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Phone: Farmington 25 — REdford 1133

EDITORIALS

Souvenir Spoons

(Christian Science Monitor)

An old friend is coming back—the souvenir spoon of a generation ago.

The New York World's Fair next year will witness the return of this fad of the nineties, according to an announcement by a jewelry firm which has an eye to the future as well as the past. Fair—the one in 1893? Wholen? Will probably throw out the first spoon, maybe it will have Corrigian and his "crate" on it—or maybe not.

Remember the souvenir spoon from the World's Fair—the one in Chicago in 1893? Others appeared then and later. There was one of a Chautauqua, when Chautauqua were in flower. The Flatiron Building in New York was the inspiration of another. And, of course, Washington, D. C., inspired spoons with [George Washington, the Washington Monument, Mount Vernon, and the White House. In Richmond, Robert E. Lee was spoonified.

In time many such spoons found their way to many a whatnot in many a parlor. They were supposed to be merely ornaments (except sometimes when there was "company"), but children were allowed to play with them on rainy Sunday afternoons. They looked their best deployed in parallel formation on the mauve plush sofa.

Where, came the souvenir spoons? From Europe, a nameless traveler, according to A. Washington, D. C., jeweler brought back some of historical nature, and soon was making and selling spoons suggested by current and earlier American celebrities and for some time was destroying the tuberculosis germ so that relapse—the greatest danger the extuberculosis patient runs—will not occur.

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Everyone to His Taste

By MARY C. BILLINGS

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SARAH was very sure that the order was important and the customer rich and influential, just from the stationery. Thick, gray, scented with heavy perfume and postmarked Milan, the letter read: "I expect to sail Wednesday next. Please attend to planting my flower beds and boxes at Westlawn, as you did the last two years. My housekeeper and houseman are there now. Mrs. Van Gillett."

Sitting in the hall outside Uncle Billy's door, Sarah read the letter again, while the ten o'clock temperature and trying to quell one of his nervous tantrums. Uncle Billy had never been sick before in his sixty years of life, and it was hard for him to lie in bed at the busiest season of his florist and greenhouse business. It was worse because there was no one to run things for him in Sarah's father's shop, who had been a stenographer for a Boston firm for years.

"I hardly know a tomato plant from a Boston fern," Sarah had said to herself the week before, when news had come of his illness. "But I'm his only relative and I'll go down and stick around, anyway, so no one will carry off the household." "You here," she said. "Escaped and hiding. Shall I never be rid of the disease?"

She couldn't know about the pardon nor the inheritance that had made it possible for him to make restitution. Traveling abroad, anxious only to forget him, she would not be likely to hear. Returning from a week's fishing, he must look the part of a fugitive.

He looked at her gravely—this woman for whom he had cared enough to betray a trust that he might give her all she desired.

"I hoped you might be sorry," she said haltingly. "The years have taught me things—sorrow for you, shame for myself—"

"Weakness never appealed to me," she said coldly.

"Emerson Blake will be here presently. He went back after some forgotten tackle."

He lifted his weather-stained hat and the bushes closed behind him. A faint rustling told of his retreat.

She could hear Blake's cheery whistle, and her heart stirred at the sound. The friendliness between them had strengthened into friendship, and the friendship had deepened until it seemed that love hovered breathlessly near.

"Was it a long time?" asked Blake anxiously. "I was delayed. You know that fellow La Bree, who frightened us in the camp? Seems he has entered to the sportsman a little too earnestly and the officers are trailing him. He's taken to the woods. The sleuths stopped me and questioned me. What is it, Kathleen?"

"I suddenly noticed her impulsive gesture. 'Seen La Bree?'"

"There is an escaped convict in hiding near us," she said swiftly.

"I saw and spoke with him. I—it isn't safe. If the officers knew—"

"Kathleen! Did he frighten you? How could you know?"

"I—have seen him. His name is Calder."

His look was so long and searching that she flinched involuntarily. At length he asked: "Was he the man, Kathleen?"

She nodded wordlessly. Blake knew all the story, as it appeared to her.

"And you would have given him up?" he questioned curiously.

"A criminal," she reminded him, "even though once—her voice trailed away, her customary decisiveness failing her."

Going down the brook, Blake said carefully, as if after long thinking. "I know Calder. He is not an escaped convict. He was pardoned."

Out and later restored the money he misappropriated. He has lived here in the woods ever since. I was lost in the big storm last winter, when I was up here hunting with Porter."

I verily believe I should have died but for Calder. He sheltered me for three days. I was grateful and he, I suppose, was lonely. We talked more or less, and got rather deeper into one another's confidence than men often do. I could see how severely he blamed himself and gathered something of his anxiety for his past. Blaming himself, perhaps, for not being less sincere. I did not dream of you in connection with him. Neither did he know I knew you."

As plainly as if it had been spoken in words, Kathleen understood. The deeps closed relentlessly, the friendship withered and died. When they entered the doors of Porter's great hunting lodge, Muskokong, there was between them only a pleasant surface friendliness. All the warmth and cheer of the great log-fire could not dispel the chill at Kathleen's heart.

Priming Coat Important

New wood surface should have a priming coat of paint as soon as the progress of the construction work and weather permit. Even third sheet iron needs to be painted soon after being placed because of imperfections in the coating. Galvanized sheet iron will hold the paint better if allowed to weather for several months.

Uncle Billy grinned. "Her last year's bill was fifty dollars," he said. "Guess I'll have to offer you a job as salesman, Sarah."

"I would consider a partnership, Uncle," Sarah admitted. "This business is making more money every day."

At Muskokongus

By MYRA A. WINGATE

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WITH startled eyes, Kathleen Dale listened to the crackling of underbrush that warned her of the approach of some unknown danger, doubtless a bear. This was her first venture into the Maine woods, and a child of apartment houses and paved streets, she feared all the forest sounds.

Her fascinated gaze was upon the exact spot where the bushes parted and a man stepped out on the opposite bank of the stream. The startled look deepened to horror.

"Allen," she said.

"Yes, Kathleen," he returned moderately. He was uncomfortably conscious of a week's growth of whiskers, and of the fact that he had stepped into a bog-hole and was muddy to the knees.

More distressing fact was that he was a jail-bird and the woman—beautiful even in camping clothes—seemed remote.

He crossed the stream, balancing lightly on the footlog. She was frightened, he could see. He had been in a white-hot rage when they parted. She would not understand that the years had changed him.

"You here," she said. "Escaped and hiding. Shall I never be rid of the disease?"

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