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Cures Colds: Prevents Pneumonia

Catlin and the Multimillionairess

By Frank H. Sweet

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They were sweeping along the country road, with the sun just rising over the hills in the east. Birds were flocking among the branches and in the open fields, preparing for early migration south, and mingled with the rich lesser notes were the occasional clear, dominating whistles of the quail and the soaring medley of the bobolink. The road was not bad for a country road, though they often had to swerve to one side or the other to avoid a deep rut or washout, and there were many steep hills where they had to dismount and walk and many places where the descent was too abrupt to trust in brakes.

But the glorious morning compensated for it all, and presently they yielded to its influence, and Catlin's clear, mellow voice broke into a swinging bicycle song, which the other two

AS SHE BENT OVER, THE GIRL ALLOWED HER SUNBONNET TO FALL BACK.

caught up and sent ringing across the fields with the rhythmic fullness of three strong, cultivated voices, whose owners were allowing their hearts and unformulated thoughts to well up unconsciously to their lips and which rose and fell and wavered under the swift motion of the singers. As it finally died away and their speed slackened somewhat one of the riders looked across at Catlin.

"It's a shame to break up our outing like this," he called.

"I know, but Aunt Beulah telegraphed for us to come straight to her country house."

"Your rich aunt?"

"Yes, the one I told you was going to entertain us so lavishly at the end of our trip."

"And introduce you to the multimillionairess?" grinned the other rider.

"Precisely. The multimillionairess is devoted to my aunt, and my aunt is devoted to me. Ergo, we join hands around the triangle."

"But do you really mean that you will marry her offhand?" incredulously.

"I really do, Burke. A multimillionairess means multimillion cares less, and the very fact of my never seeing her or her photograph adds the needed tinge of romance. But, hello," as there came the dull thud of a fall and then a faint call for help, "somebody's dropped from one of those apple trees above the bank. Hurry, fellows!"

As they climbed the bank the call was repeated, sounding very near. A few moments later they found an old man lying down upon his back under the first tree.

"Much hurt?" asked Catlin solicitously.

"N-no, I guess not," slowly and with a long indrawn breath of pain. "Just shook up considerable, I think, without any bones broken. But I expect you fellows will have to help me home."

"Of course." Catlin looked around. A short ladder was leaning against the tree. "That'll do very nicely," he said. "Here, fellows, gather up all these empty sacks and spread them on the ladder to make it more comfortable. Now, sir," when all was ready, "we'll lift you as gently as possible."

"Oh, I don't mind a little pain," the old man answered, grimacing, however, when they lifted him to the ladder. "It's the apples that's worrying me most. I've been sending them off to one firm, at about this time, for forty-nine years. This would make fifty."

"The firm will certainly overlook the slip, then," said Catlin consolingly.

The old man's face creased into a smile. "I know, I know," he replied. "They won't mind, and the money part does not matter. But when a man has done a thing forty-nine years it's hard for him to miss the fiftieth. I don't suppose I ought to have tackled the apples alone. Hello, there comes Gerty. She heard me call, I guess."

A tall girl, with her face hidden by a sunbonnet, was hurrying through the orchard toward them.

"Oh, uncle," she cried, with very much distress in her voice, "it is you! I thought I heard a cry, but was not sure. Is—is it very bad?"

"Not so very, I think," the old man answered. "Just a shakeup. Fortunately these young men were near. They will carry me to the house."

As she bent over him the girl allowed her sunbonnet to fall back. Catlin was directly in front of her, and he caught his breath a little at what the act revealed. The girl was not merely pretty, as he had at first thought; she was beautiful.

An hour later the three were standing out under one of the trees on the lawn.

"I tell you, fellows," Catlin was saying, "it's our duty to stay and pick the apples for the old man. It's too bad for him to miss the fiftieth year."

"Too bad for you to miss another chance of looking into Miss Gerty's eyes, you mean," suggested Burke.

"Perhaps," composedly. "They are certainly worth looking into. But we can pick two days and still have time to reach Aunt Beulah's on the date set. The trout fishing doesn't matter."

"All right, Catlin," Burke laughed. "I don't mind staying. But you had better keep your mind on the multi-ess and leave me to talk with Miss Gerty."

Two days later they stood under the same tree. The apples had been picked and barreled and shipped. Two bicycles were leaning against the tree, apparently ready for departure. The third was missing. Catlin looked cool and composed; the others were plainly annoyed.

"You can give that letter to Aunt Beulah," Catlin was saying to Burke. "It tells her the multi-ess business is off. She will look after you all right and give you the good time as scheduled. You might add of your own accord that you left me well."

"I'll tell her you are working on a farm as a common laborer," grumbled Burke. "But, first, I've got a good mind to go in and tell the old man and Miss Gerty just what you are—a wolf in sheep's clothing."

"Oh, no, you haven't," smiled Catlin. "I've known you too long, Burke. You couldn't do a thing like that if you tried. Well, goodby!"

Four days later a letter came to Catlin. It read:

My Dear Boy—You're a fool. And after the way I raised you too. But it doesn't so much matter now. Miss Claflin will not come for several weeks. You will get well by that time.

Catlin's letter in answer a week afterward read:

My Dear Aunt—There's no chance whatever of my getting well. I haven't spoken yet, but I begin to see it in her eyes. Gerty is the sweetest girl in the world. I'm stopping with her uncle, Richard Parks—but perhaps Burke told you.

Six days later:

My Dear Boy—You're a prodigy, with a cat's faculty of sticking on your feet. Miss Claflin's name is Gertrude, and her uncle is Richard Parks. She wrote that he had met with some kind of accident and that she would remain with him a few weeks longer.

Catlin's reply, three days later:

My Dear Aunt—I discovered her last name the day before your letter arrived. I asked her, and she said yes. We will be with you the first of the month.

Had It All Planned.

In the early days of lotteries in England to dream a number was always looked on as the luckiest of omens. On one occasion a footman having plainly seen some numbers in a dream spent the whole of twenty years' savings in purchasing two lottery tickets bearing his lucky dream numbers, and when the tickets proved blanks, we learn, "after a few melancholy days he put an end to his life." In his box was found the following plan of the manner in which he should spend the £5,000 prize, which his mistress preserved as a curiosity:

"As soon as I have received the money I will marry Grace Towers, but as she has been cross and coy I will use her as a servant. Every morning she shall get me a mug of strong beer, with toast, nutmeg and sugar in it; then I will sleep until 10, after which I will have a large sack posset. My dinner shall be on table by 1, and never without a good pudding. I will have a stock of wine and brandy laid in. About 5 in the afternoon I will have tarts and jellies and a gallon bowl of punch; at 10 a hot supper of two dishes. If I am in a good humor and Grace behaves herself, she shall sit down with me."

Professors' Salaries.

The official pay of the foreign professor at first glance seems absurdly small in comparison with the pay in American institutions. In Prussia, for example, a full professor receives by law $1,000 (in Berlin $1,200) the first year, to be increased $100 a year every fourth year for twenty years. In addition he receives an allowance for house rent. This is, however, only the fixed part of his income. The honorarium which he receives from the fees of his students will vary greatly, depending on the subject taught and the attractive power of the teacher. Incomes of $5,000 a year and even larger sums are received in the larger universities by certain well known men. Taking into account the fact that the foreign professor has a life place, that his widow and minor children receive pensions, he is better off financially and is far more free from the anxieties which come with modest income than his American brother, whose nominal pay is higher.—Henry S. Pritchett in Atlantic.

Worth of a Principle.

It is indeed a high day in the human story when a great principle reaches its hour. For ages it may have been working silently along the subterranean channels of the world's life. At times it has for a brief moment shown itself above the surface, only to be hunted back again with scoff and insult. But it is already in the blood and will, by and by, mount to the brain's throne. When the appointed time is come the idea creates its man, and the credential of his authority is the echo of his word in every soul.

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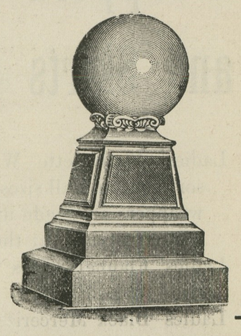

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