

Mildred Trevanion

BY THE DUCHESS.

CHAPTER XIX.—(Continued.)

"You should not hit a man when he is down," he said, reproachfully.

"I don't think you will be long down," returned Blount with an encouraging nod that somehow made Denzil's heart beat high, though he did not dare to take the words in their under meaning. "And now I must be off. No, thank you, my dear—I can not stay to dinner; I have so many things to attend to before seven. But tell Sir George I will look him up again in the morning. And give my love to the girls; and tell Mildred that I know, and she knows, there is but one man in the world can ever make her happy."

He looked kindly at Denzil as he spoke, but the latter would not accept the insinuation conveyed in his words. Mrs. Younge, however, noticed both the glance and the significant tone, and a light broke in upon her.

When Lady Caroline had followed Dick Blount out of the room she went over and knelt down by her son.

"Denzil," she said, lovingly, "I know it all now. But am I never to speak of it?"

And he answered as he kissed her: "Do not let us ever mention it again—there's a darling mother."

But all that night Mrs. Younge gazed at the girl and wondered, pondering many things and blaming, woman-like, yet feeling in her heart the while that the choice her son had made was indeed a perfect one.

After this Denzil made rapid strides toward recovery, growing stronger, gayer and more like the Denzil they had known in the first days of their acquaintance than he had been for some time before his illness. He could now walk from room to room and take long drives, though Stubber still insisted on some hours in the day being spent on the sofa. Miss Trevanion Denzil saw daily, though seldom alone—and who shall say how much this conducted toward the renewing of his strength?

It wanted but a fortnight of Charlie's wedding day, and Denzil, who was feeling a little tired, and was anxious to attain perfect health before the event came off—having promised to attend in the character of "best man"—was lying on the lounge in the library when Mildred came in.

"I did not know you were in from your drive," she said. There was less constraint between them now than there had ever been. "Did you enjoy it?"

"Very much indeed."

"So you ought," she said. "Could there be a more beautiful day?" She threw up the low window as she spoke and leaned out. "The air reminds me of summer, and the flowers are becoming quite plentiful, instead of being sought longingly one by one."

"Yes," returned Denzil, vaguely, thinking all the time what an exquisite picture she made, framed in by the window and its wreaths of hanging ivy.

"By the bye, did you like the bunch I gathered for you this morning? See—there they are over there."

"Were they for me?" asked Denzil, looking pleased. "I did not flatter myself that they were."

"Well, yes, I think they were chiefly meant for you," returned Mildred, carelessly. "Invalids are supposed to get every choice thing going—are they not?—though indeed you can scarcely come under that head now."

She threw down the window again, and came back toward the center of the room.

"Mildred," said Denzil suddenly—he had risen on her first entering, and stood leaning against the chimney-piece—"there is something connected with my illness, a dream it must have been, that, whenever I see you, preys upon my mind. May I tell it to you? The vivid impression it made might perhaps leave me if I did."

"Of course you may," answered Mildred, growing a shade paler.

"Come over here then and sit down; I can not speak to you so far away."

She approached the hearth rug and stood there.

"I will warm my hands while you tell me," she said, determined that, should it prove to be what she half-dreaded to hear, he should not see her face during the recital.

"Well, then," he began, "I thought that, as I lay in bed one evening, the door opened, and you came into the room, and, walking softly over to my bedside, stood there very sorrowfully looking down upon me. We were alone, I think—passing his hand in a puzzled manner over his forehead, as though endeavoring vainly to recollect something—"at least I can remember no one else but us two, and it seemed to me that presently you began to cry and stooped over me, whispering something, I forget what, and I took your hands like this"—suing the action to the word—"and then some figures came toward us, but I waved them back, holding you tightly all the time; and"—here he paused, his eyes fixed earnestly upon the opposite wall, as though there he saw reacting all that was struggling for clearness in his brain—"and I asked you to do something for me then—something that would aid my recovery more than all the doctor's stuff—and you—"

"No, no, I did not!" cried Mildred, vehemently, unable longer to restrain

PRODUCER AND USER.

THEY ARE INTERDEPENDENT UPON EACH OTHER.

How the Practical Operation of the Protective Principle Meets the Requirement of Legislation for the Greatest Good of the Greatest Number.

J. D. Wilson of Randolph, Mo., recently addressed the following to the editor of the American Economist: Conceding that the tariff on wool makes the grower money, who pays it in the end, the man who wears the wool, or who? Seems to me that legislation should be for the greatest good to the greatest number. In other words, don't more people wear wool than grow it?"

Answer: Questions of this sort the Free Traders have been asking for many, many years, always answering them to their own complete satisfaction. In their way of looking at it protection benefits the few at the expense of the many. Our western friend has got it all figured out in the same way. Pity it is that his talents should be wasted away out in "Darkest Mizoury!" He should have been a college professor. But we shall take him as he is and endeavor to solve his conundrum.

Conceding, as he says—and this is an important concession—that the tariff on wool makes money for the wool grower, who pays it? Principally the foreign wool grower, who is compelled to accept a lower price for his product in order to sell it in the United States after the duty has been added. Possibly the man who wears clothing made of wool pays some of the tariff, but not much. Clothing is little or no higher in price than it was in days of non-protected wool under the Wilson tariff law. If a suit of clothes could be bought a trifle cheaper, then the wage earner and the farmer were none the better off on that account, because neither the wage earner nor the farmer had nearly so much money to buy clothes with as they have now. If you could buy an overcoat for a dollar and didn't have the dollar to pay for it, you wouldn't be anything like so well off as though overcoats were selling at \$10 apiece and you had \$15 in your pocket with which to buy.

But the pivotal thought—the great Free Trade conception—of our Missouri friend is to be found in his concluding proposition that

"Legislation should be for the greatest good of the greatest number. In other words, don't more people wear wool than grow it?"

Most assuredly legislation should be for the greatest good of the greatest number. Most assuredly more wear wool than grow it. Right here is the strength of protection and weakness of Free Trade. Not only does protection call for legislation that involves the greatest good to the greatest number; it legislates for the greatest good of the whole number. There is today in this country no individual—not one—who is not in some way distinctly the gainer by the policy of protection. Even the importer or the American agent for foreign merchandise is the beneficiary of a state of prosperity which has increased the demand and likewise the purchasing power of the most liberal body of purchasers and consumers the world has ever known. The use in the United States of foreign made articles of art, luxury and fashion was never so great as now, while the production and consumption of domestic articles of all sorts (that is to say, the gross volume of internal trade) and the sales to foreigners of articles of domestic production are so much greater than ever before that for the first time in its history the United States has become the leading nation of the world alike in domestic and foreign trade, and, instead of being in debt to the money centers of Europe, is now a creditor nation. The economic policy that has brought all this to pass may surely be considered as productive of the greatest good to the greatest number.

But our Missouri friend needs some light on the question, "Don't more people wear wool than grow it?" As we have said, this question must be answered in the affirmative. So do more people eat wheat and corn and beef and mutton and pork than raise those articles. A thousand times more people use nails than those who make nails. So with every article of use and consumption. The users and consumers outnumber the producers many times over. Protection takes account of this condition and by diversifying production alike in the factory and on the farm calls into being a tremendous army whose needs and requirements are mutual and interdependent. It insures to the American farmer a profitable market for his wool by insuring a steady demand on the part of persons who wear but do not grow wool, and by taking care that the cheaper wools of foreign countries shall not come in and break down the price of home grown wools. Otherwise the American wool grower would have to go out of business, as so many thousands did when wool was deprived of protection in the Free Trade tariff law of 1894-1897. Is it not a wise tariff policy that diversifies industry in agriculture and enables the farmer to profitably produce articles which he could not otherwise produce except at a loss, and that by creating and furnishing employment for a vast aggregate of busy and well paid wage earners insures to the farmer a near by, close-to-home demand at profitable prices for his products?

ta and Minnesota; and it is reported that this year's sowing will show an increase of 200,000 acres over the figures for last year. The flax industry is one more to be added to the list of industries which owe their establishment in this country directly to our protective tariff policy. It, along with the silk industry, the tin plate industry, the steel industry, and a host of others in their turn, has been belittled and sneered at by the free traders and the protection given to it has been opposed with violence. It is in a fair way now, however, toward attaining such proportions that these followers of Cobden will be obliged, in order to retain any reputation, even a somewhat shaky one, for truthfulness, to drop their cry of "bogus industry," so far as flax-raising is concerned; and the time is not very far distant when the United States will be able to entirely supply its people with linen of home manufacture, as well as with native woolsens and cottons and silks.

HIS ATTITUDE.

President McKinley Not in Sympathy with Free-Trade Innovations.

There is good reason to believe that the well-informed Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Press speaks with knowledge and authority when he asserts that President McKinley is opposed alike to tariff revision and to the Kasson plan of reducing tariff rates by special trade treaties. The president, it is said, deprecates the opening up of the tariff question as disturbing and injurious to business interests, and the Babcock folly of slaughtering the minor concerns by removing all protective duties from foreign products competing with the products of the steel trust will receive no encouragement from the administration.

With equal positiveness it is affirmed that President McKinley has not only exerted no pressure for the ratification of the French reciprocity treaty, but, on the contrary, has been in full sympathy with the protectionist opposition to that ill-advised and mischievous instrument. According to the Press correspondent the president did not examine the French treaty before submitting it to the senate for approval, and hence was not aware that Commissioner Kasson had agreed upon a draft distinctly designed to benefit certain industries by withdrawing needed protection from other industries.

With equal reason it may be taken for granted that the president had not investigated the scope and operation of the proposed Argentina treaty, which provided for a reduction of 20 per cent from the duties on wool provided for in the Dingley tariff law.

Undoubtedly the president is in favor of reciprocal trade arrangements that shall enlarge the foreign demand for American products, but it is real and not bogus reciprocity that he favors—the reciprocity authorized by the Republican national platform of 1900, in "what we do not ourselves produce." Those who imagine that President McKinley is today anything less than the sound and consistent protectionist that he always was are nursing a vain delusion. The president is a friend of American labor and industry. Make no mistake about that!

They Never Reflect.

Philadelphia Record managers and other free traders, whose main political policy is, "Anything to deprive American wage earners of employment and wages and enrich foreign monopoly by giving them our home market while we pay the taxes," are still battling for a return to the robber Wilson tariff which swindled, according to Samuel Gompers, two and one-half millions breadwinners out of their jobs. Do these enemies of the common people ever reflect that the Ruler of nations is also the God of the poor, and that His justice is merely delayed?



Reciprocity the Wrong Way.

Let us have no tampering in the way of reciprocating treaties that do reciprocating the wrong way. To be sure such treaties carefully constructed assist American industries but they do so, as the patterns rejected show, at the expense of certain other American industries. This, then, is not reciprocity, but simply nothing more or less than the English tariff idea of fair trade.—Racine (Wis.) Journal.

What Does He Want?

Babcock of Wisconsin, continues to remark that the Republicans of the West are in favor of a reduction of duties on articles which can be produced here more cheaply than elsewhere, and his Meteniers continue to wonder whether he wants the Republican party to be a party of tariff reform.—Syracuse Post-Standard.

FARM AND GARDEN.

MATTERS OF INTEREST TO AGRICULTURISTS.

Some Up-to-Date Hints About Cultivation of the Soil and Yields Thereof—Horticulture, Viticulture and Floriculture.

Manuring Wheat.

In a recent bulletin on the manuring of soil, Prof. John Fields of the Oklahoma Experiment Station says:

In seasons when there is an abundant summer rainfall, manure plowed under will decay and settle down. On the other hand, in dry seasons, and especially if the soil is not well cultivated soon after plowing, manure which is plowed under will keep the soil open and make it dry out easily. The seed then goes into a dry soil, germinates poorly giving a thin stand, and starts off the wheat in a weakened condition.

This makes the manuring of land sown continuously to wheat difficult, and in such cases, it would appear that a top-dressing, well worked into the surface of the soil, would be the best and safest practice.

Attempts to follow Kafir corn or sorghum with wheat have very often resulted in failure. "Kafir corn ruins the land" is an expression frequently heard in conversation with farmers. When the matter is studied, it is found that, after all, it is largely a question of the supply of moisture in the soil. Kafir corn grows a large mass of forage and uses the soil moisture up until the time of wheat seeding, and the wheat goes into a soil without sufficient moisture for the germination of the seeds and the growth of the plants.

Early plowing of land for wheat does little but prepare the soil so that it will take in water and keep it. Working the soil, keeping the surface loose, helps out a dry season by holding the water in the soil. Cultivation at the proper times as much to be preferred to manuring when there is no opportunity for the soil to fill with moisture before a crop is to be planted. The effect of a given crop on the moisture content of the soil has more to do with the yield of the next crop than does the amount of plant-food removed from the soil.

Cultivation and manuring—as much as possible of each—and study and knowledge of the true effect of different crops on available soil moisture are essential to a profitable and improving system of farming. The day of crop failures, worn out farms, and purchase of fertilizers should be put off by the use of things at hand that cost only energy, time, and labor to utilize and possess.

Marketing Small Fruits.

Berry growers should soon purchase their supply of berry boxes and baskets in which they expect to market their fruit the coming season, says a communication from the Oklahoma Experiment Station. The tub or large bucket and quart cup are the packages that have been in most common use in the berry market in Oklahoma, but are giving away to neat wougen quart boxes and crates. The cost of the boxes and crates is very small and it greatly improves the appearance of the fruit. The berries should be put in the baskets just as they are gathered. This prevents the necessity of further handling, crushing and soiling the fruit. It can then be delivered in better condition and is worth more in dollars and cents to the consumer. Berries that are placed in small baskets as fast as they are gathered will keep fresh much longer and will sell for a higher price than the berries that were of the same quality when gathered but have been handled in bulk. The increase in price of the berries will much more than pay for the boxes and crates. The ease with which crated berries can be sold is often of great importance especially in a full market. The claim is often made that fruit is so cheap that it will not pay for the boxes. This is sometimes true but the difference in price of the crated and uncrated berries is often the difference between a profit and a loss in favor of the crated fruit. There are several kinds of boxes and crates used for small fruits any of which answers the purpose very well. A quart package is the most common size used for berries. These boxes are made of wood or paste-board and are always given with the fruit. The crates are made of wooden slats and usually hold 35 quart boxes. These can be used during the entire season when the berries are sold in the home market, but if shipped new boxes can be bought cheaper than the old ones can be returned. The packages should be clean and bright and the packing done in good form. It is often the package and packing that sell the fruit as much as the merits of the fruit itself.

Fruit in Missouri.

A report just issued by the Missouri State Horticultural Society states that the strawberry crop in the southern part of that state is being cut short by dry weather; that raspberry vines are badly injured by anthracnose and that the crop will be light; that growers are having trouble in some parts of the state with canker worm and in others with the dropping of the apple and peach and with the peach leaf curl, but that good crops of the tree fruits last named are promised nevertheless. Averages for the northwest division of the state, embracing nineteen counties, are as follows: Apples 75, pears 70, peaches 90, plums 90, cherries 95, strawberries 95, raspberries 65, blackberries 80 and grapes 85.

The averages for the twenty-five counties embraced in the northeast di-

vision are given as follows: Apples 80, pears 75, peaches 90, plums, 85, cherries 65, strawberries 70, raspberries 60, blackberries 75, grapes 85.

In the southeast division (32 counties) the following averages were obtained: Apples 85, pears 60, peaches and plums 95, cherries 85, strawberries 90, raspberries 70, blackberries 90, grapes 90.

The averages for the southwest division which embraces 38 counties are as follows: Apples 90, pears 76, peaches 95, plums 90, cherries 75, strawberries 80, raspberries 50, blackberries 95, grapes 85.

Agricultural Notes.

Formaldehyd is a colorless, pungent gas obtainable from wood alcohol and readily soluble in water. It may be purchased at drug stores in liquid form, that is, dissolved in water. Its property of destroying the spores of fungi was discovered by the German scientist Loew, in 1888. It is not poisonous in moderate amounts, even when taken internally. In 1895 Prof. H. L. Bolley, then of Indiana but now of the North Dakota Experiment Station, began making experiments with a solution of formaldehyd for the prevention of grain smuts, and potato scab. His results were so satisfactory that the formaldehyd treatment has come to be regarded as the standard preventive for these diseases.

Smooth brome-grass will withstand extreme changes in the temperature without injury. Its ability to produce good pasture during long periods of drought far exceeds that of any other cultivated variety. In Canada where it had been exposed to a temperature of several degrees below zero and not covered by snow it was entirely uninjured.

The yield of hay from smooth brome-grass varies from one to four and a half tons per acre according to climatic conditions, method of seeding, and fertility of soil. The quality of the hay is excellent, fully equaling that of timothy in palatability and nutritive qualities.

In experiments with hairy vetch at the Mississippi station the yield was increased 64.6 per cent by scattering the inoculated soil in the drills with the seed, and 34 per cent by soaking the seed in water containing the tubercle germs. The amount of nitrogen was also considerably increased by inoculation. The inoculated soil used was obtained from a field bearing hairy vetch which had an abundance of nodules.

Have you tested the clover seed? It pays to do so.

The origin of clover seed is of much importance, but receives little attention from farmers, who buy their seed without ever attempting to ascertain its place of origin. Yet scientists that have looked into the matter believe that, as a general rule, seed grown in northern latitudes will produce harder plants than seed grown in the South.

Maryland has made considerable advancement in the study of the surface soils of the state, and colored maps them.

Horticultural Observations.

Prof. E. S. Goff says: The Wisconsin oat crop of 1898 was estimated by the United States Department of Agriculture at 64,000,000 bushels, valued at \$15,500,000. Allowing an average of five per cent, which is probably not an excessive estimate, the smut tax of 1898 in our state amounted to about \$775,000.

In plants like the apple, which are widely dispersed by means of graftage, there is more or less departure from the original type. The Newtown Pippin, which originated in Long Island, has varied in Virginia into the Albarie Pippin, a poorer keeper than the original. In the Northwest it has varied into a form which has five ridges at the apex, while in Australia it is so different as to have been renamed the Five Crowned Pippin.

All plants are made up of a succession or colony of shoots, originating in buds. These shoots show as much tendency to vary as do seedlings. The degree of variation is not usually as great, since the latter unite the qualities of two parents, while the former are the product of one parent. Nevertheless, sudden and marked bud variations are not uncommon. As a matter of fact, many of our cultivated varieties have originated from bud sports. The nectarine came from a branch of the peach. A French horticulturist gave, in 1865, a list of 154 commercial varieties which had originated by bud variation, while Prof. Bailey estimates that there are over 300 such sorts grown at present in our own country.

Illinois Annual Corn Crop.

Illinois' annual corn crop, about 240,000,000 bushels, is raised on nearly 8,000,000 acres of land. It requires about 1,000,000 bushels of seed corn to plant the corn fields of this state. If the character of the seed has any considerable influence upon the crop produced then the production and use of the best possible seed corn becomes a matter of tremendous importance.—Bulletin 63, University of Illinois.

According to J. D. Smith, state entomologist of New Jersey, who has spent three months examining the fruit industry of Germany, France, Belgium, Holland and Hungary, Germany offers the most promising field for American fruit. He thinks France is unfavorable and says that Europe has very little to teach us in the treatment of insect enemies, for the conclusive reason that pests are less troublesome there than in this country.

OUTLOOK FOR FLAX AND LINEN

Last year there were 2,300,000 acres grown over to the raising of flax in the three states of North and South Dako-