

### THE TWILIGHT.

(FROM THE FRENCH OF MICHEL PROVINS, TRANSLATED BY OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT.)

(Concluded.)

#### SCENE TWO.

On Thursday the expedition is postponed, as Juliette has the migraine. On Friday the same thing occurs, as Charmoy catches a slight cold on coming out of his bath. At length, on Saturday, the two "twilight" lovers, feeling pretty nearly all right, and the weather being neither too hot nor too cold, sally forth. After a two hours' automobile run, they arrive, fatigued and dusty, at Val d'Argol. They order lunch and have the utmost difficulty in finding a compromise between their respective dietetic régimes. At last they seat themselves at table and, notwithstanding the anxiety which they each feel in regard to the culinary preparations, they endeavour to take an interest in the charms of the countryside and the pleasure of the tête-à-tête.

Juliette. Potatoes in melted butter! How will a stomach like mine be able to digest that?

Charmoy. I assure you that I have more than a little apprehension about those tomatoes we just had.

Juliette. There is nothing but forbidden articles in this menu. We must eat, I suppose.

Charmoy (pulling himself together). "Paris is worth a mass or two," said the gay monarch! Our sweet, little tête-à-tête is good value for a few pains and penalties. We shall pay for our pleasure, that's clear enough, but we always have to do that in this world. We won't think about it.

Juliette. You are quite right. We always miss the finest pleasures because we are afraid of their consequences. Time enough when they arrive!

Charmoy. Long live the present moment...which is exquisite. Look at that admirable chain of hills and the green freshness of the forest, all palpitating with life under the kindly sun. What a wonderful frame for our love! What a souvenir to keep for our future!

Juliette. This is one of those supreme hours of existence when the happy moments should be enjoyed as if they were weighed out one by one from a measuring glass. And how measured such moments are!

Charmoy. Yes. At first we drink with avidity, but afterwards, when we see that the bottle is almost empty, how carefully we guard them! We feel at the same time the enjoyment which they give us and also the sadness of watching the store diminish, as the famous wishing-cloth contracted upon the fulfilment of each desire.

Juliette. We analyse too much. When we push the analysis so far we always find a little acidity.

Charmoy (coming to the point). Too true! Let us keep to the only word that pleases—without asking whence comes its music—the most marvellous word of all! I love you. (Lower.) I love thee!

Juliette (trembling like a young girl). My darling! My own little Marcel! (A long kiss.)

Charmoy. Can youth really know such joy as that? (They rise and enter the sitting-room of the chalet.)

Charmoy (at the doorway). Who on earth opened all these windows? It's cold enough here to bring on a first-class attack of lumbago.

Juliette. Close them at once! Fortunately we brought our cloaks with us. By the way, it is still early in the afternoon. Suppose that first of all we take a little nap?

Charmoy. To help the lunch down? Most willingly!

Juliette. I shall lie down on this long chair and you can fix yourself on those two armchairs. Then we can chat side by side and hold each other's hand.

Charmoy. I am sure we shall feel all the better for a slight repose.

Juliette. We understand each other perfectly.

Charmoy. I adore you.

They arrange themselves as suggested and commence to chat. They tell each other little stories of their past, in which they each played heroic parts. Little by little, the drone of their voices, and the warmth of their clasped hands, brings a feeling of drowsiness.

Juliette. Decidedly, that cream was excellent but a little heavy. I have a slight headache.

Charmoy. Combined with the jolting of the car and the effect of an early start. Each time that I journey in the morning, my head gets a little uneasy in the afternoon.

Juliette. Suppose we just have forty winks. We should be as fresh as roses afterwards!

Charmoy. By all means! I already have just a touch of sleepiness.

(They both fall into a sleep so light that, at five o'clock, they are still sleeping profoundly. They are awakened brusquely by the chauffeur knocking at the door and asking for orders. They jump up, shout a reply, and regard each other with stupefaction.)

Charmoy (astounded). Five o'clock! And the day gone! How stupid.

Juliette. We shall not get back before night. We must hurry. (With a touch of sadness, soon dissipated.) It seems a great pity. But we can come out here again, can't we? Our happiness, when it comes, will be all the sweeter because of the postponement.

Charmoy. True! Hope and desire still remain to us and in love they are the two most precious things.

Juliette. Hasn't it been a delicious day? (Sign of assent.) I love you...very much indeed! (She throws herself into his arms.)

Charmoy. And I, too...very very much.

Juliette (disengaging herself). And now, my hat and my gloves! Quick; I hear the car.

Charmoy (giving her the things). Young people would never understand the rare and sweet sentiment which has enabled us to accept this little incident philosophically, because they could never achieve our sweet union of heart and intellect. They would have been annoyed to find their happiness put off like this. To us, on the contrary, the intimacy becomes sweeter than ever.

Juliette. Because you and I are not creatures of impulse. Impulse has its charm certainly, but there are other qualities sweeter and more profound.

Charmoy (holding the door open for her). And as I was saying to you the other day, it is only at our age that one knows how to love!

FINIS.

G. A. A.

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Thursday, December 9th. 8.0 a.m. Holy Communion.  
Friday, December 10th. 10.15 a.m. Holy Communion. 11.0 a.m. Matins and Litany. 3.0 p.m. Instruction for the Young. 5.0 p.m. Choir Practice.  
Saturday, December 11th. 10.0 a.m. Matins.  
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### LATEST AMERICAN MAIL NEWS.

TO THE UNITED STATES.

December 12.—Mauretania, from Liverpool, mails due in New York December 17. Mark letters "via Köln—Queenstown per Cunard Line," and post not later than 1 o'clock p.m. on Thursday, December 9.  
December 11.—Philadelphia, from Southampton, mails due in New York December 18. Mark letters "Via England" and with name of steamer, and post not later than 1 o'clock p.m. on Thursday, December 9.

TO CANADA.

For the information of Canadian readers it may be mentioned that a fast mail steamer of the Canadian Pacific Railroad Company leaves Liverpool for Quebec and Montreal direct every Saturday. Letters intended for Canada by this direct route should be posted in Berlin and Dresden not later than 1 o'clock p.m. on Thursdays, and be marked: "Via Liverpool by Empress steamer."

SPECIAL NOTICE

Letters for the above steamers should be mailed in the boxes at the station (Berlin, Lehrter Bahnhof; Dresden, Hauptbahnhof) or at the General Post-office at the time mentioned.  
Letters bearing a 10-pfennig stamp per weight of 20 grammes are only valid for transit by a German steamer sailing direct from a German port. They will not be sent by a English or French steamer.

NEXT AMERICAN MAILS DUE IN BERLIN AND DRESDEN

On Wednesday, December 8, by the S.S. Mauretania, left New York December 1.  
On Thursday, December 9, by the S.S. Prinz Friedrich Wilhelm, left New York November 30.

As there are many of our readers who still appear to believe that letters despatched to America under the new cheap rate—10 pfgs. for 20 grammes, only by steamer sailing from German ports—are not forwarded by the express steamers, but are kept back for transference by "any old tub," we may state that, on the contrary, such letters are despatched by the first steamer on the schedule, be it an express or ordinary mail steamer. No distinction whatever is made, and full advantage of the cheaper rate may therefore be taken. Such letters may be sent by every steamer sailing from a German harbour (Hamburg or Bremen) which appears in our daily mail list.

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