### BEFORE THE GATE.

well."

sea maiden had wit enough to hold her

own against his attack. It made the con-

test rather more interesting. Had she

bent that dainty head of hers to his first

touch, he would have left her and gone

back to his old familiar haunts without

giving her another thought. But she

was a hardy little flower, and, seeing the

bravery of her bearing. he waited on

from day to day, from week to week.

The season in town was a dull one; he

had been a little bored before leaving.

But Arthur Heathcote failed to understand the gradual change in her and

wooed her still in his somewhat heavy

fashion. He took courage to remark to

Lady Katharine: "I declare I believe she

likes me best. Isn't she a bit shy with

Beauchamp? Just a little afraid of him,

Was she afraid of Sir Denis? Her

merry speech had a trick of dropping

into silence when his hand touched hers

ever so lightly. The sea murmured

strange things as they wandered together

fancy. my joy song in childhood, my

Only a something in the voice, the

look; only a bent head and lips which-

stay; they did not brush the fairy dust

from the pretty butterfly's wing. Not

"Happy Marina!" he said; "happy child! My sea sings a rougher song. It

"It loves me; is not that enough?"

am glad you do not love it more."

She laughed softly. "Quite enough, 1

"Who taught you to scorn the world?"

"Scorn it? 1 respect it as a mighty in-

stitution. Do I not listen with due rev-

erence to the world maxims and world

There was a faint inflection of sorrow

stories you and Lady Katharine repeat?"

in his tone as he replied: "Don't let her

sea sings you is a nobler one than ours."

"As God's world is nobler than man's."

She stole away very quietly on their

return, and left him alone with Lady

Katharine. They talked on indifferent

"You are pleased to be dull, Denis. Are you beginning to be bored?" "Bored? No."

At length he spoke. "I wonder, Kitty,

for one thing. Since my arrival you

have scarcely vouchsafed me a single

'You find Marina interesting?'

It was inscrutable.

me. Is not that sufficient?"

and this child was worth studying.

it strikes me.

in unfrequented ways.

her steps beside it.

dream song always"-

yet, not quite yet.

"And shall be now?"-

is the sea of the world."

the riotous thoughts.

subjects.

"Very."

face.

They gave the whole long day to idle laughter. To fitful song and jest. To moods of soberness as idle, after, And silences as idle, too, as the rest.

But when at last upon their way returning. Taciturn late and loath, Through the broad meadow in the sunset burn-

ing. They reached the gate, one fine spell hinde ed them both.

Her heart was troubled with a subtle anguish Such as but women know That wait, and lest love speak or speak not.

languish, And what they would, would rather they

would not an

Till he said-manlike nothing comprehending Of all the wondrous guile That women won win themselves with, and bending

Eyes of relentless asking on her the while-

"Ah, if beyond this gate the path united Our steps as far as death, And I might open it"- His voice, affrighted At its own daring, faitered under his breath

Then she-whom both his faith and fear en-

chanted Far beyond words to tell.

feeling ber woman's finest wit had wanted The art he had that knew to blunder so well-

Shyly drew near a little step, and mocking. "Shall we not be too late For tea?" she said. "I'm quite worn out with

walking: Yes, thanks, your arm. And will you-open

the gate?" -Wm. Dean Howells in New York Recorder

coursing across the sky, driven by the keen north wind which was whistling round the dwelling places of men, sweeping majestically over miles of grass land which stretched inland from the frowning cliffs, and sporting in reckless abandonment of pleasure with his old playmate the sea, lashing the brave white borses to a swifter gallop, urging on the waters till they leapt high upon the rocks and dashed in mad glee against

Noisy, blustering, rollicking north wind, in spite of all your rough ways, there was one who had come forth to meet your embrace, who loved you for your strength, for your grandeur. And the north wind met her, to kiss her laughing lips with the salt sea spray, strengthen her heart with her stirring song, touch the dark hair with his fingers, challenge the sparkling, smiling eyes, which resisted, outwitted, defied him, till he loved her in his own whole hearted fashion, and swept onward telling her name to sea and sky and shore-Marina, Child of the Ocean.

Sir Denis Beauchamp, making his way up the steep cliff, stood up for a moment gazing in silent wonder at the frail looking little figure, which not only withstood the tempestuous blast, but seemed actually to enjoy it. A smile parted his fine cut lips as he took in first the whole picture, and then the particular beauty of the sweet flowerlike face turned seaward

Suddenly Marina turned and saw the stranger. He immediately accosted her, and she noticed that his smile lit up a somewhat plain face.

"Lady Katharine has sent me to bring you home," he said. "Then you are Sir Denis. But how did you know me?"

'I fancied there could be but one young lady desirons of making friends with such a very rough customer as this north

hour of your undivided attention." "We are great friends. It is delightself. fal up here. Look at that tossing sea; isn't it beautiful!"

tion. Dismay overpowered her; she rewonted beauty. murmured. "All goes

fused to listen. "Not tonight, not tonight," she cried incoherently. She could At any rate, Marina thought all was not bring pain into this perfect hour. well. She asked no questions respecting She moved away slightly, with flushed him, and, indead, there was always a litface and tear dimmed eyes. Lady tle air of reticence about her which Sir Denis found delightful. Accustomed to Katharine saw the gesture, and, thinkthe ways of women, and smiled upon by ing her work was done, stepped forward almost every type of them, he was amused to find that this darkeyed little unnoticed.

"Marina, may I take you off for a few minutes? I want to introduce you to some people.

Marina gladly suffered herself to be led away. They met Sir Denis. "My dance?"

"No: Lady Katharine wants me." "The next, then?"

'Yes, the next."

A backward look and glad smile as they moved on into a small boudoir. Lady Katharine fastened the door. Then she drew the child to her.

"Marina, I want to speak to you quietly: You are very young, dear; your ignorance of the world's ways is pretty. You hardly seem to understand the rules of society.

Marina glanced up wonderingly.

"You have no mother, dear, and must not quarrel with me for giving a word of warning. Really, my child, I must ask you to be more careful, and not words failed her now and then; her dance quite so often with Sir Denis."

"Is that all?" laughed Marina softly; "I thought I must have done something very dreadful."

But she drew apart while speaking, and shivered slightly.

"You love it?" he said, as she staid "I have not been with him more than usual, have I?" "It is my world. I was born at sea.

"But this is so public: and, my dear, Its music was my slumbering song in inhe is a terrible flirt.'

"Yes."

Then Lady Katharine lost her temper. "Don't stand there so calmly and think you can carry on as you like, and make a fool of such a man as Arthur Heathcote with impunity. Bah! you little fool: you have been played with like a doll, as many another has been before you. Ask your gay lover when he last saw his wife. Badly as he treats her, she may claim a little respect, and it is "You love it?" she questioned demure-ly, echoing his phrase and beating back like this with him. I tell you he is a married man."

"I know it.'

Not a tremor, not a movement suggusted the agony of the child standing with head erect, facing her foe, and acting the lie so bravely that her listener was foiled. She had meant to crush this beautiful little being to the earth; glanced harmlessly aside.

ashamed-you, who pretend to be so innocent, so far above the vanities of life?"

have you not tried to instill into me some of the world's righteous doctrines? And is it not one of its first articles of belief that marriage opens the golden gate to flirtation? You yourself-would you be so very angry if some one were to flirt

"It is different altogether," cried Katharine wrathfully. "A married woman may do as she likes; but for a young girl to lead a man on so disgracefully is abominable!"

vou see. I can do as I like.'

#### Trying Days for the Fat Man. These are the days when the man who

tips the scales at 250 and wears the largest sized collar has a delightful time on the cars. He boards the train with a genial smile

-for all fat men are jolly and are born for the express purpose of laughing their way through this vale of tears.

In a few moments, however, he does not feel half so gay. He fans himself with his paper, but that only gives the perspiration a chance to assert itself in large globules and play tag down his neck and chase itself across his rubicand

. He must have the window up, so he makes a grab for the side spring and the lifter. But the window stavs right where it is. He is now hotter than ever.

He wades in muttered expletives. He anathematizes the railroad corporation. He turns nervously in his seat, but his

clothes stick to him like a porous plaster. He tries to make a dignified swoop for the ice water tank, but he bumps into seat after seat and is forced to make a dozen apologies, each serving to make him madder.

And thus he pursues his tortuous journey with wheezes of disgust, while he swelters and melts and continues to try to keep cool.-Albany Argus.

Large Herds of Wild Animals. Though wild game has been decimated

in number within the past few years by unscrupulous hunters, it is not all gone yet. Still it is even rare to see even an antelope close to the city, though now and then a small band of blacktail deer will come down from the hills to drink at the city springs, or a stray elk may be seen between here and Sheep mountain. On this account the sight witnessed by Charles Bock, who came in from North Park, was an exceedingly interesting

When just this side of Pinkhampton, near the Mountain Home ranch, about thirty-five miles from Laramie, he saw four bull elk, ten deer and a herd of antelope, so numerous that he could not count them, grazing altogether in a little park close by the roadside. He did not distarb them and they paid no attention to his presence, so he took a good look. It reminded him of a visit to the zoological gardens in some eastern city to see such a number and variety of animals congregated together in so small a space

### Rats in a Mulberry Tree.

Rats have taken possession of a large mulberry tree along Frankford creek. They eat the ripe, luscious berries and drive off all birds, but when disturbed by the approach of a human being they drop headlong from the branches of the tree to the ground and run off until the coast is clear for their return after more berries. Seven sleek rodents were seen to drop from the tree in succession yesterday.-Boston Record.



Impure or vitiated blood is nin times out of ten caused by some form of constipation or indiger -4tion that clogs up the system, when the blood naturally be-3 comes impregnated with the elfete matter. Theold Sarsaparillas attempt to reach this condition by attacking the blood with the

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The paper, both daily and weekly, will be independent in politics, and in its criticism of political matters, as in its handling of local affairs, it will be

### JUST, FAIR AND IMPARTIAL.

We will endeavor to give all the local news, and we ask that your criticism of our object and course, be formed from the contents of the paper, and not from rash assertions of outside parties.



and, behold! the blow seemed to have "You knew it? And are you not

spoil you, little one. The life song the "Pardon, Lady Katharine. How often

just a little with a married woman?"

The shot told, but Marina only noticed it with a sort of pity. She used her weapons of self defense with a heavy Then silence. Lady Katharine poked the fire to a blaze that she might see his heart; she longed for escape-for death; but her voice never faltered.

what induced you to ask me here just "Life in Thirltown was not amusing "Flatterer! I might believe you but

"We have only been amusing each other, Lady Katharine. There is no harm done," said Marina, with a little laugh. "Besides, I have only forestalled my privileges slightly. I shall very soon be married to Mr. Heathcote, and then,

### TRICKED.

Wild March weather; hurrying clouds the steady, rugged old cliffs.

"Beautiful!" he replied. But he was

not looking at the sea. Lady Katharine Dyson watched the pair approach as they came up from the

beach into her well kept grounds. "All goes well." she murmured smiled

Lady Katharine, desiring a companion for the winter at Thirltown, had remembered her cousin Eleanor's orphan child. and Marina, being only seventeen and alone in the world, had been very thankful to make her home with Lady Katharine. All had gone well till the return of the bachelor squire of Heathcote Hall, who some weeks later startled Lady Katharine by a sudden remark on Marina's beauty

Lady Katharine answered lightly: Don't loose your heart too quickly. She does not quite carry her character in her pretty face.

Was there a covert sting in the words? Heathcote put away the fancy as absurd.

"Too late with your advice, Lady Katharine. If I ever marry I shall marry that girl.

Perfectly unconscious was he of the effect of this speech upon his listener. sed himself of no more than a friendly regard for her, and being by nature somewhat unobservant, it had never dawned upon him that she could regard him as more than a friend. 1ndeed, it would have rather offended his unwordly and quixotic sense of honor had he known that a married woman, and she the wife of his old chum, George Dyson (who was then dispensing justice in Indian law courts), had conceived for him feelings nothing short of infatuation, all the fiercer for being kept so rigorously under restraint. So he spoke in all good faith, and Marina, standing afar in the sunlight, knew not that fate was weaving into her web of life the love of an honest man and the hate of a jealous

The long night hours brought no sleep to Katharine Dyson, but Marina found her next morning calm as ever, and, if anything, a shade kinder than usual: while all there was to show as the result of that night watching was a little note addressed to Sir Denis Beanchamp, which found him at his club, and brought a smile to his lips. The contents were brief: "Come down for a week or so Attractions-saving, of course, my so-ciety-best described by a round O, but for one thing, and that a fair thing As you love me, come, and I promise you shall not be bored."

Three days later he came, and Lady Katharine, watching him approach, the eyes bent upon the sweet face which the north wind had kissed into more than proposal ronsed her from her abstrac- me."-Harper's Bazar.

"Yes. You asked me to take her off your hands for a time, and have taken care to give me every opportunity. You have told her?"

"You have, nevertheless, amused your-

"I have not supposed it necessary." "It is necessary You will tell her tonight.

"And you?"

"It is not a subject I care to allude to. I shall be silent, provided you promise she shall know

"I will make my opportunity." The days passed, and every morning the dark eyes met the sun more gladly, and every night the red lips parted in more tender fashion on repeating his name

Lady Katharine watched her closely. "All goes well," she murmured still, and at last she made her opportunity.

Thirltown was en fete for Easter, and Lady Katharine Dyson gave a ball at the park. Marina's first ball; a new delight of the enchanted region into which she had entered that wild March morning.

"The incarnation of spring," said Heathcote, moved almost to poetic fancy by the sight of her radiant face.

"Perhaps. But spring is capricious, and chills with cutting breath when most we are rejoicing in her beauty," said Katharine hating the child yet more

"My little siren," whispered Denis as he and Marina glided past.

"To lure men to destruction? Say rather'

"I will say nothing beyond "this rich praise, that you alone are you.""

Poor little butterfly, basking in such sun rays of speech, believing the flowers would never fade or the magic light grow dim.

Heathcote, with blind pertinacity, refused to be discouraged. His chance was surely a good one; he would put it to the test at once. Katharine, divining his intention, felt that the hour of her trinmph drew near. "She will refuse him, and he will come to me then, and will learn to care more than ever he cared before. It is the way of men. I have tricked her into it: I have done well, and now"-

Marina danced on, innocent, beautiful, happy This hour of delight was the crown of her seventeen years, and life was very fair. Sir Denis scarcely left her side; he found her strangely interesting, more so than he cared to con-Was a child like this to snare him fess. into love's sweet folly? he asked himself. Bahl he would spend this evening, with her, and he would leave her forev er tomorrow-perhaps. Heathcote claimed her at last, but she hardly noticed his remarks, till his earnest declaration and

The elder woman caught her by the arm in a frenzy of rage. "It is false! You are lying to me. You have refused him?

"No. I have accepted him," smiled Marina. "And now I really must run away, for he and Sir Denis will be ex- its, for I could feel it was workpecting me and your guests will be looking for you."

She escaped, but her task was not quite over. A look and a very few words sealed her fate, and Heathcote could scarcely believe in his happiness.

Then, unable to bear more, she rushed blindly out into the night, down to the surging, sobbing sea, out to the cold, kind breath of heaven. There Denis found her, his little sea maiden, whom the north wind had kissed so long ago. To him she could not lie: to him the whole story was laid bare.

"Swear to me, Denis, as you love e-or, rather, as I thought you loved

"I do love you. You are the one pure love of my life." And he spoke the truth.

"Swear to me she shall never know. She tricked me so cruelly. Oh, Denis! do not let her triumph altogether!" "1 promise

Poor little butterfly, all the gold dust was brushed from its pretty wings, all the sunlight gone.

They looked over the waste of waters. "Slumber song, love song," she murmured-"and now the death song, too." Lady Katharine, as often as she meets society's favorite, Arthur Heathcote's beautiful young wife, feels a dumb rage and shame possess her, for she knows only too well which has triumphed .-London World.

#### Taking Down a Vain Young Man.

On one occasion, it is said, a vain and toppish young Scotch nobleman, in Lady Blessington's drawing room, was talking about his countrymen, when some one asked him why it was that all the Scotchmen abroad seemed to be intellectually superior men.

"It is iscause," said the young lord, we keep well qualified watchinen at all the roads leading out of Scotland, who suffer no man to go out of the country who is not thoroughly intelligent.'

"Then," said Lady Blessington, "I suppose your lordship was smuggled?" Youth's Companion.

The Way He Looked at It. 'Is love blind?"

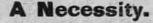
"I am afraid my love is. She says she can't see any advantage in marrying

the natural channels. Try it and note its delightful action. Chas. Lee, at Beamish's Third and Market Streets, S. F., writes: "I took it for vitiated blood and while on the first bottle became convinced of its merits, for I could feel it was workfied and braced me up generally.

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