

UNGE PIGERS VÆRN.

Det var en stor Dag for den lille Frk. Wang. Idag skal jo nemlig hendes hemmelige Sværmeri, den unge Assessor Schilken aflægge Visit hos Forældrene, og officielt anholder om hendes Haand. Hvad vil de svare? Utaalmodigt kigger hun hvert Øjeblik ud paa Trappen. Naa - endelig kommer han. Med bevende Hjerte puffer hun ham ind til Faderen, medens hun selv skjult bag Portiererne spændt afventer Resultatet. Dette er desværre alt andet end gunstigt. Grosserer Wang er i daarligt Humør idag og afviser kort og godt den unge Frier. Selv Ellas indtrængende Bønner og klare Tårer formaar intet overfor det haarde Faderhjerte. Men aldrig saasnart er Assessoren forsvunden, før Grosserereren bliver en ganske anden. Han har nemlig faaet en Billet fra sin lille Veninde, Danserinden Vera, der anmoder ham om et af deres sædvanlige Støvnemøder i hans ubeboede Villa paa strandvejen. Glædestraalende klæder han sig paa til Mødet, men det gælder jo for alt i Verden om, at hans bedre Halv søl ikke faar Nys om hans galante Eventyr. Da hun spørger ham, hvor han skal hen, tager han derfor sin Dokumentmappe under Armen og siger, at han skal til Bestyrelsesmøde i Foreningen "Unge Pigers Værn". Ude paa Villaen mødes han med den skønne Vera, og Festen skal netop til at tage sin Begyndelse, da den afbrydes paa det skæmmeligste ved 3 Indbrudstyves Tilsynekomst. Men Grosserer Petersen er ikke tabt bag af en Vogn. Med Krævet Revolver holder han de 3 Gavtyve i Skak, og skal lige til at give dem Løbepas da Vera opdager hans Kone nede i Haven. Det er nemlig gaaet til paa den Maade, at bedst som Fruen sidder derhjemme, faar hun en anonym Billet, der underretter hende om Mandens Støvnemøde, og en-to-tre er hun ude paa Villaen. Nu er gode Raad dyre. Men Wang er Mand for at klare Situationen. I en Fart faar han skjult Vera og Champagneflaskerne, og nu tvinger han de tre Gavtyve til at tage Plads om Bordet efter først at have soigneret dem en Smule, og da Fruen træder ind i Stuen, finder hun til sin store Forbavselse 4 Herrer dybt bøjet over mange lange Aktstykker. Indigneret rejser Herr Wang sig og spørger Konen, hvorfor hun kommer og forstyrrer Bestyrelsesmødet i For-

eningen "Unge Pigers Værn", og ganske forbløffet trækker Fruen sig tilbage. Men nu er det Gavtyvenes Tur til at tage Revanche. De tvinger Wang til at udlevere sin Tegnebog under Trusel af at ville fortælle hans Kone hele Sandheden, og han maa, hvor nødig han end vil, op med Pengene. Men Fanden er ikke endda. Pludselig trænger Politiet, der fra Vejen har set Lyset i Villaen, ind og arresterer hele Banden, og Wang maa, trods Protester og Bønner, spadsere i Arresten, sammen med Frk. Vera og Gavtyvene. Næste Dag fremstilles han i Grundlovsforhør, og nu vil Skæbnen, at det netop er Asessor Schilden, der har Sagen. For Wang er det en meget preker Historie men da han lover Asessoren sin Datter, lover denne til Gengæld at tie med Historien om Frk. Vera, og alt ender saaledes som det sig hør og bør i Fryd og Glæde. De to unge faar hinanden, og Grosserer Wang kan stadig uhindret gaa til Bestyrelsesmøde i Foreningen "Unge Pigers Værn".

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Schutzverein junger Mädchen.

Das kleine Fräulein Wang ist heute sehr aufgeregt. Heute will der junge Assessor Schilden ihren Eltern einen Besuch abstatten, um sich um das junge Mädchen zu bewerben. Was werden sie wohl antworten? Ungeduldig guckt sie immer durch die Thür hinaus. Endlich kommt er denn. Belebenden Herzens schiebt sie ihn zu ihrem Vater hinein, und erwartet gespannt das Resultat der Verhandlungen. Dieses fällt aber gar nicht günstig aus. Herr Wang ist schlechter Laune heute, und lehnt kurz und gut den jungen Bewerber ab. Selbst Elias klare Thränen vermögen nichts dem harten Vaterherzen gegenüber. Sobald aber der Assessor fort ist, wird Herr Wang ein ganz anderer. Er nimmt ein Billet von seiner kleinen Freundin, der Tänzerin Vera hervor, und freudestrahlend zieht er sich an. Sie hat ihn um eines ihrer gewöhnlichen Rendez-vous gebeten, er soll sie nach der Vorstellung abholen, und sie fahren dann nach seiner Villa ausserhalb der Stadt. Zuerst muss er aber Sorge tragen dass seine Frau von seinem Abenteuer nichts merkt, er nimmt deshalb seine Dokumentenmappe unter den Arm und sagt seiner Frau, dass er zur Vorstandssitzung im "Schutzverein junger Mädchen" gehe.

Er trifft also mit der schönen Vera zusammen, und das Fest soll eben seinen Anfang nehmen, als drei Einbrecher ungeniert das Arrangement unterbrechen; Herr Wang ist aber nicht auf den Kopf gefallen, und mit erhobenem Revolver hält er sie alle drei in Schach er steht eben im Begriffe ihnen allen den Laufpass zu geben, als Vera plötzlich Frau Wang im Garten entdeckt. Es ist nämlich so zugegangen: Wie die Frau alleine zu Hause sass, erhielt sie einen anonymen Brief mit der unangenehmen Nachricht, dass ihr Gemahl in der Villa ein geheimes Rendez-vous mit der Tänzerin Mlle. Vera verabredet hatte. Schnell war sie aufgesprungen, hatte sich angezogen, und jetzt steht sie hier ausserhalb des Hauses. Herr Wang lässt sich aber noch nicht verblüffen. Schnell versteckt er Vera und die Champagnerflaschen, und zwingt die drei Gauner Platz zu nehmen, nachdem er sie erst ein wenig aufgeputzt hat, und als die Frau ins Zimmer eintritt, sitzen die vier Herren da tief über Papiere und Dokumente gebeugt. Indigniert wirft Herr Wang seiner Frau vor, dass sie die Vorstandssitzung des Schutzvereins junger Mädchen störe, und verblüfft zieht sich die Frau schnell zurück. Jetzt sind es die Diebe aber, die triumphieren; sie verlangen Geld und viel Geld um den Mund zu halten, und Herr Wang muss gute Miene zum Bösen Spiel machen. Die Geschichte ist aber noch nicht zu Ende! Schutzleute haben vom Wege aus das Licht in der Villa bemerkt, sie dringen ein und verhaften die ganze Gesellschaft, die trotz allem Protest mitgehen muss. Am folgenden Tag wird der unglückliche Herr Wang mit Fräulein Vera und den Gaunern vor das Gericht gebracht, und das schicksal will es, dass eben Assessor Schilden das Verhör anstellt. Das ist ja eine sehr unangenehme Geschichte. Herr Wang beeilt sich aber dem Assessor seine Tochter zu versprechen, und jetzt endet alles herrlich und in Freuden. Die jungen Leute werden vereinigt und Herr Wang kann noch immer zur Vorstandssitzung im Schutzverein junger Mädchen gehen.

FIRE OF FATE.

A drama strong in its conception, well acted and admirably produced.

Herbert Jurtel, a celebrated professor of chemistry, is experimenting in his private laboratory when his friend, Robert Osran, a medical student at the professor's hospital, draws Jurtel's attention to a paragraph appearing in a paper announcing that one of the great men of the scientific world will shortly publish a wonderful discovery. The professor, in answer to Robert's queries, shows his friend a small bottle of liquid, which he states is the discovery referred to. Robert is invited to dinner, and the Professor happening to go out of the room, he conceives the idea of stealing the precious bottle and substituting for it another. The professor returns, and the two go out to meet Mabel, the host's wife. She takes a great interest in the young student, and it is easy to see the attraction is mutual. Dinner over, Mabel shows her costume for a coming masked ball, and Robert, learning the date, makes up his mind to be present. The next day, the professor shows Mabel an announcement in the paper which now says definitely that he is the scientist who is about to demonstrate his wonderful discovery. Robert is announced, and while left alone, Mabel makes violent love to him. He responds, and the two plot to go to the ball together. At his home, the medical student writes a note purporting to come from a woman friend and asking if Mabel will attend the ball in company with her and her husband. Mabel shows this communication to her husband, who, believing his wife will be in safe company, readily gives her permission to go. On the evening of the ball Mabel dresses and departs. Thinking about his wife, of whom he is passionately fond, the professor wanders to her rooms. Sinking into a convenient chair, he idly picks up and scans the letter inviting Mabel to the ball, and which his wife has, by accident, left about. Something in the writing strikes him as familiar, and concentrating his attention on the note, he is horrified to find that it has been penned by Robert. He, too, attends the ball and sees his wife and friend together. In his haste to avoid detection, he drops his handkerchief, and this is found by Mabel, who, keeping it, recognises her husband has been there. The professor returns home and endures all the agony of silent suffering. The following morning Robert is late at the hospital and the Professor finds on his table the bottle containing his discovery. This he annexes. Some time after, when Robert calls at his house, the professor shows him the bottle and accuses him of theft. Robert proves his innocence by drawing the professor's attention to the substituted bottle on his rack. Mabel thinks that now is the time to ascertain her husband's movements on the previous evening, and producing the handkerchief, with an affectation of slyness, remarks, "So you also went to the ball." The wronged man gazes at his wife and then turning on his heel, passes out. Mabel would fain go after him, but she is arrested by Robert, who bids her call on him that afternoon. She does so soon after Robert has learnt from the paper that the professor at four o'clock that day is to demonstrate his discovery. Mabel is temporarily left alone by Robert, and wandering about his rooms, discovers the professor's bottle hidden in a book. Rightly grasping the true state of affairs, she denounces Robert as a thief, and hurries off to her husband's house. Here a number of learned scientists have gathered to gether for the demonstration by the professor. The latter takes down the fateful bottle, becomes suspicious as to its contents, and tests it. The truth is soon known, and believing his beloved wife to be in league against him, he mixes an explosive solution and applies a match. The gathered scientists are startled by a terrific crash, and rushing into the laboratory, find the professor lying on the floor with his life swiftly ebbing away. Soon after this, the wife arrives home, and with a growing presentiment of disaster, rushes into the laboratory. There she finds her husband and seeing that he requires something, offers him the bottle. But he pushes this away, and with that action closes his eyes for ever on this world. The day of the funeral arrives and in accordance with his oft-expressed wish, his body is prepared for cremation. Mabel enters the actual cremating room, where the huge casket containing the mortal remains of her husband lies on the runners ready to enter the fire. The furnace door is swung open, the coffin is pushed into the seething flames and the last page of Herbert Jurtel's history has been written. Mabel drags the phial from her clothing, and swinging her arm, attempts to bury the discovery with its master. Too late, the door is shut as Robert steps into the room. Turning to him, Mabel forces the bottle into his hands, telling him he may keep it, then stepping up to the examination door, she peers into the furnace. What she sees may never be written, for blinded with the glare, she drops back to the floor motionless. Robert stands for a time watching her, then with a curse at what his actions has resulted in, he dashes the bottle to the ground so that its contents are desecrated, and turning on his heel, passes out to stifle his conscience as best he can.

Length 2,781 feet.

SOCIETY FOR YOUNG WOMEN'S PROTECTION

A highly amusing comedy, showing how a lover overcame Papa's opposition.

Ella Merry loves Mr. Loveland, a magistrate, but cannot get her father to smile with favour upon her lover's suit. Soon after, Mr. Merry receives a letter from an actress asking him to take her to his country residence. He does so, and soon the two are enjoying an hour's courting. Meanwhile, Mrs. Merry has learnt of her husband's escapade and that he is not as he led her to believe, holding a meeting for the Protection of Young Women. She hastens to the summer residence, but is forestalled by three tramps. The latter are just facing Mr. Merry's revolver when news is brought that Mrs. Merry is coming. The tramps are forced to each seize a bundle of papers, the actress gets out of sight, so that when Mrs. Merry appears, it is to find a meeting for the Society for the Protection of Young Women in progress. She withdraws, when Mr. Merry finds that one of the tramps has got the revolver, and he has to pay for the men to keep silence. He is just "cleared out" when the police raid the house and drag them all off to the police court. Here, all except Mr. Merry are remanded, while Mr. Loveland, for he is the magistrate, concludes a bargain with Mr. Merry, whereby all are satisfied.

Length 1036 feet.