

# Princess Curly Locks

**T**HE sun got up early that morning. It kissed the dewdrops from the grass and opened the eyes of the lazy buttercups. The birds sang their sweetest. The wind laughed and tossed the green branches of the great oak tree that grew so close to the palace wall against the little princess' windows.

Little Prince Curly Locks sat up in bed, shook the tangled curls from her eyes and remembered that today was her birthday. No wonder all nature was glad, for even the butterflies loved her. But, alas for the happy heart of the little maid, that day marked the beginning of her troubles.

Perhaps I would best tell the story to you as it was told to me by a great yellow butterfly who seemed to know of what he was talking:

"Many years ago in the midst of a great forest stood a grand old palace surrounded by gardens so beautiful that nothing before had ever been seen that could equal them. Here Princess Curly Locks, little Prince Darling and their papa and mamma lived.

"The princess could talk to the flowers in their own language. She understood the songs the wind sang her and the stories the birds told her of faroff lands where no winter ever came. But

drop told me all about it. When winter comes the poppies, like us, shut themselves up in their little seed houses. When the birds flew over the island on their way back from the south one of them picked up the queen poppy seed and, bringing it here, dropped it in this garden. When the poppy queen awoke from her winter nap and found herself in a strange country she was very angry. Although she is so fair, her heart is very wicked or she would never have stolen so sweet a child as the little prince.

"With throbbing heart Princess Curly Locks listened to this story. Oh, why had they not told her before? Softly she slipped into the palace, made ready for her journey, and next morning before the lazy sun was up she was plodding along through the forest with her face ever turned to the south. The little feet were soon very weary. The briars scratched her hands and tore her dress. When she became faint and hungry she plucked fruit from the wayside trees and drank cold water from a spring. Nightfall came, and she slept on a mossy bank, the stars keeping watch. When the day broke she hurried on again. Once stopping to drink from a little stream she spied a beautiful butterfly that had fallen into the water and was struggling for its life. It did not take long to rescue it,



THE BUTTERFLIES FORMED A BRIDGE.

best of all, she loved to dance with the butterflies in and out among the flowers.

"It was springtime now. The little princess remembered how only a few short weeks before she had watched the flocks of birds flying over the palace returning from their winter home. But one thing she did not see. It was a strange foreign seed that one of the birds dropped in passing. It had taken root, and now on her birthday morning a beautiful poppy opened its eyes to the sun. When the princess first saw it her eyes grew wide with surprise, for never before had she seen a poppy so large and fair. 'Oh, mamma,' she cried, 'it is a present from the fairy queen, and it is large enough to hold Prince Darling.'

"With a merry laugh her mamma caught up the little prince and seated him in the crimson flower. He looked like a little fairy as he sat there crowing and kicking with delight. But as they looked the petals of the poppy gently closed over the baby face, and little Prince Darling was a prisoner. In vain they tried to push back the velvet petals, for they had become as iron. They called to the prince, but no answer came back. All day they worked with hammer, ax and chisel. All day the poor mother lay in a deathlike swoon. But when the moon came up over the distant mountains and the stars came out one by one little Prince Darling was still a prisoner.

"The story spread abroad. Strong men came from faroff countries, for great amounts of gold had been offered by the frantic father, but no one could open the giant flower. At last they noticed that the flower was shrinking. Smaller and smaller it grew until at last it disappeared, and nothing was left but the green leaves of the plant.

"The summer passed by, the autumn came, and little Princess Curly Locks no longer danced with the butterflies amid the flowers. Instead she sat with dreamy eyes looking up in the blue sky, thinking, ever thinking, of her baby brother. One day as she sat under the shade of the trees she heard two daisies talking. Said one: 'The little prince is not dead. I know where to find him. I heard the story from a dewdrop.' 'Where is he?' said the other. 'Did you ever hear,' replied the first daisy as it nodded its head in the wind, 'of the wonderful poppy kingdom? Far away toward the south lies a beautiful enchanted lake, in the center of which is an island that is owned by the poppies and ruled over by the poppy queen.

"It was the poppy queen herself who stole the little prince. The dew-

and it flew off into the sunshine, happy and free again.

"Three days she traveled before she reached the enchanted lake, and then, although she could see the poppy island, there was no way of reaching it. The waters of the lake were very clear, and she could see far down in its depths boats, human skeletons and even animals that had been drawn down by the magic tide. She turned away in despair and saw coming toward her a cloud of butterflies. Nearer and nearer they came, the butterfly king in advance. The king alighted on a bush in front of her and said: 'Oh, Princess Curly Locks, I wish to repay you for saving me from a cruel death. We know for whom you seek and would aid you. I have come with my army to build you a bridge over the enchanted lake.' And then as she looked she saw her bright winged friends move forward, and soon a bridge of living butterflies spanned the lake.

"Over the bridge she lightly tripped, and as she reached the farther shore a toddling figure came toward her down the shining sand. With a cry of joy she caught the little prince in her arms, and with one backward glance to where great fields of poppies nodded in the breeze she sped back over the bridge to home and safety.

"Can you imagine the joy that reigned in that grim old palace when the little ones returned? Great feasts were given, large bonfires built, and through the country far and wide went ringing the glad tidings, 'Little Prince Darling is home again.'

"When the birds found how much sorrow had been caused by one of their number they punished the guilty one by shutting him up in a tree, and there he is to this day. For many years his cousin, the woodpecker, has sought to set him free; but, alas, he knows not the tree that is the poor bird's prison. So all day long he goes from tree to tree, pecking with his bill and calling, ever calling.

"If you would know when the prisoner is at last free watch the woodpecker, for when his pecking and his calling cease forever you may know that his mission has been fulfilled."—Boston Herald.

**A Funny Definition.**  
A little schoolgirl's definition of a railroad ticket is worth repeating. In a composition written in one of the Boston primary schools on "A Railway Journey" the little one says, among other things:

"You have to get a ticket, which is a piece of paper, and you give it to a man, who cuts a hole in it and lets you pass through."—Schoolmaster.

### The Skunk Cabbage.

A singular fact connected with the skunk cabbage is in regard to the odor from which it derives its specific name. It has been supposed that this odor is given to the flowers for the purpose of attracting carrion flies and thereby securing cross fertilization. The flowers are absolutely odorless, and the fetid character rises from the plant only when the flowers or leaves are broken or bruised.

### When Fifth Was Fashionable.

The rich in the middle ages concealed a want of cleanliness in their homes and persons under a profusion of costly scents, and to swarm with vermin was no disgrace.

### Chinese Newspapers.

Chinese newspapers, owing to the cheap quality of paper used and to the low price of labor, both literary and mechanical, are issued at an extremely small figure. The price of the ordinary Shanghai journal is 4 cash, or about one-fifth of a cent.

### Moon and Earth.

Volcanic outbursts and earthquakes occur most frequently when the moon is nearest the earth.

### A Zulu Custom.

Among the Zulus anything worn about the neck is sacred. No matter how precious it is, it is left untouched. The dead of battle may be stripped of every garment or ornament but that about the neck.

### Saved by Dynamite.

Sometimes a flaming city is saved by dynamite a space that the fire can't cross. Sometimes, a cough hangs on so long, you feel as if nothing but dynamite would cure it. Z. T. Gray, of Calhoun, Ga., writes: "My wife had a very aggravated cough, which kept her awake nights. Two physicians could not help her; so she took Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds, which eased her cough, gave her sleep and finally cured her." Strictly scientific cure for bronchitis and La Grippe, at Chas. Rogers' drug store, price 50c and \$1.00; guaranteed. Trial bottle free.

### The Sugar Beet.

Almost a hundred years of experiment and hard work were needed before the cultivation of the beet for sugar became profitable in Europe. No crop in the world requires more painstaking and scientific cultivation to make it a success, and none rebukes easy going methods more promptly.

### First Trade Journal.

The first known trade journal published in the world was a bookseller's monthly, which was called Mercurius Librarius, and which made its appearance in 1648.

### Cleared for Action.

When the body is cleared for action, by Dr. King's New Life Pills, you can tell it by the bloom of health on the cheeks; the brightness of the eye; the firmness of the flesh and muscles; the buoyancy of the mind. Try them. At Chas. Rogers' drug store, 25 cents.

### A Better Position.



Little Willie—My pa has a position in the Penny Savings bank for ten years. Little Maggie—Dar's not in. My pa is in de penny-tentary for life.

### A Creeping Death.

Blood poison creeps up towards the heart causing death. J. E. Stearns, Belle Plaine, Minn., writes that a friend, dreadfully injured his hand, friend dreadfully injured his hand, which swelled up like blood poisoning. Bucklen's Arnica Salve drew out the poison, healed the wound, and saved his life. Best in the world for burns and sores. 25c at Chas. Rogers' drug store.

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gives that refreshing touch to the weary and tired person. Settees, Roman Chairs, Hall-racks, etc., etc. Step in and examine the line. Did you buy that Chocolate set yet?

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Anyone Desiring a Situation can Insert an Advertisement in this Column of Three Lines Two Times Free of Charge.

### TO EXCHANGE.

WANTED TO EXCHANGE FOR ASTORIA or Seaside property fine Italian prune orchard of 10 acres situated in Clark county, Wash., 1100 bearing trees, paying good dividends; price \$3000; for further particulars inquire at Astorian office.

### EMPLOYMENT OFFICES.

MAX STRAEL & CO., EMPLOYMENT OFFICE, 535 Bond St. Phone Red 2301. All kinds of help furnished on short notice. Call or phone.

### FOUND.

FOUND—A GILLNET ABOUT 150 feet long in Tongue Point eddy on 16th; owner can have same by identifying property and paying charges. Call on Harold Aine, 1802 Harrison avenue, Astoria, Ore.

### HELP WANTED.

MEN WANTED AT FORT STEVENS to clear land; \$2 per day. Loren Seward, Ft. Stevens, Ore.

BOY WANTED TO WORK IN printing office. Apply at Astorian office.

WANTED—MEN AND WOMEN TO learn watchmaking, engraving, jeweler's work; only practical working school for jewelers; money made learning. Seattle Watchmaking & Engraving school, P. L. Bldg. Seattle.

WANTED—LADY OR GENTLEMAN of fair education to travel for a firm of \$250,000 capital; salary \$1,972 per year and expenses; paid weekly. Address, with stamp, J. A. Alexander, Astoria, Ore.

### HOUSES WANTED.

WANTED TO RENT—FURNISHED house for the summer, by one who will take good care of the property. Address manager Warren Packing Co., City.

FOR RENT—LARGE FRONT ROOM; fire and electric light; fine view in city. Address C. A., Astorian.

### ROOMS WANTED.

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WANTED—AT GASTON'S FEED stables, No. 165 14th St., Wool, mohair, hides and furs.

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FOR SALE—HIGH COUNTER, about 8 feet long. Apply at Astorian office.

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OLD PAPERS FOR SALE AT THIS Office; 25c per hundred.

### BIDS WANTED.

BIDS WILL BE RECEIVED FOR UP-per structure of the new St. Mary's hospital; plans and specifications can be seen at the office of the architect at St. Mary's hospital; all bids to be in on or before May 31; right is reserved to reject any or all bids.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS—Proposals will be received for a two-story frame store building until May 29 at 2 p. m., 1905, for J. N. Griffin. Information can be obtained at Griffin's book store, 502 Commercial St., Astoria, Ore. Right is reserved to reject any and all bids.

CALL FOR BIDS—U. S. ENGINEER Office, Portland, Ore., May 22, 1905—Sealed proposals will be received here for mattress, rock and pile work in connection with extension of Jetty at mouth of Coquille river, Ore., until 11 A. M., June 22, 1905, and then publicly opened. Information on application. W. C. Langfitt, Maj., Engrs.

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#### REAL ESTATE.

BERMOSA PARK LOTS, THE MOST exclusive property at Seaside, Ore. Facing the Pacific ocean in Oregon's prettiest summer resort, these lots are a good investment at \$150 to \$250 each. Inspection invited. A. Gilbert, Jr., Seaside, Ore.

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