

Marian's New Job

By
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WNU Service.

MARIAN MARKHAM, a stenographer temporarily out of a job, was, through the recommendation of a friend, offered a position in the office of Holliday & Whipple as a sort of secretary to young Robert Holliday, head of the firm now that his father had gone the way of both brokers and the broke. Marian's father had always told her that he had been financially ruined by the villainy of old Peleg Holliday who, upon the dissolution of the firm of Holliday & Markham, had so juggled the accounts that the senior member had come out rich and the junior member poor. Marian scarcely remembered her mother; but had, all her life, been devoted to her father in the ups and downs of his vicissitudinous career. When he died leaving her penniless she had taken up stenography—and done very well at it.

Marian considered. The job was a good one and she needed the salary. Again, disagreeable as would be a daily association with one of the hated race of Holliday, might she not, by taking the offered position, find out from the firm's books just how her father had been defrauded? Then what a triumph to confront her employer with the evidence of his father's misdeeds and demand her inherited rights.

"Too pretty to be efficient," thought Robert Holliday, when he saw his new stenographer; but as she soon proved her efficiency he became reconciled to her good looks. Marian started in with a firm determination to hate Robert intensely; and thought she was doing so until one day, about two months after her advent into the office, she realized with dismay that she was beginning to have a decided liking for the young man. Oh horror!—suppose—it was absurd, of course, but suppose—that she should fall in love with her hereditary enemy. Shades of the Capulets and Montagues forbid!

ROBERT on his part, discovered, with a dismay as great as Marian's, that he was beginning to feel an unusual interest in this new member of his office force. Great Scott! was he falling in love? What would his lady-mother and his aristocratic friends say if he married his stenographer?

For two whole weeks they tried to be as disagreeable and "distant" to each other as possible—but made rather a bad job of it. Robert had no idea that the girl who was now so much in his thoughts was the daughter of that Silas Markham concerning whom his father had told him many a tale. Then, one day, Marian's conscience being in an unusually uneasy and meddlesome state, she took the decisive step; told Robert who she was, why she had accepted a position in his office, and related the wrongs of her father as she knew them.

The young man was startled at first, but said mildly: "Because our fathers were enemies it is no reason we should be. As to those business matters you speak of let us go over the books and accounts together. I assure you you shall have justice." From the records it was quite evident that when the firm of Holliday & Markham had been dissolved the partners had shared equitably in the assets. Marian was astounded. What then had been the cause of her father's bitter hatred for Peleg Holliday?

ROBERT knew well enough. Markham had taken the company's funds for private speculation. He had replaced them; but Holliday, finding it out, had refused to be associated longer in business with a man who was liable at any time to place the company funds on the wrong side of the market. That is what Robert knew. What he said was: "Oh, they just didn't cotton to each other; that's all. People are like that, you know, sometimes. They call it antipathetic, I

believe. Now you and I are not very antipathetic—are we?"

"Not very," replied Marian, blushing in spite of herself.

"Not antipathetic at all," persisted Robert, "but I have been thinking for some time that I could not keep you on any longer as my stenographer."

"Why not?" gasped Marian.

"Well," said he, "I have another job for you. There is no salary attached but I think—" Marian saw what he was at, and rose flutteringly. But Robert seized her by both hands, forced her back into her chair—and kissed her! "Now will you be my wife?" said he.

"Why, of course," said Marian.

Elephants Hold Record; May Live to 200 Years

According to accredited data, the following figures may be regarded as reliable on the life span of animals:

Elephant, 150 to 200 years; falcon, 162; vulture, 118; golden eagle, 104; swan, 102; goose, eider duck, raven, parrot, tortoise (especially the giant tortoise), 200 to 300; carp and pike 150 years; horse, ass, dromedary and bear, 40 to 50; crane, 40 to 50; heron, 60; owl, 68; dove, ostrich and woodpecker, 60 to 70; hippopotamus, 40; rhinoceros, 40 to 50; the gull, 44; the cuckoo, crocodile and toad, 40; sheep, 10 to 15; goat, 12 to 15; stag, 30; roebuck, 15; reindeer, 16; elk, 20; wild pig, 20 to 30; dog and wolf, 10 to 15; fox, 10; lion, 20 to 25; tiger, 20; cat, 9 to 10; beaver, 20 to 25; squirrel, 10 to 12; hare, 7 to 8; guinea pig, 5 to 7; rat, 3; mouse, 3 to 4; domestic fowls, 15 to 20; magpie, 25; blackbird, 18; canary, 24; salamander, 10 to 12; tree-frog, 10; fresh-water eel, 10 to 12.

Certain of the humbler forms of life live astonishingly long. These include the fresh-water pearl-mussel, 60 to 70, and fresh-water crabs and leeches, over 20. The angleworm may live over 10 years. Insects and spiders have short lives as a rule, but some kinds of ants have lived in captivity for 10 to 15 years.

Queen bees, though engaged in constant production of eggs to create communities of descendants, live from 4 to 5 years, whereas the little workers end their activities in about six weeks. — Indianapolis News.

SWIMMING DE LUXE



The last word in portable dressing rooms designed for beach use, made its appearance recently at Santa Monica, Calif., when Jean Parker, film actress, introduced an individual cabana. Housing but one person and resembling a large fire-cracker, the cabana is of lightweight construction and may be carried in one's car.

Impressions of an Indian on Selecting a Mate for Himself

Historian John Heckewelder has preserved for us in his book about the Indians some amusing impressions of one Ohio Indian who seemed to like his custom of selecting a mate better than the white man's custom. Commenting on the difference in the marital customs, this old Indian observed:

"White man court—court may be one whole year—may be two year before he marry. . . may be

then he get a very good wife—may be not, may be very cross.

"Well, now suppose cross, scold as soon as get awake in morning—scold all day—scold until sleep—all one, he must keep her. White people have law against throwing away wife, be she ever so cross.

"Well, how does Indian do? Indian, when he sees good squaw, which he likes he goes to her, puts his forefingers close aside each other—make two look like one—

Imperfection Complains

It is only imperfection that complains of what is imperfect. The more perfect we are the more gentle and quiet we become towards the defects of others.

look squaw in face—see her smile . . . So he take her home—no danger she be cross. . . Squaw know very well what Indian do if she cross. Throw her away and take another. Squaw love to eat meat. No husband, no meat. Squaw do everything to please husband. He do the same to please squaw. Live happy. Go to heaven."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

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