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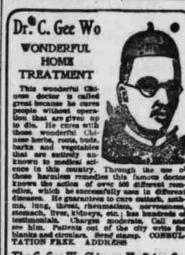
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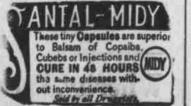
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THE SEVENTH MAN

By INA WRIGHT HANSON

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Sylvia and I, and sat down-she in the queen's chair and I on a small rock at her feet. The queen's chair, so named by Sylvia, is a great white rock naturally carved into a very fair resemblance of a throne. Sylvia, her head set proudly on her white, full neck, makes a fitting queen.

Sylvia's black fringed, purple eyes were quiet; her little mouth had sive curves; even her dimpled chin was not piquant as at some times nor defiant as at others. Sylvia is essen tially a creature of moods, and her old guardian would not have her otherwise. A man only yesterday was telling me the beatitudes of his wife

"She is always the same," he bab bled. "One always knows how he will find her. A woman like that is a treasure hard to get."

I thought of Sylvia and smiled. It's because I never know how I am to find her that she charms me. Sometimes she is a gay little butterfly, fitting from one flower of speech to another; sometimes she is grave as a nun. I have learned, though, not to believe too much in Sylvia when she is grave. Sometimes the wildest of crimson moods originates in a drab

"What do you see, Sylvin?" I asked looking up at the dreamy face.

"The Sacramento river, forty miles away," she answered. "It looks like white thread with a knot tied in it. suppose the knot is a steamboat."

"I suppose it is," I said absently. "Do you realise that there are only five days more."

"Only five days," she assented bringing her gaze back to me, I thought. But no! "Oh! The mansanita is in bloom.

Please bring me a piece." I obeyed as one barks to his queen but I remonstrated as one reproves a child.

"ISN'T THERE SOME OTHER WAY?"

pink blossom in her lap and added

"But money is very handy after all,

isn't it, guardie? Tell me about it

So, as one repeats a nursery rhyme

to the child who knows it, but who

delights in its recital, I told "it" again

"Your mother died at your birth,

your father a month later, leaving

you no relative in the world but me.

An eccentric old man adopted you be-

cause he had once loved your mother,

and he died when you were ten years

"And you were thirty-five," inter-

posed Sylvia.
"That doesn't come into the story,"

I frowned. "This man appointed me

your guardian and left a will by

which his fortune becomes yours if

you are married on the 15th day of

"My twentieth birthday," murmured

"If you are not married, the money

"To the dogs," laughed Sylvia. I smiled. "To found a hospital for

the cure and maintenance of infirm

canines, and there are only five more

"You left out something," she said,

taking up the flower again. "You

must approve the marriage, and you

"So distant that the relationship

wouldn't count if-I mean that even

this remote tie of blood makes me take

a great interest in your getting your

"I've had six offers." she said frank-

left Tom and George and Joe," she

counted on her slender fingers. "Tom

and George and Joe! I can't marry

Tom, guardie. He tells such unreason

able stories. Why, he told me last night

that out in Iowa or somewhere there

was a cyclone which blew straws from

a strawstack right through standing

"But George and Joe don't exagger

I grinned.

"and refused three. There's now

fortune. Haven't you chosen yet?"

are a very, very distant relative."

again."

to Sylvia.

March, 1904."

"It is a matter of half a million dolshe finished. lars, Sylvia." She sighed. "Money isn't every thing," she said tritely. She laid the

> emarked savagely. Sylvia laughed softly. "That's one thing I didn't mention

dearest." The last word was whispered, but I heard it.

wildered.

Sacramento river, forty miles away. "See, dear. The sun strikes the riv er and it looks like a band of gold. It looks like"-she hid her face on my stupid shoulder, and my arms closed around her-"It looks like a wedding Seventh and Astor Streets

General Grant's retentive memory was simply marvelous, more especially to those most closely associated with him from day to day. In the midst of absorbing thought and with apparently unobservant manner his quick ear and eye seemed to hear and notice everything, and two weeks or months later the slightest details had not escaped his attention or memory. This power was unmistakably demonstrated in game of whist with his guest, Major General Doyle of the British army, between Baltimore and Fortress Monroe. Two staff officers completed the players. With General Doyle at his right it was simply amazing to discover Grant's ability to discover strategic points. He never failed to remember every card that had fallen, whence it came and who was to deliver to him all remaining, which he scooped in as a matter of course, although he never seemed in the least absorbed in the game. He was indeed an enigmatic composition in this as well as in other respects.-National Magazine,

"Now, boys," said the teacher, "I of two dogs.

"George had a nice little dog that we as gentle as a lamb. He would sit by George's side quietly for an hour at a time. He would not bark at passersby nor at strange dogs and would never bite anybody or anything. Thom as' dog, on the contrary, was always fighting other dogs and would some times tear them cruelly. He would also fly at the hens and cats in the neighborhood and on several occasion has been known to seize a cow by the nostrils and throw her. He barked at all the strange men that came along and would bite them unless somebody interfered. Now, boys, which is the dog you would like to own, George's or

Instantly came the answer in one

"Yes; his resignation."-London Mil-

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Something tightened in my throat but I spoke calmly, very calmly. THE ORIGINAL JOHN A. MOLER "Of course your old guardian doesn't has opened one of the famous barwant to lose you, but he is anxious for ber colleges at 644 Clay st., San Franyou to get your fortune, and the time is very soon. cisco; special inducements this month positions granted; tuition earned

"Isn't there some other way? Don't awyers sometimes make loopholes or

came to call on Kate the other da

when I was there. She was busy with

her piece work that she delights in se

and was showing me a crang work

quilt that she had ready to put togeth-

er. George sat down on the floor and

laid the blocks as he thought they

ought to go. I don't want to marry

George. He would be showing me

how to make the quilts his mother

"Joe is truthful and manly," I said,

"Joe is a dear, but I am not good

"Nonsense! You're too good for any man on earth," I said sharply.

Sylvia smiled down upon me. When

Sylvia smiles with her purple eyes as

well as her red mouth it makes one

enough to be a minister's wife."

used to piece.

temples.

them, guardie?"

albeit grudgingly.

"They sometimes do," I answered. But they can't in this case. It's the dogs or a husband, Sylvia, in five more

Her eyes were looking forty miles away again, and my eyes were looking at Sylvia. The faintest line of color showed in her rounded cheek; it touched her dimpled chin and crept up to the bronze curl above her little WANTED - FURNISHED OR UNear. Sylvia turned to me with the shyest of lights in her pansy eyes.

There's another," she faltered. Ah! I heard a rustling under the family living near business district. manzanita hush. I went down and Address R. E. P., this office, threw a stone at it. When I went back I stood facing her.

"He is the seventh man. The ancients thought there was luck in the number seven, but you know the stipulation-I must approve.

"He is good, and he has honest hazel eyes," she began slowly, "and a splenstore. did chin. He isn't poor, but I'd rath er take manzanita blossoms from him, FOR RENT-A GOOD HOUSE, ON if he could give me nothing else, than to accept orchids from a prince. I account owner leaving city. Apply on should rather live in that little two premises of T. H. Bell. roomed house with him than with a king in his palace."

There was a rift in Sylvia's voice as

"But he has never asked me to mar ry him, and I guess he never will." "He must be a darned fool then!" I

He is. But if he doesn't ask me today I am going to ask him. Why shouldn't I? I wish, though, he would ask me. I should so much rather he would

"You can't mean me?" I croaked, be

For answer Sylvia left her throne and came down to me. She pointed the manzanita blossoms toward the

ring."

Grant's Marvelous Memory.

Unanimous.

need not tell you anything further of the duty of cultivating a kindly disposition, but I will tell you a little story

Thomas'?

eager shout, "Thomas'!"

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