

ALOVER OF BEAUTY

By THOMAS DENTON

"You don't think my wife a very beautiful woman, George?"—Bright was beginning.

"Pardon me, Jim. I haven't said any such thing."

"Of course not. You're too much of a gentleman to say it, but you know as well as I that none of them would spoil a Venus. I have some confidences to give you, old man. I'm going to unburden myself to you as I would to no other man living."

"You know what an admirer of the beautiful I have always been, especially in woman. My idea for a wife was a beauty. My first love was Ida Reynolds. You remember Ida—beautiful girl; fair skin, Titian hair, soft brown eyes. But her crowning beauty was her pearly teeth. Just the kind of beauty I always adored—aristocratic, you know. Well, I made up to Ida and got on very well with her. The fact is my father, being rich, I could get most any of the girls. I didn't care so much whether they loved me disinterestedly. What I wanted was beauty. As I was saying, I made up to Ida. We were both young, I nineteen, Ida seventeen."

"One day a lot of us boys and girls were playing billiard in the hall. Ida was 'it' and had her eyes bandaged. One of the fellows laughed right in front of her, then darted backward. He fortunately missed a door standing wide open, but Ida struck it. She received a terrible blow, and a lot of her front teeth were knocked clean out. She had to have a false set put in, and that spoiled her beauty for me. My girl's teeth must be her own pure white pearls. I sidled out of that affair at once."

"Then Winifred Tarle caught my fancy. She was dark complexioned and dark haired, but there was a peach in her cheek, and when she wore that braided cable hanging down her back nearly to her heels it was enough to make a man's mouth water. I admired her for her hair especially. I was getting ready to pop the question when she fell ill, like Simon Peter's wife's sister of a fever, and all her hair came out."

"I suppose I should have waited for it to grow in again, but every one said it would neither be so long nor so thick. And you know what a boy not yet twenty is. You can't rely on one's 'com for thirty days. It seemed to me that without that splendid mass of hair Winifred wouldn't be Winifred at all; she'd be somebody else. The case was not one requiring constancy, so I switched off."

"Genevieve Tuttle was my next love. She was a beautiful blond, but feminine beauty doesn't alone consist in curves of the body, a pair of blue eyes, massive hair or pearly teeth. A voice may be a part of it as well as any material feature. Genevieve had the richest voice I ever heard come out of a woman's throat. I didn't have an easy time with her, for the girls had got on to my ideas of beauty and how I'd gone back on several of 'em because they'd lost their best feature and all that, but my prospects won, and Genevieve was just ready to accept a proposal when she got a lump in her throat. The doctors had to cut it out, and when the wound healed she talked like a parrot."

"I succeeded in shaking her, but you'd better believe I was given to understand by my friends that that was the last shake I could give any girl. If I did it again I would be a cut man. I'm very sensitive and couldn't stand that on any account. Knowing that I had but one more chance, I made up my mind that when I got another girl I'd put her in a cage where nothing could happen to her till after the wedding. If she lost her beauty then I couldn't help it."

"But the consarned luck that was waiting for me changed the general plan. Instead of my setting up to a girl, and her losing her teeth or her hair or her voice, I did the damage myself, and before I had any acquaintances with the girl, I was standing in one of these sardine boxes they call trolley cars, holding on to a strap with an umbrella under my arm. I carried 'horizontally instead of perpendicularly. The car stopped, then started with a series of jerks. The jerks were accompanied by shrieks. I turned to find that I and the jerks together had been driving the point of my umbrella stick right against a girl's nose."

"How it did bleed! I got her out of a car and into a drug store, where after a time the bleeding was stopped; then I drove her home."

"Of course I called the next day to ask about her, but I didn't see her. I was told that the damage was very serious. I called regularly, for I was all broken up over the matter and was cast down into the depths of despair as being told that I had broken the poor girl's nose and from having been a very pretty girl she would now forever be a very homely one."

"I threw up the sponge. It was apparent to me that fate had determined that I should marry a homely woman, and I determined to stone for my past selfishness by devoting my life to the girl whose nose I had broken."

"Bright paused; the story was finished. 'Do you miss the beauty?' 'No, I haven't got far in matrimony yet, but I've got far enough to know that there are other things in a woman than her beauty all hollow. My wife has a lot of 'em.'"

HUMAN ALBINOS.

Even Their Interior Organs, Brain Included, Lack Color.

There is no race of human albinos, and the albino appears in nearly all races. Latin albus means white in English. The word albino is applied to white plants and white animals. Specifically when we hear the word we think of white humans—men or women without color. In a full or complete albino (human) all pigment or color is absent in the skin, in the interior organs and even in the brain. White negroes and Indians exist, as well as in Caucasian or "white races," some of these being quite dark.

A total albino has a white epidermis or skin and also white hair and red eyes, due to the absence of pigment in the membranes of the eye, which is for the purpose of screening light that is too bright for the retina—that is, in albinos; others can see the retina in the rear of the eye, and this appears to be red.

Albinism is not a disease, nor are the minds of albinos weaker than those of others. White blackbirds, mice, hares and birds are albinos. And the white elephants are sacred and worshipped by some races in Asia.—Exchange.

THE MUMMIES MOVED.

They Raised Their Heads as if to Bid Adieu to Africa.

In his book "Africa of Today" Joseph King Goodrich tells of the shipment of a number of mummies from the banks of the Nile to various museums.

"They were put on board a lighter in the river," he says, "and arranged side by side. As the boat was moving away from the bank many of the mummies seemed to come back to life. Certainly they moved and the heads seemed to rise as if the bodies were turning so that their eyes might take a last look at the place where they had lived for over two thousand years."

"The effect upon the boatmen was most panicky, and even the unsuperstitious foreigner felt as if something uncanny were occurring."

"The explanation is absurdly simple. The heat of the sun had caused the expansion of certain parts, but it was never a satisfactory explanation to those Nile boatmen, who were for a long time loath to handle mummies as cargo."

Scenery In Spring Sea.

"Sailing southwesterly along the shore of that haunt of the walrus and polar bear, St. Matthew's island, in the Bering sea," said a navigator of those waters, "one is impressed by the mingling of the grotesque and the terrible in the character of the scenery. The northwest point of the island is split up into a collection of large, rocky, most fantastic shapes. Houses, spires, cathedrals and figures of men and beasts are some of the forms assumed by these volcanic fragments, which, rising black above the white, seething foam of the sea that breaks against their base, give a weird aspect to the grim and desolate region. One rock resembling a large saddle suggested to me the thought of some antediluvian giant might in his time have straddled it and perhaps fished for reptiles over the beetling cliffs which it surmounts."

Beyond Pleasure.

The young attorney was handling his first case before a jury and in his presentation was employing all the odd bits of information acquired during his college course that would even remotely apply to a statement of his case. The judge at last grew weary and impatient, at which the lawyer bridled and said:

"Is it the pleasure of the court that I should proceed?" "Pleasure, sir," replied the court, "has been out of the question for a long time past, but you may proceed."

A Blunt Critic.

A famous art expert was talking at a dinner in Philadelphia about some of Sargent's cruelly realistic portraits. "Sargent once painted a Philadelphia woman," he said, "and when the work was finished the lady's coachman called for it. As the coachman was studying the portrait Sargent said to him:

"How do you like it?" "The man answered thoughtfully: 'Well, sir, ye might have made it a little better lookin', mebbe, but if ye had, ye'd have spoilt it.'—Washington Star.

An Architectural Association. There is a "Mutual United Insurance" building in Philadelphia, a "Tevonia" building in New Orleans, a "Tribune" building in Chicago, and several "trib" buildings in New York and Boston, but this fact is due rather to affected scholarship rather than to wrong font stonecutters.—Christian Science Monitor.

At Red Gulch.

"Mr. Mayor, we've got a horse thief in jail."

"Well, keep him there."

"But for how long? He's an expense to the town."

"Oh, hang the expense."

"So they did.—Kansas City Journal.

Anxious to Be Missed.

Rantaway—I'm going to leave the stage. Friend—You'll be missed if you do, old man. Rantaway—That's just the reason I'm retiring. I'm tired of being hit.

Good breeding is the result of much good sense, some good nature and a little self denial for the sake of others.

News From Ireland

Cavan.

On May 14, in the Chancery Division before the Master of the Rolls, the interest, good will and fixtures of the Cavan Gas Works were sold under sealed tender to Messrs. Lockington of Dundalk for the sum of £2,475.

Clare.

John Culligan, Atlantic View, Kilkee, died recently.

Thomas O'Loughlin, who recently resigned as Master of Ennis Union, has been granted a pension of £119 per year.

Cork.

The death at the Presentation convent, Mill St., of Mother Mary Ignatius Slattery has evoked deep regret among the Sisterhood as well as among all who knew her. She was in the 69th year of her age, the 39th of her religious profession when death came.

Derry.

John F. Arthur, a contractor of Colorado, aged 62 years, has died from injuries resulting from a fall from a ladder on which he was working.

Donegal.

Died—Recently, Mrs. Anne McGerrigle, West Port, Ballyshannon.

Down.

Mrs. Mary Convey, a well known resident of the Ballyvarley district, died recently.

Dublin.

Belleville house, Ashtown, Phoenix park, was badly damaged by fire on May 15.

Galway.

The Estates Commissions have parcelled out the undivided portion of the Lahiff estate. They also divided up the Rosepark and Bolanackill property, belonging to John Boland.

Kerry.

Patrick Devane, Tralee, has resigned his position as rate collector after a service of thirty years.

Kildare.

Married—May 8, at Clane parish church, County Kildare, with nuptial mass by the Rev. Father Rice, Daniel Boyle, R.I.C., Nass, second son of the late Patrick Boyle, Causeway, County Kerry, to Kathleen, second youngest daughter of James Esmonds, Clane.

Kings.

After a quarter of a century of service, Mr. Budds, master of Birr workhouse, is retiring owing to failing health and the Guardians unanimously decided to grant him £80 a year superannuation.

Letterbox.

Rev. Father Manning, P. P., Drumschanbo, has purchased the residence of the late Dr. O'Flynn, for the purpose of having it converted into a Christian Brothers school. The people of Drumschanbo have subscribed generously towards the object.

Limerick.

Died—May 12, by drowning, John Kileen, Limerick City.—May 11, Mrs. Mellane, Ballysteen.—Suddenly, on May 6, James Ryan, Oola Hills.

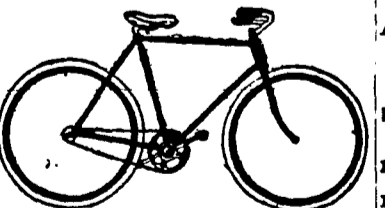
Longford.

The tenants on the Bond estate comprising the townlands of Cross, Clare, and Saint's Island, have received intimation that the property is about to be purchased under the Land purchase acts.

Louth.

Dundalk Urban Council is planning to erect a large number of houses in the South ward under the working class housing act.

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HUMOROUS QUIPS

Does She Forget?

Does she forget? By men, a sorry It seems last night I kissed her lips so fair. Yet years have fled and I am old and gray. As lovers do, I used to kiss her hair. I pledged her love to her, and every thing I started the words she would have confessed. And swore to her I'd love no other. From the violet her sunny hands caressed.

Does she forget that once I promised June A sweeter bride than ever June could be. And matched the anthem of a summer's noon. Against my love's most simple melody? Does she forget that once we went at dawn To favored ways, the violets' nesting place. And I bade the glories of the morn be gone. And turned from them to look upon her face?

Does she forget the promises I made Of love and faith and ceaseless joy and bliss. How, trembling, half bold and half afraid, I stumped her senses with a lover's kiss? Does she forget how I was wont to hold Her close to me as ever sweetheart was? Does she forget that fervent love of old? Does she forget 'good Lord, I hope she does!'

—Buffalo News.

Setting Him Right. The Husband I was taken by surprise when you accepted me. The Wife—You were taken by mistake, John; don't make any mistake about that.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

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