

friends and acquaintances. A few years subsequently he was a millionaire.

No sooner, however, was the fruition of his hopes attained than the character of the man seemed to change. As with many another, prosperity was too much for his mental equilibrium. Ceasing to be gentle and affectionate, he became selfish and exacting. Towards his wife he was no longer the indulgent husband, but bore himself after the fashion of a cold-hearted master. There are many such, but he in time vied with the worst specimens of that class. Short of personal violence he omitted nothing that would annoy and outrage her feelings, and at last it appeared as if her presence so excited his temper as to almost deprive him of his reason. It is enough to say that many cases have been known of husbands being monomaniacs in reference to their wives. Spotter, however, was far from insane. There was too much method in his madness, too much villainy in his heart. With the means to gratify his passions, he formed acquaintances whose influence would inevitably lead him to disgrace and ruin. One was a woman, a widow, beautiful, fascinating and fiendishly cunning, who flattered his vanity and aspired to his wealth. He was a weak child in her hand, ready to kiss the foot that trampled upon him; and as her influence over him grew, his feelings toward his own wife became more dissatisfied, bitter and cruel.

A few evenings before his interview with Marcus Spearwell, the subject of divorce was first suggested to him by Mrs. Pendum, the beautiful widow whose society he was enjoying. She occupied expensive apartments in—street, and seemed possessed of ample funds for an extravagant mode of living, but as to her source of income Spotter was far too infatuated to think upon the subject at all. In his eyes she was bewitchingly lovely, and as pure as she was beautiful.

"Mr. Spotter, I have been seriously thinking about speaking to you," she commenced by saying, "and I deem it best to do so now. Have you ever considered that my character must suffer from your frequent visits here?"

"Suffer, Letitia,—"

"Stay, sir," she interrupted him. "I beg you will call me Mrs. Pendum. You must not forget you are a married man and that any familiarity between us would be in every way objectionable."

"But, heavens!" he exclaimed, "have I not called you by your Christian name a thousand times already without being stopped?"

"True," she replied, "but it was wrong and must not be repeated. Think seriously for a moment. I am a defenceless woman whose only protection is her character. Your visits to me, however agreeable, must necessarily attract attention, nay, have done so already, for I have overheard bits of conversation which couple our two names together in anything but a satisfactory way. You must see that when matters have reached that far, it would be in the last degree imprudent to aggravate the scandal. Were you a single man appearances would not be so bad against us, but under circumstances as they are I see nothing that will act so much in my favor as your absence."

"Absence be—bothered!" he said, attempting to take her hand which she would not allow. "What need we care for appearances if we love each other?"

"Hold, sir," she exclaimed. "You must never use that word again. Why should you, a married man, insult me with professions of love? Leave me, and carry your love to your wife where it belongs."

"Oh, Letitia!" he piteously cried. "You cannot be in earnest, knowing how I hate my wife and adore you. You surely cannot be in earnest, being aware how miserable my married life has become and how my life and soul are dedicated to you. Have I not told you times without number that I would make you my wife now if I could, but will certainly do so the moment I am free? Have I—"

"That is nothing but mockery, sir, and you ought to know it," she again interrupted him, this time rather passionately. "Think you that I will quietly await your wife shuffling off her mortal coil to wear her shoes. You must entertain a wonderfully high opinion of yourself or of me to plan out such a delightful future arrangement. What else have you to propose I should like to know?"

"What else can I propose? only tell me, and I swear by all the saints in the calendar to follow your wishes in every practicable way. Do not forget that I have often begged you to accompany me to some distant place—that I have offered to sacrifice everything that I

possess for you, and, oh, dearest, let me pray you again to leave this cursed place with me."

"Do not trouble yourself, Mr. Spotter," she mockingly replied. "This place agrees with me very well and I am in no hurry to leave it as your mistress. You are either a great fool or a great sinner."

"Sinner, yes; fool, no," he loudly exclaimed with an angry fire in his eye.

"Yes, sir, fool!" she replied with calm deliberation, "else, if you love me, as you say you would not tamely yield to petty obstacles. Brave men act differently."

"Heavens! Letitia," he cried, "what is it you mean? I am desperate enough to sell my soul to win you, if you but show me the way. Speak, I beseech you."

"Well, Reuben," she tenderly replied, putting her hand into his; "if your wife be so disagreeable to you and such an incubus on your life and our happiness, why not get rid of her?"

"What! you would not have me murder her?" he hoarsely asked with paling cheeks.

"No, indeed," she replied with a beautiful smile, "but get a divorce from her, which is a much better way."

"I would, if I knew how, quickly enough," he said, "but I know of no complaint to proceed on. Cause her."

"Will you follow my advice?"

"Yes, and enlist all the furies in my behalf, if you will promise to be my wife immediately I am free if I succeed."

"I promise all you wish, Reuben."

"Then, for Mercy's sake, tell me what I am to do and end my torture."

"Go, and consult Marcus Spearwell, a lawyer whose address I will give you. Put your case unreservedly in his hands for he can be trusted to the death where there is a good fee to be obtained, and have no hesitation in agreeing to everything he advises. If he does not contrive some way to get the divorce I am greatly mistaken. Mention nothing in reference to me or our plans, remember."

"And you will marry me at once?"

"Yes, I will marry you whenever you are free," the beautiful demon softly whispered.

"Then, by Heaven! I'll do it, Letitia. You have made me happier than I hoped to be again, and I swear that years of devotion shall reward you."

"Now you must leave me; 'tis getting late, so, good night," and the two separated, the man to gloat over the sin he contemplated, and the woman to smile over the success of her plans.

The result of the unfaithful husband's interview with lawyer Spearwell is already known, and it is not too much to say that he began to regard the separation from his wife almost as good as a *fait accompli*. Not a word, however, did he utter to the unsuspecting woman, respecting his intentions, and his treatment of her was, if anything, more gentle than it had been for some time previously. His aim was to delude her so utterly until the visit of Spearwell's accomplice that she would never for a moment suspect him of conniving at the fellow's presence when he showed himself. Not an instant did he experience a desire to withdraw from the disgraceful compact which he had made. There was no pity in his heart for the woman whom he had at one time so fondly loved, and who had for so many years made her own happiness secondary to his. His moral nature had become like a tree blackened and splintered by the lightning—all its vitality was destroyed, and though rain and sunshine might strive to nurse it again into life, the sap would never more produce bud or blossom.

Mr. Spotter had written to his lawyer appointing the night for his man's visit, and Mr. Spearwell had duly instructed the respectable Mr. Reedy into the part he was to act. Neither entertained the slightest apprehension as to the success of their plans.

The evening arrived and Spotter, for the life of him, could not feel at ease. His wife was reading by a table before him, looking the pure and good woman she was. Her hair now was slightly silvered with gray, notwithstanding that she was still comparatively young, but her heart sorrows had made her prematurely old, and though she still regarded her husband with the feelings of a good wife, much of the great love she once bore him had been crushed out of her heart by neglect and harshness. This evening, however, he was unusually gentle; the old smile wreathed his face, the old light, as she thought, shone in his eyes, and her suffering heart fluttered with a gladness to which it had long been a stranger, restoring somewhat the lost sunshine of her life.

"What are you reading, Minnie?" he inquired. "You seem greatly interested."

"A book Mrs. March lent me," she replied, reaching it towards him. "It is 'No Name,' by Wilkie Collins—a curious title is it not? Have you ever read it?"

"No, indeed," he said with a faint smile, "novels are very little to my taste, even if I had the time to read them, which I have not. But you can tell me the plot."

"That would be difficult," she said turning to the introductory chapter where the writer so prettily explains the nature of his plot. "No, I cannot describe the plot until I have finished; but so far I am impressed with the bravery and determination of a pure woman who had wrong and injustice to fight against."

"Oh! yes, it is always something of that sort," the husband replied, feeling uncomfortable in spite of himself. "Those novelists somehow never lack a paragon of a woman to expose to the cruelty of men. Do you think that there are many women as pure and brave in actual life?"

"I do certainly," she readily replied. "There is no knowing what a woman is capable of until she is put to the test."

Spotter did not reply but looked uneasily at his watch, and shortly afterwards left the room. Finding everything perfectly quiet in the house he passed on to the front door which he opened and then took a survey of the street. It was not long before a man approached him with a whisper enquiring if his name was Spotter and being answered in the affirmative stated that he had been instructed by Mr. Spearwell and was there to act.

"You understand exactly what part you are to play?" Spotter asked the man.

"Perfectly; I am to hear your step approach the door before I present myself to your wife," replied the man Reedy, "and just as you come in I am to be talking lovingly, when you are to fly into an awful fury and I am to get off and away like the devil."

This was enough. The two men crept softly up stairs, and Reedy was placed in hiding beneath the bed.

Spotter returned to the parlor where his wife was still reading and his whole manner had changed from what it was. Now he addressed her savagely.

"Come, put that d—n book away and get to bed. No wife of mine shall spoil herself with villainous novels if I know it."

Mrs. Spotter looked at her husband for a moment, and then without saying a word in reply arose and left the room. Noiselessly following her he stood listening in the passage, his heart beating with feverish energy. He waited thus ten minutes or a quarter of an hour and then passed up stairs making his footsteps sound loudly as he reached the top. A faint scream first met his ears and as he approached the bed-room door he heard another voice speaking. Without a moment's delay he entered; a pistol was fired, and dashing his hand to his head, he fell senseless to the floor. In less than two hours he was a dead man.

The cause of his death is easily explained. After the first scream Mrs. Spotter uttered on discovering a stranger in the room she showed no other sign of fear, but took a step to the bureau and opened a drawer. Then facing the intruder she looked him sternly in the face, while he, feeling anything but brave, commenced to talk as he had promised. His remarks were highly insulting, and she deliberately brought her hand forth with a pistol in it as he rushed to the door which was then being opened by her husband who received the shot intended for the other as he escaped from the room.—*Le Solitaire in Alta California.*

The German government is going to build a new parliament house at Berlin, and desire to make it a model structure. To that end the architects of all the nations on the globe are invited to compete by submitting plans before the 15th of April next. A prize of \$5,000 will be paid for the best design, and prizes of \$1,000 each for the four next best.

A Hard case is reported from Fayette, Iowa. Mr. Hard, widower, married a widow. Each had children, and each contracted to do his or her own spanking. Mrs. Hard, however, whaled Mr. Hard's son, whereon Mr. Hard took vicarious vengeance by fanning Mrs. Hard's daughter with a boot-jack till her back and shoulders bled. Lively times may be expected in that family until the supply of children gives out or the parents are reconciled.

AN ACT

For the protection of Fowl and Fish and defining the duties of the County Courts in relation thereto.

Sec. 1.—Be it enacted by the Governor and Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Utah, That it shall not be lawful to kill or destroy quails nor any kind of wild fowls, or their progeny, that has been or may be imported into this Territory, for the term of five years from the passage of this Act.

Sec. 2.—The free migration of Fish shall not be obstructed by traps, seines, dams or otherwise, except as hereinafter permitted.

Sec. 3.—The County Court of each county may hold and shall exercise jurisdiction over fisheries in their respective counties under the provisions of this Act.

Sec. 4.—No permission shall be given to place dams in any streams in a manner that will obstruct the free migration of fish to and from their spawning grounds, unless the parties constructing said dams shall provide a good and sufficient fishway to the acceptance of the select men of the county, except upon such streams as are not generally occupied by lake or brook trout for spawning purposes.

Sec. 5.—The size of meshes in all seines used in any county shall be determined by the County Court thereof, but they may vary the size to conform to the nature of the ground where it is permitted to be used, and all citizens of the Territory shall have an equal right to fish in any waters of the Territory except private or corporate ponds or fisheries.

Sec. 6.—All persons are prohibited from taking lake or brook trout by seines or traps from the first day of April until the last day of June in each year.

Sec. 7.—No person shall be permitted to place in any stream, lake or pond, any line or any other deleterious substances with intent to injure fish, or any drug or medicinal bait with the intent thereby to poison or catch fish. The putting of dye stuff, deleterious products of manufactories in ponds or streams, is hereby prohibited.

Sec. 8.—Any person who shall cause a useless destruction of fish by leaving them out of water, or turning the water out of its channel, except for irrigation, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and any person violating this or any of the preceding sections may be fined, by any court having jurisdiction, not less than five nor more than one hundred dollars for each offence.

Sec. 9.—Shad, Salmon, Black Bass, Silver Eels, or any other fish that have been or may be imported, or their progeny shall not be taken from any public waters in this Territory for the space of five years from the passage of this act, under a penalty of one dollar for each fish taken.

Sec. 10.—Any individual or corporate company has a right to establish fisheries and places for the propagation of fish upon their own lands, and for this purpose may control ponds or small streams, provided that the waters so used are not directed from their channels to the injury of irrigation, and all such persons have a right to procure fish in any way they please from any public waters at any time of the year, exclusively for artificial cultivation or propagation. And all such fish ponds are declared private property, and all property invested in fish culture or the introduction and propagation, shall be exempt from taxation for the period of five years from the passage of this act.

Sec. 11.—Any person who shall break any dam, hoist any gate belonging to any private fish pond or stream, or any way interfere with the same, or take any fish therefrom, without the consent of the owner shall be deemed guilty of a trespass, and shall be liable for all damage done, and may be fined in any sum not to exceed one hundred dollars for each offence.

Sec. 12.—Any person who shall import Oysters and plant the same in any waters in this Territory, for the purpose of propagation, shall be protected therein, and it shall not be lawful for any persons to take any oysters, from any bed planted in this Territory, without the consent of the owner, or in any way injure or interfere with any such oyster bed.

Any person so offending shall be liable to all damage and may be fined by any court having jurisdiction, in any sum not less than fifty, nor more than one hundred dollars.

Sec. 13.—All fines which may be collected according to the provisions of this act, shall be paid into the County Treasury for the benefit of Common Schools.

Sec. 14.—An Act to regulate fisheries and to prohibit fish traps and other contrivances for catching fish in the river Jordan, approved January the seventeenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, is hereby repealed.

Approved Feb. 15th, 1872.

United States of America } s.s.
Territory of Utah.

I, George A. Black, Secretary of the Territory of Utah, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original Law now on file in my office.

GEORGE A. BLACK,
Secretary of Utah Ter.

After tenderly caring for a poor little foundling discovered in the Newark depot, for three or four hours, it proved to be a large doll.