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maugh,

Into the town of Conemaugh, Striking all the people's souls with awe, Dashed a rider, affame and pale, Naver alighting to tell his tale, Sitting his big bay horse astride. Hun for your lives to the hills!" he cris

Run to the hills" was what he said As he waved his hand and dushed ahead, "Run for your lives to the hills!" he cried

Sporring his horse, whose reeking side Was flecked with foam as red as flame. Whither he goes and whence he came Nobody knows. They see his horse Planging in his frantic course, Verns distented and nostrils wide, Fired and frienzied at such a ride. Nobody knows the rider's name-Desd forever to earthly lame. "Run to the hills ! to the hills!" he cried "hun for your lives to the mountain side!"

"Stop him! he's mad! just look at him go "oin't safe," they said, to let him rideso." "ks to scare us," said one with a laugh.

"But Conemaugh to." ka don't swallow no Taint nothing I'll bet, but the same old

In the dam above the South Fork Creek. Blind to their danger, callous of dread, They laughed as he left them and dashed

"Run for your lives to the hills!" he cried Lashing his horse in his desperate ride. Down through the valley the rider passed Shouting, and spurring his horse on tast But not so fast did the rider go As the raging, roaring, mighty flow Of the million feet and the millions mor Of water whose fury he fled before. On be went, and on it came, The flood itself a very flame Of surging, swirling, seething tide, Mountains high and torrents wide. God alone might measure the force Of the Conemaugh flood in its V-shape

Behind him were buried under the flood Conemaugh town and all who stood Jeering there at the man who cried, "Run for your lives to the mountain side!

On he sped in his flerce wild ride. "Ran to the hills! to the hills!" he cried. Nearer, nearer came the roar Horse and rider fled before Dashing along the valley ridge, The big horse stood, the ride cried, "Run for your lives to the mountain side Then plunged across, but not before The mighty, merciless, mountain roar Struck the bridge and swept it away Like a bit of straw or a whisp of hay. But over and under and through that tid-The voice of the unknown rider cried. "Run to the hills! to the hills!" it cried-Run for your lives to the mountain side!

MISS HARCOURT'S GOVERNESS.

-John Elliott Bassen, in Harper's Weekly

CHAPTER I.

looked gloomy in the extreme. But room, where Harcourts of many earn their maintenance by the sweat the absence of the Judge. He had

this gloomy day in January ; the el-ters which came from the youthful after-breakfast walk, before proder, a man far beyond the prime of bridegroom were returned unopen-ceeding to the day's exercises, the life; a tall, noble-locking gentle- ed, and in the home of the youth, cripple spoke in enthusiastic terms man; a fine representative of the bis name was hushed on the ligs, of her grandfather; his generosity old family whose name he bore- for fear of the master's threatening to the poor around; how they all whose pride he inherited, together ing frown. Even his name was loved him. Her companion, listenwith the countless acres which sur- stricken from the will, and Maude, ling to her in silence, gazed at the rounded his lonely mansion. As the delicate granddaughter, was distant heavens with a dreamy, farhe sat beside the centre-table, ever the acknowledged helress of the away expression; perhaps she took and anon lifting his dark grey eyes | wealthy lawyer. from the book he was perusing, and glancing at the girlish figure of his companion, who, engrossed in crocheting, seemed almost oblivious of his presence. She was a trail, lovely privileges of schools; consequently being, this gentle maiden of sixteen summers, the only creature, said the world without, that the stera Judge, her grandfather, had any affection for. But no one could live so constantly near her, without feeling the greatest love for the pure womanly character, and self-sacrificing and unselfish spirit of Maude Harcourt, linked with compassion : for, for ten years, she had never taken a step without the assistance of crutches; she was a hopeless crip-

The Man Who Rode to Cone- sweet, pleasant face peered in, as Norwood, was engaged, whose ads somuch did it remind her of a voice the bousekeeper said :

"Judge, Robert has brought the Thursday following. mail," handing, as she spoke, a bundle of letters to the gentleman, who had risen to receive them. Select. ing one, whose superscription beokened a woman's chirography, he broke the seal, and bastily scanning the contents, while the young girl, laying her work aside, watched his ace with a lively interest. The gentleman broke the silence, as approaching the mantel, and graceful y leaning thereon, he said:

"Well, darling, your new governess will be here on Thursday incerely hope she will be as companionable as Mrs. Lyndhurst, and no doubt she will be, and perhaps more so, since she is conside ably younger."

", Poor Mrs. Lyndburst," sighed the young girl, "it is just one month today since she left us, and to think she did not live to reach her sister."

"It was very sad, my dear," replied the Judge, "but you must not dwell upon the sad things of life; serious displeasure. His voice, pass along."

It would be well here to reveal Judge Harcourt's past history. At one period of his own life, it might have been truly said that his pathway was strewn with flowers: but alas I thorns were concealed beneath the lovely forms, which inflicted nany and severe wounds. A devoted wife and three promising children were his "household gods;" but a fatal sickness plucked in one short week the two fairest; one grave received the mother and the goldenbaired, blue-eyed daughter, just liugering on the threshold of womanhood; while the grief-stricken father, with his two sorrowing boys, bent over the new-made mound which contained his most precious reasures.

gered for a few short weeks, then present abode; consequently it was bade farewell to this world of sor, necessary for the husband to go row, to be re-united to her heroic first, and prepare a suitable home husband in a brighter, happier for his lovely wife. In the meansphere, leaving behind, as a priceless legacy, a waiting infant, who looked tanding invitation from an old up into the fond grandparent's face, with the dark eyes of the absence with her. This friend rebrave soldier who had never gazed sided near Harcourt Hall; and for upon his little Maude. Harry, the this reason the young husband, still generous, gifted darling of the proud Judge's heart, was an exile from the treating all his overtures with silent paternal roof, and the cause for the contempt, had given a refuctant oanishment was simply this; he, a consent. at was a cold day in winter, and Harcourt, had married a woman so arcourt Hall, in the midst of its cially beneath him, so thought the court Hall. It is a lovely morning stely avenues of naked trees, haughty father; a bright, bewitch- in February; one of those winter stipped of their Summer clothing, ing maiden, with a fair share of this days which brings with it a foretaste vorld's goods; an orphan, whose of spring. The new governess bad within the old fashioned sitting ancestors had not felt ashamed to arrived two days previously, during generations had lived, and where of the brow. But a Harcourt had returned, however, the night before; their handsome and lovely faces never stooped to unite himself with but after his fatiguing duties, was still gazed down from the lofty a tradesman before; and conses regaling himself with lengthy slumwalls, a bright, cheerful fire cast its quently, without even giving himself bers. Maude was auxious to prepleasant glow around, and made an opportunity of judging of his sent Miss Norwood to him, for the the scene so comfortable and home- son's bride, he wrote that his mar- winning governess had already like, that one almost forgot the riage severed the tie but ween them, made a favorable impression upon piercing cold of the out-door world. that they were strangers thereafter her charge. So, upon this sunny The room had only two occupants -no longer father and son. Let morning, while indulging in their

> This was the state of affairs at the opening of our sketch, and had been for five years. Maude's crippled condition prevented her from the light. her grandfather; desirous that her brought them in view of the house, education should not be neglected, had always employed competent la. ibly, as she beheld a tall, commanddies as governesses, to superintend it. Mrs. Lyndhurst, the last one had resigned her post at the sammons to attend the bedside of an dwelt upon bim with a look of invalid sister; but death claimed puzzled surprise. He came forward pale cheek-a feeling as of suffices her before she reached her destina- to them, as they had stopped to tion came over his frame-he groped tion; a railroad accident occurred, await his approach, and tenderly forward as if blinded, and grasped and she was one of the victims. It embracing his granddaughter, ex. the back of a chair standing near. thus became necessary to supply tended his hand to her companion, His own tones sounded busky when her place; and after advertising and said in a soft, mellow tone, next he spoke:

vent was now expected on the dear to her

CHAPTER II.

Three weeks previous to the open, ig of this story, another couple sat within a cosy room, watching the soow-flakes falling from a leaden December sky. The gentleman bore a striking resemblance to the Master of Harcourt Hall; one would have felt convinced that it was the same man, except for the difference in the yearr, as evinced in the dark brown locks unmixed with grey, and the elastic step of the younger

In fact, this stereotyped likeness of Judge Harcourt was none other than his only living child, the son who had, in his father's opinion. disgraced the proud old name, and was an alien from his home. The lady, winning and attractive, who sat near, was the woman for whose sake he had incurred his perent's try to pluck all the flowers as you clear and strong, a gift inherited from the Harcourts, broke the st-

"Really, Lily, I dislike to be seps arated for so long."

"But you know, dear," she said, glancing up from a paper which she was intently perusing, "there is no other alternative; the opening is too fine to be overlooked, and a be rejoiced to have me with her, and our letters will be a very slight

"Well, I suppose it is best to submit with a good grace, inasmuch as I have determined to accept the position offered me."

lock, had drifted down life's stream. Horace, the elder of the sons, laid An opportunity of rapid advance down a promising life on the "field ment had presented itself to the of Mars;" and his gentle wife, bow- ambitious man, in a new town, a ed beneath the fearful tidings, lin- considerable distance from their time, she had resolved to accept a -chool friend to pass the time of his esenting his father's conduct of

Again we find ourselves at Harno interest in a person whom she had never seen, or having had sad experiences in her life, looked upon mankind generally in a cynical

Presently a turn in the path and Miss Norwood started percepting figure descend the steps and for she was still looking without, advance toward : them he probably resembled some friend, for her eyes fast from the deep blue eyes. Presently the door opened, and a and receiving numerous applicatives music almost brought the "Miss Norwood"—and to the

"You are Miss Norwood, I presame; you and your pupil have had ample time now for becoming acquainted and, I sincerely trust, are both well pleased."

The lady had entirely recovered her self-possession, as she replied "I can speak for one, sir; your lovely home and granddaughter nave already won my heart."

"O Grandpapa!" said Maside. her mame is Lily, and she plays on the harp beautifully," and clinging to his arm, she portrayed her new governess' charms in a most complimentary manner, while the lady, walking slowly suead, seemed lost in her own thoughts.

The name and the accomplishment touched a tender chord in the gentleman's heart, for the daughter whose lovely presence had vanished from his life at the beginning of a noble womanhood had borne the same; and a barp, long unstrung, proved that she too had once charmed them with that musical instrument. He gazed at the lady with renewed interest, as he begged that she would sometimes regale them with a song.

Time passed pleasantly for the

inmates of Harcourt Hall; spring merged into summer, and the summer was succeeded by the fall. Daily the new governess had improved in the household's estiyear will swiftly pass. Edith will mation; from the master to the cook, all loved the sunbeam which had fallen across their paths. When compensation for our not seeing ever the light brown hair and blue eves, so kindly in their expression, were seen, discord was banished, and harmony reigned supreme. Mande idolized her; poor little crippled Maude, whose future, to the worldly eye, promised to be so For five years these twe, bound bright, was fast bastening to ans ogether by the sacred tie of wed- other, far beyond this earth. Her face grew more ethereal day by day, during the summer evenings, while the governess fulfilled her promise, and her sweet contralto voice, with the harp's plaintive accompaniment, floated out on the still night air, would the Judge look troubled, as his eye rested upon the pale, unearthly countenance of his only joy. But wealth and love, although they brightened her days, could not detain her below; and one night, when November's wind was sighing through the air without, a groan ent the air within, as a man's strong form cast itself beside a bed, whereon lay the mortal image of her who was his all

In the family vault of the Harcourts Maude reposed; and she who had blessed her sick room with her bright, cheerful presence-she who for ten months had been her constant companion, was about to leave the house which she had learned to love so well. Equipped for her journey, she stood in that same room where our story opened, and gazed out upon the distant heavens, whose azure hue rivaled her own lovely eyes, whose sight was now dimmed with tears. She eazed, as if she would impress upon her memory every bush and tree, every spot where she had once been

Alone she stood, in all her womanly grace, a creature too fair and dependent to be tossed hither and thither on life's tempestuous sea, thought Judge Harcourt, stopping tor a moment upon the threshold of the door, and glancing at the occu-

"You are ready to leave us," he said, advancing towards ber. "How gloomy the old house will be!" he murmured, as if to himself; "no youthful voices, now, to banish the

She did not hear him, perhaps, and the crystal drops were falling

A crimson tide suffased the man's

tions, a young lady, by name Miss tears to the eves of the addressed, listener there was a sound of en-

treaty in the voice-"you have said that you were an orphan, without brothers or sisters do claim your care. Perhaps Providence directed your footsteps here, foreseeing the blow which has so recently fallen, that we two lonely beings to-night become necessary to each other. neg you, therefore, to remain with ne as my daughter; in the eyes of he law it can soon be accomplished. and God knows a parent's love will be bestowed upon you by him who ees in you the vision of his long ost Lily."

The two white hands at the winlow were clasped with such force hat the prints of the fingers must have been discernible, the eyes had dilated in a strange manner, as the naster of this old mansion said in a esecching tone:

"Will you be my child! Tell me, oh! do I plead in vain?"

She tried to frame one word, but her voice seemed to have vanished. She stood rooted to the spot, and staring at him in a manner as if bereft of sense. She seemed to her self to be slowly receding. The walls, pictures, all scemed fading from view. With a mighty effort, she brought herself back to the reality of the present moment, and with a stifled sob, said:

"Oh! I can never hope for your orgiveness for my deception. I am your child," she said wildly; "I am your Harry's wife."

He recoiled at the sound of his son's name. Then, as if stunned, said in a bewildered tone, as if to himself:

"You so refined, so intelligent, a plebeian!"

At that word the girl's composure was restored, as she replied: "Perhaps I cannot boast of the

Harcourt's ancestry, but at least I brought my husband a name unsullied and pure as the noblest in the land."

The man gazed in admiration at the maiden thus transformed, as with flushed cheek, and flashing eve, she stood before him, and thought that such a spir't could not disgrace even the Harcourts.

"My husband knews nothing of this masquerade," she sail, after a short silence. "He is in business in G-, and thinks I am spending the time, while he is preparing a home for me, in this new State, with an intimate friend, who resides not far from here. But I saw your advertisement for a governess, and determined upon this ruse, to endeavor to bring about the reconciliation, for which your loving boy nas so longed. I knew I had only to overcome your prejudice, and hat could more effectually be done by coming to you alone and unknown. My friend has lent her assistance, inasmuch as she has received and forwarded all letters between my husband and myself, thus keeping bim as it were in the

Judge Harcourt, ofter she had inished speaking, walked up to her. and affectionately clasp ng her band,

"You have overcome my unfounded prejudice, my daughter, and if I was a younger man, the lesson might prove beneficial; but with one foot in the grave, it will hardly effect the same now; but it will bring my son to me, the greatest bappiness that Heaven can vouch-

Thus was accomplished the mission of Miss Harcourt's Governess.

CHAPTER III.

It was Christmas Eve, and Mrs Harry Harcourt, settled in her new home, surrounded by every comfort that her loving and thoughtful husband could suggest, wore an expression of perfect contentment, as she sat beside a cheerful coal fire, comparing the pleasant aspect within to the storm which seemed raging without. Every few moments she glanced at the tiny clock, merrily ticking upon the mante! then going to the windows, she would peep out into the muddy streets, illuminated by the fitfial glare of the lighted lamps: then arranging the heavy cortains, she

would return to her cosy seat be- con a'n the PICTURES, SCRIPT, EL-

his daughter-in-law towards him, tenderly embraced her, and imprin- is evident. And this leads me to ted a kiss upon her fair white fore- say that charts are by no means He had scarcely seated himself in

the soft chair, pulled forward for to a window, and concealed behind the drapery of the curtain. In an incredibly short space of time, the storm into the lighted ball; another pair of strong arms encircled the lady, and another kiss was imprintleft the counting-room, entered bis happy home upon this Christmas Eve. He walked into the parlor, and took the same seat so recently occupied by the first caller.

After a few moments conversation, the wife remarked :

"Well, Harry, I cannot refrain from presenting my gift to night. instead of waiting until to-morrow

"All right," he responded, "it wil save me the trouble of banging up a stocking.

She advanced towards the esmea, as they gazed upon each other: and with mutual promises of forgiveness, resolved that nothing should agin part them, and declared the reconciliation complete.

The husband was duly informed of all that had transpired in that year's separation; and when his wife, with drooping eyes, also sued for forgiveness, in thus deceiving bim, he said:

"My dearest, i' is yours, for as an alien from the home of my boyhood would I have wandered perhaps forever, had it not been for the interposition of Mis. Harcourt's governess."

Many Christmas Eles have passed since then; but never have the husband received a gift so tru'y prized as the one presented upon that memorable night by the heroine of our sketch, Miss Harcourt's

E. M. J.

CHARTS.

State Superintendent of Schools Finger makes a Statement about Charts

OFFICE OF SUPT. PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

RALEIGH, N. C., July 10, 1889. Since the publication of my card of the 8th of June about charts hacaused comment, I deem it proper for me to make the following state ments and explanations of my views on this subject:

1. I did not and I do not now condemn the use of charts, but I do say that the beneficial results to be derived from their use are, by many people, very much overestimated.

2. This one cardinal principle l MATION OUT OF BOOKS THE BETTER the dicipline and strengthening of the bad and the indifferent. the mind. While reading charts and other charts, in the hands of Superintendent Public Instruction. expert teachers and under proper conditions, may be helps, they, in the very nature of the case, can contain very little of the great range of information which the children must have, and so the books must ter, chapped hands, chilblains, corns, and soon be resorted to. Besides, all the all skin eruptions, and positively cares elementary books and others adop- Piles, or no pay required, It is guaranteed ted by the State Board of Education to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunare constructed upon the new and ded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by J.

side the fire, to await the arrival of EMENTARY READING, &C .- substantially all that the charts do and At last her patience was rewar- should be made to feel that with ded, for a ring at the bell caused proper desks for the children, and her to arise quickly from her chair, with the e books and their slates and hasten to the door. A tall figure, in their hands, success must attend clad in an oricloth overcoat, entered their teaching. It is easily possible the hall, and having removed the to interest children in these books in the very beginning of school life weather protector, revealed the im- at their seats. The desirability of posing presence of Judge Harcourt, doing this, especially in the ungradwho, drawing the graceful form of ed country school in which the teacher can give comparatively litt'e attention to the little children,

or teacher. 3. With all due respect to those his reception, when another ring who may differ with me, I insist caused the lady to change the posi- that before money is spent, if spent tion of her guest; he was escorted at all for charts, safe and comfortatle houses and comfortable seats with writing desks should be pro-

necessary and in the end are no

very great helps either to children

vided-the double desks. 4. So long as I am State Supering hostess was again at the door, and tendent I will not, especially when another tall figure passed from the my name is used, appear even by silence to approve the sale of any charts or other school appliances by agents who ride through the coun-'ry and make a personal canvass. ed upou her brow, cheek, and lips, This mode of sale is unnecessary at the fond bushand, having just and very expensive, and of course the children's school fund pays the expense

5. If such things are wanted, the State Board of E lucation will take pleasure in making an arrangement by which the County Superintendent and County Boards can furnish committees at reasonable prices. If reasonable prices cannot be arranged, we can easily get on without the charts.

6 The charts in question contain 18 sheets, 36 pages of manilla paper without very much matter, of course, on each of the nine subjects. They sell at \$16, or at \$15 I believe cash pecial window, and drawing the on delivery. One house publishes curtain asde, a gentleman stepped them and of course makes some forward, and before the astonished profit; another House acts as genehusband, who had also arisen, could ral abent or in some way controls recover his surprise, he was classed sales in a general way and must in the arms of his father, whom he have a profit; Mr. W. O. Hightower had not beheld for more than six becomes the general agent for this years. Tears filled the eyes of both State and expects a profit; eleven other gentlemen are employed by Mr. H. to canvass the different neighborhoods and they expect to make good wages and to have their horse and carriage hire paid.

Who pays all these profits and expenses? Of course they are all included in the price of the charts, and of course the price is higher han it ought to be and higher than t would be under a proper arrangenent. It reminds me of the sale n some counties a few years ago of cooking stove at \$48 when as good stove could be bought of the local nerchant for one half that sum-The argument that these charts are not higher than other charts is not the question at all.

7. It is but just to the local agents for me to say that prior to the ssue of the card of June 8th, but me person had been to see me about hese charts. He was not a native it this State.

Whether or not he alone was responsible for misrepresenting me I lo not say or know. As to the fact hat I was misrepresented I have soundant evidence. The last letter have on the subject says that the igent said that I was "anxious to lave these charts introduced croughout the State.

8. I have no word of censure for toy local agent who was misled by statements of others, nor have I any votd of censure for any county school authorities who purchased nese charts.

As I conceived, it became necess ary to set myself right, and as it was desirable to do this promotly I -sued the card. Whatever for her msrepresentations may be made, and however my motives may be impugned, which is about the meanest thing a disappointed man can do, I believe the people will approve my effort to protect the childen's school fund. Long ago I learned that the State Superintenmisist upon: THE SOONER THE dent who does his duty along this CHILDREN IN SCHOOL CAN BE line will be abused. Long ago I AUGHT TO GET FOR THEMSELVES INFOR. learned that some of the new things are good, some of them bad, and some of them of but little use. The This is so whether we have regard power of money is behind then all merely to storing the mind with and not un requently it forces the useful facts or whether we consider use of not only the good, but also

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