

THE MASTER OF APPEAL

By Francis Lynde.

CHAPTER XXII.—Continued.

The effect of this fierce tirade, poured out in a torrent of hot words, was less on the helpless captive than on the four would-be defenders. It moved us variously, each after his kind; nevertheless, I think the same thought lighted instantly upon each of us. Though we might not reach and rescue her, her escape would be blunted upon the quieting of this fiend-in-chief. So Ephraim Yeates stretched himself down in the damp grass and brought his long rifle to bear, while the Indian sprang up and pointed his stick toward the throat; but neither lead nor steel was loosed because the light was poor, and a hair's-breadth swerving of the aim might spare the man and slay the woman. As for the two of us who must needs come within stabbing distance, the same thought lighted upon us both as we stripped coats and foot-clogs for a plunge into the barrier torrent. But when we would have broken cover, the old borderer dropped his weapon and gripped us with a hand for each.

"No, no; none of that!" he whispered, and he drew his hands from his pockets and we can't afford no such foolish gambles on the altar of Baal. Hunker down and lie close; if there's any dying to be done, ye've got a good half of the night ahead of ye, and there's all o' tomorrow that ain't teches ye."

It takes a pitiless avalanche of words to spread these interlinear doings out for you; but you are to conceive that the pause is mine and not the action's. While the old man was yet pulling us down, my fearless little brother drew a pace and was giving the villain his answer.

"I am glad I know you now for what you are, Captain Falconnet," she said, coldly. And then: "You can take me with you, if you choose, having the strength to make good so much of your threat. But that is all. You cannot take for yourself what I have given to another."

"Cannot, you say?" He clapped his hat on smartly and whistled for his horse, and when the man was gone to fetch the mounts for the woman, he finished out the sentence. "Listen you, in your turn, Mistress Spitfire. I shall take what I list, and before you see your father's horse again, you'll be on your knees, as other women have to marry for your very shame's sake!"

It was then that Ucanoola did the subtlest bit of juggery it has ever been my lot to witness. Posturing like one of those old Grecian discus-throwers, he sent his hand flying across the ground to stop at Margery's feet. Though I think she knew not how it got there, she saw it, and the courage of the sight helped her to say, quickly: "When it is my turn, I shall know how to keep faith with honor."

His laugh was the harshest mockery of earth. "You will keep faith with me, dear lady; do you hear? Otherwise—"

He turned to take the black mare from his man. At this my brave one set her foot upon the weapon in the grass.

"I have no faith to keep with you, Captain Falconnet," she said. He struck back viciously. "Then, by heaven, you'd best make the occasion. It has happened, ere this, that a lady as dainty as you are has become a plaything for an Indian camp. It lies with me to save you from that, my mistress."

She stooped to gather her skirts for covering, and in the act secured and hid the knife. So her answer had in it the steadfastness of one who may make desperate terms with death for her own sake.

"I thank you for the warning, Captain Falconnet," she said, facing him bravely to the last. "When the time comes, mayhap the dear God will give me leave to die as my mother's daughter should."

"Bah!" said he, and with that he turned to the woman, and while he looked, my dear lady and her two women were helped upon their horses, and at the leader's word of command the escort formed upon the captives as a center. A moment later the little party, with its smiling, merry faces, had lodged fire to prick out its limits in dusky red, was empty, and on the midnight hoofbeats of the horses came blunder and fainter till the distance swallowed them.

"Then it was that my poor lad, famished and frenzied, rose up to save me bitterly."

"Now may all the devils in hell drag you down to everlasting torment, where Ireton, for your cold-heartedness, made us lose when we had good hope to win!" he cried. "One little hour I begged for, and that hour had fought her battle and set her free. But now—"

PECULIAR METHODS OF SETTLING DISPUTES

Fantastic Contests That Have Tried Men's Nerve and Courage.

FRENCH ARE MOST WARY

They Generally Devise Some Scheme to Avoid All Possibility of Meeting with Any Personal Injury.

Tit-Bits: Two heavy weights suspended from a beam by slender cords were the weapons chosen by two Parisians named Durier and Volson to terminate their rivalry for the hand of a pretty actress. Beneath a weight each took his stand, there to remain until the breaking of one or the other of the cords should decide his fate. For more than four hours they remained motionless, when the cord attached to Durier's weight snapped, and the ponderous mass of metal, falling upon the man beneath, struck him to the ground. Fortunately, however, it just missed his head, and he escaped with no worse damage than a severe shock and a broken collar bone.

Somewhat prolonged was the duel waged a few years back at a well-known Yorkshire seaside resort to decide which of two young men should surrender his claim to the hand of a local publican's daughter. The rivals both prided themselves upon their natty prowess, so it was agreed that he who should first miss his morning's swim in the open should withdraw his bid for the hand. For the first month and more each took his matinal swim, but at length there came a day of such furious storm that one, turned faint-hearted and refused to dare the tempestuous billows. The other, however, at considerable risk, dashed into the foaming sea, and, although he was badly cut and bruised, emerged a triumphant wooer.

Another aqueous duel occurred two years since, the location being the Lake of Geneva, and the contestants a Swiss named Zeller and a Frenchman, a Frenchman, agreed that he who could remain the longest beneath the surface of the water should without interruption or hindrance from the other be permitted to pay his addresses to the daughter of a wealthy tradesman. The rivals dived simultaneously, and more than two minutes elapsed ere Zeller's head appeared above the surface. There was no sign, however, of his rival, after whom, yet another two minutes had sped, a couple of onlookers dived and succeeded in recovering his senseless body. Restoratives were successfully applied, and on Lenor's recovery consciousness he was acclaimed the victor.

At the time of Succ's forty-day fast at the Westminster aquarium, some years ago, a couple of young Mancunians agreed by emulating his example, to decide which of them should first propose for the hand of a girl who resided in the neighborhood, with seemingly impartial affection. Four days was sufficient ordeal for one, who, refusing any longer to abstain from food, left the field clear to his rival, whose proposal, however, met with scant consideration from the lady, who declared that she would not intrude her future to the keeping of such a fool as he had proved himself. Needless to say his rival's reception was equally glacial.

During a very severe winter in the forties a couple of Germans, natives of Dresden, resolved, for love of a woman, to attempt a winter walk to the North Pole. They were equipped with the best of clothing, they went out into the country, there to remain without shelter until one of the other of them should succumb to the cold. Three days after their departure a wretched object was seen to protrude from the snow. It was the head of the one who had succumbed to the cold. The other, who had remained, was seen to be in the act of eating the head of his rival, frozen to death, lay beneath the falling snow.

Trade Conditions in Morocco. Ion Perdicaris in International Quarterly: What critics ignorant of trade conditions in Morocco do not realize is that the entire trade, both imports and exports, amounts only to about \$15,000,000 per annum, and that the fulfillment of government orders for public works required to develop transport and other resources constitutes the only important financial operation of the immediate future. If France were willing to assume the responsibility or expense of maintaining order, the merchants would be glad to trade for French syndicates alone such advantages; but as it is, the Kaiser is amply justified in insisting that German merchants shall have a share in placing tenders for these Moorish orders, and that the Sultan himself should be especially protected would be defeated by the predominant influence which the French possess the right to assert by virtue of the Anglo-French agreement of April, 1904, and the subsequent Franco-Spanish agreement. The only way in which France could share in such enterprises is for the various governments represented at the Madrid conference in 1880 to hold the Sultan to that agreement, and to refuse to recognize any right on the part of the Sultan to grant a monopoly to France or to any power an exclusive or predominant influence in Morocco.

The authorities at Washington who scored brilliantly by the energy they displayed in securing the release of the American captives from the hands of the Sultan himself, also, taken up a position which, in view of this latter and still more dramatic incident of the sudden appearance of the William of Hohenzollern on the Tangier stage, would seem equally well considered and advantageous. The department of state asserts that should France annex United Morocco the government of the United States might accept without demur an effective occupation of the Sultan's dominions assumed in the interest of law and order, which it has seemed of late beyond the Sultan's own unaided power to maintain efficiently; yet, failing such effective annexation, the United States, as one of the signers of the Madrid convention, must look to the Sultan himself to guarantee the rights and liberty of American citizens throughout the territory over which Mulai-Abd-el-Aziz, or his Mekhazen claims jurisdiction.

A Shampoo for Dry Scalp. A splendid tonic shampoo for a dry scalp can be made as follows: Take two ounces of white castile soap, one-half ounce of potassium carbonate, eight ounces of alcohol, two ounces of tincture of quillaia, twenty drops of oil of lavender and eight ounces of water. Dissolve in the water the potassium carbonate and soap, then add the other ingredients from so painful a root of the hair and then rinse well in several waters. Dry, if possible, in the sun, never in front of a fire, as this will make the hair brittle.

Resignation. Yonkers Statesman: The Walter—How will you have your steak today? The Crank—Oh, I suppose burned, as usual.

NOTES ON SILAGE

By W. J. Fraser.

An example of great loss owing to the form and faulty construction came under the writer's notice a few days ago, when a square silo, with a capacity of fifty tons was built, with air springing of the sides of the silo allowed the air to gain access to the silage to such an extent that the entire fifty tons spoiled completely. Since, for mechanical reasons, it is practically impossible to build a square wood silo with perfectly rigid walls, the round silo is the only proper form.

To obtain satisfactory results silage must be in perfect condition when fed. Since fermentation soon takes place when silage is exposed to the air, the silo should be built of such a diameter that not more than eight square feet of surface should be allowed for each cow in winter; then, when feeding forty pounds of silage per cow, a layer 1 1/2 inches deep would be fed off daily. When silage is fed in summer, it is desirable that the silage should be not over half this size, so that a layer three inches deep may be used daily. However, much stock is to be fed, a silo 20 to 22 feet in diameter is as large as should be built. If a silo is of greater diameter than this, much of the silage is at too great distance from the door, increasing the labor of removal.

The deeper the silo the greater the pressure and the more compactly will the silage be pressed together, hence the larger the amount that can be stored per cubic foot. For example, a silo twenty feet in diameter and forty feet deep will hold twice as much as one of the same diameter and twenty-five feet deep. This shows the economy of reasonably deep silos. To be well proportioned the depth should not be more than twice the diameter. No silo should be less than thirty feet deep and to get sufficient depth for a silo not over twelve feet in diameter, it may be placed four or five feet into the ground.

The number of tons of silage needed can readily be estimated from the size of the herd and the amount to be fed daily. Even when it is desired to feed much silage as possible, not more than forty pounds per cow should be fed daily. In Illinois silage will usually be needed from about October 20 to May 10, or 200 days. Each cow should have an allowance then of 200 times forty pounds, which is 8,000 pounds of silage during the year. A herd of ten cows will require a silo holding forty tons; a herd of thirty cows, 120 tons; fifty cows, 200 tons, and 100 cows, 400 tons. Where young stock is raised an allowance should be made for them.

HARVESTING CORN. The time to cut corn that is raised for both fodder and grain is as soon as the ears are nearly all dented. If it is raised for fodder principally, it may be cut while the ears are in the milk if there is danger of frost. Cut all corn before frost if it is ripe enough, as a frost reduces the value of the fodder. If a frost occurs, cut as early as possible, and put in shock as quickly as possible.

A corn binder that will cut and bind thick corn that is planted one bushel or so on an acre, on rich mellow soil, without clogging, and will cut corn without knocking off the ears is the one to use, says R. J. Brooks in the Northwestern Agriculturist. Use either two or four horses on the harvester, as three horses abreast tramp the bundles too much. Cut as near the ground as you can so stubble won't bother plow. Shock the corn just as fast as it is cut, never leave it to lie on the ground over night or through a rain storm, if you can possibly avoid it. It needs two men to shock to advantage using a shock horse. One man can see through the shock one foot from the ground after it is finished, thus allowing the air to blow through.

Every shock should be tied with binding twine before you move the shock. Use a rope four feet long with a knot in each end to tighten; put the rope around the shock about two feet from top. Let each man pull at an end as they stand facing each other on opposite sides, and pull hard. Then on each side of the ropes where they cross, and holds tight while the other ties the twine. Don't use a rope with a ring or pulley in one end and pull from one end in tightening shock, or every shock will be twisted and more liable to go down before stacking time. Set the shockrow in a straight line so a team can follow it more easily in stacking time.

Stack the corn as soon as thoroughly dry in small shocks, keeping the middle of the stack row full and solid from the ground to tip so that the stack will always turn rain if it should come either when you are stacking or feeding it out. Build one shock row at a time, so you can get at it on either side when feeding it out. If you are going to thrash or shred don't put more than two small stacks in a setting, as a very large stack of shredded fodder won't keep as well.

Don't tramp the fodder any more than you can possibly help after it is thrashed or shredded, as it is more liable to heat and spoil, the more solid it is packed.

Don't put shredded or thrashed fodder in a tight bin, or it will surely spoil. It is partly full of horse hay, as it fills the hay with dirt more than it would if a carrier were used.

Don't put any quantity of shelled corn as it comes from the machine into a tight bin, or it will surely spoil. Rather spread it thin on a large floor so it may be shoveled over and aired. And last, but not least, don't let the corn stand in the shock till winter, so you will have to shovel it out of the ground and chop it loose from the shock. These don'ts all save dollars in handling corn.

SHABBY FARMING. About the shabbiest piece of farming I have seen in many a day was a rye field, where the corn stalks from last year's crop were standing. The owner was trying to cut that rye, and the trouble he had with the stalks will keep him in ugly temper for a long time of the season. But the season has been a good one, even if it was costly. I will venture that the next time that man sows rye in standing corn he will get the stalks down before harvest time.

Brother Clarke finds his discouragements among his bees and we have ours in the poultry business. We keep a few bees as well and find what he says is true. Our bees have loaded a good deal this spring.

Russian officers in camp receive money to pay for their mail, but in many cases they keep this for other purposes, and eat with the common soldiers.

Tired of bad treatment, the nursing sister employed at San Isabel, in the event on strike, wrecked one of the wings of a hospital and made a bonfire of the medical supplies.

There's a reason. Read the little book, "The Road to Wellville," in every pkg.