STORIES

The French soldier in those days had seen too much to be ever taken by surprise, it is eyes had hardly rested upon my bound gure and the sinister face beside me before seen too much to be ever taken by surprise His eyes had hardly rested upon my bound figure and the sinister face beside me before

figure and the sinister face beside me before he had seen how the matter lay.

"Sacred name of a dog!" he growled, and out flashed his great sabre. Chenier sprang forward at him with his knife, and then, thinking better of it, he darted back and stabbed frantically at my heart. For my own part, I had hurled myselt off the bed on the side opposite to him, and the blade grazed my side before ripping its way through blanket and sheet. An instant later I heard the thud of a neavy fall, and then almost simultaneously a second object struck the floor—something lighter but harder, which rolled under the bed. I will not horrify you with details, my friends. Suffice it that Papilette was one of the strongest swordsmen in the regiment, and struck the rope round his neck, sat his horse with a half smile, as one who is a slightly. that his sabre was heavy and sharp. It left a red blotch upon my wrists and my ankles, as it cut the thongs which bound

When I had thrown off my gag, the first use which I made of my lips was to kiss the sergeant's sacred cheeks. The next was to ask him if all was well with the command. Yes, they had had no alarms. Oudin had just relieved him, and he had come to report. Had he seen the Abbot? No, he had seen nothing of him. Then we must form a cordon and prevent his escape. I was hurrying out to give the orders when I heard a slow and measured step enter the door below, and come creaking up the

Papilette understood it all in an instant " You are not to kill him," I whispered, and thrust him into the shadow on one side of the door : I crouched on the other. Up he came, up and up, and every footfall seemed to be upon my heart. The brown skirt of his gown was not over the threswolves on a buck. Down we crashed, the three of us, he fighting like a tiger, and with such amazing strength that he might have broken away from the two of us. Thrice he got to his feet and thrice we had him ever easin until Panilette made him. Thrice he got to his feet and thrice we had him over again, until Papilette made him feel there was a point to his sabre. He had sense enough then to know that the game was up, and to lie still while I lashed him with the very cords which had been round my own limbs.

"There has been a fresh deal, my fine fellow," said I, "and you will find that I have some of the trumps in my hand this time."

have some of the trumps in my hand this time."

"Luck always comes to the aid of a fool," he answered. "Perhaps it is as well, otherwise, the world would fall too completely into the power of the astute. So, you have killed Chenier, I see. He was an insubordinate dog, and always smelt abomiably of garlic. Might I trouble you to lay me upon the bed? The floor of these Portuguese tabernas is hardly a fitting couch for anyone who has prejudices in couch for anyone who has prejudices in favour of cleanliness."

I could not but admire the coolness of the man, and the way in which he preserved the same insolent air of condescension in spite of this sudden turning of the table. I dispatched Papilette to summon a guard, whilst I stood over our prisoner with my drawn sword, never taking my eyes off him for an instant, for I must confess that I had conceived a great respect for his andacity and resource. andacity and resource

"I trust," said he, "that your men will

"I trust," said he, "that your men will treat me in a becoming manner."

"You will get your deserts—you may depend upon that."

"I ask nothing more. You may not be aware of my exalted birth, but I am so placed that I cannot name my father without treason, nor my mother without a scandal, I cannot claim Royal nonours, but these things are so much more graceful when they are conceded without a claim. The thongs are cutting my skin. Might I beg you to loosen them?"

"You do not give me credit for much intelligence," I remarked, repeating his

Touche," he cried, like a pinked fencer. "But here come your men, so it matters

Ittle whether you loosen them or not."

I ordered the gown to be stripped from him and placed him under a strong guard. Then, as morning was already breaking, I had to consider what my next step was to be. The poor Bart, and his Englishmen be. The poor Bart, and his Englishmen had fallen victims to the deep scheme which might, had we adopted all the crafty you is my very dear wife, Mrs. Alexis suggestions of our adviser, have ended in suggestions of our adviser, have ended in chall I say Madame la Marechale Millefleurs?" half of our force. I must extricate them if it were still possible. Then there was the old lady, the Countess of La Ronda, to be thought of. As to the Abbey, since its garrison was on the alert it was hopeless its garrison was on the alert it was nopeless to think of capturing that. All turned now upon the value which they placed upon their leader. The game depended upon my playing that one card. I will tell you how boldly and how skilfully I played

it,

It was hardly light before my bugler
blew the assembly, and out we trotted on
to the plain. My prisoner was placed on
horseback in the very centre of the troops.
It chanced that there was a large tree just out of musket-shot from the main gate of the Abbey, and under this we halted. Had they opened the great doors in order to attack us. I should have charged home upon them; but, as I had expected, they stood upon the defensive, lining the long wall and pouring down a torrent of hoot-ings and taunts and derisive laughter upon A few fired their muskets, but finding that we were out of reach they soon ceased to waste their powder. It was the strang-est sight to see that mixture of uniforms, French, English, and Portuguese, cavalry, infantry and artillery, all wagging their beads and shaking their fists at us.

My word, their hubbub soon died away

when we opened our ranks, and showed whom we had got in midst of us! There was silence for a few seconds, and then such a hewl of rage and grief! I could see some of them dancing like madmen upon the have to cut short your promising career,

wards us. The Marshal, still pinioned, and with the rope round his neck, sat his horse with a half smile, as one who is slightly bored and yet strives out of courtesy not to show it. If I were in such a situation I could not wish to carry myself better, and surely I can say no more than that.

They were a singular trio, these ambassadors. The one was a Portuguese canadre in his dark uniform, the second a Franch

sadors. The one was a Portuguese cacadore in his dark uniform, the second a French chasseur in the lightest green, and the third a big English artilleryman in blue and gold. They saluted, all three, and the Frenchman did the talking.

"We have thirty-seven English dragoons in our hands," said he. "We give you our most solemn oath that they shall all hang from the Abbey wall within five minutes of the death of our Marshal."

"Thirty-seven!" I cried. "You have fifty-one."

"Thirty-seven"
fifty-one."
"Fourteen were cut down before they
could be secured."
"And the officer?"
"He would not surrender his sword save
the his life. It was not our fault. We

"He would not surrender his sword save with his life. It was not our fault." We would have saved him if we could."

Alas for my poor Bart.! I had met him but twice, and yet he was a man very much after my heart. I have always had a regard for the English' for the sake of that one friend. A brayer man and a worse swordsman I have never met.

friend. A braver man and a worse swordsman I have never met.

I did not, as you may think, take these rascals' word for anything. Papilette was dispatched with one of them, and returned to say that it was too true. I had now to think of the living.

"You will release the thirty-seven dragoons if I free your leader?"

"We will give you ten of them."

"Up with him "I cried.

"Twenty," shouted the chasseur.

"No more words," said I. "Pull on the rope!"

rope !"

"All of them," oried the envoy, as the cord tightened round the Marshal's neck.

"With horses and arms?" They could see that I was not a man to

jest with.
"All complete," said the chasseur, sulk

ily. "And the Countess of La Ronda as well?" said I.

But here I met with firmer opposition.

No threats of mine could induce them to give up the Countess. We tightened the cord. We moved the horse. We did all but leave the Marshal suppended. If once I broke his neck the dragoons were dead men. It was as precious to me as to

"Allow me to remark," said the Marshal, blandly, "that you are exposing me to a risk or a quinsy. Do you not think, since there is a difference of opinion upon this point, that it would be an excellent idea to consult the lady herself? We would neither of us, I am sure, wish to over-ride her own inclinations."

Nothing could be more satisfactory. You can imagine how quickly I grasped at so simple a solution. In ten minutes she was before us, a most stately dame, with her grey curls peeping out from under her stately dame, when a subject to the state of the st grey curls peeping out from under her mantilla. Her face was as yellow as though it reflected the countless doubloons of her

treasury.
"This gentleman." said the Marshal. "is "This gentleman, said the marcha, exceedingly anxious to convey you to a place where you will never see us more. It is for you to decide whether you would wish to go with him, or whether you pre-

fer to remain with me.

She was at his horse's side in an instant.

"My own Alexis," she cried "nothing can

"By the way, you made a small slip of, "By the way, you made a small slip or, the tongue, my dear Colonel," said he, "Except by courtesy, no such person exists as the Dowager Countess of La Ronda. The lady whom I have the honour to present to you is my very dear wife, Mrs. Alexis

It was at this moment that I came to the conclusion that I was dealing with the cleverest, and also the most unscrupulous, man whom I had ever met. As I looked upon this unfortunate old woman my soul was filled with wonder and disgust. As for her, her eyes were raised to his face with such a look as a young recruit might give to the Emperor.

"So be it," said I, at last; "give me tied dragoons and let me go."

They were brought out with their horses and weapons, and the rope was taken from

and weapons, and the rope was taken from the Marshal's neck.

"Good-bye, my dear Colonel," said he.
"I am afraid that you will have rather a lame account to give of your mission, when you find your way back to Massena, though, from all I hear, he will probably be too busy to think of you. I am free to confess that you have extricated yourself from your difficulties with greater ability than I had given you credit for. I presume that there is nothing which I can do for you before

you go ?"
"There is one thing."

"And that is?"
"To give fitting burial to this young officer and his men."

"I pledge my word to it."
"And there is one other."
"Name it." "Name it."
"To give me five minutes in the open with
a sword in your hand a horse between
your legs."
"Tut, tut!" said he. "I should either

or else to bid adieu to my own bonny bride. It is unreasonable to ask such a request of a man in the first joys of matrimony."

I gathered my horsemen together and wheeled them into column.
"Au revoir," I cried, shaking my sword at him. "The next time you may not escape so easily."

"Au revoir," he answered. "When you are weary of the Emperor, you will always find a commission waiting for you in the service of the Marshal Millesleurs."

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

WELL GUARDED.

The Money in the Bank of England Am

Of the millions of pounds of treasure stored during the year in the banks of London, it is interesting to learn that, so careful and thorough is the system of surveillance that rarely more than a few thousands ge into the hands of thieves and burglars. Modern locks, bolts and bars, aided by electricity and other scientific means, have caused hundreds of would-be bank burglars to retire or to spend many weary years under a sentence of penal servitude. Few great banks in the world are

carefully guarded as the Bank of England. The "Old Lady of Threadneedle Street', keeps a good watch upon her treasures. One room alone—the specie room—is estimated to contain gold coins of the total value of £5,000,000. It is a large vault around whose walls are numerous iron around whose walls are numerous iron sates, containing bags of gold, each representing the value of £2,000. What the total of the Bank of England's contents may be it is difficult to say, but doubtless £20,000,000 would be a fair estimate. Day and night is this wealth rigorously guarded. Even if a burglar were able to pass the bank guards on duty during the night, he would find himself face to face with unexpected and insurmountable obstacles.

The safety of the Bank of England is further insured by a magnificent system of electric wires, all which communicate with the quarters of the bank guard and elsewhere. Once a burglar touched these

where. Once a burglar touched these wires he would set into motion bells whose sound would alarm every one within hearing distance, and the thief would fall an easy prey. The difficulties in the way of opening safes are also Homeric. Many of them made by Chubb, they will stand anything

except dynamite.

Every bank and insurance company's office in London has its own strong room and safes, in which may be stored valuables, etc. The strong rooms of Coutte' bank are etc. The strong rooms of Coutte bank are a sight to see, and if their contents could be revealed it would be found that more crowned heads than the queen deposit their moneys and valuables in that old establishment in the Strand. The newer banks probably possess even safer strong rooms, for in their instruction the latest improvements are incorporated.

improvements are incorporated.

The safes and deed boxes used by the safe deposit company are remarkable for their security. Deeds and share certificates representing a value of hundreds of thousands of pounds are stored in them, and most of the boxes are fitted with combination keys so constructed as to prevent anyone picking them or solving the com-bination puzzle, which is of a most intricate

description.

In nearly every case the big banks are In nearly every case the big banks are chary of speaking of the manner in which they keep their treasures. One bank permits only its managers and an assistant to visit certain strong rooms, while another, to guard against any tendency shown by the watchmen to fall asleep, presents its servants with chairs on which they can sit in a certain position. If one falls asleep and moves in the chair, the piece of furniture closes up and throws him upon the floor. The result is that unless the watchmen can sleep standing or walking, the men can sleep standing or walking, the employers of the bank are bound to keep their eyes open.

THE FAMOUS ALERT.

An Historic Ship That Has Just Been Sold

Beached upon the Beauport shoals, near Quebec, lies the old steamship Alert, which in 1875-76 was moored nearer to the North Pole than any other vessel has ever been. She was the flagship of the Nares Arctic expedition and lay all winter at Floeberg Beach 82° 14' north latitude. In 1883 she year. ented by the British Government to the United States Government to take part in the Greely Relief Expedition, and after that successful enterprise she was returned with thanks

In 1885 she was loaned to the Canadian In 1885 she was loaned to the Canadian Government to investigate the navigability of Hudson Straits, and to bring back the party of explorers left upon its banks in 1884 by the Neptune. On this trip the Alert was commanded by Capt. Gordon, and for three weeks was jammed in a field of ice. It was her last northern voyage.

The imperial authorities presented her to the Canadian Government, and the latter, finding her at last unseaworthy, after emfinding her at last unseaworthy, after em-

finding her at last unseaworthy, after employing her for some time in the buoy and lighthouse service, sold her at auction several days ago. She was bought for \$4,000 by a shipbuilder of St. John for the sake of her old metal and other material.

PEARLS OF TRUTH.

If we steal from the moderns, it will be cried down as plagiarism; if from the ancients, it will be cried up as erudition.—

Any event, when a first class cockerel have been the place of the conduction of the c

There is this difference between happines i wisdom, that he who thinks himself happiest man, really is so; but he that thinks himself the wisest, is generally the greatest fool, -Colton.

Every man deems that he has precisely the trials and temptations which are the hardest of all others for him to bear; but they are so simply because they are the very ones he most needs.—Mrs. L. M.

It is the age that forms the man, not the It is the age that forms the man, not the man that forms the age. Great minds do indeed react on the society which has made them what they are, but they only pay without interest what they have received.

THE FARM.

The Farm Dairy.

am aware that a majority will disagree with me. Very many farmers assert that keeping cows more than to supply the family needs, does not pay. I attribute this conviction largely to the uncertain, slip-shod manner in which the dairy is con shod manner in which the dairy is conducted. Those who keep but four or five cows generally make the product up at home, and sell the surplus at the village thome. Those who keep more than that number generally sell the cream to a neighboring creamery. In the first case the former seldent and the same seldent and the same seldent selection. the farmer seldom knows what the surplus price. is. The latter receiving monthly payments knows something more on that point, but generally wishes he did not. The returns in either case are not generally satisfactory. But dairying for profit requires knowledge of the business, facilities and conditions for conducting it, and care in its management-the simple conditions of success in

The first and most important factor is the profit-producing herd. This secured, success is easy; without it, success is impossible. It is a fact that many cows do not, and cannot be made to pay for their keeping. Outside of localities where dairying is extensively engaged in, very few farmers have given attention in breeding to produce the dairy strain, and comparatively few have adopted dairy breeds. The ideal cow with many of our best farmers is a large, well-formed one, disposed to take on flesh and looks sleek, that will raise a calf and give a good flow of milk—the "general purpose" cow. Perhaps for general purposes such a cow is the proper thing, but for profit in the dairy herd she is generally a failure. Wherever dairying is followed as a specialty the general purpose cow is discarded, and the dairy breeds, in which the profit cow is the rule and not the exception, are adopted. Shorthorns are left for breeders of steers on the plains, and Holsteins to supply city milk wagons and condensing factories. For the dairy, the greatest broduction of butter milk wagons and condensing factories. For the dairy, the greatest production of butter fat at the least cost of food is the test quality required in the cow. A herd of native cows is carefully selected by this test and frequently make a profitable dairy, but the result is more likely to turn out satisfactory if Jerseys or Guernseys are made the base

if Jerseys or Guernseys are made the base of the dairy herd.

The number of cows that may be profitably kept on an eighty acre farm, for instance, depends upon the extent to which one wishes to make the dairy business a specialty. The number was only limited to a cow to the acre where the business was crowded, but I would not deem it advisable for a beginner to start in with more than fifteen or twenty cows. This number will warrant a person in the neccessary expenditure of means in preparing stables and dairy and necessary appliances for butter making. A silo is regarded by many as one of the first necessities, and I have no doubt that the silo is an economic have no deubt that the sile is an economic method of preparing food, although I have had no experience with one. I put a power and feed cutter on my barn floor, and a feed mill in an adjoining building, and fed all food dry. The daily rations consisted of fine-cut stalks for bulk food, and a mixture of ground food, corn and oats, with bran and oil meal. The result was very satisfactory. Pure water slightly warmed in winter was always on tap and regarded as a strict necessity. With the number of cows mentioned, a separator may be profitably employed and reduce the labor of the care of the milk to a minimum. A warm, clean, well-ventilated stable, and a commodious tee house, a cool, airy milk-churning room, with plenty of cold, pure water, are indispensable to the making of first-class butter. cold, pure water, are indispensable to the making of first-class butter.

The care of the cows and the making and

marketing of the tutter are matters about which the beginner may get valuable points from a good dairy paper, but the aid of an experienced dairy paper, but the aid of any experienced dairyman is necessary to start them more successfully. Twenty cows should not consume the surplus of an eight acre farm by any means, but with a good herd and the dairy properly managed, they will bring a revenue in milk products, calves, and their contribution to the pork and poultry account of from \$1,200 to \$1,500 a year. Such results are inviting but the Such results are inviting; but the many as barred by insurmountbale obstacles. The expense in starting and lack stacles. The expense in starting, and lack of knowledge of the business are the greatest. These may be largely overcome by beginning on a small scale. A herd of five or six good Jersey cows, bred with care and discretion, will bring you a good herd of cows by the time you have got the necessary experience and conveniences for managing them successfully. My earliest managing them successfully. My earliest shipments of butter did not exceed 100 pounds a month, so that while I was catching on to the way of making butter that would bring best creamery prices and how to sell it to the best advantage. I was not risking a margin on large quanti-

Farm Poultry.

For a ready cash business you cannot discount the cow and the hen. One variety of fowls is not sufficient for the farm, and any event, when a first class cockerel can be bought for \$3 or less it is an easy mat-

the village lots hold a hundred. Some breeds are suited to the one and some to claimed, for naturally, a bank is not inclinthe other condition. Some are not satisfied ed to go to great trouble in finding rightful owners if they fail to come forward of nor greatly productive in confinement.

Farm chickens which have the run of th

that she is not too fat, and because every egg has the same vitality. When eggs are selected and put under a hen they are us-ually of all sorts, and vary somewhat in vitality.

A few years' experience in dairying as a farm specialty has convinced me that few sources of revenue from the farm yield so generous returns for the investment and labor as the well-managed farm dairy. I letting everything tend to their health and compared to the convergence of the convergence of

The old theory that fat hens will not lay well will hardly hold good. Stint them not in a suitable variety, avoiding too much corn. There are a score of things which enter into the secret of procuring prefit, and it will be your fault, and not that of the hens if proper returns are not forthooming.

Grass and Grain for Hogs.

The hog should find a place in the economical management of every farm : given an opportunity he will turn to good account many things that would otherwise go to waste. The milk and slop can usually be fed to the growing pig to better advanage than to almost any other class of stock. But to maintain good health and thrift he should not have all of the neglects heaped upon him because he is a hog. He needs good treatment to make the most of him, and the more fully this is given the better. It is rather poor management that concludes that a hog can thrive upon almost any kind

It is rather puor management that concludes that a hog can thrive upon almost any kind of feed, provided he has a sufficient amount of it. Good wholesome, nutritious food is as essential to good growth and thrift with hogs as with any other class of stock.

Of the seven to nine months needed to grow a hog for market, five, at least, can be spent to good advantage in the pasture fields. While, perhaps, a better grain in proportion to the amount of food sufficient can be received by feeding in a closed pen, the additional risk of disease will, in nearly all cases, overbalance this. The opportunity of exercise, the securing of better air, and of a variety of food, all tend to promote thrift, and these are of sufficient importance to overbalance the small amount of gain received by keeping closely confined. And in many cases it is of no disadvantage to keep hogs in a pasture until ready for market, rather than to confine. The meat will be of a better quality with a fairer proportion of fat and lean than when confined, and especially when cora is the principal dependence for feeding.

FORGOTTEN FORTUNES.

Millions Left Uncalled for in Some Eng

To say that there must be at least \$2,-250,000 lying in London banks which has been forgotten or is awaiting claims from relatives, is no exaggeration at all. If an nvestigation could be made, it would most likely be found that this unclaimed sum was nearer \$5,000,000 than \$2,500,000.

A curious case was that of a wealthy merchant in Leadenball street, whose forgetfulness was a by-word. Ten years ago ne placed \$50,000 in his bank to his private ccount, and immediately forgot all about it, having neglected to fill up the counterfoil in his deposit book. A few months ago, while tearing up some old papers, he came across a pencilled note bearing the words, "Bank, \$50,000," and a date he was unable to decipher. He made enquiries into the matter, and found he was wealthier than he thought by \$50,000 with interest. How he overlooked the amount it is

est. How he overlooked the amount it is difficult to say. He is still noted for the haphazard way in which he keeps his private accounts.

The old lady who forgot the existence of a legacy of \$1,000 a year from her master was another instance of carelessness. Here the old lady, a one-time housekeeper, could hardly read or write. When she received a letter from her late master's solicitors to a letter from her late master's solicitors to the effect that the legacy would be paid quarterly on application at a city bank, the lucky woman for a fortnight was none the

THE IMPORTANT LOOK

ob. of the seal on the envelope, and the fine note paper, caused her to make enquiries, and a friendly neighbour, after much effort, spelt through the letter. The old lady, who was in poor circumstances, could not believe the good news, and so, without going to the bank, she decided that the letter was a hoax.

Five years passed away, when her only on -a soldier-returned from India. One day he accidentally came across the letter, read it, and asked his mother the particalars. But her mind was a complete blank on the subject. However, the son made enquiries, and the result was that his mother and he found \$5,000 awaiting them at the bank and the promise of \$1,000 a year during the forgetful old lady's lite-

Old misers, who have amassed small fortunes, have more than once destroyed their bank books and all evidence showing that Dank books and all evidence showing that they were possessed of money, and in this way one well-known bank once benefited to the extent of \$40,000. None of the relatives of the old man knew of his fortune, and such things are never the concern of the bank. The money was kept in the denositor's name five years when it reased be bought for \$3 or less it is an easy matter to grade up the poultry.

It is a question whether more poultr and eggs are not raised about our cities and villages than upon the farms. The farmer has one flock upon his large farm, while the village lots hold a hundred. Some the village lots hold a hundred. Some the village lots hold a hundred.

in London which never will their own accord.

fields are the healthiest and the most pro-fitable because they get such a variety of feed and insects.

One reason why a hen which steals away from her nest always hatches out well is

The only liberty that a man, worthy of the name, ought to ask for, is, to have all restrictions, inward or outward, removed that prevent his doing what he ought —F.