

after, he was being introduced, in due form to the Hon. Miss Ida Maxfield.

Poor Fred! It needed but a few minutes' conversation with the fascinating Ida to place him a helpless captive at her feet. The tones of her voice fell with such liquid melody on his ear—her witty and merry sallies flashed so brilliantly before him—while her face was lit up with smiles of such weird-like beauty, that when the drop scene at last fell on Anna and her happiness and it was time to go, he hailed it as a welcome relief; his joy was unbearable.

"Mr. Clayton," said Ida, as she seated herself in the carriage with her two friends had conducted her. "I shall be at home almost every evening when you and your friend feel disposed to honor me with a call."

Both the gentlemen bowed, and would be only happy to avail themselves of her obliging kindness; then turning on their heels, in another minute, arm in arm, they were wending their way up Broadway.

CHAPTER II.

Frederick Aylmer was in his dressing-room, and just about to apply one of Mechi's Patent to his belated chin, when the door of his chamber was suddenly thrown open, and to his infinite surprise, his friend, Edward Clayton stepped forward.

We say surprise, advisedly, for Aylmer had deemed Clayton a journeyer in the land of gold, he having left N. Y. for San Francisco a few days after the conversation took place which we have narrated in the preceding chapter, to investigate and manage a "case" that had been placed in the hands of the solicitor with whom he and his friend were articled. It was, therefore, with just cause that Aylmer exclaimed—

"By which of the telegraph lines did you come? or perchance you took the convenience of a return flash of lightning?"

"Neither. I came on the clipper Flying Fish to Panama, crossed the isthmus, and catching the mail steamer at Aspinwall, jumped aboard and arrived here about half an hour ago."

"But the case?"

"Settled. Our client died the day after I had sent the last dispatch, via steamer, to N. Y. This, of course, put a quiescence on all further proceedings, so having seen—but I can tell you this another time. How 'bout the heiress, is she wooed and won?"

"Yes," was Aylmer's quiet reply.

"Are you serious, Fred? No tricks upon travelers, you know?"

"It is true, upon my honor, Ned!"

"Then I congratulate you. But tell me the how, the when, and the where?"

"I scarcely have time," answered Aylmer, taking out his repeater and glancing at it. "However, I will do so to oblige you—only I will be as brief as possible. You left New York, you know, the second day after you had called on Miss Maxfield. Well, agreed upon, I called to acquaint her with your hasty departure, and apologise for your non-appearance to bid her good-bye. This visit led to another, and another, and another, and a fourth. At last, to come to the point at once, when I was not engaged at the office I was either chatting or promenading, or at the theatre with Miss Ida, and—"

"You told me all this in the last letter you sent me."

"So I did. Well, then it was about three weeks, I think, after I had sent you that letter, when one evening, during a confidential tete-a-tete with her, I managed, like Bob Acres, to screw my courage up to the sticking place, and, and—"

"And she blushed, and said yes, of course."

"No, but you shall hear. For several moments she held down her head, and appeared considerably confused; but at last, raising her face—and it was flushed, she said—"

"Mr. Aylmer, you have so completely taken me by surprise, and what you have just given utterance to is of such a grave nature that I really must beg of you to refrain from pressing me for an answer until to-morrow evening, when I shall not only be better able to give you a more definite and decisive answer, but also to pay so proper a regard for your own feelings as what I shall do for my own. I shall be at home from seven until ten."

"And you went?"

"Of course. When I entered I found three or four large trunks in the entrance, and one or two carpet bags also lying about—while the house itself looked as though it had completed all its arrangements in order to clear at the earliest notice. I entered the parlor, and had barely seated myself ere Ida came in. She was dressed in dark tight-fitting traveling dress; and you may believe, Ned, when I say that I never beheld such a superb looking creature in all my life as she appeared in that costume and at that moment."

I eagerly rose to greet her, and extended my hand. Without offering her own, however, she bowed stiffly, and begging me to be seated, she sat herself down, and thus began—

"Mr. Aylmer, I am now about to throw myself upon your generosity, and to beg your forgiveness for having, in a most gross and mean manner, imposed upon your credulity."

"I was thunder-struck at this beginning."

"You may well look surprised, sir," she continued, guessing my feelings from the expression of my features, "but you will be more so when I have related all. You have hitherto supposed me to be Miss Ida Maxfield, the daughter of a southern planter, and the possessor of immense wealth. In none of those instances, however, are your suppositions correct, Miss Maxfield being now, as for some months she has been, staying with a friend out west. I lived with her as a 'companion,' but having by a certain occurrence incurred her displeasure, was by her discharged, with the threat, too, that should I apply to her for a 'character,' to enable me to get another situation I should be refused."

I determined to be revenged. Well knowing that she was not known at all in N. Y., and that Mr. Clayton, senior, her sole surviving executor, was dead in June—

as I conceived the bold plan of passing myself off as her, being well aware that her name would command me plenty of funds. But this was not all the advantages I expected to reap from the assumption of her character. To ensure some wealthy suitor, and finally, a husband, was also an important item in my plans; and thus by a union with him, at once place myself above all dependence.

Nons but fortune-hunters, or brainless squires however, offered themselves, until at last I met you in company with your friend, at the opera. I will not conceal from the fact that at first I regarded you with no more affection than I had your predecessors; but afterwards, as the real nobleness of your nature unfolded itself unto me, and the pure, disinterested fervor of your affection became more palpably apparent, there was gradually aroused in my breast a feeling which had never known before—that of love. Yes, I loved you sincerely; devotedly, but the false position in which I stood in regard to you, harmonically closed my lips from ever revealing the fact unto you in words. How could I? Would you not have spurned me from you as a wretch unworthy the regard of an honorable man—a wretch only fit for the vilest of purposes? No! I could not do it, neither could I tear myself away from your sweet society. The dream was of two exquisite a nature to be thus rudely disappointed.

Last evening you brought matters to a climax by asking my hand in marriage; but base as I am and have been, I could not carry on the deception further. Come what might, I determined to leave the whole matter to you and then (as you will have noticed the preparations on coming in) leave the city. Mr. Aylmer, I have asked you, and again repeat it, will you, can you forgive me?"

"You know what I said at the opera, Ned, about my marrying Miss Maxfield?"

"I don't recollect."

"I said that if I married her, it would be for the excellencies of herself, not her dollars. This remark guided me in my conduct in the interview I am speaking of. Having paused for a minute or so—not from hesitation, but only to arrange my words and ideas into something like order, I said—"

"Ida—as I know you by no other name, I will still call you by that; Miss Maxfield I know not for her fortune I care not. You I do know, and love. The charms of your face and form first won my admiration; a further acquaintance with you, added to the feelings of esteem and friendship, and these combined have produced in my breast as profound a love for you as ever man felt for woman. I cannot offer you wealth it is true, but I can offer you a heart, which, in its wealth of love, will in every way make up the deficiency. Dearest Ida, my then, that you will be mine, and ere another sun bids the world good-night, you shall have become mine own, sweet, beloved bride."

"Well, Fred, of all the compliments—"

"Step a minute. When I had finished, as she did not answer, I took her hand and repeated the question. She raised her eyes to mine, and casting upon me a look which I shall never forget said—"

"And you do not despise me then, for having thus deceived you?"

"Ida, I love you."

"Then, dear Frederick, I am thine," and falling into my arms, she hid her face upon my breast.

"The next minute she again raised her head, and, while a smile of the most pleasing archness overspread her features, exclaimed:

"Mr. Aylmer, will you again have to pardon me for practicing on his credulity?"

"Who are you going to be now?" said I laughing.

"Mine own proper self, Ida Maxfield," she replied.

"And she was the real heiress, then, after all?" said Clayton.

"Yes, the little sly-boots had thought fit to test the truth of my attentions by this ruse. The result showed her I was no fortune-hunter."

"And when are you to be married?" asked Clayton.

"If you will march off home, direct your chin and upper lip of their luxuriant hirsute appendages, and cease your locomotives in proper garments you shall have the honor, sir, in less than two hours from the present time, as acting as my groomsmen."

Foreign War.

The Pacific brings advice that the British Ministry had proposed a new income tax, and the French Minister of Finance, a loan of 250,000,000 francs, to defray the expenses of the war. Admiral Corry's fleet was to sail in a day or two for the Baltic.

Prussia had not yet defined her position in regard to the Eastern question.

Russia had prohibited the export of wheat from all her ports. This had caused a much better feeling in the English breadstuffs markets, and prices were improving.

Advices by the Canada stage that 30,000 Russian troops were engaged in cutting a channel from Cronstadt to Swoborg. A portion of the Russian force had been withdrawn from the army manueuvring at Kalafat and had moved towards Orsova. It was reported that the first operation of the allied army would be to attack Crimea. A simultaneous land and sea attack would be made on Sebastopol. The Russians were fortifying the interior cities. The King of Prussia had written an autograph letter to Louis Napoleon declaring his intention to remain neutral during the coming struggle.

The Vienna correspondent of the London Chronicle telegraphs that in the new peace proposals made by the Czar, he offers to evacuate the Principality as soon as the preliminaries of peace are signed. It is said that the terms proposed are more favorable than those of the last overture, which were rejected.

The Africa reports that 3,000 British troops were expected to be sent to the Baltic for land service.

The greater part of the Russian fleet was lying at Sebastopol, and only a few cruisers were in the Black Sea. The allied fleets were mostly at Biscaya Bay.

The messenger bearing the ultimatum of France and England to the Emperor of Russia, left Vienna for St. Petersburg on the 7th inst.

The Africa's advice state that Prussia has refused positively to join the Western Powers against Russia. Austria, however, has expressed perfect willingness to do so.

The Emperor of Russia has sent a confidential mission to Louis Napoleon, the purport of which has not transpired.

The Russian and allied fleets were cruising, without making any important movement, in the Black Sea. The Russian fleet on the Baltic was cutting through the ice at the last advices.

It was reported in Paris that the Emperor of Russia had sent orders to the commander of the army on the Danube to cross the river with the army forthwith.

The Turks continue strengthening their position at Kalafat, although the intention on the part of the Russians to attack that post has evidently been suspended. The Russians are now threatening Galatz and Drablob.

The French Government advertises for 200 ships, to be used as transports in conveying troops and stores to the seat of war. The fleet for the Baltic was to sail on the 8th.

When the Africa sailed it was reported that the French Senate had unanimously voted in favor of the loan of 250,000,000 francs called for by Louis Napoleon toward defraying the expenses of the war.

There was no news from Ana or the fleet, and no fighting on the Danube, except by small parties.

Persia persists in her determination to maintain her neutrality.

It is reported that France and England will prevent any movement in Italy among the Liberals.

SPECTATOR.

C. L. Goodrich, Editor.

OREGON CITY, OREGON TERRITORY.

Friday Evening, May 19, 1854.

[Public meetings, of all kinds, wishing their proceedings published in this paper, must pass a resolution to that effect.]

Regular Whig Nominations IN CLACKAMAS COUNTY.

For Representatives:

DR. NELSON,
MAXWELL RAMSBY,
A. HOLBROOK.

For Sheriff:

JAMES O'NEILL.

For Co. Commissioners:

JNO. B. PRESTON,
CAPT. IRVING,
GEO. CORNELIUS.

For Auditor:

COL. W. L. WHITE.

For Treasurer:

ARCHIBALD MCKINLAY.

For Assessor:

WM. BARLOW.

For Prosecuting Atty:

J. N. BANKER.

For School Commissioner:

HUGH GORDON.

For Colonel:

J. E. HURFORD.

For Lieut. Colonel:

JAMES BARLOW.

For Major:

M. DAVENPORT.

Democratic Nominations.

Council J. K. Kelly of this city.

Assembly—Cartee & Guthrie of this city and Starkweather.

Sheriff—Wm. Holmes of this city.

School Supt.—Cartee of this city.

Treasurer—W. B. Campbell of this city.

Assessor—Stallard.

Auditor—F. S. Holland of this city.

Co. Com.—Foster, Brent, Quimby.

Lieut. Col.—Waterbury.

Major—Dr. Magers.

The U. S. MAIL arrived on Friday last, having been brought up by the favorite steamship Peytona.

Messrs. Wells, Fargo & Co., Adams & Co. and J. W. Sullivan have our thanks for a full and prompt supply of news, literary and political papers.

James O'Neill, Esq., of this city sent us Godey's, and Gleason's latest dates.

A horrible murder was committed on Friday evening last, by a Mrs. Lamb, out near Phillip Foster's. While her husband was sitting at the supper table, she took an axe, and deliberately walking up behind him, chopped his head open. A daughter was also implicated in the affair, and has been committed for trial, with her mother.

The body of Charles Knaut (lost by explosion of steamer Gazelle) was found on Sunday last, in the river, up near the Island mill.

Last evening, at 5 o'clock, the mercury stood at 85 deg. in the shade in this city. Very hot for this country.

Look out for the eclipse of the sun on Friday.

The ladies will pardon us, we hope, for infringing upon their "rights" this week, with the list of letters. They will readily perceive that it was unavoidable, in consequence of the large amount of original matter, which could not be crowded out. The story, "Catching an Heiress," is a good one and properly belongs in the ladies' column.

Election ballots printed on short notice, and forwarded by mail or otherwise to any part of the Territory, at one dollar per hundred.—Oregonian.

We publish the above advertisement free of charge, at the same time giving due notice that we will not print election tickets at any such rates! And if the "Oregonian" publisher intends to get the printing of the ballots for this county, or the upper country, by doing it for nothing, he will find himself much mistaken.

We notice that the Temperance convention met in this city, nominated two candidates for Representatives, appointed a committee for the ensuing year, and adjourned without doing any further business.

We suppose that every body of common sense, in this city, knows that single copies of our paper are worth twenty-five cents each; and when a legal gentleman (!) whose office is not three squares from ours, (not a subscriber, and who is a candidate for office in the legal capacities of his own profession, asks our editor for three or four copies, and then refuses to take them, (because they are so dear) pretending to be astonished at the price, we pronounce him at once as belonging to the non-comparative portion of our party! He will be elected worth it! Oh yes! And we will work nights and Sundays for him. ()

We like to oblige our friends by publishing their marriage notices, but we would most politely suggest the propriety of their getting them in previous to our having for gotten that we had engaged the same some weeks before, from the "Statesman."

Because we stated that we did not think it proper to make a party issue of the "State Government" question, regarding to the "Statesman" we do not oppose the scheme. Really! that's a new-fangled logic!

We requested, in a recent number of our paper, public meetings to say by their action whether or not they wished us to publish their proceedings. The Temperance Convention did not request us to publish their proceedings, but we've done it. Pardon us, gentlemen, for our impudence in so doing.

Clackamas County Whig Convention.

The Delegates to the Clackamas County Whig Convention, from the different precincts met on Saturday, 18th inst., when Hon. Jno. B. Preston was called to the Chair, and J. P. Brooks chosen Secretary.

On motion, Messrs. Ramsby, Bradbury, Dement, Morrison and Wm. Barlow, were selected a committee to nominate suitable candidates to be supported by the Whig of this county, in the ensuing June election, subject to the decision of this meeting.

The committee made their selections, and the name of each candidate was voted for separately, the following being chosen:

Representatives—Dr. Nelson—Ramsby and S. S. White. [Judge White declines, and A. Holbrook, Esq. has been nominated in his stead.—Ed. Spec.] For Sheriff—Jas. O'Neill. Co. Com's, Messrs. Preston, Irwin and Cornelius. Auditor—Col. W. L. White. Treasurer—A. McKinlay. Assessor—Wm. Barlow. Pros. Atty—J. N. Banker. School Com.—H. Gordon. Col. on—J. E. Hurford. Lieut. Col.—James Barlow. Major—Davenport.

The following persons were appointed as the Whig County Committee for the ensuing year—Wm. C. Dement, W. H. Vaughn, Wm. Bradbury, Jno. P. Brooks, and C. L. Goodrich.

Proceedings ordered published in the "Spectator."

On motion, meeting adjourned.

JNO. B. PRESTON, CH.

J. P. BROOKS, Sec'y.

For the Spectator.

Mr. Burton—I did not suppose, when I sent you the article signed "A Whig of '76," giving my reasons for voting for the convention, that I was committing an offence against the integrity of the Whig party that would—even in the estimation of the intolerant and unamiable editor of the "Oregonian"—be regarded as sufficient to justify the coarse and vulgar abuse found in that paper of the 13th inst.

It is not my purpose, in this communication, to defend myself against his ungenerous and unbecoming assault upon my standing as a Whig; for that has been already endorsed by the whigs of Yamhill county; and if he suggests that he can deter the whigs of the Territory from voting upon the question of a convention or an election, in accordance with the convictions of their own judgments, by his wholesale denunciations, he will, I think, find that he has entirely mistaken his character. I have quite as little confidence in his honesty and integrity of purpose, as the fact that he has assumed the control of the "Territory" as being any other man's care, but I am not disposed to believe that he will be so ungenerous as to publish this communication in any other paper.

Mr. Burton—Please give notice that W. L. M. FLOOCK is a candidate for the Council for this and Wasco counties, and will be supported by MASSY VOTERS.

May 12, 1854-1854-5.

The Sixth Anniversary of the Oregon Bible Society will be held at Albany (Tehama) on the first Wednesday in June next ensuing. Services to commence at 10 A. M. The Rev. Dr. Yantis and Rev. P. G. Buchanan are to deliver addresses on the occasion. All Friends of the Bible cause are invited to attend.

Wm. Roberts, Sec'y.

Notice.

All persons indebted to R. E. Random & Co., and please make immediate payment; otherwise, they will be put in a course of collection.

R. E. RANDOM,
Surviving partner of R. E. Random & Co.
N. B. The business will still be conducted by R. E. RANDOM.

Administrators' Notice.

NOTICE is hereby given that letters of Administration have been granted to the undersigned, by the Honorable Probate Court of Clackamas County, Oregon, on the estate of Cyrus Woodworth, late of said county, deceased, and all persons indebted to said estate are notified to make immediate payment, and all persons having claims against said estate are notified to present the same to the undersigned, within the above mentioned time, to be forever barred.

JOSEPH P. WOODCOCK, Adm'r.
Albany, May 15, 1854-1854.

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