

# The Elm City Tale.

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NO. 13.

## JOHN WINTHROP'S DEFEAT.

A Novel.

JEAN KATE LUDLUM,

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CHAPTER XI.

(Continued.)

"We have not yet met that hateful Mr. Winthrop," she wrote one day toward the end of the second winter. "You say his mother and Miss Gray are still here, although the ogre himself is back at his grinning of hearts? What a man!—I don't know—I assume you would have scorned every drop of the sweetness in Parisian sugar plums! He would turn even the Sweetwater River of our Rockies into the bitterness of Marah! It would be a wintry day when we met. Though he were dying, I would not lift my hand to save him! There is a rumor—deliciously faint—that an American family has arrived in Paris for a flying glimpse of sugar plums. If it is he—"

She ended abruptly after a heavy dash of her pen:

"Your modern, Beatrice Cenci Field."

And Gregory Bensonhurst understood that if ever the opportunity came for Beatrice Field to be kind to John Winthrop, she would remember what Althea had suffered through him. So far, however, nothing special had occurred save Marion's engagement to a wealthy New Yorker who had followed them to Europe and had won her there; and Kathryn Franklin's engagement and innumerable quarrels and reconciliations with an American artist in Rome, who often neglected his studies to be with the charming woman of his choice.

One morning Beatrice and Mrs. Glendenning were shopping. They had just left the "Belle Jardiniere." Beatrice was chatting delightedly of the beauties they had seen, when she paused suddenly, grasping her companion's arm with a stifled exclamation.

An elderly woman, who left the gay shop just ahead of them, had been vainly striving to attract the attention of her coachman, who engaged in flirtation with a pretty nursery maid, seemed quite to have forgotten his duty. He had driven up and down, waiting for his mistress, and had passed on the opposite side of the street, finding her effort in vain, the woman attempted to cross the street, regardless of the passing carriages, and stumbling, would have fallen under the hoofs of an approaching team, had not Beatrice sprung forward and pulled her away and back upon the pavement.

An officer close at hand started to rescue her, but Beatrice had waited for no assistance. The coachman, now aware of the neglect of his duty, was at hand, and the girl assisted the trembling woman into the carriage, pausing a moment to learn if she were comfortable ere she left her.

Then, as Beatrice was turning away, the lady in the carriage said, very softly and sweetly, leaning forward, one gentle hand upon the light fingers on the carriage door, the quaint language she used sounding strangely on the gay street:

"Does this mind giving me the name, my dear? It will be good to remember the name of my brave friend when I think of her."

Beatrice smiled, her eyes bright with the swift touch of tears at sound of this sweet home tongue. She bent her head with half-shy grace, like a child. "I am Beatrice Field," she said, softly, leaning nearer her new acquaintance, forgetting, in the excitement of the moment, that Mrs. Glendenning still waited, "from New York. We start for home to-morrow. You are quite comfortable now, madam? I may safely leave you?"

The answering smile on the sweet old face was like a ray of home love and truth in that brilliant street.

"I am quite comfortable; yes, thank thee, dear. I am Mary Winthrop. My home is in the Berkshire Hills of America. If they would give me thy address, my son John will wish to thank thee for thy kindness to his mother. John is a lawyer in thy New York, too."

But Beatrice was suddenly withdrawn from her frank cordiality. Removing her hand from the carriage door and from under the touch of the other's soft fingers, as though a serpent had stung her, she stepped back upon the pavement, a scornful curve on her lips, a world of anger in the hazel eyes.

"I beg your pardon, madam," she said, coldly; "but if you will tell your son for me that, had she known whom she was saving, Beatrice Field, Althea Graham's sister, would not have lifted her hand for you, I scarcely think that she will care to thank me. I bid you good morning, madame."

And like a priestess of vengeance she turned away.

CHAPTER XII.

"IT WAS NOT SEE!" HE SAID.

"Well, girls!" Beatrice paused upon the threshold of Althea's room, where her mother and sisters and their friends were assembled. Beatrice was dressed still in her street costume, as she stood before them, but this was not the Beatrice who left the house not long before.

"Listen to me! I have been standing on the heights of Olympus this morning. I have breathed at the mist-shrouded entrance of Delphi!"

A sensation stirred the group before her; even Marion turned her calm eyes upon her, questioningly.

"What is it, Bee?" queried her

mother, somewhat sternly; for Beatrice was sometimes too childishly impulsive, her mother said. "If you have been to Delphi, surely you have gained a little wisdom, my dear!"

"Not an atom of wisdom!" said Beatrice, shutting her red lips as though she crushed down some fury of feeling. "Only proof of an old saying, mamma!"

"What old saying, Bee? You must learn to be more definite in expression, and have more self-control. I did hope that this trip would benefit you in that way, child."

"And it hasn't? Say the truth right out, mamma—I don't mind!" replied the girl, though a vivid red spot burned a each smooth cheek, and a flame was in her eyes, as though the Olympian goddess had touched her there with fire. "But the old saying that I specially meant, mamma, is of the 'mills of the gods' that grind so slowly! The spider-like wheels of their machinery make a revolution to-day under my hands!"

Mrs. Field sighed over this incorrigible girl; Cora laughed; Marion shrugged her shoulders disdainfully and raised her eyebrows; Kathryn and Althea and Frances waited expectantly.

Althea reached out her hand to her sister.

"You dramatic child! Come here at once and explain," she said.

Beatrice shook her head.

"I haven't much to say," she replied, steadily. "I prefer standing here where I can easily escape should horror seize you. I have avenged you to some extent this morning, Althea Graham. I saved the life of some one on the 'Belle Jardiniere.'"

"You, Bee Field? Whose life was it?"

A clamor of tongues; interested faces new in place of quietly attentive faces. Even Mrs. Field forgot her annoyance at the girl's heedlessness.

"What do you mean, Beatrice?"

"Guess!"

"I'm a Yankee, but I can't," said Kathryn, laughing. "Tell us, Bee, like a good child."

"Guess!" repeated Beatrice, with that slow, stern shutting of the lips that came only with intense anger or excitement.

"Perhaps the one name was in the mind of all, suggested by the girl's face, but only Althea Dunbar had the hardihood to utter it in her soft, pretty voice.

"John Winthrop, Bee?"

Beatrice shook her head. Her lips were cruel now. She turned her eyes upon Althea like a flash of blazing anger.

"Not John Winthrop. No, Althea; but next best—his mother!"

Utter, dead silence for a moment. Then Althea asked, a sweet light upon her face:

"Brave little Bee! How did you do it, dear?"

Beatrice made a swift, fierce gesture with her hands, as though she were pushing down some rising entity. The green lips would not soften even before the light in her sister's face. The flame in the hazel eyes deepened then to black. Her voice was like steel when she spoke—not the bright voice of impulsive Beatrice Field.

"How did I do it, Althea? You ask me? But first I must tell you the truth. You shall not think that I would have lifted my hand for her had I dreamed who she was—for I would not. I told you long ago how I hate that man—her son! This woman should have died, trampled under the hoofs of the horses, for all me, had I known that she was his mother! Such cruel natures have no right in this world. No!"

"I did not know until—afterward." Silence again—a throbbing, alive silence that seemed filled with beating hearts trembling before the truth—waiting to hear the worst, if worse there were.

"But you did save her?" said Althea, then, going over to her sister. "Being our true, brave Bee, you could have done nothing else, darling."

Beatrice pushed aside Althea's gentle hands and stepped back from her, her flashing eyes holding a spirit of evil within them, though a streak of alternate red and white fell across her face as though evil and good were having equal battle in her heart.

"Don't touch me, Althea!" she cried, with swift impulse. "You don't realize how wicked I am! I tell you I am just as much a murderer as though I had killed that woman! Have I not told you that I would not have touched her had I known that she was John Winthrop's mother—or sister—or wife? That is how I hate him!"

Still Althea did not recoil from her in horror as Beatrice seemed to expect; only she smiled died from her lips as she followed Beatrice, drawing her forcibly over to the low couch among the others and pressing her down tenderly among the cushions.

"You threaten like a tragedy queen of the stage," she said, quietly. "Now out away theatricals, Bee, and tell us the truth. You saved Mrs. Winthrop's life?"

"But I tell you, Althea," protested Beatrice, restlessly—"that I wouldn't have done it had I known—"

"I don't wish you to tell me that," said Althea, steadily, and sternly, her violet eyes upon her sister's flushed face. "You saved Mrs. Winthrop's life, Bee Field?"

"Yes," rather sullenly from Beatrice, angry because they would vindicate her in spite of her denouncing words.

"How did you do it, Bee, dear?"

"She was crossing the street," said Beatrice, pulling her head away from Althea's light fingers that were removing her bonnet and veil, and making more fluffy the soft hair on her forehead, "and she stumbled. It wasn't anything really, only I wouldn't have done it—I tell you, Althea, I will finish it—had I known who she was."

"Where is Annette?" questioned Althea. "She was with you, Bee. She will tell us concretely of the accident."

"She has gone home," replied Beatrice, frowning. "I didn't want her to come in. I knew that you would question her, and I will not have that!"

"What is she like, Bee?" asked Cora, presently. "Is she real horrid—a sort of ogress, you know?"

"How could she fall to be horrid," said Beatrice, coldly, "being his mother, Cora?"

"But what does she look like?" persisted Cora. "Is she tall and big with a hard voice and cold eyes and that, you know?"

"And did she thank you in a way that made you wish you hadn't saved her," queried Kathryn, saucily, "as some people do, Bee?"

"No, she didn't," said Beatrice, crossly. "The truth would not be at all pleasant for her to tell to these girls—it was bad enough for her to have to acknowledge even to herself."

"Then, what did she say?" asked Althea. "Of course, she said something, Bee Field!"

"How can you expect me to remember what she said?" retorted Beatrice, irritably, rising to leave the room, fearing lest she be too closely pressed.

"One seldom remembers details at such a time, Althea."

"But you would," murmured Cora, disappointedly, yet not daring to further question this willful sister of hers. For if the truth must be known, when Beatrice looked as she did at that moment, Cora was considerably afraid of her. "You never forget, Bee?"

"Yes," said Beatrice, coldly, flashing her eyes upon Cora. "In that you are right, Cora—I never do forget!"

"But, before you go," joined in Marion, coolly, "we shall be glad to learn what this man's mother does look like, Beatrice. It should be a gratification to you to describe her if she is such a disagreeable person."

"I did not say that she is disagreeable, Marion!" Beatrice paused in the doorway.

"Oh, indeed! But you certainly insinuated it, Bee. You said that 'she could not fail to be horrid, being his mother.' What else were we led to expect?"

"Well, of course, she is horrid!" declared Beatrice, desperately. "But she doesn't look so, Marion! Her face is very sweet in expression—mild, you know—and her eyes are blue, like blue-bells—like Althea's—and her hair is the loveliest white. She's a Quaker, too, and called me 'thee,' as though she loved the word. There! Only—she is just as horrid, of course! She cannot help being horrid, as I said!"

"The girl vanished as the last word was uttered, as though it were sorely bitter for her to be obliged to yield over this much to the mother of John Winthrop, and silence for a moment fell upon the room."

"Well!" exclaimed Cora at last, in extreme astonishment.

"Well," repeated Kathryn and Althea, lost for any new expression in the extremity of their surprise.

"Beatrice has a way of making such mountains out of mole hills!" said Marion, scornfully. "We might have known what to believe. It would be well for her to break herself of that habit, among others, mamma."

"It is because she lives and thinks and feels so intensely, I think, Marion," said Frances, quietly. "She doesn't dissect what comes to her, as a naturalist would do, but takes it and lives it and feels it hers. If as only such natures can. It isn't a sin in her."

"No," added Althea, very softly, very sweetly. "She is doing this for me, Marion, because—"

And then silence fell between them, eloquent with memory.

At that same hour, John Winthrop, just returned to Paris to accompany his mother and ward back to America the following week, after their absence of two years, was sitting with them at luncheon, discussing the event of the morning. He was very pale, but it was the pallor of strong passion, and his eyes were flashing with a fire equal to that of Beatrice Field standing in the doorway of her sister's room.

Jessica Gray, his ward, faced him at the table. She was tall and graceful, willowy in figure and movement, with a subtle liteness about her that suggested the nature of an indolent leopard. Her eyes showed this possibility also in their opal calmness, and the thin, rose-lip lips were just now curled in scorn.

She had lived a quiet life among the Berkshire Hills with her guardian's mother, and yet this subtle fire and fierceness could awaken within her brilliantly and her voice soften to a languor that was fascinating when she would. She often started the gentle Quaker lady sitting near her son with her noisy hair smooth and soft and her gentle face pleading with them for kindly thought of the willful girl who had uttered such reckless words.

"You should not have ventured alone, mother," said John Winthrop, gravely. His voice was always gentle addressed to this one woman. She was the only woman, perhaps, whom he fully loved and trusted. "Jessica would have been glad to have accompanied you among the shops."

(To be continued.)

Wise is the youth who sticks to business with the glue of industry.

## ODELL IS ELECTED

New York Goes Republican by Small Majority.

REPUBLICANS CARRY THE HOUSE.

There Was Little Excitement in the Election of Tuesday and Results Show Few Surprises.

Tuesday's election passed off quietly in all sections of the country. The latest returns obtainable indicate that the republicans will have a small majority in the next Congress, though the democratic gains have been heavy. New York seems to have gone republican by a small majority. The South went solidly democratic. The voting was light everywhere.

NEW YORK.

New York, Special.—In spite of a phenomenally large vote in New York and Kings county for Bird S. Cole, Democrat, returns up to a late hour indicated the re-election of Benjamin B. Odell, Republican, to the governorship of New York State, by from 6,000 to 9,000. Cole's plurality in Greater New York exceeded 115,000, a surplus of 3,000 above the vote made by Chas. F. Murphy, leader of Tammany Hall, but even that large vote was not sufficient to overcome the Republican majorities from up the State. Odell's vote in the country districts was lighter than two years ago, but Cole's was also lower than Stanchfield's in the same year. In New York city, Cole's plurality was approximately 117,500 made up as follows: New York county, 38,000; Kings, 25,500; Queens, 5,500; and Richmond, 2,500. Oyster Bay, where President Roosevelt's country home is situated and where he voted today, was carried by Cole, his plurality being 131. Two years ago Odell's popularity there was 512. Figures from the congressional districts in New York city and the Long Island counties are as follows: In the first district, Cole's vote was 10,000 less than that of Stanchfield's in the same year. In New York city, Cole's plurality was approximately 117,500 made up as follows: New York county, 38,000; Kings, 25,500; Queens, 5,500; and Richmond, 2,500. Oyster Bay, where President Roosevelt's country home is situated and where he voted today, was carried by Cole, his plurality being 131. Two years ago Odell's popularity there was 512. Figures from the congressional districts in New York city and the Long Island counties are as follows: In the first district, Cole's vote was 10,000 less than that of Stanchfield's in the same year. In New York city, Cole's plurality was approximately 117,500 made up as follows: New York county, 38,000; Kings, 25,500; Queens, 5,500; and Richmond, 2,500. Oyster Bay, where President Roosevelt's country home is situated and where he voted today, was carried by Cole, his plurality being 131. Two years ago Odell's popularity there was 512. Figures from the congressional districts in New York city and the Long Island counties are as follows: In the first district, Cole's vote was 10,000 less than that of Stanchfield's in the same year. In New York city, Cole's plurality was approximately 117,500 made up as follows: New York county, 38,000; Kings, 25,500; Queens, 5,500; and Richmond, 2,500. Oyster Bay, where President Roosevelt's country home is situated and where he voted today, was carried by Cole, his plurality being 131. Two years ago Odell's popularity there was 512. Figures from the congressional districts in New York city and the Long Island counties are as follows: In the first district, Cole's vote was 10,000 less than that of Stanchfield's in the same year. In New York city, Cole's plurality was approximately 117,500 made up as follows: New York county, 38,000; Kings, 25,500; Queens, 5,500; and Richmond, 2,500. Oyster Bay, where President Roosevelt's country home is situated and where he voted today, was carried by Cole, his plurality being 131. Two years ago Odell's popularity there was 512. Figures from the congressional districts in New York city and the Long Island counties are as follows: In the first district, Cole's vote was 10,000 less than that of Stanchfield's in the same year. In New York city, Cole's plurality was approximately 117,500 made up as follows: New York county, 38,000; Kings, 25,500; Queens, 5,500; and Richmond, 2,500. Oyster Bay, where President Roosevelt's country home is situated and where he voted today, was carried by Cole, his plurality being 131. Two years ago Odell's popularity there was 512. 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Oyster Bay, where President Roosevelt's country home is situated and where he voted today, was carried by Cole, his plurality being 131. Two years ago Odell's popularity there was 512. Figures from the congressional districts in New York city and the Long Island counties are as follows: In the first district, Cole's vote was 10,000 less than that of Stanchfield's in the same year. In New York city, Cole's plurality was approximately 117,500 made up as follows: New York county, 38,000; Kings, 25,500; Queens, 5,500; and Richmond, 2,500. Oyster Bay, where President Roosevelt's country home is situated and where he voted today, was carried by Cole, his plurality being 131. Two years ago Odell's popularity there was 512. Figures from the congressional districts in New York city and the Long Island counties are as follows: In the first district, Cole's vote was 10,000 less than that of Stanchfield's in the same year. In New York city, Cole's plurality was approximately 117,500 made up as follows: New York county, 38,000; Kings, 25,500; Queens, 5,500; and Richmond, 2,500. Oyster Bay, where President Roosevelt's country home is situated and where he voted today, was carried by Cole, his plurality being 131. Two years ago Odell's popularity there was 512. Figures from the congressional districts in New York city and the Long Island counties are as follows: In the first district, Cole's vote was 10,000 less than that of Stanchfield's in the same year. In New York city, Cole's plurality was approximately 117,500 made up as follows: New York county, 38,000; Kings, 25,500; Queens, 5,500; and Richmond, 2,500. Oyster Bay, where President Roosevelt's country home is situated and where he voted today, was carried by Cole, his plurality being 131. Two years ago Odell's popularity there was 512. Figures from the congressional districts in New York city and the Long Island counties are as follows: In the first district, Cole's vote was 10,000 less than that of Stanchfield's in the same year. In New York city, Cole's plurality was approximately 117,500 made up as follows: New York county, 38,000; Kings, 25,500; Queens, 5,500; and Richmond, 2,500. Oyster Bay, where President Roosevelt's country home is situated and where he voted today, was carried by Cole, his plurality being 131. Two years ago Odell's popularity there was 512. Figures from the congressional districts in New York city and the Long Island counties are as follows: In the first district, Cole's vote was 10,000 less than that of Stanchfield's in the same year. In New York city, Cole's plurality was approximately 117,500 made up as follows: New York county, 38,000; Kings, 25,500; Queens, 5,500; and Richmond, 2,500. Oyster Bay, where President Roosevelt's country home is situated and where he voted today, was carried by Cole, his plurality being 131. Two years ago Odell's popularity there was 512. Figures from the congressional districts in New York city and the Long Island counties are as follows: In the first district, Cole's vote was 10,000 less than that of Stanchfield's in the same year. In New York city, Cole's plurality was approximately 117,500 made up as follows: New York county, 38,000; Kings, 25,500; Queens, 5,500; and Richmond, 2,500. Oyster Bay, where President Roosevelt's country home is situated and where he voted today, was carried by Cole, his plurality being 131. Two years ago Odell's popularity there was 512. Figures from the congressional districts in New York city and the Long Island counties are as follows: In the first district, Cole's vote was 10,000 less than that of Stanchfield's in the same year. In New York city, Cole's plurality was approximately 117,500 made up as follows: New York county, 38,000; Kings, 25,500; Queens, 5,500; and