

As To You

Do you know what it means to be losing the fight, When a lift just in time might set everything right? Do you know what it means—just the clasp of a hand When a man's borne about all a man ought to stand? Did you ask what it was—why that quivering lip And the glistening tears down the pale cheek that slip? Were you brother of his when the time came to be? Did you offer to help him, or didn't you see? Don't you know it's the part of a brother of Man. To find what the grief is and help when you can? Did you stop when he asked you to give him a lift, Or were you so busy you left him to shift? Oh, I know what you meant—what you say may be true—But the test of your manhood is What Did You Do Did you reach out a hand? Did you find him the road, Or did you just let him go by with his lead?

—Acadian Recorder.

A Saracen Bluebeard

(By M. D. L. F.)

After the defeat of the Saracens at the battle of Poiriers, A. D. 732, Charles Martel drove the Mohammedans out of Aquitaine, back into Spain. Nevertheless, about the same time a band of warriors, sixty in number, made their appearance before the gates of Luz, a little town nestled among the Pyrenees. The strangers, swarthy men of bronzed complexion, gave themselves out to be citizens of the East, whose prince had been dethroned by rebellious subjects; and they begged permission to establish themselves in the small, but fertile, valley wherein Luz stands.

In those remote regions, no suspicion of the truth seems to have been entertained; and the Saracen chief, Ben Tar Malcarr, was a courteous man, whose dignified bearing favourably impressed the consuls of Luz. After long deliberation, the strangers received permission to erect a castle on a low spur of the Pyrenees, overlooking the town; and in due course of time two high towers, connected by a strongly-built wall, rose into view. And if, when this was accomplished, a loud voice crying from the eastern tower: "Allah il Allah!" startled the simple peasants, they merely shrugged their shoulders; for were they not paid in good ringing silver for their milk and butter, corn and cattle?

So Luz was satisfied and unsuspecting; although, as the month went by, tales of robbery, pillage and rapine were brought to the valley by travellers—reports of Lourdes being plundered, Pau attacked, the abbey church of St. Savin burned; while from Beaucens, Soudun, and other towns and villages came tidings that young girls had been carried away, no one knew whither. Yet Luz slept on in false security until one morning the inhabitants woke up to learn that Elizabeth (or Bessy, as they called her) of Lerou had mysteriously vanished.

Bessy and her widowed mother lived in a neat little cottage on one of the lower hills outside the town. She was a tall, beautiful girl; and when she climbed the heights, leading her sheep and lambs out to graze, many a herdsman watched her admiringly, and more than one asked her to marry him. But, before the altar of Our Lady at Luz, Elizabeth had pledged her troth to a shepherd named Pierre Desrude; and the wedding had been fixed for the 15th of August—when, lo! upon the 10th, the bleating flock came home without its young mistress. This event caused a stir through all the country around.

Bessy was a general favourite, among the peasants. With Pierre at their head, they now set forth in search of the missing girl. Descending steep precipices, and making the mountains echo with the name of Bessy, their search was all in vain. But late on the third evening, as Pierre was returning home, weary and disheartened, he paused at the foot

Pains in the Back

Are symptoms of a weak, torpid or stagnant condition of the kidneys or liver, and are a warning it is extremely dangerous to neglect, so important a healthy action of these organs. They are commonly attended by loss of energy, lack of courage, and sometimes by gloomy foreboding and dependency.

"I was taken ill with kidney trouble, and became so weak I could scarcely get around (took medicine without benefit, and finally decided to try Hood's Sarsaparilla. After the first bottle I felt so much better that I continued its use, and six bottles made me a new woman. When my little girl was a baby, she could not keep anything on her stomach, and we gave her Hood's Sarsaparilla which cured her." Mrs. Thomas L. A. Wallaceburg, Ont.

Hood's Sarsaparilla cures kidney and liver troubles, restores the back, and builds up the whole system.

of the Saracens, castle where a faint light was burning in one of the upper windows. Suddenly a white form appeared in the opening, and to his amazement a girl's voice called from the lighted chamber: "Pierre! Pierre!" Before he could answer, the figure disappeared and the light was extinguished. Pierre, however, knew where his betrothed was imprisoned, and ran to arouse the neighbourhood.

Elizabeth had been seen by Ben Tar Malcarr while keeping her flocks on the slopes of the Bergon, and her youth and beauty had captivated his fancy. At nightfall he sent two of his men to kidnap her, and the girl was carried off and locked up in a room of the tall, square tower. In the hall below, the robbers sat feasting, the sound of their revelry reaching the captive's ears and filling her with terror. Bitterly she wept through the long hours of the night; but towards morning the sound of the Angelus bell roused her, and she fell on her knees to implore Our Lady's help and protection.

She was still upon her knees when a heavy step was heard outside, a bolt was drawn, and the Saracen chief entered. To her surprise, he greeted her kindly.

"Forgive me, child, for carrying you off by force. But I love you, and would make you my wife."

The girl slowly rose to her feet.

"I am betrothed to Pierre Desrude," she answered firmly; "him and no other will I wed."

She expected a blow or at least harsh words. Instead, Malcarr threw open a large oak chest and drew forth its contents: rich silks and costly jewels, the fruit of many a successful raid.

"All this shall be yours," he said; "for I intend you to be the happiest of women."

"No," replied Bessy. "I choose poverty with Pierre rather than wealth with you."

The robber chief silently quitted the room, and left the girl alone for two whole days and nights, trusting that solitary confinement would break her spirit. Food was brought to her at regular intervals; the rest of the time she passed in prayer and in thinking of her mother, her companions, and her betrothed. Through the window she could see the roof of her mother's cottage, with its background of verdant hills.

On the evening of the third day she heard Malcarr tramping up the stairs. It was then that Bessy, terrified, rushed to the open window and gave that agonized cry for help that had reached her lover's ears.

Malcarr pushed her back and closed the shutter.

"You shall trifle with me no longer, girl!" he cried. "This very night you shall choose between me and death."

As he spoke, he unlocked an iron door in the wall, then turned to her with a threatening gesture. "Study this closet. In it you will learn the fate of those who thwart my wishes. At dawn I return for your answer."

Malcarr slammed the door behind him. Bessy, left alone once more, became aware of a sickening odor that seemed to emanate from the open closet. Snatching up the lamp which dimly lighted her room, she cautiously approached it—but, oh, horror! what was this she

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Dysentery is one of the worst forms of bowel complaint. The pains in the bowels are intense, the discharges occur with great rapidity, and are very often accompanied by blood. It does not need to persist for any length of time until the whole system is weakened and debilitated, and hardly any other disease so quickly undermines the strength and brings about a condition of prostration and utter collapse that often terminates fatally.

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saw?—Her whole frame shook; her nerveless hand almost dropped the light. In the depths of the closet, strung up by their wrists from a row of iron hooks, hung the dead bodies of six young girls, their sightless eyes lifted towards heaven, their long hair falling over their shoulders.

Bessy shrank back, almost senseless with terror.

After a while, however, she again raised the lamp and steadily contemplated the dreadful sight. Only two well she realized that here, in front of her, were suspended those fair young maidens whose strange disappearance had during the last few months, been the talk of the valley. Paula of Soudun, Candide of Beaucens, Emerentia of St. Savin, and three others, had, like herself preferred death to apostasy and dishonour. "O, virgins of Christ, martyrs of purity, pray for me!" she cried. The example of their fortitude inflamed her courage, and when Malcarr entered, she held out her wrists. She, too, was ready to die.

Suddenly some one entered noiselessly behind the robber; an axe was lifted, and even as Malcarr laid hold of Bessy, he was felled to the ground by an unseen hand.

"Pierre! Pierre!" And, in truth, it was Pierre Desrude, who, at the head of some four score mountaineers, had forced his way into the Saracens' castle and surprised the sleeping garrison.

The Mohammedan fortress was destroyed by the peasants, and the old towers which today gaze down upon the valley belong to a Mediaeval ruin. Yet the legend of Bessy and the Saracen Bluebeard has been handed down from father to son, the event being annually celebrated by the youth of Esquitz, a village lying close to the foot of the hill on which the castle stands. The inhabitants of that village alone have the right to dance the ballet of Ben Tar Malcarr, in which the abduction of Bessy, the fight within the castle, and the triumphal return of Pierre and his companions are represented with a flourishing of sticks and other mimic gestures. The outbreak of the present war, and the departure of all the young men of the village for the front, has put an end, for a time at least to this picturesque and romantic custom.

—Ave Marie.

Persistent Caller—"So her ladyship is not at home again?" New Footman—"No, madam. And what's more, she really is out this time."

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With Weak Heart.

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Mrs. James Blair, Maynooth, Ont., writes, under date of January 2nd, 1920: "I feel it my duty to let you know how much benefit I have received through using your Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills. I was greatly troubled with a weak heart, and I doctored with three different doctors, but as soon as I stopped their medicine I was as bad as ever. I purchased four boxes of your pills last spring, and I had not taken two of them before I began to feel better, and after using the four I have not been troubled since."

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September 15, 1920—11

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The fare from Charlottetown to Winnipeg is \$24.85, plus half a cent per mile to points West of Winnipeg. The return fare is half a cent per mile from all points West of Winnipeg to Winnipeg, and \$28.00 from Winnipeg to Charlottetown.

Verification certificates will be furnished by Ticket Agents when ticket is purchased, enabling the holder to secure return ticket at reduced fare.

Full information will be supplied by all Ticket Agents of the Canadian National Railways, July 28, 1920.

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April 14, 1920—1y

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W. F. Weeks	Fredericton	"	(2 years)
David Reid	Victoria Cross	"	(2 years)
Ramsay Auld	West Covehead	" calf	"
Frank Halliday	Eldon	8 Yorkshire Pigs	(5 weeks)
Ramsay Auld	West Covehead	Yorkshire Hog	(2 years)
A. E. McDo nald	Little Pond	Duror Jersey Boar	(2 years)

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Announcement

For the information of our many patrons, in both town and country, we deem it necessary to announce that the Coal Business, successfully carried on in the past by the late Mr. Charles Lyons, will be continued by the Estate under the old firm name of C. Lyons & Co.

As we possess almost unlimited facilities for supplying the coal trade, and as we are desirous of extending our already large business, we respectfully invite the patronage of new customers; and if we succeed in thus increasing our present connection, we guarantee that we shall be indefatigable in our endeavor to justify the confidence of our new friends.

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By afternoon train connection is made at Sackville with No. 3 Maritime Express for Quebec and Montreal. Connections at Quebec with Transcontinental Train for Winnipeg.

For further information apply to

W. K. ROGERS,
City Ticket Agent.W. T. HUGGAN,
District Pass. AgentSee that all Tickets read via Canadian National Railways
June 23, 1920.