

FRANK RAYMOND'S FAITH.

From Peterson's Magazine. "Miss Ethel is with her, I suppose?" asked the young man, as he followed his father up the broad stairs.

The solemn servant only shook his head, and with a strange premonition of evil, Frank passed into his mother's room. She was sitting there alone, but she rose on her husband's entrance, and bursting into tears, threw herself into his open arms.

"Ethel is gone," she gasped, as soon as her sobs would allow her to speak.

"Gone? Ethel gone?" Both men spoke at once.

For answer, Mrs. Raymond held out a note in the well-known handwriting.

"My dear ones," it began, "can you ever forgive me for what I am about to do? I am going to leave you—you, who are the dearest to me on earth—after all your kindness. But what else can I do? My father is not dead; he has come back to claim me. He is not—no, I will not say it—but there is nothing else to do but leave you. He has proved beyond a doubt that he is my father. Alas! I am very unhappy. I dare not trust myself to bid you all goodbye, for fear you might urge me to remain. Farewell. Yours forever, ETHEL."

A silence fell on them as they finished this strange epistle, and they looked from one to the other in bewilderment.

"Does she mean that she has left us, to go with him?" asked Mrs. Raymond wearily.

"What else can she mean?" answered her husband, sadly.

When she was able to explain things, Mrs. Raymond told her bewildered listeners how this disappearance had occurred. Immediately after dinner, which they took about half past five, Ethel had, as usual, repaired to the grounds with a book, while the elder lady had retired to her room. On going downstairs when it grew dark, she had seen nothing of her daughter, at which she wondered a little, though she did not become uneasy until later, when she sent a servant to hunt her. Not finding her at once, she of course became much alarmed and instituted a thorough search. The note was found, and, as soon as possible, she had telegraphed to the absentees.

It was then, on witnessing their son's grief, that the parents understood for the first time his feelings toward their adopted daughter. They looked at each other in silent bewilderment which added to their sorrow.

"We must set out at once to find her," cried Frank, in an impetuosity of haste, anxious to give some vent to his wretchedness in action, and he went immediately to make inquiries at the station. No one had left there yesterday, he was informed by the man in charge, who of course knew him, except several persons well known in the neighborhood. Then Frank rode over to the next stopping-place.

Here he was informed that a man and woman, the latter closely veiled, had left there for Philadelphia, the preceding evening. Frank at once sent word to his mother, and took the next train. In three-quarters of an hour, he reached the city; but, once arrived, he scarcely knew what to do. It seemed almost a hopeless undertaking; and, besides, they had nearly twenty-four hours' start of him.

The following day was spent in a search which resulted in nothing. Returning home by the evening train he found his mother very ill, and for weeks father and son watched by her side.

For two years, after his mother's recovery, Frank traveled everywhere, but no trace of Ethel could he ever discover.

Wearied and discouraged, he sat in his room at a large hotel, one day, when a servant brought him a telegram from his father. It ran thus:

"Come at once. Nothing is wrong, but I must see you."

II

A quiet old-fashioned garden in the suburbs of one of our big Western cities, a few stone steps from the main street, attracted the curious gaze. Within its pleasant

privacy, a young lady of twentyone or twentytwo, in a simple morning-dress and modest hat, is sitting with two children. Removing her hat, she enters into a romp with the youngsters, feeling secure from intrusion.

Suddenly there is a step on gravel—someone enters from the front garden; and, turning round, Ethel sees once more her adopted brother, and, forgetting for a moment everything, allows him to clasp her to his heart in a long close embrace.

"Found at last!" he exclaims, in deep thankfulness. Then, suddenly remembering, she hastily withdraws herself from his arms, and, pale and trembling, whispers to the astonished children: "It is my brother, dears; go into the house and play until mamma returns," and, with the habit of ready obedience, they departed.

"Oh, why have you come, Frank? How did you find me?" asked Ethel, in a despairing tone.

But Frank's voice is full of joy as he answers only by saying: "Are we alone, dearest? I have so much to say to you."

Ethel points toward the little walk by the wall, where no one can see them. Mechanically she puts on her hat and accepts the support of Frank's arm, feeling hardly able to do without it. With one hand, she hastily pushes the loose waves of hair, disarranged in her romp with the children, under her hat, while they pace up and down the walk.

"I have searched for you ever since you left us, darling," he says, tenderly; "but my search was vain. The other day, I received a telegram calling me home. I went and learned everything. The man who claimed you as his daughter was dying in a hospital, and sent for my father to confess the truth. I know now why you left us so cruelly. That wretch had stolen papers from your own father, his friend, and palmed himself off on you. He wanted money, of course. He thought that through you he could work on us—that, rather than confess you were the daughter of an escaped convict, you would give him money. He little thought that you would leave us altogether."

"I never would, if I had not feared that you loved me," whips ETHEL. "I could not bring this disgrace on you, or on them either. I have sent that man my earnings, but I have never seen him since we reached Philadelphia. I had plenty of money of my own, and I was fortunate in finding work; but I knew how unhappy you would all be about me. If it had not been for our love, I should have staid and told them everything; but I knew you would never give me up—it seemed the only way."

The happy lovers' explanations last until Ethel's charges interrupt them, and, the next day, the double-unity family are together—never as they fondly tell each other, to part. A week later, Ethel becomes Ethel Raymond in law, and Frank loses a sister only to find a wife.

Their First Quarrel.

Mr. Newlywed—"Fanny, Uncle Tom's will is to be read to-morrow, and as I always was a favorite nephew of the old gentleman's I am sure to come in for something."

Mrs. Newlywed—"Oh, how nice! Will! Then we can give up this horrid old flat and build a sweet little Queen Anne in the country, and—"

"You mean a brick house uptown."

"No, dear, a Queen Anne cottage, with gables and—"

"Queen nothing, pet! I couldn't bear to live in a cottage, you know. What we want is—"

"Nothing of the sort. Will! I want a cottage, and I can't live in an uptown, stuffy—"

"Stuffy, eh? I'd like to know what can be more stuffy than a little, squeezed-up one-story—"

"Will, you mean thing! You are so unreasonable, and—"

"Unreasonable, is it? I'd have you understand, Francis, that I am a very reasonable man—"

"No you are not! You never do anything I want you to, and you always try to displease me. You are—"

"Look here, madam, that will do! I took you when you were with a cot, and you promised to obey me, and now, when I have a plan to make you happy, you—"

"I wish you had then, for you are no wife for a young, sensible man, who likes to be peaceful and—"

"Peaceful! Who started all this dispute, I should like to know?"

"Why you did!"

"I didn't!"

"You did!"

"You know I didn't so—"

"I repeat, it is all your fault!"

"O, boo-hoo! hoo! I'm going home to my mother!"

"Go, and be—!" (slams the door.)

Mr. Newlywed (next evening)—

"Fanny, Uncle Tom didn't leave me a cent!"

Mrs. Newlywed (kissing him)—

"I'm so glad!"—Lawrence American.

Father—I don't understand why you object to marrying that girl. She is rich and comes of a good family.

Son—But, father, don't you know that she is blind in one eye?

Emily—Did George propose last night as you thought he would?

Rose (without much enthusiasm)—

Yes, he proposed.

Emily—Did you accept him?

Rose—Of course.

Emily—But you don't appear to be very happy over it.

Rose—I am not. There is a gathering doubt about George's in my mind.

Emily—You surprise me. On what account, Rose?

Rose—He didn't appear to be sufficiently nervous over it. (Throwing herself into her friend's arms and bursting into tears.) Oh, Emily, I'm afraid George has proposed to some girl before!

Advertisement for B. Ton Scales and Jones Scales, featuring a scale image and text: '5 TON SCALES \$65' and 'JONES SCALES'.

Advertisement for 'The Grandest Book' and 'The Grandest Subject', featuring a book cover image and text: 'In the Heart of the Sierras'.

Advertisement for 'The Cry of Millions' and 'Oh, My Back!', featuring an image of a person in pain and text: 'STOP IT NOW! SOON IT WILL BE TOO LATE!'.

Advertisement for 'Leavening Power', featuring a box of powder and text: 'Of the various Baking Powders...'

Advertisement for 'Home and Farm' magazine, featuring a cover image and text: 'The Leading Agricultural Journal of the South and West'.

Advertisement for 'Printers' Ink', featuring a bottle of ink and text: 'A JOURNAL FOR ADVERTISERS'.

Advertisement for 'Smith & Wesson's' revolvers, featuring an image of a revolver and text: 'IF YOU WISH A GOOD REVOLVER...'

Advertisement for 'Eldredge' sewing machines, featuring an image of a sewing machine and text: 'ASK FOR IT! THE SELF-THREADING'.

Advertisement for 'Syrup of Figs', featuring an image of a child and text: 'Combines the Juice of the Blue Figs of California...'.

Advertisement for 'The Golden Censer' and 'The Best Family Paper', featuring an image of a censer and text: 'The Golden Censer OF ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS'.

Advertisement for '20 Books Given Away', featuring a list of book titles and text: 'We will send the entire list of Twenty Valuable Books...'.

Advertisement for 'Lattis' woodwork, featuring an image of a window and text: 'Report on Entries, Designs, Trade Marks, Land, Seals, Logos, Trademarks, etc., U.S.P.O.'.

Advertisement for 'New Wood' woodwork, featuring an image of a window and text: 'THE NEW WOODWORK OF THE FUTURE'.

Advertisement for 'Leavening Power' and 'Home and Farm', featuring a box of powder and text: 'Of the various Baking Powders...'.

Advertisement for 'Best Seeds' by D.M. Ferry & Co., featuring an image of a seed packet and text: 'THE BEST SEEDS'.

Advertisement for 'Royal Baking Powder', featuring an image of a powder tin and text: 'ROYAL BAKING POWDER'.

Advertisement for 'The Best Family Paper', featuring an image of a newspaper and text: 'The Best Family Paper'.

Advertisement for 'The Golden Censer', featuring an image of a censer and text: 'The Golden Censer OF ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS'.

Advertisement for 'Lattis' woodwork, featuring an image of a window and text: 'LATTIS'.

Advertisement for 'New Wood' woodwork, featuring an image of a window and text: 'NEW WOOD'.

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Payette Nursery, Of Payette Idaho.

HARDY TREES A SPECIALTY.

This Extensive Nursery, comprising 125 acres, is located one half mile from Payette, on the O. S. L. Ry. This Nursery has done more to promote fruit growing in Eastern Oregon and Idaho than all other Nurseries combined. as the trees are acclimated and such varieties are offered for sale that are known to thrive and flourish in the mountain country. The "IDAHO" pear will be offered in limited quantities for the first time this year. This pear is a native of Idaho is considered the finest pear grown and is extremely hardy. Do not fail to plant a few trees. Address, Payette Nursery, Payette Idaho.

Advertisement for 'Harper's' magazine, featuring a cover image and text: 'The volumes of Harper's'.

Advertisement for 'P. F. Stenger' horses, featuring an image of a horse and text: 'HORSES branded on Left Side or Left Side OK'.

Advertisement for 'Almeda A. Stenger' cattle, featuring an image of a cow and text: 'CATTLE branded on Left Side; circle'.

Advertisement for 'Riley & Hardin' horses, featuring an image of a horse and text: 'HORSES branded on Left Side; Horizontal Double H'.

Advertisement for 'W. B. Toohunter' cattle, featuring an image of a cow and text: 'CATTLE branded with "W" brand on Left Hip'.

Advertisement for 'Home and Farm' magazine, featuring a cover image and text: 'The Leading Agricultural Journal of the South and West'.

Advertisement for 'Printers' Ink', featuring a bottle of ink and text: 'A JOURNAL FOR ADVERTISERS'.

Large vertical advertisement for 'Harper's' magazine, featuring multiple cover images and text: 'Harper's'.