

Be on your Guard.

If some grocers urge another baking powder upon you in place of the "Royal," it is because of the greater profit upon it. This of itself is evidence of the superiority of the "Royal." To give greater profit the other must be a lower cost powder, and to cost less it must be made with cheaper and inferior materials, and thus, though selling for the same, give less value to the consumer.

To insure the finest cake, the most wholesome food, be sure that no substitute for Royal Baking Powder is accepted by you.

Nothing can be substituted for the Royal Baking Powder and give as good results.

The Power of Gold.

He loved her.
She loved him.
They loved each other.
But her father objected because the young man was almost a total stranger.

The time had come when the youth must ask the father for his daughter, and he feared to go to him.

He held a long conference with his beloved.

He told her he did not want to ask her father.

"George, dear," she asked in a tremulous whisper, "how much are you worth?"

"A million dollars, darling," he responded.

Her face shone in the twilight.

"Then you don't have to ask him," she said, with simple frankness. "Let him know that, and he will say yes."

And George gave the old man a tip. —Detroit Free Press.

Playing at Light Houses.



Truth.

A Real Nice Fellow.

Strawber—Do you suppose Clara Penruce cares anything for me?

Singerly—Well, she said some pretty nice things about you last night when I was there.

Strawber—Did she? What were they?

Singerly (seriously)—For one thing, she said you were a fine dancer. It was such a comfort, she said, to find a man who really danced well.

Strawber—I'm sure I'm glad she likes my dancing. I've spent enough time at it. Singerly—Then she said your manners were perfect. It was a pleasure to go anywhere with you, she said, because she felt so perfectly secure with you and sure of you.

Strawber (slightly)—Gracious! I had no idea she thought so much of me as that. Did she say anything else?

Singerly—Oh, yes. She spoke about your conversation. In the right society talk of the day she thinks you have no equal, and then you are so full of tact, and your clothes were always so stylish, so neat, without being too extreme. Oh, she gave you a great sendoff, old man.

Strawber (beside himself)—I should say she did. I must cultivate that girl. Beautiful, rich, accomplished. What more could a man want in a wife? I have always (complacently) fancied her, but now I think the feeling is even deeper than that.

Singerly (warningly)—Don't let it get too deep, old man. I didn't tell you all.

Strawber—Didn't you? What more was there?

Singerly—She wound up by saying that, in fact, you were just the sort of a fellow that no girl would ever think of marrying—Exchange.

Greatly Surprised.

Lieutenant Blank of the army is 6 feet 4 inches tall and tips the scale at 250 pounds. He was stationed for many years in Washington, attached to a scientific bureau of the government, his writings being well known in scientific circles.

Much of his writing was done evenings at home, and he would sometimes carry home necessary reference books and return them to his office at will. One morning he gathered together several, none of them very small, and putting them under his arm started for his office.

In the course of his walk he was brought face to face with a very black little negro who, with arms akimbo, chin dropped and his shining black eyes filled with wonder, had planted himself directly in front of Lieutenant Blank.

Before the gentleman had time to do more than take in this apparition of darkness the little "pickaninny" had thrown back his head, so as to be able to gaze up into the Lieutenant's face, and in a tone of comical amazement exclaimed:

"Gudee gracious, master, is you gwine to school?"—Youth's Companion.

Hobby Foot's Bills.

The man who is hanging to a strap in a car often hears conversations which are worth repeating.

"Don't you hate to have to ask your husband for money to buy your dresses and hats with?" said a matron in dark green to one in seal brown.

"I never do," was the reply.

"Don't you? Does he give it to you without asking?"

The matron in seal shook her head.

"Have you a regular allowance, or does he pay you a weekly salary, as some women matrons in the correct thing?"

"Neither."

"Then you must have private means of your own to draw on, but every woman is not so well situated as that."

"Wrong again. I have no fortune of my own, and my husband pays for everything I need."

"Look!" I exclaimed. "That double cross!"

He seemed not to understand.

"It is only a shadow," he said.

"But once before I saw it. Don't you

THE DOUBLE CROSS

By ARDENNES JONES-POSTER

"Bless you, nor not blood relatives. Ivan is my uncle by marriage, and only great-great uncle at that, his wife having been great aunt to my mother."

One night and once again, as we walked beneath the heavy sky of the park trees, a shadow fell in front of us—the figure of a woman, it appeared to me—and as quickly did it fit away again. I remember having twice remarked it to Ivan. On the second occasion the shadow came just as we were repighting our troth and naming the day. I started, considerably frightened. Ivan calmed me.

"It was nothing," he remarked; "only a branch of that tall tree swinging across our path."

"But if it had been—if it could have spoken—that shadow would have heard our pledges?"

"And you are ashamed of them, my darling?"

"Not oh, no, Ivan. Only I am a creature of such silly suspicions. My nation—my dear Swedish people—are somehow imbued more or less with a belief in 'erie things,' as the Scots say. It may be a fault, but it was born in me. Even when I was a child my old nurse used to tell me tales of strange gnomes and hobgoblins, saying that they swarmed about us, and the lessons seems to have followed me. So do not chide me!"

His answer was that which he always gave when I pleaded for grace.

He kissed me.

The shadowy figure had faded into space.

As it was his custom to confide all of his little adventures to me, he found it quite in his turn of fancies one evening to relate a little incident that had morning leaped into his life. It happened fully a fortnight after my receipt of Olof's letter. Ivan had returned home long after his usual hour.

"What kept you so long, Ivan?" I asked as he came down to dinner.

"A most peculiar circumstance, my darling Cesca," he answered. "I was passing along Broadway, near Canal street, to my office when a young man met me. He carried a traveler's bag in his hand and had evidently just arrived from a journey. As our eyes clashed he stopped suddenly, shocked, it seemed, by a momentary pang in his head—vertigo it looked like to me—threw up his hand, quickly passed his fingers over his brow, clutched at his throat as if he would tear open his collar to relieve a strangling sensation, and losing consciousness he reeled and fell. As he came to the ground I supported him, and with the aid of a passerby we carried him to a little shop in Canal street. But as he did not survive I had him conveyed to the hospital.

"But that did not keep you all day, come, Ivan, confess now."

"Ah," he answered; "it took up three or four hours of my time, and as my office duties require a unusual amount of attention each day I was obliged to stop there until I got through with my correspondence."

I accepted his explanation.

"But the man's name?" I added. "You did learn that from him."

"How could I? He had not come to his senses when I left him."

"But he must have carried papers?"

"If he did were locked in his bag."

"How old was he?"

"Perhaps five and twenty."

"American?"

"A foreigner, I fancy."

"A foreigner?" I cried. "My head reeled. "What if it had been Olof?"

"I was told that that man was a swindler."

"Olof?" I cried. "My heart beat faster."

"Yes, Ivan Tredsky, my husband, and I, Vera, your wife," she answered, as her hot temper flared her. "Yes, as we agreed! I have crossed your path a score of times. Under the park tree I heard you pight your troth. In the lover's seat I have heard your passionate words of love. I have watched and waited patiently, believing that you but schemed as we had promised. But now you have gone too far. Your words are no longer empty sounds. You love that girl! Ah, damn it all! Trust to a woman's eyes to read the peridy in a man's heart."

"As who agreed?" Ivan cried.

"You, Ivan Tredsky, my husband, and I, Vera, your wife!" she answered, as her hot temper flared her. "Yes, as we agreed! I have crossed your path a score of times. Under the park tree I heard you pight your troth. In the lover's seat I have heard your passionate words of love. I have watched and waited patiently, believing that you but schemed as we had promised. But now you have gone too far. Your words are no longer empty sounds. You love that girl! Ah, damn it all! Trust to a woman's eyes to read the peridy in a man's heart."

"Vera!" he protested, and crept further into the shade to miss the flash of her temper.

"But upon it!" she exclaimed. "The farce has gone far enough! You would have made it tragic! Oh, I know! The girl's failing health but a few weeks back, her discovery of her weakness, your attempts to poison her! It is too true! And where is the stranger you found fainting in the street? Olof—where is he?"

"God! Olof!" I screamed, as the frightful truth all darted to my brain. "The stranger, the accident, the hospital!" I bent over her, her discovery of her weakness, your attempts to poison her! It is too true! And where is the stranger you found fainting in the street? Olof—where is he?"

"God! Olof!" I screamed, as the frightful truth all darted to my brain. "The stranger, the accident, the hospital!" I bent over her, her discovery of her weakness, your attempts to poison her! It is too true! And where is the stranger you found fainting in the street? Olof—where is he?"

"Where is he?" she repeated.

"You have told me in your letters—the fierce detention of Olof at your friend's house—now confess it! And the securities that you stole from his bag and sent to me! Ah! You would—would have killed the girl for her fortune, as we agreed! But your heart, even blacker than mine, turned false to your wife! You ruined the plot by your peridy! Jealousy drives me to confess it! You loved her! I am here to avenge the wrong! You would have wrought a tragedy—till your mind turned topsy-turvy, and then you would have wed the girl, deceiving her into the belief that I was dead! But now it is my turn! We will end it here! Ay, and with a tragedy indeed! Now pay for your sins! And with the stout arms of a maniac Vera bound him in his tracks, then with giant force she pushed him to the cliff. My heart stood still! The ground whirled!

At last Ivan found his speech.

"Woman! what would you do?" and he struggled with her as one of his feet slipped over the rock. He was falling!

remember—upon the back of my letter?"

He laughed outright, called me a foolish woman and told me that I must not cling to superstitions.

"A strange trait, that, with the Swedish people," he added. "They swear by signs. Why, upon my word, Cesca, if you go on like this you will be telling us that you see signs of those funny little men popping out of the rocks yonder, akin to those that your Swedish peasants declare dwell in the forest. And while I think about it, Rip Van Winkle's little gnomes did use to play at tennis just up the river—in Sleepy Hollow, you know," he jests.

He had no sooner spoken than a huge cloud flung its black mantle over the face of the sun. The wind arose, higher, madder, faster. The waters of the Hudson rose and pranced and stood upright. A great, roaring noise of threat and chaos filled the air, deafening in its roar. The water below dashed and foamed. Small shoals were picked up, tossed and hurled shoreward.

The outing party made for the shelter of cafes and the village near by. Confusion reigned. The sky grew dark. The tempest of evil seemed to rise out of the very earth beneath our feet. Agents of fury and warning dashed across the sky. A brilliant dash of lightning crossed the scene, quickly followed by a crash of thunder. I clung to Irene, who was quaking with fright. The flash had told me that Ivan was deathly pale.

"Too late to move now!" was all that he could say.

"But it is hardly upon us. We might reach the nearest cafe. Besides, this tree is a dangerous conductor," I protested.

"The whole scene is shrouded," he whispered. "We are as safe here as anywhere!"

Another dash came. In the direction of the bushes to the west I noticed a figure stealing toward us—a woman.

"Look! She has lost her way. Come nearer to me—closer, Ivan, closer! I fear! I tremble!" cried as he clasped her in his arms. But the woman only quickened her pace, which we discovered by the frequent flashes of light. Faster and faster she ran toward us, Irene, becoming insomitable, rushed off to the nearest cafe.

The woman was now upon us! For an instant a bright flash illuminated the spot. I looked. I saw a face.

"Great God! Vera!"

"Ivan!" I cried. "Do you see? A spirit! Her spirit! Vera's ghost!"

The strain broke to speak. His tongue was lashed to the roof of his mouth. He moved—confronted her, the phantom-like figure, as a slave might face his master.

Then they drove home. The girl talked of inconsequential matters. She had liked the play. She told the young man that she would be in the city a month longer. They reached the house of her friends, and he helped her out of the carriage, and she tripped up the steps, said "Good night," sweetly and vanished behind the heavy doors.

The young man got in the carriage and drove back to the city. He was so full of the image of the girl that he was down town before he had time to think of anything else. Then one extraneous thought did come to him. He sat up straight in the carriage and swore a big, triangular oath.

She had not asked him to call!

He got out of the carriage and went into a hotel. He sought the reading room and seated a sheet of paper. Then he put down those figures in a row:

Carriage.....\$1.00
Hotel.....10.00
Gloves.....2.00
Incidentals.....1.00
Total.....\$12.00

He held that slip of paper in his hand for a long time and gazed at it earnestly, not to say sadly. Finally he rose, and with a sad, heavy heart, said, "Well, I got the gloves back anyhow,"—Buffalo Express.

How Coral Grows.

Coral increase by eggs spontaneous division and germination. The rate of growth has not been fully determined. Professor Agassiz indicates the growth of reefs at Key West at the rate of six inches in 100 years and adds that if we doubt that amount it would require 5,000 years to form the reefs in that place and hundreds of thousands of years for the growth of Florida.

Its excellence is due to its presenting in the form most acceptable and pleasant to the taste, the refreshing and truly beneficial properties of a perfect laxative, effectively cleansing the system, dispelling colds, headaches and fevers and permanently curing constipation. It has given satisfaction to millions and met with the approval of the medical profession, because it acts on the kidneys, Liver and Bowels without weakening them and it is perfectly free from every objectionable substance.

Syrup of Figs is for sale by all druggists in 50c and \$1 bottles, but it is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co., only whose name is printed on every package, also the name, Syrup of Figs, and being well informed, you will not accept any substitute if offered.

Fruit Preserved: Labor Saved!

Antifermentine

PRESERVES FRUIT WITHOUT HEAT.

ANTIFERMENTINE preserves CIDER, MILK, BUTTER, CATSUP, PICKLES, etc., and does it better than any other process. The use of this wonderful preservative saves time, expense and labor, and makes fruit keep longer. It is used in canning and preserving fruits and vegetables of all kinds. NO MOULD ON TOP OF THE FOOD, AND IT IS EASY TO USE AND TASTY.

DYSPEPSIA IN ITS WORST FORM.

EVAN DISTERLY, Esq., of Gettysburg, Pa., writes: "I have had dyspepsia for years and have had dyspepsia in my family for generations. In its worst forms I know what