

How An Artist Obtained Recognition

By F. TOWNSEND SMITH

Alan Vall when a schoolboy was constantly scolded for covering his books with pictures.

Alan determined to be an artist. His father, who was a practical man and had a large family to support, shook his head at his son's choice of a field of labor.

Alan was obliged to prepare himself for his profession in America. A part of a course in an art school was all the instruction he received.

Alan saw a baby sleeping in its crib. He was much impressed with the relaxedness of the little one and wondered if he could transfer it to paper.

Alan shuddered at the suggestion. Was he indeed reduced to applying his art for business purposes? But he needed money to pay his room rent.

These remarks and other such ingenious criticisms so pleased the artist that he forgot that the picture was to be degraded as an advertisement.

Alan knew he had produced something that he had only seen in drawings which were exhibited as treasures of art.

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A Professional Love Letter Writer

Under the title "A Handy Man With the Pen" the confessions of a man who is a professional writer of love letters after dinner speeches, obituary poetry, etc.

"One day last fall a handsome young man, much embarrassed, appeared and after some hesitation confessed that he had neglected his education and was corresponding with a young woman.

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She Set a Trap For Him

By F. A. MITCHELL

A gentleman alighted from a railway train, took a cab and was driven to a suburban residence.

"No, sir," she said. "She's gone to the city."

"That's too bad. I've come a long distance to see her." The gentleman seemed much put out.

My attorney has advised me that you will visit me for conference upon the settlement of our interests in the Ormsby estate in the hope that we may come to an agreement whereby litigation may be avoided.

"How could I do that, sir," protested the girl, "you being an educated gentleman and I only a lady's maid?"

"You can do it better than the lady herself. Heaven protect me from these intellectual women. They know just enough about a subject to show their want of depth and think all the while that they are showing their brains."

"Not on your kind—on women who know everything. Doubtless if you had left Miss Mulford to entertain me she would have bored me with a lot of opinions that would interest no one but herself."

"What kind of woman is your ideal?" "To me amiability and beauty are the only requisite traits."

"I don't wish one of them to come near me."

"Not even a woman who is capable of taking care of her business affairs?" Miss Mulford wouldn't suit you, sir, for she's all of that."

"The maid entertained Mr. Fitz Hugh during the day by listening to him talk. By the afternoon mail came a note from Miss Mulford asking him to leave a proposition with Annie since she would be delayed in the city for several days."

"On reaching the house he was admitted by a butler, which was a great disappointment to him. He had intended to say a few nice things to the maid before seeing her mistress."

"Mr. Fitz Hugh," she said, "pardon me for playing maid the other day. I desired before entering upon a discussion with you as to business affairs of great importance to both of us to learn what kind of man I had to deal with."

"What way?" asked the lady, dropping her eyes before his impassioned gaze.

THE UNDERSTUDY

By LOUISE L. CUMMINGS

A train of cars stopped at a station. A young man came aboard and looked about for an empty seat.

"Not at all," replied the lady. "I am simply not especially selfish."

"It is a case of selfishness that causes me to make this journey," remarked the young man.

"Indeed!" said the lady in a tone that seemed to invite further confidence.

"Yes. My sister is an actress. She has been an understudy for the leading lady at the theater with which she is connected."

"I don't know her and, I thought, very well, but from what you say I have not known her as well as I supposed."

"I do know her and, I thought, very well, but from what you say I have not known her as well as I supposed."

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