
Aunt Diana

The Sunshine

of the Family

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CHAPTER XIV. Missio's feelings were decidedly mixed when Roger related at the breakfast table the whole story of the previous night.

Alison was a little surprised by the attention she received. Her pale checks and heavy eyes secured a good deal of petting. Mr. Merle questioned her anxlously whether she had caught cold; Miss Leigh fairly overflowed with tender inquiries; Roger waited on her zealously, and Rudel sat staring at her, to the obvious neglect of his breakfast. Missie shrugged her shoulders a little over the whole affair. Alison had done very little after all, but they were all making such a fuss over it. She was doubly vexed when Miss Hardwick came in, full of enthusiasm for that dear, clever Alison. She had met Roger, and he had stopped and given her and Anna a full account. Missie had to listen to more eulogiums, though Alison modestly disclaimed all praise. Miss Hardwick quite frightened her when she assured her the whole thing would be soon all over the town.

"You will be a nine days' wonder, my she said, graciously. "People will stare at you when you walk through the streets. Fancy locking the wretch in ! It was quite horrible and romantic. I must run home and tell mamma and Anthony all about it."

All this was rather a trial to Alison Perhaps the greatest pleasure the day afforded was when Roger showed her a

letter he had written to Aunt Diana. "Ob, you foolish boy," she said, coloring with gratification as she read the glow ing sentences, written straight from Roger's warm heart. But the tears were very near the surface too. There was a little space left, and she wrote hurriedly across it, when Roger had left the room & moment: "Don't believe all Roger says, dear Aunt Di. 1 never felt more frightened in my life; heroines are not made of such cowardly stuff ; they do not act in a panic. They all make a great deal too much of it."

Alison would have been quite happy during the next few days except for the depressing effect of Missie's ill-humor. Missie was plainly suffering from a bad attack of jealousy. Missie sought consolution in Eva's flatteries. Her visits to Maplewood were now of daily occur-Alison once ventured to remon-Tence. strate.

"I do not think papa would be quite pleased, Mabel, if he knew you were so much in Captain Harper's company," she said, very gently,

"Captain Harper, indeed !" returned Missie, haughtily. "You need not trouble yourself, Alison. My visits are not to

"No, dear, of course not," replied Alison, in a plending tone. "But, all the same, you are going every day to Maplewood, and that throws you necessarily Into his company. Miss Hardwick can not well banksh her cousin from the room; and, Mabel, 1 do feel that it is not quite honorable to papa. He trusts us to carry out his expressed wishes, and in this you are setting them saide '

"I wish you would mind your own business. Alison," she said, angrily, "You have no right to lecture me because you are the eldest. Eva says I am quite justfin asserting myself. I hope I know my duty without your always pointing it out to me, and you may leave papa to We have always understood each other perfectly and there is never anything wrong between us unless you choose to go and tell tales."

"Mahel how can you be so disagree-able?" began Alison, hotly. But she

I would go to him at once. Mabel has no right to deceive him in this way, and I sheald certainly get him to put a stop to it at once, but now he will not be home until to-morrow."

"He may possibly come by an earlier train, he told me so as we walked to the station. It will depend on how long business will detain him. Of course we should tell him, Allie; the thing is beyond a joke. Fancy that fellow having the audacity to propose such a thing. I wish I knew what I could do about it, Allie. but father's absence obliges me to be in the office. I must be in the sard early, I shall not even be able to speak too. to Missie."

"I will tell her what you say, and then, of course, she will be obliged to give It up," returned Alison, not relishing her task at all, but counting, nevertheless, on an easy victory. Missie had put hersolf so completely in the wrong that no choice but submission was left to her. Roger, who knew Missie perfectly, was not so aanguine.

"Tell her that if she goes I shall certainly inform father, and then he will put a stop to her visits to Maplewood, and tell her, too, that I am perfectly disgusted at her conduct. I am afraid you must de it. Allie."

"Very well," she sighed. But she lay awake a long time revolving what words she would use.

Alison awoke with a strange oppres sion upon her-a sense of difficulty, that made the daylight seem less bright. She secame nervously conscious that she might What if her severity were of no fail. avail, and Missie should persist in going? She was a little later than usual in going down. Roger had already had his breakfast and had gone to the mill, and the meal was half over before she suggester that Poppie should knock at Mabel's door.

"Oh, I forgot," returned Poppie, in a stricken voice, laying down her slice of bread and jam; "Missle came into my room before I was dressed, and told me to tell you she would not want any breakfast-she was going to have it Maplewood. She looked so smart, Alison. in her new blue dress. It was rather funny of her to put it on for breakfast." "Miss Leigh, will you come into the school room a moment, if you have fin-ished?" said Allson, quietly ; but the governess noticed that she looked rather pale, and rose at once, but she was even more shocked than Alison when she heard the whole story.

"My dear, your papa will never forgive us if we do not prevent it," she said, very solemnly. "You none of you know how particular he is; and this will seem drendful to him. You must go to Maple wood yourself, Allson, and speak to Mrs Hardwick. She is the only one who can do anything. Anna can go in Mabel's but you must insist on bringing place, Mabel home, I will not answer for the consequences if this affair comes to your father's ears," continued the governess, moved to tears at this fresh instance of Missie's self-will.

Allson thought this such good advice that she put on her hat at once and walked over to Maplewood. It was not a pleasant errand, she felt, and she hardly knew what she would say to Mrs. Hardwick. She only knew she would refuse to return without Missie, even if she had to brave the obnoxious Captain Harper himself. But her face foll when she en tered the morning room and found Mrs Hardwick and Anna alone ; the other had just driven from the door. Seeing that her visit was useless Alison returned home. Roger met her at the gate with the news that Mr. Merle had returned.

"I have not seen him yet, Allie ; I have only just come across from the mill," continued. "Would you like me to tell hlm, dear, or do you think you can do it better?

"We will go together," returned Alison, uneasily, "I am so afraid that he will put himself out, and then you will know what to say," And Roger acquiesced.

They found Mr. Merle in his study. looking somewhat fagged and weary, but he held out his hand with a smile, as though he were pleased to see them after als brief absorb "Where is Pussie?" he asked : "she is generally the first to welcome me." And looked round as though he were disappointed.

CHAPTER XV.

Allson passed an anxious and solitary afternoon, and as she sat alone at her needle work she could not divest her mind of all sorts of gloomy anticipations. She know her father to be a man of strong pasalons; she dreaded the effects of his displeasure on Mabel. His severity would tempered with justice, but still the weight of his anger would be crushing. Alison's tender heart was full of compunction and pity for poor Missie.

Toward evening she seated herself under the lime trees within view of the Popple had come home from her with. walk, and was playing about the lawn. Now and then Poppie claimed her atten-tion. The time passed unheeded, and she woke up with a start to the conviction that it was nearly eight, and the early autumn twilight was creeping over garden

(Desper

So inte, and they had not arrived, and what could have become of Roger? She called to Popple hurriedly to run into the house, as it was bedtime and her supper was waiting in the school room and the little girl had hardly left her before the latch of the gate was raised, and in another moment Roger came rap idly toward her.

He looked heated, as though he had been walking fast, but it was a white heat, and it struck Alison suddenly that was ill, or that he had heard som thing

"Don't be frightened, Allie," he said. in a quick, nervous voice, that certainly did not reassure her, neither did the touch of his cold, damp hand. "I have come first to prepare you; he as brave as you can, for your help is wanted."

"Something dreadful has happened. Ob, Röger, he quick."

"I have no time to tell you much," h returned, still more hurriedly. "The mme back by train-oh, why did he not send me?-there was an accident. I was down at the station and saw them They are both hurt; at least, I am afraid Missie is, only she will not say so, but father is the worst."

"Ob. Roger !" and Alison's flaure sway. ed for a moment on his arm until he made her sit down, for the audden shock had turned her lips white. She could not say more at that moment.

"We do not know yet." he half whispered ; "there are two doctors with him, and they are bringing him home. He had a blow, and was insensible, but they can not tell yet; there is no wound. There, I hear them coming, Allie ; pull ourselves together ; we must not think of anything but nim."

"No, no," and she gave a quick gulp, and the color came back to her lips. The sparrows were twittering sleepily in the "And one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father." seemed to come into her mind, like the udden flash of a sunbeam out of a passing cloud. He was in the Divine hands: she must remember that. As Roger went lown to open the gates she compelled herself to return to the house.

"Sarah, there has been an accident, she heard herself say, only her voice did "Send Eliza not seem to belong to her. to the school room, to keep Miss Popple out of the way, and you and Nanny be in readiness, for what is wanted. Hot water-I suppose they will want that, and I don't know what besides." And here her voice suddenly failed, for wheels were evidently coming up the graveled sweep. The next few minutes were simply horrible to Alison. The two doctors and Roger, and some man from the rail- be exhausted by apparatus so atmple way, were all helping in removing her that any person can operate it. is a father's inanimate figure from the vehicle. Alison recognized the family practitioner, ist, Dr. Greenwood, but the other was a stranger. There was nothing to do; her

passed with a fleeting consciousness that her father's eyes were still closed, and that there was something terrible in the inert, heavy droop of the limbs. "Very gently," she heard Dr. Greenwood say.

YEAR OF 1909 RICH IN CENTENNIAL BIRTHDAYS

HE year 1900 is distinguished beyond any previous year within the memory of man for the number and importance of centranial anniversaries of the birthdays of famous persons, and also marks the tercentenary celebrations of some historic events. The year 1803 brought into the world a remarkable array of men whose achievements will be glorified as long as civiliza-

tion lasts. In that year Abraham Lincoln first saw the light of day in Hardin County, Kentucky, and on the same day, Feb. 12, though under a far different environment, Charles Darwin was bern at Shrewsbury England. Three days later, at Walnut Grove, Va., came into the world Cyrus Hall McCormick, who is described "ns having done more for the cause of agriculture than any other living man."

The field of literature and poetry was vastly enriched that same re markable year by the birth of Oliver Wendell Holmes, Edgar Allan Pos, Mcs. Elizabeth Barrett Browning and Alfred Tennyson. The year 1800 also give to the world of music one of its fluest exponents, Felix Mendelssohn. In 1800 Robert Fulton, whose efforts to establish steam navigation on the Hudson river had been fully demonstrated to be successful, took out his first patents. Two hundred years earlier Henry Hudson sailed up the same river in search of a passage to India, while Samuel de Champlain was exploring from the north and discovered the great lake which bears his name and which is intimately connected with the colonial and revolutionary wars. All of these historic birthdays and events will be magnificently celebrated during the country year of 1900.

Naturally the greatest and most far-reaching centennial celebration will that of the birthday of Abraham Lincoln. In every part of the United States, in England, France and other foreign lands, the birth of the great emanelpator will be observed.

Cyrus Hall McCormick died in Chicago in 1884. Mendelssohn's brilliant areer was cut short at the very zenith of his fame. He was born in Ham burg Feb. 5, 1809, and died Nov. 4, 1847. Darwin died in 1882, having devoted the fifty years of his life after graduation from Christ College, Cambridge, to the study of and research into the secrets of nature.

Oliver Wendell Holmes and Edgar Alian Poe were both born in Massachusetts, the latter in January and the former in August. In England Alfred Tennyson was born Aug. 6, and Elizabeth Barrett Browning March 6. The Hudson-Pulton memorial celebration will be held in New York next fall on a magnificent scale and will continue for a week. One of the features will be a pageant which, it is claimed, will eclipse anything of the kind in the world's history.

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quently vanadlum-steel is largely em

ployed for the manufacture of automo

WAS MR. WILLIAM GOAT

AMONG THOSE PRESENT

bile machinery.

40



One of the largest sawmills in the orid has been erected on the Island of Hawall by a company which has a onfract to furnish a million ties a year to an American railroad. A Belgian inventor has secured a

patent on a flying machine modelled on the insects of the locust species. With a 100-horsepower motor the machine weighs a triffe less than 870 pounds. By burning resinous nuterials to the

windward of their vineyards at night, the French wine growers produce dense clouds of smoke which protect their vines from frosts in spring and fall. Many old workings in the Pennsylvania anthracite field, abandoned years ago for lack of knowledge to work the deeper views, are being reopened and made productive by modern machinery. A vacuum cylinder, for the preservation of food, from which the air may recent invention of a German machin-

An alloy of nine parts of lead, two father's room was in readiness, and Roger of antimony and one of bismuth exwas there to show them the way. She punds in cooling, therefore makes a could only lean against the wall as they good combination for plugging holes in metal, as the plug fits tightly when cold.

A blg goat butted in on

THE PERUNA ALMANAC.

The druggists have already been supplied with the Peruna almanae for 1909. In addition to the regular astronomical matter usually furnished in almanacs, the articles on astrology are very attractive to most people. The mental characteristics of each sign are given with faithful accuracy A lint of lucky and unlucky days will be furnished to those who have our almanaes, free of charge, Address The Peruna Co., Columbus, O.

Morety an Accident

Hearing a noise in his benhouse at 3 a. m., Mr. Kajones hastily dressed himand went out to investigate.

He found a visitor there. "What are you doing here?" he de

"Wakin' de chickens, to give 'em breakfus'," auswered an apologetic voice. "I allus do it 'bout dis time, cub, But, gully, I done made a mistake an' got in mmebody clas's henhouse !"

Then the owner of the voice made a hasty exit through the hole in the roof, and all was still.- Chicago Tribune.

Ha Professed One Girl.

When J. M. Barrie, the author of "Peter Pan," addressed an andience of a thousand girls at Smith College during his first American visit of last year, a friend asked him how he had found the experience.

"Well," replied Mr. Barrie, "to tell you the truth. I'd much rather talk a thousand times to one girl than to talk one time to a thousand girls."

It Cares While You Walk,

Allen's Fred Ease is a certain cure for het, ewenting callus, and sweding, acting for, field by all Draggints. Price die, Dan't accept any allertitic Trial package Field. Address "Dan 8, Olmated, La Roy, N.Y.

Itta Provilege.

"Haven't you given yourself a little more space above the car than you are entitled to?" asked the visitor of the artist who had painted his own picture by the time-honored method of looking in the glass.

"Yes." he admitted, moodily, "but it seems to me you have a right to make the gases dissolved in the molten metal. yourself a high brow in your own ple-But they render another important ture, haven't you? If you don't, who service also by adding, by their pres-W1117**

No Use.

"Anything I can show you, sir?" "Yes: I want to get some kind of toy for my 3-year-old boy. Have you any-thing that's indestructible? Something he can't break the first time he plays adium the strength of the steel is with it?"

"I think so. We have some toy flat-Irons

"Have they got handles on 'em?" "Of course

"Well, they won't inst him five minutes. Show me something else."

Its Familiar Sound.

The Rev. Dr. Fourthly (at church soeini)-I can't recall your face. Miss Sprightly Young Woman-Hollings-

The Rev. Dr. Fourthly-Miss Hollingsworth, but your voice has a familiar sound.

Sprightly Young Woman-Well, that's tot so strange, doctor; I have been singing in your chelr for a year and a half.

Not by Any Means,

The little girl had a portfolia under her "Going to take your drawing issaon, are

you, Phyllis?" asked her matronly friend. "Yes, ma'am." "I suppose you are taking freehand

drawing ?" "No, indeed !" indignantly answered

the little girl. "I have to pay \$5 for twelve lessons."-Chicago Tribune.

Decanence.

"Is it true," inquired the traveler who was standing in front of the Art Institute. "that a confidence man once sold nze lions to a ger for \$75 or some such pitiful sum?" "Yep," said the policeman; "the con men in this town are losin' their grip. I can remember when they wouldn't sell nothin' smaller than the Masonic Temple to a vahoo."-Chicago Tribune.

cooled down on remembering Aunt Diana's advice-"Never get warm over an argument, Allie, When you begin to feel angry time to hold your tongue." And Ali son held here

She would have been a little comforted If she had known how ill at ease Missie really was. Her high complexion and cross speech only proved that the arrow had gone home. She knew in her secreet heart that she was behaving disbonor Her father trusted her, and she ably. was betraying his trust. The very next day she had planned to join Eva and her cousin in a pleasure excursion, though she knew it was an act of tacit disobedience, but self-will only gains strength by Indulgence.

Alison's vague uneasiness that led to er speaking was changed into positive alarm when Roger came into her roon that night. He was in evening dress, having just returned from an early par-Alison was waiting up for him. had put off her dress, changing it for a dainty plnk dressing gown. She looked up brightly at him as he entered, "Alife," he said, sitting down by her,

"I am so bothered about something I heard to-night. Did you know that Mabel was going down to Durbans with Miss Hardwick and Captain Harper tomorrow

"Why, no !" she said, starting a little, "What place did you say, dear?"

It is about twenty mile 'Durbans. from here. There are woods there where people go for picnics. I meant to have taken you and Mabel one day, only we should have gone by train. Miss Anna was at the Merediths', and she told me all about it quite innocently. It seems that Captain Harper has sent for his dos cart and he means to drive them over. They are to have dinner and tes at the Castle Inn ; so they mean to be away the

"Oh, Roger! what shall we do?" ex-

"Dear paps," returned Alison, bravely, "I am afraid you will be vexed about something. We have none of us seen Mahel this morning: she breakfasted at Maplewood. Roger met Anna at the Meredith's last night, and she fold him that Mabel had promised to join Eva and her cousin in an excursion to Durbans. I went over to speak to Mrs. Hardwick and bring Mabel back, but they had already started."

"What !" thundered Mr. Merle, and the blackness of his brow was dreadful to Alison, "do you dare to tell me that Mabel has gone over to Durbans in that man's company, when I fortade any intercourse with him?

"Captain Harper is driving them in his dog-cart," rejolned Roger, coming to his

sister's relief. "It seems a very silly affair, and I begged her to stop it; it is no fault of hers or of mine, father, Missle slipped out of the house while they were at breakfast, and though Alison started off to Maplewood as soon as she could

she was just too late."

"No, it is not your fault," returned Mr. Merle, gloomily. "Mabel must bear the brunt of her own disobedience. Miss Hardwick shall never enter this house again

"Would you like me to take an early afternoon train to Durbans?" interrupt ed Roger, who had already conceived this plan, "and when I could join them; there is a vacant seat in the dog cart."

'Look out a train in the time table,' he said, suddenly; "I will go myself, Roger. Mabel shall not return in the dog cart; I shall bring her back by train."

Yes, I know the room; that is the door, ashore and wrecked it was the sworn California, the other night and for the "Yes, I know the room I that is the them, atatement of the captain of the British time being held the fort successfully. and she felt some one grip her arm. "Help me upstairs, Alison," said Mis-

sle, hoarsely. She had crept out of the fly unaided, and now stood by Alison's side in the dark hall. Alison had almost to her sister with a white, stony face,

"Lean on me, dear !" exclaimed Allson, passing her arm tenderly round her; but to her alarm Missie uttered a sharp cry of pain.

"No. don't touch me, not that side ; I will hold your arm. I want to be in my own room if I can only get there." And oning heavily on Alison's shoulder, she toiled slowly up the staircase, her faint ness and difficulty evidently increasing at

every step, but her strong will supporting her until they reached the threshold, and then she suddenly tottered, and if Alison had not caught her in her arms,

she would have fallen. Allson dared not call loudly for assistance, for they were close to her father's room; but she was young and strong, and she just managed to drag Missie to a chair and summon one of the frightened servants, when Missis revived.

"I am so bruised all over." she said, with a sort of sob. "I did not want them to know; they had to look after papa;

but I am afraid my arm is broken." (To be continued.)

Had It Reasoned Out. "You said you thought there was no malaria around here," said the indig- 12,000 of them. nant stranger.

"I did think so," answered Farmer Corptossel. "After all the summer boarders took away I didn't see how there could be any left."-Washington Star.

steamer Sandal to the British board of trade.

of 19041

By the invention of muchines to more civilized lands.

Strangers are sometimes surprised by the fear of vipers which exists in some parts of France. These little venomous snukes are dangerous both to man and benst. Recently a movement has been made to protect the vipers, on the ground that they render valuable services in destroying rodents, moliusks, and other small noxious animals, but a writer in the Journal of Practical Agriculture strenuously opposes this, declaring that the services performed by the vipers are of small account in comparison with the accidents, fre quently mortal, which they cause. He instances a little neighborhood in the Department of Meurthe-et-Moselle, where the vipers became a veritable plague, and where, inspired by the offer

given in the school house at Annapolis." The dancers scattered when Billy dashed in through the open door. The

The increased demand for tungsten goat cut a wide swath. The musicians ores and products in the United States forgot themselves and the music forgotten her in that moment's agony ; in 1907 led to the production of 1640 censed very suddenly. Then it was a but when Roger had said surely she was short tons of concentrates, valued at case of grab without a waltz. The not much hurt, yet there she was elinging \$850,048, nearly three times the output ladies and children took refuge on the benches and tables, spread for the re-

freshments, Even men's courage bleach and spin it, the wild slik of qualled before the intrusion of the but-Manchuria, great quantities of which ter. The goat seemed to pay particular are exported each year, threatens to attention to the leader of the orchestra. seriously compete with that grown in The animal charged, horns down, at him. The music stand vanished; so did the musicians. And the butting the

ally the goat was ejected and the dance. To wait and get no pay, I find, resumed.

A Man's Tact.

Nobody but Mr. Henley would have asked such a question, in the first place, "Mins Fairley," he suid, "If you ould make yourself over, what kind of hair and eyes would you have?" "It I could make myself over," said "are an old time baseball catcher.

Miss Fairley. "I would look just exnetly as I do now."

"You would?" exclaimed Henley, in honest surprise, and to this day he can't understand why Miss Fairley thinks him a man of little taste and less tact.

Still Safe.

Hicks-You were dreadfully indiscreet to mention that important deal of

Wicks-Oh, it's all right. I didn't tell her it was a secret .-- Boston Tran-

No Argument There.

"Haven't you may regular occupation ?" "Yes, ma'am, my reg'ler trade la aweepin' the leaves off'n the roofs of people's

"I can't see how you can make a living at that.

"I don't, wa'am. Have ys got any cold vittles ?"-Chicago Tribune.

Hope Defered.

When first 1 sought the writers' ranks My verse was taken in with thanks. Tis years since that initial splashplane got put it all out of tune. Fin- They've never seut the promised cash.

is worse than having things declined. -Cleveland Plein Dealer.

Stumped.

Elderly Customer-Can you tell my fortune, madam?

Fortune Teller (looking at his hand)-Gracious heaven, no! Nobody could it. But I can tell your past, sir. You

Fine Fruit.

Biggs-I overheard Graftleigh bonsting of his family tree the other day. Diggs-Huh! It must be a plum tree.

There are more able-bodied men to the total population in the Western States of the United States and Canada than anywhere else in the world.



of a reward, two hunters destroyed

The increasing employment of reducing agents of many kinds in the ours to your wife.

manufacture of steel is primarily due to the necessity of getting rid of blowholes and gas bubbles. The reductors script.