A FORTUNATE THING

By GEORGE MUNSON.

"There she is! 'The Girl in Green,'" said John Latham, unveiling his newly completed painting.

Miss Agnes Manton uttered a little irrepressible scream.

"Why, John, dear, that is—that is perfect!" she exclaimed. "Only—I am sure you have grossly flattered me, John."

"Not a bit of it, my dear," protested her fiance. "You are prettier far than my poor efforts have shown you on the canvas. And this picture is going to make my reputation."

Heaven knew he needed that it should. John was a struggling artist, just rising out of the ruck. He was twenty-nine; Agnes was only two or three years younger, and they had been engaged for several years. A struggling artist has little chance of making enough to support a wife in London.

However, though it had not been sold, one of John's pictures had been accepted for exhibition by the Royal academy the summer before, and he had little doubt that this would be "hung." Perhaps it would attract the notice of a rich purchaser. Then they could be married.

"How much is it we said we wanted, dear?" asked John. "A thousand pounds, wasn't it, to begin?"

"We could do it on five hundred, John," answered the girl.

"But we agreed that we wanted a thousand pounds to fit out our house nicely with antique furniture"—like most poor people John had extravagant aspirations—"and really start in comfortably and defy the wolf?"

"That would be nice," Agnes answered.

"Very well, dear. I shall insure this for a thousand, and I shall place that price upon it," said John. "And I won't take a penny less, either."

A month later, to his delight, John received an intimation from the Royal academy to the effect that his picture was to be placed on exhibition. On varnishing day he and Miss Manton went to look at it. Both feared that it had been "skied." But it had not been skied. On the contrary, it occupied a very prominent position, low down, next to the door leading from the first to the second salon.

"Just the place where it will attract attention!" exclaimed Agnes joyfully.



Smash! Rip! Rip! Rip!

"Everybody will see it staring at them the moment they come in at the door."

The day of the opening of the exhibition was one of fine weather, and vast crowds of fashionable and would-be fashionable people attended, together with a sprinkling who were genuinely interested in art. John and Agnes, inconspicuous among the crowds, watched their picture from a near place, while pretending to display interest in others.

"Hum!" 'Girl in Green,' is she!" snorted a stout old gentleman. "'Girl Looks Green,' would be a better title to my mind. I never saw a healthy young woman with that sort of complexion."

"How delicious!" whispered Agnes in John's ear, squeezing his hand. That sort of criticism was too ignorant to sting.

Still, when a gentleman with a square beard, looking for all the world like a successful banker, stopped and said to his companion, "That 'Girl in Green' is one of the best things here this year," they were breathless with happiness. For the stout, square-bearded gentleman was none other than Sir Valentine Sparks, one of the greatest of English painters.

A mild, inoffensive-looking elderly woman in gray, overhearing the remark that had been made, stopped in front of the painting and surveyed it critically. Then she turned to John.

"Is that a really good painting?" asked the elderly lady. "A truly valuable painting?"

"That picture, madam, while not the finest thing in the academy, is undoubtedly a very fair specimen of the modern English school," said John. "I happen to know that the author is placing a valuation of a thousand pounds upon it."

"Dear me!" said the elderly lady. "'Girl in Green!' How interesting! I must really have a better look at it. Where are my glasses?"

She pulled an absurdly large bag from her muff and fumbled nervously with it for quite a minute before she managed to get it open. Then she pulled from the interior—not a pair of glasses, but a very serviceable meat-chopper.

Smash! Rip! Rip! Rip! The canvas was torn into shreds and long strips hung from the frame before John, aided by half a dozen men in the vicinity, could rush forward and stay the work of devastation.

"There!" screamed the lady, transformed all at once into a virago. "That's what you get for letting dear Mrs. Pankhurst starve to death!"

"A suffragette!" screamed an official, maneuvering cautiously around her. "Have you got her? Then let me get at her!"

For about three minutes longer the academy room was filled with a struggling crowd, each member of which seemed supremely anxious to lay hands upon a struggling old lady who, bonnetless, and with disheveled clothing, was giving as good an account of herself as was possible under the circumstances. At last she was placed in the charge of a policeman and conveyed away.

John stood looking ruefully at her handiwork. The painting was injured beyond all possibility of repair. There were half a dozen vertical and three or four horizontal slashes in it, each extending nearly the whole extent of the picture, which had been cut literally into ribbons.

"John, dear!" whispered Agnes, slipping her hand into his. She knew the bitterness in his heart. He had spent so many weeks trying to create her, plain little Agnes Manton, as she knew herself to be, into the reproduction of the image that lay enshrined in his heart. And this was the end!

Slowly they went out of the academy, followed by a small sympathetic throng, which had guessed the tragedy from the likeness between Agnes and the woman in the picture.

"I'll paint you again, Agnes," he said. "Do you know, somehow I was not quite satisfied with that. It wasn't nearly as pretty as you are."

"O, John!" protested Agnes.

Suddenly he brightened up. He stopped still in the street. "Agnes, what a fortunate thing!" he exclaimed. "I know what the trouble was. I ought to have painted you as I intend to now, in our new house, with the antique furniture. Agnes, isn't it lucky I insured the picture for a thousand pounds!"

(Copyright, 1914, by W. G. Chapman.)

THOUGHT IT STILL DUTCH

Englishwoman Decidedly Behind the Times in Her Knowledge of Things of the United States.

Some one, at luncheon, had told a story about an Englishwoman who said she had been shocked to learn how slow the trains were in America, and on being told that they were nothing of the sort, insisted:

"But they must be. I saw in a paper that it took 24 hours to go from New York to Chicago!"

And the company had laughed. Watkins had laughed with the others. Then Watkins said:

"That's a pretty good story. But I know one that's better. It's a remark that was made to me."

"Go on," offered the man who had told the story about the trains. "You give us your word it's true?"

"I give you my word it's true," Watkins echoed. "It was at a hotel in Switzerland, where I, being alone, chanced to be put at a table with several Englishwomen at dinner. We fell to talking, as one always does, about traveling 'abroad' and about languages, and hotel-and-train vocabularies, and all that. They knew that I was an American, of course.

"I happened to say that I could not speak, understand, or learn one sentence in the Dutch language, and that I felt decidedly helpless whenever I went to Holland.

The remark followed. The tallest Englishwoman leaned across the table eagerly.

"'Oh,' she said. 'But don't people speak Dutch in New York?'"

The Lonesome Man.

"That old saying about being lonesome in New York is all right," said a Pittsburgher. "There are plenty of men who are lonesome by nature; they'd be lonesome in the place of their birth as well as in a strange city; they simply don't know how to make friends, or how to keep them if they make them. But if you want to see the most lonesome thing on earth, you will find it in the man who sits alone in a hotel cafe at night, taking his solitary drink because he is sociable by nature, and longing for some one to talk with, but fearful of 'butting in' where he isn't wanted. Last night I sat down deliberately by a stranger marooned that way, and I never saw a man so grateful in my life. He was so lonesome he nearly had the horrors."

In the Style of the City.

A certain small boy had lived all his life in hotels. Presently, soon after the family moved to a suburban home, Harold came into the house looking amused and puzzled.

"What pleases you, my son, and what have you been doing?" asked his mother.

"Oh, I was just sitting on the front porch listening to a man with a wagon paging blackberries," was the innocent reply.

Happiness.

"What is your idea of true happiness?" he asked.

"To have a husband who could afford to buy all the hair I wanted without making it necessary for either of us to deny ourselves anything else."

There is more Catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease and prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Science has proven Catarrh to be a constitutional disease, and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is the only Constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally. It acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. They offer one hundred dollars for any case it fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials.

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HINTS FOR FALL WORK IN THE GARDENS



If the Cabbages Are Slow About Heading or the Heads Lack Firmness, Sprinkle With Salt and Water.

If the garden has been thoroughly cultivated early in the season, there is little weeding to be done. Yet, a few autumn weeds will strive for supremacy unless conquered. One of the most persistent now, as earlier, is the chickweed, which grows in such dense masses as to choke out everything else. Keep it cleaned out. If thrown into a pile it will be decomposed in a few weeks into a light soil, rich in humus.

If an early frost catches the beans before they are quite ripe, shell, scald, and dry, and they will keep during the winter.

An old blanket, papers or straw used in protecting the tomatoes from the first frost may prolong them through weeks of good weather yet to follow.

If the cabbages are slow about heading, or the heads lack firmness sprinkle with salt and water. This will also tend to keep the worms down.

If a few cucumbers get too large for ordinary use before you discover them, pare, slice in cross sections an inch thick, soak in salt water a few hours, and make into sweet pickles. They are delicious.

A few rows of strawberries along the edge of the garden will not require much extra labor, and they will add greatly to the luxuries of farm life. One man, who tried the experiment of seven rows last year, reports seven bushels of berries this season.

Because you have plenty of land do not think it is of no value. Have you used your garden to the utmost capacity? Intensive gardening has already come where there is most profit in the occupation. If you have not applied this principle, see how you can get more out of the ground next year.

Dandelions are coming into general use in America for salad greens. The flavor is greatly improved by blanching the leaves. To do this, place an inverted flower pot over each plant for awhile before the leaves are gathered. This salad is greatly enjoyed in Europe.

Before applying liquid manure to plants the soil should be moistened by watering with clear water, unless the soil is already moist. Apply the liquid manure to the soil without sprinkling it over the plants.

Where manure is available, a spadeful or more tied up in coarse sacking, suspended in a tub of water affords a good way to make the liquid.

After strawberry plants have borne the second season's crop remove them and plant some other crop on this land. Set out a new bed of strawberries from the runners from the old vines on another new piece of ground.

Holland bulbs now are exported all over the world and if the demand continues to increase either prices will likely advance or new territory will have to be found to propagate them.

Viola cornuta purpurea somewhat resembles the single blue violet, producing flowers freely on long, slender stems, making them desirable for cutting. The culture is the same as that given pansies.

Autumn bulb planting will soon be here; make an early selection of the ones you want, thus securing the best specimens. Planting is not to be done until the late frosts, when the beds now in use will be unoccupied and ready for the bulbs. Beds planted this autumn will begin flowering almost before the snow disappears in the spring. This is a good time to thoroughly clean the greenhouse, to put in new glass where needed, reputty and paint the roof, and look out for leaks.

Plant sweet peas in the open ground next November and thus secure an early crop of flowers next year.

DEPTH OF THE TILE DRAINS

Type of Soil and Fall of Land Must Be Taken Into Consideration Before Starting Work.

(By R. G. WEATHERSTONE.)

In putting in a system of tile drainage we must consider the type of the soil to be drained as well as the fall of the land before we decide upon the size of the tile and the depth it is to be placed.

On a coarse soil, where the object of the drainage system is to remove the soil water from around the roots of the plants, the tile should be laid three or four feet deep, but on a clay soil, I believe that the tile should be laid as shallow as is consistent with the climatic conditions and the fall of the land.

On clay soils the chief object of tile drainage is to remove the surface water as rapidly as possible after heavy rains before it ruins the growing crops.

To do this it must have an easy access to the tile and for this reason they should not be put down more than two or two and a half feet deep.

On a clay soil it requires longer for the tile drainage system to become efficient after it is installed, because it takes longer for the watercourses to form through the cracks, decayed root passages and animal burrows, hence we will secure better immediate results from a shallow system of drainage than when the tile are placed deep.

It has required a number of years for some of the systems of drainage to become efficient in clay soils and few farmers can afford to wait a number of years for results.

On one of our farms the tile drains were installed 20 years ago and are doing far better work today than they did the first ten years they were put in. These drains were put in from three to four feet deep and for the first few years they did very poor service.

Understand the Silo.

Before any man builds a silo or uses one that some one else has built he should secure the numerous bulletins available and read up. Silos are simple enough, but they must be understood.

Have Vaseline Handy.

Keep a can of vaseline handy about the milking place. Dip the fingers in this and thus soften the teats and prevent cracking.

ACCIDENTS MAY BE AVOIDED

Three Simple Rules to Observe in Using Silo Filling Machinery for the First Time.

By observing three simple rules, the farmer who is using silo filling machinery for the first time may avoid some of the accidents which occasionally damage new machines beyond repair.

Here are the things that, according to W. E. Markey, Wisconsin university agricultural experiment station, the inexperienced man should do:

1. Be sure that the machine is being run at the proper speed.

2. Take care that corn is never put into the machine until the motion is up to full speed.

3. In stopping be careful not to shut off the power until the elevator is empty.

If the elevator is not empty the cut material will fall back and lodge in the fans. Then when the machine is started again, the cut corn jams the fans and as a result they are bent or broken.

INOCULATE ALFALFA FIELDS

Soil May Be Taken From Field to Depth of Four to Six Inches—Avoid Exposing to Light.

Alfalfa fields may be inoculated with soil taken to a depth of from four to six inches from an alfalfa or sweet clover field where the plants are known to be inoculated, at the rate of about two hundred pounds per acre. It is well to avoid exposing the soil to the sunlight for any considerable length of time. Part of this soil may be sifted and from ten to twenty pounds mixed thoroughly with the seed for each acre.

The seed should be slightly moistened before mixing and the mixture shoveled over frequently until dry enough to sow. The fine soil particles and the bacteria cling to the seeds and are ready to begin work as soon as the plants start growth. The remaining soil may be scattered broadcast at seeding time and harrowed in immediately.

Corn Crop in the Silo.

The feed-cutter should be in use on every farm, the corn-shredder is an excellent thing, but why not put all of the corn crop in a silo as the best probable position to get every pound of value out of it.

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NOTICE OF THE SITTING OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

The board of county commissioners of Carroll county, Md., will sit at the office of the board in the Court House in Westminster on the following named dates for the purpose of paying the road bills for the several districts of Carroll county: For

Districts 1 and 2 November 10.
Districts 3 and 4 November 11.
Districts 5 and 6 November 12.
Districts 7 and 8 November 17.
Districts 9, 10 and 11 November 18.
Districts 12, 13 and 14 November 19.

EDWARD O. DODRER, Clerk.
10 30 2-t

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