

away, they were all four on a European steamer "outward-bound."

And Ernest Copeland, watching his dying brother, wondered why no letters came from Ferndale, chafed under the necessity for remaining so long from his betrothed, but was too much occupied until the last sad hours to do more than pen anxious letters never answered.

He had a heavy heart to carry to the funeral, a sacred trust to fulfill, and he had no elation in the fact that half of his brother's fortune left him a far richer man than he had ever been. Gerard's life had been shortened by drinking and by remorse.

It was over at last, the funeral, the care of the dead man's personal property, and then with an undefined fear of evil Ernest Copeland went to Ferndale.

"Come! Go to Europe, you say!" He repeated this after the servant, in a daze of bewildered pain, holding unopened the letters given with the message. Not for some minutes could he collect his senses sufficiently to understand he held perhaps the clue to the mystery in his hand.

But he opened it at last. Grace had had to plead hard for permission to write those lines, harder still to keep back a furious epistle from her father. But only her well-known writing greeted her lover's eyes as he opened the letter:

"Your wife and children," he read, "are in the little cottage opposite the church. May God forgive your cruelty to them."

There was no address or signature. Only one low moan broke from Ernest's white lips as he folded the note again and turned from the house. While at death, shivering in the soft summer air, he went down the road to the cottage. There was an ecstatic scream of "Papa! Papa!" as four clinging arms encircled his legs, and Mrs. Copeland stood trembling and crying in the doorway.

He gently lifted the youngest child, and, following by the other, went into the cottage. Mrs. Copeland, crying still, sobbed:

"So you have come back!"

"Gravely, but not tenderly, Ernest answered!"

"Your husband will never come back. You know best by what want of wifely love you drove him to drinking, to despair, finally to deserting you. He was not guileless; but ask yourself if you are."

"Who are you?" she gasped.

"I am Gerard's twin brother."

"I have heard of you. Where is he?"

"In his grave!"

She dropped at his feet as if he had shot her. She had been a slovenly housekeeper, a shrewish wife, grating every hour upon Gerard's sensitive, fastidious tastes; but, in her way, she had loved him, scarcely realizing how she drove him to despair.

It consoled her presently to know that half of her husband's wealth would be hers and her children's, and Ernest made no explanation of the reasons why the search he had promised his brother to make for her had been so suddenly terminated. He left her at last to find Porter, Mr. Wiltbank's confidential clerk. Having received no orders to the contrary, Porter readily gave his employer's Paris address, and Ernest returned to the city, to interview his brother's lawyer, and prepare for a sea voyage.

Over the broad Atlantic the Wiltbank party accepted the usual tribulations of sea-sickness and discomfort. Only Grace was exempt. She waited on the others, but made no moan over old Neptune's caprices.

White as a snowflake, listless, with her soft blue eyes sunk in hollows, her little white hands wasting, her pretty bright ways all gone, she said she was perfectly well, and seemed to be dying before her father's eyes.

She could not be sick after they arrived in Paris.

They had been a month in Paris, and the French doctor Mr. Wiltbank called in talked of a "want of tone," and "raising the spirits" of his patient, but Sophie wept all the long, lonely nights, believing her fatal discovery had killed her cousin.

But it was Sophie who, one day in November, received a visitor alone, a visitor who sent up a little note that sent her with flying feet to receive him.

He was still in the salon, when Sophie came into the sitting-room, when her own private salon, where Grace was sitting at the window.

She wanted to tell her news calmly, to avoid exciting the inmates, but she broke down, sobbing:

"Grace! Grace! Will you ever forgive me! It was all a mistake. She was Gerard's wife, Ernest's twin brother's wife! He is here!"

"Here! Ernest here!"

And Sophie flew out again. She sent him in alone, for she said:

"I must watch, or uncle will murder you before you have a chance to explain."

Ernest entered the room, where a pale shadow of his bright Grace rose to receive him, to fall into his arms weeping now as in all her despair she had not wept. But there were no more tears. Grace's roses came back in their happiness, and there was a wedding in Paris, where Sophie was bridesmaid, and hosts of American friends offered congratulations.

But as Sophie sagely observed, shaking her pretty head:

"It was nearly a tragedy, for if uncle and Ernest had met too soon, there is no saying what might have happened."—Anna Shields, in N. Y. Ledger.

NUTMEG CULTURE.

How the Nuts are Grown and Treated in New Guinea.

Paddling into a little cove, says Captain John Strahan in the Glasgow Mail, on the south side of the bay, we landed beside a clear, rippling stream, and, having ordered the whole of the men to march in Indian file in front, we started by a little rugged path into the mountains, with my interpreter immediately behind me, and the Rajah just in front. Every foot of the journey, which was laborious in the extreme, disclosed fresh scenes of verdure and tropical splendor, winding along the sides of deep ravines, sometimes dragging ourselves up the creepers and undergrowth, we ultimately attained an altitude of about one thousand feet above the sea, and then entered the nutmeg country. Here we halted and rested. The Rajah pulled some of the nutmegs, and explained how far they were from being ripe.

Having rested sufficiently, we again started forward, and after scrambling along for about an hour, we gained a fine piece of table-land, over which we traveled for about another half an hour, when we reached three houses erected in the very heart of the forest. These were used by the natives for drying the nutmegs. The country was everywhere magnificent, and the aroma of the spice-laden air delicious. Nutmeg and other equally valuable trees were everywhere growing in great profusion. The fruit of the nutmeg in appearance resembles a pear, and when ripe opens and displays the nut covered with a beautiful red coating of mace. The nuts are then picked from the trees, put into baskets and taken to the houses, where they are husked and placed on shelves. They are then partially roasted over a slow fire until all the moisture is extracted. After this they are cooled and carried down to the village in nets ready to be taken to the Bugis, Arabs and other traders who frequent the Gulf in their small prows or junks at the proper season.

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LV. 11.30 am	PORTLAND PAW V. AR. 4.40 p.m.	
Ar. 10.00	Foot of Jefferson St.	11.00
LV. 2.15 pm	Ray's Landing, Ar.	1.30
Ar. 2.25	St. Paul's,	12.47

3.16	Woodburn,	12.00
3.31	Townsend,	11.46
11.49	McKee,	11.40
3.53	Mt. Angel,	11.24
4.03	Down's,	6.14
4.16	Sliverton,	11.00
4.29	Johnston's Mill,	10.20
4.39	Switzerland,	10.16
4.47	East Side Junct.,	10.07
5.46	Mackay,	8.46
5.56	Aumsville,	9.18
5.56	West Stayton,	8.50

6.14	O P Crossing,	8.49
6.24	West Selo,	8.28
6.53	Crabtree,	8.09
7.20	Spice,	7.31
7.20	Tallman,	7.22
8.05	Plainview,	6.23
8.07	Brownsville,	6.13
9.25	Rowland,	5.30

10.15	Coburg,	4.50
Ar. 10.15	All	LV. LV. 8.10

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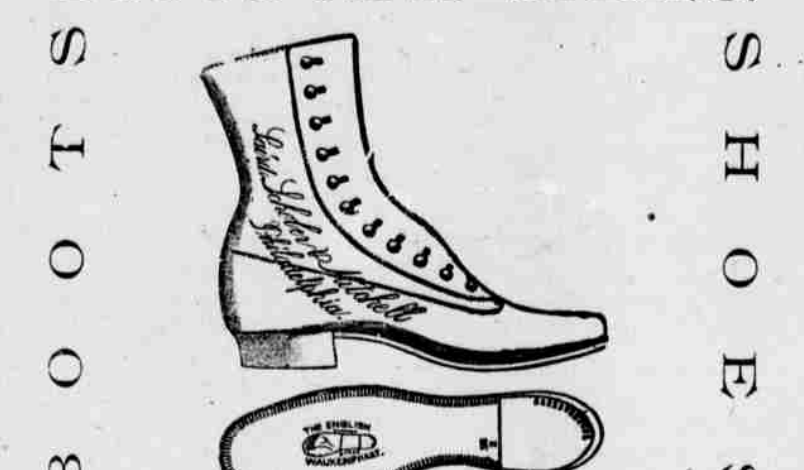
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Willamette Valley, Saturday, " 18

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