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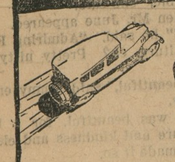
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Mrs. Atherton's Aspirations

By H. IRVING KING

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MRS. ARNOLD ATHERTON would have found life one grand sweet song had she not been troubled by ambition. She was really having the time of her life. Arnold made money and his wife, Gertrude, spent it. "Go ahead, Gerty," he would say, "have a good time. I can afford it. Lord knows, old girl, you had a hard enough time of it in those years when I found you slinging hash in that Alaska miners' boarding house when I met you." And that was so. Mrs. Atherton's father had gone out to Alaska prospecting, had made a strike and brought out his wife and his daughter; then lost his stake in a new venture, and died. His wife had soon followed him and Gertrude had become a waitress in a boarding house.

Then had come along Arnold Atherton, the Midas man, who changed to gold everything he touched, and married her. Back again in New England all the Alaskan part of her life had become a dream of unpleasant things that had been and could never be again.

Don't for a moment think that Gertrude went into the social whirl flamboyantly. Not a bit; she knew too much for that. She would have gone through life happily enough had not Mrs. Charles Fosdick married her daughter to an English earl.

Now, Mrs. Fosdick was an extremely obnoxious person to Mrs. Atherton. She knew that Mrs. Atherton had met and married Arnold somewhere in the West, and from the fact that she had intended to marry Arnold herself when he went out to "the coast," was curious as to the details of that western romance. "Oh, Mrs. Atherton," she would say, "do tell me about your life in the West—before you met Arnold, you know. It must have been intensely interesting—so unconventional, you know." Mrs. Atherton would change the subject. And when, after her daughter's marriage, Mrs. Fosdick began to talk about "My daughter, the countess," Mrs. Atherton could stand it no longer.

She, Mrs. Atherton, had a daughter, as yet unmarried and now quite old enough to be; and to this daughter a marquis was paying attention. Wouldn't it be delightful to match Mrs. Fosdick's "my daughter, the countess," with "my daughter, the marchioness!" Richard Brahman was also a suitor of Mrs. Atherton's daughter, Ethel, and heretofore Mrs. Atherton had been perfectly willing to take him as a son-in-law. But now came stamping in Ambition with muddy boots and messed things up.

When Gertrude told her ambitious designs to Arnold he said: "Gerty, I never denied you anything yet—and I am not going to now. If you want a marquis, go to it. But how about Dick and Ethel? Don't you think they ought to be consulted?"

"Oh, they are so young," replied Mrs. Atherton.

After her husband had gone Mrs. Atherton sat awhile in deep thought. Then she rang a bell and summoned a maid. Was Ethel in the house? She was. "Tell her I would like to see her." Ethel came. She was young, that was a fact. And she was also pretty in her way. Not a raving beauty, you understand, but a good, wholesome-looking sort of a girl with intelligence sparkling from every feature. And she had a charm about her that was indescribable. Anyone who saw Ethel Atherton and did not like her at first sight must have been hard to please.

"Ethel," said Mrs. Atherton, "how would you like to be a marchioness?"

"That would depend entirely upon what sort of a marquis sought my fair hand," laughed Ethel. "And, as I am going to marry Dick Brahman, the question is a purely academic one, anyway."

"Oh, you are going to marry Dick, are you?" said the mother. "When did you come to that decision?"

"Last night," answered Ethel "Dick asked me last night. But, of course, it was all understood before. Dick was a little slow about making his formal declaration because, you see, he has no money and felt a little diffident about asking the daughter of a man as disgracefully rich as papa is to marry him. But I told him that was all nonsense. Papa approved and so did you. So it's all right."

"And the marquis?" suggested Mrs. Atherton.

"Oh, he!" laughed Ethel. "Why he asked me to marry him three weeks ago. It was too funny! He is already paying alimony to two wives and I told him he had better clean up the shattered remnants of his former matrimonial adventures before he sought new ones. Did father tell you he was going to take Dick into partnership? Well, he is. And now, mother dear, where shall we buy my wedding trousseau?"

"Hum," said Mrs. Atherton; "you and your father seem to have settled things between you very well without my assistance. But you are right, Ethel. Let your hand go where your heart has gone. But, gracious! we have just about time to dress. We are engaged for that horrible Mrs. Fosdick's to dinner tonight, you know—and I suppose I shall have to hear all about 'My daughter, the countess!'"

More than four-fifths of Yellowstone park is heavily forested.

Pertinent Fact

Have you ever noticed that the more religion he has the less he quarrels over it?—Arkansas Democrat.

Life's Building

We try to grasp too much of life at once. Since we think of it as a whole instead of living one day at a time, life is a mosaic and each tiny piece must be cut and set with skill—first one piece, then another.—O. S. Marden.

Old Romans Regarded Kiss as Holy Symbol

The Romans knew all there was to know about kisses. In the chaste days of the republic, however, kisses were very solemn and holy, so much so that Cato, the censor, whose ideas ran to the blue law variety, deprived a senator of office because he had kissed his wife in the presence of their daughter.

When a couple were formally betrothed the engagement was usually sealed with a kiss in the presence of the relatives. If one of the couple died before the wedding day the other had to return all the engagement presents unless there had been this public betrothal kiss. It finally came to have such weight that it was regarded with nearly as much reverence as the marriage ceremony, and after a couple had kissed each other the engagement could be broken only for the most serious reasons, nearly as serious as grounds for divorce.

But in the latter days, under the empire, kisses became as common as breakfasts in Rome, and when a fashionable woman met a fashionable man it was quite the thing for him to kiss her. Among the wealthy classes it became the mode for men and women to put perfume on their lips before they went to a social gathering.—Exchange.

Rebuke to Emperor by Master of Music

At a concert in St. Petersburg, before a brilliant assemblage which included the czar and many members of his court, Franz Liszt was conducting a symphony. During the course of the music the czar began to converse in audible tones with one of his fair neighbors. In the very midst of the movement Liszt gave with his baton a signal for the music to cease, and the players stopped short.

The abrupt silence filled the audience with surprise, and the czar at once sent an equerry to ask for an explanation. Whereupon Liszt sent back word:

"When the czar speaks, all the rest must be silent."

As this was a court regulation, the czar had to suffer the rebuke of a foreign musician administered under the guise of obedience to court etiquette. Hanz von Bulow, in relating his father-in-law's unprecedented act of courage, says George S. Hellman, who tells the story in "Lanes of Memory," said that he would have given a year of his life to have had such an opportunity to teach an emperor that art must be respected.

They're All Like That

Unwittingly, upon their honeymoon, she had said something that rubbed him the wrong way.

"Ah, my darling," she cried, "I have hurt you!"

"No, dearest," he answered, gravely, "the hurt I feel is due to the fact that I know it hurts you to think you have hurt me."

"Ah," she exclaimed, "do not let that hurt you for an instant! My hurt is because I know it hurts you to feel I have hurt myself by hurting you!"

"No, no, my precious!" he cried. "My hurt is because you are not hurt over feeling that I am hurt because you feel that you have hurt me, and therefore hurt yourself."

The Modern Miracle

Mrs. Baddeley Built had set out determined to obtain a magnificent gown which she had seen advertised in the morning paper.

But, unfortunately, the gown did not fit her ample form.

"I like this frock," she said to the saleswoman in the World's store, "but it's too tight here and here. Alter it to fit me and I'll buy it."

The saleswoman regarded her a moment.

"Alter it, madam, to fit you?" she replied. "Oh, no, madam, that is never done. But if you'll be good enough to visit our beauty department on the second floor they'll alter you to fit the frock."

The Moral Sentiment

The foundation of culture, as of character, is at last the moral sentiment. This is the fountain of power, preserves its eternal newness, draws its own rent out of every novelty in science. Science corrects the old creeds, and necessitates a faith commensurate with the grander orbits and universal laws which it discloses. Yet it does not surprise the moral sentiment. That was older, and awaited expectant these larger insights.—Emerson.

Valley Once a Lake Bed

San Luis valley is the bed of an ancient lake. Countless ages ago there was an upheaval that opened the mountains that surrounded the valley, and the lake ran out. Today artesian wells of fresh water are found only a few feet below the surface. The great sand dunes, called the "American Sahara," and reached from Alamosa and other towns, are a remnant of this ancient lake, the winds of the ages having created the vast expanse of sand into great hills.

Advising Him

"Aw, don't make such a fuss about your necktie!" said Audrey to her somewhat bigger brother. "I was small then, but I remember clearly how you used to kick and howl when mother scrubbed your ears, dag-gawn you! If your girl doesn't like your tie, tell her to lump it!"—Kansas City Star.

Willing to Listen

Money talks, and most of us wish we were in a position to be bored by it.—Boston Transcript.

Valuable Sea Monster

Narwhal is a kind of whale, the male of which is provided with a long spiral tusk, which may attain a length of eight or ten feet, while the whale itself seldom exceeds 16 feet in length. This whale is hunted both for its oil and its whalebone, commonly called ivory.

Hans Andersen

Hans Christian Andersen, the famous writer of fairy tales for children, was an only child of poor parents. He was born in 1805, in the beautiful little town of Odense, on the island of Funen, Denmark, and he immortalized his native birthplace in the story, "The Bell-Deep." Son of a shoemaker, he was sent to the poor house school in the town, where his natural abilities and love of study caused him to [illegible] distinction. After years of struggle, he eventually became famous, when he visited many countries of Europe, and as a notable man was much sought after. Andersen came to know Sir Walter Scott and Robert Burns, besides many other distinguished writers and poets. He died at the age of seventy, and was buried in Copenhagen.

Bashfulness

Dr. Egbert Moran, the psychoanalyst, said in a recent lecture:

"Bashfulness is a defect easily eradicated by psychoanalysis—and what a wretched thing bashfulness is!

"'How bashful you are!' a pretty girl said to a young man.

"'Yes,' said he. 'I take after father there.'

"'Was your father bashful?'

"'Was he? Why, mother says if father hadn't been so darn bashful I'd be four years older.'"

Easily Adjusted

It was the first play he had ever written, and at the same time the worst thing his friend, the producer, had read for years.

"Sorry, my boy," remarked the producer, "but I couldn't do this, it's too long for the stage."

"But, I say," expostulated his friend, "surely a little thing like that could be fixed up. Couldn't you lengthen the stage a bit?"

Slave to Fashion

"I met your friend Zuckerfast yesterday. But you gave me quite a wrong impression of him. The fellow is so shabby that one is quite sorry for him. I felt like giving him something to get his shoes heeled with . . . and you told me he was a slave to fashion."

"He is. Zukerfast has five grown-up daughters."—Meggendorfer Blaetter, Munich.

Origin of "Horse-Radish"

In the names of plants and fruits the word "horse" is frequently used to denote a large, strong or coarse variety. For instance horse beans are a coarse variety of common beans used in feeding horses and cattle. It is supposed that the word was originally used in "horse-radish" for the same purpose; namely, to indicate what was regarded as a coarse kind of radish.

Fairy Meadow Dairy

SPECIAL Opening Announcement

We will begin our ice cream season on Saturday, April 30th, and for one month thereafter we will sell our fine "Home Made Ice Cream" at a special price of 40c per quart delivered any where in Chestertown on 15 minutes' notice; 10c extra for packing in ice and salt.

Have also our own make Cottage Cheese at 15c per pint and whipping cream at 20c per half pint.

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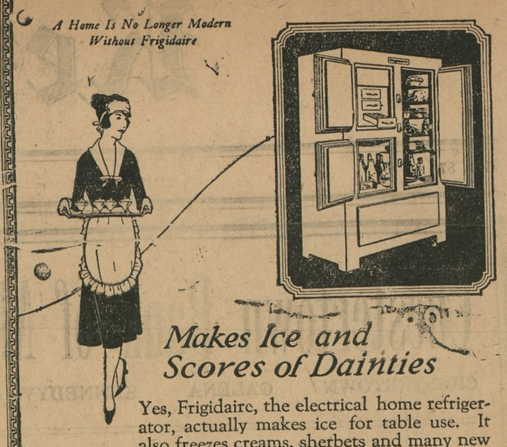
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