

## A Tenderfoot's Wooing

By CLIVE PHILLIPPS WOLLEY  
(Author of "Gold, Gold in Cariboo," Etc.)

### CHAPTER XVI.—(Cont'd.)

Five minutes later when he met his wife downstairs, he asked whether she had found anything of the old woman.

"Yes, I made up quite a bundle for her; a warm petticoat and all sorts of thick things. Kitty's and mine; but the silly old thing has gone without them."

Rolt looked grave.  
"Oh, you need not frown, Dick. We were rather long, I know, but it is so hard to decide what one really has done with, and if the old woman didn't get her clothes to-day, she will get them next week when she comes to give the house its monthly scrubbing."

Rolt looked out over the darkening landscape. The November day was drawing rapidly to a close, and he knew that old Mary had seven miles to trudge back to her rancherie, but it was curious that she had not waited. He could see the trail which led to the gulch through which ran Mary's road home, but there was no sign of Mary. Old as she was she must have moved quickly to have gained the shelter of the gulch already, or she could not have waited long for those clothes.

A question which Rolt wanted to ask was suppressed before it left his lips. Instead he asked his wife how long it was since old Mary had given the house one of her "thorough scrubbing."

"More than a month, I'm afraid, but you know they have all been away from the rancherie. Why? Do any of the rooms want scrubbing—very badly, old man?"

"Oh, no not a bit. I make a good deal of mess with my boots in the bath room, but you and Kitty look after the top floor, don't you, little woman. It is always as clean as a new pin in spite of my efforts to the contrary."

"What a delightful old humbug you are, Dick, where I am concerned," she said fondly. "I did not know that you would miss old Mary's ministrations. She cleans the whole house once a month, upstairs and down, but we ought to have kept up appearances at any rate in her absence. I will go and see to it at once."

This was more than Rolt had bargained for. He had obtained the information he wanted without alarming her, but by suggesting a fault where he knew none existed.

However, he followed his wife to the room, and was relieved to be shown all sorts of rids and disorder, which he himself would never have noticed, but no trace could he find of that for which he was looking.

Nothing had been touched; nothing that he could think of was missing. Even that damp outline on the boards had dried off now. He wished that he had examined it more carefully, but, after all, it could not have been old Mary in his room, though she apparently did know the way to it.

He paused for a long minute, and went over everything carefully with his eye. By George! his Winchester had gone. No, it hadn't. There it was behind his oilskin, and there, was absolutely nothing else which she could have wanted.

That face peeping around the doorway must have been a sick man's fancy.

### CHAPTER XVII.

In order to keep Anstruther amused

## FOR Indigestion and Biliousness

Indigestion, biliousness, headaches, flatulence, pains after eating, constipation, are all common symptoms of stomach and liver troubles. And the more you neglect them the more you suffer. Take Mother Seigel's Syrup for your stomach, liver, or bowels are slightly deranged or

## MOTHER SEIGEL'S SYRUP

have lost tone. Mother Seigel's Syrup is made from the curative extracts of certain roots, herbs, and leaves, which have a remarkable tonic and strengthening effect on all the organs of digestion. The distressing symptoms of indigestion or liver troubles soon disappear under its beneficial action. Buy a bottle to-day, but be sure you get the genuine Mother Seigel's Syrup. There are many imitations, but not one that gives the same health benefits. 1015

## is the Best Remedy

Now sold in two sizes only. Full Size, Price 1.00. Trial Size, Price 50c.

and quiet, Mary Rolt had dinner served that night for the four of them in the bedroom, busying herself in making the pretty place as vivid a contrast as possible to the grim world outside.

A wood fire glowed merrily on the wide hearth, and the light of it was reflected by the silver and glass that nestled cozily in the folds of the rose-colored cretonne hangings.

"Do you want all the blinds drawn, Frank?" she asked with her hand on the last of them.

"Not unless you wish it."  
"Well, then, I'll leave this one undrawn. I always smuggle into bed more cozily when I can peep out into a bitter night like that. Can you see down the valley from where you lie without moving? A peep at it will make the fire feel warmer and the room more homelike."

"It always feels homelike where you are, Mrs. Rolt."

She turned to him with a laugh, and then, turning to Kitty, who had just entered the room, bade her be quick with the dinner.

"And see, my girl," she added, "that is not the way to lay a table, and then with a few deft touches rearranged some of the silver."

Kitty for the nonce had donned cap and apron, and Anstruther was not the first to discover more charm and coquetry in a maid's cap than in her mistress's toilette.

"Does the family expect to be waited on or do it stretch?" she asked, saucily.

"Where I was last, the family had to be waited on when it had a party, but when it was by itself it stretched like this," and reaching across the table she possessed herself of a salt cellar.

"You went as a lady-help, I suppose," retorted Mrs. Rolt, severely, "all lady and no help, like Miss Moran."

"What was her story?" asked Anstruther.

"Oh, she came out to help the poor dear boys, her brothers. They could not afford to hire any help, and just pigged until she came. At the end of a fortnight their sister had discovered exactly ninety-nine different things, each of which was 'the only thing she never could do.' And actually, guessing who it was who cleaned the boots, she put hers outside her bedroom door every night."

"And?"  
"And? Oh, and she married, of course, and her brothers do just as they did whilst she was with them, except that her husband cleans her boots now."

But Anstruther was not listening to Mrs. Rolt's libel on lady helps. Instead, he was gazing intently through the uncertain window at the foot of his bed, to which the others had their backs turned.

"Who would be camping down the valley to-night, Mrs. Rolt?" he asked.  
"In the hay meadows? No one."  
"Is not that a fire? Surely, my eyes are not playing me false again?"

The Boss turned lazily in his chair.

"Yes, that is a fire sure enough. There are two of them. Do you see that little one just beyond the first?"  
Suddenly Rolt's face changed. He sprang to the window, took one searching glance down the valley, and then turned sharply to his wife, his face working with some feeling which he strove to control.

"Mary, dear, I want to speak to you for a moment. Will you excuse us, Frank?" and laying his hand on Kitty's shoulder as he passed, he whispered, "Keep him quiet whatever happens. I rely on you," and then he followed his wife from the room.

Once outside the door his manner changed. "It's our stacks, little woman. Those devils are firing our winter feed. Keep cool and run now and tell the men in the dining-room. I'm off to the mess house to get the half-breed. Keep your heart up; we'll stop them before they can do much damage."

He was running downstairs as he spoke, and snatched a Winchester from its rack as he passed out of the hall.

Mary Rolt's heart sank as she saw him snatch the rifle, but she did his bidding as he would have had her do it, with the utmost coolness, and when the men had rushed out after their master, she went back to the sick-room. There was no need for any explanation there.

Through the uncertain window a glare of red light proclaimed the work that was on hand even if the noise of saddling up and the hurrying of hoofs beneath the window and the short sharp sentences of the mounting men had not told the tale.

"Is it shot? Al?" they heard someone ask.

"Shoot? Aye, shoot to kill, curse them. Git you devil, and a clatter of hoofs told that the horse had 'got.'"

"Never mind the horse stacks, boys; you can't save them. Ride for all you are worth to the first that is not lighted, and—"  
The Boss's voice died out as he galloped away with his men.

At the back of the ranch and on both sides of it lay a great enclosed

meadow of about a thousand acres in a long parallelogram and down the middle of it ran a chain of hay stacks, each fenced in, the feed upon which depended the safety of Rolt's stock if a hard winter should come.

There are years, many of them, luckily, in which these stacks need not be touched. In an open winter the cattle are carried without having resort to the store laid up for a hard spell, and in consequence some men trust to luck and keep little or no reserve of hay.

The e are the men who fail in the cattle business. Sooner or later a deep snow comes; so keep that the cattle cannot paw it away to get at the grass beneath and then the men who have not provided against such times lose every head of stock.

It means ruin to the improvident, but Dick Rolt was not such a fool as to take any chances where the safety of his cattle was concerned. Three years' hay was stacked in the thousand acres, and if none of it should be used the next year's crop would be cut and stacked just the same.

The sight which met the eyes of those who watched at the window would have been weirdly beautiful if the meaning of it had not been so hideous. The night was one which not only precluded any possibility of accidental ignition, but made it difficult to understand the rapidity with which the stack after stack burst into flames.

The heavy Scotch mist with which the valley was filled—a freezing mist, which was almost rain—was crimson now.

Over twenty stacks, beginning with the one nearest to the ranch house, were in flames, one here and there which had failed to ignite standing out back and exaggerated in size, in the fierce light made by its fellows, whilst the roar of the burning could be heard where the watchers stood.

Down in the middle of the valley ran a chain of red fire. Whilst the walls of it were still darkness made darker by contrast, and in this, imagination could paint the twelve or fourteen men who rode with their weapons in their hands and murder in their hearts.

Once or twice a figure was seen near the farthest of the stacks, thrown out in bold relief for a moment as the devil's work succeeded and the flames took hold, but though Mary Rolt held her breath to listen, there came no rattle of fire arms.

"Twenty-three, Mary, but it is ten minutes since the last blazed up!"

"Stop where you are, Kitty. Mr. Anstruther, for God's sake, don't try to move. You can't help now," was Mrs. Rolt's only answer, and then he ran through her husband's bathroom and they heard her taking the stairs in headlong flight.

"Phon, oh Phon," they heard her call, "bar the kitchen window, quick! Indians come out your throat, and whilst she spoke they heard her turning the keys in the main doors and putting up the great bars.

"Run to her, Kitty, and help her. I shall be all right."

"Will you swear to keep till, Frank?"

"I swear. Run, dear."

The girl obeyed him, and a few moments later Mrs. Rolt, Kitty, and the frightened Chinook re-entered the room.

"They can't get in now unless they burst the doors," sobbed Mrs. Rolt, breathless with her exertions. "Watch that back door, Kitty, whilst I call the men," and she ran to her husband's room, again for the revolver which hung there.

Tearing away the curtains, and throwing the little window open, she peered out, but the light inside was too bright. She could see nothing.

"Put the lamp out, Kitty," she called, and as the light went out in obedience to her order, she saw dimly something moving in the shadow of a house where the stores were kept.

(To be continued.)



Lady Anglessey.  
One of the most beautiful women in the British Court circles. She was married to Sir Charles H. Paget, sixth Marquess of Anglesey. Lady Victoria Marjorie is daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Rutland, and has a little girl, Alexandra Mary Caroline, three years old, who inherits much of her mother's attractiveness and good looks.

With the Machine.

She—'And what do you do, general, when the enemy is close to you and as thick as peas in a pod?'  
General—'We shell them, my dear.'

## The Farm

### From Stall to Pasture.

Regularity is one of the important rules in a successful dairy stable. The aim is to feed the same kind of feed, at the same hour each day. If a change of feed is made, it is done gradually, as a sudden change tends to affect the animal system and decreases the flow of milk. Milking must also be done at a certain time each day, and by the same person. Any deviation from the accustomed time is readily noticed when the milk is placed on the scales. If it is necessary for the dairymaid, who has a herd under test, to closely follow a schedule in order to get the most from his cows, it is equally important that the same regularity be given the ordinary herd in order that they may produce to their maximum. In a few weeks a decided, and in many cases a sudden, change will be made in the feed of most herds. From dry fodder to fresh, green grass in a day is sufficient to disturb the best bovine digestive system.

It is a mistake to turn stock to pasture in the spring before the grass has attained considerable growth. The young, immature grass contains a large amount of water, and a considerable quantity must be consumed in order that the animal may receive sufficient dry matter, or food nutrients, to sustain the body and accomplish the regular amount of work in the form of producing milk. Not only is too much of the "washy" grass injurious to the animal, but the pastures are kept cropped short and never supply the amount of feed through the season that they would have had, the grass been given a chance to get a start in the spring. The effect of soft grass is not noticed on coming stock, but is plainly shown by the milk cow. At first the flow is slightly decreased, but as she becomes accustomed to her new ration, and the grass becomes more mature, a favorable influence is exerted upon both the quantity and quality of the milk. When the animals have an opportunity of consuming a large quantity of grass without too much exertion, they obtain a ration equal in nutritive value to the grain. The fresh grass is also more digestible than dry fodder or cereal concentrates.

To Balance the Ration.  
Fresh grass contains a higher percentage of protein than older grass. It is not a balanced ration, and for economical feeding some dry roughage or concentrates should be fed the first week or two that cows are on grass. By the middle of June a good clover or meadow grass pasture will provide a ration that will permit a cow to do her best. Analysis of dry clover cut at certain dates show that the amount of protein and mineral substance is greatest in the young plant, but gradually decreases, and carbohydrates and fibre increase as the plant matures. This points to the fact that feeds to supplement new grass should be of a carbonaceous nature in order to balance the ration, but as the summer advances and pasture become drier, feeds that will bolster up the protein side are necessary.

The change from the comparatively dry feed of winter to the succulent grass should be made by degrees. Give the cow her regular feed of dry fodder before turning her out on grass the first few days. Once the cow secures a good feed of grass it is well to avoid feeding legume hay or bran, as these feed are rich in the same substance that fresh grass contains. Experience is required that is rich in carbohydrates in order to balance the ration. When the season opens up, warm, grass soon becomes firm, and may be considered a perfect feed in itself. So long as there is sufficient of this kind of pasture, supplementary feeds are not required. As the season advances, grass becomes more or less mature and is frequently rather short. It is then a little heavy on the carbohydrate side of the ration, and additional feeds should be of a protein nature.

### Divide the Pasture Fields.

Cows do better if given a frequent change of pasture. It is a mistake to allow grass to be too closely cropped, although it is difficult to avoid such a condition. A ten-acre field, divided into two fresh grass lots, and cows pastured on it week about will give much better results than the same area with the cows on it continually. By use of a temporary fence the pasture field could be divided in order to give the grass every chance.

Early in the season the nights are usually chilly and the ground damp. Both these conditions have a detrimental effect on the animal system as well as on the udder. In order to run no risk of cows becoming disabled, it is a good plan to stable them at night for the first week or two and also on wet nights during the summer. This may entail a little more work, but a cow's life may be saved by it. Extreme changes should be avoided if possible. If the cows are kept in the stable in the spring until the field is good picking in the pasture field, the increased amount of feed resulting from giving the grass a chance will amply repay for the extra work of feeding of dry fodder in the stable.

Farmer's Advocate.

## One Tea-spoonful

of "SALADA" for every two cups—boiling water—and five minutes' infusion will produce a most delicious and invigorating beverage.



SEND FOR A TRIAL PACKET  
Mail us a postal saying how much you now pay for ordinary tea, and the brand you prefer—Black, Mixed or Green.  
"SALADA," TORONTO.

### Successful Calf-Raising.

More attention should be paid to the babyhood of the cow. Many cows are ruined by being stunted when in the calf period through lack of proper feed and care which hinder their development. This is in evidence in many parts of our country. The undeveloped cow is more subject to disease, and from this class we get the great number of "boarders." The calf should be well fed, new milk at first, gradually turning to skim at about three weeks old. The calf should be kept in a growing condition so that full development at maturity may be insured. The feeder should watch carefully and see that the calf will not take scours, the bane of the dairy cattle raiser. This is usually caused by overfeeding. Milk should be fed to the young calf three times a day. As the calf grows the skim milk ration should be increased, and after each feed of milk a small portion of meal should be given. When the heifer is six or seven months old the task becomes easier, as she then can handle and assimilate coarser feeds as the digestive organ develops. From this time on she should be kept thrifty, but not fat. When the heifer should drop the first calf depends on her breed, size and development. Some claim that early breeding develops the milking propensities of the heifer. Where such is practiced on 18 to 20 months should elapse before the second lactation period to allow for growth and development. The cow milking a large amount of milk works as hard as any horse and must be well fed and cared for. The rearing of the calf under these conditions, about with skillful feeding and good care, will improve a very mediocre herd into a fine herd of producers. Nell Sangster in Farm and Dairy.

### Treating Seed Oats for Smut.

Last season was particularly favorable to smut in the eastern part of Canada, resulting in a great increase of loss from this source. The grain crop will also be worse infected than usual, hence farmers should treat their seed oats very carefully this spring. A small expenditure in time and money may, in this way, increase the yield per acre by five to fifteen bushels.

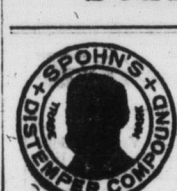
The prevention of smut in oats is as follows: On the evening before the seed oats are to be sown, prepare a solution of formaldehyde (formalin) 1 pint to 40 gallons of water. Spread the oats five inches deep on the barn floor and sprinkle one gallon of the solution to each bushel. Shovel over thoroughly, and cover the pile completely with the oat sacks, blankets, etc. The following morning spread the pile out to dry. Much of the moisture will have been absorbed by the grain, hence the seeder should be regulated to allow for the swelling of the seed.—Seed Branch, Ottawa.

### Fire Waste.

The annual average fire loss in Canada for the past three years has been \$35,000,000. Add the cost of insurance protection in excess of the losses paid, and the cost of maintaining waterworks and private fire protection, another total annual cost will aggregate over \$61,000,000. These are colossal figures, and when you add to them the cost of fire waste in the United States, it makes a grand aggregate of \$230,000,000 a year in the United States and Canada.

All isn't gold that shows up in a glittering mining prospectus.

## "Silver Gloss" Canada's finest Laundry Starch



Three generations of Canadian housewives have used "Silver Gloss" for all their home laundry work. They know that "Silver Gloss" always gives the best results. At your grocer's.

THE CANADA STARCH CO. LIMITED  
Montreal, Cardinal, Brantford, Fort William.  
Solely of "Green Brand" and "Lily Brand" Cans, Jugs, and Domestic Use Starch.

234

### SHIPPING FEVER

Influenza, Pink Eye, Epizootic, Diarrhea and all nose and throat diseases cured. Having any of these diseases how "SPOHN'S DISTEMPER COMPOUND" Three to six doses often cure a case. One small size bottle guaranteed to do so. Best thing for brood flocks; acts on the blood. SPOHN'S is sold by all druggists and harness shops or manufacturers. Agents wanted.

SPOHN MEDICAL CO., Chemists, Goshen, Ind., U.S.A.

## POULTRY

### Mate Up the Strongest Birds.

Poultry-raising is considered only a sideline on most farms, but there is no reason why a sideline should not be made profitable as possible. There are good, better and best birds in every flock, but eggs are saved promiscuously from the entire flock for hatching purposes. The bird with a poor constitution that has never been noted for laying heavily when eggs are a high price, is permitted to propagate its kind as well as the strong, robust bird which has been a producer all winter. Naturally the poultryman prefers his best birds, but if like tends to produce like it is impossible to improve the flock unless a selection is made at breeding time. On the average farm possibly one hundred and fifty eggs are required for hatching purposes during the season. This number could easily be supplied by ten or a dozen birds in a side-line required. Instead of buying two or three cockerels to put with the entire flock, purchase one good male bird to mate with a pen of the choicest females, and use the eggs from these birds to produce the next year's flock. The remainder of the flock could be used for producing eggs for market purposes. Raising a flock from selected birds every year will materially improve the birds' appearance and increase their value. Selection is of paramount importance in working toward profitable poultry breeding. Yearling hens mated with a cockerel will usually give a higher percentage of fertile eggs than will pullets which have been laying heavily all winter. An endeavor should be made to have all chicks hatched by the middle of May. Pullets hatched during the latter part of April or the first of May should be developed sufficiently to commence laying in the early fall.

It is rather a difficult matter to select the most productive hen by her appearance. Very often it is not the most showy bird that is the heaviest producer. By trap-nesting is the only accurate way of picking out the bird that lays the most eggs, when eggs are high in price. Where trap-nests are not used a square-built, strong-framed bird, showing good constitution, that is first to leave the roost in the morning and last to go to roost at night with a full crop, is the hen that usually pays for itself. By paying close attention for a few days it is possible to pick out fairly accurately the hens for the mating pen. With the white-lobed and yellow-shanked breeds it is usually believed that the brighter the color the better the bird. However, it is claimed by some poultrymen that these birds are not always the best layers. The color of the lobes or shanks, is decreased with the increased number of eggs laid, owing to the yolk of the egg absorbing the pigment matter. If it is the case the bird with poorly-colored ear-lobes and shanks in the spring would be counted the best layer. Endeavor to pick out the best birds and mate them rather than save eggs from the entire flock for hatching purposes.—Farmer's Advocate.

### Sitting Hens.

In all probability it is the sitting hen that rubbers most from lice and mites, though sick hens have much the same trouble. Inactivity on the part of the hens means a great increase in the number of the lice at all times, and offers the best opportunity for the attack of mites. Many sitting hens are literally driven from their nest by these pests, and it is not a rare thing to find that the hen has been killed by the mites.

Not only is the sitting hen inactive, but the nest made for her is very commonly placed in dark recesses where she will be less likely to be disturbed by other hens or by the keeper, hence she is placed under conditions best suited for the mites to work, not only during the night but much of the day. A close examination of the nests may reveal swarms of these mites well filled with the blood of the hen that was covered or too far away from the direct sunlight. In order to guard against this it is well to prepare for such emergencies, painting the nest boxes with carbolicum late in the winter or in early spring, giving time for them to dry thoroughly before they are to be used, by using clean nesting material, by placing the nests where some sunlight will reach them, and if covering is needed, wire will be found preferable to board.

In case the hen has been treated not long before sitting with mercurial ointment, no further treatment may be necessary, but if large numbers of lice are found on the hen, use the ointment sparingly so as to avoid any excess that would grease the eggs, as this might injure the developing embryo within by cutting off the supply of oxygen coming through the pores of the shell.

If dusting is practised, it will be found necessary to repeat the application if the numbers are to be reduced, hence further disturbance with more danger of broken eggs will occur.—Storrs Experiment Station.