

MOTHER SAYS "COME IN."

In memory still I plainly hear
My mother calling: "Willie, dear—
Come. Willie! Hurry in!"
I can see the door
I can see her there as she stood of yore,
And hear her say: "Come in!"
In every gladdest hour of play,
My joys were always sweet away,
For mother never forgot to say
"Oh, Willie! Now come in!"

O it was long ago that I
Obediently came in!
Of "Willie dear, come in!"
And oh, I would that I could be
A child again, back there, and she
Remained to call me in—
Ah, when my cares are put away,
When I am through with toil and play,
Shall I, up there, hear mother say,
In loving tones, "Come in!"
—Chicago Times-Herald.

An Interrupted Dream

JULIA PRIMM had finished teaching her first country school. The last day had come and gone, with the brightest pupils. The child would have lapsed several verses to the infinite delight of its parents and broken down in the same place where it had been prompted twenty times before. The fat girl with a penchant for the pathetic had wrung the eyes of her listeners with her most dolorous selection. The promising young man, a favorite of the teacher's, had rendered "Spartacus to the Gladiators" in such stentorian tones as to stampede some passing cattle.

The parents had departed astonished at the prodigious progress of every body, and the scholars one by one had good-bye and disappeared through the doorway.

The tall, smart-looking schoolma'am was writing home to the folks in the East. She was trying to put some of the ludicrous things that had happened into her letter and leave out the home-sickness. It was no easy matter. For six months she had thought of little else but the nice, bookish people in her dear college town in Massachusetts and contrasted them with the fat, freckled specimens about her. Julia Primm was well educated, having been reared in a family where a knowledge of English grammar was thought necessary to salvation.

She packed up a few of the letters from her mother to read during vacation and started for the door. A mo-



"WHAT, AARON, YOU HERE?"

ment's glance at the lengthening shadows told her she had lingered too long. It was a dark, lonely walk to her boarding house through the woods. Though not a timorous person, she might have given way to a shudder, when she noticed her largest pupil waiting at the door.

"What, Aaron, you here?"
"Yes, I got a sort of hankering after the old spot," said the student of the elements of English grammar, slipping his bundle of letters into his capacious pocket. "Fact is, you've done so much for me, I felt as if I wanted to say something the very worst way, if you don't mind."

"Well, what is it? There's no need to be backward," she said, suspecting nothing.

"I've felt as if I couldn't go home till I—"

Before the astounded teacher could gather strength enough for an emphatic "no" a kiss had descended upon her thin, precise lips.

"I didn't want to ruffle ye overmuch," said Aaron, soothingly, "but I reckoned you'd done so much for me and you knowed I thought a heap of you all along and couldn't help it."

She turned to leave abruptly without a word of rebuke, but the woods were too dark and threatening; plainly he had selected the best time for his overture.

"I thought you came to school for something else," was the meanest thing she could think of to say.

"Well, I've tried to get all I could out of school, and you can't blame me if I thought the schoolmarm was the best thing I could get."

"I don't think you can explain your conduct in that way," she said, but nevertheless he continued:

No one appreciated better than Miss Primm his struggle with the rule of three and the past participle. She had encouraged his efforts and told him to ask questions when in doubt. The little green arithmetic, which she had been her constant escort; it had never occurred to her that he had any other motive than a desire to learn. And now it appeared that her efforts had been largely in vain. Her own earnest pupil had turned out a lover, and she did not know what to do with him. Never having played the coquette, she was at a loss to know what answer to give to his proposal, but perhaps her silence was effective enough.

"Everybody knows I tried hard enough to fit myself, but I've allowed if I didn't marry an education some of the fine points might escape me. Of course I haven't given up tryin'—I got a heap mapped out for summer evenin's."

It was the teacher that answered: "Nothing short of Latin and Greek will do, I assure you, and then if you are of the same mind—"

"Oh, I never expect to change that," he said, with determination, and if she hadn't taken her letters very quietly

TEXAS GIRL'S ZIG-ZAG CAREER PUTS FICTION ON THE SHELF.

The dime novelist may now go out of business. Here are the facts: Elaine Sinclair, born in a log cabin, in Blanco County, Texas. Farm boys fought about her before she was 13. Trashy books gave her a longing for fine garments. She put on her brother's clothes, took a gun and waylaid the stage which had passed by her house every day since her birth. No suspicion as to Elaine.

Several months after she returned home, "dressed to kill." Her old mother said Elaine had been visiting her rich aunt, who died and left her money. Son of rich banker in the country—Shenandoah in New Orleans. Bride wanted to go abroad. Groom said no. Bride taken ill. Groom's father, rich old banker, comes on to see what's the matter. Few days later son sent home; old man lingers; hypnotized by his daughter-in-law. They elope to Europe. One day daughter-in-law disappears with young and handsome man.

Old man Slocum, nearly penniless, works his way home on tramp steamer. Amount alleged to have been spent by Slocum pere, \$40,000.

Six months later, Elaine returned to Blanco County, Texas, her old home, radiant in ribbons, dazzling with diamonds.

A few months later, in New Orleans again. Cage Horn, pilot of Creole, and also a high roller as a gambler, meets her. Hypnotized. They travel up and down the river.

One night she proposes a scheme to Cage Horn. Steal the boat and take it into other waters. She does it. Boat slips her cables and gets away. Reaches

and retreated to her boarding house, a similar outbreak to that which commenced their journey might have occurred.

When left alone in her room Julia gave herself up to reflection. Her carefully formed plans for the future were upset; her dearest anticipations were dashed; her dream had been succeeded by a reality which, something told her, was much the best thing. All during her school life she had been preparing for a career; there were many bright spots in it, but it was unmitigated with sentiment. She would go West and make a competence. This would take about five years, and it meant contact with a vastly different element from that of her own quiet college town—but she would persevere.

There were lots of poor boys who lacked mothers, there were sewing circles that needed encouragement, she might even indulge moderately in cats and parrots, and, best of all, she would found a missionary society to give light to certain portions of the globe that are said to be languishing in heathen darkness.

But all this was idle speculation now. She was called to another sphere. She must marry and settle down here in the wilderness, where there was sufficient heathen darkness at home. The classics would be more than useless, culture would be superfluous, hard work alone would tell. Her imagination faltered while she dropped a bundle of old letters and a mist came before her eyes.

Days after she pondered the same question. She had the letter already written to her people, telling of her altered intentions, but she hesitated to mail it. After all, Aaron was very young and impulsive. Did he know his own mind? Did he know her? Was it not her education he courted?

Vacation was rapidly passing. Julia still clung fondly to her former career. She was thinking constantly of Aaron, but she never saw him and seldom heard from him. People at her boarding house said he had changed; they also said she had changed. She longed to know something, but to ask would surely create gossip. About this time odd stories began to be current.

"What do you think?" said a neighbor. "Aaron Wood has chopped out a shanty big enough for a meeting house. He raised the logs himself during harvest. What do you suppose all the feller?"

"Dunno," said another. "I found him studyin' some nonsense he called Greek. I guess he's a trifle addled. I told him he'd better learn Choctaw—'twould be more use to him, and he could make more out of it. He allowed he'd make a heap out of Greek of things turned out right. I'll like to see him do it."

The country looked its best when Julia set out for school on the first day of the new term. The woods were quite green, but here and there were crimson splashes of autumn. The crops were in, cotton had been reaped, and a general air of content reigned, and in general a sense was felt for more refinement throughout the district.

But the spell of peacefulness and plenty did not suffice to quiet the troubled soul of Julia Primm. For the first time in life she was disposed to under-rate the classics. She could not endure the thought of Aaron's making himself ridiculous even in the search for knowledge, of being the sport of these poor wits. Julia's conscience was an easily disturbed thing. She felt that she had been doing him a great wrong. She did not want him to study himself to death, but there was only one way to prevent it.

When she reached the school Aaron was already in his seat. He was busy at work with more books than would go into his desk; strange books that had never entered that school before. She laid down her parasol and removed her veil. His face was very red and expectant. It was no longer the boy who came early and swept out the room—the bright, eager, questioning look had faded out of his countenance—he seemed almost middle-aged. In a moment all doubt of his affection vanished.

"You mustn't study any more for awhile," she said.

"Well, you know what I am studying for, don't you?"

"Yes; but you've studied enough for that already."

And that evening she mailed the letter to her people.—Waverly Magazine.

A scientist has discovered that house cleaning is caused by a microbe.



ELAINE SINCLAIR

the Rio Grande and is repainted and floated under the name of Elaine. For weeks and weeks the voyages were like that which Cleopatra is said to have made on the Nile when she wore the meshes about Anthony.

Weeks later, Alva Lugo, Mexican gambler, on board. Big game between him and Cage Horn. Latter loses. Finally puts up the boat and loses his craft. Horn shoots himself and dies in Elaine's lap.

Elaine in Guadalajara. Married to rich old Don. Lives in a palace. Still beautiful, still youthful, still a dream. Enter rich Don's son, hypnotized. Elaine elopes with him. Old Don in hot pursuit. Overtakes elopers as they are about to set sail for South America. Elaine defiant. In chains; then in jail. In Guadalajara. Son escapes. Here the facts run out.

SENATE'S LITTLE GIANT.

Spooner of Wisconsin Said to Be a Presidential Possibility.

The eyes of some of the political prophets at Washington are on Senator John C. Spooner, of Wisconsin. They think he is good presidential timber and has an excellent chance of being nominated in 1904. Spooner is an interesting figure. He is small of stature, quick and fiery in debate and one of the most independent men in the Senate, says a Washington writer. Nobody controls Spooner but himself. He has been the ablest and most eloquent defender of the present administration in the great crisis of the last few years and at the same time has shown the most independence. He threw down the gauntlet to Senator Hanna and refused to regard the ship subsidy bill as a party measure.

Spooner is called the little giant of debate in the Senate. He does not speak often. He is reserved for emergencies and when he speaks there is a full Senate to hear him. He has all the attributes of the orator, and coupled with these, all the methods of a great lawyer. These combined make him the most invulnerable debater in the Senate. He has the fire of Tillman and the culture of Lodge, the quiet wit of Mason and the profundity of Hoar; the eloquence of Depew or Foraker and the



JOHN C. SPOONER.

exactness of statement of Platt, of Connecticut, or Hale, of Maine. In debate he combines all the qualities of all the other famous men in the Senate and all these attributes he has more independence than most of them. The administration counsels with Spooner, but does not always win him to its measures. When there are differences of opinion, he holds to his own.

Spooner is an Indian by birth, but has been a resident of Wisconsin since 1859. He was educated there, enlisted in the Union army there, carried a musket in the ranks, and afterwards commanded a company in a Wisconsin regiment; was brevetted major at the close of service and became private and military secretary to Governor Fairchild. He began his law practice in the Wisconsin woods, at Hudson, was elected to the Legislature, and after that was known only as a promising lawyer until he was elected to the United States Senate in 1885. He attracted attention in the Senate as an orator in his eulogy in memory of the "Black Eagle" of Illinois, that Senator John A. Logan died. That eulogy stamped Spooner as one of the men of rare eloquence in the American Congress, and he has not disappointed his admirers since, whether he spoke from the heart deep sentiments or took up the grave and intricate discussion of constitutional rights or international law. He has neither the commanding presence nor the full volume of voice given to other men who measure words with him in debate, but his speech commands by reason of the great thoughts clothed in graceful language, the sound logic, and the knowledge of law at his command.

Up-to-date.

Chinese Minister the Star Attraction of Every Dinner He Has Attended.

"When His Excellency Wu Ting-fang, the Chinese Minister with whose name the word 'clever' is now invariably linked, made his first after-dinner speech in this country less than two years ago the American people claimed him as their own. His speech was so replete with humor, so filled with solid advice and so delicately critical of some of our national characteristics that he leaped into instant popularity. His subsequent after-dinner talks and he is not prodigal of them, though his mail is filled every day with requests to address various associations, have done more to make him the most popular Chinaman who has ever been in this country than even his more important services as a diplomat during the stressful period of the siege of the Peking legations. Not only is Minister Wu's use of English scholarly, but his wit is of



Up-to-date.

Poetries—I have here a companion poem to "The Man with the Hoe." Editor—What is it called? Poetries—"The Woman with the Axe." And I've dedicated it to Mrs. National—Chicago Chronicle.

DASH TO NORTH POLE.

EVELYN B. BALDWIN INTENDS TO FLOAT THERE.

Should the Goal of Explorative Effort Be Reached, the Stars and Stripes Will Be the First Flag to Float on the Spot.

The vessel chosen by Evelyn B. Baldwin for his proposed "dash to the north pole" has been named the America. The expedition will be distinctly American. If the dauntless captain, who has quietly and unostentatiously devoted many months to preliminary study and investigation before embarking upon what he feels will be the voyage of his life in more senses than one, reaches his goal at latitude 90 degrees north and stands on the spot beneath the north star, where "there is neither east nor west," it will be the Stars and Stripes which will there be first unfurled and frozen.

Mr. Baldwin's idea of polar exploration is diametrically opposed to that of Lieut. Peary, so far as the personnel of such a party is concerned. Peary has said the greater the party the greater the dangers of accident and necessarily of delay. "Two men, the right two men, can go north over the ice faster and farther than 2,000," he is said to have asserted. Baldwin thinks that polar exploration is like any exploration, and that in the union of a moderate number of strong, active, hardy men, there is greater strength. He admits, however, that like a war fleet, such a party is only so strong and so fast as its weakest and slowest member. There will be about thirty in the Baldwin-Ziegler expedition, but there will be none but the hardiest.

Mr. Baldwin has been very reticent in regard to his plans. After his return from a three months' visit in Europe "to gather information of all sorts," as he said when he started out, he would make no definite disclosures in regard to the plan which the expedition had adopted. It was only through the announcement of Captain Bernier, who has been chosen to lead a Canadian expedition, that he was considering an overland voyage by sledge from Franz Josef Land, that it became known that the Franz Josef Land route had been chosen by Mr. Baldwin. The English and Scotch newspapers, in commenting upon Bernier's change of plan, censured the Canadian captain most severely for what they termed an encroachment on the declared plans of the Baldwin-Ziegler expedition. Since this statement it has transpired that Mr. Baldwin, after a long and careful study of all the known charts of ocean currents, has decided to allow the America to be frozen into the drift ice somewhere in the neighborhood of Franz Josef Land. The explorer has a confidence which amounts almost to certainty in his mind that the ship will sooner or later be swept across the unknown seas within striking distance of the pole. Mr. Baldwin, having settled in his mind the question of reaching the pole, is now possessed by a fear that Lieut. Peary will get there before him.

The long list of efforts, with their recorded failures or only partial success, is sure to arouse doubts in the minds of even the most sanguine as to the ultimate success of the Baldwin-Ziegler expedition in reaching the long sought goal, but it is a striking commentary upon the character of Mr. Baldwin that those who know him most intimately and have discussed his plans with him and with greatest care place implicit faith in the expedition to do all that is possible to man.

FARMS CAN BE MADE TO PAY.

Life May Be Prolonged and Comfort Secured by Such Means.

A professor in Cornell University has been discussing in print the question whether a farm can be made to pay. He thinks it can, but with some mental reservations on the subject of what it means to have a farm "pay." He says of one of his early experiences with his farm:

"Half of country life is in the living. It is in the point of view. It is in the way in which we look at things. Thoreau rejoiced when he said: 'Because he knew that his beans were happy. One day my man was agitated because the woodchucks were eating the beans. He would go to town at once and buy a gun. I asked him how many beans the woodchucks would probably destroy. He thought from one-eighth to one-quarter of an acre. Now, one-quarter of an acre of field beans should bring me a net cash return of \$3 or \$4. I told him that he could not buy a gun for that money. If he had a gun he would waste more time than he could make up for. He said: 'One day my man was agitated because the woodchucks were eating the beans. He would go to town at once and buy a gun. I asked him how many beans the woodchucks would probably destroy. He thought from one-eighth to one-quarter of an acre. Now, one-quarter of an acre of field beans should bring me a net cash return of \$3 or \$4. 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