NEW WOMAN'S OFFER.

Kate Pulby was in her bonbite, and with her was Little Adams a friend and confidant. The girls had talked of dress, opera and other occasions of amusement and entertainment until the conversation began to flag, when Little chanced to call to mind a piece of news which she thought might interest her companion.

"By the way, Kate, have you heard that Fanny Ormsby is about to leave us?"

Kate was startled from a thoughtful mood, and a slight cloud was perceptible in her breathing.

"Dr. Ormsby to leave us?" she said.

"Yes, but it doesn't seem as cold as that this morning," seemed Little, smiling. "An old schoolmate and playfellow. It's a pity he couldn't have more encouragement here."

"And Frank—Dr. Ormsby—Dr. Ormsby—will leave us?"

"Yes. He is going out west. He says he will seek some cheerful place where he can grow up with it."

"And I suppose he is quite happy in the prospect of the change?"

"No, I should say not. On the contrary, he appears to me to be rather downhearted. I think he finds it hard to sever his connections with the old place."

Kate was on briers, and she was good and beautiful. Kate's own mother died when Kate was only 5 years old, and after that the child was taken in charge by a sister of Captain Pulby who showed to be a woman of sound sense and judgment.

In time Captain Pulby married again. But he lived not long the bliss his second wife. When he knew that he was dying, he sent for his attorney and dictated his will. He left everything to his daughter, simply providing that his wife should receive $1,000 a year during her life.

And so at the age of 18 Kate was left the mistress of an ample fortune and mistress of herself as well, though not dictated to her stepmother. Mrs. Peter Pulby was very wroth when she learned the nature of the will, but she did not openly rate. She received her stepmother mild and fashion Kate after her own will.

And then Mrs. Peter had another plan in view. She had a nephew. If she could bring about a match between this nephew and Kate, she would be mistress of the situation. And so side and she worked.

Kate was now 20 and was not blind to her stepmother's plans.

* * * * * * *

A society had been organized in Boschaven for the promotion of woman's rights. Of this society Miss Lipwell was president, and Mrs. Peter Pulby was vice president. Great efforts had been made to induce Kate to join and give it her influence. What a glorious thing if they could gain a portion of her wealth to the sustaining of the cause! Her stepmother gave her no peace. It had come at length that Kate heard nothing at home but praise of the thick skulled nephew and prayers and petitions in behalf of the Woman's Amelioration society.

But this was not the worst. While Kate was wondering why Dr. Ormsby did not call and see her before leaving town she received from him a note in which he stated that he would have come to bid her goodby, but her stepmother had, in effect, forbidden him the house.

On the evening of that day the society met at Mrs. Peter Pulby's, and Kate could not well refuse to be present. A great deal was said and done in which she could feel no sort of interest and not a little disgusted her. At length the president addressed the meeting.

"Just look at it!" vociferated the spinster president. "Behold the state of degradation to which woman is reduced! She cannot even select her own husband. Like a thing without judgment or sense—like a mere shock, without heart or feeling—she must remain in the corner and await the lord of creation, who may come to select her! She may love with all her heart, but she must not tell of it. Who has given to man this right of tyranny over the affections of woman? Why should woman be deprived of the right to tell her own love and assert her claim to a returning love? If woman would assert her right in this respect and dare to make profiler of her hand where she had given her heart, there would not be so many ill assorted marriages, so much misery, so much soul searing cruelty and infidelity."

Vociferous applause followed this appeal. They all seemed delighted, but upon none had the words made a deeper impression than upon Kate.

* * * * * * *

Miss Lipwell had made a convert!

Ormsby, in the midst of his arranging and packing for the journey, had suspended his labors and taken a rest upon the sofa in his little office. He had scarcely arrived a moment ago, had opened it and had found within a photograph of Kate. He sat with the picture in his hands when there came a gentle tap upon his door, and he said:

"Come in."

Kate Pulby entered.

"Miss Pulby!"

She saw how he trembled. She saw the picture that he held. If there had been a thought of faltering in her purpose, that thought was banished.

"Frank," she said, with the mighty strength of a pure heart and a mighty resolve strengthened to her support, "you think we are rash. You must tell Hastings so. I have come to tell you something, and I want you to sit down and listen."

The young doctor sat down, and Kate took a seat near him.

"My dear Frank"—

What in the world did she mean? He looked the question.

"I have become convert to the doctrine of woman's rights, and our society has resolved that woman has as much right to offer and ask for blessings as man has. They tell me you are going away, and you know I do not want to see you. You said that my stepmother had forbidden you, she is not my guardian, nor does she own even a place in that house were such as I give to her. Now, Frank! Don't get busy, and I'll offer to you myself—"

Alas for the new convert! Thus far in this her first essay, and she broke down entirely and burst into tears.

But Dr. Ormsby had heard enough. He drew the weeping girl to his bosom.

Hence was the consternation of Mrs. Peter when she learned that her stepdaughter was going to bring Frank Ormsby to be lord and master of her house and household, and great was the disappointment of the leading members of the society. Mrs. Peter hatched until she discovered that Kate was too strongly intrenched, and then she went away to her brother's home.

As for Dr. Ormsby, no sooner had he found a home and a proprietorship in the Pulby mansion than people began to discover and acknowledge what an excellent physician he was.

Kate blamed the force in which she became a convert to the doctrine of woman's right to assert to herself how and pop.—Cincinnati Post.

Feeding Jersey Calves.

I believe that no fixed rule can be adopted for feeding calves. Some calves will take double the amount of milk at the same age that others can. I take the calf from its dam the third day and place it in a small box stall by itself. We feed it its mother's milk twice a day, being sure that the milk is warm. A little bolt water added is a good plan. We keep a little clover hay within reach of the calf, even when it is 1 week old.

When the calf is about 1 month old, we begin to add warm skimmilk and increase the quantity of skimmilk from time to time, and decrease the amount of its mother's milk until it is 7 or 8 weeks old, when it will thrive on all skimmilk with a little oilmeal added. The oilmeal should be thoroughly cooked. When about 1 month old, we begin to feed the calf ground oats and bran mixed, giving it a small handful twice a day. As soon as it begins to eat freely it should be given as much as it will eat up clean. If we have skimmilk to spare, we feed it until the calf is 1 year old, but when 6 or 7 months old it will do well without milk.

During the summer months we turn the calves into a paddock, where they can have plenty of fresh air, exercise and fresh water. We think it is just as well not to have them run to pasture until after they are 1 year old.—P. J. Gingerwell in Breeder's Gazette.

The Actress and Her Train.

The English stage has certain customs which greatly hurt a Frenchman who is not used to them. The last scene of every act is constantly interrupted, and sometimes in the most interesting part, by the banging of a little bell, which apprises the music to be ready to play in the interval between the acts. The actresses who perform the principal characters drag long trains after them, which have but few owners, like a carpet, the breadth proportioned to the importance of the character, and they are followed by a little boy in quality of a train bearer, who is so inseparable from them as the shadow from the body. This page, who is sprucely dressed and ruffled up to a livery made to suit his stature within two or three inches, keeps his eye constantly fixed upon the train of the princess, sees it is right when it is so ever so little ruffled or disordered and is seen to run after it with all his might when a violent emotion makes the princess hurry from one side of the stage to the other. This he does with all the phlegm and seriousness assumed by the English.

In one play in the scene between the king and the queen—"in the moment which is to separate them forever the king flies into the arms of the queen, who embraces for royal consort, and they continue clasping each other in transport, which excites in the whole audience the strongest sensation"—otherwise the effect is so high a degree as not to take notice of the attention of the little page to repair the disorder which the queen's train occasioned by carrying as she sits and moves with impassioned attitudes in the arms of the afflicted monarch!—Gradey's "London in 1896."

A Beginning to Literature.

For my first effort to rail the sea of letters it seems to me that I ought to say that my father's literary reputation cannot be laid responsible.

I had reached the age of 12 years when I wrote the story; the mature age of 13. I was a little girl in low necked gingham dresses. I know, because I remember I had on one (of a purple shade and mercifully unlenghtening to a half grown tomboy girl) one evening when my first gentleman caller came to see me. I felt that the fact that he was my father's school teacher detracted from the importance of the occasion, but did not extinguish it. It was perhaps a 5th, said, cautiously to law and gospel, I had grown up extra.

The actual months of life have never dulled my sense of mortification at overhearing from my little room at the head of the stairs, where I was struggling to get into that gingham gown and present a tidy appearance, a voice distinctly excusing me on the ground that it was past her usual bedtime and she had gone to bed. Whether the excuse had that occasion so far aged me that it had anything to do with my first literary undertaking I cannot say, but I am sure about the low necked gingham dress, and that it was during this particular year that I determined to become an individual and contribute to The Youth's Companion.

I did so. My contribution was accepted and paid for by the appearance in my father's pacifier box of the paper for a year, and my impression is that I wore high necked dresses pretty soon thereafter and was allowed to sit up till 9 o'clock. At any rate, these memorable events are distinctly intertwined in my mind.—Elizabeth Stuart Phelps in McClure's Magazine.

The manuscripts of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries are, in many cases, almost illegible on account of the fading of the ink. At that time the lampblack inks passed out of use and chemical inks became popular.

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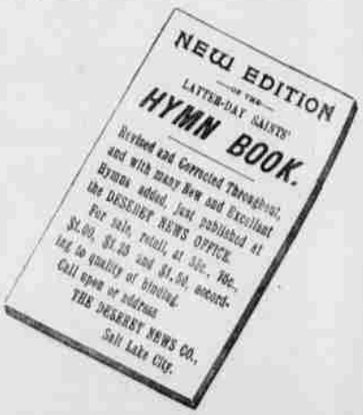

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