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THE MYSTERY OF THE INN BY THE SHORE



Florence Warden, Author of "The House on the Marsh," etc.

CHAPTER X.

He spoke in a low voice, not wishing to be heard, still walking along the high road. Jim, who did not wish to be heard, looked on his answer at the top of his voice.

The detective saw that Nell, who was now at the corner of the road, and about to turn to go up to the front-door of the house, stopped, hesitated, and seemed half inclined to return to where Jim stood.

By moving a few paces to the left, the detective, from whose hand she had just received the key, could see that there were no signs of the inn.

"What is the matter?" she asked, looking at him. "I am sure you are not the detective." "I am sure you are not the detective," she said, looking at him.

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had seen the thief—with his own eyes? He told me he could give proofs—proofs!"

"Well, well, my dear," returned the older lady, composedly, as she put her little brown hand tenderly on the stone to draw, "what if he did? My own idea is that Stickle's made up a story in order to get you to talk to him for it's evident the poor fellow is crazy about you."

"Nell made a gesture of disgust. "Ah, but you shouldn't treat him so harshly; it makes him desperate." Nell rose from her chair, and came close to the lady's side.

"Miss Theodora," she whispered, with a face full of fear, "it was not to get an excuse to talk to me that Jim said—that he did. He told me he advised me to confide in you—to tell you what he told me, and—everything!"

"Well, my dear, tell me if you like," said Miss Bostal, putting a kind hand on the girl's shoulder.

"Nell's face was deathlike in its deadly whiteness. "Why, my child, yes, tell me, of course. Come, come, what is there to get so miserably about? If you really think Jim Stickle did see the thief, and can prove who it is, you ought to be glad, and certainly not let your kindness of heart prevent you from telling him to speak out."

"But, you don't know who—who Jim thinks it was?" "Ah, you must trouble your head about that! A thief is a thief, and should be punished. And if it is a person you know, you may be sorry; but you must not shrink from your duty, which is to bring the criminal to justice."

"Nell withdrew herself with a sad smile from the lady's dressing hand, and shuddered. "Supposing it were it were some one you knew—and loved. What would you do?"

"Miss Bostal shook her head dejectedly. "My dear," she said, "I can see what it is. Stickle's been threatening to tell the detective that he can prove you to be the thief. And you let yourself be frightened like that? Why, child, you forget that everybody in the place knows he would give the world for a kind word from you; and they will know that he has made up this tale out of revenge for your taking no notice of him. You are a good girl, a little goose, to let yourself be worried by such a thing as that!"

"Nell drew a long breath of relief. Then she stood up. "You have taken a great load off my mind," she said, in a low, thankful voice. "I shall tell him when I see him. What shall I tell him?" she asked, with a sudden change to a little frown again.

FOR WOMAN'S BENEFIT

THE FEMINE ADVISER. A Woman Who Manages Other People's Money.

A new occupation for women is that of feminine adviser of a trust company. This new official does not advise the trust company, but she takes charge of the women patrons of the organization and acts as their counselor, confidant and banker.

One of the trust companies' tellers, when asked how the plan succeeded, said that the new office had caused a noticeable increase in the business of the establishment. "I must say," he added, "that to fill such a position as Mrs. Blank does, continually answering questions, one must have the temper of an angel, but I think that she has that. No man of us could stand the strain, much less stand it sweetly."

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Instead of cutting the ends of ribbon of where stock lines in front, you fold them over, as you would with the corners of a carpet, and let them hang straight down the front of your dress.

There will be six ends, three on each side. The ones in the middle are the longest, and you graduate the length to slope upward like a yoke. If you make these ends short, a yard and a half will do, but if you want them long, it takes more ribbon.

Then together with the facing part way down, but not all the way. And as a final smart touch, finish off the ends with tiny butterfly or flower bows in narrow black gauze ribbon.

"You have no idea what a pretty bit of newswear it makes. It is all so delicate and dainty. And it is ever so cheap, though it isn't cheap-looking. Of course, I am making this in black and white, and I use the tiny black bows on the ends. But one could make it in colors and put little flower pendants or some of the dainty dangle ornaments, and so get up a dozen different outfits built on the one plan."—Pittsboro Record.

Made and the Girl. An English reader of character says that a girl's nature can be told from the music she plays and the composers she shows most partiality for.

The girl who adores Beethoven is impractical, fond of art in general, and not apt to make a good helpmate. The girl who is devoted to Strauss is frivolous and light-minded. And she who professes a affinity for Verdi is sentimental, excitable and suspiciously sensitive.

The girl who loves Offenbach will be shrewd and unobtrusive. Her tastes during and over-much country, particularly the infected and superficial, command the intellect and lack artistic sense.

A liking for Wagner means that the girl is commonplace, apt to travel only with wealth, and without sense of humor. A liking for Wagner denotes an exaggerated, irritable temperament, not easily controlled.

Great partiality for waltzes means a girl is hard-headed and little to be depended upon. The girl who plays the "Battle of Prague," "Aval Chorus" and "Monsieur Rode" will be a good, practical wife, able to keep the family and nursery in order.

But for all-round, capable qualities, of both an intellectual and practical nature, the girl who does an "Home Sweet Home" can best be counted upon. She will be affectionate, non-travagant and a good companion.

GOOD ROADS

Relation of Vehicles to Maintenance.

KEEP what you have, and get all you can is an old saying of successful business men when asked as to how they succeeded in life, writes George F. Chadsey. The expression is peculiarly appropriate in connection with the subject in hand, and particularly applicable, as regards the first part of the quotation.

The offer of tires on a roadway is unattractive in its results. The wide tire has long proved the best of all, and is a permanent investment, whereas the narrow tire is a temporary expedient, and is a destructive. Experiments conducted at the Missouri and South Carolina agricultural colleges have demonstrated conclusively the advantages of the wide tire over the narrow one, both in the beneficial effect on the road surface and the lighter draft.

As regards the latter draught, the tests made show that an increase of dirt roads the heaviest tires, under the same conditions, carry a gain in draft of about 100 per cent. over the narrow tire. Where the roads are soft and muddy, but have a hard foundation, the narrow tire seems to offer less resistance than the wide one. It cuts through the soft earth more easily and with less noise.

But the season of soft roads is comparatively short during any year and the little temporary advantage passes out of consideration. A bad road will never become good by the traffic of good vehicles passing over it. In a good road may become bad by indiscriminate use of improper wheels. Narrow tires grind and wear away surfaces instead of packing and cushioning them.

It has been demonstrated by the tests of the Royal Agricultural Society, that a 2 1/2 inch wide tire on a road of the wear of a 4 1/2 inch tire. Further tests showed that a 4 1/2 inch tire on a road of the wear of a 2 1/2 inch tire is no special advantage.

It may not be out of place at this time to mention the influence of wheels of different diameters on the roadway. According to experiments made at the Royal Agricultural Show, at Bedford, England, the resistance of wheels increases inversely as the diameter, that is, reduce the diameter of the wheel by one-half and the force required to move the load will have to be doubled. The cause of this difference is attributed to the sinking down of the wheel in the roadbed. This sinking of the wheel is what destroys a road and an additional fact is that the wheel might prove a greater benefit than an extra inch in width of tire. It will be proved that a wheel of small diameter has to cut deeper in order to get a greater bearing surface.

On a well-constructed road the sinking of the roadbed is equal to the sinking of the tire and as the wheel passes over the surface it quickly springs back to shape. On poorly built roads the wheels crush and disintegrate the road materials, thereby threatening the endurance of the roadbed and increasing the cost of putting a green road over it. In such a case, even if the road is perfectly level, the wheels are constantly going over an incline. To reduce this grade to the minimum should be the object of the engineer and can only be accomplished by making the roadbed so firm that its elasticity responds in measure to the pressure of the wheels.

It will therefore be seen that several influences may be brought to bear upon the maintenance of a system of roads. Proper construction of roads and careful selection of vehicles that pass over them are two of the most important factors in the road question. The engineer may be responsible for the first condition, but the latter comes within the jurisdiction of the municipal or governing authorities.—Good Roads Magazine.

Household Matters

Chloride of Lime Solution.

Crush a quarter of a pound of chloride of lime in a basin, and soak to a smooth paste with a little cold water. Add one and a half pints more cold water, stir well and cover, and let stand for a day or two, straining occasionally. Then strain and strain off the clear liquid, strain into a bottle, and keep tightly corked.

To Clean Oilcloth. Oilcloth should be washed with hot water. When it has been washed, wring out the oil, and then wash the cloth and rinse it in cold water. Then press with a clean cloth and rub it with a soft brush. Oilcloth that is treated in this way once a week, and rubbed well after sweeping with a soft cloth on other days, always looks well.

Cork Soap Bowl. Bathroom appliances are becoming as numerous as the kitchen vessels, and if the modern sink has not its own sink, it is at least, equipped as luxuriously and as conveniently as possible. The latest addition to the already long list of bathroom paraphernalia is a cork soap bowl. This will bear on the surface of the water and prevent the loss of the soap, which is ordinarily almost a frequent occurrence.

A Novel Method. One woman who has a large family of children, and who is a devotee of the most modern methods, has discovered a novel method. She has discovered a method of washing clothes that is so simple and so effective that it has become a household necessity.

New Paper For Cottage Walls. Mattie is to be much used for country house walls this year, and is a better material than the old paper. It is a better material than the old paper, and is a better material than the old paper.

Household Recipes. Potato Pudding. Boil one medium-sized potato until tender and rub through a sieve, then add half a cup of powdered sugar, one third cup of butter, three small eggs, and half a cup of lemon juice all thoroughly and put in a buttered dish and bake in a quick oven half an hour.

Butter Omelet. Put one pint of milk in the double boiler, melt one tablespoon of butter, add to it half a teaspoon of flour, when well mixed add to it one pint of scalding milk, stirring one minute, then mix a rich and when cold add the yolks of two eggs beaten, then add the whites beaten stiff, put in a moderate oven and bake until firm in the center. It is a good thing to have on hand.

Orange Cakes. Beat two eggs, add half a cup of milk to them, put one cup of sugar, one level spoonful of one teaspoonful of soda, half a cup of butter, and one and one-half cups of sifted flour, alternating with the egg and milk, beat this well and add one cup of powdered sugar, one and one-half cups of sifted flour, and one and one-half cups of sifted flour, alternating with the egg and milk, beat this well and add one cup of powdered sugar, one and one-half cups of sifted flour, and one and one-half cups of sifted flour.

To be Continued.