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CHAPTER XIX.

Of that night's fatal work the country-side remains in complete ignorance. Of Mr. Dyrart's sudden death it hears...

CHAPTER XX. With the fatal will clasped in his hand, Dyrart goes straight to the small morning room, where he knows he will be sure to find Vera.

"Well, I guess I'll chance it," says Sedley after a long glance at the young man's pale, earnest face.

"I am glad you have come. I, too, was anxious to see you," says Vera, a touch of nervousness in her tone.

"Oh, no," drawing back with a haughty expression, says Sedley, "I have told you it is impossible. I shall certainly not stay here."

"You are quite right to fall into error," says Vera, grimly. "I have begged you already to try to grasp the situation. It is I, it appears, who am the hesitating, and after finding it impossible to speak of his father, goes on—'who have deprived you of your home?'"

"Where are you going? To sit alone? To brood over this? Oh, no, no, no. Why? going swiftly to him and standing before him with downcast lips and trembling fingers and quivering breath."

"My way is plain before me; it wants no discussion," says Dyrart, resolutely, refusing to look at her.

"You mean," tremulously, "that you will not stay? One while she is laughing at her father, closes upon a fold of her soft black gown and crushes it convulsively."

"There is nothing to forgive, save my presumption." He opens the door deliberately and closes it with a firm hand behind him.

CHAPTER XXI. Three months have come and gone. Great changes have these three months brought. They have unhoused Seaton Dyrart and given his inheritance into the hands of the most unwilling hands, of his cousin. Hands too small to wield so large a scepter.

"You'll surrender?" he says with a gasp. "And your father's memory? How will you like to hear him branded as a common swindler, whom death alone saved from the law's grip?"

day, when the sound of carriage wheels on the gravel outside the window, the echo of a resounding knock, startles her out of her contemplated repose.



FOR THE YOUNG FOLKS

When the Cap Fitted. Duke looked up from the bone he was gnawing and glared at his little mistress and her visitor.

"No, he won't if you don't touch his bone," Marian felt ashamed of her dog, and vainly tried to think of some excuse for his conduct.

"I'm glad you have come. I, too, was anxious to see you," says Vera, a touch of nervousness in her tone.

"Well," in exactly the same tone, with a little mockery thrown in, "that's the whole of it. He wants to get a last look at the old place before leaving it forever."

"What way?" asked Marian in astonishment; and Ruth thought of her own brother and felt very glad he was not as ill-tempered and unreasonable as his sister's question, but he went into the house, slamming the door very hard.

"How is this my daughter?" mamma began. "Paul tells me he is growing crosser and crosser all the time."

"Oh," said mamma, and then she, too, laughed. "Run back to your play, dear," she said, cheerily. "It was only a mistake, it seems."

"If your father had overheard that conversation," mamma continued, after waiting a moment for Paul to speak, "would he have thought the girls were talking about him?"

"Of course not," said Paul, indignantly. "But why not?" persisted mamma.

"Because he isn't over cross, and they couldn't have meant him," Paul spoke earnestly, though he could not help smiling as he met his mother's meaning look.

"Exactly," said mamma, nodding her head. "And it was easy for you to make the blunder, because you have been cross and ill-natured through almost all of Ruth's visit."

"A boy who tries his best to do right, doesn't need to worry over what people say about him. And that sort of boy will not be likely to think that all the unpleasant things he overhears are meant for him."

Two Little Optical Illusions. The accompanying figures show a complete little optical illusion. The top line of figure A seems longer than the top line of figure B, which seems longer than the top line of figure C.

Kept singing this song (And I heard every word): 'Oh, sweet are the berries, The red and the white, And sweet are the crumbers, And sweet to the squirts! Are nuts in the wood! But there's nothing so sweet As a child that is good!'"

"Oh, jam is much sweeter!" Said dear little Nell; And there's treacle and honey, And jelly as well. Here's a big piece of bread And some crumbs for your tea. Don't you think these are sweeter Than Maggie or me? But Robina made answer As loud as he could, 'There's nothing so sweet As a girl that is good!'"

Too Many Things to Do. "Now, dear," said a mother to her small 4-year-old daughter, "you have chattered long enough. Hold your tongue, close your eyes and go to sleep."

Wanted to See Some. Willie's father was cleaning fish for dinner when the little fellow asked: "Papa, have fish got any sense?"

Needn't Worry Her at All. Visitor (teasingly)—When are you going to get married, Elsie? Elsie (aged 5)—Oh, don't trouble yourself about it. You'll not get an invitation.

An Unappreciated Ceremony. Little Mabel had attended a church christening, and upon her return home her grandmother asked what they did.

LONG WATCH FOR A SON. Rev. William Miller's Door Left Unlocked for Twenty-eight Years. The death of the Rev. William Miller, of Clifford, ends a long and fruitless watch for a runaway boy.

Dehorning Cows and Calves. There has always been more or less argument over the question of dehorning, and while it may be admitted that the process is painful, and, in the case of an adult animal, causes a shock to the nervous system, it is not at all likely that the young calf suffers more than momentary pain, and the process certainly does not injure the animal in any way.

A Promising Plum. Many plum growers are disappointed that no varieties of hybrid plums are on the market this year that originated the grounds of Luther Burbank, of California, that prince of hybridizers.

Artificial Ice. Few people who are not in the business, and some who are, have but a faint idea of the great increase in the manufacture and sale of artificial ice in the decade from 1890 to 1900.

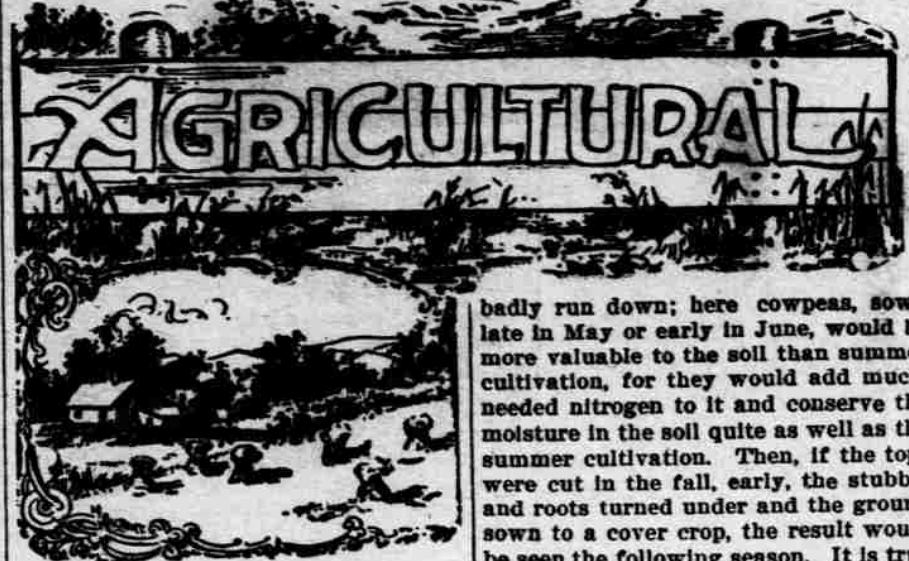
A Scarce Article. A Parisian restaurant-keeper who had the honor of entertaining a Russian grand duke felt that the opportunity was one not to be neglected.

Fishing for Pink Pearls. One of the most important industries of the Bahama Islands is the gathering of the pink pearls. It is the only place in the world where these pearls are found.

Cow Peas for the Orchard. While the usual plan of intelligent orchardists is the best under normal conditions—that of the shallow cultivation between the trees during the summer—there are times and certain conditions where the cowpeas would be of the greatest value.

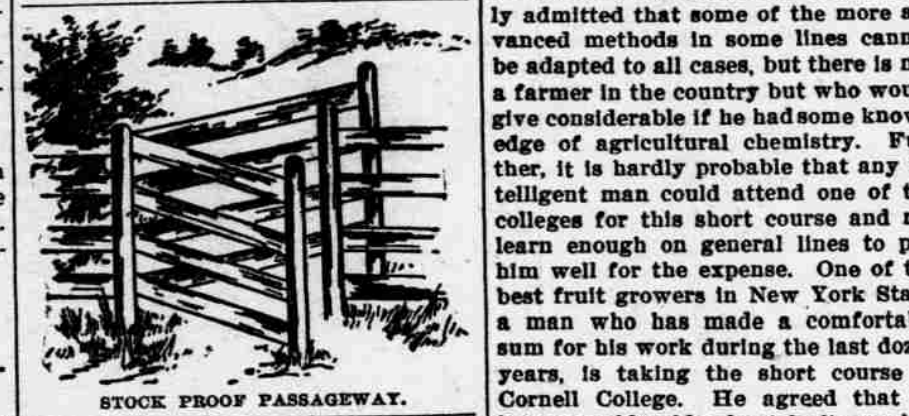
Sanitary Cow Stables. As soon as the stables are cleaned sprinkle a quart of dust behind each cow, then add the absorbent, and if the owner will prevent the wet places about the stable and attend to keeping the bedding dry there is no reason why the stable should not be so sanitary that the finest and best milk in the world can be made in it.

THEY DECEIVE THE EYE. The accompanying figures show a complete little optical illusion. The top line of figure A seems longer than the top line of figure B, which seems longer than the top line of figure C.



AGRICULTURAL

Gate for Pasture Fence. It is always desirable to have some sort of a gate in the pasture field fence, but it is not always easy to build one that is at once stock-proof and easy to operate when necessary.



STOCK PROOF PASSAGEWAY.

In the foreground so that when closed the post will come in snugly against the fence post, and be held in place by a wire loop dropped over both posts.

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Two Farm Conveniences. A handy way to carry swill is to take an old walking cultivator, take the beams off and fasten a couple of hooks to the rear end, and take a small barrel and bore a couple of holes in its rim in which to hook on the beams. Fasten the barrel, and one can either push or pull to where it is wanted.

Winter Butter Making. Cream for churning must at all times be kept above the freezing point or there is difficulty getting the butter. For small churnings, where the milk is kept in pans, the method of a New York State prize butter maker is a good one to follow.

Spreading Manure in Winter. The Agricultural Department reports that its experiments with fodder beets followed by wheat in plowing under manure as soon as spread, or spreading it over the surface of the ground and letting it lie two months during the winter, the former method proved a saver of plant food.

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