## THE ALAMANCE GLEANER



## W

 moor moon  . His Country, it will be Superman,
## 

 1. the greater latent of generals, not the $m$| ing a statement without backing it up |
| :--- |
| with authority, another criticized him | with authority, another criticized him

for "fatal illogic e and false romance
of the movies." $\mathbf{A}$ Harvard professor

## SENT BY RURAL DELIVERY

## T

T ton as he neared the halter of expular zinc receptacle labeled "Adan Foster."
Beyond, at the end of a ileafy-rooted arcade two hundred feet long, was the
substantial, Inviting-looklng old farm-
house. It held three daughters and two sons. In one of them young Wo
Merrill was especially interested.
shy blushing flutter Merrill was especially interested. A
shy, blushing, fluttering young rena-
ture, the morning previous she had
fitted down the shady lane to the side
of the mall cart, light and graceful of the mall
some fairy.
some fairy,
He had handed her some letters ad
dressed to her father and a couple of
and dressed to her father and a couple of
magazines. She had smiled upon him
mim In a way that set his nerves tingling.
In her embarrassment she had dropped
letters and bundles. Their heads had letters and bundles, Their heads had
bumped together as they stooped
mutually to recover them. Then both mutually to
had smiled.
"Could you-would you-that is, I
must get a small package to Nellie
Blake-- you know? --the next farm-

## "Surely," assented Merrill eagerly. "I cant go there and I capt walt

 to have it ma fled.""As a private Individual
your service," bowed Merrill. your service, bowed Merrill,
"Oh, thank you!" and Peart Foster
handed him a neat parcel, smiled bewitchingly
frightened
The Blake home was the last farm
house on Merrill's route. He dellvereil the package to Miss Blake and went
on his way, dreaming fondly of the on his way, dreaming fondly of the
lovely girl who had broken the tie
of a mutual acquaintance. Merrill looked eagerly for his
charming Ideal the next day, but it
was raining, so she did not come down to the mail box at the road. The next
afternoon was fair, but the farm path
leading up to the house was muddy. afternoon was fair, but che harm pacy
leading up to the house was muddy.
From the porch, however, Pearl made From the porch, however, Pearl made
urgent gestures, apparently directing
the

## Merrill sew that it exactly re sembled the one he had delivered to

 sembled the one he had dellvered toMiss Blake two days previous. It felt Miss Blake two ans previous. It welt
soft and fut and he decided it was
some article of feminine adornment, some article or feminine adornment, a
lace collar, an embroidered handler-
chief, or the Ike. Merrill had heard
that the elder that the elder slater of Miss Blake
was about to be married. This new
parcel, he theorized, might be a conparcel, he theorized, might be a con-
tribution to a prospective linen shower. At all exits he took it up, waved
It at Pearl to indicate that he under-
stood, and his pulse heightened as she stood, and his pulse heightened as she
vigorously bobbed her pretty head
and and smiled radiantly.
At the last delivery point Merrill had picked a spray of forget-me-nots.
He released the tiny thing of beauty from his buttonhole and placed it be-
tween two letters directed to Pearl. Then he went on his way. again on the porch. He hoped she would come to the road in person for
the mall. Merrill even waved the let-
tors Intended for the house fnvilungly. tors intended for the house - Inviungly
But coy Pearl betrayed an Inexpticahe shyness. She made a gesture and
half hud behind a post. On top bf the $m$
roses.
Alilioquized Merrill to Miss Blake r pretty flowers. He, raised them to in
hale their delicate perfume. Then his heart beat fast. Was it fancy?
Could it be reality? Pearl had wafted him a light kiss with a lighter cooing
laugh, and had flown into the house
as if hiding some conscious guilt in as if hiding some conscious guilt in
a breach of decorum.
Miss Blake stared strangely at Mer
rill as he handed her the bouquet PIII as he handed her if pounder
She looked at him as if mise d

standing. Then she smiled quietly | $\mathbf{r}$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| g. |
| stan |
| but |
| him. |
| him | By this time Merrill was head over

heeds in love with Pearl. His heart
fluttered as he hoped fluttered as he hoped that she was in
terested in him. But the next morn-
ing she did not even appear on the ing she did not even appear on the
porch. The second morning she
passed across the lawn, her chin high In the air. She actually turned her
back upon him. The third morning there was a sheet
of paper across the mall box. it bore one word
"staple
" Merrill went his way, pondering When his route was finished he
dropped the reins of the old horse, sat
back in the gig listlessly and saw life back in the gig listlessly and saw
and all its hopes and motives dr os. into a sea of despairing, gloom,
"What does it mean $\mathrm{T}^{\prime}$ he murm dejectedly. "'Stupi d'-surely! It was
meant for me, but why? why r"
The horse, left guileless, had strayed
.
present Joyless mood Merrill allowed
him to graze. His day's labors were
over and he was in a frame of mind
on ere over and he was in a frame of mind
where solitude was a boon. Suddenly,
however, Merrill was startled by the echo of a veld scream.
That is a woman's vol
"That is a woman's voice !" he decld-
ed, and , leaped from the gig and dashed
through the underbrush in the alec-
ton from which the cry had sounded through the underbrush
tron from which the cry had sounded-
He came to He came to an abrupt halt where
path Intersected the wildwood.
Miss Blake stood Miss Blake stood rigid with rear,
confronted by a brawny tramp, who.
cudgel in hand, menaced her "Out with your purse and off with
your jewelry, my pretty ${ }^{\text {". ordered the }}$ your Jewelry, my pretty!" ordered the
man, and then he went sprawling at a
well-directed blow from the man, and then he went sprawling at
well-ifrected blow from the strong fist
of Merrill and made or baffled, as
me ll of Merrill and made off baffled, as
Merrill caught the half-fainting girl in his arms.
Miss Blake was hysterical with grat-
itude, but in a few moments had some Itude, but in a few moments had some.
what regained her composure. "I had Just left Peari-that is, Miss
Foster," she explained, "when that
horrid Then" perhaps that fellow has
"tarted after her-began Merrill in anxious tone
time;" Interrupted Mists Blake. The she paused. There seemed to be some-
thing on her mind. She finally placed "You have been so good to me," she
spoke falteringly, "I think I should tell you something about-about
Pearl. "Anything about Miss Foster will
be of Infinite importance to me," as-
sure sured Merrill ardently
"But
"But-but it is a breach of conf-
dance, perhaps." She hesitated. Then
she burst out. "It was about those "Oh, the roses Miss Foster sent
you."
"She did not "She did not mean them for me."
"Indeed?" questioned Merrill pus-
zed "No. They were Intended for-
you."
"For me? Oh, I understand now !"
cried Merrill in a quick, eomprehen-
give gasp. "Why, I never dreamed of
such a the" such a thing:
"Your forget-me-nots-".
"I fancied she would scarcely notice them."
"Was ft
mated Mi

## mated Miss Blake archly "And the roses were- <br> $$
\begin{aligned} & \text { "And the roses were-" } \\ & \text { "A reply. In the language of for } \\ & \text { ers- you should feel honored." } \end{aligned}
$$

And 'stupid,' Indeed,
claimed Merrill, Joyously
"Poor Pearl"" continued Miss Blake.
"she had been searching the woods for some gruesome plant that would
express her heartbreak.". She need not, if the assurance that
I read her good will aright at last and am eager to tell her how happy she
has made me $"$ orated Merrill to a
riotous fervor of delight riotous fervor or delight.
" "uppose-suppose you come over
to our house tonight?" gently zugto our house tonight?" gently suI-
seated Miss Blake.
"Suppose I do? submitted Merrill
hopetily. $\begin{gathered}\text { suppose } \\ \text { hopefully. } \\ \text { Pearl }\end{gathered}$
her all about your modest mistake."
Which Merrill did, of the pretty garden, amid sleeping
roses, and the chiming crickets, and
the sweet white moonlight and

## Great Railway Tunnel

 world are the connecting Italy and Switzerland, length 12 milts: Mount StGothard, connecting Italy and Switzerhand 94 mines; Poona Cenis, also,
In the Alps, connecting France and
Italy, 8 miles ; Arlberg. In Austria,
the Canadian Pacific railway, under
Mount Macdonald, the Selkirk
range of the Rocky mountains in
range of the Rocky mountains; in
British Columbia, 5 miles In length,
with two railway tracks; the with two railway tracks; the Hooxac
Mountain tunnel, in western Masschusetts, $41 / 2$ miles: the St. Clair tun-
net, carrying the ines of the Cana-
dian National railways under the St.
Clair river, bet

In the Modern Way
A pretty girl was courted by man means.
The former showered her with all varieties of costly gifts, and feted her
In sumptuous fashion. The Impecuni-
pus one gave her only tit develen ous one gave her only his devotion, for
it was all he had to give, Still, devoSo she fell in love with the poor fol-
low. But she married the rich one.

Andrew Jackson's Politics
Andrew Jackson is popularly sup posed to have started the modern
Democratic party. It was to a large extent the successor of the. Jeffer-
sonlans. But Old Hickory himself did not apply the name "Democratic" to
his followers. During his Presidency
and after his retirement to the Her. and after his retirement to the Her
mitage. in all his correspondence he called himself a Republican and spoke of his party as the Republican party-


N

cis ion mize $\underset{y}{ }$ can republics ; many acclaim este of precious woods, untold re
sources of valuable minerals and so fertile that th has been said, "If
you ttekte the you ttekte the ground w."
smiles back with a yam."
There is a darker side-few regions
of lis size anywhere in the world have been so beset by revolutions and vol-
canc eruptions. After a century of
almost perpetual almost perpetual civil war Nicaragua
settled down to comparative peace Yew years ago and begun to reap the
dividends in progress toward prosper
Its. Modern ty. Modern science can ameliorate
the disasters from valances by ap-
proximate predictions of their proximate predictions of , their expo
sons, while it also has taught the
Nictraguans that the eruptions of the Nectraguans that the eruptions of the
past were blessings in disguise, because they fertilized the land to
marvelous degree.
The country is about the area of
New York state and ts total popula-
ton is only a ton Is only a little larger than that
of Buffalo. It has two mountain
ridges which Enclose the "Great Lakes of Central Am
and Managua. map tells the story of Nicaragua' backwardness in bygone years. Costa
Rice, to the south, and Honduras, to
the north lentic ocean; all of Nicaragua's It.
portant cities are on the Pacific side of her coastal mountains. To the east
of the mountains le her lakes she presents to the Caribbean as, very
unprepossessing "back- yard." with
the worlds wis. nation, the Mosquito coast.
Pacific Frontage Helps
Today, whit Los Angeles, San Fran-
cisco and Seattle to tap her markets Cisco and Seattle to tap her markets,
Nicaragua's Pacific frontage is a bless.
Ing. But yesterday tic ports of North America and Europe were doing the world's shlpplo
she was severely handicapped. wariously, too, her Mosquito coast
The appellatiately named by error The appellation was not intended for
the insect, which abounds there, but Is a corruption of the name of the
B,O00 Indians, the Misskits, who surThe country's northernmost Carib is a headilne of geography. Columbus
explored. the Central American coast on his last voyage and, cruising cast
from Cape Honduras, was compelled to take shelter from a s storm at a point
where the coast abruptly turns to where the coast abruptly turns to the
south. He named the cape "Thanks
to God" and took possession of the
$\qquad$ rock that Spaniards were established along the lake region in far western
Nicaragua, despite the unwelcome volcantle outbursts. Especially vigorous
was the explosion of Masaya, In 1522 The most sensational single eruption,
however, occurred within a century from our day -when Coseguna blew
of its head in 1835. For days a black of its head obscured the sun, dost blanketed
pal
the fields ant forests, animals died br the thousands from thirst and hunger.
Tradition says that it was into the crater of the abore-mentioned Massy
that Friar Elias of Castile lowered a
bucket in 1534 in the hope of drawing up molten gold, When he of drawled the
lava the bucket melted friar wrote home: "One cannot behold
the volcano without fear, admiration,
and repent and repentance of his sins: for it can
be surpassed only by eternal fire." At that name, and near the lake is the little town of Masaya.
Route of Proposed Canal.
Whether a Nicaraguan canal be built is a question which only future can answer; but it has bee
go continuously discussed and its po the term "Nicaraguan canal route" ts
easily described. Interest has been
别 reawakened in this route
cent trouble in Nicaragua.
locks and small artificial lake out of
consideration, may be considered th american Suez; for it is relatively
short and direct., The Nicaragua route-again ignoring loeks-must b
compared with the Turkish state it is relatively long, and has in its
course a great natural inland sea, from why
ejected.
A. Nicaraguan canal would be less man-made affair than the Panama o be thwarted and subdued by en
gineers. At Panama ships now move throw
locks was ere
river wa
and eve ing to external were built accord ut work that nature lock building, would be utilized to a marked degree
From the Atlantic lowlands for some, largely through, lower reaches of the San Juan river
are clogged with sand brought down Locks would then raise the waterway
to the 100 -foot level of the lake. Ships would be transferred into the Sa would move up ts s slack water. for ap
proximately 45 miles to Lake Nile Lake Nicaragua is Large.
Thess lake is a really large body o water. It is 100 miles long and 45
wide at the broadest point, and is in in North America south of Lake
Michigan. For 70 miles ships would use the waters of Lake Nicaragua
Then would come the descent to the Pacific through a canal and locks corrow isthmus that divides the lake The rivet and

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { cute above the dam, however, wool } \\
& \text { pot all be in readiness for use with }
\end{aligned}
$$ out the expenditure of labor. Of the

5 miles of river 28 would require in provement, while a channel would
have to be dredged through a score of miles of the lake near the river out The Pacific side accumulated
present relatively few dificuntites wo u narrow divide at the point crossed b
the canal route rises only 44 feet above the lake level. Altogether the
canal route. from deep water to deep water, would be about 180 miles lon/
The passage of ships would require more than 24 hours as against 12 or
less at Panama. Such a canal could
be reached quickly
States.
One other contrast exists between
the Panama canal and the Nicaraguan ry of relatively little potent would doubtless be a s strong factor
the development of that country. ing up its vast forests of both han
and soft woods and tapping its coffee and cacao plantations and its mine
Lake Nicaragua is already an ant Inland waterway, and near it
banks are some of the chief cities of
Knew What He Wanted While a mother was looking for
cooks for herself at the Shelly y street tertained themselves at the children') able looking at picture books.
They were especially interested to The older boy stroked the collie's pilelure over and
one looked on


