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Teachers who were enrolled in the SUMMER SCHOOL OF SCIENCE this year are entitled to an extra week of holidays, but in order that the Schools may begin their year's work properly organized, teachers are requested WHEN CONVENIENT to take this extra week at Christmas or Easter.
S. J. WILSON,
Secretary.
School Commissioners' Office,
Halifax, N. S., August 9, 1913.
51 aug 9, 16, 19, 21, 23

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aug12—(jy3 3m)

SWALLOWS.

When daylight fades, and sunset colors dim,
The meadow-land is sweet with evening scent,
And there where flows the brook in calm content
The cattle wander, grazing by the brim,
Then, joyously the swallows lightly skim,
No longer far up in the firmament,
But, low along the brook, with one consent
Fly back and forth, and to beneath the rim
Bend darting wing. With twitter soft and sweet,
Up stream and down they go in sheer delight
So late they linger, dipping thus below
The gleaming surface, they would fain repeat
The joy of that day's gladness in their flight,
By bathing in the very sunset glow.

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The Port of Missing Men

By Meredith Nicholson,
Author of "The House of a Thousand Candles."

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Chapter XXI

THE COMEDY OF A SHEEPFOLD.

OSCAR'S eye, roaming the landscape as he left Shirley Claiborne and started for the bungalow, swept the upland Claiborne acres and rested upon a moving shadow. He drew rein under a clump of wild cherry trees at the roadside and waited. Several hundred yards away lay the Claiborne sheepfold, with a broad pasture rising beyond. A shadow is not a thing to be ignored by a man trained in the niceties of scouting. Oscar, satisfying himself that substance lay behind the shadow, dismounted and tied his horse. Then he bent low over the stone wall and watched.

"It is the big fellow—yes? He is a stealer of sheep, as I might have known."

Zmai was only a dim figure against the dark meadow, which he was slowly crossing from the side farthest from the Claiborne house. He stopped several times as though uncertain of his whereabouts, and then he clambered over a stone wall that formed one side of the sheepfold, passed it and strode on toward Oscar and the road.

"It is the big fellow—yes?"

"It is mischief that brings him from the hills—yes?" Oscar reflected, glaneing up and down the highway. Faintly, very softly through the night, he heard the orchestra at the hotel playing for the dance. The little soldier unbuttoned his coat, drew the revolver from his belt and thrust it into his coat pocket. Zmai was drawing nearer, advancing rapidly now that he had gained his bearings. At the wall Oscar rose suddenly and greeted him in mockingly courteous tones:

"Good evening, my friend; it's a fine evening for a walk."

Zmai drew back and growled.

"Let me pass," he said in his dimcult German.

"It is a long wall; there should be no difficulty in passing. This country is much freer than Servia—yes?" and Oscar's tone was pleasantly conversational.

Zmai put his hand on the wall and prepared to vault.

"A moment only, comrade. You seem to be in a hurry; it must be a business that brings you from the mountains—yes?"

"I have no time for you," snarled the Servian. "Begone!" And he shook himself impatiently and again put his hand on the wall.

"One should not be in too much haste, comrade," and Oscar thrust Zmai back with his finger tips.

The man yielded and ran a few steps out of the clump of trees and sought to escape there. It was clear to Oscar that Zmai was not anxious to pene-

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trate closer to the Claiborne house, whose garden extended quite near. He met Zmai promptly and again thrust him back.

"It is a message—yes?" asked Oscar.

"It is my affair," blurted the big fellow. "I mean no harm to you."

"It was you that tried the knife on my body. It is much quieter than shooting. You have the knife—yes?"

The little soldier whipped out his revolver.

"In which pocket is the business carried? A letter undoubtedly. They do not trust swine to carry words. Ah!"

Oscar dropped below the wall as Zmai struck at him. When he looked up a moment later the Servian was running back over the meadow toward the sheepfold. Oscar, angry at the ease with which the Servian had evaded him, leaped the wall and set off after the big fellow. He was quite sure that the man bore a written message and equally sure that it must be of importance to his employer. He clutched his revolver tight, brought up his elbows for greater ease in running and sped after Zmai, now a blur on the starlighted sheep pasture.

The slope was gradual and a pretty feature of the landscape by day, but it

"It was you that tried the knife on my body."

afforded a tollsome path for runners. Zmai already realized that he had blundered in not forcing the wall. He was running uphill, with a group of sheds, another wall and a still steeper and rougher field beyond. His bulk told against him, and behind him he heard the quick thump of Oscar's feet on the turf. The starlight grew dimmer through tracts of white scud; the surface of the pasture was rougher to the feet than it appeared to the eye. A hound in the Claiborne stable yard bayed suddenly, and the sound echoed from the surrounding houses and drifted off toward the sheepfold. Then a noble music rose from the kennels.

Captain Claiborne, waiting for his sister on the veranda, looked toward the stables, listening.

Zmai approached the sheep sheds rapidly, with still a hundred yards to traverse beyond them before he should reach the pasture wall. His rage at thus being driven by a small man for whom he had great contempt did not help his wind or stimulate the flight of his heavy legs, and he saw now that he would lessen the narrowing margin between himself and his pursuer if he swerved to the right to clear the sheds. He suddenly slackened his pace and with a vicious tug settled his wool hat more firmly upon his small skull. He went now at a dogtrot, and Oscar was closing upon him rapidly; then, quite near the sheds, Zmai wheeled about and charged his pursuer headlong. At the moment he turned Oscar's revolver bit keenly into the night. Captain Claiborne, looking toward the slope, saw the flash before the bounds at the stables answered the report.

At the shot Zmai cried aloud in his curiously small voice and clapped his hands to his head.

"Stop; I want the letter!" shouted Oscar in German. The man turned slowly, as though dazed, and, with a hand still clutching his head, half stumbled and half ran toward the sheds, with Oscar at his heels.

Claiborne called to the negro stablemen to quiet the dogs, snatched a lantern and ran away through the pergola to the end of the garden and thence into the pasture beyond. Meanwhile Oscar, thinking Zmai badly hurt, did not fire again, but flung himself upon the fellow's broad shoulders, and down they crashed against the door of the nearest pen. Zmai swerved and shook himself free, while he fiercely cursed his foe. Oscar's hands slipped on the fellow's hot blood that ran from a long crease in the side of his head.

As they fell the pen door snapped free, and out into the starry pasture thronged the frightened sheep.

"The letter—give me the letter!" commanded Oscar, his face close to the Servian's. He did not know how badly the man was injured, but he was anxious to complete his business and be off. Still the sheep came huddling through the broken door, across the prostrate men and scampered away into the open. Captain Claiborne, running toward the fold with his lantern and not looking for obstacles, stumbled over their bewildered advance guard and plunged headlong into the gray fleeces. Meanwhile into the pockets of his prostrate foe went Oscar's hands with no result. Then he remembered the man's gesture in pulling the hat

Claiborne matched a lantern and ran.

close upon his ears, and off came the hat and with it a blood stained envelope. The last sheep in the pen trooped out and galloped toward its comrades.

Oscar, making off with the letter, plunged into the rear guard of the sheep, fell, stumbled to his feet and confronted Captain Claiborne as that gentleman in soiled evening dress fumbled for his lantern and swore at the sheep in language unbecoming an officer and a gentleman.

"It is sheep—yes?" and Oscar started to bolt.

"Halt!"

The authority of the tone rang familiarly in Oscar's ears. He had after considerable tribulation learned to stop short when an officer spoke to him, and the gentleman of the sheepfold stood straight in the starlight and spoke like an officer.

"What are you doing here, and who fired that shot?"

Oscar saluted and summoned his best English.

"It was an accident, sir."

"Why are you running and why did you fire? Understand you are a trespasser here, and I am going to turn you over to the constable."

"There was a sheep stealer—yes? He is yonder by the pens, and we had some little fighting, but he is not dead—no?"

At that moment Claiborne's eyes caught sight of a burly figure rising and thrashing about by the broken pen door.

"That is the sheep stealer," said Oscar. "We shall catch him—yes?"

Zmai peered toward them uncertainly for a moment, then turned abruptly and ran toward the road. Oscar started to cut off his retreat, but Claiborne caught the sergeant by the shoulder and flung him back.

"One of you at a time! They can turn the hounds on the other rascal. What's that you have there? Give it to me—quick!"

(To be Continued).

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R. R. TIME TABLES.

I. C. R.	Depart.
Pictou and Sydney Express, daily except Sunday,	7.00 a.m.
Express for Montreal (with connections at Moncton for St. John and Boston) daily,	8.00 "
Ocean Limited, daily,	8.20 "
Truro Accommodation, daily except Sunday,	12.40 p.m.
Maritime Express for Montreal, daily except Sunday,	3.10 "
Suburban for Bedford, daily except Sunday,	5.00 "
Express for Pictou, daily except Sunday,	5.40 "
Express for Truro (daily) Stellarton, New Glasgow, Sydneys, (daily except Sunday) Amherst, Sackville, St. John, (daily except Saturday)	8.45 "
	Arrive.
Mixed Train from Truro (daily except Sunday),	8.40 "
Express—Truro (daily), St. John (daily except Monday); Sydneys (daily except Sunday),	8.55 "
Express from Pictou daily (except Sunday),	11.55 "
Maritime Express (daily except Sunday) from Montreal,	1.30 p.m.
Express from Sydney (except Sunday),	7.50 "
Ocean Limited from Montreal daily,	10.00 "
Express from St. John daily,	10.30 "

D. A. R.	Depart.
Express for Yarmouth,	7.30 a.m.
Accommodation for Annapolis, leave Richmond,	8.30 "
Bluenose for Yarmouth,	10.00 "
Express for Middleton (through to Annapolis on Saturday),	2.55 p.m.
	Arrive
Express from Middleton (from Annapolis on Monday's	9.05 a.m.
Bluenose from Yarmouth,	8.00 p.m.
Accommodation from Annapolis,	6.15 p.m.
Express from Yarmouth,	6.42 p.m.

All the above are daily except Sunday.

H. & S. W. RY.	Depart.
Express for Yarmouth daily, except Sunday,	7.10 a.m.
Accommodation for Liverpool daily, except Saturday and Sunday,	2.30 p.m.
Express for Liverpool (Saturday only),	2.30 p.m.
	Arrive.
Express from Liverpool (Monday only),	9.15 a.m.
Accommodation from Liverpool daily, except Sunday and Monday,	11.30 a.m.
Express from Yarmouth daily, except Sunday,	6.55 p.m.

SUBURBAN SERVICE.
Regular suburban trains stop at all stations. Other trains as below stop at Bedford and Rockingham. Trains run daily except Sunday, unless otherwise mentioned.

DEPART FROM HALIFAX.	
Express for Sydney,	7.00 a.m.
Express for Yarmouth,	7.30 "
Accommodation for Annapolis leaves Richmond (flagged at Rocky lake),	8.30 a.m.
Mixed for Truro,	12.40 "
Suburban for Windsor Junction,	1.30 p.m
Express for Middleton (flagged at Lakeview),	2.55 p.m
Suburban for Bedford,	5.00 "
Express for Pictou,	5.40 "
Suburban for Windsor Junction,	6.20 "
Express for Truro (stop when signalled at Rockingham and Bedford) daily,	8.45 "
Suburban for Windsor Junction,	11.15 "

ARRIVE AT HALIFAX.	
Suburban from Windsor Junction,	7.55 a.m
Mixed from Truro,	8.40 "
Express from St. John (stops at Bedford only) daily,	8.55 "
Express from Middleton,	9.05 "
Express from Pictou,	11.55 "
Suburban from Windsor Junction,	2.55 p.m.
Bluenose stops at Bedford and Rockingham if flagged,	4.55 "
Suburban from Bedford,	5.55 "
Accommodation from Annapolis,	6.15 "
Express from Yarmouth (Lakeview Flag Station),	6.42 "
Express from Sydney,	7.50 "
Suburban from Windsor Junction,	9.45 "

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