CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE.

As the little party entered the hospital ward Shuler raised himself and stretched out his arms. "I told you so," Clara whispered proudly to the retreating young men, and then that picture at the end of the line was realized.

"He's not worthy of her," protested Bangs as they hastened away, bent on celebration.

"Who is worthy of them," returned Bayne, "when they are good?"

NEARING HOME.

BY S. WYNNE.

Nearing home! A little longer
Waft us onward, fav'ring breeze;
Sunbeams falling clearer, stronger,
Light a pathway through the seas.

Nearing home! Ah, ceaseto wrestle,
Saucy waves, that keep us back;
Quickly let our bonny vessel
Leave you foaming in her track.

Nearing home! Now far behind us
Countries bright, but strange, we cast;
No fond thoughts to them can bind us—
We are nearing home at last.

Nearing home! No time for dreaming—
Fancy soon may quit her throne.
All along the light is gleaming—
Beams of love to guide us home.

Millions Write to Her.

From the New York World.

CHICAGO, JANUARY 18.—Mrs. Edna Gorman resides in Kanesville, Ill. Kanesville is not on the map, nor on a railroad, but every postal clerk in the country has recently heard of it. It has jumped into universal notoriety.

Mrs. Gorman was a Miss Edna Brown. Her husband's sister is a cripple. Mrs. Gorman conceived the idea of collecting cancelled postage stamps for her sister-in-law along the line of geometrical progression. The next day after the inception of the idea three inoffensive-looking letters left the Kanesville post-office, addressed to three different persons, and signed by Mrs. Gorman's maiden name, Edna Brown.

The letters went on to state that she was a cripple and desired to collect a million cancelled postage stamps in order to secure treatment in a medical institute. Each of the three persons addressed was asked to send Miss Brown ten or more cancelled postage stamps and to write three letters containing similar requests, their correspondents to send stamps and write other letters, and so on, until the fiftieth link in the chain should be forged. Those receiving letters numbered fifty were asked not to write other letters, but to return the forty-ninth letter to Edna Brown, thus ending the chain.

To appreciate what happened it must be remembered that Kanesville is a cross-roads town on the prairie, nine miles northwest of Aurora. The nearest railroad station is Sugar Grove, five miles south. Comprising the township there are perhaps thirty houses, and twenty-five letters a day would be a big mail. The Kanesville mail is sent to Sugar Grove by train, and from there is taken to the post-office by stage twice a day.

A few days after the dauntless three letters went forth the Postmaster began to receive a good many letters for Edna Brown. It surprised him. Knowing every man, woman, child and dog in the town, he was aware of Miss Brown's marriage. His surprise soon deepened into astonishment, his astonishment into consternation and his consternation into despair. The letters for Edna Brown kept increasing. They soon filled a bushel basket daily. Then they filled several baskets. It rained letters. Instead of the usual small pouch, the Kanesville mail required several.

Not only letters came, but boxes and bundles of cancelled stamps from well-intentioned people. The stage coach became so crowded by mail bags that there was no room for passengers. The Postmaster was obliged to hire an assistant to help handle the stuff.

"The chain" is still not half completed, and an average of from 8,000 to 10,000 letters a day are received at the Post-Office for Miss Edna Brown, to say nothing of boxes and bundles of stamps by mail and express. Wednesday the number received was 17,900. Monday it reached 15,000. The mail clerks on the trains are in a condition of collapse.

Some of the letters even contain money-orders sent by sympathetic persons. Often whole sheets of stamps are sent just as they come from the Post-Office, except with an ink line drawn through. Of course one person cannot look over all of this mail, so it is parcelled out among the farmers' wives, who, for the satisfaction of reading the letters, open them and trim the stamps for the little cripple. She passed the 3,000,000 mark long ago, and there seems to be no way to stop the avalanche.

No medical institute wanted a million cancelled stamps, or ever thought of such a thing. The only one who seems to be making anything out of the scheme is Uncle Sam, who is receiving from $200 to $300 a day postage on the letters sent to Edna Brown, of Kanesville, Ill.

Sooner or later pride is sure to step on dynamite.

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