

Anyhow, talk of removing the motto from our coins didn't cause the late panic.

If we can be sure of one thing than another it is that the Ben Davis apple is not a peach.

With elderly people, having the grip seems no resemblance whatever to anything like a good joke.

While this is a big country, the anarchists should be given to understand that there is no elbow room here for them.

A California judge has just decided that a man doesn't have to get out of the way of an automobile, but the man knows better.

A British statesman says that the Balkan troubles menace the peace of Europe. Of course they do. That is their specialty.

The more the public reads about that young man Alfonso of Spain, the more convinced is it that he is too good a man for the job.

Some day we hope to see a Smith or a Johnson nominated for President, just to find out whether the family would vote for him solidly.

A young Brooklyn man committed suicide because he had stolen \$2.25. Possibly he had a horror of being called a piker by his acquaintances.

One of the finest things George Washington ever did was to give the ladies a chance once a year to dress in colonial style and dance the minuet.

A St. Louis pastor tells the girls of his flock that they must not let young men hold their hands. If some good men had their way it wouldn't be any fun to be young and foolish.

The man who slips a revolver into his pocket before he starts away from home in the morning should always take the precaution to kiss the children good-by as if he were doing it for the last time.

John F. Stevens, former chief engineer of the Panama canal, is so dependent on the future of the canal that he feels almost like returning the salary he received while there—but not quite.

A journalist who has been investigating the matter reports that almost any girl can quickly find a good husband down at Panama. It is to be hoped that he has not made this statement merely for the purpose of booming the business of some steamship company.

The London Chronicle reports a list of articles left on the hands of the London and Northwestern Railway Company by absent-minded passengers and forgetful consignees. On this list is one item which will wring the heart of the American newspaper man. It is six tons of wood pulp. But 3,800 cigars probably deserved their fate.

"Mostly of Chicago," is the way a man recently described his residence. His characterization seems reasonable. When he was six years old he cut off one of his toes with a scythe. When he was eight he shot off two joints of one of his fingers. He ran away from home when he was 14, and the frost of a winter night took off three more toes and the tip of his nose. At 25 he lost his entire right foot. A drunken half-breed bit off an ear in the Klondike, a Dakota corn-sheller took his left forearm, and since then he has lost three fingers, a joint from another finger and one eye.

Hundreds of young women are being trained all over the country for charity workers. Philanthropy is now recognized as a profession, for which one needs a special education as truly as for teaching. One of the first lessons a warm-hearted woman needs in dealing with poverty is to distinguish dirt from misery. To one accustomed to clean surroundings, the filth in which many poor people live seems intolerable. It would entail absolute wretchedness on the visitor. But, in point of fact, the families who live embedded in dirt usually do so because it does not offend them. The poor woman whose senses are tortured by bad odors and foul sights manages that her rooms shall be clean, no matter how bare they may be, or how empty her cupboard and coal bin. The friendly visitor who thinks that tidiness is a sure sign of comfort and dirty disorder an equally sure sign of extreme want will make serious mistakes in her dispensing of gifts. Said a poor woman to sympathetic and experienced visitor: "Thank you, miss, for praisin my clean room and givin me the coal order in the same breath. You aren't like most of the rich folks, who think if you're too dirty to touch with a ten-foot pole you must be poor, and there's no end to what they'll give you; but if you're clean and decent, no matter what it costs you—you're lucky people, who want nothing from nobody." Intelligent philanthropy looks below the surface, and discovers that real suffering may have a clean face and real comfort a dirty one. The helpful friend is sympathetic without being sentimental, and knows how to seek out the pain which hides itself, and how to ignore the plea of those who try to appear as dirty and miserable as possible.

Henry Farman, an English aeronaut, has lately won a prize of ten thousand dollars offered to the man who should first "fly" one kilometer, or thirty-two hundred and eighty feet, in a machine heavier than air. Farman's machine had to run three hundred feet on the ground before it rose, and then it sailed

# The Firm of Girdlestone

BY A. CONAN DOYLE

## CHAPTER XI.

This episode had occurred about a fortnight before Ezra returned from Africa, and was duly related to him by his father. "You need not be discouraged by that," he said. "I can always keep them apart, and if he is absent and you are present—especially as she has no idea of the cause of his absence—she will end by feeling slighted and preferring you."

"I cannot understand how you ever came to let the matter go so far," his son answered sullenly. "The girl belongs to us. She was given to you to look after, and a nice job you seem to have made of it."

"Never mind, my boy," replied the merchant. "I'll answer for keeping them apart if you will only push the matter as your own account."

"I've said that I would do so, and I will," Ezra returned, and events soon showed that he was as good as his word.

Before his African return, the relations between young Girdlestone and his father's ward had never been cordial. Kate's nature, however, was so sweet and forgiving that it was impossible for her to harbor any animosity, and she greeted Ezra kindly on his return from his travels.

"As the days went on, and no word or sign came from Tom, a great fear and perplexity arose within the girl's mind. She had heard nothing of the interview at Fenchurch street nor had she any clue at all which could explain the mystery."

"In the meantime Ezra gave fresh manifestations of the improvement which travel had wrought upon him. She had remarked one day that she was fond of moss roses. On coming down to breakfast next morning she found a beautiful moss rose upon her plate, and every morning afterwards a fresh flower appeared in the same place."

"On another occasion she had expressed a desire to read Thackeray's works, the books in the library being for the most part somewhat ancient. On entering her room that same evening she found, to her astonishment, a handsomely bound edition of the novels in question standing on the center of her table."

"Oh, indeed," said Kate, and turned with some commonplace remark to Mrs. Wilkinson. Her heart was sore nevertheless, and she derived little pleasure from the remainder of the performance.

"I will find out her name and all about her 'Capital Capital'!" cried John Girdlestone, and the two worthies departed to their rooms much pleased at this new card which chance had put into their hands.

During the weary weeks while Tom Dimdale, in accordance with his promise, folded Eccleston square and everything which could remind Kate of his existence, Ezra continued to leave no stone unturned in his endeavors to steal his way into her affections.

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through the intricate lanes which lead up from the water side to the outskirts of Stepany. It was quite dark by the time that they reached a long thoroughfare, lined by numerous shops, with great gas lamps outside them.

"That worthy was leaning back in a rocking chair with his feet perched upon the mantelpiece. Opposite him, in a similar chair, was no less an individual than our old acquaintance, Von Baumer."

"Come in, my hearties, come in!" he cried, huskily. "Take a seat, Mr. Dimdale. And you, Sandy, can't you bring yourself to your berth without being asked?"

"I suppose you'll have her thoroughly repaired now?" Tom remarked. Both the skipper and the mate laughed heartily at the observation.

"The dangers to human life from the bites and stings of poisonous reptiles found in the Southwest are very much overestimated. It is a belief among many people that the centipede, the tarantula, the Gila monster, the scorpion, and a score of other reptiles and insects of various long scientific names are sure death to those who encounter them."

"I believe so, my dear," her guardian answered. "It is commonly reported so. When a young lady and gentleman correspond it is usually a sign of something of the sort."

"Yes, they certainly correspond. Her letters are sent to him at the office. I don't know that I altogether like that arrangement. It looks as if he were deceiving his parents."

"Kate could not help smiling at this last remark, as she thought how very successfully the young man had concealed his taste during the years that she had known him."

"She was ready, however, at the appointed hour, and Mrs. Wilkinson, a prim old gentleman, who had chaperoned Kate on the rare occasions when she went out, having arrived, the three drove off together."

"The opera happened to be 'Faust,' and the magnificent scenery and dresses astonished Kate, who had hardly ever before been within the walls of a theater. She sat as if entranced, with a bright ring of color upon her cheeks, which, with her sparkling eyes, made her look surprisingly beautiful."



FARMERS' CORNER

Electric Farming. Although agricultural machinery originated in the United States and the American farmer used patent mowers, reapers and threshing machines long before their European contemporaries in the same field of labor had put aside scythe, rake and flail, the possibility of introducing electric power in farm work was first recognized in the Old World.

This has probably been due to the fact that the farmers of America, thrifty and far-seeing, recognizing the economy and reliability of the small oil engine, failed to perceive how any saving could be effected by generating electric current and distributing to its motors in outlying positions.

When, however, the mains from some large electric power company pass within reach of a farm or estate the conditions are much more favorable, and this state of things must already exist in a measure which will be largely extended in the future.

Sixteen fixed electric motors are installed for chaff and root cutting, oat crushing, pumping and for operating machinery used in the manufacture of potato spirit. In addition to this power equipment, six portable motors are provided, which may be used for driving pumps, circular saws, threshing machinery, and so forth, at any point where their services are required.

Comparative Food Values. An English journal, The Lancet, in discussing the comparative food value of roast beef and turkey, says that it may be said that, weight for weight, the flesh of the turkey is more nourishing than that of beef; but the latter is, generally speaking, cheaper than the former.

The Lancet believes that the most important difference from a dietetic point of view between beef and turkey is that, whereas beef contains a high percentage of extractive matters, turkey contains hardly any at all.

Learned by Hard Knocks. So long as the horse market is not fully supplied there is no gain in shipping away.

Better methods, better stock and better tools have doubled the production of more than one farm.

More hay and less grain makes the farm easier to handle and in the end gives it quite as much profit.

Ground chestnuts take the place of sour in some parts of France.

Quality of Grass Seed. The Maine law regulating the sale of agricultural seeds requires that grass seed shall be sold under a guarantee as to purity.

The purity of seeds varies greatly with their kind. It is possible to grow timothy seed so clean that it shall carry practically no foreign weed seeds. It is not as easy to grow any of the other grasses or clovers so clean.

The best red clover seed will frequently carry as much as 1 per cent of foreign matter, although these impurities are usually comparatively harmless.

Double-Edged Saw. To make one saw take the place of two, and at the same time preserve its durability, is the recent invention of an Indiana man.

Grass Better than Drugs. A famous veterinary surgeon declares that grass beats all drugs in creation as a cure for sick horses and mules.

News and Farm Notes. The profitable line of production is to maintain good health with early maturity.

A farmer near McEwan, Tenn., is displaying an ear of corn twelve inches long, weighing three pounds and containing 1,386 grains.

The United States produced 14,000,000 bushels of rice last year on a half million acres.

A Washington dispatch says a genius has invented a dope which when used as paint for farm machinery will prevent rust and decay.

Charles W. Trock of Ridgeway, Ohio, a 7-year-old lad, while wandering in the fields sat down on a little hummock which contained a bumblebee's nest.