

The Ward of King Canute

A Romance of the Danish Conquest

By OTTILE A. LILJENBRANT, author of 'The Thrill of Life and Love'.

CHAPTER VI—Continued.
 "Keep in mind, lord, that it is no more than a week that you have been at his heels," he said.
 "I have been in mind whose son he is," the king with the drinking-horn added grimly.
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Inch by inch she crawled steadily toward the flickering light.

back since his father's death! Only take today—
 "Soft, my lord, yonder comes Wilek! Making strange signs to you." All heads but Eithelred's turned in the direction he was looking. She was still too lethargic for curiosity, and she found a kind of dreamy content in lying with her eyes upon the Eithelred's handsome face.
 Presently, however, between her and the comely apparition there intervened the brawny figure of a reo-man-soldier.
 He said breathlessly, "Chief—before you go to the King—he is known to you; that horse-foot you heard belongs to the mounts of Eithelred Mercia and his men—and he is with King Edmund now!"
 The three stout old warriors got to their feet with curses. The Eithelred bent forward and gazed incredulously into the man's face.
 "Eithelred Mercia! With the King? Why do you think so?"
 "I was a little way beyond the King's fire, watching a fellow who was showing how he could jump over the hedge, when I saw the Galley ride past, and I followed him, as near as the guards would permit—heer enough to see that the King received him—let him settle it with Saint-Cuthbert!"
 There was a pause of utter stupefaction, then from all within hearing a clamorous outburst: "Ally there it is!" "Eithelred's blood!" "It is no more to be counted on than is water!" "What could have moved him to it?"

It appeared that the Eithelred had recovered from his surprise, for now he said steadily, "I will not believe it. Until their oaths have been spoken and their hands have clasped and my own eyes have witnessed it, I will not believe it of him."
 Mocking them from his path, he was starting forward a second time, when the old churl laid a hand lightly upon his shoulder.
 "Here, lord, Eithelred! If then—to weigh all perils like a soldier—'if then, you do witness it with your own eyes!'"
 The blue gave out a flash of amethyst steel.
 "You will be one against many, lord." "You cannot mean that the witness will comply with him!" the Eithelred cried.
 "How is it possible that they should do otherwise? The old-born men could not prevent it when Eithelred took Alric back. And tonight, few but thanks have resorted thither—men whom the Redless took from ploughing his fields to fight with nobility. Is it likely that they will oppose the hand that can strip off their girdles?"
 It appeared that the young man could find no answer to that, for he made none.
 "At least once, my lord, Eithelred's willfance has shown in his son, when he met aside the King's command to take possession of Sigfrud's widow and her estates. And I think it was Eithelred's temper that moved him to spend an evening, much better directed against the Pagan, in laying waste the sloping sides of the hollow, with built in a depression of the little open. The last charred leg had fallen apart, spreading a swarm of golden glow-worms over the black earth, but there was still enough light to reveal a ring of muffled forms sprawling around the sloping sides of the hollow, with their feet toward the fire and their heads lost in darkness. Peeping in the tree-shadow, the girl thrilled with sudden hope. Since their faces were all hidden, how was she to distinguish her victim?

CHAPTER VII
 As the Norns Decree.
 It was a long way to the King's fire, but at last it lay before her, before and below her, for it had been built in a depression of the little open. The last charred leg had fallen apart, spreading a swarm of golden glow-worms over the black earth, but there was still enough light to reveal a ring of muffled forms sprawling around the sloping sides of the hollow, with their feet toward the fire and their heads lost in darkness. Peeping in the tree-shadow, the girl thrilled with sudden hope. Since their faces were all hidden, how was she to distinguish her victim?
 At that moment, the warrior lit directly in front of her, shrouded in the sleep and hung a jeweled band over his face. Those broad gold rings with the green stones that sparkled like serpents' eyes as they caught the light? They were good helmets in her memory, for she had seen them on the reputation band that had adorned upon her while it was still red with her father's blood. Suddenly, in the rage that rose in her at the realization

THE NEW CONGRESS

Every member of congress, when first elected, is faced with the necessity of outlining his program for a public career, and most of them are urged upon the wisdom of his decision and his success in realizing his ambitions. He must decide whether he shall enter into competition with the men who are already in office, and whether he shall devote his time to the interests of the particular constituents he represents, or to the interests of a district in the house or a state in the senate in which the party majorities are strong and fixed, and his tenure of office assuredly long. he may with safety elect to devote his efforts to a specialty, to stamp his impress upon legislation on subjects to which he has devoted much thought and attention. In that event his first influence must be exercised through the committee on which his subject is placed. A world of opportunity is offered to the specialist. From the work of specialists—From "Lobbying in Congress," in *Littell's Monthly*.

ONE KIND OF MORAL COURAGE.
 Moral cowardice is too familiar a fact of human nature to require description as it is ordinarily understood. It is not the kind of courage which is so subtle as actually to pass for virtues. There is the man who has the reputation of being aggressive and forceful to a degree, but who has no element of courtesy or consideration for his fellow men. He knows that if he allows other men to get close enough to him they will see that behind his bluster is a dearth of ideas and ability. He knows, too, that if he permits those who are not so well equipped to get near him, he will lose the respect of his associates and the confidence of his superiors. It is the man who has the reputation of being aggressive and forceful to a degree, but who has no element of courtesy or consideration for his fellow men. He knows that if he allows other men to get close enough to him they will see that behind his bluster is a dearth of ideas and ability. He knows, too, that if he permits those who are not so well equipped to get near him, he will lose the respect of his associates and the confidence of his superiors.

ANTS THAT SPIN WEBS.
 Keen Scientist Makes Specimen of Unusual Intelligence.
 One of the most interesting observations made in ant life, says Andrew Wilson, the scientist, was that which showed that a certain red ant has evolved the habit of web-spinning. The ways of this species were noted in the botanical garden at Cambridge, Ceylon, by E. G. Soren. The extraordinary part of the story is that these ants used larvae as their spinning machines, the larvae employing their silk threads, used to make the cocoons, as their sewing machines. Mr. Green took some larvae which had been sewed together by the ants and unfastened the stitches. The separated edges were drawn together by the ants and then an hour afterward the larvae or grubs, held in the mouths of the ants, were seen to spin a cocoon. The cocoon was found to contain the remains of an *Mypa* larva (with horns intact), which he had probably caught while it was drinking. On one occasion I cut up a cocoon which contained no less than forty-nine bodies of ivory and copper, showing that he had swallowed one or more natives, so I always get the boys to cut up any I see. They are loathsome reptiles, and I never consider a shot at them wasted. Many a native while on a expedition has died of dark is caught by the arm and dragged into the river. A fine old hunting dog which had served me for two years was caught by a crocodile right under my nose one day in a small stream, where he had gone to drink after running down a wounded paika."

Diet of the Crocodile.
 Of a crocodile, which measured seventeen feet in length and which a noted hunter shot, he writes: On cutting him open he found in his stomach the remains of an *Mypa* larva (with horns intact), which he had probably caught while it was drinking. On one occasion I cut up a cocoon which contained no less than forty-nine bodies of ivory and copper, showing that he had swallowed one or more natives, so I always get the boys to cut up any I see. They are loathsome reptiles, and I never consider a shot at them wasted. Many a native while on a expedition has died of dark is caught by the arm and dragged into the river. A fine old hunting dog which had served me for two years was caught by a crocodile right under my nose one day in a small stream, where he had gone to drink after running down a wounded paika."

Simple Russian Trick.
 A letter from a M. Shirov, a land-proprietor of the government of Ufa, now going the rounds of the Russian newspapers, is causing much merriment. A typical German trickster," writes M. Shirov, "arrived at our village of Anastasievka on April 1st and announced that the first Lepine prisoner was coming along in an iron box and that if the municipal council voted a sum of 2 rubles the peasants would be allowed to hear him speak for mercy and afterward sing his national anthem. The municipal council voted the money, for the performance was in full progress outside the state public house when I arrived. On a table in the roadway was a small box, from a jumpy fellow, who said he was a German and spoke English the famous 'Tara-ra Boom-de-ay.'"

A Truly Bostonian Tramp.
 Edwin D. Mead, Boston's most useful citizen, and founder of the Tremont Century Club, met a tramp one blizzary night last winter near the Hotel Vendome. When the tramp asked him for a nickel, Mr. Mead, being a believer in scientific charity, told him to apply to the Y. M. C. A.

STILL MANY OPPORTUNITIES.
 Young men nowadays are inclined to the opinion that the opportunities for making fortunes are not so great as they were a half a century ago. As a matter of fact there is plenty of evidence that the avenues to fortunes are as unobstructed now as they ever were. Indeed, the demand for men who are capable and reliable is so great that there are many openings in the field of industry, and many a chance for success is being overlooked. Men who are capable and reliable are so great that there are many openings in the field of industry, and many a chance for success is being overlooked. Men who are capable and reliable are so great that there are many openings in the field of industry, and many a chance for success is being overlooked.

CONDUCTED BY M. J. WELLS

ABOUT "FINN FINANCE"

Whatever thinks to quiet the public's mind, or to sharpen the public's appetite for investment, is "good," says Mr. Wells. It has simply to be taken off the head in July, and if the public's mind is quiet in the financial world.

NOT FOR THE PRESENT DAY.
 Perhaps, under some halcyon dispensation—say, the millennium, of which we have heard so much—there might be some advantage in universal health, happiness and plenty. But, alas! the world is not yet so advanced as to be able to do without the sick, the old, the poor and the wretched. The millennium is a long way off, and we must make the best of the present.

WHAT PEARY HOPES.
 The approach of summer brings to the public eye once more the indefatigable Commander Peary and his expedition. Peary is preparing for his trip to the North Pole, which will begin July 1. He is carrying a large amount of supplies, and he is hoping to reach the pole before the end of the season.

PRESERVING THE DEAD.
 In order to preserve the features of those who have died it is proposed by a Russian to embalm corpses by casting around them a solid mass of glass. This would be perfectly transparent, and it would be as durable as stone. The process is simple and it is not expensive. It would be a great improvement on the present method of embalming.

PROSPERITY ON THE FARM.
 The extent to which the prosperity of the country depends upon that of the farmer is shown impressively in the estimate of the value of the products of Agriculture. A farm yield of \$150,000,000 above the value of the product fed to live stock is a pretty solid basis for industrial good times. In the future it is to be feared that the farm products will be less than they are now.

LOOKING ON THE BRIGHT SIDE.
 The lesson which we have learned in this, which is to be placed on me daily and which is to be placed on me daily and which is to be placed on me daily. It is to be placed on me daily and which is to be placed on me daily. It is to be placed on me daily and which is to be placed on me daily. It is to be placed on me daily and which is to be placed on me daily.

APPLIANCES FOR SPRING.
 The poultryman should have a complete outfit of his own, especially for the poultry department. The most important appliances are a feed trough, a water trough, and a nest box. These should be made of wood and painted with a lead paint. They should be placed in a cool, dry place and should be kept clean and free from vermin.

THE POTATO CROP.
 One hundred millions of dollars is an immense sum of money, and yet it is no more than the market value of the potato crop of this country in a good year. The potato is one of our most important crops, and it is one that we can produce in abundance. The potato crop is one of our most important crops, and it is one that we can produce in abundance.

GRIND THE FEED.
 While there is considerable difference of opinion as to the advisability of grinding grain for some farm animals, it is generally conceded that it is better to grind the grain for some of the smaller animals, such as calves and pigs. The grinding of grain for these animals is a good practice, and it is one that should be encouraged.

Butter is a condensed product.
 It is a condensed product, and it is one that is produced in large quantities. The butter industry is one of the most important of our country, and it is one that is producing a large amount of wealth. The butter industry is one of the most important of our country, and it is one that is producing a large amount of wealth.

Do not do business with a man who knows more about your business.
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