

# GREAT LOVE STORIES OF HISTORY

By ALBERT PAYSON TERHUNE

## ARTHUR AND GUINEVERE

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"She was the finest woman in the universe. Her stature was noble and elegant, her complexion fair and her eyes the fairest blue of the heavens."

Thus one chronicler describes the Princess Guinevere, daughter of the old Celtic king, Leodegrance. Much of her story and Arthur's is so shrouded in legend that the actual facts are hard to determine. Here is the tale as it is generally accepted:

Arthur, a Celtic prince, was spirited away in childhood by loyal servants to save him from assassination. When he reached manhood he was made known to the people and (about 500 A. D.) became king of part of Britain. He found the country in terrible condition. Poverty stalked abroad. The wilderness had swallowed up most of the farmland; robbers and cruel barons oppressed the poor. Arthur set out to remedy all this. To aid him in the task he gathered about him a

band of nobles known as the Knights of the Round Table. "Knights of the Round Table," who were sworn to redress wrongs, help the needy, protect women and lead upright lives. So well did Arthur govern and so ably did his knights aid him that soon the kingdom was prosperous and safe.

The bravest of the Knights of the Round Table was Sir Lancelot of the Lake. Arthur and Lancelot were as brothers in their affection for one another. The king saw and fell in love with the beautiful Guinevere. Being detained at home by affairs of state, he did not go to her father's court to woo her in person, but chose Lancelot as his messenger.

Now, Lancelot set forth for the castle of King Leodegrance with every idea of fulfilling his royal master's commands. But at first sight of Guinevere's loveliness he wholly lost his head. From that moment he blindly adored her. Honor, loyalty, his knightly vows—all were swept away in that mighty tide of love. He could scarce bring himself to plead Arthur's suit instead of his own. Guinevere, on her part, mistook the handsome stranger at first for Arthur and rejoiced at the thought that she was to become

his bride. Learning the truth, she was inconsolable. But the welfare of the kingdom compelled the two lovers to set aside their own wishes. Guinevere sadly accompanied Lancelot back to Arthur's palace at Camelot and there wedded the unsuspecting monarch.

But she and Lancelot could not forget each other. Lancelot absented himself for long intervals from the court in order to drive Guinevere from his memory; and the queen sought to rule wisely at Arthur's side. But, at last, whispers of her concealed love for Lancelot were breathed abroad. The Knights of the Round Table suspected of it. Since the bravest of their number could so far forget his loyalty as to dare lift his eyes to the queen, the rest began little by little to lose the exalted ideas that had made the Round Table so terrible a menace to evil doers.

Last of all, Arthur himself learned of the affair. He was horrified; for his own simple loyalty could not grasp the idea that his wife and his dearest friend could have

kept such a secret from him. Lancelot withdrew from court, and Arthur's advisers persuaded the king to make war on him. Then it was that Sir Modred, Arthur's treacherous nephew, who hated the king and his reforms, saw that the time was ripe for rebellion. He headed a revolution against his uncle, and the once peaceful land was plunged once more into the horrors of warfare. Arthur freely forgave Guinevere and rode forth at the head of his knights to repel Modred's invasion. In a great battle near Bath, England, in 520 the two armies met. Arthur was victorious and Modred was slain. But Arthur received a death wound during the last charge. The kingdom and the reforms he had so wisely built up crumbled to pieces at his death—destroyed by one woman's lack of loyalty.

Guinevere, heartbroken, retired to a convent; while Lancelot put aside his armor for a monk's gown and ended his days as a holy hermit, praying for the repose of blameless King Arthur's soul.

## THE CID AND XIMENA

A Castilian grandee, De Bivar by name, in the latter half of the eleventh century was slain by the count of Oviedo. De Bivar had one son, Rodrigo Diaz, a fiery youth, destined to become the national hero of Spain. Like many another such hero of olden times, his real exploits have become so tangled with legendary feats that it is hard to separate the two. Here is his love story, as told in Spanish chronicle and song:

To avenge his murdered father, young Rodrigo sought out the count of Oviedo and challenged him to mortal combat. The challenge was accepted. The two fought with swords and Oviedo was slain. Rodrigo had but obeyed the customs of his time in avenging his father's death. He considered the affair now at an end. But Oviedo's daughter, the beautiful Ximena, rushed to the king of Castile, demanding justice and begging that her father's slayer be put to death by torture.

According to some accounts, Rodrigo had already seen Ximena and (though unknown to her) had lost his heart to the lovely girl. Thus it had been a bitter grief

to him when filial devotion forced him to kill Oviedo and by that deed to raise so fearful a barrier between himself and the woman he loved. In any case, Ximena clamored for his execution. He was seized and brought before the judgment seat of the king to face his fair accuser.

But at sight of the handsome youth Ximena suddenly lost all longing for his punishment. She withdrew her plea that he be slain, and he was accordingly set at liberty upon his explanation that the killing of Oviedo had not been a murder, but a matter of fair fight and an act of vengeance for the death of Rodrigo's own father.

Ximena could not forget the gallant young man. When she saw he was equally attracted by her own charms, she so far set aside her former hatred as to come again to the king and ask that her hand be given in marriage to Rodrigo. The youth eagerly assented to the plan, which was to change his recent enemy to his wife.

"For the father of whom I deprived you," he said, "I offer you a husband."

The two were accordingly married. But their wedded life was destined to run far from smoothly. Spain was split up into several minor kingdoms. Most of them were more or less frequently at war with one another. There were also many thousand Moors in the country. These controlled cities and whole districts and were nearly as powerful as the Spaniards, with whom they often clashed. Rodrigo, in the service of King Alfonso of Castile, won for himself by bravery the titles of "The Lord" and "El Campeador" ("The Lord" and "The Conqueror") and became the foremost general of the day. A political clique contrived his exile from Castile. Then his true career began.

Gathering about him a "free lance"

army, the Cid offered his services first to one Spanish monarch, then to another. He sided with Christian or Mahometan alike; burned either churches or mosques, sacked Spanish or Moorish towns. His sword and his army were at the call of the highest bidder. His warlike deeds were in every mouth. In short, he became a wholesale freebooter.

At length he conquered a goodly district in Spain and set up a kingdom on his own account, ruling with Ximena, who seems to have remained faithful through all the years of hardship and disaster. His "kingdom" included nearly all of Valencia and Murcia. Here for a time he ruled wisely and with surprising gentleness. But he was growing old. When some of his former victims took up arms against him, in 1099, he did not go to battle himself, but sent a trusted lieutenant to lead his forces. This lieutenant was beaten. The disgrace of defeat threw old Rodrigo into a fit of rage, from which he died.

Ximena for two years defended Valencia against the foe, proving herself a brilliant commander. At length, when force of numbers compelled her to flee, she carried to safety with her the body of her hero-husband, in whose memory she had waged so valiant a war against hopeless odds.

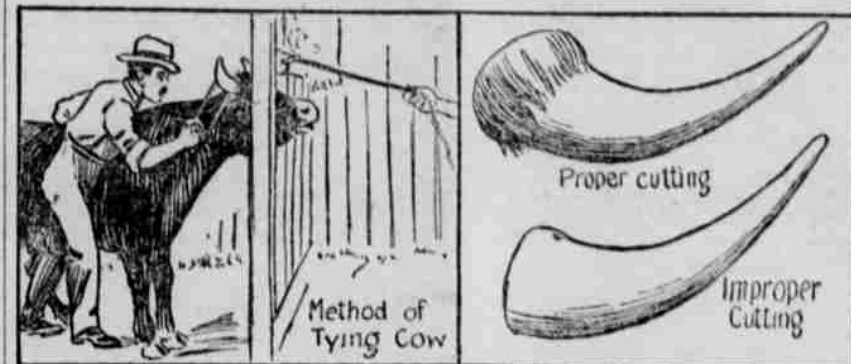
Uncle Sam's Human Hinges. In other cities the doors of public buildings are set on springs and slap to and fro as the visitor wills, but in Washington it appears necessary to have a special man to open and close the doors—human hinges as it were—no undignified banging of doors there; this custom has died out in other places, but there are many veteran negroes in Washington who have seen years of such service for the government; they have a stately way of performing this office, which gives a door an official and unofficial swing.—National Magazine.

Use of Flowers for Food. An interesting development of the use of flowers for food is recorded in the daily papers, says the London Globe. The use of the candied petals of the violet as a sweetmeat has long been known, but the practice is now arising of preserving flowers whole. You may now buy a bunch, say of violets, for your buttonhole, and afterward eat them. As a matter of fact, a number of flowers are habitually eaten. Cloves, capers, cauliflowers and artichokes are all flowers, or parts of flowers, before the blossoms have expanded.

Immense Electrical Plants. The two Waterside stations of the New York Edison Company, in First avenue, between Thirty-eighth and Thirty-ninth streets, New York City, are said to make, together, the largest electric light and power plant in the world, capable of supplying 500,000 horsepower of electrical installation.

## DEHORNING OF CATTLE IS EASILY PERFORMED

Satisfactorily Done Without Other Apparatus or Instruments Than Strong Clothes-Line and a Sharp Meat Saw.



Method of Dehorning.

The dehorning of cattle can be very satisfactorily performed without other apparatus or instruments than a good strong clothesline and a sharp meat saw, or miter saw with a rigid back. The method of controlling the animal with the clothesline is shown in one of the illustrations. The heavy line is passed around the upper part of the neck and tied in a knot that will not slip, otherwise it will choke the animal. The free end of the rope is carried between the horns, through the stanchion to the front, up over the horizontal stanchion rail, then down underneath the neck and up over the top of the stanchion rail to an assistant, who should hold it firmly. The stanchion is then opened, allowing the animal to withdraw its head, and the rope held tightly is passed once around the muzzle, up over the stanchion rail and through to the front again to the hands of the assistant. This effectually restrains the animal and the dehorning operation can be commenced. If the stanchion rail is too wide to permit of properly securing the lower part as well as the upper part of the animal's head, the turn

of the rope round the muzzle may be omitted and the last lap of the rope carried around the stanchion rail to the front and to the hands of the assistant. Care should be taken that the rope pass each time over the neck of the animal between the horns in such a way as not to interfere with the work of the saw. The rope must be held by an assistant instead of being tied, so that should the animal throw itself off its feet during the operation it can be promptly slackened. This, however, is rarely necessary, for as soon as the head is secured, the operator should be ready, standing at the right shoulder of the animal, to saw off first the right and then the left horn.

The horn should be severed from a quarter to half an inch below where the skin joins the base of the horn, cutting from the back toward the front. If the cut is made too high, an irregular, gnarly growth of horn is very apt to follow.

The worry, pain and cruelty often inflicted by cattle upon their mates before being deprived of their horns is much more to be considered than the pain of the dehorning operation.

## WEEDS SHOW SOIL FERTILITY

Cause the Farmers Greater Loss Than Any Other Factor by Reducing Yields—By Harry Snyder.

The weed crop indicates the condition of the soil as to fertility and previous methods of farming, and is indeed an index of the farming that has been practiced. Where grain crops have been grown extensively, weeds, as mustard and wild oats, take such firm possession of the land as to seriously decrease both the yield and quality of the grain. Where crops have been rotated and the conditions have been less favorable for the development of weeds, larger yields have been secured.

Weeds take from the soil a much larger amount of fertility than is generally conceded. A light grain crop and a heavier weed crop remove from the soil more fertility than a heavy grain crop. The stronger feeding powers of weeds enable them to secure from the soil plant food which would otherwise go to the support of grain crops, the weak feeding cereals being unable to compete with the strong feeding weeds. The best use that can be made of a weed crop, is to plow it under for green manure and make it produce humus, of which many of our soils stand much in need. In this way weeds can be made to add fertility to the land through the indirect action of the vegetable matter upon the soil.

At the Minnesota experiment station analyses have been made of many of the more common weeds and it was shown that in some grain fields from 20 to 40 pounds and more of nitrogen, 15 to 25 pounds of phosphoric acid and 30 to 50 pounds of potash had been removed from an acre of land by the weeds. This is as much as is removed in a grain crop. The produc-

tion of weeds is a heavier draft upon the land than the production of heavy grain crops. A weedy farm will get out of condition and run down in fertility faster than a farm that is thoroughly cultivated and upon which large crops are produced.

Ventilating Stables. Horses and cows are in the stable at night for rest. When the weather is warm the atmosphere in close confinement becomes very warm and oppressive, so much so that the animals become very uncomfortable and hence fail to get proper rest. The horse that does not get proper rest is not in a good condition for heavy work the following day, and the cow that does not sleep in a cool, restful place in hot weather will not give a full flow of milk. The temperature of the working or producing animal must be kept normal to give the best results. If there are no windows in your stables, cut out a number now and let light and fresh air come for the health and comfort of the animals.

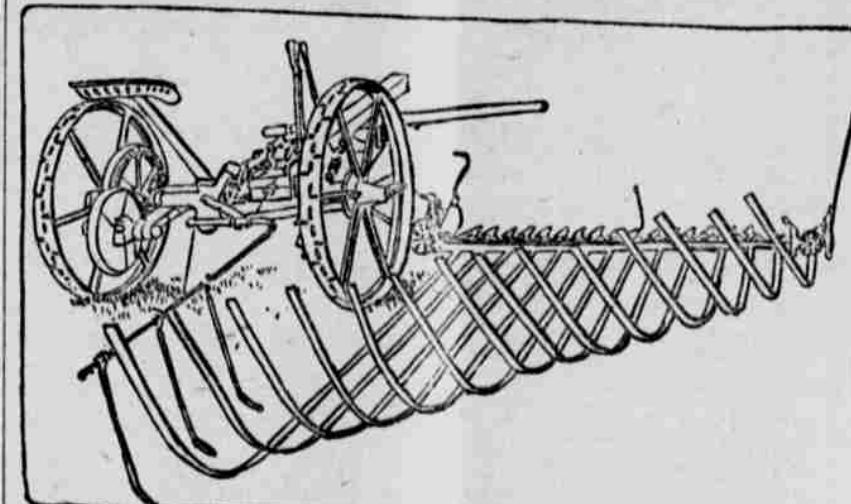
Sheep Need Good Care in Fall. If the sheep are left out in the chilly fall rains, coughs and colds may result.

Many an otherwise good shepherd forgets that his sheep relish salt in winter the same as in any other season.

Market some of the older sheep, and retain part of the choice lambs for the improvement of your own flock. The best in your flock will be none too good. A poor sheep is as difficult to shape up and fatten as any other poor farm animal. Furnish plenty of proper rations and start the sheep through the winter in good shape. It will pay.

Sheep on Farm. Farming conditions would be improved if more sheep were kept, as they help to exterminate weeds. But dogs and other objectionable features appear to have driven sheep from most of our farms.

## BUNCHING AND LAYING CLOVER



A Clover Buncher.

Clover seed will be a high, light crop this year owing to the dry weather. Good heavy seed will be scarce and high in price next year. Those having a good stand of clover that will yield one bushel of seed to the acre would do well to save it. One hundred pounds of plaster spread to the acre will be a help in increasing the growth of the clover. Those having a mowing machine and a reaper platform can easily and cheaply save the seed. A light platform of

sheet iron may be made to fit the mower. Bolt the platform to the cutter bar, letting the rear end drag on the ground. A man should walk behind the mower with rake to draw the clover on the platform and when full it is pulled off into windrows.

If there is a large growth of clover and little seed, cut when seed is hard and cure as for hay.

The illustration shows a finger-like attachment for bunching and laying the clover out of the way of the horses.

## Pretty Tea Gowns



The gown on the left is a charming model of white Ninon and a quantity of white lace. The gown is made up over a closely fitted slip of pale pink satin. A large rose trims the bodice at the front, and there are touches of pale rose velvet ribbon here and there. The gown on the right is a pale green satin, with lace overdress.

### IN FASHION'S LATEST WHIM

Handsome Gown That Would Make Up Handsomely in a Dove Gray Cashmere.

Dove gray cashmere would make up charmingly in this style; a panel is made from shoulders to hem in front, and at the back it is continued as far as the yoke, which is arranged at the top of sides of skirt; the lower part of skirt is plaited and set to yoke, the plaits being stitched down about six inches. Russia braid put on in a

### ALL HAVE THREAD OF BLACK

Season's Materials Marked with This Peculiar and Extremely Effective Touch.

One of the odd and effective touches of the season materials is to weave a heavy thread of black through everything. This idea is evolved from homespun, the imported variety that has that flickering black or gray thread playing hide and seek over the surface.

The new dull red basket cloth, which is the color of grapes, and is to be quite fashionable, has this thread of black looping in and out of the weave. Smart top coats for autumn wear outside of the city are of white cloth, with a black thread through it. A suit or coat of this rough cloth with a black thread is naturally trimmed in black. It looks as though we were coming in for a big season of black—hats, gowns, wraps and accessories.

One hears more of the all black gown in the dressmaking houses than for years past. It is not now advised for economy's sake, but for fashion. All materials contribute to it. It is to be worn for the street, for the house, and quite a good bit for the evening. There is no hint of color being combined with it, but always a touch of white.

Smart house gowns of black have yoke and sleeves of pin-tucked white tulle and then touches of faceted jet.

The top coat of black in fur moire or cloth is highly fashionable and the epidemic of black hats is in full sway.

Conservative women feel they are getting their feet on firm ground again when black and white is in first style. They have been pretty much buffeted by sartorial breakers recently and they are quite relieved to be safe again.

### The Despised Flannel Skirt.

It is actually worn again.

It is fitted as carefully as a princess frock.

It is warranted not to "bunch."

The latest is a silk skirt lined with flannel.

This gives warmth, and keeps the flannel from riding up when rubbed against an outer skirt.

The plain flannel skirt is often made with a carefully fitted hip yoke.

Again it is completely circular, fitted over the hips and with fullness around the knees.

The most usual finish around the bottom is scallops, heavily padded and worked in buttonhole stitch, or crocheted lace.

### The New Hat Pins.

The arts and crafts are steadily making their way into all channels of decoration. All this work goes especially well with the Byzantine and Moyn age, through which we are passing. Their newest contribution to feminine apparel is the hat pin.

These are quite popular. They are made with squares or circles, of a greenish bronze, decorated with quaint symbols.

### Canadian Work.

Flax cloth is a curious homespun made in Canada by the women of the country districts. Their city cousins have converted it into attractive fancy pieces for household decoration.

It is darned with a fleecy wool for bedspreads, tablecovers and hangings,

