

"I'll Bet You a Year's Salary"



KITTY GRAY, an American newspaper reporter, finds and purchases half an old coin that she discovered in the window of an old curiosity shop. She is so impressed by the inscription which promises romance and adventure that she gives up her position on the newspaper in order to devote herself to solving the mystery. The decision of her editor moves her to bet him a year's salary that she can do it. She starts for the strange country and throughout the story she is shadowed by those who strive to thwart her at every turn.

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E. E. JOHNSON

The Beginning of a Love Story

By F. A. MITCHELL

Is that a white cloud far up against the blue sky? If so, what means that dotted line? The dots—indeed, the whole line—moves. It is ascending. No, it is not a cloud; it is the summit of a mountain. Those dots are climbers tied together by a rope. They seem near the top, but that is because they are so far from me. It will be several hours before they reach it.

I came to Chamonix to make the ascent of Mont Blanc. But yesterday I was slightly indisposed, and if I remember correctly, those in the house in which I am lodged sent for the doctor, who came and said I had a fever. My window looks out on the mountain, and I long to regain my strength that I may fulfill the purpose of my coming.

I am about to speak to her to ask what this all means when she fades away as figures disappear in moving pictures. Then persons move about me, each one doing something, but the whole to me is an endless confusion. But presently the snow under me ceases to be cold, and now there is a slight warmth in my back. The face of the girl again appears before me, like an enlarged face on a screen, shutting out all else. Something of its previous anxiety missing. Again it disappears, this time suddenly.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, has filed his final account in the matter of the administration of the estate of Sarah J. Ferry, deceased, and that the County Court has set the said 15th day of March, 1916, as the day and the County Court room in the County Court House at Coquille, Coos County, Oregon, as the place for hearing objections to said final account, and the settlement of said estate.

WILLIAM FLOYD, Executor of the last Will and Testament and of the estate of Sarah J. Ferry, Deceased.

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HE KNEW TOO MUCH

By DONALD CHAMBERLIN

Everybody knows that the besetting sin among officials in Russia is graft. From the highest to the lowest they expect the paim to be crossed before they will do their duty, and a favor costs a great deal more.

There was once a general in Russia who was intimately connected with the imperial family. His name was Alexander Rizenoff. He was a skillful commander, and to him Russia was indebted for its salvation in a certain war. During this time he was much troubled by the rascality of officials in the supply department. He could get neither food nor ammunition for his troops because those whose duty it was to provide and forward them were waiting for those who sold to pay their commission and those who forwarded to receive the same pecuniary attention.

General Rizenoff was a very energetic man, and after his victory determined to bring some of these officials to justice. He employed secret agents to trace the causes of the delays that had inconvenienced him, but when they made their report he found himself stopped from pursuing the matter further. His investigators had traced the graft to certain grand dukes who had been getting rich during the war, and he believed that if he brought the matter up officially he would probably be sent to Siberia on some trumped up charge.

The general was a very good man. Far from enjoying being feted, he preferred his rooms in the quarters assigned him as a commander. He was essentially a man's man and had very little to do with women.

One evening at a ball at the winter palace one of the grand dukes told the general there was a lady present who desired that he should be present at her Rizenoff demurred, but the would be introducer, who was an uncle to the czar, would not be refused, and he was altogether too powerful to offend. The general was led up to a Spanish lady, who looked up at him with a pair of Madonna-like eyes, which seemed to say, "I am the slave of the warrior who has led his troops to victory." Women had made open advances to him. They attacked him through his vanity and through his senses. They had all failed. There was something impressively timid in this girl's admiration, something that seemed to say: "I can never aspire to be noticed by you. I only wish to bask for a moment in the light of your glory."

Rizenoff was touched by this worship of a beautiful girl almost young enough to be his daughter. He returned it by asking her to dance. She looked up at him with a frightened glance, as much as to say: "This honor cannot be for such as I. I should not know how to behave in so exalted a position as that of your partner."

Nevertheless she danced with such grace that others ceased to dance to watch her. Every movement was perfect, yet it seemed natural, not cultivated perfection. When the dance was ended the general led his partner to one of the little nooks intended for tete-a-tetes and there spent the rest of the evening with her.

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Uncle Sam's Big Checks.

When the government pays a claim or debt it is done by a treasury warrant, signed by the secretary of the treasury. In May, 1904, the secretary signed a warrant for \$10,000,000, which was delivered to J. P. Morgan & Co. of New York as disbursing agents of this government on account of the Panama canal purchase. This was the largest sum previously covered by a single government warrant was for \$7,200,000, paid to Russia in 1808 on account of the Alaskan purchase. The next largest sum was \$5,500,000, paid in 1876 to the British government on account of the Halifax award under the treaty of Washington for infringement of fishing rights in Nova Scotian waters. In 1890 this government paid Spain, through the French ambassador, \$20,000,000 for the Philippine Islands, but this sum was represented by four warrants of \$5,000,000 each.—Philadelphia Press.

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It is said that a humming bird, when stripped of its feathers, is no larger than a bumblebee.

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