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A GRAVE.

"In but a moment of mature strife,
The gracious grass will hide the earth,
And nothing remain, the eardwark sins—
A mound so short, a modest's pace
Would measure off the little space
Of humbly birth, till judgment time

I do not mean: I have no fears,
Truly know a world of years
Must lie on me and I repose,
And that I may a week at rest,
The tree and heather scent of Youth,
While cold of Age is in my heart.
—Alice Brown Aldrich.

POPPET.

It seemed at first an almost hopeless attachment.

She was of undoubted aristocratic pretentions and descent, and had the entree to the most exclusive drawing rooms in Mayfair. Had he ever troubled to think about it at all, he would probably have experienced some misgivings as to the legitimacy of the alliance of which he was the result. He certainly was aware of the suspicion which inevitably manifested itself in his presence, whenever he happened to be thrown outside of the circle in which his peculiar idiosyncrasies were overlooked and his social attributes duly appreciated.

She is hanged to the upper crust of society, and, imbued with all the instincts and traditions of her class, delighted in her life of ease and obscurity. He also appears. He is conscious of any exception. He was generally hanging about, at the street corners or at the doors of taverns, but nevertheless he had acquired, in certain quarters, a reputation as a man of action and determination—to a word, as a "character."

Her name was Poppit. She was known by no other, and was familiarly called so by princes and potentates in the grandest salons in London. Great statesmen, philosophers, artists, musicians and statesmen conferred to propitiate her. Even dowager duchesses, generally very self contained beings, treated her with consideration and occasionally used all sorts of endearments toward her. Still her pretty, early head was not turned. The reason why the reader will presently discover.

He was known as Jim Lubens among his associates. But he was a fellow of infinite fancy, and possessed a happy knack of christening himself every now and again as he considered the exigencies of the moment appeared to demand it. Thus, when enjoying the hospitality of her majesty, at one position prison he was one person, and in another he was a different person altogether—nominally, at least. He did not find that criminal rehabilitation mitigated the severity exercised in the official circles in which he frequently found himself, but he did not think it expedient to become too well acquainted by name to the lights of the bench. Except in his one love affair, he had a deplorable lack of ambition.

Poppet lived with Lady Dollydacks in Park lane, Hyde park. She was not her ladyship's daughter, as Lord Dollydacks died without issue; neither was she her niece. Lady Dollydacks cultivated a comfortable hatred of all her kith and kin. She felt it was the proper thing for a woman of her quality to do, and it saved her from answering interests. Before her marriage to the late lamented governor general of Coromandel, Lady Dollydacks had been the widow of a wealthy sugar planter, and there her past history ended. She had no recollection of what she was previous to her West Indian matrimonial venture. No, poor Poppet was simply her ladyship's little protege and can hardly be said to have had any expectations beyond the immediate comfort of her surroundings.

Poppet was admitted by men and women of the most critical, discriminative type, and of the highest rank, to be simply perfect in form and beauty. Jim was described in more than one "official" cyclopedia of biography as repulsively ugly. In a dim sort of a fashion he was conscious of his physical deficiencies, but it did not check his passion for her.

Their first meeting, if it can be so called, happened in this way:

It was one beautiful summer morning. He was leaning over the railings of the "drive" in Hyde park looking at the brilliant equipages and their fair occupants as they passed him. There was a tinge of sullen, inspiring cynicism on his irregular but expressive features. He was reflecting in his own crude way upon the strangeness of the dispensations of Providence. He was a homeless, irreclainable parish: those vivid crowds scoured variously, his goal and goldenness.

All at once the discontent vanished out of his face, and it became illuminated with an appreciative intelligence. An open carriage, emblazoned coronet-bee of aspect, and drawn by a couple of beautiful black horses, was arrested by the opposing stream of traffic immediately in front of him. Two servants in gorgeous livery sat upon the box. The footman's gaiters, incased in fresh colored hose, would have made the original first gentlemen of Europe, then lately deceased, green with jealousy could he have seen them. The man was a model of deportment, a creature after Mr. Turveydrop's own heart. He was motionless, silent and pompous, and his face wore that peculiar look of superior vacuity of which those moving among the aristocratic circles of society seem to possess a monopoly.

But Jim did not bestow more than a glance upon the servants, his eyes at once become riveted upon her. She sat in the midst of her embroidered cushions alone. Lady Dollydacks indulged upon her taking the air in this way every morning except Sundays, when she accompanied her ladyship to church to listen to the voice of the Rev. Charles Honeymoon crying in the fashionable wilderness. During her matutinal drive Poppet performed the only duty expected of her. She brought home her ladyship's daily supply of literature from the circulating library in the carriage with her.

Jim's fingers clenched the rail in front of him, and a look of set determination came into his pale face. She sat watching the occupants of the other carriages as they passed her, and was wholly oblivious of the admiring glances cast back from them at her. She was thoroughbred and knew it, and one fancied, looking into her eyes, that there was a coldly critical air about them. Suddenly turning away from gazing at her world, heedless of the failed to recognize any one, her glance for a moment fell upon him. Instinctively she shuddered back into her downy wrappings and averted her eyes, with a startled look about the corners of them. She was her proud to make any sign, although in her heart she felt a fearful dread of him spring up. His eyes seemed to devour her, and the carriage was delayed long enough for her profile to burn itself into his brain. It need her, to his own vindictive way, at first sight.

During the next fortnight he was invariably at his place at the railings and saw her roll past in her carriage every morning. He had discovered her residence and knew all about her goings in and comings out. He had even in some extraordinary manner become possessed of her genealogical tree and had committed the names of her illustrious ancestors to memory, a curious manifestation of interest for one with his antecedents. There was some sort of fascination about him, too, for her, as every time she passed him her eyes were invariably drawn in his direction for a moment.

Jim had followed her carriage to the library on several occasions. One morning he was almost from the park and she gave a sigh of relief as she raised the fans. But he was waiting for her outside the library, accompanied by another man, whose general appearance at once placed him in the same evil category as himself. The footman descended from the box and would indeed favorably with the Hudson bay goods, and blind quarters generally extremely well developed, the tail broad and long. The wool on the fore quarters is of remarkably fine texture, that on the hind quarters and quite as good, and is fitted to breechloom or hairpiece, probably owing to the crossings with other hind breeds, for the old Hexford was exempt from breechloom. The legs are mottled black and brown, the face and white. Altogether the breed is peculiarly hardy and prolific, and the ewes are without exception good mothers.

Feeding Lambs.

The object of this experiment was to present an object lesson on the profits of the liberal feeding of lambs that are intended for the market.

Two lots of sheep and lambs were fed in a naturally different manner. The ration of lot one was intended to be an intensive ration or a copy of the method that is used for fitting the growth of early lambs. On the other hand, lot two was fed in a manner similar to that which is adopted by many farmers who consider the sheep to be an animal that can successfully fed on the refuse of a barn without the addition of very much grain.

The following of our contention what good lay they would command and a pound of grain each per day. Besides this the pen was so arranged that the lambs had access at all times to a supply of mixed grain. The cheapest lot two were fed one-half pound grain per head daily, with what good lay they would eat. The lambs of this lot were allowed no grain excepting what they ate from their mother's ration.

The following is a summary of the results of the experiment:

First—Two lots of sheep, each containing ten sheep and twelve lambs, were fed for three months.

Second—The lot of sheep (lot one) ate 2,000 pounds of hay and 1,000 pounds of mixed grain. The other lot (lot two) ate 2,000 pounds of hay and 750 pounds of mixed grain. Lot one ate, therefore, 994 pounds more grain that lot two.

Third—During the three months the sheep of lot one lost 104 pounds in weight and lot two 108 pounds, a difference in favor of lot one of 4 pounds. The lambs of lot one weighed 315 pounds and of lot two 284 pounds, a difference in favor of lot one of 31 pounds.

Fourth—The value of the lambs in lot one was $61.50 and in lot two $71.81, a difference of $10.60 in favor of liberal feeding, and a net gain above extra cost of grain of $7.41.

Fifth—The extra amount of grain fed to lot one was sold to the sheep at the rate of $71.50 per ton.—Report of Maine Agricultural Experiment station.

Bees Work at Night.

Bees work at night in the hive and build comb as perfectly as if an electric light shone those all the time. It has often been asked why they prefer to work in the dark. Every one knows that honey is a liquid without any solid sugar in it. After standing it gradually assumes a crystalline appearance, or granulates and ultimately becomes a solid mass. This is caused by the action of light. Hence we see why the bees are so careful to obscure the glass windows which are placed in their hives. The existence of the young depends on the liquidity of the saccharine food presented to them, and if light were allowed access to this, it would in all probability prove fatal to the inmates of the hive.—Exchange.

Professor Tinry, a French veterinary surgeon, declares that sex can be controlled perfectly in the breeding of animals. His theory is that when the matting takes place at the beginning of heat in the female the offspring will be female, at the end of the heat, a male.

For Bill Expenses.

Petroleum, when stored in bulk, either in tank steamships or in tanks on shore, must be provided with means for expansion when the temperature rises. A contrivance in appliances has been the admitting of air as the contraction of the oil. The manager of large works in West Hartlepool, England, has devised an apparatus that will prevent the access of air. In a horizontal dome on the top of the tanks is the vapors are now percolating through the tops and leaving body. The pressure and as the surface of the oil and the gas will attract, expands and contracts.—New York Sun.

CLUN FOREST SHEEP.

The Qualities of This Breed Are Attracting Attention in England.

From Hereford centuries ago a family of sheep spread into neighboring parts of Salop or Shropshire, thence into Wales, intermingling with other breeds and becoming indistinct and extinct. The ancestors of the breed in Herefordshire were the Hyslaud sheep. In Shropshire they quickly took possession of the Forest of Clun. They are commonly called at present sometimes Welsh sheep, sometimes Clun Forest sheep.

In Herefordshire the original type was small, but produced exceptionally good mutton and exceptionally fine wool. The present Clun Forest sheep are decended especially from a mingling and crossing with those of both the Welsh Radnor breed and the Shropshire down, showing in the modernized edition markings of both.

The Clun Forest sheep is exceedingly hardy and hardy, which makes it valuable for our trying climate, about ex-

CLUN FOREST SHEEP.

portations are formed of it. The type as it is now known is described as follows:

A head of medium strength, with slightly Roman nose, well covered with wool on the top, a bright, intelligent face of a tan or fawn and white color, free from small to medium, also muffled, not drooping even full and bright; good girth round the heart, decidedly good for a breed which has received so little encouragement; legs the colour or breed under; fore quarters, generally speaking, fine in bone, and well covered, and fairly with the Radnors; hind quarters generally extremely well developed, the tail broad and long. The wool on the fore quarters is of remarkably fine texture, that on the hind quarters and quite as good, and is fitted to breechloom or hairpiece, probably owing to the crossings with other breed breeds, for the old Hexford was exempt from breechloom. The legs are mottled black and brown, the face and white. Altogether the breed is peculiarly hardy and prolific, and the ewes are without exception good mothers.

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