

NETTIE'S TEMPTATION.

"I have never anything to plead for now," she said, quietly. "I have a great deal more than I want, in every way. What should I plead for?"

"Is it so new to you to have everything you want?" asked Graham tenderly.

"You know it is," she said with a little gulp. "Come, let me go in."

"Stop, Nettie," he said, slipping down beside her on the grass. "I will not go on asking you about your past life as I have been so fond of doing. It was quite natural for my mother to insist on your dropping all connection with, and if possible, all remembrance of your father; but I can perfectly understand how you do not like to speak slightly of him or show him to us in the character of a—beast (Graham chose the mildest term he could think of) as you must do if you tell us of your old privations; therefore I will never speak of it again if I can help it, but will try the harder to render your home bright and happy enough to make up to you for these past years, and make you forget all the shadows that lie behind. Only, Nettie, you will never talk of leaving us as you have lately frightened me by doing sometimes. Promise me."

She was looking far off beyond the earnest, handsome face, and the little parted lips were quivering painfully.

"You are happy with me—right?"

"Too happy, Graham," she said, bringing her eyes slowly back to his face. "Too happy in one way. O, you don't know what it is to be petted and valued and loved—after—"

"I can fancy it," he said, very low. "And the petting, and the valuing, and the loving are so delicious to us—me especially, Nettie."

She did not blush at his heartfelt words, ready as her blushes were at other times; not had her eyes quite lost their distant look.

"Graham, I have put off speaking day after day," she said, in hurried, trembling tones, "because I have been so cowardly, so afraid of going back to hardships and coldness; but I must speak now. I feel as though I could at last. You know what we sang this morning when we went into church; that quite decided me, if you don't mind, I would be happy—better to go home."

"Are you hot out here? Do you really wish to go home?" asked Graham, attempting to rise carefully, but pulling his hat a little over his face.

"I mean home to my father."

"Such whims little girls sometimes take," he answered, shaking his head. "Come, it is too late, you know."

"Graham, I really, really mean it. O, listen, please."

"I will not believe you mean it, Nettie," he said huskily. "Mr. O'Neill has made no effort to recall you, has never been as a father to you. How can you set him before us who love you so dearly? It is cruel to us if it be not cruel to yourself."

"O, hush," she cried, covering her face suddenly. "I thought you would help me to see what was right."

"Do you trust me to show you?"

"Yes."

"Then it is this: to stay and be a dear little helpful daughter to your mother's sister, and to be—O, it would take me a long time to say what to some one else, whose claim I hope to make stronger than a father's—stronger, a hundred times, than such a father's as yours."

"I seem to know only three people in the world," said Nettie with a pleasant sadness in her great innocent eyes, "and you make me cast off one of them, or two."

"Not I," said Graham eagerly. "It was he who did it first, this loving father of yours. Let us talk no more of him. Here is your rose; it will soon brighten up the sad little face."

"Those words we sang have haunted me ever since," Graham said, walking slowly beside him, looking up into his face with eyes he could not fathom. "I will arise and go to my father. Do you remember?"

"That father was a generous, loving one, he answered gently, "else his son would not have gone back to him, you may be sure. Here is mother coming to the door to look for us, how she will smile at your latest notion, Nettie dear!"

Nettie ran up to her room when she reached the house, and Mrs. Lytleton turned to her son.

"I expect she will tell you herself," he said, smiling as he stood opposite her, leaning against the doorway. "I think she is hankering after that miserable life you rescued her from."

"Nonsense! It is impossible."

"I fear it is so, mother. Some ridiculous notion of duty seems to have been always in her head. You know how happy she has been; you know how changed she is. Surely you will be able to convince her that it would be sinful to degenerate again into the poor little life!"

"Hush, dear; all that will not be necessary. She cannot really mean it, she is so happy with us."

"I have thought so, but I suppose we do not understand her. She will be sure to speak of it again to-night, and we must try what our united persuasions will do."

The Sunday twilight crept down the distant hills, and the quiet valley rested under its drooping wings, but the shadow of those soothing wings fell heavily and sadly upon the little group around that open window, through which the summer evening fragrance crept in wooingly.

The mother, hurt and disappointed as her gentle argument failed to convince the girl whose voice was so firm, while her soft, child-like face paled and quivered, watched her son as he stood over Nettie, pleading with sad earnestness, or paced the room with hot, angry words, that placed the little breaking heart which this love of his had suffered into a new life, and brought hot sharp tears into the eyes that looked out among the deepening shadows with their old gaze, searching for something beyond their ken.

They pictured her two homes in all their bitter contrast. They reminded her of the change in herself, which these few months had effected. They recalled the life she had led in each other, and the young life was pained with pain. Then they tried to show that it was wrong, selfish and ungrateful to leave her mother's friends and go back to her own old life in a shadowed life.

The little, tired head, drooped against the window, and the eyes grew bewildered in their search among the shadows.

"You will have thought better of these silly fancies in the morning, Nettie, dear," Mrs. Lytleton said at last, kissing her as she rose. "I don't, I shall have recourse to a little wholesome authority, and refuse you permission or power to leave me; but you will obey me, I know, though without my having to take notice in those matters. Now let us go to bed," she added, kissing the young face again in sudden pity, "and I am quiet sure you will have forgotten these arguments by to-morrow."

But the little, tired head, drooped against the window, and the eyes grew bewildered in their search among the shadows.

"To be continued."

MINING

TIMBER

10 x 10

10 x 12

12 x 12

12 x 14

FROM

TEN TO THIRTY

FEET

LENGTHS,

AT

Truckee & Salt Lake

LUMBER YARD

D.

W.

pool Cotton

W. W. W.

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Net Assets, January 1, 1870	\$35,311,383 71	Reserves and	132,271 00
Premiums and Policy		Physicians and Med-	65,364 06
Fees	\$12,169,717 34	Examiners	1,533,575 45
On Bonds and Mort-	1,963,395 38	Total Cash Disbursements	\$7,476,656 47
gages	386,844 57	Net Assets, December 31, 1870	\$43,383,417 56
Stocks and Trust	106,029 73	INVESTED AS FOLLOWS:	
Companies		ash on hand in Bank	2,608,910 74
Premiums on Gold and	\$2,677,773 68	Bonds and Mort-	33,969,421 62
Real Estate		gages on Real Es-	4,208,108 75
Total Cash Receipts	14,447,400 02	United States Stocks	4,208,108 75
	\$49,559,073 73	New York Stocks	57,000 00
CLAIMS PAID:		Real Estate	945,383 07
Deaths	\$1,963,724 02	Stocks in the	55,563 38
Matrimonial	27,000 00	course of trans-	
	\$2,000,000 00	Actual Cash Invest-	42,382,417 56
Paid to Policy-hold-		ments	
ers—Additions to	292,646 64	Interest accrued, but	334,662 00
Death Claims and	2,564,866 87	not due	41,222 15
Endowments	1,264,111 86	Interest due and un-	
and Post Mortem		paid	41,222 15
Dividends	\$4,113,953 57	Premiums not yet re-	
Cash Dividends in		ported	312,676 30
Redemption of Annu-	\$284,809 15	Deferred—Quarterly	1,119,573 77
ities		Premiums	
Commission to Agents	440,458 87	Market value in	428,624 00
Paid Agents for Fur-		excess of cost	2,236,738 23
nishers of Policies	224,997 39		
Taxes, Law Expenses	224,945 73		
and Office Ex-			
penses			
Advertising, Printing			
and Stationery			

**INSURANCE STATEMENTS:**  
Number of Policies issued and restored during the year 1870, 11,463  
Amount Insured, \$23,458,217 00  
In force at the end of the year 1870, 71,271  
Total, \$23,458,217 00  
The foregoing is a statement taken from the Actuarial Record SHEPARD ROMANS, Actuary.

The Board of Trustees have authorized a Dividend for the year of 1870 of two millions of dollars, CASH, which amount may be subsequently increased. These Dividends will be paid to policy-holders as they may elect, in cash or in the purchase of additional insurance, as soon as the equitable portion of each can be determined.

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Like everything of great value, it is ex-  
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The Finest American Toilet Soap, fully equal to the French, made by a French soap-maker in the same manner as the French Soap is made, and sold at one-fourth their price.

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Don't be put off with any cheap common soap. Try it, and see how much BETTER it is than we say.

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