

OLD FRIENDS STRANGELY MET

Romance That Had Its Beginning In School Days.

I was sitting one evening in the quiet of a theater in New York when I noticed a young lady in a box in the second tier looking at me. When I fixed my eyes upon her she turned her head away, but when a few minutes later I looked at her again I saw that she was regarding me through a lorgnette. She lowered her glass and turned away with a look which indicated either repulsion, disappointment or pain. It might have been any of these.

My curiosity was at once aroused. I did not remember to have ever seen the lady before and certainly had no knowledge of having offended her. Before the close of the last act I left the theater and stood on the sidewalk waiting for her to come out. She did so in company with an elderly gentleman and lady. As soon as they entered their car I went across the street where Arthur stood ready and, entering, told the driver to follow. The party alighted at a house on Madison avenue, the number of which I noted, then drove away thinking of some plan to solve the mystery. Before ten o'clock I had resolved to write a note to the lady and send it next day. This is what I wrote:

Mr. Royal Prichard presents his compliments to the young lady to whom I was introduced last evening and who has evidence that in some way her attention had been excited by me. I am glad to hear before her eyes are closed that she has been mistaken in her inference of my intention for attending her.

I sent the note by a messenger, who on returning said that he had been told if there was any note it would be sent later. I waited three days and was about to give up all hope of receiving any word when a note came which read as follows:

Since Mr. Prichard has control of the letter I do not know how to return it. It is needless to say that I read these few words with astonishment. It was plain to me that I had been inadvertently for some one else. However, I did not care to have the error uncovered and on the whole again, stating that there must be some misunderstanding as to my identity and begging permission to clear up the matter. To this I replied a reply that the name I had given in my note was the same as that of the person I was supposed to be, therefore there could not possibly be any mistake. The lady did not care to renew the acquaintance of a young man had paid for the highest compliment man could pay to woman and then forgotten that he had done so.

I began to feel that I must have passed through the life of my mother some accident that had impaired my memory. I listed several persons who had been recently married or divorced. If it was the case, I could not recall it for my father had died in the hospital and I had been brought up in a family of sympathy from her home. That's just like a man for all the world!

I was about to write another note inquiring for the lady's name, but my sister, who knew the tricks and maneuvers of the set, told me she was feeling mean and would give no assistance. "Oh, if I want to I can get up the matter I had better end and call again and again till I had seen and talked with my tormentor.

The Very Day.

"Seize your opportunity," was the advice of Pittacus, one of the seven wise men of Greece. To grasp the swiftly moving moment is the repeated injunction of the Bible. "Teach me to numb my days," said Moses. "Make me know mine end and the number of days," said David and Job, who had a peculiarly sane grasp on the things that make for success in all departments of life, is conscious that the days fly through his hands "swifter than the weaver's shuttle."

Lord Chesterfield said that the Duke of Newcastle lost an hour in the morning and spent the rest of the day looking for it. Benjamin Constant's cry of regret should be a warning to us who do not regard the systematizing of our day's task. "How I lose my time! What an unarrangeable life mine is! The uncertainty of life, as well as its swift passage, should incite us to live to the top of our ability today. We say, "Some day I hope to get time to read." "Some day I hope to get time to attend to cultivating religious habits." But "some day" is today or probably never.

Painting Hooks and Eyes. There are many methods of mechanical painting and some of the most extraordinary are described by Arthur Seymour Jennings in his book, "Paint, the driver to follow." The party alighted at a house on Madison avenue, the number of which I noted, then drove away thinking of some plan to solve the mystery.

Disinfect Your Pets. Many children and adults acquire skin diseases from the household pets. Such diseases as ringworm and barbed itch are transmitted by the cats and dogs. An epidemic may be started by germs being carried into the house by the animal.

Building a House in Japan. In Japan, if a man wishes to build a house he first proceeds to make certain that the site is respectable. If it is not he must have the ground purchased. A curious incident of this nature is recorded in the "Tokyo Daily News." The carpenter would not begin work until the post had been laid and the spot purified. He brought with him bamboo rods and shingles and rice and with weird incantations turned north, south, east and west uttering his formula four times and scattering his paper and urine at each delivery. The spirits of hell inmates long dead thus propitiated, the carpenters went contentedly to work.

In an Ancient Korean Coffin. Workmen engaged in repairing the remains of the old Shing-dong-tomb in Korea, while employed in a nine-story tower, discovered a stone coffin about two square feet in the third story of the tower. In the coffin were a jeweled ornament, a gold belt, a silver vase, a gold vase, a gold vase, a stone gourd, some comma shaped jewels and several other rare articles all relics of ancient times, dating back 1,300 years.

Overworking the Superstitious. "Henry," said the superstitious hostess to her husband, "you simply must find another guest." "What's the trouble now?" he asked. "There are thirty of us to sit down." "I know but there were forty three invited and exactly thirteen didn't come." Boston Transcript.

Dodging. "If I had my way," said the positive woman, "I'd make every unmarried man pay a special tax." "What would be the use?" rejoined Miss Glycerine. "Any man who is successful in dodging matrimony would surely succeed in dodging his taxes." Washington Star.

Religion of India. The religious beliefs of India are numerous and range from Buddhists in the east, pagans in the north and Mohammedans in the northwest, through the great bulk of Hindus in the center, to Buddhists and Christians in the extreme south.

FOR THE CHILDREN: DAMES AND DAUGHTERS.

An Intelligent Dog.

There was once upon a time an old lady who rented a furnished villa for the summer, and with the villa a large dog also went. In the sitting room of the villa there was a comfortable armchair. The old lady liked this chair better than any other in the house. She always made for it the first thing; but, alas, she nearly always found the chair occupied by the large dog.

The old lady arose and hastened to the window to see what was the matter, and the dog quietly climbed into the chair! One day the dog entered the room and found the old lady in possession of the chair. He stroled over to the window and looking out appeared much excited and set up a tremendous barking.

The Cotton Flies. One of the players takes a flake of cotton or bit of down, which he casts into the air in the midst of a circle formed by the players, who are seated close together. He at once puffs with his breath to keep it floating in the air and the one toward whom the flake takes its course must puff in the same way to keep it from falling upon his lap, which would cost him a forfeit.

A Pet Bear's Tricks. When the one named Albin, a tender Alaskan voyager, returned from an Alaskan voyage he brought one moon passenger with him, a little black bear cub. The cub, which literally longed for the hands of all on board, was allowed to roam all over the vessel, she was very tame and came to a good acquaintance with the crew.

A Handsome Bird. The red-tailed hawk is a strikingly handsome bird. It is a member of the family of birds of prey. Several birds of this kind were seen at a distance of about a mile from the shore of a bay. The hawk was very tame and came to a good acquaintance with the crew.

Queer Animal Pets. In Argentina a common household pet is the small armadillo called nutria, which is only about fifteen inches long. Dr. Bergner, writing in the Scientific American, says that when it rolls itself into a ball its unarmored legs disappear into the shell and the head closes it securely. The animal cannot straighten out its body. It has a singular tripping gait upon the tip of two toes of which the claws are longer than the others. Children play with it by rolling it about like a ball or letting it run on a board in order to enjoy its funny gait. It is quite harmless, soon gets tame and eats out of the children's hands.

Cat and Hawk Fight. Once upon a time while a number of kittens were playing about in the straw near a barn door a large hawk swooped down upon them and seized one of the kittens. Being heavily burdened, it could not rise very promptly and the mother cat had time to come to the rescue. She never hesitated about attacking the hawk and the hawk, in self-defense, was obliged to drop the kitten. Then a real pitched battle took place. The cat lost one eye and part of an ear, but succeeded in breaking the wing of the hawk. Then the cat sprang up again and, after a long struggle, killed the bird. Not bad for a cat!

Low Shoe Time. The race warms have come at last. When we wear rubber shoes and play we need not stay indoors and mope. But play outdoors all day. But what I like the best of all is that my ankles now are free. And I may wear low shoes again and skip and hop with glee. It is the reason I love best. When I can run and jump and climb, and need not wear my stiff old boots. I do love low shoe time. Philadelphia Record.

DAMES AND DAUGHTERS.

Mme. Sara Bernhardt records that among the things she most dislikes is a sea-voyage.

Mrs. Lloyd-George has taken up the study of French in the past six months and now speaks that language with some fluency. Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, who was recently chosen president of the American Woman Suffrage association, is also president of the International Association of Woman Suffrage.

Mrs. Dellora Gates, widow of John W. Gates, and her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Harold L. Judd, have made \$8,000,000 in the past year, due to the jump in the price of Texas oil stocks which they own. When Mme Melba was in Ottawa, Canada, recently she was decorated a Lady of Grace of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. The Duke of Connaught, governor general of Canada, is the head of the order, and he bestowed the decoration on the diva in recognition of her success in raising money for the Red Cross.

Current Comment. Wall street permits no "wolves" in its zoology; only bulls, bears and lambs. Chicago News. "See America first" is a motto which may now be coupled with "Safety first" - Washington Star. With the work of saving the babies the first big step in the defense of the nation is being taken. Baltimore American.

In Mexico the difference between a de facto government and a de jure government is only a matter of time. Washington Post. The argument that modern war is a question of machinery doesn't frighten Kansas, with one automobile for every nine of population. New York Post.

BRIGHT BRIEFS. Neutrality is the art of displeasing everybody. People who live in glass houses should screen their windows. For many outward gains are obtained at the expense of inward losses. Many a self-made man might be happier if he could limbo the job on some body else. A popular fallacy at Annapolis is that every student can become a Midshipman Easy. Keep your mouth shut and you will gain a reputation for wisdom and also avoid grip-grip.

Unexpected leap-year attacks on the trees here are reported to make the coy economy of them. This is so and den. Suicide is said to have declined in Europe since the beginning of the war. Enlistment probably furnished a substitute. Among the prophets who are predicting the end of the war in 1916 is a sprinkling of those who forecast the window in 1915. Twenty years hence, Grithame White predicts, there will be a fifteen hour transatlantic aerial service. The time limit is long enough to forget it.

Short Stories. Japanese artists push their pencils instead of pulling them. There are about two miles of deck on a great transatlantic liner. In India there are over 300,000,000 images of the various gods. Ironclads were originally wooden vessels protected by iron plates. A saturated solution of celluloid in banana oil makes a durable lacquer for brass. Denmark has reformed its time, adopting what is known as the twenty-four hour clock. For instance, 1 o'clock p. m. will be known as 13 o'clock, and so on until 1 o'clock, which is midnight.

Town Topics. There is still another difference between Indianapolis and London. London reports that coppers are not yet Indianapolis News. Since New York has been forced to confess that crime is on the increase, Baltimore will be swarming around more promptly than ever. Washington Post. Boston is hard put to it to suggest a designer for a municipal flag. We would suggest a standardized outfit changing September. Most out of Massachusetts bay. New York Sun.

Labor and Progress. A new gasoline engine uses only one-twentieth of a drop of fuel at a charge. The first American limotype machine in Tripoli recently was installed by an Italian newspaper. Good paper, it is said, can be produced from refuse hops that have hitherto been thrown away in breweries. The use of rope for driving machinery is on the increase. The efficiency of rope in this capacity varies from 87 to 97 per cent.

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