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What Gold Cannot Buy

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CHAPTER IV.

The vindictive pleasure of signing her will, and receiving a stiff acknowledgment from Mr. Rawson of its safe receipt, occupied Mrs. Saville for a few days, before the expiration of which she received a few polite lines from Miss Rawson saying that, if quite convenient, Miss Desmond would call on Mrs. Saville between one and two on the following day.

"I am sure I hope she will do, and not too silly," thought the imperious little woman, as she penned a brief acceptance of the appointment. "The generosity of women are wonderfully foolish and narrow; though men are idiotic enough too, occasionally. A whole day of Richard's company is almost more than I can stand; yet he is always respectable, and would never commit the culpable folly his—there, I will not think any more of that."

The morrow came bright and warm, and Mrs. Saville established herself in the smaller of her two drawing-rooms, a beautiful and gorgeously furnished room, full of burl and marble-inlaid tables, luxurious chairs and sofas, old china statuettes, flowers, and all the accessories which wealth can give. It opened on a small conservatory in which a fountain played, and was cooler than her boudoir.

She was half-reclining among the cushions of a lounge, with her precious little dog beside her, and trying to give her attention to a newspaper, when the door was opened, and "Captain Lumley" was announced.

"Why, where did you come from?" she exclaimed, not too cordially, and holding out her small-beringed hand to a tall, slight, well-set-up young man, with light hair and moustaches, laughing eyes, and a certain resemblance to Hugh Saville, though of a slighter, weaker type.

"From Herondyke, my dear aunt," he returned, drawing a chair beside her. "I have just a day or two in town, and I thought I'd try if you were still here."

"Are you on your way to Hounslow?"

"Yes, just like my luck! they give me my leave when there's not a thing to do. And that young beggar Miggles, my sub, gets it next week."

"I suppose you are all as usual?"

"Yes, Uncle Everton is at Herondyke just now, and in great force. He is the most amusing old boy I ever met. Are you better, Aunt Saville? My uncle said he called here on his way through, and you were not well enough to see him."

"I was not well; and I certainly should not get out of my bed to see Lord Everton."

"Wouldn't you? Well, I—Oh—ah—yes, to be sure," said the young man, hesitating. "I am glad to see you looking so much better, at all events," he went on. "When do you go down to Inglefield?"

"On Saturday."

"I can often ride over and see you," continued Lumley, with a fascinating smile. He had a nice voice and a pleasant, easy manner; indeed, he was considered a very irresistible young man by the women, and "not a bad fellow" by the men.

"You are very good," frigidly.

"I suppose there is hardly a soul left in town. Just called at the Montgomeries', and found the house shut up; so I came on here to have a chat and a bit of luncheon."

"My dear George, I don't mean to give you any luncheon. A lady is coming here; she ought to be here now. I am going to test her qualifications for the generous office of companion to myself, and I can't have you here talking nonsense."

"Won't she be a bore?"

"Do you think I shall allow myself to be bored?"

"Well, no, Aunt Saville," said Lumley, with a bright smile. "I don't think you will."

Here the door was again thrown open, and the butler announced, with much dignity, "Miss Desmond."

"There, you may go," said Mrs. Saville, impatiently.

"Very well," said the young man, good-humoredly. "I will call again before I leave town. My mother sent you her best love."

becoming bonnet, and was rather pale—warmly, healthfully pale—with wavy nut-brown hair, a pair of dark gray or blue eyes, deepened by nearly black brows and lashes, a sweet pathetic mouth and red dewy lips; she moved with easy undulating grace suggestive of long, well-formed limbs.

"A fine girl," was the young dragon's mental commentary, as he stood aside to let her pass, and, with a slight bow, disappeared from the room.

"Miss Desmond," repeated Mrs. Saville, "come and sit here beside me." She looked piercingly at her visitor as she made a slight courtesy and handed her a note before taking a seat, saying, in a soft, clear, refined voice, "Mr. Rawson was so good as to give me a few introductory lines."

"Quite right. A lawyer's instinctive precaution," returned Mrs. Saville, opening it and glancing at the contents.

"I suppose you know the usual sort of service expected from a companion?—reading aloud, writing letters, doing the agreeable when there is no one else to talk, and, above all, understanding when to be silent. It can't be the most delightful kind of life, but you will have a comfortable home if you stay."

Miss Desmond had colored faintly while she listened, and now smiled, a pleasant smile, though her lips quivered as if she were a little nervous.

"When you want to earn your bread, you do not expect to be housed and paid merely to amuse yourself. I think I know what my duties would be."

"Add to this knowledge that I am a very exacting person, without a tinge of sentiment. I have no notion of treating any one who does me certain service for certain remuneration as a daughter. That is all nonsense."

"I think it is," said Miss Desmond, calmly.

Mrs. Saville looked at her sharply, and met a pair of very steadfast eyes in which something like a smile lurked. "How old are you?" she asked abruptly.

"I shall be two-and-twenty in September next."

"Hunt! you look at once more and less than that. Can you read aloud?"

"Yes. Whether I can read well is for you to judge."

"Can you play or sing?"

"I can play a little—"

"I know what that means. Now suppose you read me this speech of Lord Harrington's," handing her the paper. Miss Desmond took it and immediately began. After about ten minutes Mrs. Saville said, not unkindly, "That will do. You read fairly well. You do not pronounce some names properly."

"For names there is no rule, and sometimes opinions respecting them differ. I shall, of course, pronounce them in the way you prefer."

Mrs. Saville was silent for a moment. "If you are inclined to try a couple of months with me, I am willing to try you."

"That is best. Trial only can prove if we suit each other."

"Have you settled about terms with Mr. Rawson?"

"Yes; they are most satisfactory."

"Very well. I shall go to the country in a day or two, and then I hope you will join me. You have been on the Continent, I believe; then you can read French."

"Yes, fairly well."

"There is the bell. Pray join me at luncheon."

"Thank you, I shall be very happy."

"Takes things coolly," thought Mrs. Saville, "knows her own value, probably. So much the better. I could not stand a gushing girl."

At luncheon the hostess started various topics in an easy, unstudied way, and found that her young guest, though far from talkative, was quite equal to discussing them intelligently. As soon as they rose from the table, Miss Desmond took leave of her new lady patroness, promising to obey her summons whenever it came.

"Really," thought Mrs. Saville, as she dressed for an afternoon airing, "I believe that girl may do. If she does not, why, it is no great matter. She certainly has the air and manner of a gentlewoman."

pect of companionship, for in truth she was, and always had been, a very lonely woman. When, therefore, shortly before dinner, Miss Desmond arrived, she was received with comparative cordiality.

"I told them to send down the omnibus, as it would be more convenient for your luggage," said Mrs. Saville, after they had exchanged greetings.

"My luggage consisted of one dress basket," said Miss Desmond, smiling. "Considering that my stay may be but short, I did not like to bring more."

"That was prudent. Now I am going to dine early—that is at six—in order to take a drive afterwards; the evenings are the best part of the day."

That first evening was trying. Mrs. Saville was very silent, but so long as they moved smoothly and rapidly through cool dewy woods, fragrant fields, and gently winding lanes with rustic fences and picturesquely broken banks, the silence was not oppressive.

Miss Desmond had plenty to think of—the struggles and difficulties of youth spent in genteel poverty; the loss of her nearest and dearest; the vanishing of many a dream that even at twenty-two life had taught her must be resigned; and, through all, the enduring hope which in such strange natures is too deeply rooted to be scorched by the noontide heat or withered by the midnight frost—the instinctive consciousness of her own tenderness and loyalty, which gave vitality to her belief in the possibility of happiness.

The quiet beauty of the country, the soothing tranquillity of the hour, gave her an exquisite sense of rest which she thankfully accepted.

Returned, however, and shut up in the lamp-lit drawing-room, silence did become oppressive, and Miss Desmond, remembering her employer's hint, felt reluctant to break it.

"I suppose you do needlework? Girls like you generally have something of that kind in their hands."

"I do a good deal, and I have some that can appear in a drawing-room."

"I used to do fancy-work myself," said Mrs. Saville, "for it is intolerable to sit idle; but I find I dare not trifle with my eyes, which I have always tried too much. However, I must do something. I cannot sit with my hands before me while you read."

"Knitting is not bad for the eyes," suggested Miss Desmond.

"I have always despised it as purely mechanical, but now I shall be obliged to adopt it. Do you know how to knit?—can you teach me?"

"Yes; I did a good deal of knitting when I was in Germany."

"Oh! do you understand German?"

"I could make my way in Germany; but I cannot read German aloud as I do French."

"And I do not understand a word of the language. I was only taught French and Italian. Ah, what a potent epitome of mankind's opinion, the rage for that uncouth tongue as soon as the race that speaks it succeeded! Success is the measure of everything."

"I cannot think so. We have no plumb-line with which to fathom the depth where future triumph lies hidden under present failure."

"That is no argument," returned Mrs. Saville. "Now, Miss Desmond, I am going to my room, and I dare say you will be glad to do the same. I breakfast in summer at eight. Good-night."

The next few days enabled Mrs. Saville and her newly-established companion to fit into their places. "She is less formidable than I expected," thought the latter. "I must keep constantly before my mind that she is on her trial with me, as I am with her. I am not bound to spend my life here, nor have I given up my freedom. She interests me; for, hard as she seems, I believe she is not without heart. Shall I ever be able to find it?"

"That girl is not so tiresome after all. She is not a bit afraid of me, and she is not so fussy. How I hate and despise folly and cowardice! they generally go together. There's a great deal of style about her, yet she must have been always steeped to the lips in poverty. If I had a daughter like her, I should want the first statesman in England for her husband. Bah! what folly! If I had had a daughter she would have been as indifferent to me as the rest, and would probably have married a groom to spite me. As no one cares for me, I had better concentrate my affections on myself. People may be indifferent to love, they are never indifferent to power; and money is power, especially if backed by common sense."

So the knitting and reading went on successfully, and Mrs. Saville was sometimes surprised by the light-hearted enjoyment which her companion showed in the course of their readings.

Mrs. Saville herself was not without a certain grim sense of humor, but she was sometimes surprised, and not too well pleased, at the quick perception of the ridiculous which so often gleamed in Miss Desmond's expressive eyes.

(To be continued.)

A Needless Warning.

Very often the friend who slaps you very lightly on the back is getting ready to make a light touch.—Dallas News

EVENTS OF THE DAY

Newsy Items Gathered from All Parts of the World.

PREPARED FOR THE BUSY READER

Less Important but Not Less Interesting Happenings from Points Outside the State.

Collector Loeb of New York will fight hard to retain his place.

Dr. Cook dares Peary to submit his records to the Danish authorities.

The striking pupils of the Cleveland, Ohio, high school have all returned.

Sweden is doing all possible to stop the heavy immigration to America.

King Edward VII. of Great Britain has just celebrated his 55th birthday.

White settlers in British Columbia are preparing for an attack from Indians.

Seattle customs officers have seized a quantity of silk that was being smuggled in.

Choctaw and Chickasaw Indians have lost their lands and citizenship because of many irregularities.

Two masked men attempted to hold up a train in the yards at Ogden, but were driven off by the train crew.

A Chinaman and white girl in California have been refused a marriage license and are expected to try in some other state.

A woman who has just been arrested at Kansas City for marrying a sixth time without securing divorces from the others, declares that she has had sufficient experience in matrimony.

Admiral Chester says Cook did not reach the Pole.

Taft visited many historic places in South Carolina and Georgia.

It is said that Mrs. John Jacob Astor is to receive \$10,000,000 alimony.

Five persons, all railway employees, were killed in a wreck in New Jersey.

William Robinson, of Roswell, has been offered the governorship of New Mexico.

The New York Central is carrying out Harriman's policy of extensive improvements.

The National Waterways commission will send a committee to report on the Columbia river.

A New York man 77 years old has been arrested for appropriating \$13,000 to his own use.

Vatican officials say that there is small hope of an American cardinal being named at this time.

The Dominion government has prohibited Japanese fishermen from sealing for herring in Nanaimo harbor.

Roosevelt's family was thrown into consternation by rumors that he had been killed, but the report proved groundless.

Both parties in the Nicaraguan war claim advantage.

Chicago smokers are fighting for the right to smoke on cars.

Taft will not appoint a new supreme judge until Congress meets.

The criminal court building in New York is in danger of collapse.

Prince Ito's body was laid in the tomb with great state ceremony.

A New York merchant accused of swindling customers has been captured in Berlin.

A lynching mob threatens negroes at Gasaway, W. Va., and the militia refuses to shoot.

COREA FIGHTS HARD.

Rebellion Against Japanese Rule Goes Steadily Forward.

Kobe, Japan, Nov. 9.—Meager news from Korea is to the effect that the uprising started by the natives as a protest against the occupation of the kingdom by Japan, while active in spots, in other places has quieted down through the efficient service of the Japanese soldiers.

This is taken here to mean that the Japanese censor is busy, for it is well known that the Koreans, animated by equally as great love of country as their invaders, will never resign themselves to be governed by the hated Japanese until they are completely brought under subjection.

A correspondent of the Japan Chronicle writes that the resistance offered to the reforms desired to be brought about by the stronger nation is more a matter of misunderstanding than anything else.

The Korean officials, it is said, know full well what Japan is trying to do, but the soldiers sent to occupy the land are responsible for the hostile feeling that has arisen. The cooler class sees the havoc wrought by the military force, the plundered stores, the outraged women, the ill treatment afforded the men, and does not know what is behind all this.

The poorer classes are unaware that the good of their land is what Japan is seeking. They look upon the occupation merely as a pretext to gain possession of the country, and their blood boils and they rise up against the invaders.

Incidental to the improvement of conditions in the empire may come annexation to Japan. In some circles this is felt to be the ultimate object. Whether that be true or not the fact remains that Japan has already worked numerous and appreciable reforms among the Koreans.

POLICE FORM OLIGARCHY.

Chicago Patrolmen's Union Refuses To Be Governed by Chief.

Chicago, Nov. 9.—The organization known as the United Police of Chicago, but which is more aptly dubbed the "Policemen's union," today at its annual meeting sundried all ties which bound it to heads of the department. The organization virtually declared its independence by ousting from office all present officials and electing an insurgent ticket, the members of which are avowedly hostile to control of the union by the chief of police or any of the men responsible to the taxpayers for the way the police department does, or fails to do, its work.

Briefly, today's action means that hereafter the mayor and chief cannot discharge or discipline any member of the United Police without calling down the wrath of their organization. It means the police will work to suit themselves, regardless of the public or their superior officers. It creates in Chicago a modern Pretorian Guard, which recognizes no ruler but those it chooses.

TWELVE NUNS HEROINES.

Organize Bucket Brigade and Fight Fire From Orphans.

Cleveland, Nov. 9.—Twelve brave nuns at St. Vincent's Orphan asylum organized a bucket brigade, put out a fire at the top of the building tonight, and quelled an incipient panic. The older boys' asylum, which houses 400 little ones, was the first to learn that there was danger.

The sisters, passing buckets of water up the stairs and pouring it on the blaze, sent the biggest boys to oversee the little ones at their studies. Those who attempted to rush out were ordered back, and when help arrived from the outside, the children, some of them still unconscious of the peril, were at their books, while the nuns, almost dropping from fatigue, held the fire under control.

Mine Inspectors Rapped.

Harrisburg, Pa., Nov. 9.—James E. Roderick, state chief inspector of mines, sharply criticized the present method of selection of mine inspectors in a report on anthracite coal mining in Pennsylvania in 1908, which was sent Governor Stewart today. He declares the present system pernicious and detrimental to the best interests of the miners. The chief also urges more effort to educate miners. The production last year was 74,592,211 net tons against 86,056,412 tons the year before.

Japan to Meet Russia.

Paris, Nov. 9.—A special dispatch from Peking says that in spite of official denial M. Kokovsov, the Russian minister of finance, who will confer shortly with a Japanese representative, M. Kurochi, director of the political bureau of Tokio foreign office, has arrived at Lulny.

SHIP SUBSIDY URGED

President Tells Southern States They Should Work for It.

ROOSEVELT'S POLICY IS UPHELD

Taft Also Wants Federal Health Bureau, to Look After Sanitary Conditions of Nation.

Augusta, Ga., Nov. 9.—President Taft yesterday played at golf with his host in Augusta, Major Joseph B. Cumming, defeating him, 2 up and 4 to go; opened the Georgia-Carolina Interstate Fair; rode through the streets of Augusta amid the cheers of his "fellow citizens," and left the city at 3 P. M. for Florence, S. C.

A call upon the president at the golf links on his invitation by Ty Cobb, the baseball player, the extreme cordiality of the reception of the president in his "winter capital" and the good fellowship extended to his entourage, were the features of the day.

In his address at the fairgrounds the president touched upon a number of matters of national importance. The keynote of his address was national sanitation, that a national board of health should be established for the nation itself what the nation had accomplished for others in Cuba and Panama.

The president also talked ship subsidy and suggested that the plan merited the support of the South—especially of cotton manufacturing states like Georgia and South Carolina. Mr. Taft's speech in part follows:

"It seems to me that the most important subject and the most important collection of subjects is that which relates to the conservation of our natural resources. Unless we can secure uniform state co-operation, uniform state legislation with reference to the preservation of our forests and the equalization of the water, which falls from the clouds, and the preservation of our soil from being washed out to sea, we shall not be able to carry out the program set for us by Theodore Roosevelt, which to every thoughtful man must commend itself as of the highest importance to the safety and preservation of our nation."

Regarding national sanitation the president said:

"We now have various bureaus in Washington which have functions connected with the suppression of diseases, but they are scattered and they need to be united in one bureau which shall direct its attention to the study of questions of health under all conditions prevailing in this country, so that by the circulation of the knowledge obtained it may enable the people to live hygienic lives."

"Now it is true that the health of the citizen is directly committed to the state, but it is also true that the question of agriculture is committed by the constitution to the state. Nevertheless the agricultural department has found much that it can do to assist the agriculture of the country."

"I expect to recommend to Congress that there be a union of all the experimental departments of the government for the discovery of lines of health and study of disease."

TRAINMEN DEMAND INCREASE

All Lines on Atlantic Side of Chicago to Be Involved.

Chicago, Nov. 9.—Demands for uniform schedules and a wage increase of about 12 per cent are to be made by conductors and trainmen on every railroad system east of Chicago. The movement involves 125,000 men, and includes every railroad east of the Illinois Central's main southern line and north of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad. It is said to be the most stupendous wage movement ever made by the railroad brotherhood, and has been under consideration two years. There are hints tonight that all western railroads will be drawn into the struggle.

Incident to the eastern demands, the switchmen and yardmen in Chicago, who are controlled by the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, are asking a wage advance of 5 cents an hour.

Eighteen of the large trunk lines with terminals in this city were served with notice November 2. Under existing contracts 30 days' notice must be given by either side of a contemplated change in wages or working conditions.

Eight Perish in Flames.

New York, Nov. 9.—Iron-bound windows prevented the escape from death of eight workers in Robert Morrison & Sons' comb factory in Brooklyn, which caught fire today, and five other men probably were fatally injured in making their escape from the structure. William G. Morrison, son of the owner of the plant, lost his life in the flames while trying to reach the safe and close its doors. His father was among the injured. Forty employees were in the factory when the fire started. Many jumped from the third floor windows and were injured.

Gold Strike in California.

Nevada City, Cal., Nov. 9.—Word was received here today that a rich strike had been made in the Omega mine at Forest, near here. Several pounds of nuggets have been taken from the gravel, one of which weighed 10½ ounces.