

The CONVICT COUNTRY: OR FIGHTING FOR A MILLION

BY CHARLES MORRIS BUTLER
Author of "The Revenge of Pierre," "A Tempest Tossed," "Hills," etc.
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CHAPTER XIV.

The Attempt to Assassinate Golden.
When the party camped for the night, Lang separated from Golden and made himself useful helping the women folks prepare supper.

Pondering on the events of the night before, and on the conversation that he had had with Golden, Lang came to the conclusion, which was the just one, that Golden had a reason for quizzing him, beyond the mere fact of desiring to enlighten him about the Convict City.

Golden had been recalled to the city; this might mean much or little. It might mean that the old man's labors had been appreciated and that he was to be finally rewarded; or it might mean that something was transpiring among the people which made his presence necessary; or it might be that he was to be punished for some miscarriage of their plans. The fear of the latter made Golden ill at ease.

The night was slowly drawing to a close. Quiet reigned. The last embers of the camp-fires were dying out. The white tents of the campers, in which the men slept, could be barely discerned in the darkness. Up to a late hour Lang had remained in company with the women folks, furnishing music and singing songs, as was his custom. When he did retire it was to lie and toss in restless slumber for hours. To Lang the fact that he had been assigned different sleeping quarters on this night, away from Golden, and that Golden had been given a tent all alone, in something of an unprotected and deserted part of the vast circle, was more than accident. It only takes a little thing to make a wakeful man suspicious, and Lang was suspicious. Strange fancies took possession of him, and he slept only in short fitful naps. He came to the conclusion that designs were on the

high in authority or they would never have dared to lay their hands on him in the manner they contemplated. When the train again moved off Golden was given a place to ride in one of the "schooners," and at the request of the wounded man, Lang was placed upon the seat as driver of the wagon. During the progress of the march Lang managed to draw out of line away from the hearing of any other part of the train.

"I told you last evening that I was going to make a confidant of you," said Golden, opening up the conversation. "I am more resolved now than ever, since my life has been attempted. I am positive it was by the order of the present king. What his object is I cannot tell. The king, you should know, is the only personage who has more power than another in the colony. But as I said before, even he has no right to kill without giving a chance for life. This shows me that the people themselves do not wish my death; if they did, the penalty would have been exacted under cover of the law. Though I escaped last night through your watchfulness, there are many ways yet in which it may be taken. You saved my life, but I am afraid that you have incurred the ill will of the people who must be your comrades and that may place even your life in jeopardy."

"Never mind me," was Lang's answer. "I look at this differently than you do. If, as you say, the people do not desire your death—they must desire to again place you in power. If such is the case I have gained rather than lost by the transaction! See?"
"You are a riddle," replied Golden. "I mean to do you a favor. Sometime you may tire of Paradise—that is the name of our city. I mean to tell you how and where to leave it when you are ready to do so! I helped build the town. It is a poor builder who does

my child, who as yet, is unconscious of guilt or of his father's crime!"

"Yes! You may return! You may return now, if you say the word!"
Louis stopped him with an impatient gesture. "Tempt me not," he said. "I would not feel satisfied with myself if I turned back. I will on and see this adventure to its end—though it end in death and ignominy!"

"But I do not wish death to end you!" cried the old man in spirit. "Death may claim me; but I want you to live to tell my wife I died—died a repentant man; died with her pure name on my lips! I want you to live to see that she needs for nothing. I have placed in a Chicago bank sufficient funds to keep them in comfort a lifetime! They need never know how I came by it; I wish you to promise me?"

"If I live to return to Chicago, I will see that your family want for nothing, but if I were you I would never say die! There are many slips 'twixt cup and lip! The battle is not always to the strong! If, as you say, the people do not desire your death, rise up, you were king once, why not become one again?"

"It is not possible. I am meeting my just reward for a life of crime! But you need not think of my dying. For the love I bear my wife I will make your escape easy!"

"Golden, set your mind at rest! If I live neither you nor your family will suffer while I can help them. I'll tell you the truth and brave the consequences! I mean to go back, and when I do it will not be in fear of the assassin's knife! I am young—like better men before me I am ambitious! I mean to be king of Paradise before I leave, or there will be no king!" cried Lang.

"At last I understand you!" was the triumphant reply of Golden. "Or there will be no Paradise! That's what you mean to say?"

"Or there will be no Lan—" assented Lang.

"So be it!" said Golden, who seemed to fall in with the spirit of Lang. "I saw it rise—would that I could see it fall!"

"Give me your aid," said Lang. "Revenge yourself of these people who have attempted your life. Between the two of us we can overthrow the octopus. What do you say?"

"I am with you body and soul!"
Did Golden mean what he said? Would the faithful servant of an unholy cause turn upon his treacherous friends and deliver them to the hangman? Was Louis Lang true to himself and Denver in thus giving away his mission. The tide of battle oftentimes hangs upon a slender thread! Would Golden prove true?
(To be continued.)

MULE RACES WITH A TRAIN.

Takes a Daily "Workout" of Half a Mile Alongside the Track.

"I'd like to know who owns that mule just east of Bates City," said George Jacques yesterday, the engineer who pulls the Alton's "humber," the Chicago limited train, into Kansas City. "Talk about running—why, he'd make The Picket or McChesney want to hide. I'll bet he can do a mile in 1:37."

The limited train does not stop at Bates City, and before it passes into the city limits it is doing easily fifty miles an hour. Passing a pasture by the side of the track Jacques has a race with the mule every trip.

"I can see him watching for me," the engineer said, "and the minute I blow the whistle he's off. He judges a little—we don't get away well, and by the time I get to the post the mule is several hundred yards away, his head and tail both extended, and running like a racer. He has a half mile to make his dash. Of course the big engine simply runs away from him, but I'll tell you that mule is determined to win a race yet. He looks for it every morning. When the train has passed him he stops and watches until we are out of sight. He takes his run nearly every morning. I'd miss that mule if he was taken away."

Why He Wanted a Tenner.

Application was made at half a dozen stores before the man could get one ten-dollar bill for his roll of ones.

"I don't see," said the man's companion, "why you went to all that trouble. You are going to pay the money right over to your tailor. Why didn't you give him the one-dollar bills?"

"Because it would make a bad impression," was the reply. "I am broke, but I don't want him to know it. Whenever you get in that fix pay your debts in the largest bills that you can get hold of. It enhances your value in the estimation of tradesmen and paves the way for further credit. A fellow will think a heap more of you if you pay with one five dollar bill than with five ones. A handful of chicken feed indicates that you have had to hustle around pretty lively to get the money and that there isn't much left where that came from. A man who really has money can afford to pay in pennies if he feels like it, but he who has little can keep up his credit only by using large bills."

Tom's Cause for Thankfulness.

Supt. Donald of the Wakefield town farm tells of a jovial old Irishman whose convivial habits have frequently brought him within the jurisdiction of the police court and finally made him a town charge. The old man is commonly known as "Tom."

Last Thanksgiving day Tom came downstairs smiling and singing to himself, and met the superintendent.

"You seem happy this morning, Tom," said Mr. Donald.

"Sure, sur," said Tom, in his rich brogue, good reason have I to be thankful this Thanksgiving day. One year ago I was in the house of correction, and this year, glory be, I'm in the poorhouse."

Not Personal.

"I hope you are not leaving me for any personal reasons, Norah?"
"Personal, ma'am? Oh, no, ma'am. I'm only leavin' you because me steady young man—he's a policeman, ma'am—has been transformed from this district to the twenty-first, an it's too far to go courtin'. Oh, it ain't personal, ma'am."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

GOWNS OF THE MOMENT

Dresden Hues Are With Us.

The summer colors, judging by a walk along the piazzas these days, are white and pink, or, more properly speaking, they are the Dresden colors. White gowns with pink veils, white hats trimmed with pink roses, beautiful white dresses with handsome pink embroideries upon them and whole pink suits are seen in preference to all others, with a touch of Alice blue to make them complete.

The Dresden colors, which included a lovely shade of grass green and some beautiful blues of the forget-me-not shade, are displayed to their very best advantage in the thin summer goods. There are pink lawns and pink muslins which leave nothing at all to be desired in the way of good taste.

They are neat, pretty in tone, being not too dark, and they are soft and easily draped. There is one pink in particular, a shade of japonica pink, which is admirable. It is becoming to nearly all faces.

Ham Timbales.

Chop some very fine and add a tablespoon melted butter, also a little pepper. Toast slices of bread and spread some of the chopped ham on each slice. Add a dropped egg to each slice, also, and then you have minced ham with dropped eggs on toast. Eggs can be omitted. Makes a nice cold dish for lunch or supper. Another way is to chop ham and cold boiled potatoes together, season with salt, pepper and butter. Add a few crackers rolled fine. Shape with the hands into small cakes, using a little flour and fry the same as fishcakes. Serve hot.

Simple Linen Waist.

Blouse of lilac linen, made with a box plait in the middle of the front, on each side of which are two tucks. It is trimmed around the neck with a band of material, the ends of which are turned back on each side of the front, forming tabs fastened with buttons. The shaped collar is of the linen, ornamented with buttons.

The fine sleeves are finished below the elbows with bands and straps of



the material over tight cuffs, also of the material, ornamented with the buttons. The pretty girde is of the linen and forms a strap in front.

Silk Glove Problem Solved.

What to do with the old silk gloves has long been a problem with the girl who hates to throw away her clothes as long as any merit remains in them. Elbow length silk gloves are expensive, but the fingers wear out just as quickly as any other kind, and, of course, no one wants to wear ragged finger tips. Mending is almost impossible. One summer girl has hit upon a clever idea. When her silk gloves are worn out at the fingers she cuts these off in a straight line across the knuckles, makes a little hem and edges it with a narrow bit of lace. This makes a dainty pair of mitts with long wrists, just the thing to wear with this summer's elbow sleeves.

If silk stockings could only be made over the same way!

White and Gold.

A novel idea at an English wedding was the carrying out of the color scheme in white and gold, even to the color of the hair of each attendant, all of whom had golden locks. The bride herself, Marjorie Nevill, daughter of Lord George Nevill, who didn't change her name, as she married her cousin, Percy Nevill, wore white tulle with a long train of gold brocade. The tulle was spangled with gold and her girde was cloth of gold. The golden train was carried by three little golden-haired children. The bridesmaids were also in white and gold, their white lace coats being fastened with gold buttons, and each wore a gold chain with gold initial pendants, the gifts of the bridegroom.



Apply a drop of oil to the door hinges to keep them from creaking. A cork soaked in oil makes a good substitute for a glass stopper. Kitchen tables may be made "white as snow" if washed with soap and wood ashes. Floors look best scrubbed with cold water, soap and wood ashes.

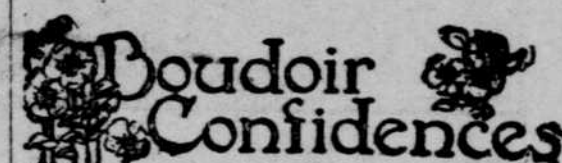
The mica windows of coal stoves can easily be cleaned with a soft cloth dipped in vinegar and water. This should be done when putting the stove up.

Add to the covered brick used as a door stop a strip of the covering sewed strongly to the sides, and raised just enough to admit the foot, then lift it by the toes and save stooping. In sickness, when disinfectants are needed in sinks and basins, use carbolic acid, allowing four tablespoons to each pint of cold water; pour down the pipes, and let it remain half an hour before flushing.

Half an ounce of gum arabic dissolved in a wineglassful of boiling water, and adding plaster of Paris to form a thick paste. Apply with a brush to the edges of broken china, and join ends evenly together.

Summer Styles in Covers.

Small cushion covers of linen are seen in sheerest weaves, with openwork effects that look as though they must break apart at one's touch. Others are in heavier grades, with eyelet designs. Covers for round cushions are nearly all in very fine linen with insertion decoration and lace edging. Buttonholes are worked above the ruffles at either end, through which wash ribbons are drawn and tied in bows.



Buy your veils to suit your hats, both for color and size.

Some new patent leather hats are a light gray in color.

Some kind of light shoulder scarf for evening is a necessity.

Both flat bows of ribbon and silk ties are used in the smart low shoes.

Every kind of old-fashioned white or ecru lace collar or fichu is in use.

Patent leather belts and shopping bags look well with the colored linen costumes.

There are charming tailored frocks of alpaca and brilliantine for the boating girl.

The scarlet linen shoe is the most startling yet. It seems altogether too outre for the street.

Real lace matinees are worn by the many being especially pretty with the half-sleeved bodices in vogue.

For little boys the bow-crown, roll-brim sailors are worn, the patent-leather sailor and the sailor cap being equally fashionable.

The sailor costume still retains its popularity, both for small girls and boys, and to most children it is certain to prove a becoming model.

Spanish Buns.

Five eggs, well beaten; cut up in a cup of warm new milk, half a pound of fresh butter, one pound of sifted flour and a wineglass of yeast. Set it to rise for an hour, in a warm place; when risen, sift in half a pound of white sugar, and half a grated nutmeg, add one wineglass of wine or brandy mixed, one wineglass of rose-water, and one cup of currants, which have been previously cleaned, mix these well, pour it into pans and set to rise again for half an hour. Bake one hour.

The above is a famous recipe and dates back over one hundred years.

Charming Summer Costume.

A faintly pink muslin, worn over a pink slip, a black picture hat, with a cluster of pale pink flowers beneath the brim, and a pink parasol covered with white net or lace, makes a charming costume for a warm, sunny day. Tussore silk and ecru and biscuit lawn are very fashionable, and require relief in tones to suit the wearer. Dark blue is an admirable foil, the pale blonde with golden or flaxen hair might choose lime or apple green, and the brunette cerise or cherry color.

In Silk for the Afternoon.

A pretty model for an afternoon silk gown has the skirt plaited and stitched down for a distance about the waist. There is added to this a deep shaped flounce, plaited and stitched down for several inches, a fashion that gives it a beautiful flare at the bottom. This is headed by a band of Irish lace, four or five inches deep, edged with velvet ribbon and with straps of the ribbon crossing it at intervals. On the bodice is a little bolero with coat tails. There are drooping lapels faced with velvet and a deep collar made of lace and straps of velvet like the trimming on the skirt. The sleeves end just below the elbow with a broad, loose cuff to

match the collars, with lace ruffles falling out of this.

The new very sheer silks are a boon for, without being warm or looking heavy, they have firmness of texture to resist the dampness, in pinkish lilac is a frock of sheerest chiffon taffeta, trimmed with cream tulle embroidery, in which are shown fine threads of lilac. This was used for the bib front and stock on blouse, and also for the rolling collar and fancy cuffs on sleeves. From end of bib to waist line the material is puffed. The deep, shaped girde is made of the silk.

Little Touch of Smartness.

Smart flowing ties are made from silk handkerchief ends. If a fancy one is chosen two will be required. One is cut diagonally across. This is for the knot and ends. The other is required to stretch across the color foundation and to bring around to meet in front so that the tie will not look like a "made" one. The two triangles are then knotted in a four-in-hand bow and tacked into place in the front. Plaid and striped effects are particularly nice for this.

Palatable Summer Stew.

Cut two pounds of the best end of neck of lamb into neat chops, melt one ounce of dripping in a pan, fry two sliced onions in it till of a pale brown color, add one ounce flour, one and a half pints stock or water, stir till they boil, put in the chops three leaves of mint and a little salt and pepper. Cook them slowly for one hour, then three pounds new potatoes scraped and sliced, cook for half an hour longer. Serve hot with a thick border of cooked peas.

Navy blue pongee frock trimmed with heavy white embroidery.

In Suspender Style.

Suspender styles still hold good, in spite of the many predictions to the contrary voiced earlier in the season; but more interesting developments of the style are being made all the while. One of the prettiest of the many adaptations was made with a nine-gore skirt. The suspenders—wide ones, too—rose from an oddly shaped bit (which bloused a little above the girde) and ended in another shaped piece. Both the shaped pieces were scalloped, the scallops facing, and both suspender-girde and skirt were trimmed with buttons and worked buttonholes.

Evening Coats.

In the silk coats, taffeta perhaps holds precedence, but the soft chiffon faille, several of the satin finished supple silks, and the crapes are all well liked by the cloakmakers for evening wear, while for carriage use taffeta is at the head of the silk list. Some of the exquisite brocaded silks in one tone or in delicate flower colorings are utilized for evening coats elaborately trimmed in lace, and are especially charming over sheer white frocks or one tone frocks in delicate tints.

NEW PARIS GOWNS.

The gown at the left is of mauve gray crepe de chine. The skirt is covered with a long tunic which forms deep scallops, and is bordered with a tuck band of the material. The bolero forms a sort of collar cut in points and bordered with the tuck band. It opens over a crossed waistcoat of the material bordered with embroidery. The girde, forming odd points at the sides, is of white silk trimmed with narrow velvet of a little darker shade than the gown, and fastened in front

with a buckle. The chemisette is of white silk or linen. The elbow sleeves are all plaited and puffed. The other gown is of cerise cloth. The skirt is made with fine plaits over the hips and with groups of diagonal plaits at the bottom. The bolero is also made with diagonal plaits and has long revers opening over a white waistcoat fastened with a single row of buttons. The sleeves are also plaited diagonally and finished at the elbows with turn-over cuffs of the material and ruffles of batiste or linen.

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