

# THE GUNMAKER OF MOSCOW.

By SYLVANUS COBB, JR.

"Then I shall interpose no more objections," said the mother. She tried to speak hopefully, but she could not hide the fearful sadness of her heart. "Could fervent prayer avert the blow it should not fall, but I can only pray as one without power."

A long time after this was passed in silence. Both the mother and son seemed to have something upon their minds which they wished to say, but dared not. But the former at length overcame her reluctance. "Ruric, my son," she said, keeping back the tears that struggled for utterance in her silent speech, "is there any little word you would leave—any matter of moment?"

"No, no," the boy answered, speaking calmly by effort. "I am yours, and all is yours. But I shall not fall."

"Ah, be not too confident, my son. Let no such assurance lead you to forget your God. I have heard of this count. It was he who slew Rutger, and Momjako, too, he slew in the duel. He is an expert swordsman and surely means to kill you if he can."

"I am aware of that, my mother. But do you know that we are all prone to overlook our own powers when pondering upon the feats of others? I may be pardoned for assuring you that the only man who has ever yet overcome the count at the sword play was one of my own scholars. While in Spain I practiced with some of the best swordsmen in the kingdom. But, listen, I will send one word. For yourself I can tell you nothing which you do not know. But yet you may see Rosalind. If you do, tell her—But you know my soul. You can tell her as you please. But I shall not fall."

It was now late, and one long Ruric kissed his mother and then retired to his bed.

And the widow was left alone. With her eyes she followed the retreating form of her beloved son, and when he was gone from her sight she bowed her head and sobbed aloud. When she reached her humble couch, she knelt by her side and poured forth her pent up soul to God. When her head had pressed the pillow, she tried to hope, she tried to fasten one hope in her mind, but she looked only into the night. Not one ray of light reached her struggling soul. She opened her eyes of promise in vain, for she looked into a gloom so utter that out of its depths loomed only the blackness of despair.

Sleep on, Ruric. But, oh, couldst thou know how thy fond mother's heart is racked there'd be no sleep for thee!

## CHAPTER V.

THE DUEL.

On the following morning Ruric was up betimes, and at the breakfast table not a word of the one all absorbing theme was uttered. After the meal was finished the gunmaker went out to his shop and took down from one of the closets a long leather case in which were two swords, both of the same make and finish, only different in size. They were Toledo blades and of most exquisite workmanship and finish. Ruric took out the heavier one, which was a two edged weapon with a cross hilt of heavily gilded metal. He placed the point upon the floor, and then, with all his might, he bent the blade till the pommel touched the point. The little steel sprang back to its place with a sharp clang, and the texture was not started. Then he struck the flat of the blade upon the anvil with great force. The ring was sharp and clear, and the weapon remained unharmed.

"By St. Michael, Paul, Moscow does not contain another blade like that. Damascus never saw a better."

(To be continued.)

# THE FIRST STEEL PENS.

Only a Century Ago—Quills Used Before That—Pens Famous in History.

Pens were formerly made from quills, the great defect of which was their speedy injury from use, and the consequent trouble of frequent mending. Attempts were made to fit small metal, or even ruby, points to the nib of the quill pen, but the delicacy of fitting was so great that but little success was attained.

It is only a century ago that pens began to be made wholly of metal. They consisted of a barrel of this steel, and were cut and slit so as to resemble the quill pen as closely as possible. They were, however, very indifferent, and, being dear, they were not in common use. Their chief fault was their hardness which produced a disagreeable scratching on the paper.

In 1820 Joseph Gillot perfected the form of steel pens, and began their manufacture at Birmingham, Eng. The first gross of steel pens ever sold at wholesale brought \$36; in 1820, at Birmingham. In 1830, the price had been reduced to \$2; in 1832, to 1 50, and in 1860 to 12 cents. The annual production of steel pens in Birmingham alone ranges from 8,000,000 to 15,000,000 gross.

Large sums, amounting in one instance to £40, have been given for pens used by Charles Dickens, the Earle of Beaconsfield and other literary lights, including Wordsworth, who in 1806, began a letter to Lady Beaumont, which, he said, was the longest he ever wrote, a statement that was unlikely to be refuted, seeing that it was eighteen pages in length.

Eight and a half guineas were paid for a penholder comprising an ivory handle, a silver holder and a quill pen in it that once belonged to Sir Walter Scott.

There are, perhaps, but few pens in existence that can vie in interest and importance with that with which the treaty of Paris was signed in 1856, at the conclusion of the Crimean War. On this famous occasion the 14 plenipotentiaries assembled to sign the famous document used the same pen at the special request of their hostess, the Empress Eugenie, who desired to possess a souvenir of so important an occasion.

When his holiness the Pope signs an encyclical letter, or delivers a papal bull, the implement used is a white-feathered quill taken from the wing of a dove, which has now been in use, such is the care of it, for over four decades. It was perhaps this custom that suggested to the person designing the pen with which the treaty of Paris was signed, a pen that was mounted in gold and jeweled diamonds, that it would be in keeping with the emblems of several of the chief signatories if the quill were drawn from the wing of a golden eagle. At all events, the bird in question supplied the necessary nib.

At the signing of the treaty on the conclusion of the war between the United States and Spain in Paris in 1898, a rather amusing incident occurred. The hour was 8.30 p.m. and the day Dec. 10. The commissioners of both Spain and America expressed the wish that the seals, out of compliment to France, which had shown them great courtesy, should affixed by a tricolored ribbon. and on search being instituted for the ribbon it was found that the Quai d'Orsay did not boast and inch of the desired three colors. Nor was it forthcoming until a brilliant inspiration occurred to the head of a department, and a messenger was forthwith dispatched with all haste to a certain confectioner in the Rue St. Honore, there to purchase a pound of Chocolate and stipulate that it should be tied up with a tri-colored ribbon which ribbon now affixes the private seal of each commissioner so the historic documents then signed in duplicate. The pens provided were ordinary quills and steel nibs fixed in bamboo handles.

When signing the treaty with France in 1871 Bismarck used a golden pen made specially for the occasion, a present from some manufacturers of Pforzheim, a place in Baden famous for its jewelry work. A golden pen of exquisite design, of which the chief feature is the figure of our Savior surmounting a canopy at the end of the pen, in the niches of which canopy are several beautifully sculptured figures, was presented to the Pope recently, by pilgrims of Southern Italy. This instrument, which was designed

by Sig. Ingaldi in the Italian gothic of the 12th century, is ornamented with precious stones, and is probably the most beautiful penholder in existence.

## JUST A COLD IN THE HEAD!

But if followed by another cold, or some extra exposure, is liable to result in Nasal Catarrh. Unless a radical cure is obtained the Throat, Bronchial tubes and finally the lungs become affected. Nothing cures colds so quickly and pleasantly as Catarrhizone. The Inspector of Mines for Nova Scotia, Mr. Neville, says, "Catarrhizone is the best remedy I have ever used. It cures me of Catarrh of the Head and Throat, and I am pleased to recommend such a satisfactory remedy." Catarrhizone is a safeguard against Colds, Coughs and Catarrh. It can be used while at work, in the church, theatre, or street car. Simply inhale Catarrhizone and it cures. Price \$1.00. Small size, 25 cents. Druggists or Polson & Co., Kingston, Ont.

## WEDS STEP-AUNT; PUZZLE FOLLOW.

Father's His Brother-in-law and so on Through a Blaze.

McKEESPORT, Pa., Dec. 7.—Matthew Slater, a retired hotel keeper, last week had the usual experience of becoming the brother-in-law of his own son and the father-in-law of his sister-in-law. Mrs. Slater likewise has become the sister-in-law of her stepson and the step-mother-in-law of her own sister. This all happened through the marriage of Mr. Slater's son William to the sister of Mrs. Slater, senior, Miss Nellie Boyle.

Mrs. Slater, senior, who was Miss Boyle, is Mr. Slater's second wife, the couple having been married some four or five years ago. Shortly after their marriage Miss Boyle who is now Mrs. Slater, junior, came to live in the household of Slater, senior. At that time Slater, junior, had not nearly attained his majority, but this, but this did not apparently prevent his falling in love with his step-aunt. The senior Slaters, it is said, noticed that the attachment was somewhat warmer than that which usually exists between aunts and step-nephews, and their fears in this direction were verified when Slater, junior, told Slater, senior, that he was in love with his step-aunt; that the reciprocated, and that they wanted to marry.

Slater, senior, because of the family connection and the puzzling ones that would follow such a matrimonial alliance, absolutely forbade the thought of such a thing, and the love-lorn couple apparently fell in with his wishes. Slater, junior, could scarcely have done otherwise since he was not of age, and did not attain his majority, it is said, until recently.

Since the needed consent could not be obtained the sweethearts thought they could afford to wait—and they did—until last week, though the news of their marriage did not become known among their friends until yesterday. Early last week Slater, junior, secured the needed marriage license and the couple repaired to Rev. C. A. McDermott, of St. Peter's church, who performed the ceremony. Then the couple informed their brother-in-law father-in-law and step-mother-in-law and took up their abode in the Hotel Schmidt.

ANY CHILD WILL TAKE McLean's Vegetable Worm Syrup. It is always the same safe, pleasant and effective remedy, but be sure you get McLean's Vegetable Worm Syrup.

DON'T GO HOME, if you have not got at least one bottle of Kendrick's Liniment in the house. Don't go home without it. There is nothing better (if equal) to Kendrick's as a household remedy.

STOPS THE COUGH AND WORKS OFF THE COLD.

Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets cure a cold in one day. No cure, no pay. Price 25 cents.

Imitations abound, but insist upon getting the genuine "The D. & L." Manthol Fluiter. "The D. & L." has stood the test of years. It cures. Its ingredients are potent. "The D. & L." is made by the well-known Davis & Lawrence Co., Ltd.

The Immense Pains of Canada furnish the basis for that peerless cough and cold remedy, Piny Balm; It cures quickly and certainly. Of all druggists, or by mail from the proprietors of Perry Davis' Kidney.

"The D. & L." Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil taken in cases of general debility and loss of appetite, is sure to give the best results. It restores health and renews vitality. Davis & Lawrence Co., Ltd., manufacturers.

## ENLIGHTENERS CORRESPONDENT.

The editor came very near putting that item in the paper. He knew 'twas a wicked feeling to entertain, but he felt in a manner exultant. He somehow imagined that if people saw that item they would understand that Etna Enlightener couldn't be trifled with without grave danger. But the editor, after reflection, threw the item away. He still feared the subtlety of P. Morton Allen.

A few days later came a letter bordered with sombre black. That was also in a woman's hand, and contained the sad intelligence of P. Morton Allen's death. It told what a big man he had been in his town, and paid suitable tribute to his memory.

There, said the editor to himself, I don't believe P. Morton Allen will see that item if I print it, for we are not running an asbestos edition these days. I'm sorry that he run up against the power of the press in the way he did, but he ought to have taken my warning, perhaps this sad case will prove a lesson to others.

So he printed the death notice. Three days afterward he received a fat letter from Stetson Gore. There was too old familiar handwriting of Mr. P. Morton Allen. He wrote:

Dear Sir—You have injured my reputation and my business by killing me off. I demand to know the source of your base information. I enclose a denial of the same and also demand that you print the sketch of my life appended, to show my friends that I am still doing business.

The sketch of P. Morton Allen's life enclosed would have filled 3 columns. His postscript added that if the article was not printed as written he would sue for libel and damages.

The editor pondered a moment and then wrote this letter:

"Office of Etna Enlightener, Etna, Me.

"Dear Sir—Your favor at hand. I am sorry that we have had you killed off in a paper with the large and increasing circulation of the Etna Enlightener, for of course, that makes you more or less dead. Your friends will not believe that you are alive even when they see you around. But now that you are dead so far as the Enlightener is concerned, I know of only one course. We shall be pleased to start you over again in the birth column. It will cost you 25 cents a line, payable in advance. I return the sketch of your life. Very truly yours,

ED. I. TORR.

## HARD, RACKING COUGHS.

Barring accidents, the person who gets along with the least amount of cough will live the longest. Of course, the right time to attack a cough is at the commencement when it is a simple thing for the right treatment to drive the cough quickly away. As a general thing, however, people spend so much time experimenting with various remedies that the cough is well under way before they know it. Then comes the long seige. You feel the hard, racking all through your system, and get relief from nothing. You fill your stomach with nauseating mixtures to no purpose. Then you use compounds of stupefying narcotics, which deceive temporarily, and leave you slightly worse. Some coughs of this kind hang on for weeks or even months, and of course, they frequently develop into serious lung troubles. A true specific for all coughs is Adamson's Botanic Cough Elixir and it should be kept in the house against any emergency. With a cough that has become chronic the first effect of this remedy is a lessening of the dull sensation of pain which usually is felt with such a cough. Then you are conscious that the openness is leaving you, and presently the desire to cough grows less frequent. All this process is brought about by the healing properties of the Elixir. It is a compound of herbs and gums. You can test it. 50 cents at any druggist. Get the genuine with E. W. Adamson & Co's blown in the bottle.

Minard's Liniment Cures Diphtheria

# ASTHMA CURE FREE!

Asthmalene Brings Instant Relief and Permanent Cure in All Cases.

SENT ABSOLUTELY FREE ON RECEIPT OF POSTAL. WRITE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS PLAINLY.



There is nothing like Asthmalene. It brings instant relief, even in the worst cases. It cures when all else fails. The Rev. C. F. WELLS, of Villa Ridge, Ill., says: "Your trial bottle of Asthmalene received in good condition. I cannot tell you how thankful I feel for the good derived from it. I was a slave, chained with putrid sore throat and Asthma for ten years. I despaired of ever being cured. I saw your advertisement for the cure of this dreadful and tormenting disease, Asthma, and thought you had over-spoken yourselves, but resolved to give it a trial. To my astonishment, the trial acted like a charm. Send me a full sized bottle."

Rev. Dr. Morris Wechsler, Rabbi of the Cong. Bnai Israel, New York, Jan. 3, 1901. Dear Sir: Your Asthmalene is an excellent remedy for Asthma and Hay Fever, and its composition alleviates all troubles which combine with Asthma. Its success is astonishing and wonderful. After having it carefully analyzed, we can state that Asthmalene contains no opium, morphine, chloroform or ether. Very truly yours, REV. DR. MORRIS WECHSLER.

AVON SPRINGS, N. Y., Feb. 1, 1901.

Gentlemen: I write this testimonial from a sense of duty, having tested the wonderful effect of your Asthmalene, for the cure of Asthma. My wife has been afflicted with spasmodic asthma for the past 12 years. Having exhausted my own skill as well as many others, I chanced to see your sign upon your windows on 18th street, New York. I at once obtained a bottle of Asthmalene. My wife commenced taking it about the first of November. I very soon noticed a radical improvement. After using one bottle her Asthma has disappeared and she is entirely free from all symptoms. I feel that I can conscientiously recommend the medicine to all who are afflicted with this distressing disease.

Yours respectfully,

O. D. PHELPS, M. D.

Dr. TAIT BROS. MEDICINE CO. Gentlemen: I was troubled with Asthma for 22 years. I have tried numerous remedies, but they have all failed. I ran across your advertisement and started with a small bottle. I found relief at once. I have since purchased your fullsize bottle, and I am now in the best of health and am doing business every day. This testimony you can make such use of as you see fit. Home address, 255 Livingston street. S. RAPHAEL, 67 East 129th st., New York City.

Do not delay. Write at once, addressing DR. TAIT BROS' MEDICINE CO., 70 East 134th St., N. Y.

Sold by all Druggists.

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Fashionable Tailoring Establishment

Is where you will find all the best lines of Black and Blue Beavers, fancy suitings in all shades. Tyke and Clay Serges and fancy Trouserings. All of which we make in up-to-date styles and at as low a figure as consistent with first class work, good fits, always guaranteed. Parties purchasing Cloth from us we do the cutting free. All kinds of Ladies Tailoring and dress making carried on in the establishment. Call and see for yourself

Nov. 13th 1901

S. McLEOD.

## WINCHESTER

### Repeating Rifles

For All Kinds of Shooting. All Desirable Calibers and Weights. A FEW FAVORITES FOR HUNTING.

- Model 1898. 30 Army caliber, weight 8 1/4 pounds.
- Model 1894. 30 W. C. F. caliber, "Extra Light," weight 6 1/2 pounds.
- Model 1904. 30 W. C. F. caliber, "Take Down," weight 7 1/4 pounds.
- Model 1892. 44 and 50 caliber, "Take Down," weight 7 pounds.
- Model 1886. 45-70 caliber, "Extra Light," weight 7 pounds.

Shoot Winchester Ammunition. Made for all kinds of guns.

FREE.—Send Name and Address on Postal for 150-page Illustrated Catalogue.

WINCHESTER REPEATING ARMS CO., NEW HAVEN, CONN.

Minard's Liniment Cures Distemper.

## SCPTICS TURN BELIEVERS AND ARE CURED

Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder

A Great Blessing

"When I read that Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder could relieve Catarrh in 10 minutes I was far from being convinced. I tried it—a single puff through the blowers afforded instant relief, stopped pain over the eyes and cleansed the nasal passages. Today I am free from Catarrh." R. L. Egan's (Easton, Pa.) experience has been that of thousands of others and may be yours.

For sale by F. R. Dalton, Newcastle.

## TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY.

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25 cents.

DON'T SUFFER WITH PAIN, when you can get relief for a quarter of a dollar by using Kendrick's Liniment. Kendrick's is useful in many ways in household and stable.

EVERY LUMBERMAN KNOWS the value of Kendrick's Liniment. There is no remedy more valuable to have at hand.

Only vegetable oils and no course animal fats are used in making

"Baby's Own Soap"

PURE, FRAGRANT, CLEANSING.

Doctors recommend it for Nursery and Toilet use.

Beware of imitations.

ALBERT TOILET SOAP, MFG. Co., Montreal.