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The Chatham Record.

VOL. III.

PITTSBORO', CHATHAM CO., N. C., JULY 28, 1881.

NO. 46.

RATES
OF

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A Love Song.

Oh lassie, wilt thou gang with me
Down the meadows green?
The pretty thrush sings merrily
The lark-leaves between:
The ox-eyed daisy noddeth low
Among the grasses wet;
The soft wind sigheth sweet and low
Through thy locks of jet,
And therefore should I gang with thee
Down the meadows green,
E'en though the thrush sing merrily
The lark-leaves between:
Low nod the modest daisy flower
The soft wind bloweth free;
But, at this early morn'g hour,
Why should I gang with thee?
The ivy singeth on the wall,
With sunlight glints between;
Oh lassie, thou so fair and tall,
Come down the meadows green,
And by yon brook grow violets blue,
Like unto thy sweet eyes,
Oh come and hear my love's true
The love that never dies!
Yea, lassie, 'tis that be the why,
I fain would gang along—
For true, true love doth never die,
But yearly waxes strong,
Oh winds, and flowers, and ivy-vine,
How sweet you be to-day!
Oh yellow sun, how bright you shine!
Come, lassie, let's away!

KENNETH CARLE'S LOVE.

They are standing upon the cliff together, Kenneth Carle and Grace Ellsworth, and he is holding her hand in his and gazing earnestly into her beautiful gray eyes.

"Grace, turn back," he exclaimed, passionately; "turn back before it is too late. You do not know what you are doing; you—"

"I believe I know my own mind," interrupted Grace, with a forced laugh. "I am perfectly sane, I assure you."

Kenneth looked at her with a sad, doubtful expression on his handsome face.

"I cannot deem it possible," he says, "I never thought that Grace Ellsworth would sell herself for gold, paltry gold!"

She disengages her hand from his clasp, and drawing herself up haughtily, replies in a cold tone that the tears in her eyes belie—

"Neither would I, Mr. Carle. You presume too much upon friendship, but there are some things that even friendship does not make admissible. You are very unjust in your accusation. My heart is my own and I am free to bestow it upon whom I please. May I do not speak of selling again?"

"I am to infer, then," he says, "that you have never loved me; you have been trifling with me all this time, you—"

"Infer anything you please," retorts Grace, hotly. "It makes no difference to me."

"Ah!"

It is not a short exclamation that Kenneth Carle utters, but a long, low sigh, that thrills Grace's heart with a strange emotion, and causes the color to rush in her cheeks. Then there is a long silence, while Kenneth gazes fixedly at the grass beneath his feet, and Grace stands motionless now and then casting covert glances at her companion.

"Mr. Carle," she says, suddenly, "look at the darkening sky. There will be a storm soon, I shall return to the house. Will you come with me or stay here?"

"I will stay here," he replies, without raising his eyes from the ground; and she turns and leaves him.

At a short distance she pauses and looks behind her. She sees the rocky cliff, with the sea lashing itself into foam at its base; the tall figure standing near its edge, his head bowed, his dark, Greek-like features clearly outlined against the dull gray sky, and an expression of anguish and pain crosses her face. It is succeeded, however, by a look of stern determination, and in a low, firm voice she says—

"I will not let this foolish love conquer. Money I want, and money I will have. I shall wed this rich stranger, for indeed he is almost a stranger to me, and Kenneth Carle shall never be more to me than a friend."

As Grace has predicted, a storm comes up quite suddenly; and as she is quite a distance from her home, she seeks shelter in a cottage at the foot of the hill.

It is a quaint, low-roofed building of very ancient date, and has been inhabited for many years by a tall, gypsy-looking woman who, when she first took up her abode there, was a comely, bright-eyed, rosy-cheeked maiden, and now an old woman, yellow-skinned and gaunt.

Her black eyes, though, have never lost their keen brightness, but shine with such a steady, piercing light that, when any valuables are lost, the villagers laughingly remark that they could discover them instantly had they the light of Mother Leman's eyes to aid them.

These bright eyes turn upon Grace now as she enters the one room of the cottage that serves as kitchen, chamber and parlor, and a metallic voice says: "Ah, is it you, my child, Grace? You were caught in the shower; are you not drenched?"

"Oh, no," Grace replies, seating herself. "I have walked very fast, and the wide-spreading trees sheltered me. You are very busy, I see. Do you never rest, Mother Leman?" with an arch smile.

"Yes, when the night comes," replies the old woman. "But, my child, you are ill."

"No, indeed," says Grace. "Why, I thought I was looking unusually healthy. Are not my eyes bright, my cheeks rosy? For once, Mother Leman, your eyes, sharp as they are, have deceived you."

"No, I am sure you are ill," the other says, gazing at Grace so earnestly that she grows flushed and warm and wishes those piercing eyes would turn in some other direction. "You are ill, not physically, perhaps, but mentally. Grace, my child," warningly, "take on old woman's advice and never exchange an old love for a new."

Now, Mother Leman has heard several stories concerning Grace and her two suitors, and determines to discover whether they are real facts or idle rumors. She is satisfied as to their truth when she sees Grace start suddenly, while her face flushes deeply.

"Ah, Grace, my child," she says, "don't act against your own heart. Turn back, turn back, before it is too late."

Grace draws back haughtily, while the same proud, angry expression that she wore when Kenneth Carle uttered the same words crossed her face.

"I don't know what you mean," rises to her lips, but knowing it is useless to try to evade or deceive this sharp-eyed woman, she answers:

"I am acting as my heart dictates. I see no reason why you should warn me."

And Mother Leman, perceiving that the subject is an unpleasant one to Grace, immediately changes it.

It is not long before the storm clears away, and Grace takes her departure. She is fully resolved now; she will marry the wealthy stranger and crush her love for Kenneth Carle. Nothing can alter her decision.

That very day the betrothal is sealed, and preparations for the wedding commenced.

The wealthy suitor showers costly presents upon her with a lavish hand; but somehow they do not afford Grace the pleasure she anticipated. The little ruby ring that Kenneth gave her is far more precious to her than all the millionaire's diamonds.

At last the eventful day arrives, and Grace dons the pure white wedding robes that are worth a fortune in themselves, excepting the costly jewels that glitter on her fair neck and arms, and among the braids of blue-black hair. Then the bridal party are driven away to the village church, and the marriage ceremony is performed.

Grace stands like a statue through it all, her face white and cold as the sparkling diamonds about her, and the village maidens' envy turns to pity, for they see that the love-blind husband does not, that she is an unhappy bride.

Kenneth Carle is not present at the wedding; he went away a week ago, the villagers say, and Grace is spared the pain of seeing him.

A few hours later Grace and her husband have left the little village and are on their way to the Old World, where, amid new scenes and new people, surrounded by every luxury that money can buy, Grace will endeavor to forget her sorrow.

Ten years later. In the largest, handsomest room that the "Eyre Hotel" can afford sit two gentlemen; one a slim, blonde young man, whose attire borders on the "dandy" style, the other a tall, broad-shouldered gentleman, whom we have met before, Kenneth Carle. But he is no longer known by that name, for some reason of his own he has changed it to Ellis Cary.

Ten years have altered him greatly; indeed, it would be difficult for his nearest friend to recognize him. He is thinking of old times now; and, chancing to glance into the mirror opposite, smiles at the bronzed, bearded face revealed there as he contrasts it with the smooth, boyish one of ten years ago. He is aroused from his reverie by the voice of his companion, saying—

"I say, Cary, have you seen the new arrival—a young widow, with no end of a fortune? Worth looking after, I tell you. There she goes now."

Kenneth glanced out of the window in time to see a slender figure, attired in deep mourning, pass by; but her head is averted, and he does not see her face.

"Handsomeness, too," continued his friend. "I got an introduction last evening. 'I'll present you to-night.'"

That evening Kenneth Carle, for by that name he is best known to us, meets the young widow in the hotel parlor, and is introduced to her.

"Mrs. Ashley, Mr. Cary."

The widow bows low, and softly murmurs a few words of acknowledgement. Kenneth glances at her face and draws a long breath of surprise, for beneath the dainty widow's cap he recognizes the blue-black hair, the dark grey eyes, the piquant features of his old love, Grace Ellsworth.

"Shall I reveal myself to her?" he

asks himself; and after a moment's hesitation decides he will not, for the present, at least. She does not recognize him; let her know him only as Ellis Cary.

The days pass by, and slowly the conviction dawns upon him that he is falling in love with Grace Ashley over again. Yet, is it over again? Is it not the old love that he believed dead rising like a phoenix from the ashes? He cannot tell; he only knows that she has grown very dear to him, dearer than the maiden Grace Ellsworth had been.

At last he determines to know his fate, and, without revealing his identity, he asks her to be his bride. Grace's fair face does not flush, nor her eyes droop, as she places her hand in his and replies—

"Mr. Cary, let me tell you my story, and then if you are willing to claim me, I will consent. Ten years ago I met Kenneth Carle and loved him. He was not wealthy, and in my desire for riches I cast him off for another, who I knew could give me everything my heart desired. Everything, did I say? Oh, no! he could not give me happiness. Since his death I have traveled from place to place, until I came here and met you. I like you, I respect you greatly, but I cannot love you. I can never love again. If, knowing this, you are willing to make me your wife, I have nothing more to say."

"And if this Kenneth Carle should return and ask you to marry him, would you do so?" her companion asks.

"No, no," replies Grace, sadly; "that is impossible."

"It is not impossible," Kenneth says, passionately. "Don't you know me, Grace?"

Grace looks up into his face with a dazed expression. The resemblance has puzzled her, but it is all clear now.

"Yes, Kenneth, I know you now," she replies. "Kenneth, after wronging you so much, can you still love me?"

"I can and do," he replies. "Grace, my darling, is it yes?"

He looks down into her pretty face, with its flushed cheeks and shyly drooping eyes, and there reads his answer.

And on the following September Grace dons the wedding robes for the second time, and ere the merry bells have ceased pealing she has become the bride of her first and only love, Kenneth Carle.—*Warner's Magazine.*

The Baroness Counts as an Entertainer.

The Baroness Burdett-Contts has got quite over her virgin blushes, and, having at the ripe age of sixty summers tasted the sweetness of love's young dream, she and her juvenile husband have embarked on a long course of parties. She gives a fashionable dinner every other day, and people of title are as numerous on her visiting list as cent pieces on a collection plate when an appeal is made for the distressed heathen. One thing, however, is remarkable about these dinners. No young women go to them. B. yish Mr. Burdett-Contts is not nearly thirty yet, so the Baroness wisely keeps temptation out of his way. For all his sleekness the poor fellow begins to wear a faded, tired, worn and weary look, which seems to hint of the possibility of his golden world palling upon him. Whatever he thought before he mated with a fortune, part of a bank and half a county of acres, there can be no doubt that to-day Mr. Burdett-Contts Bartlett is convinced of the kindness, as well as the wisdom, of the barriers in the tables of consanguinity, that a man shall not be allowed to marry his grandmother. A few days ago the Baroness went to court, husband and all, but the Queen snubbed her terrifically, and the venerable lady went home again in a very bad temper. In her agitation she lost a valuable sapphire brooch, which slipped off her dress, and was brushed by the trains of some ladies under a piece of piping in one of the passages of Buckingham Palace. This musty but modern palatial pile is, however, dusted once a week, and so it chanced that one Jimena Ann of the royal kitchen swept the valuables out of their hiding place exactly five days after they had been lost. Still the Baroness has not quite recovered from the cold shivering she received at the hands of the crown.—*London Globe.*

Flower of the Bassia Tree.

The flower of the bassia tree, which grows in India, has curious properties. It presents no remarkable features at the time of its opening, but after a few days, when the fructification has been accomplished, the petals begin to swell and become fleshy. After a while the corolla falls to the ground, charged with saccharine matter, leaving the pistil on the tree to grow into an excellent fruit. The corolla itself has also acquired the properties of an edible fruit, and is attractive to insects, beasts and men. Numbers of people come from considerable distances to gather the fallen flowers. They dry them and eat them, either in the natural state or cooked, and make of them a regular article of merchandise. A liquor is distilled from them which has a dreadful odor, and produces worse effects than other alcoholic drinks.

A Freak of Fortune.

A Chicago journalist is an intimate friend of a Chicago millionaire. In a recent confidential conversation occurred the following narrative, as reproduced in the Chicago *Inter-Ocean*:

After sitting in reflective silence for a few moments, Mr. Blank said suddenly: "I've a notion to tell you my story. It is so singular that it may be incredible, and it is certainly not an experience one would think I had gone through."

The reporter expressed a desire to hear the story.

"I will tell you, upon condition that you will never mention my name in connection with it."

The promise of secrecy was readily given.

"I do not propose," said Mr. Blank, as he puffed leisurely a fragrant cigar, "to be so specific that I will worry you. All you want to know is the general circumstances, of course. Well, I came from Devonshire nearly thirty years ago, landing in New York, at about the age of twenty-five, with my wife, a few pounds in my pocket and a stout heart. I had come to seek my fortune like many young men before me who found their native land unkind in care of them. Almost upon my arrival I was taken sick, and before I had secured any employment a fever seized me, and when weeks afterward I came back to life my money was gone and we were in debt for rent. My poor wife had made a few dimes here and there doing cheap sewing, but the little she could do was not enough, and much before I was able I arose from my bed to seek for work. Those were sorry days for us, I can tell you. Up and down the streets I wandered, asking every place for work; but I was weak and emaciated, and no one cared to give me employment. I was not worth it, really, and so I went on for two weeks, my health scarcely improving, my case becoming more and more desperate. One day, utterly exhausted and discouraged, feeling miserable and sick, ready to die but for my wife, I sank down upon a box that stood against a lamp-post on Broadway. I took my hat off that the breeze might cool my burning head, and I guess that I so fell asleep. Anyway, when I became conscious of where I was and felt somewhat rested, I arose to put on my hat, when some small coins rolled out upon the sidewalk. My heart throbbed as though a miracle had been performed. I picked these up, and found therein my hat. Alas, though I had nearly \$1. There was a good supper for my wife and me, and I had besides got an idea. I said to myself, I was perfectly willing to work for a little money and no one would employ me; now since people are willing to give me money without work I will accept it that way, and I did. Every day after that I slouched down at a corner on some public thoroughfare and held out my hat. I asked no one for alms, but just sat there with my hat out. As fast as any money was dropped in I transferred it to my pockets. The first day I took in \$2.50, and from that time my earnings were never less and they have run as high as \$25 in a day. I took to all sorts of tricks to look miserable and played upon the public, though I was soon as well and vigorous as the best who came along. Well, sir, I kept this business up six years, and at the end of that time I had actually taken in a little over \$30,000, of which I had \$20,000 in bank, a little in many banks. I then had two children, and we lived comfortably. When I found I had \$20,000 I concluded to invest it. I did. I bought stocks, and after quietly speculating two years I had made \$227,000, and concluded to give up my old life and become a gentleman again. I came West. I bought land in this vicinity. In a short time that land more than ever made me a rich man, and to-day I am worth not a penny less than \$800,000. That, sir, all came from a beggar's hat in the streets of New York. Strange story? I think so myself. Really, it now seems to me that all this was a dream. It does not seem real."

Mr. Blank relighted his cigar, leaned comfortably back in his chair and remarked, "Never despise a beggar. You can't tell how rich he may be."

The journalist went his way that afternoon wondering much, envious of the mendicant at the corner, and inclined to turn beggar himself.

After four marriages of a conventional sort, and after arriving at the age of eighty, a Kentuckian eloped at night on horseback with the youthful belle of Buckner, hastened romantically to a clergyman twenty miles away, was chased by the angry father, and is now enjoying a honeymoon tour.

Hartmann, the nihilist, was not captured by the Russians, but is in London on his way to New York.

Elias Ellis, of New York, was the originator of "dollar stores." He recently died at the age of seventy.

Jenny Lind Goldschmidt is reckoned among the London millionaires.

LEPROSY.

Extent of this Terrible Disease in the United States.

The nightmare story of Mr. George Cable of a leper secluded for years in a house in New Orleans, says a New York paper, turns out to be no novelist's fancy, but only a small part of the terrible fact. The annual report of the Louisiana board of health for 1880, contains a detailed statement of the progress of the Asiatic leprosy in that State during the last century. It was brought in 1680 to the West Indies by the negro slaves, and thence to Louisiana. In 1778 this disease was so prevalent among the blacks, together with the African elephantiasis, and another equally horrible, named yaws, peculiar to Guinea negroes, that a hospital for lepers was established in New Orleans. At the present time the majority of lepers in the Louisiana board of health for 1880, contains a detailed statement of the progress of the Asiatic leprosy in that State during the last century. It was brought in 1680 to the West Indies by the negro slaves, and thence to Louisiana. 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