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# THE WIZARD.

BY H. RIDER HAGGARD.

AUTHOR OF "SEE," "ALLAN QUATERMAIN," "KING SOLOMON'S MINES," ETC.

CHAPTER XL-Continued. Tt was midnight and Hokosa with his wife tood in the burying ground of the kings of fell forward. stood in the burying ground of the kings of the Amasuka. Before Owen came upon his mission it was death to visit this spot, except upon the occasion of the laying to rest of one of the royal blood, or to offer the annual sacrifice to the spirits of the dead. Even beneath the bright moon that shone upon it, the place seemed terrible. Here in the bosom of the hills was an amphitheater, surrounded by walls of rock varying from 500 to 1,000 feet in height. In this amphitheater grew great mimosa thorns, and above them towered pillars of granite, set there, not by the hand of man, but of Nature. It would seem that the Amasuka, led by some fine natural instinct, had chosen these columns as fitting memorials of their kings, at least a departed monarch lay at the foot of each of them. The smallest of these unhewn obelisks-it was about fifty feet high-marked the resting place of Umsuka, and deep into the granite of it Owen, with his own hand, had cut the King's name and date of death, surmounting the inscription with the symbol of the cross. Toward this pillar Hokosa made his way through the wet grass, followed by Noma, his wife, Presently they were there, standing one upon each side of the little mound of earth more like an ant heap than a grave, for, after the custom of his people, Umsuka had been buried sitting. At the foot of each of the other pillars was a heap of similar shape, but many times as large; for the kinge who slept there were accompanied to their resting places by numbers of their wives and servants who had been slain in

lord whithersoever he should wander. "What is it that you would do?" asked Noma, in a hushed voice, for, bold as she was, the place and the occasion awed her. would seek wisdom from the dead," he "Have I not already told you, answered. and can I not do it with your help?"

solemn sacrifice that they might attend their

"What dead, husband?"
"Umsuka, the King. Ah, I served him living, and at the last he drove me away from his side Now he shall serve me, and out of the nowhere I will call him back to

Will not this symbol defeat you?" and she pointed to the cross hewn in the granite.

At her words a sudden gust of rage seemed to shake the wizard. His still eyes flashed, his lips turned livid, and with them he spat

upon the cross. "It has no power," he said. "May it be "It has no power," he said. "May it be accursed, and may he who believes therein hang upon it. It has no power, but even if it bad, according to the tale of that white liar, such things as I would do have been done beneath its shadow. By it the dead have been raised—ay, dead kings have been dragged from death and forced to tell the secrets of the grave. Come, come, let us to the work." to the work.'

What must I do, husband?" "What must I do, husband?"
"You shall sit you there, even as a corpse sits, and there for a little while you shall die—yes, your spirit shall leave you—and I will fill your body with the spirit of him who sleeps beneath, and through your lips who sleeps beneath, and through your tips I will learn his wisdom, to whom all things

'It is terrible! I am afraid!" she said. "Cannot this be done otherwise?"
"It cannot," he answered. "The spirits of the dead have no shape or form; they are invisible or through the lips of one in who or through the tips of one in and body be life still lingers, though soul and body be already parted. Have no fear. Ere his apirit leaves you it shall recall your own, which till the corpse is cold stays ever close the cold of the corpse is cold stays ever close. at hand. I did not think to find a coward

in you, Noma."
"I am not a coward, as you know well," past days; but this is fearsome, to die that my body may become the home of the ghost of a dead man, who, perchance, having en-tered it, will abide there, leaving my spirit houseless, or perchance will shut up the doors of my heart in such fashion that they never can be opened. Can it not be done by trance as aforetime? Tell me, Hokosa, ow often have you thus talked with the

"Thrice, Noma." 'And what chanced to them through whom you talked? lived and took no harm, the third dled, because the awakening medicine was not powerful enough. But fear nothing; that which I have with me is of the best. Noma, you know my plight: I must win wisdom, and you alone must help me, for under this new rule I can no longer buy a youth or maid for purposes of witchcraft, even if one could be found fitted for the work. Choose, then; shall we go back or forward? Here trance will not help us, for those entranced cannot read the future, nor can they hold communion with the dead, being but asleep.

Choose, Noma." I have chosen," she answered, "Never yet have I turned my back upon a venture, nor will I do so now. Come life, come death, I will submit me to your wish, though there are few women who would do as much for any man. Nor in truth do I do it for you, Hokosa; I do it because I seek power, and thus only can we win it who have fallen. Also I love all things strange, and desire to commune with the dead, and to know that,



"IT IS TERRIBLE! I AM AFRAID!" SHE

woman's breast has held the spirit of a king. Yet, I warn you, make no fault in your magic, for should I die beneath it, then I. haunt you and be avenged upon you!" "O! Noma," he said, "if I believed that it returned to her, the blood flowed from there was any danger for you, should I ask you to do this thing—I who love you more even than you love power, more than my life, more than anything that is or ever can go mad, for I have seen and heard things

his solemn eyes, and muttering: "Obey and

"Do you sleep?" he asked,
"I sleep. Whither shall I go? It is the true sleep—test me."
"Pass to the house of the white man, my "I am there."

What does he? "He lies in slumber on his bed, and in his slumber he mutters the name of a woman, and tells her that he loves her, but that duty is more than love. O. call me back, I cannot stay; a presence guards him and pushes me thence "Return," said Hokosa, starting. "Pass

he craved to withdraw himself from all mat-ters of the State, saying that now he had through the earth beneath you and tell me what but one desire—to tend his herds and gar-den, and to grow old in peace with the new "I see the body of the King, but were it not for his royal ornaments none would wife whom he had chosen and whom he loved. Owen, too, he greeted courteously know him now.

"Return," said Hokosa, "and let the eyes of your spirit be open. Look around you and cattle for the service of his church and tell me what you see."

When he met him, sending this church and cattle for the service of his church. Moreover, when a messenger came from when he met him, sending him gifts of corn Moreover, when a messenger came from Hafela, making proposals to him, he drove him away and laid the matter before the

"I see the shadows of the dead," she "They stand about you, gazing at you with angry eyes; but when they come near you something drives them back and I cannot understand what it is they say." "Is the ghost of Umsuka among them?" "It is among them."

"Bid him prophesy the future to me."
"I have bidden him, but he does not answer. If you would hear him speak it must be through the lips of my body, and first my body must be emptied of my spirit that his may find a place therein."

"Say, can this spirit be compelled?" husband, tended her alone, and when the child was born he groaned aloud and would that still hovers near this spot, if you dare to speak the words you know. But first a house must be made ready for it. Then the words must be spoken, and all must be wailed. "Take it away," and she sank back done before a man can count 300, for should in a swoon. So he took the child and buried the blood begin to clot about my heart it it deep in the cattle yard by night.

will be still for ever."

"Hearken," said Hokosa. "When the though her mind owned the sway of his,

clouds the sun shines ever.

"Have no fear," answered Hokosa, "you have made the journey whence but few re-

grace roll back before us. Now, the path is clear, the dead have shown it to me, and

of wizardry I shall need no more."
"Ay," answered Noma, "but night follows
dawn as the dawn follows night, and through

the darkness and the daylight, I tell you, Wizard, henceforth I am haunted! Also, be

not so sure, for though I know not what the

dead have spoken to you, yet it lingers on my mind that their words have many mean-

ings. Nay, speak to me no more, but let us fly from this dread home of ghosts, this

So the wizard and his wife crept from that

solemn place, and saw the dawn beams light-

ing upon the white cross that was reared in

CHAPTER XII.
THE MESSAGE OF HOKOSA.

The weeks went by, and Hokosa sat in his krani weaving a great plot. None suspected

faith, and to acknowledge that the god of

fire which he had worshipped was a false god. He was humble also toward the King, but

Council of the King. Yet that messenger, who was hunted from the kraal, took back

a secret word for Hafela's ear.
"It is not always winter," was the word.

"and it may chance that in the springtime you may hear from me." And again: "Say to the Prince Hafela, that though my face

toward him is like a storm, yet behind the

At length there came a day when Noma, his wife, was brought to bed. Hokosa, her

habitation of the spiritfolk that we have



A CHANGE CAME OVER THE GIRL'S LOVELY FACE.

work and the spirit is loosened from your body let it not go afar, whatever tempts or threatens it, and suffer not that the death he loved her more and more, and she had cord be severed, lest flesh and spirit be this power over him that she could always parted forever."

Then Hokesa took from his pouch two fluid in a gourd. Taking of the paste he knelt upon the grave before the entranced woman and swiftly smeared it upon the mucous membrane of the mouth and throat. Also he thrust pellets of it into the ears, she answered passionately, "for many a the nostrils, and the corners of the eyes. deed of magic have we dared together in The effect was almost instantaneous. A change came over the girl's lovely face, the last awful change of death. fell in, her chin dropped, her eyes opened and her flesh quivered convulsively. The wizard saw it all by the bright moonlight then he took up his part in this unholy drama.

What it was that he did cannot scribed, because it is indescribable. Witch of Endor repeated no formula, The she raised the dead, and so did Hokesa, the wizard. He buried his face in the gray dust of the grave, he blew with his lips into the dust, he clutched at the dust with his hands, and when he raised his face again. lo! it was gray like the dust. Then began the marvel; for, though the woman before him remained a corpse, from the lips of the corpso a voice issued, and its sound was horrible, for the accent and tone of it were masculine, and the instrument through which it spoke-Noma's throat-was feminine, yet could be recognized as the voice of Umsuka, the dead King.

"Why have you summoned me from my rest, Hokosa?" hissed the voice from the hissed the voice from the lips of the huddled corpse.

Because I would learn the future, spirit of the King," answered the wizard, boldly, but saluting as he spoke. "You are dead, and to your sight all the gates are opened. By the power that I have I command you to show me what you see therein concerning myself, and to point out to me the path that I should follow to attain my ends and the ends of her in whose breast you dwell At once the answer came, always in the

same horrible voice:
"Hearken to your fate for this world, He kosa, the wizard. You shall triumph over your rival, the white man, the Messenger, and by your hand he shall perish, passing to his appointed place. By that to which you cling you shall be betrayed, ay, you shall lose that which you love and follow after that which you do not desire. In the grave of error you shall find truth, from the deeps of sin you shall pluck righteousness. When these words fall upon your ears again, then, wizard, take them for a sign, and let your heart be turned. That which you deem accursed shall lift you up on high. High shall you set above the nation and its King. and from age to age the voice of the people shall praise you. Yet in the end comes judgment, and there shall the sin and the atonement strive together, and in that hour, wizard, you shall-"

Thus the voice spoke, strongly at first, but growing ever more feeble as the sparks of life departed from the body of the woman till at length it ceased altogether. "What shall chance to me in that hour?" skosa asked eagerly, placing his ear Hokosa

against Noma's lips. No answer came, and the wizard knew that if he would drag his wife back from the door of death he must delay no longer. Dashing the sweat from his eyes with one hand, with the other he seized the gourd of fluid that he had placed ready, and, thrusting back her head he poured of its contents down her throat and waited a while. She did not move. In an extremity of terror he anatched a knife, and with a for some few minutes only, at least my single cut severed a vein in her arm; then, taking some of the fluid that remained in the gourd in his hand, he rubbed it roughly git, for should I die beneath it, then I. to desire to live on and to be great, will her fingers stirred, and now, with horrible contortions and every symptom of agony, life returned to her, the blood flowed from her wounded arm, slowly at first, then more

"What have you seen and heard," he asked, while he cut the though that bound

medicine that I shall give you does its had never loved him over much, hated her "I hear, and I obey. Be swift, for I grow ever been, after the birth of the child it grew greater day by day, but it was an evil Place to the spear, and the rays of the rising beauty, the beauty of a witch, and this fate medicines; one a paste in a box, the other a | fell upon her, that she feared the dark and would never be alone after the sun had set. When she was recovered from her sickness Noma sat one night in her hut, and Hokosa sat there also, watching her. The evening was warm, but a bright fire burned in the hut and she crouched upon a stool by the fire, glancing continually over her shoulder. Why do you bide by the fire, seeing that it is so hot, Noma?" he asked.

"Because I fear to be away from the light," she answered, adding: "O, accursed man, for your own ends you have caused me to be bewitched, aye, and that was born of me also, and bewitched I am by those shadows which you bade me seek and which now will never leave me. Nor is this all. You swore to me that if I would do your will I should become great, aye, and you took me from one who would have made me great and whom I should have pushed on to victory. But now it seems that for nothing I made that awful voyage into the deeps of death, and for nothing, yet living, am I become the sport of those that dwell there. How am I greater than I was-I, who am but the second wife of a fallen witch doctor, who sits in the sun day by day, while age gathers on his head like frost upon Where are all your high schem now? Where is the fruit of wisdom that I gathered for you? Answer, wizard, whom I have leared to hate, but from whom I cannot escape.'

"Truly," said Hokosa, in a bitter voice "for all my sins against them the heavens have laid a heavy fate upon my head, that thus with flesh and spirit I should worship woman who loathes me. One comfort alone is left to me, that you dare not take my life and that what I bid you that you must do. Aye, you fear the dark, Noma, yet did I command you to arise and go stand alone through the long night yonder in the burying place of the kings, why, you must do it Come, I command you—go."

"Nay, nay," she walled in an extremity terror, and yet she rose and went toward the door sideways, for her hands were out-stretched in supplication to him. "Come back," he said, "and listen. If a

hunter has nurtured a fierce dog wherewith slone he can gain his livelihood he tries to tame that dog by love, does he not? And if it will not become gentle, then, it being necessary to him, he tames it by fear. I am the hunter, and, Noma, you are the hound, and since this curse is on me that I cannot live without you, why, I must master you as best I may. Yet, believe me, I would not cause you fear or pain, and it saddens me that you should be haunted by these sick fancies, for they are nothing more. I have seen such cases before today and I have noted that they can be cured by mixing with fresh faces and traveling in new tries. Noma, I think it would be well that, after your late sickness, according to the custom of the women of our people, you should part from me a while and go upon a journey of purification."

"Whither shall I go and who will go with me?' she asked, sullenly. "I will find you companions, women dis creet and skilled. And as to where you And as to where you

shall go, I will tell you. You shall go upon an embassy to the Prince Hafela." and mayhap it had to do with the death of a king.

"I am not afraid," he answered, setting his teeth, "because I know that whatever your heart may desire, my will follows you. and while I live that is a cord you cannot break unless I choose to loose it. Noma. I command you to be faithful to me and to your above all expenses. be?"
"I know it, and it is to that I trust," she answered. "Now, begin, before my courage leaves me."
"Good," he said, "Scat yourself there upon the mound, resting your head against the stone."
She obeyed, and, taking thongs of hide which he had ready, Hokosa bound her wrists and he lay cold within me, speaking to my heart, and as he passed from me he looked upon the child that I shall bear wrists and sukles of a corpse. Then he knelt before her, staring into her face with

Take me hence. O you most evil man, for of your wizardries I have had enough, and from this day forth I am haunted."

"Have no fear," answered Hokosa, "you be to the line Hafela. He will receive you gladly, and you shall whisper this turn, and yet, as I promised you, you have returned to wear the greatness you desire and that I sent you forth to win, for henceforth we shall be great. Look, the dawn of power, and the miss of death and of disgrace roll back before us. Now, the path Hokosa, if his wisdom finds favor in your sight and through it you come to victory: That after you, the King, he, Hokosa, shall be the first man in the land, the General of the armies, the captain of the Council, the head of the doctors, and that to him shall be given half at the cattle of Nodways. be given half of the cattle of Nodwengo, who now is King. Also to him shall be given power to stamp out the new faith which overruns the land like a foreign weed and to deal as he thinks fit with those who cling to it,'

head, should be break one word of it, and not before, you shall continue the message thus: 'These are the words that Hokosa set in my mouth: 'Know, O, Prince, that the is named Messenger has taught him many things as to the building of forts and walls. him any more, for though he did not belong to it, he was heard to speak well of the new and the drilling and discipline of men. So strong is he that you can scarcely hope to en preferred before me and set up to be King in my place, and because of this my heart is bitter, so bitter that I have perhaps, to return, gathered my strength to make war upon The money, which gathered my strength to make war upon you. Yet at the last I have taken another counsel, bethinking me that If we fight, in leather belt and buckled around Henry's he attended to his cooking he sang over and the end it may chance that neither of us will be left alive to rule, and that the people will be left alive to rule, and that the people also will be brought to nothing. To the north there lies a good country, and wide, where but few men live, and thither I would go, setting the mountains and the river between us; for there, far beyond your borders, I also can be a king. Now, to reach this not feel afraid, but a sense of doubt and listening. He saw his rout to the pole and gold, and the gave her a rose and a ring. And oh, but her face did shing the pouch and powder horn. Nor was the gun his only weapon, for in his inner coat pocket were two small pistols. He did not feel afraid, but a sense of doubt and listening. He saw his route that time: I also can be a king. Now, to reach this country I must travel by the pass that is not far from your great place, and I pray that you will not attack my impis or the women and children that I shall send, and a guard before them, to await me in the plain beyond the mountains, seeing that these can only journey slowly. Let us pass by in peace, my brother, for so shall our quarrel be ended; but if you do so much as lift a single spear against me, then I will give you battle, setting my fortune against your fortune, and my god against your God.' "Such are the words that the embass;

shall deliver into the ears of the King. Nod wengo, and it shall come about that when he hears them, Nodwengo, whose heart is gentle and who seeks not war, shall answer saying: "Go in peace, my brother, and live in peace in that land which you would win." Then shall you, Hafela, send on the most of your cattle and the women and children through the pass in the mountains, bidding them to await you in the plain, and after a while you shall follow them with your imple. But these shall not travel in way for carriers shall bear their fighting shields in bundles, and their stabbing spear shall be rolled up in mats. Now, on the sixth day of your journey you shall camp at the mouth of the pass which the cattle and the women have already travelled, and his outposts and spies shall bring it to the ears of the King that your force is sleeping there, purposing to climb the pass on the morrow. But on that night, so soon as the darkness falls, you shall rise up with your Captains and your regiments, leaving your fires burning and men about your fires. and shall travel very swiftly across the val-ley, so that an hour before the dawn you reach the second range of mountains and pass it by the gorge which is the burying place of kings. Here you shall light a fire which those who watch will believe to be but the fire of a herdsman who is cold. Hokosa, also shall be watching, and when I see that fire I will creep, with some men whom I can trust, to the little northern gate of the outer wall, and we will spear those that guard it and open the gate that your army may pass through it. Then, before the regiment can sland to their arms or those within it are awakened, you shall storm the inner walls and by the light of the burning

sun shall crown you King. "Follow this counsel of mine, O Prince Hafela, and all shall go well with you. Neglect it and be lost. There is but one thing which you need fear-it is the magic of the Messenger, to whom it is given to read the secret thoughts of men. But of him take no account, for he is my charge, and before ever you set a foot within the Great Place he shall have taken his answer back to him who sent him."

Hokosa finished speaking. 'Have you heard?" he said to Noma. "I have heard."

'Then speak the message.' She repeated it word for word, making reault. "Have no fear," she added. "I shal orget nothing when I stand before the

"You are a woman, but your counsel is ood. What think you of the plan, Noma?"
"It is deep and well laid," she answered, and surely it would succeed were it not for one thing. "The white man, Messenger, one thing. will be too clever for you, for, as you say, he is a reader of the thoughts of men."

"Can the dead read men's thoughts, or it they can, do they cry them on the market place, or into the ears of kings?" asked Hokosa. "Have I not told you that before I see the signal fire yonder the Messenger shall sleep sound? I have a medicine, Noma, a slow medicine none can trace." "The Messenger may sleep sound, Hokosa and yet perchance he may pass on his mes-

sage to another, and, with it, his magic Who can say? Still, strike for power and greatness and revenge, letting the blow fall where it will.' (To be Continued.)

OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

The horn of the rhinoceros is not joined to the bone of the head, but grows on the skin like a wart or corn. A German professor claims to have discov

ered the germ which causes baldness by destroying the roots of the hair. Over 500 fossil elephant teeth have been dredged from the sea at Molcasea, on the coast of the Mediterranean, since 1870.

The entire population of the state of New York (6,513,344) could find standing room on tract of only one square mile in extent. Dr. Merman says that between January 1 of the year 1137 and January 1, 1886, over 7,000,000 persons perished in earthquakes.

Tombstones made of glass are fast becom ing the rage in several of the European countries, particularly Germany and Italy. Steel has been used for shipbuilding only about twenty years, yet it is estimated that 96 per cent of the vessels built at the present day are of steel.

Several of the world's most eminent as-tronomers profess to believe that the sun's heat is kept up by wrecked worlds that are continually falling into it.

Henry A. Russell, the oldest letter carrier in Newark, N. J., resigned after thirty-one years of active service, twenty-nine of which were spent in Modding over one route.

A petrified lish, found by Dr. Newberry

at Delaware, O., weighed twenty-five pounds, and is as perfect in form, position of fins, scales, etc., as though it had died but yesterdays, instead of 2,000 years ago. "Are you not afraid that I should stop there?" she asked again, with a flash of her eyes. It is true that I never learned all the story, yet I thought that the Prince was not so glad to hand me back to you as you would have had me believe. The price you paid for me must have been good, Hokosa, and may hap it had to do with the death of any may and may hap it had to do with the death of any may have released to 1.000 years ago.

There is an epormous crop of sugar beets in San Benito, county, California, this year.

The average yield is twelve tons an acre, which will net \$2.50 a ton. As an instance of the profit in this crop, a story is told and gracious manner. They rode along for any may be the rest. They have release any lease the release of the release of the profit in this crop, a story is told a half hour chatting while the sun fell below the western horizon. The man said as the rent. They have raised not less than eighteen, and probably twenty, tons to the scre. Three of the Danes have done nearly all the work, the others being enllows you. gaged in another beet raising enterprise ou cannot near Watsonville. It is said that on the Noma. I first farm the three will make \$6,000 this

Lady Bountiful, who some time since gave \$10,000 to the Brooklyn Kindergarten association, and whose name was not known for some time, is the widow of Mr. Hans S. hour; but when he regained his senses his Christian. The money is to be devoted to the erection of an immesse kindergarten for it. Of course it was gone. So like-building, and when it is completed Mrs. Christian will decide whether her gift shail be under the jurisdiction of the Kinder-garten association or the Methodist Church Well might his heart sink; for there he

### \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* BACKWOODS PLUCK

A True Story of Early Mississippi Days.

BY MAURICE THOMPSON.

oin could not now be regarded as a large sum; but fifty years ago it was quite differ-

should be premptly paid in order to hold the land upon which the Brack family lived.

and sisters with the tone and expression of

not feel afraid, but a sense of doubt and stood gazing and listening. He saw his pony dread oppressed his mind. The money-bag and the horse of the robber tethered near clasped about him bore in upon his heart, as the fire. His saddlebags sat hard by and

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Two hundred and forty dollars in gold out food. His condition seemed hopeless. Overhead the moon hung in a sheet of pale cloud that spread mist-like over the sky. All around was gloom and ent, especially among the poor folk who lived far down in the lowlands of Missis- an owl hooted and all the smaller night sippi. When Henry Brack, a boy of 16, things held their voices. What was Henry was entrusted to bear such an amount of Brack to do? He quickly made up his money to New Orleans the responsibility to the road. Slowly and with remarkable "Now, Noma, when he has sworn this oath at the time was ill and bed-fast, and it was moved along studying the ground and following as best he could the tracks of the horses

Now, it so happened that in the In my mouth: 'Know, O, Prince, that the King, your brother, grows very strong, for he is a great soldier, who learned his art in bygone wars; also that the white man that is named Messenger has taught him many ships all his life, yet this undertaking impressed him as something stupendous. In the wild forest, and at the end of an hour's those days there were no railroads. Even slow tramp he came in sight of a small strong is he that you can scarcely hope to conquer him in open war—yet snakes may crawl where men cannot walk. Therefore, Prince let word and the wagon reads were for the most part in the act of broiling some bacon, the small where men cannot walk. Therefore, habited woods. So that when Henry Brack with a saver reached Henry's nostrils habited woods. So that when Henry Brack with a savory appeal to his appetite, for gray pony, he bade farewell to his parents of a human being, was to make haste and and sisters with the tone and expression of join in the prospective feast, but when the one going away into deadly danger, never, with a chill of consternation going up his back. It was the robber

waist under his clothes. In a pair of sad- over again four lines of a ditty, popular at



OVER THE FIRE.

Henry dreaded to encounter. In those days, although John A. Murrell and his gang of desperadoes had been caught in the law's clutch and duly dealt with, there still lingered a feeling among the common people that all was not yet secure.

Murrell's fame, his dazzling achievements in outlawry and his far-reaching evil inluence could not be wiped out in a month, fluence could not be wiped out in a month. robber's name was Giles Carew. He did not or year, or a decade. There were men all die of the wound that Henry Brack gave him. through that region who dreamed of following in his footsteps, men who kidnapped ceeded in finding a settlement and having negro slaves and sold them over and over Carew arrested, the wily fellow escaped again, who watched beside the obscure high- from custody after he got well and was kille again, who watched obside the loss than a street fight at New ways to waylay and rob travelers, and these years afterwards in a street fight at New fellows were singularly shrewd at finding Orleans. Henry is still living, a hale old out when and where a well-loaded victim man, saving that he is blind of his left eye ould be had for the trouble of the taking. All went well with Henry Brack, ever, for two or three days and nights, dur ng which he made very good progress on his ourney and came into the Pearl River coun-

ry. Here had been one of Murrell's favorit haunts, and here, too, Pierre Rameau, the celebrated creole highwayman, used to have bird trade. Yes, in canary birds there is his sylvan retreat. Henry knew the history of these men and of course his imagination as much as there is in his iron, just built rather gorgeously in their belief. No wonder, then, he was scared almost out of his wits when suddenly one afternoon, just before nightfall, a man's voice struck his ear, from not more than six feet of distan-"How do you do, young man?

Henry started and looked quickly to see riding nearly abreast of him a short, slight man whose smile, despite a rather frows thin red beard and a freckled skin, quite pleasing.

"How far are you going this way?" the stranger centinued in a soft voice which at once won Henry's confidence. "To New Orleans," was the frank answer



STARTING OFF

The man raised his eyebrows and gave Henry a half-incredulous look.
"That's a hig undertaking for one young," he suggested: "but you look brave enough to do it. I'm right glad, too," he added after a slight thoughtful pause, "for

that he knew a short cut across the wood on their left, by taking which they would save several miles of distance and yet arrive at the spring where they would camp comfortably for the night. Henry, all unsuspecting, went with him and when they were deep in the dark and lonely forest suddenly the man turned and struck him a heavy blow with a horse pistol. He fell as one dead. All was blank to him.

How long he law unconscious he could not precisely tell. It was probably less than an

was, perhaps a hundred miles from hos

it were, a great weight which seemed to his rifle leaned against a tree. In an in-hinder free breathing. He was young and strong, however, and when once he was well forth on his way while his whole nature condensed itself, so

when once he was well forth on his way he threw off much of his discomfort and rode along whistling. For some hours the road led past scattered plantations, but long before night fall the even jogging of his staunch pony had taken him deep into the unbroken wilderness. Two days and nights went by without any unusual adventure. To be sure a boy now-a-days would think a bear prowling near where he slept something to remember with shudders, but Henry Brack had no more fear of a black bear than one of us would have of a cow. A panther and a robber were the two beings Henry dreaded to encounter.

While his whole nature condensed itself, so to speak, upon the thought of recovering his property and visiting punishment on the robber.

For a few minutes, perhaps only a few seconds, he revolved in his mind all the chances of the situation. He was desperate and quite ready for a desperate effort. Presently the man stooped low over the now hotly burning fire to turn a slice of broiling bacon. At that moment, with the swift and noiseless flight of a cat, Henry bounded forward and rushing hard against the man dashed him headlong into the fire, and before he could rise Henry leaped to the gun and leveled it upon him. The man, though the man, though badly burnt, did not heed the command to surrender, and Henry fired. He fell back

ward across the fire. It may seem strange; but Henry did not I am sorry to say that, although Henry suc from an accident in chopping wood.

#### THE CANARY TRADE. Teaching Birds Some Simple Tricks.

How Street Fakirs Sell Wares. The fall is the best season in the canary as much as there is in pig iron. The tricks come through the discriminations against the weaker sex, the new woman so much resents female canary birds are a drug in the market; you can buy one anywhere for 50 cents, whereas the New York price for a guaranteed singer is \$3. Sometimes, in the case of a very fine musician, \$5. You can get a male bird not guaranteed for \$2.50. Until the females are sufficiently imbued with the spirit of the age to sing like their fathers and husbands, they are likely to be more appreciated by the bird fakir than to They help the fakir to get a dishonest

living. He puts eight or ten in a cage, and with them one or two singers, and then he plants himself and his cage at some corner probably on a street leading to a ferry, and awaits results; when one of his singers breaks into song he is pretty sure to be questioned as to his prices 'Any bird in that cage for 50 cents," is

his response, Some one astutely points out the bird that sang, and says he will take that one.

When he becomes happy, and feels secure, he will be apt to feel like singing. The common necessities of bird life, a clean, sunny cage, fresh water and seed and cuttlebone, you will, of course, provide him; but some further attentions will add much to his happiness. The best bird fanciers do not approve the plan of feeding a canary on seed alone; he should not have his cage fitted with luxurious and varied viands, but a leaf of lettuce or a bit of apple are par-ticularly good for him, and once in a while a piece of hard-bolled egg will make him feel that life is a gormandizing, glorious

If you want to tame him there is one simple yet cunning trick that is worth any other instruction that can be imparted. It is this: Make believe you are afraid of him You think he won't understand? You alto gether underrate his powers of comprehen-sion; if you have any tact in acting, if you can play the buffoon well enough, you will find how to put your finger out to him, and then draw it back in alarm; how to approach his cage and then fall back in terror; you talk your earven sentiments aloud and implore his mercy you will help your own expression, and though he may not under-stand your English, be sure he will your tones; and then, and this is very odd and funny, he will begin to play the bully; will spread his wings and jump at you; but i say, in a proper spirit, he will grow merciful,

neglect in his education. Don't feed him by putting seeds between your lips for 2-in snatch; disease can be communicated in is way. Don't cover his cage closely at this way. any time. Birds especially need from air and without it are liable to lung troubles And don't let him stay up late at night; he may like it, if he can be with the family, but it is as had for him as for other

One trick, an old favorite, you had better

"Give me a bite of your candy, Jimmie?"
"Nope, but you may kiss me while 2y mouth's sticky." Teacher-What is the true test of great-

Little Johnnie-To have your hired girl

interviewed by reporters whenever you do Friend of the Family-Johnny, I suppose ou are delighted with the new little brother

your house? Johnny-New, nothin'! He's second-hand! The doctor brought him, and there's no telhow many families has had him before.

I know a little maiden
With a face that is divine.
Last night I took her in my arms
And asked her to be mine.
She spurned my fond embrace, and cast
A saucy glance at me.
"I tan't belong to you, betause
I'm mamma's dirl," said she.

SUSIE'S RECORD.

the Dear Little Girl Never Has to Go Down in Her Class. "Mamma," said 7-year-old Frances, as she purst in from school, as told by the Detroit "What is it, sweetheart?" asked mamma,

as she kissed the ruby lips. "You know in our school, if one scholar can't answer a question and the next one can, the one who answers goes up and the one who can't answer goes down."
"Why, that is the way we did when amma was a little girl and went to school."

"Is it?" Yes. I suppose you are trapped pretty often, Frances? ten, Frances;
"Yes, mamma," replied the truthful little
rl. "I was trapped this morning."

"Who went up into your place?" "Freddy Trotter." I should think Freddy wouldn't be able to trap you often. He is only 614, while you

are past 7. Yes'm. Say, mamma!"

"You know Susie Briggs?" "I never saw her trapped even once." Didn't you?

"Isn't that nice? Don't you wish you knew your lessons that well? Don't you wish you were never trapped, like Susie 'No'm. You see, mamma, Susie has been clear at the bottom of the class ever since I've been going to that school."

### Warner's Safe Cure OR SMALL BOTTLES.

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Owing to the many requests from its patrons, Warner's Safe Cure Co. have put on the market a 7 smaller size bottle of Safe Cure which can now be obtained at all druggists at half the price of the large bottle.

safe Cure is not only a scientific vegetable preparation and does all that is claimed for it, but it is the only Kidney and Liver medicine used by the best people of four continents. A medicine that bears the stamp of the world's approval, and maintains its position for a fifth of a century, must necessarily possess peculiar merit.



We offer them this year cheaper than ever Young Pine Island

Parrotseasiest and quickest to learn to talk among all parrots—only \$600 each—This price lu-cludes a shipping cage, 2-lbs parrott sent with valuable directions and a written guar-antee. Large, solid Parrot Cages, E.50. Parrots shipped with perfect safety all over U. S. A.

Geisler's Bird Store, Omaha, Neb. Established 1888



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