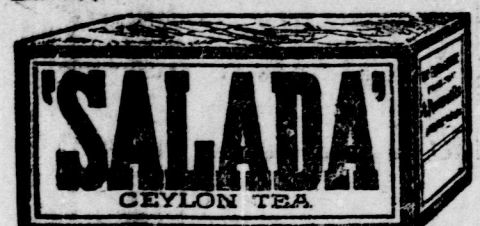


## England

It is not doing a thing to the China tea trade, only that from consumption of 175 million pounds per annum all that is now taken is seven million—British-grown teas driving the China product from the market.



IS BY LONG ODDS JOHN BULL'S PREFERENCE SEALED LEAD PACKETS ONLY.

## THE QUEEN OF THE SEASON

### CHAPTER XXXI

Their first actual contest arose in this wise: Cressida and the earl declared the botanizing expeditions the former because her unlucky fate always led her into tangles of briars from which she was rarely extricated without many rents in her skirts; the latter because he fancied that in Vivien's absence he might obtain a glimpse of Marie, who had so carefully secluded herself ever since the night of the ball, that he had not been able to exchange a word with her.

However, Vivien, turning a deaf ear to Cressida's protest that there was much more enjoyment to be had in admiring the flowers in the conservatory than searching for them by the side of ditches and coming back wet and muddy, set off on a sunny March morning, on one of her rambles, attended solely by Lord Mandeville and Sir Innis.

Let who would sneer at these excursions, they were really very delightful ones. The fashionable belle forgot to be fastidious and untrammelled when she was roaming the woods; the marquis, a nonentity in the drawing-room, could be quite a pleasant companion out of doors; and Sir Innis had led such an adventurous, roaming life that he was quite an authority on all subjects, and could impart his information without marring it with conceit or pomposity.

The trio therefore were wont to return glowing with exercise and in the best of spirits, but on this especial occasion the stroll ended less happily.

On the summit of a high bank of chalk her ladyship chanced to espy a plant she wanted, and the marquis unhesitatingly climbed to procure it. But in his haste to present it to her he left the trowel behind, and it was not missed till they were nearly home.

By this time Vivien was not in the most placable of moods. She had pronounced the plant to be a rare species of saxifrage, and to procure it, she had agreed with her. The marquis, however, deferred to her decision as soon as she insisted that she was right, and did not discover that she was as much provoked by his too prompt acquiescence as by Sir Innis' silent persistence in his own opinion.

"How stupid of Lord Mandeville!" she exclaimed as soon as she discovered the loss of the trowel. "Where is he?"

"Over yonder, gathering the wood-memories you were admiring."

"Pray call him, Sir Innis, will you? and tell him he must go back and find it!"

"Excuse me, Lady Vivien, I cannot be the bearer of such a message as this. I will send one of the servants to the bank where it is left as soon as we reach the house."

"But it may be gone by then, and I consider the marquis deserves to be punished for his carelessness, so he shall atone for it. Will you tell him this, or must I go and do it myself?"

Sir Innis moved aside to let her pass. "I scarcely think you would like to speak unkindly to such a devoted admirer, but if you are determined upon it, I cannot prevent it."

"Devoted admirer!" she repeated. "Was that intended as a sneer, and was it on the marquis or myself?"

"On neither. Why should I sneer at Lord Mandeville for being one amongst the many who admire Lady Vivien St. Orme?"

"And yet you speak as if—as if—"

"As if I thought that it would be generous to requite his eagerness to give you pleasure with a scolding for a simple act of forgetfulness? Why, so I do."

"How prompt you are to find fault with me, Sir Innis! If ever you consent to take office in the ministry, I should advise that a new appointment be made, censor-general."

Sir Innis shrugged his shoulders. "What a very disagreeable fellow I must be for you to consider me qualified for such a position."

Lady Vivien turned from him pettishly, for his sang froid was excessively provoking.

"Say what you will, Sir Innis, I do like losing my favorite trowel."

"Such a misfortune should occur. I have no doubt that Mandeville will be delighted to replace the implement."

"I do not like substitutes," retorted the lady. "The marquis is—but you need

not look at me so gravely; I am not going to say anything so ludicrous as that you have taken under your patronage, as you did my brother. How fond you must be of the adoring homage these boys pay you!"

This was terribly stinging, and Vivien thought of the momentary flash of the dark eyes looking so steadily into hers, and that told her, yet the baronet answered with unflinching composure:

"Yes, it is very flattering to my vanity, but you need not hesitate to abuse my worshippers or me."

"I was about to remark that the marquis is exceptionally stupid. Can you contradict this?"

"Not wholly. He is warm-hearted and well-intentioned; he will, I hope, develop into a steady, sensible man; but I will confess that there are moments when I wish he would not fetch and carry like a well-trained retriever at the bidding of a lady who does not appreciate his good-nature."

"I am sure I always thank him prettily," the young lady demurely protested.

"So you do your gardeners when he brings you a choice exotic for your hair, and your maid when he fastens your glove?"

Vivien tossed her head.

"I did not know that men were so incorrigibly selfish as to grudge the small services courtesy demands from them, unless they obtain an equivalent for their pains."

"Everyone likes to have that, Lady Vivien, whether he be selfish or no," was the reply.

"Indeed! Your remarks are rather puzzling sometimes, Sir Innis. Would you have the marquis keep an account against me? So many suits spilled in scrambling through hedges and ditches for rare specimens—so much shoe-leather worn in trotting after a certain demure on certain days? And what payment am I to give him, if grateful and grateful words count for nothing in your estimation?"

"Ask him to do nothing that can lower him in his own eyes; or, in other words, treat him as your equal."

"By birth, certainly. I will say your lordship to the marquis the next time I have occasion to address him. What next? This is only rule the first. What else must I do to satisfy your rather—excuse me—exaggerated ideas of what is due to this foolish, awkward boy?"

"An I to answer this question?" he smilingly demanded. "Will it not expose me to another of your cutting comments on my tendency to lecture?"

"If I ask a question, I certainly expect a response," said Vivien, coldly.

"Then, if you say to me what amends shall you make to Mandeville, I, his friend, must reply, behave to him as to one whose deficiencies appeal to your generosity; delicately aiding him to overcome his shyness and those little weaknesses which expose him to the ridicule of the unthinking."

"Take the task upon yourself, Sir Innis. It will suit you, while to me it would be a most distasteful one. I am not so fond of opening the eyes of my friends to their faults. Now I have affronted you!" she said presently, when she found that he walked on beside her in thoughtless silence. "You think me flippant, impertinent, or, perhaps, more frank than polite?"

"On the contrary, I was trying to comprehend why you speak of these trivial spots on Lord Mandeville's character as if they were grave errors. Do you not perceive that it is only an excessive anxiety to please you that makes you forget how we may stoop too low, even to oblige a lady?"

Vivien took off her hat, and fanned herself with it; then turned suddenly to her outspoken companion:

"Sir Innis, will you fetch that trowel for me?"

"With pleasure, after I have seen you safely to the house."

"But I prefer that you should go now—immediately!"

"Will do so as soon as Mandeville joins you."

Vivien laughed saucily.

"Then you are not as grumpy in practice as you are in precept. You are as willing to do my errands as the lad on whose good nature you have been leaving me for impugning it. Monsieur, I thank you, and she swept him mocking courtesy. "Now prove that you are in earnest by going at once."

But Sir Innis was not a whit discomfited. He bowed equally low, and then began to retrace his steps; but as he did so the wilful lady's mood changed. She flitted after him, and tapped his arm.

"You are too obedient. I beg you to stay where you are, I was only jesting."

"But I am not," was the grave reply. "I would rather go in search of that trowel than hear Mandeville stammer and make apologies than the thing is worth, redder under your sarcastic hints that it is not the first time he has committed the same mistake, and then rush off in such haste to retrieve his error, and win back your smiles, that he will come to dinner tired and heated, and too late for the soup."

"Since when have you been seized with this sudden partiality for the marquis?" Vivien sarcastically inquired. "that you play the champion in this violent manner?"

"I have told you that I like him well enough."

"And is that all? Then it is to mortify me that you have been indulging in this treatise on good manners? No, don't spare me, sir," she added, her eyes beginning to sparkle angrily. "I have a still more uncivil reason for your behavior, pray let me hear it. I have long known that Aymer's bosom friend considers himself a privileged person."

"Privileged, I hope, to run away when his fair antagonist threatens him with the loss of her temper, and Sir Innis raised his hat and walked quickly down the woodland path, a turn of which soon hid him from her sight.

[To be Continued.]

## A SUICIDE AT CHATHAM

Thomas Collop, Well Known Hotel Man, Shot Himself.

Young Man Shot and Killed While Hunting—Fatal Railway Wreck.

SUICIDE AT CHATHAM.

Chatham, Ont., Dec. 12.—Thomas Collop, a well known citizen, on Saturday took his own life. He went into the barn, and placing a 30-cal. revolver in his temple, pulled the trigger. He died in a few hours. Collop was, up to a few months ago, a hotel-keeper, having conducted the Park Hotel here for many years. He retired a short time ago, and took up his residence on Murray street, where he ended his existence. He had been a resident of Chatham for more than forty years. Ill-health is supposed to have driven him to suicide. Deceased left a widow and five children.

HUNTER SHOT AND KILLED.

Holland, Mich., Dec. 12.—William Valiente, aged 20, was accidentally shot and killed near here Saturday while hunting. He leaves a widow and two children. He had placed the butt end of his gun on a log, the gun slipped and discharged, the bullet entering his mouth and passing out through the back of the head. Death was instantaneous.

FATAL RAILWAY WRECK.

Menominee, Mich., Dec. 12.—The wreck of two passenger trains on Saturday morning was the worst ever seen in this section. In addition to the complete demolition of two locomotives and baggage and express cars, both smokers and the baggage car of the south-bound train were badly damaged. It took the wrecker all day to clear the track. Fireman Hanrahan was so badly burned he is not expected to live. The others injured are getting along as well as can be expected. Express Messenger Henry McLaughlin, who was reported to have had both shoulders dislocated, was not so seriously injured, and continued on his run.

FELL UNDER THE CARS.

Guelph, Dec. 12.—John Mulrooney, aged about 21 years of age, and a son of Patrick Mulrooney, of this city, while trying to board a moving G. T. R. freight train, slipped and fell under the wheels. The cars passed over one of his legs, badly crushing it, so that amputation was necessary.

FOUND WIFE AND CHILD DEAD.

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 12.—When Frank Brooks, of 1,657 Russell street, this city, came home from work Friday night he found in one bedroom his wife, shot dead, and in another his 9-year-old daughter, also dead. In a note that he found on his wife, she stated that she was tired of life, and was going to heaven, and take her little daughter with her, from which it is supposed she committed the murder and then killed herself. The woman had been in poor health for some time.

KILLED BY A FALLING TREE.

Ridgeway, Ont., Dec. 12.—Henry Leconte, while felling trees on the Springfield farm, about three miles from here, Saturday afternoon, was struck on the head by the limb of a tree, killing him instantly.

Your Best Interests.

will be served by making care of health. It will be a loss of time and money to be stricken with serious illness. Take Hood's Sarsaparilla and purify your blood. In this way all germs of disease will be expelled, sickness and suffering will be avoided, and your health will be preserved. Isn't this a wise course?

HOOD'S PILLS are the only pills to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla. Price 25 cents.

Spain has more sunshine than any other country in Europe, the yearly average being 3,000 hours.

The Appetite of a Goat.

Is envied by poor dyspeptics whose Stomach and Liver are out of order. All such should know that Dr. King's New Life Pills, the wonderful Stomach and Liver Remedy, gives a splendid appetite, sound digestion and a regular bodily habit that insures perfect health and great energy. Only 25 cents at drug stores.

Only a truthful man knows how much he lies.

The housewife's horror—the bedbug—driven out of the house by Persic Bedbug Exterminator. Beware of imitations.

At all drug stores.

A woman's strength lies in her weakness.

No Christmas and New Year's table should be without a bottle of Dr. Siegel's ANGIOSTUR Bitters, the world-renowned aperitif, of exquisite flavor. Beware of imitations.

The man who hesitates is lost, but the woman who hesitates is won.

LIFE SAVED.—Mr. James Bryson Cameron writes: "I was confined to my bed with inflammation of the lungs and was given up by physicians. A neighbor advised me to try Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil, stating that his wife had used it for a throat trouble with the best results. Acting on this advice, I procured the medicine, and less than half a bottle cured me; I certainly believe it saved my life."

It was with reluctance that I consented to a trial, as I was reduced to such a state that I doubted the power of any remedy to do me good.

Stupid wisdom is so universal that only crazy cleverness is now marketable.

Persic Plant Food makes roses bloom.

Navigation and Railways

CANADIAN PACIFIC RY.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAYS

TO UNITED STATES POINTS.

Round trip tickets will be sold Dec. 23, 24, 25, 30, 31, 1898, and Jan. 1, 1899, good going only on date of sale, good returning from destination up to and including Jan. 3, 1899, over the Canadian Pacific, London and west to points in central Europe. Association territory, north of Ohio River, including Louisville; east of Lake Michigan; also east of and including cities Chicago, Peoria, Quincy, Keokuk, Hannibal and St. Louis to Detroit.

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THOS. R. PARKER, City Passenger Agent, office 161 Dundas street, corner Richmond.

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A Pretty Foot Goes a Long Way

But what is the use of a pretty foot, in this country in the winter time, if you do not have a perfect fitting Rubber or Overshoe.

Now, this may be news to you, but you will find it to be a fact; there is only one make of Rubbers and Overshoes, in this country, that are right up-to-date in fit, finish, quality and durability and they are the

Granby Rubbers and OVERSHOES

thin, light, comfortable. Extra thick at ball and heel.

"GRANBY RUBBERS WEAR LIKE IRON."

HINTON & RUTBALL THE UNDERTAKERS.

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Navigation and Railways

CANADIAN PACIFIC RY.

CHRISTMAS RATES

Return Tickets will be sold as follows:

General Public: Single First Class Fare, going Dec. 24, 25 and 26, returning until Dec. 27, 1898.

Single First Class Fare and One-Third, going Dec. 24 to 26, returning until Dec. 28, 1898.

Teachers and Students: (On surrender of Certificate signed by Principal): Single First Class Fare and One-Third, going Dec. 10 to 31, 1898, returning until Jan. 18, 1899.

Between all stations in Canada, Port Arthur, S. S. Marie, Mich., and Detroit, Mich., and to, and from, Suspension Bridge, N. Y., and Buffalo, N. Y.

Commercial Travelers: (On presentation of Commercial Travelers' (Railway) Certificate): Single First Class Fare, going Dec. 17 to 26, 1898, returning until Jan. 4, 1899.

Between all stations in Canada, Port Arthur, S. S. Marie, Windsor and East.

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MICHIGAN CENTRAL

"The Niagara Falls Route."

Christmas and New Year's Excursions

At Single Fare for the Round Trip.

Tickets will be issued Dec. 24, 25 and 26, good to return Dec. 27; also going Dec. 31 and Jan. 1, and 2, good to return Jan. 3. And at

Fare and One-Third for Round Trip.

Going Dec. 23, 24 and 25, good to return Dec. 28; also going Dec. 30, 31 and Jan. 1, good to return Jan. 4.

Teachers and Students.

on presentation of certificates signed by principal, tickets will be issued at fare and one-third for round trip, good going Dec. 10 to 31 and returning not later than Jan. 18.

Usual reduced fares to commercial travelers.

JOHN PAUL, City Passenger and Ticket Agent.

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Intercolonial Railway OF CANADA

The direct Route between the West and all points on the Lower St. Lawrence and Lake des Chaleurs. Province of Quebec; also for New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward and Cape Breton Islands, Newfoundland and St. Pierre.

Express trains leave Montreal and Halifax daily (Sunday excepted) and run through without change between these points.

The through express train cars of the Intercolonial Railway are brilliantly lighted by electricity, and heated by steam from the locomotive, thus greatly increasing the comfort and safety of travelers.

Comfortable and elegant buffet, sleeping and day cars are run on all through express trains.

The popular summer sea bathing and fishing resorts of Canada are all along the Intercolonial, or are reached by that route.

Canadian-European Mail and Passenger Route.

Passengers for Great Britain and the Continent can leave Montreal Tuesday morning and join outward Mail Steamers at St. John on Wednesday, or they can leave Montreal on Wednesday morning and join outward Mail Steamers at Halifax on Thursday.

The attention of shippers is directed to the superior facilities offered by this route for the transport of flour and general merchandise intended for the Eastern Provinces, Newfoundland and the West Indies; also for shipments of grain and produce intended for the European markets, either by way of St. John or Halifax.

Tickets may be obtained and all information about the route, also freight and passenger rates, on application to

A. H. HARRIS, General Traffic Manager, Board of Trade Building, Montreal.

D. POTTINGER, General Manager, Railway Office, Montreal, N. B., May 21, 1897.

## Railways and Navigation

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY

For Christmas and New Year Holidays, 1898-99

Will issue Return Tickets between

All stations in Canada: From all stations in Canada to Detroit and Port Huron. From all stations in Canada to, but not from, Buffalo, Black Rock, Suspension Bridge and Niagara Falls, N.Y. From Detroit and Port Huron to stations in Canada, but not east of Hamilton and Canfield Junction on lines to Buffalo.

General Public: SINGLE FIRST CLASS FARE, going Dec. 24th, 25th and 26th, tickets good returning from destination not later than Dec. 27th, 1898; also on Dec. 31st, Jan. 1st and 2nd, tickets good returning from destination not later than Jan. 3rd, 1899.

SINGLE FIRST CLASS FARE and ONE-THIRD, going Dec. 23rd, 24th and 25th, returning from destination not later than Dec. 28th, 1898; also on Dec. 30th and 31st and Jan. 1st, good returning from destination not later than Jan. 4th, 1899.

Teachers and Pupils on surrender of standard certificate: SINGLE FARE and ONE-THIRD, going Dec. 10th to 31st inclusive, good returning from destination not later than Jan. 18th, 1899.

Commercial Travelers on presentation of certificate: SINGLE ORDINARY FARE from Dec. 17th to 26th inclusive, good to return from destination not later than Jan. 4th, 1899.

Tickets and all information at "Clock" corner Richmond and Dundas streets. E. De La Hooke, city agent, and G. T. R. Depot.

WHITE STAR LINE

CHRISTMAS SAILINGS.

MAJESTIC, from New York Dec. 13, at noon, arriving at Queenstown Dec. 19, Liverpool Dec. 20.

CYMRIC, from New York, Dec. 14, 3 p.m.

Saloon rates by this steamer \$50 and upwards. No second cabin. Steerage \$25. Passengers by these steamers will be able to reach any part of Great Britain and Ireland in time for Christmas.

E. De La Hooke

"Clock" Corner, Richmond and Dundas streets, Sole Agent for London.

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Royal Mail Steamships, Liverpool, Calling at Rimouski and Moville.

From Portland.

"MONGOLIAN".....Dec. 17, 5 a.m.

"NUMIDIAN".....Dec. 31