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THE DAILY ERA.

Vol. 2. Raleigh, Monday Afternoon, November 4, 1872. No. 71.

THE DAILY ERA.

MONDAY, NOV. 4th, 1872.

GEORGE CLEMENTS' WIFE.

"Of all the things, this is the worst! If I ever in all my life expected to hear such news! Why, our George has gone and got married! D'y'e hear?"

Good Mrs. Clements pushed her steel-bowed spectacles off her bright eyes, and dropped her letter in her lap, as she turned round to her husband's stout, clever old farmer, who was contentedly stroking the old white cat.

"Deacon, d'y'e hear?"

"Yes, what if he is married? I'm sure it's natural enough. It kind o' runs in the family, 'pears to me."

But Mrs. Clements would take no notice of the little pleasantry.

"Well, if you like it, I can tell you I don't. He needn't think he's coming here, with his fine city-bred lady, all airs and graces, and flounces and fluted ruffles. There's plenty of good girls hereabout that wanted him. Right in the middle of work, too! to talk of bringing a lady here in hog-killin' time! I do declare, I think George is a fool!"

A graceful, dainty little lady, in a garnet poplin and ruffled apron, with a small, proudly poised head, covered with short, dusky curls, and a pair of dark blue eyes, so wistful and tender, a tiny rose-bud of a mouth, and a dimple in one pink cheek.

That was Mrs. Marion Clements. Was it any wonder that George has fallen in love with her?

She sat in the bright little parlor, close beside the lace-curtained window, watching for the loved husband's return; and then, when she heard the click of the latch-key in the hall, flew forth to welcome him.

"Haven't you the letter this time, George? I've felt sure of it all day. Indeed, I've quite decided what dresses to take with me."

He smiled and shook his head. A cloud passed over her pretty face. "O, George, isn't it too bad? And I do believe—oh, I do believe they won't write because they are sorry you married me."

He put his arms around her neck. "And supposing such be the case; do you think it would make any difference to me?"

"Oh, no! no! only it would grieve me so if I knew I had alienated your own parents from you."

"And a one-sided alienation it would be, too! They have never seen you! And when they know you they can't help loving you."

"O, George!"

And the exclamation was caused by the kiss accompanying his loving flattery.

"That's true as preaching. By the by, my dear, what would you say if the firm sent me off on a traveling tour of six weeks?"

A little dismayed cry answered him. "You won't stay here alone, eh? But Marion, it would be five hundred dollars clear gain to us."

"What need we care for money? I'd rather have you."

A mischievous smile played on the young man's lips; he was more matter-of-fact than this romantic, tender little wife.

"I think the addition to our balance at the banker's would be very consolatory for the absence. But never mind, little pet. Let's go down to dinner. I hope we'll get a letter from home soon!"

And soon it was; for Marion snatched it from his coat pocket the very next night. But her husband's face looked very grave and stern, and his eyes looked angry when she looked gleefully over the envelope.

"My dear, you must remember I care very little for the letter contains. Remember I did not write it; that you are dearer to me than ever before. Kiss me, first, while I watch you."

farm. It shall be that hope that will bring me company when you are gone." A fortnight after that Marion Clements ate her breakfast alone, the traces of a tear or so on her pink cheek; then she dashed them away with a merry, joyous little laugh.

"This will never do; and now that George has gone for six weeks, to prepare for his return. And I pray heaven it shall be such a coming as shall delight his very soul."

"I'm sure I don't know what to say. The land knows I need help to enough, but it seems to me such a slender little midwife as you couldn't earn your salt. What did you say your name was?"

"Mary Smith. And indeed if you will try me for a week, I am sure you will keep me till the season's over."

Mrs. Clements looked out of the window at the great clouds that were piling gloomily up; and then the wind gave a great, wailing shriek around the corners of the house.

"You can cook, can you? or shake up feather beds—good, big ones, forty pounders?"

A gleeful little laugh came from Mary's lips. "Indeed I can. I may not cook to suit you, but I can learn."

Mrs. Clements walked out to the huge, open fire-place in the kitchen where the deacon was shelling corn.

"What d'y'e say, deacon; keep her or not? I kind o' like her looks, and the dear knows it 'ud be a good life while we're killin' if she couldn't do more'n set the table or make mush for the bread."

"Take her, of course, Hannah. You are hard driv', I know. Let her stop a week or so anyhow."

So Mrs. Clements came slowly back, and sat down again.

"You can't get away to-night, anyhow. There's a snow-storm been brewin' these three days, and it's on us now, sure enough. See them 'ere flakes, fine and thick. You may as well take your things up stairs to the west garret, and then come down and help me get supper."

Then followed direction to the west garret, and when she was gone, Mrs. Clements turned to the deacon: "I never saw a girl before I'd trust up stairs alone. But such as her don't steal; I can tell you that if nothing else."

Directly she came down in a purple print dress and white apron; her hair brushed off from her face into a net; a narrow linen collar, fastened with a sailor's loop of narrow, black ribbon.

It seemed she had life, too, so handsly she flitted in and out of the big parter and then down the cellar. Then after the meal, she gathered the dishes in a neat, silent way that was perfect bliss to Mrs. Clements' ears.

"She's determined to earn her bread, anyhow; and I like her turn, too."

And the deacon had "taken a shine" to Mary Smith. One by one the days wore on; the hog killing was over and done; long strings of sausages hung in fantastic rings, arranged by Mary's deft fingers; sweet hams and shoulders were piled away in true housewifery manner, and now Mary and Mrs. Clements were sitting in the sunny dining-room, darning, patching and mending.

"I don't know what I am going to do without you, Mary. I dread to see you pack up your clothes."

"I am so glad you have been suited with my work. Indeed I have tried."

"It ain't the work altogether, though, goodness knows you're the smartest gal I've seen this many a day. As I say, it ain't the work, it's you, Mary. I've got to thinking a heap of you—me and the deacon."

Mary's voice trembled at this kindness of the old lady's voice, but she sewed rapidly on.

"It's such an uncommon lonesome since the boy left the farm; but it's worse since he got married. It seems like deserting us altogether."

"There's no use talkin', George; this fine, fancy lady o' yours'll never suit me. Give me a smart girl like Mary Smith, and I'll ask no more. Come in to supper now. Mary, Mary."

She raised her voice to call the girl, when a low voice near surprised her. "Oh! you dressed up in honor o' my boy. Well, I must confess I never knew you had such a handsome dress, and you look like a picture with your net off, and them short, bobbin' curls! George, this is Mary Smith, my—"

George came through the door, and glanced carelessly at the corner where the young woman stood. Then, with a cry, sprang with outstretched arms to meet the little figure that sprang into them. The deacon and Mrs. Clements stood in speechless amazement. Then Marion, all blushed and tearful smiles, went over to the old pair and took their hands.

"I am George's wife. I was so afraid you would never love me, so I came determined to win you if I could. Mother, father, may I be your daughter?"

And a happier family when they had exhausted their powers of surprise, amazement and pride in the beautiful Marion, never gave thanks over a supper table—Woman's Journal.

THE GERRYMANDER.

Senatorial Districts in North Carolina.

Table with columns: No. of Dist's, Counties, Senators, Census 1870, Pop. 1870. Lists 42nd districts and their respective counties and populations.

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NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION.

Freight Trains between Goldsboro' and Raleigh will run in accordance with the following Schedule after Sunday, October 20th, 1872.

Table with columns: Arrive, Leave, Stations, Arrive, Leave. Shows train schedules between Goldsboro and Raleigh.

W. H. GREEN, Master Transportation.

NOTICE.

In the matter of R. W. Lassiter, Bankrupt in Bankruptcy. Eastern District of North Carolina—ss. This is to give Notice, That on the 22d day of October, A. D. 1872, a warrant in Bankruptcy was issued out of the District Court of the United States for the Eastern District of North Carolina, against the estate of Robt W Lassiter, in the county of Granville, in said District, who has been adjudged Bankrupt on his own petition: That the payment of debts and the delivery of any property belonging to such Bankrupt, to him, or for his use, and the transfer of any property by him are forbidden by law; and that a meeting of the creditors of said Bankrupt, to prove their debts, and to choose one or more assignees of his estate, will be held at a Court of Bankruptcy, to be holden at the Register's office, in Raleigh, N. C., before A. W. Shaffer, Esq., Register in Bankruptcy for said District, on the 7th day of November, A. D. 1872, at 10 o'clock, A. M. S. T. CARROW, U. S. M., Per J. R. ONELL, Deputy and Messenger in Bankruptcy. Oct 24 62-1aw3w

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Vote of 1870 and 1872.

Official Return

Of the Vote for Attorney General at the Election held on the 4th day of Aug., 1870. Also, the Vote for Governor, as far as heard from, held on Thursday, August 1, 1872.

Large table with columns: Counties, S. F. Phillips, W. M. Shippe, Tod R. Caldwell, A. S. Merrimon. Lists election results for various counties in 1870 and 1872.

NOTE.—The vote of Caswell and Gates counties (unofficial) was as follows: Phillips, Shippe, Caswell, 251 637, Gates, 336 744. Total 607 1,381. This would make Shippe's majority in the State 4,965.

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Claims Against the Government

I WILL ATTEND TO CLAIMS OF ALL kinds against the General Government. Business is respectfully solicited from persons having claims before the Commissioners of Southern Claims, claims for cotton seized after the 30th of June, 1865, or claims against any of the departments in Washington City. I have made arrangements with Col. James Madison Curtis, of Washington, to attend to business of this kind for me at times when I may not be in Washington. Charges moderate. W. W. HOLDEN, Raleigh, Sept. 13, 1872. 43-2mpd.