

THE STORY TELLER

A LETTER AND ITS RESULT

By KATE M. CLEARY

"So that's the way the land lies, is it?" asked Ivy Lyle.

The sensitive face under the big, rose-lined sunhat was very white. Her lips quivered a little. The hands that held the vagrant sheet trembled.

"I thought," said the girl to herself, "I hadn't begun to care—in that way, I was only becoming—attracted. But the shock—the disillusion—"

When she had started out an hour ago for her usual brisk morning walk along the crisp, shelving sands, she had been one of the most indifferent, light-hearted of girls. She was done with college and the two years of foreign travel that had succeeded school as a sort of polishing process. She had perfect health, and misty dreams of all the veiled future held in its keeping. She had aesthetic tastes, and her skill in athletic sports was the admiration of her less vigorous girl friends. She had been having a beautiful time down at this gay, unconventional resort on the Michigan coast. And now—well, temporarily it seemed that her pleasure was spoiled.

And in her heart she knew that she must have been beginning to think too much of the man whose attentions to her had been so marked, or else this discovery would not so affect her. Sitting to rest and watch the white-crested waves come curling up to break on the border of the lake like threads of rarest lace, her attention had been caught by a small, white, whirling object that at first sight she had taken for a bird. It had whirled lower and nearer. Then it flapped so close she could put out her hand and grasp it, and she found it was a sheet of note paper covered with diminutive chirography. It was written on the stationery of the fashionable hotel looming up on the dunes behind her. At first she had been about to crumple it up and cast it aside. But in the very act of doing so a name—her own name—met her eye.

Even then she hesitated. But the three words were so significant she must have known their author. The page was the continuation of a letter. And the first three words at the top of the page were "I love Ivy Lyle!" Impulsively, giving herself no chance to weigh the niceties of honor in the balance she scanned the page.

"I love Ivy Lyle," she thought, "I've fought against it—for I can't afford to marry her, you know. But she has rather swept me off my feet, old chap! At first I was taken with her innocent beauty. There was no one at this big resort to compare with her for good looks. So I let myself drift. I thought she was just a dear little country girl, and that it would be easy to say a sentimental farewell when the summer was over. You know what these warm-weather flirtations amount to. So I've been going to see her steadily and taking her everywhere. We've gone dancing and swimming and boating and all the rest of it. And—by Jove! for all she's mighty quiet I've come to find out she's not the typical little country girl at all. She's well read and traveled, though she seemed rather ragged when she looked at me in that cool, aspiring sort of way that makes him feel pretty cheap if he's a bit of a snob. But she's no snob. She's a social system. She's a social system. I've been ho to pinning down to her the things she has said about herself. I've seen her every day of an hour at a farmhouse on the edge of town. She wears her cotton dresses and shade hats in a way that takes the breath out of women up at the hotel, but I've never seen her sport any of the clothes they wear to the hotel. Oh, I found it! What's the use of my pinning away to you at this time? Let me get away and try to forget her before it's too late."

"Damaris Chase and her father are to be here this week, they tell me. And she's the girl the heads of both our houses expect me to marry! She may have the good taste to refuse me—and I almost hope she will. She's a great heiress, and the consolidation of the business interests would be a capital thing. I'll hang her in the thought it would be so hard to get that little girl's heart out of my heart. I must do the sensible thing, and go in for the

20,000 a year. Lord! but I'm sorry for those poor devils of kings who have to wed for reasons of state. I feel disgustingly like one of them. I'm sleepy. Good night—I'll finish this in the morning. Ten to one I dream of Ivy Lyle!"

It needed no signature. The writer was easily recognized. She crumpled the paper tightly in her hand and thrust it into the blouse of her gown as a rascal, heavy step came crouching down the beach. That step had become too pleasantly familiar. Could he have known the sheet had been whisked out of his room? Had he seen it blown down to the beach?

"Good morning, Miss Lyle!" He flung himself down beside her. His handsome face looked strained and set, as though insomnia had claimed him. "You are out early. Will you go rowing with me to-day up to Clear Springs?"

"I—I can't!" she faltered.

"And won't you come up Black river to-day?" entreatingly, almost tenderly. "It may be the last time!"

He was planning—planning. Oh, that cruel, cruel letter! But—the last time, he had said.

She flung up her head and smiled at him. "Yes, I will go!" she said.

They were very gay that afternoon, almost recklessly so. They had luncheon at the inn near the springs, and floated back between the wooded banks just as the day was closing. When they came to parting at the clump of lilac bushes in the lane that led to the farmhouse Jack Ardsley leaned forward and looked into her eyes.

"Dear," he said, "I love you! I love you, and I can't let you go out of my life over. You don't know much of me, Ivy, but—will you be my wife?"

"What," she faltered, "what about Damaris Chase?"

He took her shaking hands and held them fast.

"Who in the world has been telling you of her? I've never seen her, but our fathers have vast interests in common, and have been anxious to arrange a match. I don't say I didn't think of being complaisant. Darling, sometimes I may get up courage to tell you how near I came to being a paltry coward—how desperately I tried to make myself think I could do without you. But I cannot, and that is all there is to it."

"I-I can't!" she faltered.

You can endure being poor with me for a few years, I'll work so hard at my profession to give you everything that I shall be sure to win."

She had not been mistaken in letting herself love him, then. For she did love him—she did. And she had known it all the while. She lifted her shy, flushed face.

"I will be a good wife to you, dear!" she promised, and he kissed her on the lips.

That night when he sought her as the dance at the inn he stood amazed. That lovely lady in the shimmering gown and demure little country lassie! How lovely she came to herself. And those words around her white throat were words of a fortune she smiled up at his amazed countenance.

"Aunt Agatha and I do not wish to be bothered with attentions," she whispered to her father to-night, and pressed to him, and you," sweetly, what could he do. You will pardon me, I'm engaged for a boy who had brought her a telegram, and broke the seal of the message. "Detained," she read, "with you to-morrow."

She handed Ardsley the yellow slip. It was signed "Jasper E. Chase," and it was addressed to "Miss Damaris Chase!"

"That," she said, "is my name."

"Ivy," he gasped.

"Damaris Ivy Lyle Chase! You poor boy! Come out on the balcony, they are starting at us."

"Come, you have a revolver!"—San Francisco Call.



ORIGIN OF THE SEXTETTE

The Successful Musical Comedy Owes Much to Minstrelsy and the Church.

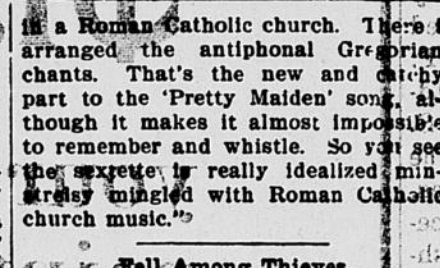
The success of the "Follies" contingent in "The Awakening of Miss Pipp" was the topic of conversation about a club table the other night. "Yes," said Charley Grapevin, "the five women constitute an important factor in the success of many pieces nowadays. Florodora gave the chorus the important place that authors make for them in musical comedy to-day. Without the delightful sextette features 'Florodora' would not have scored so heavily. Ever hear how it originated? In the old Christy minstrels," said Mr. Stewart, "the fellows used to go forward like this—here he took two or three graceful steps and ended with a pirouette—and then used to tip their hats." Here he started a graceful bow. "I saw these minstrels 20 years ago, and I always had an idea in my head that I would like to see a row of Johnnies doing that step gracefully together. The style of the music I owe to my experience as an organist

ROAD AND FARM IMPROVEMENT

A GOOD END POST.

Those of the Figure 4 Style Good When Constructed Properly—A Practical Experience.

In a recent Ohio Farmer, one of the readers advises others against the figure-4 style of end-post braces for fence. I have on my farm, says Chancy Avery, 14 end posts of this type, all giving as good service as I think it possible to get from any wood post; some of them have been set for six years, and the truss rods have needed no tightening, and I am confident that with the right principle of construction, carefully executed, this style of bracing will be found the best. Thorough work is essential to success with any style of bracing. Too short braces lift too much on the end post, and



MEAT ON THE FARM.

Roast Duck May Be Had Just as Cheaply as Roast Pork or Pig.

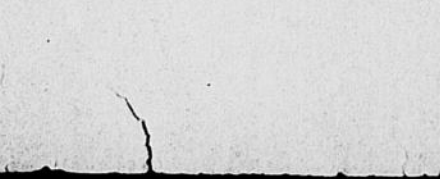
Roast pork and roast pig are favorites, dishes, and the farmer never misses the pork from his table even when other meats are lacking. He can just as easily and cheaply have roast duck as roast pork. In proportion to food consumed, the duck will cost no more than the pork, and a four-pound duck can be put on the table in eight weeks from the time it is hatched. The farmer who raises 100 ducks can have roast duck twice a week nearly every week in the year, and he does not have to pickle the meat to keep it. The duck can be raised on any kind of food that the hog will consume, and the farmer can have a market for his own ducks at home, leaving him the pork to sell. What would a farm be that did not contain a flock of fowls? The eggs are considered as adjuncts to the farm, and they enter into many of the household dishes. In estimating the profits from poultry, the eggs and poultry consumed by the family should be given the same value as though such supplies were purchased. The "family" markets in the United States excel all others, and no farmer should sell his eggs and live on something else desirable, but he should enjoy the same luxuries as those who are willing to buy the best in the cities.—Farm and Fireside.

WOMEN ROAD REPAIRERS.

How Female Labor Is Utilized in India to Improve the Condition of the Roadways.

In the lower stratum of Hindoo society women do not live the life of luxury and ease that is common among the upper classes. The great masses of small farmers, artisans and coolies earn so meager a livelihood that their lives are merely an endless struggle for existence, in which their wives have, necessarily, to do their share.

Not only is this true in the domestic affairs to which the women must at-

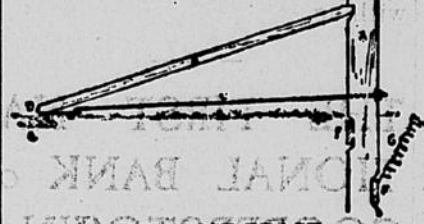


ROAD AND FARM IMPROVEMENT

A GOOD END POST.

Those of the Figure 4 Style Good When Constructed Properly—A Practical Experience.

In a recent Ohio Farmer, one of the readers advises others against the figure-4 style of end-post braces for fence. I have on my farm, says Chancy Avery, 14 end posts of this type, all giving as good service as I think it possible to get from any wood post; some of them have been set for six years, and the truss rods have needed no tightening, and I am confident that with the right principle of construction, carefully executed, this style of bracing will be found the best. Thorough work is essential to success with any style of bracing. Too short braces lift too much on the end post, and



MEAT ON THE FARM.

Roast Duck May Be Had Just as Cheaply as Roast Pork or Pig.

Roast pork and roast pig are favorites, dishes, and the farmer never misses the pork from his table even when other meats are lacking. He can just as easily and cheaply have roast duck as roast pork. In proportion to food consumed, the duck will cost no more than the pork, and a four-pound duck can be put on the table in eight weeks from the time it is hatched. The farmer who raises 100 ducks can have roast duck twice a week nearly every week in the year, and he does not have to pickle the meat to keep it. The duck can be raised on any kind of food that the hog will consume, and the farmer can have a market for his own ducks at home, leaving him the pork to sell. What would a farm be that did not contain a flock of fowls? The eggs are considered as adjuncts to the farm, and they enter into many of the household dishes. In estimating the profits from poultry, the eggs and poultry consumed by the family should be given the same value as though such supplies were purchased. The "family" markets in the United States excel all others, and no farmer should sell his eggs and live on something else desirable, but he should enjoy the same luxuries as those who are willing to buy the best in the cities.—Farm and Fireside.

WOMEN ROAD REPAIRERS.

How Female Labor Is Utilized in India to Improve the Condition of the Roadways.

In the lower stratum of Hindoo society women do not live the life of luxury and ease that is common among the upper classes. The great masses of small farmers, artisans and coolies earn so meager a livelihood that their lives are merely an endless struggle for existence, in which their wives have, necessarily, to do their share.

Not only is this true in the domestic affairs to which the women must at-

PRESERVING FENCE POSTS.

They May Be Made to Last Much Longer If They Are Dipped in Tar Before Being Set.

There are several methods whereby fence posts may be made to last much longer than if set untreated. An application of coal tar mixed with 1-10 oil of turpentine and applied hot is one of the best preservatives. To do this, have an ordinary large iron kettle, in which to heat and mix the tar, and a deep vat, which may be an old wash boiler or similar tin vessel, which must be at least three feet deep and ten inches in diameter. Have the tar quite hot when the posts are dipped. Allow them to remain a moment, then remove and pile with the ends free and allow to dry.

A mixture of three parts coal tar and one part clean, unsalted grease, to prevent the tar from drying, will if it has had time to fill the pores of the wood, is also a first-class preservative, says the Farm and Home. One barrel coal tar should cover 300 posts. This may be painted upon the posts, but better be applied in a bath as described above. In either case the posts should not be set deeper than the tar has been applied. An application to the top or exposed part of the post need not be so thorough. Good paint is more valuable for exposed portions.

Posts used in this way should be thoroughly dry, and will season before the tar is applied, otherwise when set they will rot quite as rapidly as if untreated. Heavy tar coats, such as carbolineum, are better than paints or coal tars, but are expensive for general use. Charring posts before setting is not a good practice, because when charred large cracks appear, which are openings for rot.

RISKS FOR THINKING FARMERS.

Stop the leaks.

Be a good neighbor.

Good seed—good luck.

File up and burn the rubbish.

Does the house or barn need painting?

Are there any tools or implements uncared for?

Running down a farm don't run up a bank account.

How about the cellar? It needs some attention these days.

Devote your attention to that breed of stock you like best.

It is never too late to mend a broken gate, door or leaky roof.—Midland Farmer.

Needle Affected in Russia.

Over a large area of central Russia the magnetic needle does not point north or south. It is at one part deflected to the west and at another part to the east and at one place it points due east and west.

Getting Used to It.

The last ship of the Russian fleet at Port Arthur has been blown up again. It must be getting as used to it as the average husband.

DIVERSITY OF CROPS.

Another Word About This Important Principle of Successful Farming.

Two of the most potent principles of agriculture are diversity and rotation of crops. They are the broad foundations upon which successful farming rests and go hand in hand, each facilitating the other. Both are too frequently neglected and, often, totally disregarded, says the Epitomist. Their neglect is the natural accompaniment of a one-crop system of farming. In many localities where the soil and climate encourages the cultivation of one staple crop, such as wheat, corn and cotton, to the exclusion of nearly everything else, the neglect of rotation and diversified cropping is a mistake of the greatest importance, since the presence of humus in the soil is most essential to ample crop production and those lax methods of farming have a tendency rather to destroy than produce humus. In sections where the predominating character of the soil is light and sandy and the presence therein of a large and constant supply of vegetable matter is necessary to the maintenance and increase of its fertility, the extreme heat of summer conspires to bring about a rapid depletion of soil fertility. Rotation necessitates more or less diversity and diversity facilitates the practice of rotation and increases its profits. In devising a system or plan of rotation there should be added such crops as will find ready sale, or that may easily and profitably be converted into live stock (and preferably both) and at the same time satisfy the home demand for the product grown.

YARNS WITH A LAUGH.

Mark Twain tells a story that, while traveling in Germany a man sitting next to him at a dinner in a hotel ordered a bottle of Johannesburg wine. When it was brought he saw on the bottle a label of Moselle, and called to the attention of the manager, who exclaimed: "Ach! what a stupid donkey; I distinctly told him to put on the Johannesburg label."

A blushing and pretty Swedish girl just arrived from the old country attended evening service at a Duluth church. The minister, seeing she was a stranger, shook hands with her at the close of the meeting and said he would find pleasure in calling upon her soon. Whereupon the girl hung her head and bashfully murmured: "Thank you, but say have a fella!"

HINDOO WOMEN ROAD REPAIRERS.

Many years of hard work on the farm had made the old man round-shouldered, and his coat fitted badly. His son in the city sent him a coat-stretcher on which to hang the coat at night. On his next visit to the farm the young man asked how the coat stretcher worked. His father looked a little embarrassed and then confessed: "I can't stretch it on, said he. 'It was real good of you to send it. Your mother fastened it to my coat with tape, but I wasn't comfortable in it and I had to take it off.'"

FACTS AND FINDINGS.

Russia has 86 general holidays in a year.

In England one man makes a fortune to eight others become bankrupt.

At least one-fifth of the companies promoted annually in England fail.

In 12 marriages out of every 100 one of the parties has been married before.

Blue coral, which is probably the most precious kind, is obtained in the Bay of Bight.

The average birth-rate for Europe shows that for every 100 girls 106 boys are born.

Every year between 600,000 and 700,000,000 seals are caught round the coast of Newfoundland.

Dartmoor is the largest tract of uncultivated land in England; it occupies one-fifth of the county of Devon.

Three out of every 20 children that are born to British parents in those islands of the West do not live to the age of 12 months.

The most powerful dredge in the world is that used by the Susquehanna Iron company at Buffalo to dig through solid rock an inland harbor.

Some Indian muslins are so extremely delicate that when spread on the grass and moistened with the dew they are practically invisible.

No Need of Worn-Out Land.

There is no need of the producing capacity of the land being reduced. In some countries where the same fields have been tilled for thousands of years the land is still as productive as ever.

Use Stable Manure.

It is not advisable to keep the ground bare of vegetable matter. Cover it with stable manure or with a cover crop that will die with the coming of frost.—Farmers' World.

MEDICAL EXAMINER

Of the United States Treasury Recommend Peru-na.

Another Prominent Physician Uses and Endorses Peru-na.

Dr. LLEWELLYN JORDAN, Medical Examiner of the U. S. Treasury Department, graduate of Columbia College, and who served three years at West Point, has the following to say of Peru-na:

"Allow me to express my gratitude to you for the benefit derived from your wonderful remedy. One short month has brought forth a vast change and I now consider myself a well man after months of suffering. Fellow sufferers, Peru-na will cure you."

A constantly increasing number of physicians prescribe Peru-na in their practice. It has proven its merits so thoroughly that even the doctors have overcome their prejudice against so-called patent medicines and recommend it to their patients.

Peru-na occupies a unique position in medical science. It is the only internal systemic catarrh remedy known to the medical profession to-day. Catarrh, as everyone will admit, is the cause of one-half the diseases which afflict mankind. Catarrh and catarrhal diseases afflict one-half of the people of United States.



Dr. Llewellyn Jordan, Medical Examiner United States Treasury.

FROM FOREIGN SOURCES.

Single eyeglasses are prohibited in the German army.

Only one man in 700 pays an income tax in India, though the tax is levied on all incomes of \$165 and upward.

Prof. William Smart, the Political economist, says that if British wealth were divided equally each person would receive \$196.48 a year, or \$3.62 a week.

Speaking at Exeter, England, Rider Haggard said he had seen people herded together in England under conditions to which Kafirs or wild African tribes would not submit.

An authentic Madonna of the great fifteenth century Venetian painter Giovanni Bellini, painted on wood, has just been discovered in the house of a family at Trieste, in Austria.

The amount of money advanced to Irish tenants for the purchase of their lands under the various acts of parliament passed since 1886 is, according to a parliamentary paper, \$128,866,015.

A Russian officer, who with six others broke his parole and escaped from the interned cruiser Diana at Sargos, was reprimanded when he arrived at St. Petersburg for breaking his parole and then congratulated on behaving like a sailor. The seven officers have asked to be sent back to the far east.

The British government has decided to withdraw the British troops from Egypt. Only the native army will be left in possession and a new police force will be created. For a year the garrison will consist of a field battery, a mountain battery and two battalions of infantry. At present the army is 14,000 strong, with a field artillery regiment.

An agitation is going on in London for horse ambulances, for, incredible as it may seem, a person injured in the streets of London is jostled to the hospital in a two-wheeled hand barrow, drawn by one or two policemen. There are only three horse ambulances in the whole city, and they are owned by private parties, who charge for their use. There is no first aid system.

Had a Kick Coming.

Short—Hello, Long. Where are you going?

Long—I'm on my way over to the post office to register a kick against the miserable delivery service.

What's the trouble?

Why, that check you promised to mail me ten days ago hasn't reached me yet!—Chicago Daily News.

ALL DONE OUT.

Veteran Joseph Heller, of 706 South Walnut Street, Urbana, Ill., says: "In the fall of 1899, after taking Doan's Kidney Pills I told the readers of this paper that they had relieved me of kidney trouble, disposed of my lame back with pain across my joints and beneath the shoulder blades. During the interval which has elapsed I have had occasion to resort to Doan's Kidney Pills when I noticed warnings of an attack. On each and every occasion the results obtained were just as satisfactory as when the pills were first brought to my notice. I just as emphatically endorse the preparation to-day as I did over 20 years ago."

Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y., proprietors. For sale by all druggists, price 50 cents per box.

ROBERT R. ROBERTS, M. D., WASHINGTON, D. C., writes:

"Through my own experience as well as that of many of my friends and acquaintances who have been cured or relieved of catarrh by the use of Hartman's Peru-na, I can confidently recommend it to those suffering from such disorders, and have no hesitation in prescribing it to my patients."

Robert R. Roberts.

Address Dr. Hartman, President of The Hartman Sanitarium, Columbus, Ohio.

Single eyeglasses are prohibited in the German army.

Only one man in 700 pays an income tax in India, though the tax is levied on all incomes of \$165 and upward.

Prof. William Smart, the Political economist, says that if British wealth were divided equally each person would receive \$196.48 a year, or \$3.62 a week.

Speaking at Exeter, England, Rider Haggard said he had seen people herded together in England under conditions to which Kafirs or wild African tribes would not submit.

An authentic Madonna of the great fifteenth century Venetian painter Giovanni Bellini, painted on wood, has just been discovered in the house of a family at Trieste, in Austria.

The amount of money advanced to Irish tenants for the purchase of their lands under the various acts of parliament passed since 1886 is, according to a parliamentary paper, \$128,866,015.

A Russian officer, who with six others broke his parole and escaped from the interned cruiser Diana at Sargos, was reprimanded when he arrived at St. Petersburg for breaking his parole and then congratulated on behaving like a sailor. The seven officers have asked to be sent back to the far east.

The British government has decided to withdraw the British troops from Egypt. Only the native army will be left in possession and a new police force will be created. For a year the garrison will consist of a field battery, a mountain battery and two battalions of infantry. At present the army is 14,000 strong, with a field artillery regiment.

An agitation is going on in London for horse ambulances, for, incredible as it may seem, a person injured in the streets of London is jostled to the hospital in a two-wheeled hand barrow, drawn by one or two policemen. There are only three horse ambulances in the whole city, and they are owned by private parties, who charge for their use. There is no first aid system.

Had a Kick Coming.

Short—Hello, Long. Where are you going?

Long—I'm on my way over to the post office to register a kick against the miserable delivery service.

What's the trouble?

Why, that check you promised to mail me ten days ago hasn't reached me yet!—Chicago Daily News.

ALL DONE OUT.

Veteran Joseph Heller, of 706 South Walnut Street, Urbana, Ill., says: "In the fall of 1899, after taking Doan's Kidney Pills I told the readers of this paper that they had relieved me of kidney trouble, disposed of my lame back with pain across my joints and beneath the shoulder blades. During the interval which has elapsed I have had occasion to resort to Doan's Kidney Pills when I noticed warnings of an attack. On each and every occasion the results obtained were just as satisfactory as when the pills were first brought to my notice. I just as emphatically endorse the preparation to-day as I did over 20 years ago."

Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y., proprietors. For sale by all druggists, price 50 cents per box.

