...The... Easter Lilies

Brunetta Roth burst unceremoniously into her friend's room.

"Mary," she cried, "is it possible you have refused Christopher Patton?"

Mary Vane, a tall, pretty girl, who was adjusting her fur collarette before the mirror, turned quickly, her soft cheeks flushing scarlet.

"Why, Brunetta," she exclaimed, "how can you expect me to answer such a question?"

Brunetta, who was small and stout [illegible] in the height of the prevailing mode, sank down in a chair and [illegible].

"I didn't expect you to answer it. There is no necessity you should do so. Mr. Patton told Tom last night that you had thrown him over. I don't see how your conscience allowed you to act so. He is such a catch—young and good-looking. Best of all he is enormously wealthy."

Mary smiled as she speared a crown of her demure little turban with a long pin. She was thinking of a man who was no longer young—near forty, perhaps—who was handsomer in her eyes than all other men, and who was by no means wealthy.

"I really believe," went on Miss Roth, "that you have an absurd fancy for Charlie Everett. I do, indeed!"

Mary's smile became quizzical.

"Really?" she said.

"Oh, I have no patience with you!" declared Brunetta, wrathfully. "You've known Charlie Everett three or four years. All this time he has been most devoted to you, but not one of your friends knows to this day whether you are engaged or not."

The smile faded from Mary's lips. Everett had told her of his love. "I cannot now ask you to be my wife," he had said. "I will some day, God willing. The time may not be far off, but I love you too well to bind you by a promise you might later find burdensome. And yet, dear, you will trust me and wait?"

"I will wait for you till I die!" she had replied, and had questioned him not at all.

Then he had protested that this was not an engagement, that she was free, quite free. Only he was bound.

"Very well," she had agreed. "We are not engaged."

But the understanding that existed between them was sweet to both.

That was a year ago.

And now she had to acknowledge to herself that she knew little more of his private life or of his personal affairs than she knew then. She was unusually silent as she and Brunetta descended the steps and walked together to the lawyer's office. Her errand there attended to, Mary Vane went with Brunetta to see about the latter's Easter hat. Then the two walked down State street just as the matinee [illegible] were flocking from the theaters.

Brunetta paused suddenly before a florist's window.

"O, I had almost forgotten! Mamma told me to order some flowers for tomorrow. Will you come in with me?"

They stood a few minutes admiring

curtains were drawn. Tapers burned in the dimness. At first Mary fancied that

"There was silence and nothing there
But silence, and scents of eglanterre,
And jasmine and roses, and rosemary."

Then she saw that there was something else. A coffin, and in it lying a white-robed form, with folded hands, and lilies lying on the pulseless breast.

Mary shrank back.

"Oh," she cried. "She is dead."

"Yes, Miss. I thought you wished to see her. A [illegible] many of the neighbors were in last evening. She had many friends hereabout for all her misfortunes. Ain't those lilies beautiful? Mr. Charlie sent them. Twenty-eight for twenty-eight years."

Mary went nearer, looked down on the dead face, a young face which had once been lovely, but bore the unmistakable impress of sorrow and suffering.

"It's not many men," went on the servant, wiping her eyes, "who would do what Mr. Charlie did. After his brother was injured in that railroad wreck four years ago he begged Mr. Charlie in dying to take care of his young wife. Mr. Charlie promised him. He has supported her and given her every comfort since. She was always weakly, and when her mind gave out from brooding over her husband's death, and she was such a charge, Mr. Charlie was that gentle and patient with her, my! She had spells of understanding. Then she'd beg not to be sent to an asylum—not that Mr. Charlie would think of such a thing. She wouldn't hurt a bird, poor dear! There! That is Mr. Charlie now!"

A step crossed the hall. Looking pale and worn, Charlie Everett came into the room. His face lighted up at sight of his sweetheart.

"You, Mary!" he cried.

"Hush!" she begged. She broke down, crying bitterly. "Don't look at me, don't speak to me until I have [illegible] I am here."

Real Estate Exchange

Of Whitehead & Mitchell at the Exchange Bank, Birmingham, Mich.

The following is a partial list of farms, city and village lots and real estate generally which we have for sale. As our list is constantly changing, we request that parties will write us if they do not see what they want in this list:

No. 1.

John McCarroll has a nice little farm of 11 acres in the town of Southfield and John says he will sell it pretty soon. All necessary buildings in good repair and ready for the successful prosecution of a profitable farm and the establishment of a happy little home. Lots of good fruit and all necessary conveniences. Terms easy. Price $1,500, of which $500 will be taken on a mortgage at 6 per cent. Speak quick or you lose it.

No. 3.

Twenty-[illegible] and two-thirds acres of land near the Irish church in Royal Oak township. It is excellent land, four good buildings and fences all in good repair, [illegible] trees, 10[illegible] plum trees, plenty of other small fruit. Buildings insured for $1,0[illegible]. Price $1,8[illegible]. Terms easy. The place is just on [illegible] of the lighter soil of Royal Oak and cannot be beaten for anyone requiring a small farm suitable for small fruit or poultry farming. Come and let us show you over the place some day.

No. 4.

Tenant house and two lots with 105 feet frontage on Saginaw St., and 97 feet deep. Cellar, well, cistern, etc. Price $560. Electric cars pass the door.

No. 5.

Elegant house and lot 66 feet front and 20 rods deep on Maple Ave. East, (half an acre). Fine barn and every modern convenience. Furnace, bath, closet, etc. Can be bought for what the buildings cost. Will exchange for improved city property for portion of the purchase price.

No. 6.

The VanEvery farm on the north shore of Wing Lake, 160 acres, two good houses, three barns, fine lake frontage, 10 acres fine orchard, 15 acres timber. Excellent fishing, boating and bathing. Terms easy.

No. 7.

The J. E. Quick homestead in Birmingham with 140 feet frontage on Saginaw St. and about 150 feet deep. New modern dwelling, good barn, fine lawn, shrubbery and small fruit. Electric cars pass the door every half hour for Detroit and Pontiac. Fare to Detroit 15c, Pontiac 10c. Owner has moved to Forsyth and must sell. We will make it an object for any one to investigate this bargain. Make us an offer.

No. 8.

One of the best farms in Oakland county. It is almost enough to say when we tell you that it is the John Buttolph farm in the town of Troy. 120 acres, excellent buildings, two good flowing wells. Carp pond well stocked, 9 miles of tile; fine orchard, 5 miles from Birmingham, 3 miles straight south of Troy corners, where there is a church, store, postoffice, school, etc. Price low and terms easy.

No. 9.

Excellent farm on Gilbert Lake, about three miles from Birmingham. Good buildings, fences in good shape and everything in good repair. Lovely location on the lake and fine fishing, boating and bathing. 197 acres of as fine farming land as there is in the county of Oakland. Will exchange in part for good improved city property. Thirty acres of good heavy timber. Terms very easy.

No. 10.

Large roomy two-story house on Townsend St. in Birmingham, good barn, city water and all ordinary conveniences, 120 feet front and 103 ft. deep. Small fruit and good neighborhood.

No. 11.

The old Shutes farm in the township of Troy, one mile east of Birmingham, 50 acres, all cleared, 7 acres of the finest orchard, good house and two barns. All the advantages of the village and none of the inconveniences. There are other things, too. Come and find out all about it.

No. 12.

The Bayley farm in the town of Troy, 127½ acres. Good farm house and farm buildings; flowing well at the barn which is the wonder

No. 2.

Farm of 30 acres, well fenced, well watered—never-failing stream; 10 acres timber. 1½ miles from Bloomfield Center and electric railway to Detroit and Pontiac. Terms easy.

No. 23

It was formerly known as the "Wilde Farm" and contains about 100 acres of excellent land, well adapted for grazing or crops. It has about three-quarters of a mile frontage on both sides of Woodward Ave., adjoining the village of Birmingham on the north. The cars of the Detroit & Pontiac Electric Railway run each way every half hour and the Detroit & Milwaukee Railroad traverses the entire length of the farm. It has suitable buildings, good fences and a pretty brook of clear cold water runs through the meadow land, furnishing a never-failing supply for stock. This place must be sold within 90 days and we have put the very lowest possible price upon it which we can entertain. It can be bought for $10,000, one-fourth cash and balance on easy terms. Think it over and let us know what your thoughts are; only don't wait too long, for 90 days is the limit.

No. 26.

One of the finest farms in the grand old township of Bloomfield, celebrated alike for its fine scenery and productive soil. It is the "Harff farm" about midway between Birmingham and Pontiac and just far enough from the Electric Railway to take advantage of all its conveniences and not be inconvenienced. 140 acres gravelly loam, 15 acres of the finest orchard in the state, 2,000 peach trees, 700 plum trees, brick house with all conveniences, 22 rooms, 2 wells, good wind mill, barn 100x50, with ample sheds; good school near the farm, and land is perfectly tiled, 4½ miles (15 minutes) to Pontiac. Excellent roads at all times. Price per acre is low and terms are easy. Let us tell you about it. A postal card will do it.

No. 27.

Want to go west? Well, here's your chance. 160 acres of red Mesa land in Delta county, Colorado. Said by experts to be the finest fruit land in the world. Two-thirds of the farm is cleared and there is an orchard of 45 acres of the best and finest varieties of fruit; 3 buildings and everything ready for business. The price is $7,000 and a proper discount for cash will be given from this rate or will trade for Detroit vacant lots for part of the purchase money. Remember what the sage of Chappaqua said and let us explain about the healthful climate of Colorado. If you have lung trouble or asthma, this is worth your while to investigate.

No. 28.

Small farm one mile east of Pontiac on the Auburn road, 25 acres good fruit land as ever laid out doors and with buildings worth $1200, the whole business can be bought for $2000. The owner's health makes it obligatory for the place to be sold and we wish you would come and make us an offer on this very desirable place and let us explain more fully about it.

No. 29.

House and lot, No. 1420 Fourteenth Ave., Detroit, 1½ blocks from the Boulevard, 2 stories and basement, paved street, house piped for furnace, 30 feet front, small barn. Price $3,3[illegible] or will trade for village property in Birmingham, would prefer a small farm of about 5 or 10 acres. If you want to try your liking for city life, you can do so at little expense and get in the best residence part of the city.

No. 30.

One of the very nicest and best arranged homes in the village of Birmingham, and in the finest location that can be desired. On the west side of Saginaw St., lot 60x112. New house of twenty fine rooms, gas, furnace, bath, hot and cold water, both hard and soft water, motor pumps, wood house, and plenty of room for a nice garden. $3,000 will buy it and you only have to pay $500 cash and the balance on easy terms and long time. Now, if you can ask for anything better than that you are certainly hard to please, and if you will come and let us show you over the house and grounds, we are sure that your possible objections will vanish. Ponder over it a minute and a half or two minutes.

No. 31.

Lots No. 2 and 3 of Block 3 in Campbell's Subdivision of the village of Birmingham. No buildings. Fine lot of stone which will go with the lots, or will sell the lots separately as follows: Lot 2 for $200, Lot 3 for $225 and the pile of stone for $25; one fourth cash and the balance in one and two years. These are acknowledged to be the finest building lots on the subdivision.

No. 32.

A fine little farm in the township of Troy, about 1½ miles north of the village of Big Beaver. Good school, church, and only a mile from the D. R. & L. O. Electric Railway with cars every half hour to the city; 25 acres of excellent farming land, comfortable buildings all ready for a nice little chicken farm for some city man to bring his family during the summer. An hour's ride from the city hall. Price $1,500; $500 cash, balance on long time and easy terms.

No. 33.

Twenty three hundred dollars cash will buy one of the most profitable farms in the townshi[illegible]

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