

A FREE GIFT

GEORGE ELMER COBB

...now or never, girl. The trap
...of ten minutes. It's come,
...Now Rachel, decide and
...about it."
"I love you dearly, but
...here? Let me run home with
...leave it with mistress."
"I can't leave the baby as if
...piece of luggage!"
"You can. Put the baby on the
...beside that innocent-faced
...follow yonder. Ask him to mind
...a few minutes. I'll scribble Miss
...address on a card. Slip it into
...baby's clothing. When you don't
...back he will find it."
"What will they, think of my
...losing the little dear in this cruel
...your sentiment for me, if
...got any to spare."
"I got plenty of money. Don't
...get plenty of money. Don't
...that score."
"Rachel Mine and Jacob Dal-
...the former the average nurse girl,
...after a young man who had
...as a barber when he worked
...His flashy ways had fascinat-
...comely maid, he had courted
...sly, but persistently, and now
...the prospect in view of a new and
...situation in another city he put
...question plump of immediate mar-
...young man they had indicated
...and an easy, accommodating per-
...of a kindly nature. Alvin Stanley
...not much experienced in worldly
...He was reasonably fortunate
...means and position. When the
...Rachel placed the sleeping babe
...bench beside him and said:
...mind the child for a few mo-
...will you?" Stanley readily re-
...Certainly, Miss," and beamed
...at the serene face of the infant.
...treated his involuntary charge
...cautiously and carefully as though it
...precious piece of fragile bric-a-
...as at the end of five minutes it
...It first stared at him steady-
...then its little mouth was wreathed
...a seraphic smile, and then as he
...to it and dangled his watch be-
...its dazzled eyes it consented to
...in quiet for a few minutes. It
...when it began to whimper that
...they grew alarmed. He picked it
...and moved it to and fro in his
...as its complaints grew loud-
...became decidedly concerned.
...don't see what keeps its mother
...nurse, or whoever she is," he solli-
...citedly, but in vain he
...ined his gaze in the direction the
...had gone, for he gained no fur-
...sight of her, and never would
...baby grew more and more de-
...strative as the minutes wore on.
...they took to walking with it, which
...what soothed its hunger and im-
...ence. An hour went by. The babe
...to make a violent outcry. Peo-
...passing him staring, others indig-
...can't stand this!" declared Stan-
...but what am I ever going to
...Then he turned cold all over as
...recalled newspaper stories he had
...where children had been aban-
...to the mercy of confiding
...agers. Stanley waited another half
...hour. Then he formed a decision.
...I'll take the "nurse," he resolved.
...Morse will know how to care for
...and tell me what to do."
...Mrs. Morse had been a rock of ref-
...er since his mother had died.
...80 years a favorite family servant
...had retained her in service at the
...home, and hailing a taxi he was
...relieved of the strain of the oc-
...son.
...he was a motherly, warm-hearted
...nature and the idea of a baby in the
...seemed to brighten up the old
...magically. She heard Stanley's
...ing.
...I don't see what you can do but ad-
...vice, or something like," she ob-
...served.
...Maybe—maybe we could keep the
...cherub?" timidly suggested Stan-
...enraptured as the infant. Its
...its attended, clasped his big finger
...wringingly in its little hand.
...It was an hour later when Mrs.
...she appeared from the impromptu
...nursery established, quite excited.
...I found this card in the little one's
...thing," she reported. "It reads:
...like the child to Miss Marcia Dole,
...Waverly place."
...Instantly it was a second taxi and
...half an hour Stanley found himself
...ring the door bell of the place in-
...tended. A servant came to the door,
...pale and agitated.
...Does a little child belong here," be-
...Stanley stumblingly.
...Oh, Miss Dole, quick! quick! Here's
...and about the missing little one."
...and a young lady with traces of tears
...her eyes hurried to the spot. Her
...loveliness made Stanley embar-
...ressed, but he managed to tell his
...Mrs. Marcia Dole insisted that
...they go at once for the child, which
...belonged to her sister who had left
...in charge of the infant while she
...went on a visit to another city.
...In rapturous joy Miss Dole took the
...child in her arms when they reached
...the Stanley home.
...See," she said, as the little one
...stretched its arms towards Stanley,
...Stanley wishes to kiss you."
...Stanley pressed his lips to the
...baby's cheek, little dreaming then that
...there a dozen weeks had passed by
...would duplicate the act upon the
...pale red lips of its lovely aunt.

JUDGE ANNULS MARRIAGE
Divorced Man, It Is Alleged, Had No Right to Wed.
Spartanburg, Aug. 6.—The marriage of A. Lee and Miss Alice Catlett, which occurred at Anderson May 10, 1904, was annulled by a decree signed and filed yesterday by Judge Thomas S. Sease, the grounds being that Lee had a wife living at the time of the marriage. The ceremony was performed by a minister.
Miss Catlett's complaint to the court follows:
"1. That on the 10th day of May, 1904, the defendant, A. Lee, attempted to contract matrimony with the plaintiff, and the form of marriage ceremony was gone through and performed by the Rev. W. B. Hawkins at Anderson, S. C., that the plaintiff believed and was told that the defendant was an unmarried man and capable of contracting matrimony in accordance with the laws of South Carolina, but afterwards plaintiff was told that the defendant had a wife living, from whom he was legally divorced, and on account of said pretended divorce he had a legal right to contract matrimony, but still later plaintiff was informed and now believes and alleges that the defendant had no legal right to contract matrimony with the plaintiff on account of his then living wife, and as soon as plaintiff discovered said fact plaintiff declined and refused to live longer with or have any connection whatever with the defendant and does not in the future intend to have anything to do with the defendant, wherefore plaintiff demands judgement against the defendant."
"2. That said pretended marriage be declared to be a nullity and void."
The court ordered that the plaintiff has a right to use her maiden name the same as if such pretended marriage had not taken place.

BIG PRICE FOR FIRST BALE
Savannah, Ga., Aug. 5.—The first bale of cotton for the 1920-21 season was sold at auction in front of the Savannah Cotton Exchange this morning. It brought a record price of \$1.30 a pound and was sold to the Anderson-Clayton Company after spirited bidding. The bale graded strict middling and weighed 310 pounds. It was raised by J. R. Lindsey of Omega, Tifton county, Georgia, and shipped to Harry White, a local cotton factor.

New Idea in Ventilation.
The Ayrton antigas fan, which, according to Munsey's Magazine, may revolutionize all our systems of ventilation, is based on the principle that a fan should be brought down sharply from the perpendicular to the horizontal, and thus drive the air forward in steady puffs and set up a fresh current from the rear. The inventor, who is an Englishwoman, has given public demonstrations in London with glass models of dugouts and tunnels from which the fan readily expels the smoke. At one demonstration, Mrs. Ayrton, with a three-inch fan, sat at one end of a six-foot table while smoke poured forth from a funnel at the other end. The action of the miniature fan not only dispelled the smoke, but quickly gained such control over it that it prevented it from coming out of the funnel. The hinge-and-spring principle and is constructed of light material. It has been used successfully in factories, theaters, mines and sewers.—Youth's Companion.

Airplanes in Mining Operations.
It is predicted that the airplane and the dirigible will prove a great stimulus to the mining industry in presenting a means of getting material and men to and from locations which are known to be rich with ores and which are at the present time inaccessible. There are many such places known to exist, but the cost of building a roadway to them would be so great as to be prohibitive. Attention to this phase of the subject has been recently attracted by a report made by Doctor Lyon, supervisor of the mining stations for the United States bureau of mines. By this means a regular communication could be maintained with sections which are not to be reached by any ordinary means. It is also suggested that the same means might be of great value for getting rescue apparatus to the scene of mining disasters.

Cats and Diphtheria.
"It is a widely accepted belief that cats may suffer from diphtheria and convey the infection to human beings," says the Journal of the American Medical Association in recounting the experiments by which Doctor Savage proved that this is entirely without foundation.
Doctor Savage planted vast numbers of diphtheria bacilli in the noses and throats of kittens, but in no instance did these take the disease, and within 24 hours the bacilli were dead. Doctor Savage reviewed all the evidence in connection with epidemics of diphtheria, and came to the conclusion that so far as it implicates cats it is quite valueless.

"I wish I knew whether my next door neighbor is going to plant a vegetable garden."
"Why are you so anxious to know?"
"Because if he is I needn't spend so much money for chicken feed."

MRS. HARDING DIVORCED
From Bad Husband, and Married Harding Against Father's Will.
Marion, O., July 3.—It's from the homefolks and neighbors that one learns the true character and personality of a candidate for the presidency. And after spending a week in Marion mingling with the folks who have known Warren G. Harding all their lives, those who called him "Warren" and his wife "Florence," without the slightest exaggeration of their familiarity with both, the visiting correspondents encountered reminiscences on every side of struggle of the Hardings, for in a small town most everybody knows all about most everybody's else's trials and tribulations. The homefolks talk frankly and sincerely and with an honesty in their eyes that convinces the inquirer they would have made the same comment even if their most distinguished citizen were not a candidate for the highest office in the land.
The story really starts with the unhappy marriage of Florence Kling to

Peter DeWolf. It was one of those youthful marriages which never would have occurred in later years. She bore the ordeal for many years, but finally the dominating personality of old Amos Kling, her father, persuaded her to obtain a divorce. The aged Mr. Kling is still spoken of as a self-made man who made a big business success and who felt that his daughter was worthy of a better husband. And as did everybody else who recognized in Mrs. DeWolf a woman of extraordinary talents and lovable qualities.
When the separation came Mr. Kling was inclined to draw his daughter to his side and persuaded her to enjoy the fruits of his wealth—either in extended travel or an exalted social position. But Mrs. DeWolf fell in love with Warren Harding. He was then a poor newspaper man struggling for a foothold. Mr. Kling would not listen to the idea of a marriage between his daughter and Warren Harding. He had higher aspirations and ambitions for her. But his daughter shunned the opportunities which her father seemed to see before her and married Warren Harding.

Old Amos Kling didn't think young Harding would make good in the world but Florence Harding thought otherwise. She set to work beside her husband with an earnestness and determination which was her real self. Instead of the comforts and luxuries which her father might have given her she took her place beside her husband in the tiny newspaper office and while he devoted himself to the editorial side, she organized the circulation department. She hired newsboys and kept them on their toes all the time. To this day there are bankers and real estate and professional men who owe their first knowledge of salesmanship to the instructions given them as newsboys by Florence Harding. Indeed there has been organized here a sort of Florence Harding alumni association, the members being the same newsboys who in their youth sold the Marion Star for the Hardings.
Slowly the Harding couple forged ahead but still the older Kling was not reconciled to the choice of his daughter. He lived to see Warren Harding elected lieutenant governor and then United States senator and

did become reconciled to the marriage. For Warren Harding had "made good," after all. And many a man and woman who remembers old Amos Kling wishes he were alive today to see Warren Harding, Republican candidate for the presidency and with a good chance to be the chief executive of the nation. The character of Senator and Mrs. Harding is such that nowhere in the town is there the slightest mention of a grievance.
The Hardings are known as generous and kindly people whose success has not gone to their heads, whose hearts are still with their friends and neighbors and whose lives have been a heroic struggle against odds of every kind but who in typical American fashion have won out and stand unimpeachable before their neighbors and their friends—the best testimonial that can be offered in public life, more persuasive than the plaudits of orators, politicians, or the flattery of party associates.
Details of the deaths of 361,854 French soldiers are unknown.

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