A Washington Square Idyl

By H. IRVING KING

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(WNU Service)

NIGHT had fallen over the city and the benches of Washington square were beginning to fill up with the varigated assortment of men who filled them when darkness made its daily and punctual arrival. On one bench, facing that intensely respectable row of old brick mansions which line the north side of the square sat a young man of perhaps thirty, whose dress and general appearance caused passersby to glance at him wonderingly—he was so evidently out of harmony with the usual frequenters of the place. Maurice Davenport seemed unaware of the interest he aroused. His eyes were fixed upon the lighted windows of a mansion opposite.

In the house upon which his eyes were fixed lived Mabell Harrison, and six months before he had written her a letter offering her his heart and begging for her hand. Why he had written instead of making his avowal by word of mouth he could not say, except that he was of a rather bashful nature and had thought it more easy to say what he had to say in writing. The night before he had written the fateful letter he had said to Mabell in taking leave of her for the evening: "I am going to send you a letter tomorrow, Mabell, and I hope that your answer will be such as my very soul desires." And Mabell had replied with a smile: "Go home and sleep well, Maurice. I can guess what the nature of your letter will be, and —good-night!"

He had gone away buoyed up with hope. He had written the letter and sent it by messenger. But to it he had received no reply. His messenger, a clerk in his office, came back and said that, as directed, he had delivered the missive into the young lady's own hand; that she had read it and had said: "Tell Mr. Davenport that there is no answer." The shock had been terrible. Two weeks later he saw in the paper that she had sailed with her father and mother for Europe. And now, that very day, he had seen in the paper that the Harrisons had arrived home. Scarcely aware of what he did he had wandered to the square and sat gazing at the house which held all that he loved.

A tall, lanky, shabbily dressed young man came and took a seat by Maurice's side.

"Got a match, Bo?" asked the youth.

Mechanically, Maurice handed the intruder his match case. As he did so the youth got a good look at Maurice's face and gave an exclamation of surprise. Maurice looked and said: "Why, are you not John Davis? You used to be in my office, I think."

"Yes," hesitated the youth, "I am John; but I didn't recognize you at first."

"You left me, I think, to go with Boswick & Claffin, did you not?" asked Maurice.

"Yes, I did," replied John, "and I wish I'd never done it. I ain't had no luck since. Boswick is dead—killed in a joy ride, as you know—and I am out of a job. I'm down and out."

"Perhaps I can find room for you in the office again," said Maurice.

The youth began to cry. "I ain't worth it," sobbed he. "I played a low-down trick on you. I'm broken down and weak, or I wouldn't cry so, and I wouldn't confess what I done, either. But, somehow, I got to tell you. Will you still give me another chance?"

Greatly surprised Maurice said gently: "Of course I will! What is it that you are so sorry for?"

"Well, you know the letter you gave to take to that very house over there? The fact is, I didn't take it."

Maurice rose angrily from his seat and for a moment it seemed as if he would fell the youth to the ground. But controlling himself, he sat down again and said sternly: "Why not?"

"Oh," went on John, the conscience-stricken, "Steve Boswick met me on the street, right over there: he was just after coming out of that house. I asked him where the number I was after was, and showed him the letter. He thought a moment, and then offered me a hundred dollars and a job in his office if I would give the letter to him and tell you that I had delivered it. And I fell for it. As long as Steve lived it was all right. But when he was killed they sacked me."

"Come with me," said Maurice, and strode across to the brick mansion, John following him in fear and trembling. A few minutes later Maurice and Mabell stood confronting each other in the drawing room. She looked worn and pale, but her self command was perfect. Then Maurice broke out impetuously and told her the whole story of the letter and the unfaithful messenger. Turning to the door he called in John, whom he had left in the hall, and made him repeat his confession of guilt.

Life, happiness and color came back to Mabell's face as she listened. "I thought it very strange; but, oh, Maurice, how could I have doubted you? Stephen Boswick proposed to me and I had just rejected his suit when this unfortunate young man met him coming from this house."

"Come to my office tomorrow morning and I will talk further with you—now go," said Maurice to John, and John went.

But Maurice lingered.

Underground Dwellers

Tunisia has perhaps the strangest cave dwellers in the world. They are found south of Gabes, on the fringe of the desert. In their efforts to escape the heat they have dug dwellings in the sand. The traveler crossing the plain of Matmat comes across what appear to be wells. Looking down, he discovers in the half light a small courtyard, and tunneled from the bottom of the well-like cavity are complete dwellings. Access is through a slowly descending tunnel. Down below the surface lives the whole family, and there are stables for their animals.

SNOODLES

By CY HUNGERFORD



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MOUNT VERNON

With the completion of the George Washington Memorial Boulevard, connecting the National Capital and Mount Vernon, the ownership of that foremost American shrine becomes a vital juestion. The House lands committee has approved a resolution directing the Secretary of the Interior to negotiate with the Mount Vernon Ladies Association for sale of the historic estate to the Government. The resolution will doubtless be adopted.

The Nation owes a sincere vote of thanks to the women who have preserved Mount Vernon, and who today maintain it as a shrine of patriotism. But the negligence of Congress in past years does not alter the fact that this estate where Washington lived and now lies buried should belong to the American people. Mount Vernon is a priceless heritage of the Nation. It can not be considered otherwise merely because Congress failed to recognize the fact many years ago.

The Mount Vernon Ladies Association is opposed to any sale of the property, but its directors doubtless realize that they must bow to the inevitable. With a manguificent highway which has cost the Government $5,000,000, beckoning every tourist inAmerica to spend a quiet hour in the atmosphere of Washington's estate that shrine will take on much greater significance as the years roll on. It is not reasonable that its ownership should beleft in private hands. The good work that has been done by the Ladies of Mount Vernon should be magnified by conversion of this beautiful estate into a truly national project.

Congress will be disposed to deal liberally with the association. The resolution of the lands committee suggests that the Ladies of Mount Vernon would be asked to take an active part in caring for the estate under Federal supervision, if they agree to the proposed sale. The Government could not intrust Mount Vernon to better hands.

It would be quite appropriate for Congress to complete negotiations for the purchase of Mount Vernon during the Bicentennial year. While the thoughts of the whole country are turned toward Washington and the part he played in the creation of the United States, Congress could not more distinctly honor him than by purchasing the home he loved so well as an enduring shrine to his memory.

BETTER BUSINESS RIVAL

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR URGES MARYLANDERS TO ACTION

To the Citizens of Maryland:

As a direct aid to effect remedial solutoins of the unemployment and welfare problems, stabilization of building construction and financial help have been established in effectual channels to relieve the business slump and effect general economic uplift.

The most recent anti-hoarding campaign can be amplified in establishing a practical panacea for our economic ills. To this end the U. S. Employment service, through the office of the Federal Director, suggests that the citizens of Maryland cooperate in a systematic "Better Business Revival" campaign beginning April 1, 1932.

Maryland possesses rich coal mines, but produces less than three million tons of the eight million tons consumed annually in the State. For each increase in coal demand and consumption, the citizens of Maryland can assist in putting its idle miners to work. The same effort is applicable in each of Maryland's thousands of manufactured articles. Maryland can supply any article of commerce from jewelry, clothing, millinery and furniture to fabricated steel and aeroplanes. Maryland is one of the leading states in the production of seafood, canned vegetables, fruits, etc.

All grocers, manufacturers and dealers should carry window displays and newspaper advertising featuring Maryland products. People who use goods of national and international origin wil be asked to aid in bringing Maryland business back to normalcy by buying a proportionate and fair amount of Maryland products. A greater consumption will effect an immediate need for greater supply. Our idle mill workers will find employment in the tin and can industries. Farmers will till more soil, buy more seed, fertilizer and machinery, hire more seasonal help to effect the necessary production. Accordingly, several thousand diversified manufaturing plants will need raw products, employes and salesmen Rail, bus and steamship transportation and many kindred aids will be affected.

In anticipating this revival, let all manufacturing concerns of Maryland enter this advertising and sales campaign and prepare to add to their present personnel, continuing wage levels so that earning power and buying power may be maintained. Eliminate fear, put the hoarded dollars back to work! Let us truly live "Maryland My Maryland." Prosperity is just around the corner—let us go around and meet Prosperity! Will you join in officially declaring the month of April the beginning of a period of business revival? Let us go to work!

Raymond W. Belamy
Federal Director of Employment for Maryland.

OUR FEATHERED FRIENDS

They're coming back to their favorite haunts now, our feather friends of many varieties. Pretty soon they'll be on the job again, destroying insects as fast as they appear on fruit and shade trees and proving their worth to mankind as one of his greatest aides. But it will be sometime yet before it will be easy for the birds to get their food at the hands of Mother Nature. For that reason thoughtful and appreciative citizens will not cease to scatter crumbs liberally where their feathered friends can find them. They are depending on you for the little food it takes to sustain them until such time as the insect pests arrive. Then they can thrive on the insects—and that it where you earn your reward for tossing out a few crumbs now. It's little enough to do, too, when you consider what your loss would be if the birds deserted us entirely and no longer made their homes in this community during the spring and summer months.

We can't understand why the ant acquired such a reputation for being so industrious. Nearly every one we ever saw was on a picnic.

GALENA

Rev .and Mrs. W. L. Hess left on Wednesday for his new charge at Frankford, Del.

Mrs. James A. Quinn spent last Thursday with her mother, Mrs. Devine in Middletown, Delaware.

Miss Helen VanSant, of Baltimore, Md., spent a few days last week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Vansant.

Mr .and Mrs. Orville Mark, of Philadelphia, Pa., are visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lemuel Mark.

Mr. Frank Jefferies, of Wilmington, Del., spent Sunday with Mrs. Linda Walls.

The Women's Club held their monthly meeting on Wednesday at the home of Mrs. Herbert Ford.

Mrs. Josephine returned home last Saturday after spending several weeks with her daughter, Mrs. Joseph Craddock in Moore, Pa.

Mrs. J. Earle Gilfillon and daughter spent last week end with relatives in Newark, Delaware.

Miss Mary Scot, of Baltimore, Md., pent the week end with her father, Dr. E. A. Scott.

Miss Selma Scotten is visiting her sister, Mrs. Harry Smith in Salisbury.

KENNEDYVILLE

nis Mrs. Minta Weer is visiting Mr. and Mrs. James Weer.

The Mite Society will meet at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Webbs next Thursday evening, April 21.

Service as usual in the M. P. church next Sunday.

Service in Grace Presbyterian Church next Sunday evening at 7.30 p. m.

home of Mr. and Mrs. William Webb Mrs. Rachiel Hill and Mrs. Robert Hill visited in Millington on Friday.

Mrs. Eva Primrose and Virginia spent the week end with friends in Elkton.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Redmile and daughter, of Baltimore, spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. Harry Redmile.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Herzog and Mr. and Mrs. Myers and Howard Johnston, of Baltimore, spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. George Johnston.

Mr. Ferguson and Miss Owens visited friends here on Thursday.

Mr. Joseph Oliff and Miss Lula Van Dyke are on the sick list.

Mrs. Katie Crew, of near Chestertown, visited her sister, Miss Lula Van Dyke, this week.

WORTON

Mr. and Mrs. Marion Rash, Mr. H. Matthews and daughter, Emily, visited Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Wolf, of Baltimore, last week end.

Mrs. Alan Rouse, of Philadelphia, and Mrs. B. F. Urie, of Rock Hall, spent this week with Mr. and Mrs. Henry Williams.

Miss Clara Matthews was the guest of Mrs. Arthur Harris severel days this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell Crowding spent last week end in Baltimore.

Mr. Albert Bacon, of Camden, N. J., visited friends here several days this week.

Mr. and Mrs. John Duyer and daughter, Clara and Mr. Wm. Knight spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Walter Crouch, of Kent Island.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Taylor entertained friends and relatives from Centreville Wednesday.

Mr. Reginald Coper entertained a few friends at a birthday party Wednesday evening.

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Traylor Finds Too Much Silence Responsible for Business Slump

Chicago Banker Traces Crash to Failure of Leaders to Give Warnings

Danger Signals Disregarded

Speaking before the International Chamber of Commerce at Washington, Melvin A. Traylor, President of the First National Bank of Chicago, said in part:

Business management, however, is not alone responsible for the course it has followed. Unfortunately, it has had the cooperation of finance and government and will likewise have to have their cooperation in adjusting its affairs to a saner course. What, in fact, did the leaders of finance do to encourage the expansion which took place in the last decade? What, if anything, did they do to prevent such expansion with the consequences which they certainly did know or should have known would follow?



Melvin Traylor

I believe their record in that connection is not an enviable one. As early as 1927, it was clearly obvious to anyone having experience with the granting of credit that if the situation was allowed to continue, and if expansion and speculation were carried on unchecked, there could be but one end—disaster. Yet the record of American financial leadership and of responsible government officials was regrettably one of too much silence.

Sounded Few Warnings

Few warnings were issued, and few attempts were made to attract public attention to the danger that threatened. Credit for the expansion of productive facilities to meet temporary demands was granted to business without adequate consideration of the consequences. Credit without stint was furnished to consumers to buy consumable goods, thereby further increasing false purchasing power and multiplying debt. No one called a halt.

Every kind and character of combination and consolidation was made, regardless of its economic advisability or the possibility of economies in management or increased profits therefrom. Little or no consideration was given to the nature of the businesses involved; in one instance, for example, soaps and candies were united. Such combinations and mergers were promoted and securities were sold on the theory that temporary earnings derived from a false demand would not only continue, but would forever increase.

Furthermore, these securities were not sold to those in a position to buy, or who could buy for investment purposes, but rather to those less able to buy—to men and women fascinated by high-powered salesmanship and an inborn desire to gamble for big profits. Was such financial leadership calculated to inspire confidence or make for an economic stability which insures social welfare? I am afraid not.

But financial leadership did not stop there. It actively promoted the purchase of equity stocks and split its own unit of stock par in order, as it said, to bring its market values within the reach of the small investor. May I add, parenthetically, that such action would have been unnecessary for their purpose had they waited only a few months.

Financial leaders organized and promoted so-called investment trusts to give the small investor a chance to profit from wise financial leadership, made foreign loans of speculative value, and, altogether, followed the procession obviously intent upon getting theirs while the getting was good.

Must Chart New Course

Are we to have a repetition of this kind of financial leadership? If it be true—as I believe it is—that credit is the life-blood of the nation, and that there can be no economic stability or social progress without a sound financial structure; and if it be true—as I also believe—that no financial system is sounder or more useful than its management, then financial leadership in this country must take stock of itself turn over a new leaf, and chart a new course of conduct for its future guidance.

If it be objected that not all financial leaders are guilty of such misconduct—and certainly there are some who are not—the indictment, nevertheless, stands. As far as the record discloses, not one had the courage to fight in the open against the tendencies he knew were wrong and to demand a right-about-face. Knowledge is one thing, but courage of leadership is another.



PERCY SHELLEY

"The trumpet of a prophecy! Oh, Wind, if Winter comes can Spring be far behind?" To aid another in his need, to bring one's abilities to the caretaking of another's perplexing problems is a worthy aim.

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