

The CONVICT COUNTRY: or FIGHTING for a MILLION

BY CHARLES MORRIS BUTLER
Author of "The Revenge of Pierre," "A Tenement Tragedy," "Anita," etc.

Copyright, 1905, by Charles Morris Butler.

CHAPTER VII.

The Silk Robbery.

"Show Mr. Regan in," said the bank president. Regan was admitted. He looked surprised to see Lang.

"What can I do for you?" asked the banker.

"I had lost track of Mr. Smith," replied the detective composedly.

"You are looking for Mr. Smith, then?"

"I am keeping the young man in view."

"Why so?" asked the chief, and the answer to the question gave Louis the key to the situation.

"I am aware that Mr. Smith was to receive a large sum of money from this bank, and it is my business to keep him under my protection," was the bold reply.

"Then you are aware of the draft being drawn?"

"Certainly!" was the decided answer. "An order from Jim Denver on this bank for \$10,000."

"While not exactly afraid that the note was a forgery," said the banker, "we thought it best to send for Mr. Denver."

"That was not necessary," replied Regan, turning a little pale as the possibility of having got himself into an unnecessary scrape stared him in the face. "I can vouch for Mr. Smith."

At one time Regan had been detailed to service at the bank, so was well-known by its officers. Besides this, Denver and Regan had often been seen in the bank together when the former had transacted business with the bank.

"Very well, officer," said the president, relieved, and seeing a loophole to let himself out. "I did feel as if we should not pay it, but in view of the changed circumstances of the case now, we will pay it."

Both Regan and Lang breathed easier. Regan was a designing, if not a bold rascal. His assistance to Lang was not given of his own accord. In describing Lang to Golden, it was necessary to tell about Louis' scheme for "raising" the \$10,000 and Golden had placed Regan on watch to guard against failure, and possible treachery on Louis' part. Knowing that Louis' failure would mean his own

ing, among them fourteen women and four men bound for the extreme northwest.

But the four incidents narrated concerned the same people. On this emigrant train were the perpetrators of these crimes, as were also Jim Denver and several people of whom we have very little knowledge, but who will enter our story at a later period.

The particular car we have interest in, is occupied, as all emigrant trains are, by a motley assortment of people, twenty nationalities represented sometimes; some of the men smoking, others drinking, others eating, yet a few walking up and down the aisles stretching their weary limbs, while some were grouped conversing. The group to which we call particular attention, occupies one half of one side of a car—the fourteen women and four men mentioned above.

The women of the Golden party formed a motley group. There were six large, strapping German women, new arrivals in this country, who had hired themselves out as farm domestics to, as they thought, as many different farmers. Unknown to themselves they were placing themselves in the power of the secret society represented by Golden.

Besides these innocent victims there are eight women of unsavory reputation who have deliberately sold themselves in marriage to as many unknown male outcasts of society. A hardened and depraved lot, yet innocent of their true destination. This made up the gang who were on their way to the convicts' stronghold.

We will leave them speeding on their way and introduce the readers to a few important incidents being enacted many hundreds of miles away—things that we will be pleased to understand more fully in order to become thoroughly familiar with all things pertaining to the Convict Country.

CHAPTER VIII.

Introducing a Few Prominent Characters.

"You have made my life a hell! I will make you suffer the tortures of the damned when I am free!" These words were spoken by Dr.

depreations to such an alarming extent in the neighborhood, that a vigilance committee had been organized to preserve the peace and protect the village from devastation. The robbers had been fired upon by the regulators and one of the bandits had been wounded. It was to obtain medical aid that Pearson came to town.

"I have called," Sam said, "to request your attendance upon a sick comrade."

The doctor invited his unwelcome visitor into his office. "Your comrade, who is he?" he asked in an agitated voice.

"Well, you see he is one of the 'boys' who got plugged by the 'rigs' last night."

"And you ask me to attend him?"

"Who else, my dear doctor?" was the satisfied reply.

"I refuse!" exclaimed the doctor, hoping that he could bluff the man—that he had not been recognized.

"Refuse!" hissed the man, "refuse, and I brand you to the world for what you are, a man who has 'done time'!"

The doctor bowed his head in shame. The bolt from a clear sky took every grain of fight from him.

"What guarantee have I, if I place myself in your power, that you will not expose me?"

"Oh, you will be left free, with your 'spotless reputation' unsullied by the taint of crime, if you do your part, which is to save the life of the wounded man. Besides, you will be rewarded with money."

It was not a hard matter to persuade Dr. Schiller to agree to do the work. Deeming himself helpless, he put as gracious a face on the matter as possible. "I accept," he said.

"I thought you would, my dear doctor, when you came to your senses," said Pearson. According to instructions, the doctor dressed for his journey; taking his instrument case, he was assisted to a seat in a farmer's wagon already occupied by a driver and a man by the name of Kyme.

The doctor was using his eyes, as he thought, to good advantage. But Pearson and Kyme were too old birds to be caught in such a trap. Before the team entered a forest through which they had to drive, Kyme said to his companion: "Addent we better bind the hies of 'is nibs'?"

"It will be as well," replied Pearson, taking his neckcloth from his neck.

"We will have to bind you, Doc."

"Why this precaution?" asked the doctor. "You are not afraid that I will give away your haunts, are you?"

(To be continued.)

MOUNTAIN LION AND ELK.

Duel to the Death, the Huge Cat Proving the Victor.

The lion quickly moved to the side of the fleeing quarry, and taking him on the shoulder and breast with his forepaws, embedded his terrible teeth in the throat of the elk. The elk gave a stifled cry of pain and rage as he attempted to trample the enemy down. They were now coming uncomfortably close. The elk had swayed in his course and staggered from the path. With one mighty effort he tried to dislodge the lion by swinging his head up and down and striking with his fore feet, but his fate was sealed. As well might a rabbit expect to escape the eagle when once in its talons as this monster elk to defeat his terrible foe.

The great beast staggered laterally and fell, his shoulders bearing down the lion's haunches and hind legs, causing it to relax its death grip to pull itself from under the elk, which made a rallying effort and regained its feet. Once more the lion succeeded in fastening its teeth in the flesh of the elk, this time on the top of the neck, and the elk made a last feeble lurch forward and fell within ten feet of me.

The elk seemed to fall forward more from pain than from weight of the foe; whereupon the lion doubled itself up, resting both fore and hind feet on the elk's neck on either side of the lion's mouth, then the hind feet were pressed against the neck, embedding the claws deep into the elk's flesh, and, with a mighty effort the great cat not only broke the neck, but literally cut it half in two. The large, white sinew of the neck was severed by the lion's teeth and pulled loose from the head.

The elk then rolled over on its side and the lion began to lap the blood as it spurted from the great gap at the top of the throat.

TEETH NOT BONES AT ALL.

They Are in Fact a Part of the Skin, Says Professor Thompson.

Prof. E. Symes Thompson, Gresham professor of medicine, in the course of an address at the Polytechnic, Regent street, London, on "The Evolution and Degeneration of the Teeth," remarked that while the bones of man and animals had decayed greatly during the last 6,000 or 7,000 years, the teeth had been preserved in a much better condition.

Teeth were not part of bones, but part of the skin—they were, in fact, dermal appendages. Old people were surprised to find that when the teeth of the lower jaw departed there was very little of the jaw left. This produced what was called the nut-cracker physiognomy. Referring to the fact that the crocodile had an animated toothpick in the form of a bird, which removed foreign matter, the lecturer enforced the lesson of the necessity of attending carefully to the cleansing of the teeth and recommended attention to them at night as being more important than in the morning.

Trains for Irish Trip.

Noting that in a speech at Southport Marshall Hall, M. P., had begun by saying: "If I had two houses equally good, and one was a little better than the other," the London Standard remarks: "Mr. Hall leaves for Ireland to-day."

Resigned.

"I understand the old man has given Blithers a week's notice, and is going to fire him Saturday. He doesn't seem to be worrying though."

"Oh, no! I overheard him telling some of the other clerks that he's resigned."—Detroit Tribune.



Young girl's frock of white mull, embroidered in openwork eyelet fashion. The skirt opens at the bottom in points over a deep Valenciennes flounce.

Young girl's costume of cream colored Rajah silk, braided with scarlet soutache in Greek key designs. Matron's costume of white crepe, embroidered in black and topped by a black lace coat.

In White Pique.

Pique is again in demand for white suits, and also a cotton Sicilian, which is especially pretty in colors. Both of these fabrics are of the weight which is better made either with a long coat or the universal short jacket rather than a shirt waist. A tendency is shown to get away from the kilt in making these heavier weight skirts, and a four-gored pattern with a seam in front, finished with three graduated bands at the bottom, is excellent. A suit of white pique has the skirt made in this way with an extremely short jacket bordered all round with heavy insertion of Irish point. It was worn over a white waist and finished with two square tabs of black silk buttoning back over the fronts with large white linen medallions, into which were threaded touches of yellow embroidery. The wherefore of this touch of black was the deep black silk girdle which was effectively worn under the jacket.

Rhubarb Cake is Good.

Stew a bunch of green rhubarb till soft, then beat it smooth with a fork, draining all the syrup away. Add to the pulp the juice of two lemons, grated rind of one orange, grated rind of one lemon, a little nutmeg, sugar to taste and three well beaten eggs. Have a pie plate lined with good pastry, pour in the mixture. Bake in a moderate oven for three-quarters of an hour. Cool and put some whipped and sweetened cream through a forcing bag on the top.

Walking Costume of Striped Wool.

The skirt is made with bias breadths in front and back, which form inverted plaits. It is finished at



the bottom with two bias-shaped ruffles, or bands of the material.

The half-fitted jacket has a yoke of the material and the fronts are turned back to form revers. The turn-over collar and cuffs are of white pique, embroidered.

Apple Trifle.

Pare, core and stew with sugar and lemon peel, two pounds of apples, and cook till quite soft. Cut some sponge-cakes in slices and arrange them in a pie dish.

Then spread a layer of the apple mixture, more sponge cake and so on till all is used up. Make a pint of thick custard and pour over the trifle.

Beat up the white of an egg till stiff and pile onto the custard, and lightly brown in the oven. Place a pie collar around the dish when serving. This sweet is equally good hot or cold.

Wash Materials.

The wash materials are unusually attractive this year and the multitude of diaphanous stuffs are not intended for tubing is a triumph for the designers and manufacturers. Batiste is a special favorite and one gown is a dainty white frock in this material, lined with a light banana yellow, or

rather worn over a slip of banana yellow dull finish silk, veiled in silk mousseline of the same shade. The bodice has a surplice front made of two embroidered batiste ruffles and a band of embroidered insertion runs from neck to bust line. The elbow sleeves are finished with a double flounce matching those on waist. With this costume is worn a deep girdle in messaline ribbon of three shades of yellow and three shades of light green, toning in harmoniously with the yellow.

Wear Raincoats.

It is seldom that any one style of wrap has become so extremely popular as the loose rain coat of blue silk that so many wear this spring. One woman has a wonderfully voluminous one she always wears with a costume of dull blue cloth and a hat to match. A north side matron wears one while in her automobile or driving, of dark blue rainproof satin, with a little blue hat to harmonize with the coat. That hat, by the way, gave the distinguishing touch to a costume that otherwise might have been thoroughly commonplace. The brim was turned up at one side, and just under this there nestled a bunch of bright pink roses that were put there by some one who knew what was just the right thing.

Some Pretty Conceits.

Mousseline de soie is one of the most beautiful of fabrics. An exquisite model of pink mousseline de soie has a skirt trimmed with puffs headed with rows of slightly ruffled satin ribbon. There is a Louis XV. habit of Irish lace embroidered heavily in shades of pink, and about the neck is a chain of pink velvet ribbon knotted on the bias with several loops. These lace coats will be much worn during the coming season. In fact, Irish lace will continue to be fashionable and it will be much employed for trimming. Delicate valenciennes lace is equally prominent, and there will be a great deal of white cotton embroidery used to trim white or cashmere frocks. Modistes have found that English embroidery is effectively used as a trimming on all woolen stuffs.

For the Younger Members.

The point d'esprit gowns are pretty when trimmed with the white satin baby ribbon, but these do not lander quite as well as do the lawns, dimities and other wash materials. Some of the sweetest of summer frocks for young girls and misses. One, in a lacy blue dimity, is made with a gathered skirt which is full about the bottom and shows three broad tucks above the hem. The baby waist is shirred into the belt and has a shallow yoke of fine white embroidery in a very open pattern. The sleeves are elbow length and are quite full, ending in dimity ruffles edged with lace.

Chic Effects are Done in Linen.

All colors are more or less fashionable in linen, and the new shades in blue, pink and lavender are all in great demand. In these three colors all tones are effective, from the palest to the most vivid and decided; but the more unusual the shade the better.

Very effective are the real and also the imitation lace jackets, both long and short, which are worn with linen gowns as well as with more elaborate costumes. If possible the dress should be trimmed with lace to match the coat, but this is not really necessary, and the one jacket may be worn with a variety of gowns.

There is no definite style for this lace coat, for the bolero, although not so expensive as the Louis XVI., is almost as desirable. Any costume would be effective if adorned with a real lace coat, but the gown itself should be in keeping with so rare and expensive a garment.

Deviled Tomatoes.

Deviled tomatoes are broiled quickly. Slice the tomatoes in thick slices, leaving the skin on to hold them together. Heat and grease the broiler, lay on the tomatoes well salted and peppered. Arrange on a dish, and pour over them a sauce made by heating together two tablespoons of olive oil, saltspoon of mustard, a dash of cayenne, half a teaspoonful of sugar and three tablespoons of vinegar.

Simplified Mayonnaise.

The old, laborious drop by drop process of making mayonnaise dressing has been superseded by the method described below. It will be a boon to lovers of salad. In a bowl mix one-

half teaspoonful of salt, a dash of paprika and the raw yolks of two fresh eggs; then beat in two tablespoonsful each of vinegar and lemon juice; add about one and one-half cupsful of olive oil, one teaspoonful or more at a time, beating it in with an egg beater. By adding all the acid before the oil and using a good egg beater the danger of curdling is eliminated and the oil can be added in generous quantities from the start.—Woman's Home Companion.

Meat and Potato Pie.

Cut the meat into small pieces, removing the fat, and put in a baking dish. To two pounds of meat add a cup of stock or pot liquor. Cut one onion or two eschalots in slices, fry a light brown and mix with the meat; add salt and pepper to taste. Boil two pounds of potatoes, wash them, adding two ounces of butter and a cup of milk, salt to taste, and the beaten yolk of an egg. Cover the meat with this potato paste, raising the crust above the edge of the dish. Mark the surface across diamond shape with back of knife, or score with a large fork or skewer. Put dish in the oven and let the crust bake a nice brown, then serve.

The Polo Trousers.

Milliners look with displeasure upon the dinky polo hats that most women are wearing this spring, because they are so simple and easy to make. Almost any woman who can handle a needle can make one for herself at an actual expense of 50 cents. But by the time this is discovered the wily arbiters of fashion will have invented some new atrocity in headgear and thus be avenged.

Pretty Idea for House Wear.

An attractive morning gown and one which can be slipped into at a moment's notice is shown in the accompanying sketch. Flowered challis, al-



batross, flannelette or dimity are all inexpensive and well suited for a garment of this description, as they fall in soft-clinging folds and bring out every graceful line. Rows of black velvet trim the yoke, collar and cuffs, giving a needed tone to the otherwise plain gown. If one desires, a Dutch round neck and three-quarter length sleeves may be used.

Pretty Effect in Bedspread.

Among the new bed covers of linen are seen beautiful effects in lace inserts and borders. One particularly handsome design was hemstitched to a depth of ten inches and six-inch Cluny insertion was then used as a border upon the hem. The linen was cut away beneath and the effect was very rich and graceful.

Banana Pudding.

Slice three bananas into a buttered pie dish, sprinkle with sugar, and pour over a batter made with one-half pound of flour, one egg and rather more than half a pint of water. Place a few pieces of butter on top and bake to a golden brown in a hot oven for three-quarters of an hour. Sprinkle with sugar and serve hot.

Picturesque Cape Arrives.

Among little summer wraps, none are more popular than the cape which is springing up in all sorts of fantastic little shapes.

A pretty shawl-shaped cape, cut so that the points come to the top of the girdle at the front and nearly to the elbows, over the arms, is of pale tapestry blue cloth. Its only decoration is a velvet collar worked in Watteau pattern and colors and long tassels at each corner. These little cloth capes are made to match silk gowns. Silk capes are also worn with cloth gowns.

ALL DONE OUT.

Veteran Joshua Heller, of 706 South Walnut Street, Urbana, Ill., says: "In the fall of 1899 after taking Doan's Kidney Pills I told the readers of this paper that they had relieved me of kidney trouble, disposed of a lame back with pain across my loins and beneath the shoulder blades. During the interval which has elapsed I have had occasion to resort to Doan's Kidney Pills when I noticed warnings of an attack. On each and every occasion the results obtained were just as satisfactory as when the pills were first brought to my notice. I just as emphatically endorse the preparation to-day as I did over two years ago."

Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y., proprietors. For sale by all druggists, price 50 cents per box.

QUIT—

Saying that fate is against you. Finding fault with the weather. Anticipating evils in the future. Pretending, and be your real-self. Going around with a gloomy face. Faultfinding, nagging and worrying. Talking big things and doing small ones.

Taking offense where none is intended.

Dwelling on fancied slights and wrongs.

Boasting of what you can do instead of doing it.

Scolding and flying into a passion over trifles.

Thinking that life is a grind and not worth living.

Talking continually about yourself and your affairs.

Exaggerating, and making mountains out of molehills.

Pitying yourself and bemoaning your lack of opportunities.

Depreciating yourself and in making light of your abilities.

Saying unkind things about acquaintances and friends.

Lamenting the past, holding on to disagreeable experiences.

Comparing yourself with others to your own disadvantage.

Work once in a while and take time to renew your energies.

Waiting round for chances to turn up. Go and turn them up.—Orison Sweet Marden in "Success Magazine."

BY THE GENTLE CYNIC.

The fellow who marries for money sometimes buys a gold brick.

The fools are not all dead. In fact a lot of them haven't been born.

Joy cometh in the morning—unless you're being making a night of it.

It's a mistake to marry too young, out it's a mistake that isn't repeated.

A woman is never quite happy with a man who refuses to argue with her.

Many an unsuccessful man would rather preserve his dignity than hustle.

It is better to have too little confidence in yourself than too much in others.

To indulge in the things we can't afford is the average man's idea of pleasure.

VAGARIES.

It's hard to tell which is the most exciting—a country "literary" or a game of indoor baseball.

If there is one time more than another when we long to do bodily injury it is when we hear a little 12-year-old snip speak of love.

It's pretty hard for the rock-ribbed old Democrat who named his son after Andy Jackson, to see the young fellow walk up and vote the Republican ticket.

Competition is the life of trade, but the lack of it hasn't caused the demise of Rockefeller's oil trade.—Detroit Tribune.

FOOD IN SERMONS.

Feed the Dominie Right and the Sermons are Brilliant.

A conscientious, hard-working and eminently successful clergyman writes: "I am glad to bear testimony to the pleasure and increased measure of efficiency and health that have come to me from adopting Grape-Nuts food as one of my articles of diet."

"For several years I was much distressed during the early part of each day by indigestion. My breakfast, usually consisting of oatmeal, milk and eggs, seemed to turn sour and failed to digest. After dinner the headache and other symptoms following the breakfast would wear away, only to return, however, next morning."

"Having heard of Grape-Nuts food, I finally concluded to give it a fair trial. I quit the use of oatmeal and eggs, and made my breakfasts of Grape-Nuts, cream, toast and Postum. The result was surprising in improved health and total absence of the distress that had, for so long a time, followed the morning meal. My digestion became once more satisfactory, the headaches ceased, and the old feeling of energy returned. Since that time, four years ago, I have always had Grape-Nuts food on my breakfast table."

"I was delighted to find also, that whereas before I began to use Grape-Nuts food I was quite nervous and became easily wearied in the work of preparing sermons and in study, a marked improvement in this respect resulted from the change in my diet. I am convinced that Grape-Nuts food produced this result and helped me to a sturdy condition of mental and physical strength."

"I have known of several persons who were formerly troubled as I was, and who have been helped as I have been, by the use of Grape-Nuts food, on my recommendation, among whom may be mentioned the Rev. _____, now a missionary to China." Name given by Postum Company, Battle Creek, Mich.

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