between Peoria and Shedd, and connects all the farmhouses along the line with the two towns as well as with other farmers in the country.

TROLLEY AROUND GRAND RONDE.

New Electric Line Will Develop Union County.

La Grande—The people of Grand Ronde valley, who have long waited for the advance of an electric railway through Union county, will soon see their hopes realized.

Engineer Davidson and a corps of surveyors will be on the ground by the middle of this week. The company behind this scheme is known as the Eastern Oregon Development company, of which T. W. Davidson is president and W. E. Davidson is secretary and treasurer.

The road will connect all to the principal points in the valley in addition to circling the valley. The survey and first estimate will cost about $10,000, and $1,000,000 will be invested before the road is in operation.

In addition to the great amount of produce and fruits to be handled by the new line there are many hundred million feet of lumber that may thus be brought to market, and numerous big lumber plants will exist where at present are small mills. Real estate will be valued much higher and all will reap a harvest from their interests here.

CLACKAMAS COUNTY PRODUCTS.

First Steps Toward Securing Exhibit for 1905 Fair.

Oregon City—The Clackamas county court has issued a call asking the farmers of each precinct of the county to assemble and name delegates to attend a sort of a convention that will be held at Oregon City October 6, in connection with the meeting of the court. This is a step preliminary to the gathering of an exhibit of the resources of Clackamas county to be made at the Lewis and Clark fair under the terms of the offer of the Lewis and Clark commission, which agrees to purchase at cash value the exhibit from each county at a cost not to exceed $500. The call also requests the farmers to reserve the cream of their products this year as a nucleus of a creditable collection to be sent from Clackamas to the 1905 fair.

Marion Will Assist in Road Building.

Salem—The county court of Marion county has decided to act in conjunction with the Linn county court in considering the matter of opening a wagon road to connect the Corvallis & Eastern railway with the Deschutes country, east of the Cascades. If possible, County Judge Scott will go with a representative of Linn county and investigate the feasibility of the plan and the probable cost of construction. Hon. John Minto, who laid out the Minto trail through the Cascades, will accompany the party and act as guide, pointing out what he believes to be a shorter and easier route than the old trail.

Forty Acres of Walnuts.

Newberg—The 40-acre English walnut orchard at Dundee, two miles from here, which has been watched with so much interest and which bore a light crop last year, will bear heavily this season, considering the age of the trees, which are rugged and healthy. Captain G. W. Peters, who is in charge of the orchard, is very enthusiastic over English walnut prospects in this section. He says the nuts from this orchard have been compared with samples from over the United States and even foreign countries, and found very much suerior.

Center at Eugene.

Eugene — The Willamette Valley Electric railway company has been incorporated for $1,000,000. Eugene will be the center of operations. The county court is asked to give a franchise from Eugene to Blue river, Eugene to Florence, Eugene to Cottage Grove, Eugene to Junction and on north to the county line. Benton county will be asked to give a franchise to Corvallis. The idea is to connect with the line from Salem to Portland. Plenty of capital is behind the movement.

Forest Fire in Clackamas.

Oregon City—Fifty farmers in the neighborhood of Union Mills, this county, vigorously fought a forest fire that did considerable damage to farm buildings in that section. The blaze raged fiercely for two days. The farmers managed to save the Union Mills schoolhouse from the flames only by working hard all night. Jim Mallatt and H. W. Shaw are the principal losers because of the fire which is now under control. The fire started from the burning of brush, getting beyond control.

Growth of Asylum Roll.

Salem—The poulation of the Oregon state insane asylum experienced an unusually rapid growth last month, when the total reached 1,371. The monthly report of the superintendent shows the following statistics: Number of patients July 1, 1,355; received during July, 55; escapes returned, 2; discharged, 27; died, 10; eloped, 4; remaining August 1, 1,371. The cost of maintenance per capita per month was $9.62 and per day, 31 cents.

Survey of New Electric Line.

Salem—Manager L. B. French, of the Portland & Southern railway company, which proposes to build an electric line from Canemah to Salem, is in Salem making arrangements for a permanent survey of the route for his road. The survey will begin at once and it is his expectation that a considerable portion of the construction work will be completed this year.

MASTER OF THE MINE

By Robert Buchanan.

CHAPTER XXI.

Yes; it was Annie, though for a time I could scarcely believe the evidence of my own eyes. She was so white and thin, so poorly clad, and living in such a den. Truly her sun had set and, as I predicted, she was wending her way home. She cried out at sight of me, and, instead of giving me a welcome, she hid her face and moaned. I felt no animosity toward her now; whatever she had done, she had been bitterly punished. I took her in my arms and tried to comfort her.

"Annie," I said, "my poor Annie, tell me what has happened to you, that I find you like this?"

We soon discovered the cause of her weakness—it was hunger. The poor thing had spent her last shilling, and had not eaten a crust since the morning; and, had we not found her, she would have spent that night starving in the streets. It was the work of a few moments for John Rudd to run out and return with food. When she came wholly to herself again, she looked at me, dreading lest I should question her again; and I thought it better to let my questions rest.

"Annie," I said, "do you feel strong enough to go now? I must take you with me to my rooms. I can't leave you here!"

She was too ill to offer much resistance; so, after I had paid the few shillings that she was owing, we left that miserable den together—Annie, still faint and very weak, leaning heavily upon me. John Rudd had quietly kept in the background, thinking that his presence might serve to further upset Annie. He now as unobtrusively took his departure, after having whispered in my ear that he would call for us in the morning. I took his hint, and determined to act upon it.

The night was very cold, and as we left the houses and passed down the street, facing the chilly wind, I felt Annie tremble violently, so I hurried her along and we soon reached the house where I had taken my rooms. Had I not crept into such good odor through my acquaintance with honest John Rudd, I should have been almost afraid to take Annie into the house; as it was, I expected a cold greeting; but to my amazement we were received with open arms. I afterward discovered that John Rudd had been before us, and had prepared the way for our coming. So when the door was opened the landlady, who was a good kind soul, came forward and almost took poor Annie in her arms, and led her, half-fainting, up to the little sitting room.

I gave her my bed room that night, and, rolling myself in a rug, lay down on the sofa in my little sitting room and tried to sleep; but it was impossible, and after a while I got up and began to walk about the room. Annie's room adjoined mine; so I could hear that she, too, was awake and crying bitterly. In the morning matters were considerably worse; poor Annie was delirious. Her pale face was flushed, her eyes vacant, and she cried pitifully on someone to come to her.

At 10 o'clock, John Rudd's wagon stopped at the door; a few moments later honest John himself was before me. I took him to the bedside and showed him my poor cousin, and his eyes filled with tears as he looked at her. Then we both went back to the other room.

"Measter Hugh," said John, "what do 'ee mean to daw, sir?"

"I shall wait here till Annie gets better," I said; "then I shall persuade her to come home. You will be back again on Thursday, won't you?"

"Yes; and mayhap she'll be well enough by then to come. We'll make her a bed i' the awld wagon and take her careful, Measter Hugh!"

Never in my life had I thought so much of the honest-hearted carrier as now, when I saw him shedding tears for my poor cousin.

When John Rudd came on the Thursday, he found her sitting up in bed, able to recognize him and talk to him, but still too weak to walk into the adjoining room. Nothing was said about going away that day; but I judged that she would be able to make the attempt on the following Monday, the day of the carrier's return.

On the Sunday morning, therefore, when she had left her bed room, and sat in the arm chair by the sitting room fire, I took her poor thin hand in mine, and said:

"Annie, my dear, do you feel strong enough to take a journey? John Rudd will be here to-morrow, and I want to take you home."

It was pitiful to see her face. "Oh, Hugh! I can't go!" she cried. "I can't face father, it would kill me! You go, and leave me—try to forget you have seen me, and they will never know."

"Annie," I said, "the time has come when you must tell me the whole truth. When we met in London, you said you were a married woman. Was that true, or false?"

"When I told you, I thought it was true. He said I was his wife. We went before a sort of lawyer together in Plymouth, and though I prayed sore to be wed in church, he said it was the same thing. Afterwards, when we quarreled, he told me that the man was in his pay, and that it was no marriage at all. That was why I left him, and went out into the streets to starve."

"Now, answer me," I cried, "who is the man? If he is living, he shall make amends!"

"Too late, too late!" she cried.

"Is he dead?"

"No, Hugh; he is living!"

"His name? Tell me his name!"

"Hugh, dear, I cannot—at least not yet. But I trusted him, and he deceived me. He made me swear to keep his secret for a time, saying that if folk knew of our marriage it would be his ruin. At last, when I could bear suspense no longer, he told me the truth. With the aid of him that's dead, he had deceived me. What shall I do?"

My head whirled; I had a sore struggle to collect my furious thoughts. At last I mastered myself, and cried:

"You must come home with me. You must tell the truth to those that love you."

I shall never forget that journey. As we drew nearer and nearer to St. Gurlott's, her agitation increased terribly; and when at last John pulled up within a hundred yards of the cottage gate, she began to cry pitifully, and beg to be taken away. I soothed her as well as I could, and, having left her in the van, I walked on to the cottage to prepare the way for her reception. I entered the gate, went softly up to the cottage, and looked in at the kitchen window. It was quite dark outside; but inside the kitchen lights were burning, and a fire was blazing on the hearth. Before the fire, seated in his arm chair, was my uncle. His face looked whiter than ever, his hair was like snow; on his knees he held the big family Bible, which he was reading, tracing the lines with the forefinger of his right hand. I looked around the kitchen for another figure—that of my aunt. She was not there. I hastened back to the wagon, lifted out Annie, more dead than alive, poor child; and half led, half carried her to the kitchen door.

"Go in, Annie," I whispered, "your father is there!" Then I opened the door, and, leaving her on the threshold, returned to my post of observation at the window to see what took place.

For a moment, Annie swerved and half turned, as if about to fly, then she laid her hand upon the door and sobbed, "Father!"

I saw my uncle start nervously and drop the book upon his knee; then he rose, and, with a piercing cry of joy, held forth his arms.

What followed I don't know. I rushed to the kitchen door, and when I reached it I saw poor Annie lying half fainting upon her father's breast.

CHAPTER XXII.

It was a sight to bring tears to the eyes of a strong man. The poor old father—white-haired, haggard, trembling like a leaf, and feverishly clasping the child who had been the darling of his days. He looked into her face—he smoothed back her hair with his wrinkled hand—he murmured her name—while, sobbing and moaning, she clung to him and entreated his forgiveness. I stood looking on, almost terrified. As I did so, my aunt brushed past me, and, entering the kitchen, uttered a cry of surprise.

"Annie!"

The tone of her voice was harsh and cold, and her face was stern indeed. Releasing herself from her father's embrace, my cousin turned to her mother with outstretched arms.

"Yes, mother! I have come back!"

But my aunt, with the same stern expression, repulsed her, and the poor girl fell back with a pitiful moan.

"Bide a bit! Wha brought 'ee? Did you coom back alone?"

"We came home together," I said, stepping forward.

"Let me look at 'ee!" cried my aunt, suddenly approaching her daughter, who hid her face and sobbed. "What, can't 'ee look your mother in the face? Naw? Then away wi' 'ee, for you'm na daughter o' mine!"

My uncle, who had sunk trembling into a chair, looked up, amazed, as she continued:

"Look at your father! Look at the shame and trouble you'm brought upon him! A year ago he was a happy man, and I were a happy woman; but now—look at us both now! Better to be dead and buried than to coom back yar, bringing sorrow on folk that once held their heads up wi' the best!"

I was lost in amazement at my aunt's severity; for never for a moment had I anticipated such a reception. Hitherto, indeed, my uncle had semed to take the affair most to heart, and it was his attitude toward Annie that I had most dreaded.

"Come, come, aunt," I said. "You must not talk to Annie so. There has been trouble, no doubt; but it is all over now, and everything can be explained."

"Whar has she been all this while, tell me that? She left o' her awn free will, and she comes back o' her awn free will; but till I know what she ha' done, I'll ne'er sit down or break bread wi' her again."

"I told you how it would be!" cried Annie, addressing her words to me, but still hiding her face. "Let me go! I wish I had never come!"

And she made a hurried movement toward the door, as if to fly. Seeing this, my aunt relented a little; though her manner was still harsh enough. At this moment, my uncle rose.

"Annie," he said, "dawn't heed mother. She dawn't mean it, my lass—she dawn't mean it! Whate'er you'm done, this is your home, and you are my child—our little lass." Then, turning to his wife, he added, "Speak to her, wife! speak kindly to her! Maybe she'll tell 'ee all her trouble."

His broken tones, so pleading and pitiful, melted the mother's heart. With a wild cry she sank into a chair, the tears streaming down her face.

"Oh! Annie, Annie! may the Lord forgive 'ee for what you ha' done!"

Suddenly mastering herself, my cousin uncovered her face and looked at her mother. Then, drying her tears, and speaking with tremulous determination, she said:

"I know I have been wicked. I know I should never have gone away. But if you have suffered, so have I. I never meant to bring trouble upon you or father; I loved you both too well for that. But if you can't forgive me, if your heart is still bitter against me, I had better go away. I don't want to be a trouble or a burden. I have made my bed, I know, and I must lie upon it; and if I had not met my cousin Hugh I should never have come home."

"Tell me the truth, Annie Pendragon," said my aunt. "Wha took thee from home? Was it him as is lying, dead and murdered, in his grave?"

Annie opened her eyes in wonder. My uncle started, and then, curious to say, averted his face, but stood listening.

"I have already asked her that question," I said; "and she denies it."

I saw my uncle start again. He was still eagerly listening.

"No, mother," said Annie firmly.

"Naw? Ye were seen together i' Falmouth; all the folk think the overseer took 'ee away fro' home."

"Then it is not true."

My uncle turned; his face, which had been troubled before, now ghastly beyond measure.

"Annie, Annie, my lass!" he cried. "Dawn't deny it! Speak the truth, and we'll forgive 'ee! It were Measter Johnson—say it were, Annie, say it were!"

His voice was pleading and full of entreaty. I alone of all there, guessed why. But Annie shook her head sadly, as she replied:

"No, father. Him you speak of was nothing to me."

My uncle had turned away, like a man mortally wounded, and, leaning against the lintel of the window, was looking wildly out.

"Dawn't speak to me!" he said; "dawn't, my lass! I can't bear it!"

I thought it time to interfere; so, gently taking Annie by the hand, I led her to my aunt, and made them shake hands and kiss each other. Thus some sort of reconcilement was established, and presently the two women, mother and daughter, went upstairs together. Directly we were alone, my uncle turned and faced me. I saw that he was still greatly agitated, and fancied that I guessed the cause.

"Hugh, my lad," he said, "I knaw I can trust 'ee. Ever sin you was a little lad, you'm been a'most a son to me."

With the tears standing in my eyes, I wrung his hand. I pitied him, with my whole heart and soul; for indeed I loved him like a son.

"Hearken, then, Hugh, my lad. Did you hear what poor Annie said about hersen and the overseer? Be it truth, think 'ee?"

"I think so—nay, I am certain."

He drew his hand across his brow, where the perspiration stood in beaded drops.

"I think you'm right, lad; I dawn't think my Annie would lie. But it has allays been on my mind, d'ye see, that Johnson were to blame; and only last night abed, dreaming like again, I thought I had my fingers at his throat * * * and tried to take un's life! I might ha' done it, I might ha' done it."

As he spoke, he raised his voice to a cry, and a strange mad light, such as I had never seen there before, began to gather in his eyes.

Terrified at his words, I moved to the kitchen door, and closed it quickly.

"Hush! For heaven's sake, don't speak so loud! Some one may hear you!"

He was quiet in a moment. Subdued and gentle, he let me lead him to a chair. Then our eyes met, and though we exchanged no word, he saw that I guessed his secret, and groaning painfully, he buried his face in his two hands, and called on God to forgive him for his sins.

(To be continued.)

PLATE IS SELDOM STOLEN.

Tableware Made of Platinum Is Valuable, but Difficult to Dispose Of.

One kind of valuable plate quite abundant in New York is seldom stolen by burglars, though the metal of which it is made far exceeds silver in cost. Every college chemical laboratory and scores of factory laboratories have costly vessels made of platinum. The plain metal is usually worth about its weight in gold and made up into crucibles and other vessels used in laboratories it is much more valuable than in its ordinary form. The makers of such ware, in fact, must earn large profits, for their charges are high, although the metal is made into the simplest forms, without decoration of any sort. A tiny crucible holding perhaps only a gill is worth $8 or $10, and some of the larger vessels used by chemists are worth several hundred dollars each.

The value of these vessels is so great that they are locked up every night in a safe in any well-conducted chemical laboratory and frequently counted. Damaged vessels and even the smallest scraps of platinum wire are carefully treasured and sent to the factory from time to time in order to be made over into new vessels. A chemist has somewhat the same feeling toward his platinum plate that a housekeeper has toward her solid silver, but the chemist's plate is worth far more than any but the most elaborately wrought silverware. It is also much more liable to damage.

The presence of a small quantity of lead in a hot crucible of platinum is likely to bring about a puncture of the crucible. A punctured crucible must go to the factory, and repairs are very costly. Much of such ware used here is made in a little Pennsylvania town by a single firm, and there are few workmen who understand the art of handling platinum.

Treated with care, platinum vessels are almost indestructible. They seem to suffer nothing from the high temperatures to which they are exposed in the laboratory, and however long in use a brisk rubbing renders them as beautifully bright as on the day when they came from the factory. They are ordinarily cleaned, however, by the application of hot water and acid solutions, as they gradually lose in weight by rubbing.

One reason why platinum implements are seldom stolen by burglars lies in the fact that they are not easily disposed of. The metal is hard to melt and a large vessel is not easily hammered out of recognition. Pawnbrokers are shy of accepting articles of platinum, because such articles, having a comparatively narrow use, are not hard to trace. Small crucibles and platinum wire and rods do occasionally disappear from laboratories, but the larger articles are rarely stolen. When a man presents himself in a shop with a metal worth in the neighborhood of $250 a pound for sale he is naturally expected to tell how it came into his possession.—New York Times.

The Country Town.

It's common to sneer at the country town,
With its quiet streets and its peaceful air,
Where the little river meanders down
To be lost in the broad, blue sea somewhere
As we who think we are wise are lost
In the roaring city that, like the sea,
Has its ebb and flow, with its millions tossed
As bubbles robbed of identity.

There's fellowship in the country town,
With its empty streets and its spreading trees,
Where the country song birds warble down
At maids as fair as man ever sees;
Where the wind blows sweet from the fields nearby,
Where men know the names which their neighbors bear,
Where a man is missed when he's gone to lie
With the peaceful ones who have ceased to care.

There are joys out there in the country town
That we of the city may never learn
In the rush for money and for renown,
Confronting strangers where'er we turn!
Oh, wasn't God's world serene and fair
In the country town ere we came away?
And won't it be sweet to sleep out there,
Far from the city's roar, some day?
—Chicago Record-Herald.

Fortress at a High Altitude.

The Italian government has just erected a fortress on the great Chaberton summit, opposite Brincan, for the defense of the Simplon tunnel. This fort is 10,600 feet high and is believed to be the most elevated fortified point in the world.

The largest national debt in the world is that of France, which is nearly six billion dollars, or nine times the annual revenue of the government.

In 1892 New York was the best tobacco revenue State, paying $5,374,762 into the National Treasury on this score.

The proportion of Chinese to Indians in the United States is as two to three.