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THE TWO SUITORS

By EDITH V. ROSS

"Circumstances alter cases." This of its face is an indefinite adage. At any rate, it is indefinitely expressed, but it contains a truth.

Miss Arabella Simmonds was a very romantic young lady, one of those girls who dream of a prince who is to come, and carry her off in spite of family and friends and other suitors. She spent a great deal of time picturing him in her mind's eye—tall, shapely and with immaculate in his dress.

When the prince came he came double—that is, there were two suitors, both of whom, though they did not fill Miss Simmonds' dreams, were fine to look upon. One was Peter Dowdy with nothing unromantic about him but his name; the other Edwin Ledwith, whose name was well enough, but his manly beauty suffered a slight imperfection from a bald spot the size of a silver dollar near the part in his hair.

Both of these young men being at Miss Simmonds' disposal, both being especially desirable to her, she hesitated a long while between them, then one day made up her mind she would accept Mr. Ledwith. The reason for this was that she would prefer a husband with a bald spot to being called Mrs. Dowdy.

It so happened that the evening of the day on which she came to this conclusion both these gentlemen called upon her. Both had proposed and both were anxiously expecting an answer Mr. Dowdy called first. He had not been with the lady long before she told him that she had been considering his offer, that she admired and respected him, but she did not love him well enough to marry him. The look of melancholy with which this dismissal was received quite touched Miss Simmonds' heart. He uttered no word of reproach, said nothing about having been led on to his discomfiture; he simply withdrew as one who had received his quietus and should have expected it.

It was quite dark outside when he left the house, and there was no street lamp near. Coal had been put in during the afternoon, and the colored man who did the job had neglected to replace the lid after having finished the job.

The result was that Mr. Dowdy stepped right down into a coal bin. He fell and was some time rolling about on the coal before he could get on his feet again. Then, to his horror, he discovered that the hole through which he had dropped was too far above him to be reached. There was a door to the coal bin, but it was locked.

Mr. Dowdy's object was to get out without attracting attention. The egress he preferred was by the hole above, and he set to work heaping up the coal that he might form a pyramid on which to stand, catch at the side of the hole and draw himself up and out. He had nothing to work with except his hands, but he scooped hard and succeeded in forming quite a sizable pile. He knew that when he stepped on it it would give way, so he did his climbing rapidly in order to make a reach before being let down. The result was a fall and a roll, and the light spring suit he wore, the tag spats, his shirt front, collar, cuffs, face and hands were all as black as the ace of spades.

Discouraged, he examined the door of the bin and found it securely locked. A choice of two things remained—either he must remain there indefinitely or he must kick for some one to come and let him out. He shrank from appearing before the girl who had first refused him begrimed with coal dust. But what mattered it? He had been turned down and could not be turned down but once, so he resolved to face the music. He kicked.

Now, it happened that Mr. Ledwith called just before Mr. Dowdy began to summon assistance. He had become tired of suspense and determined to bring the young lady to the point. Fortunately he had missed the open coal hole by a few feet and was admitted to Miss Simmonds' presence. His appearance—he was in evening dress with a boutonniere—was conducive to success. Miss Simmonds thought she had never seen him look handsomer. There was not a speck of dirt on him anywhere. A white kid glove rubbed all over him would not have been in the least soiled. He opened his case at once by telling Miss Simmonds that if kept in suspense any longer he would go mad. He implored her to end his sufferings.

Miss Simmonds was about to confess that she loved him when she cast her eyes aside at the doorway leading into the room and saw and recognized through the coal dust the figure of the man she had but a short time before refused. If his expression had then been melancholy it now expressed the will of a broken heart.

What a singular being is woman! Here was one who for years had been dreaming of the manly beauty, the shining habiliments of the man she would love. That manly beauty, those fine habiliments were before her, and there, too, was the man who had been rolling in the coal hole. With a woman, sympathy is always "trump" card.

"I regret, Mr. Ledwith," she said, "to give you an unfavorable answer to your very flattering proposal, but I am engaged to Mr. Dowdy."

Mr. Ledwith withdrew like a wounded Apollo, and Mr. Dowdy's smile through his mask of coal dust was appalling.

ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Notice is here by given, that in pursuance of an order of the County Court of the State of Oregon, for Marion County, made and entered of Record on the 17 th. day of November 1913 in the matter of the Estate of Allen Dripps, Deceased, the undersigned, the Administrator of the said Estate, will sell at Public Auction to the highest bidder for Cash in hand at time of sale and subject to Confirmation by said Court, on Saturday the 27 th. day of December 1913 at the hour of 10 o'clock A. M. of said day on the premises at Stayton, Marion County, Oregon, all the right, title, interest and Estate of the said Allen Dripps, Deceased, had at the time of his death in and to the following described premises situated in Marion County Oregon to-wit:

The undivided one-half of the following described premises to-wit: Beginning at a point 30 feet north of the center of section 10, Township 9 South, Range one West, Will. Mer., Oregon; running thence North 28 3/4 feet to the tract of land heretofore deeded to Lee Tate by Allen Dripps; thence West 391 4-10 feet; thence South 28 3/4 feet; thence East 391 4-10 feet to the place of beginning, containing 2.48 acres, more or less, in Marion County, Oregon.

Dated this 26th day of Nov. 1913. Frank Decker Administrator of the Estate of Allen Dripps, Deceased. W. H. Queener, Atty. for Estate.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, U. S. Land Office at Portland, Oregon Dec. 5, 1913.

NOTICE is hereby given that Major D. Davis, of Mill City, Oregon, who, on October 8, 1912, made Homestead Entry, No. 03654, for Lots 3 and 4 and SE 1/4 NW 1/4, Section 4, Township 9 South, Range 3 East, Willamette Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make Final Commutation Proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before the Register and Receiver, U. S. Land Office, at Portland, Oregon, on the 20th day of January, 1914.

Claimant names as witnesses: John Hauptman, B. A. Taylor, John Lomker all of Mill City, Oregon, M. W. Chamberlain, of Gates, Oregon, H. F. Higby, Register.



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Sheriff's Notice Sale of Real Property. ON EXECUTION

By virtue of an Execution issued out of the Honorable Circuit Court of the State of Oregon, for the County of Marion on the 10th day of December, 1913 in favor of Ed Stoazye plaintiff, and against S. Warking defendant, for the sum of sixty dollars, Gold Coin with interest at the rate of 6% per annum from the 4th day of December, 1913 and eleven dollars and 50 cents costs together with accruing costs, have levied upon and will sell at PUBLIC AUCTION, on Saturday, the 17 day of January, 1914, at 11 o'clock, a. m., at the Court House door in Marion County and State of Oregon, all the right, title and interest which the said S. Warking, defendant, had on or after the 13 day of November, 1913, in or to the following described premises, to-wit: Lot No. 2, in Block No. 14, in Highland Addition to the City of Salem, Marion County, Oregon.
Terms of Sale. Cash Dated at Salem, Oregon this 12th day of December, 1913
Wm. Esch Sheriff of Marion County, Oregon. By W. L. Needham Deputy.

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