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**FOUND HER OUT**

"I wouldn't tell it to nobody else," said the young man with the knowing air. "I wouldn't tell you if I didn't want you to keep from makin' a monkey of yourself, but it ain't no use. Everything's off as far as you're concerned. You don't want to waste no time on her."

"Why not?" asked the youth with the blue and white muffer.

"Because I tell you," said the young man with the knowing air. "You ain't got no show. Ain't that enough for you?"

"Did she tell you so?"

"No, she didn't tell me so. She don't need to tell me nothin'. I keep my eyes open, that's all."

"You mean Jimmie Halloran?" asked the youth with the muffer.

"That's who I mean, if you want to know."

"Rats! There's half a dozen Jimmie goes with as much as he does with her."

"All right about that. There may be fifty for that matter. That doesn't cut any ice."

"Jimmie ain't so much."

"That's all right, too. I don't say he is, but he's enough for Maggie. It ain't always what a guy thinks of a girl; it's what she thinks of him. That's what knocks. A feller don't know what he does want half the time. It's up to the girl to show him. Say, you just take my word for it an' let it go at that. You ain't got no show."

The young man in the blue and white muffer still looked doubtful. "I ain't never seen her give no signs o' being struck on Jimmie," he said.

"I have," said the young man with the knowing air, in tones of conviction.

"You told me you hadn't seen her more'n to pass the time o' day with her for a year."

"That's no lie. I ain't. But I was over at the skatin' rink last night an' I seen her skatin' with Jimmie. Jimmie was teachin' her to skate, if you want to know. Mag's all right. I ain't got nothin' against Mag—understand?"

She didn't suppose there was goin' to be anybody there that knew her. I guess. She wouldn't have done it anywhere the bunch went. I know that and I bet she took a good look around afore she went out on the floor. I was out with Sade Epstein an' we just happened to pass the door an' Sade says, "Let's go in an' skate awhile!" "All right," I says, "I'll go you." So we went in an' there we seen Maggie an' Jim."

"I don't see nothin' in that," said the young man in the blue and white muffer, but with some signs of uneasiness. "I've took girls around to the skatin' rink myself."

"So have I," said the young man with the knowing air, smiling inscrutably.

"Well?"

"Well, what?"

"What was there special about that?"

"Oh, nothin' special. Mag was slippin' this way an' that an' squealin' out every minute or two an' clutchin' him around the neck an' of course Jimmie had to put his arm around her to hold her up. That ain't unusual, but when we come together you'd ought to have seen Mag. She turned all colors. Say, it was fierce the way she looked. I felt sorry for her. I didn't say nothin', though. I just give her the wink an' began to talk to Jimmie."

"You make me weary," said the young man in the blue and white muffer, as the other paused.

"Well, if I tell you it's on the dead?"

"Sure thing."

"I don't know as I ought to tell you. When they had the rink over on the corner of Green street two years ago Mag an' me used to skate there together and, say, she had 'em all beat to a fare-the-well. All the fancy figures there was an' then some. She was the queen. An' to see Mag hollerin' an' grabbin' an' makin' out she was goin' to fall an' didn't know how to put one foot afore the other, an' that lobster Jimmie teachin' her! Say!"

"Oh, well," said the young man in the blue and white muffer, "it don't make no partickler difference to me."—Chicago Daily News.

**GOOD Short Stories**

here of many rough seas in the past, made an explanatory gesture toward the sky, and said, "What, in this rain?"

**A HOODOO NECKLACE.**

Story of a Jeweled Band that Brings Misery or Death to its Owner.

A grim story of a fateful necklace lost on the eve of her death in the Summer Garden, St. Petersburg, by Mme. Andreef, who was cut down by her husband, is told by the Novoe Vremya.

It was an old piece of work by one of the best Parisian jewelers, and was sold first to the head of a French court family, nearly all the members of which were guillotined during the revolution. A few escaped to Brussels and were obliged to part with many fine jewels, among them the necklace in question. From that time they enjoyed good fortune.

The necklace, after changing hands about ten times, was sold for \$20,000 to a prince, who gave it to the ballerina, Trukki. For this act he was exiled from St. Petersburg. Trukki left the imperial ballet, and finding her health failing, she went to her native countryside and abandoned the stage forever. Before doing so she sold the necklace.

A subsequent owner, the antiquary, Lihvitich, died suddenly at Monte Carlo, and the next to gain possession of the jewelry was a gambler at Monte Carlo, who lost all his money. The sale of the necklace saved him from beggary.

Finally, it fell into the hands of Mr. Andreef, a broker on the Bourse of St. Petersburg. He paid \$10,000 for it, and his wife was wearing it when, in a fit of anger, he killed her.

**The Villain!**

"Well, sir," said the great lawyer. The visitor spoke tremulously.

"I am a defaulter," he said, "and I want you to defend me."

The other shook him by the hand. "Certainly I will defend you, my friend," he murmured kindly. "And how many hundred thousand did you say?"

"Hundred thousand?" the client interrupted. "Oh, sir, don't think me worse than I am. It is only \$400 in all, and I expect to pay back every cent before I die."

"George," he said to the office boy, "show this dishonest rascal out."—Kansas City Journal.

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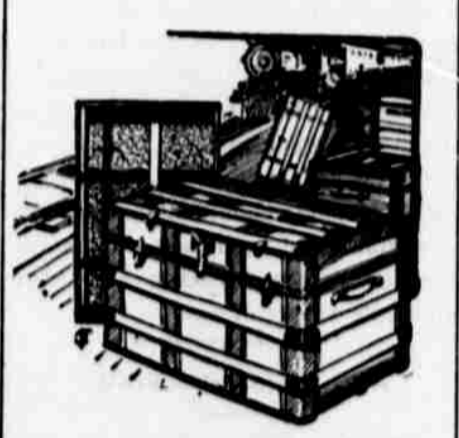
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