

# A Passing from Poverty

By MRS. PRESTON HOWARD

One bitter day in February Josie Evans climbed the steps of a broad stone mansion and pulled the bell with such weak, cramped fingers it was little wonder if failed to sound and she was left to stand there in an icy wind, that seemed cruelly searching for her young heart, as it swept through the thin, chilly-warm garments.

For Josie, never rich, was now most poor! Since the day after Christmas, when she had been discharged from the large store, where she was selling holiday cards, no work had come. Her little pile of money had sunk so low she had had nothing but bread to eat for two days; and last night when Miss Ella, the dressmaker, came into the cold, furnished room, where she and her roommate sat puddled up in shawls and hoods, and told her of this little job of work, it seemed almost as if an angel had appeared.

But now with the bleak air and the waiting, her courage sank.

"Oh," she cried, "what if this lady will not let me work on her beautiful dress? What shall I do? What shall I do?"

And then, in desperation, she seized the bell with both hands and tapped with all her strength.

A moment later a trim colored man opened the door.

"What job to pass from the gloom and wintry blast outside into the wide vestibule; its air like summer, the light from the stained glass falling, the huge gandelabra, marble tiles and growing plants.

As she hovered, Josie felt almost as if the servant took the note to his mistress, Josie, feeling almost as if she had owned the elegant furniture and apron for her shabby clothes, an analogy for the cushioned seat, the beauty of the room and the sweet fragrance of flowers.

A soft rustle of silken garments, and



She Opened it and Two Crisp Va Fell Out.

A little brunette lady stood near who began to speak briskly, then broke off abruptly with a little cry and he it happened neither could tell, but in a moment they were folded in each other's arms sobbing on each other's shoulders.

The little brunette recovered voice and composure first.

"To think I have found you at last," she cried. "You wicked Josie, you disappear away from me like that! Come right up into my room and have some cake and fruit to celebrate. Don't you remember when anything happened in school we always, you and I, used to eat—against the rules—that dear old nutmeg?"

"But the lady of the house!" Josie managed at length to say, partly conquering her sobs; "and the work on her dress!"

The brunette gave a gay laugh and a sweeping courtesy.

"I am the lady of the house, Mrs. Pantan at your service, never mind the old dress; we'll work on it together. Come along!"

And she quickly drew Josie upstairs into a charming house. Her hand pushed her into a low easy chair standing invitingly before the logs blazing in the handsome fireplace; pulled off her wraps and tucked her feet under the regular schoolgirl feast brought in by the maid.

"Now," said the little lady, when they began to eat together. "I remember you lived in some village away up in the New England hills, till you saved up some money you earned, and put that with a little more your father had left you, and took it all and came to the boarding school where I was, to give yourself a year's schooling."

"I know all that because you told me when we roomed together, and used to awake after hours to talk—quite against the rules!"

"Then, just before commencement, I'd been off to the next town with one of the teachers to buy the books, when I came back to the school, there was no you, only a telegram. That said 'your mother very ill. Come at once!'"

"And now, you poor dear child, if your tongue isn't quite frozen from this dreadful day, do tell me the rest!"

"I can't stand any more of this generous fare, cheer and warmed, for generous to tell how her mother lay in bed, ill with death for six weeks, then passed away. Her strength, exhausted by long watchings, failed, and she too was on a sick bed for a time; and when she rose again and tried to send word to her friend, could not find the address, and had sent the letter to the seminary, asking them to forward it."

"And it was, forward, forward for six months, my dear! But you haven't heard that I want you to help me!"

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# Washington Gossip

Interesting Bits of News Picked Up Here and There at the National Capital

### FLIGHT OF THE FINGER

Unnerved by Dreadful Possibilities of the Future.

A wayfarer, foraging along the public highway in pursuit of his own purposes, was run against and knocked over by a wild-eyed youth of frightful mien, who, upon catching himself from the precipitant, ejaculated his harrowing predicament as follows:

"I went over to bank in the smiles of my success and discomfiture. It was evening circle afternoon and the stilling-room was invested by many matrons, both young and serene, and sat down to her work, while I waited for my departure and to my first indifference but very presently horrified care I wrote waited matches of their conversation, remaining silent. The food is little and you must be suffering with a variety of ailments from different countries, and try various foods, until you discover exactly the right one. My second day of waiting was not so long as you expected that when the increase is granted there will be a rash of recruits.

A move is on foot to increase the pay of United States soldiers and sailors, which was fixed more than 50 years ago, and was expected that when the increase is granted there will be a rash of recruits.

It has been generally assumed that Uncle Sam's soldiers were by far the best paid in the world, and that belief has in large part been the cause of the failure of our army to meet the past to secure increases in pay.

But now, in connection with the systematic preparations that are being made to lay the subject of "something wrong in the army" before congress at the next session it has been discovered that this belief is founded in error and that several nations are much more liberal in the treatment of their soldiers than is the United States.

The fact will be brought to the attention of congress at a meeting with the subject of a general increase in the salaries of both army and navy.

### CAMPAIN ON TO RISE PAY OF OUR SOLDIERS

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### COURT MARTIAL NO TRIAL FOR TUCKER ON CHARGES OF WIFE

COL. WILLIAM F. TUCKER of the pay department of the army, husband of the daughter of Mrs. John A. Logan, who is now a private in the case, will not be court-martialed on the charges preferred against him by his wife.

This is the opinion of army officers who are familiar with the contents of the report which has been made out by the investigating committee of the charges. The inspectors of the army had several of his best inspectors at work on the case, and they are of the opinion that upon the Pacific slope and in the Philippines.

The report has been prepared and forwarded to Secretary Taft, who is at Murray Hill enjoying a vacation. It is expected that Secretary Taft will act upon the report before starting for the Philippines.

Army officers who are in a position to know the substance of the report say that the inspectors have not found sufficient evidence to warrant the department in ordering a court-martial. Mr. Tucker has the clearest opportunity for redress if he so desires, and may sue for a divorce without consulting the officials of the war department, but officials of that department go slowly in all matters affecting a private.

"It would be highly improper for me to say anything at this time," said Mr. Logan. "We do not know that Mr. Logan would at this time give any expression concerning plans for further proceedings in the event the report is, as expected, adverse to the charges made against Col. Tucker. If he contemplates the institution of civil proceedings in the courts that fact will not be discussed until after the report is published."

### INCREASE IN IMPORTS BENEFITS WHOLE WORLD

ALL the world, or at least all the grand divisions of the world, have profited from the large increase in imports during the fiscal year just ended. This gain, as already announced, is the largest since the war, and amounts to over \$200,000,000 compared with the preceding year.

Of this increase about \$130,000,000 is in imports from Europe, \$200,000,000 in imports from Asia, \$25,000,000 in imports from North America, about \$200,000,000 in imports from South America, nearly \$100,000,000 in imports from Africa and about \$500,000,000 in imports from Oceania. The United Kingdom, Germany, France, Brazil, Japan, British India, Cuba, Italy, Egypt and China are the chief beneficiaries of foreign purchases by the people of the United States.

The largest increase in imports from one country is from the United Kingdom, showing a growth of about \$37,000,000 over the preceding year. Britain's exports to the United States in the 11 months ending with May of nearly \$7,000,000 from the United Kingdom alone, plus an increase of \$3,500,000, and cotton, silk, wool goods and paper, crude India rubber and manufactures of various sorts, as well as many other important articles, show a considerable increase.

From Germany imports show an advance of about \$25,000,000. This country chiefly in beet sugar, chemicals, kid gloves, silk, wool goods and paper, manufactures, the largest single article being in sugar, which alone shows a gain of about \$12,000,000, ending with May of nearly \$6,000,000 compared with the immediately preceding year. From France the imports show a gain of about \$21,000,000, chiefly in silk, lace, diamonds, gloves and other manufactured articles.

### NAVY WITHOUT DENTISTS, TEETH OF SAILORS BAD

SEVENTY thousand enlisted men in the navy service, dependent almost wholly on the aid they receive aboard ship, there is not a dentist in the whole navy service. This is the statement that Surgeon General Rixey will make to congress at its session this winter.

Gen. Rixey will urge three important measures which will improve the working, and which will later be incorporated in his annual report to be presented to the secretary of the navy. He will urge in the strongest terms possible that congress pass a law authorizing the reorganization and enlargement of the naval dental corps, the employment of an sufficient number of dentists to attend to the needs of the enlisted men in the service, and the creation of a corps of women nurses. In his last report Gen. Rixey stated that there were only 100 dentists before the house, that a very large percentage of the sickness in the navy is directly attributable to the lack of dentists aboard ship and at the various naval stations. He said he considered this one of the most important matters in the service, and is in fact, as the whole ability of the sailors properly to perform their duties was dependent upon their physical state.

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Vanity. Apropos of vanity, Secretary Root told at Yale about a politician who had been elected to a certain position, and that he had written it to all the papers. On page 20 appeared this paragraph: "I have grown into a man, and I must close. 'No, no! Go on! Go on!'"

Just as good fish lie in the sea? "I know that," said the bait—"isn't that danger of the bait being caught?"—Young's Magazine.

Nothing to Worry. "Benham—He is a very generous fellow. Every time he meets any of the boys he says: 'Come and have something.' Everything he does is for the benefit of his fellow-men."—Mrs. Benham on her husband's reason there's nothing on his wife.

# CELEBRATE ON 14TH

FRENCH INDEPENDENCE DAY ALSO IN JULY.

Independence day in France is celebrated in the same month—ferried July—as in the sister republic with the country flags flying, and the people awaiting their departure and to my first indifference but very presently horrified care I wrote waited matches of their conversation, remaining silent. The food is little and you must be suffering with a variety of ailments from different countries, and try various foods, until you discover exactly the right one. My second day of waiting was not so long as you expected that when the increase is granted there will be a rash of recruits.

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His Foot on the Treadmill. Mr. Joacker Teller of One Sentenced to Hard Labor for Life.

Said Mr. Joacker, who was reading the paper: "Another poor wretch has been given a life sentence at hard labor."

Said Mr. Joacker, who was embroiling his roses: "Probably he deserves it. What is he guilty of?"

"Fraid and no visible means of support. He obtained clothes and a fine coat, and was turned out with no money to live with. He seems to be larger and stronger than most of the class, yet it is plain that he has never done a lap to get on his feet. He has managed to live well, so far. But the poor fellow takes his sentence hard and cries piteously for his mother and father."

"The wretch! He must have died with perfect tools!"

"No, his victim is our own friend, Jack."

"That clever lawyer! Do read to me all about it!"

"Born to Mr. and Mrs. John Smith, a 15-year boy."—The Bohemian.

### SETTING THE BRIDE AT EASE.

"Widder's" Sympathy Went Out to Fellow Passenger.

A couple recently married had just entered the train that was to bear them to the mountains on their honeymoon, when they became aware of the close proximity of their fellow passenger, who had evidently "spotted" a bride and groom. The young wife, on opening her handbag, fell some one from the floor, and the widder smiled. The other passengers regarded the couple with interest. Seeing that the bride was every moment becoming more flushed and uncomely by reason of their scrutiny, the woman in the goodness of her heart, leaned across the car and said: "Never mind, my dear, she said. 'I'm a widder now, but by this time next week I'll be in the same fix myself!'"

### NEW HOMES IN THE WEST.

Send for free copy of pamphlet containing synopsis of the United States homestead laws and information how to secure a quarter section of land for farming or grazing land free along the new railway lines of the Chicago & North-Western Ry. in South Dakota, Wyoming and other states. Send excursion rates to homeseekers. Full information on request to W. B. Kniskern, Passenger Traffic Manager, C. & N. W. Ry., Chicago.

### Social Rank.

At a country dance in a southern town, when the fiddlers had resigned their bows and taken their places on the platform, the floor manager looked at the fiddlers and said: "All you ladies an' gemen dat wears fishes an' stockings take yo' places in the middle ob de room. All you ladies an' gemen dat wears shoes an' no stockings take yo' places in the front ob de room. All you gentlemen dat wears a top hat an' a monocle crowd jest fit yo' in de corners."—Youth's Companion.

### Wouldn't Take His Place.

Hearing of the sudden taking of the stage of a leading Theoplian while he was playing in Chicago, a young man in a restaurant job telegraphed the manager as follows: "Having heard of the sad and tragic demise of my friend, I'll take his place for a week."

As the message was sent collect it elicited the following reply: "Thanks, I wouldn't take his place for twice that amount."

### What Caused the Lynching.

Out at Farmers met a train, and when a tall, sunburned man stepped off the car they all grabbed him and shook him around. The man looked at them and said: "Gentlemen, I am sorry to disappoint you. I know you think I am a harvest moon, but you are mistaken. I am a lightning rod agent."—Kansas City Star.

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