

Julia Harmon
29 Willis Ave. D.
Youngstown, O.

1.

Equal Suffrage League
May 1917

The Taming of the Anti.

Herbert and Gertrude Jones are in their sitting-room.

Herbert - (reading the newspaper) "Dr. Anna Howard Shaw's suffrage amendment presented to congress." This suffrage stuff makes me sick. Why can't women stay at home and mind their own business instead of traipsing off to political conventions?

Gertrude - Why can't we do both?

H - Woman's sphere is in the home! That is enough to keep her busy.

G - Oh, I find time for both, and I have never noticed that you looked especially neglected.

H - Well, what about that roast we had for dinner? It was rare enough to satisfy a savage. And I suppose you went to the suffrage meeting this afternoon and did not get home in time to cook the dinner properly.

G - My dear man, you dislike it only because you were not brought up properly. You can be thankful that it was not burnt.

H - My mother may have had her faults but, at any rate, she always had her husband's

slippers ready for him.

G- Just look under your chair - there are your slippers where I always put them.

(door bell rings)

H- ~~Oh, - ^{Good Heavens!} dog-gone-it!~~ Why can't they let a man alone? (goes to door, receives telegram and reads aloud) "Your delegate - suffrage convention - Mary McMahon Sturtevant - Thursday 7:00 P.M." Suffrage speaker!! Why do they send that to me?

Boy- That's for the lady, boss!

H- ~~Suffering cats!~~ ^{Good night} - Gertrude! Take your old telegram and let a poor man have five minutes' peace. (reads his newspaper)

G- Let me see. Thursday at seven. And this is Monday. - (silence for a moment) - Herbert, do you think that German note was sincere?

H- Oh, um-m-m - huh, huh.

G- Well, either the Germans intend to muddle us or else they are in a state of hysterics.

H- Oh, yes! no doubt! ----- Gee, that was a great game to-day! Cleveland is still

in first!

G- Oh! were you there?
(door bell rings)

H- Another telegram for you, I suppose. No doubt the suffragette has changed her mind. That is woman's privilege, they say, but it would never work in politics.

G- Never mind, I'll go. (goes to door and opens it.)

Boy- For the boss this time, lady!

G- It's for you, Herbert. (takes it to him.)

H- (after reading it) Sister Flossie is coming to-night! I'll have to go right down to meet her, the dear girl!

G- I'm so glad she's coming. I must go and fix the guest room right away.

H- Oh she will be no trouble at all. She is not a suffragette! (he goes out to get his hat)
(telephone bell rings)

G- ^{after} (going to phone) Oh, mother is sick? - Very badly?
- Yes, I'll come right away. - Goodbye.

(Herbert comes in)

- G- Oh Herbert, mother is ill. - I must go to her -
And Flossie coming! What shall I do about the
house?
- H- Oh, Flossie doesn't meddle in politics and so -
don't worry, she can tend to everything.
- G- Well, I hope so, but I hate to leave everything
for her to do.

Act II.

- Flossie- (at the telephone) Well, goodbye, I must go and
look at my dinner now. You know I am
keeping house while Gertrude is away. - Oh no,
not a bit of trouble - (Herbert comes in room).
~~How~~ Oh, forget to-morrow? How could I? I'm
just living for that dance! I have the loveliest
new dress to wear. It's just a dream! It's
gray, my dear, and has a hoop skirt. - Yes
really, and lots of little ruffles! -
- Herbert- Flossie!!!
- Flossie - and little rosebuds down the front! - Yes,
Herbert, in just a minute. Would you mind

(to phone)

going to look at the roast for me? — Where was I?
 Oh — just wait until you see it. I'm dying to wear it. Do you think he'll like it? — Who? You know whom I mean. The good-looking one I met last night — don't you think so? Oh, I do. — just wonderful-looking.

Herbert — The roast is all burnt to a crisp!

Flossie (still at phone) Herbert will be getting dreadfully hungry. I really must go. Goodbye till to-morrow, dear. — I beg your pardon, Herbert. What did you say just now? I did not quite understand.

H — I said, the roast was burnt to a crisp! For three days I have had nothing but charcoal to eat.

F — Oh, I'm so sorry.

H — Well, it's pretty near time you were sorry. If I have to live this way much longer, I'll go wild. It's enough to drive a man to drink. Where in the nation did you put my slippers?

F — Oh, I don't know, I'll look for them. Where did you leave them?

H — Great Scott how do you — to remember

that?

F- I can't find them. Do you really have to have them to-night? Be a dear and get along without them just this once.

H- If I'm going to be starved, I'd like at least to be comfortable! You ought to come and visit us when Gertrude is here and learn something about the gentle art of housekeeping. I tell you, Gertrude knows how to manage a house. She is not a silly girl who can only go around and burn roasts. I advertized for a cook to-day and I expect an applicant any minute. You can then go and do as you please.

(Flossie goes out)

(door bell rings)

(Herbert goes to door)

S- Is Mrs. Jones in?

H- No, but won't you step in?

S- Oh, that is too bad. I wanted to see her.

H- Oh, you came to apply for position as cook? I am Mr. Jones, and it was I who advertized for a cook.

What experience have you had? Can you cook a decent meal? and not burn the roast?

S- Can I what?

H- Now I'll call my sister right away and she will take care of you. - Flossie!!! - You know my wife has been called away on account of her mother's illness and my sister has been trying to keep house for me. And what a mess she has made of it! Burnt roast! Cold coffee! Buttons off my shirts! No clean collars! Everything topsy-turvy! I used to think my wife wasted time gadding about to suffrage meetings but I have decided she was a pretty good house-keeper after all! You can just put things straight in a few minutes. You look more intelligent than most cooks! By the way - What is your name?

S- Ah-h-h - Mary McMahon - n-n-n. Mary Mc Mahon!

(Flossie comes in)

H- Flossie, This is Mary, our new cook. She will

straightens things out for you.

Flossie - Oh, you dear thing! - Come right along and I will show you what to do.

(curtain)

Act III.

(Herbert is comfortably enjoying his newspaper. The new cook comes in to serve him ~~off~~ after-dinner coffee.)

(Gertrude rushes in ^{at} the door)

Gertrude - Hello, everybody.

Herbert - Gertrude! You home so soon?

G - Yes, mother is much better. How have things gone while I was away? Did Flossie take good care of you? I should have gone right down to the train to meet Mrs. Sturtevant, but I could not resist the temptation to drop in here for a few minutes. (sees cook). Why Mrs. Sturtevant! How do you do? You arrived early. And what does this mean? They aren't making you work, are they?

H - But Gertrude, - What — — ?

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