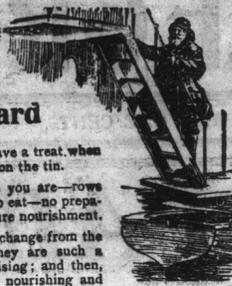


The Skipper comes aboard

You know you are going to have a treat when you see the Skipper's jolly face on the tin. Just open the tin, and there you are—rows of delicious little fish all ready to eat—no preparation needed, no waste—all pure nourishment. "Skippers" make a welcome change from the every day-ness of meals. They are such a luxury—so delicious and appetising; and then, too, they are one of the most nourishing and valuable foods you can eat.

"Skippers"

"Skippers" are Briling with Good Points.



"Love in the Wilds"

—OR—
The Romance of a South African Trading Station.

CHAPTER LIII.
THE SECRETARY'S SECRET.

"If this should meet the eye of H. D. he is earnestly entreated to return to D., where he will find changes that call for his presence. Any person or persons knowing anything of the present or late whereabouts of H. D., who left the village of D. in the year 18—, will do him an inestimable service by communicating with R. G., care of C. A., 27 White-brace Street."

John Stanfield read this over thrice, carefully, then pulled the string that communicated with the coachman. "Drive me to 27 Whitebrace Street," he said, and the vehicle was hurried hitherward.

Some brains are gifted with a peculiar knack of solving a problem, or arriving at a conclusion, at a glance. John Stanfield's was such.

No sooner had he read the advertisement than he had decided upon a course of action in respect to it.

On the way to Whitebrace Street, he had taken this new feature in the complex case and put it in its proper place.

"This is Whitebrace Street, sir?"

"Very well," said the secretary; "drive to that shop opposite."

Here he alighted, and, entering, purchased half a dozen pocket handkerchiefs, and asked if he might take a seat; he was waiting for a friend, he said; and receiving permission, sat down near the counter in such a position that he could see No. 27, opposite.

"Very warm, sir," remarked the shop-keeper.

"Very," said the secretary, pleasantly. "Not much air in this street."

"The houses are so tall, you see, sir."

"Just so; old houses, too, some of them. That's an old house opposite. Now, who lives there? Lawyers and such folk, I suppose?"

"Yes, sir; lawyers' chambers over there. Messrs. Bardell & Perkins, eminent solicitors."

"Oh, plenty of fashionable people stop opposite, I suppose?"

"Oh, yes, sir; certainly! Messrs. Bardell & Perkins are very eminent solicitors—have most of the aristocracy for clients. Now the Duchesse of Asleyford, Sir John Roche, Sir Charles Anderson—"

"Ah!" said the customer, with a yawn; "I'm afraid my friend won't keep his appointment. If a gentleman inquires, will you tell him I have started some moments? Thank you, Good-morning."

And the secretary rose.

"By the way; I think I should like to write him a note. Can I write it here?"

"Certainly, sir," said the shopman, placing an inkstand and pen before his affable customer.

The secretary, taking one of the recently purchased sheets of paper, wrote in a crabbed, feigned hand very unlike his usual neat one:

"A well-wisher would earnestly advise R. G. to desist from advertising for H. D. By persisting it will awaken suspicions. R. G. should follow up the track through the well and leave the rest in the unseen hands that are even now helping in the same case."

This he put in an envelope, addressed it as the advertisement directed, and in a few minutes paid a boy a penny for dropping it into the letter-box of No. 27.

CHAPTER LIV.
A MISSING CONGRATULATION.

Some that smile have in their hearts, I fear, Millions of mischief. — SHAKESPEARE.

"Count, you do not congratulate me."

The speaker was Reginald Dartmouth, the addressed Count Vitzarelli. The two gentlemen were seated in

the smoking-room of Captain Dartmouth's town house, the captain smoking a strong Bengal cheroot, the Italian twisting up a cigarette with thin, nervous fingers and avoiding the dark eyes of his companion.

He had just been announced, and Captain Dartmouth, after his usual greeting, had put the remonstrance.

"You do not congratulate me, my dear count; possibly the countess has left the delightful task of communicating my unspeakable happiness to me?"

He spoke with that soft, subtle, half-sarcastic tone that always irritated the Italian, and kept his eyes still fixed upon his face as if enjoy his embarrassment.

"—Lucille has spoken to me; but a few words only."

"Enough to convince you that my confidence was not a vain one," put in the captain, silkily. "Yes, count, I am a happy man! Fortune has conferred upon me her best and most glorious favor. I am, I may say, comfortably wealthy, and I have won the most beautiful woman in the world!"

"You have obtained her consent?"

said the count, half-interrogatively.

"That is so," replied Reginald Dartmouth, with a smile, "Your niece, my dear count, has consented to be my wife."

"Unreservedly?" asked the count, with a slight flush.

"What condition should the countess make," retorted the captain, "save the acquiescence of her guardian? And I have that, as you will no doubt remember, my dear count, and he nodded toward the bureau in which was locked the document the count had signed.

"Yes, you have," said the count, throwing off his gloom, as if with an effort. "And I congratulate you, my dear Dartmouth. It would ill befit me to speak in praise of Lucille, but all that so near and dear a relation could say in her favor I would say. It is sudden—very sudden. I—I did not think you would gain her heart so quickly."

"Love at first sight!" murmured the captain, with still latent sarcasm. "Ah, my dear count, such passion as mine could not but waken its like! But as I see you did not come to congratulate me, let me hear the why and wherefore of your visit. Was it to smoke a cigarette, with a little gossip or have you any news?"

He spoke lightly, enjoying the troubled look upon the Italian's face.

He knew all the news the count came to tell, and took a savage pleasure in assuming an easy, confident air, and thereby making the communication more difficult and unpleasant.

"News, ay; ill news!" said the count.

"Not bad news! Oh, count, count, I begin to despair of our cause!" said Reginald Dartmouth, with an assumption of despondency.

"Despair! Who talks of despair?" said the count, with a ghastly smile. "No, no; do not speak the word. We must win! We have right on our side," he added, frenziedly, rising and pacing the room.

"But not might, it would seem; and that's the winning quality, my dear count," retorted the other, with an undisguised sneer. "Right goes for little in these times, or in any other. Might is the thing, and I had hoped that by this time you had got it—if not, my poor money has been thrown on very barren waters."

"Don't speak of money!" exclaimed the count, passionately. "It is the want of money that has crippled us, Dartmouth. I must have some more. I came to-night for some; I must have it!"

Reginald Dartmouth's cunning eyes hid themselves behind their drooping lids and he remained silent, slowly shaking his head.

"What do you mean?" asked the count, excitedly. "You can not refuse! Remember our bond!" and he bit his cigarette in his intense excitement.

"Softly, my dear count," remonstrated Reginald Dartmouth. "You are jumping to conclusions. I have not yet refused."

"You have not yet consented!" retorted the count, fiercely. "Why do you remain silent? Why do you shake your head? I say I want the money; you have agreed to give me for—"

"For your consent to your niece's marriage—ah, my dear count?" The Italian flushed.

"Put it how you like," he said; "I only ask my bond."

"And you shall have it, never fear."

DOUGLAS EGYPTIAN LINIMENT

Stops Bleeding Instantly
Prevents Blood Poisoning
Removes All Inflammation
Soreness and Swelling

DOUGLAS COMPANY MANUFACTURERS
Agent for Newfoundland
GEORGE NEAL
Box 313 St. John's

We Englishmen are shop-keepers, you know. We don't break our words, least of all, our written engagements. But you must tell me how much you want, my dear count."

"Twenty thousand pounds," replied the Italian conspirator, promptly.

"That is beyond the sum agreed—"

"How?" broke in the count—"how? Did you not agree to give me fifty thousand?"

"No," replied Reginald Dartmouth, with a quiet smile. "I did not agree for that sum, but I don't refuse to lend it. I merely hinted that it was in excess of the amount set down. Twenty thousand pounds! And by what time do you require it?"

"Tonight—to-night—this hour!" said the count, sinking into a chair opposite his tormentor and wiping the perspiration from his heated face, that formed a well-defined contrast to the pale, calm one before him.

"To-night! It is impossible," said Reginald Dartmouth, quietly puffing a column of smoke high into the air and watching it with calm attention.

The count turned white.

"Impossible, my dear Dartmouth? Do you know to what a pass we have come? We have been repulsed—beaten—thruashed! Our men are dying in heaps, dead and wounded, at the city gates. Mazzini has fled. The French are marching upon the rear. All will be lost if we do not succeed them!"

"So!" muttered the arch plotter, inaudibly. "The game is up, indeed!"

Then aloud:

"I understand the emergency, my dear count, but I say again—impossible! I have not a thousand pounds in the house—may, more, I have not that sum in bank. You must remember that my money is almost entirely wasted, and that what little I have has been broken into pretty heavily by the late campaign at the Hall. Twenty thousand pounds! My dear count, with as much reason you might demand twenty million."

(To be continued.)

Fashion Plates.

A SERVICEABLE "COVER ALL" APRON.



Pattern 3296 is portrayed in this design. It is cut in 4 Sizes: Small, 32-34; Medium, 36-38; Large, 40-42; and Extra Large, 44-46 inches bust measure. A Medium size will require 4 1/2 yards of 56 inch material.

Figured percale is here shown, with bindings of white cambric. Chambray, gingham, lawn, drill, sateen and alpaca could be used for this style.

A pattern of this illustration mailed to any address on receipt of 15 cents in silver or stamps.

A SIMPLE SET OF HAT AND APRON.



Pattern 3295 is portrayed in this attractive model. It is cut in 5 Sizes: 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 years. A 4 year size will require 2 1/2 yards of 27 inch material for the Apron and 1 yard for the Hat.

Apron and Hat may be made of the same material. Cretonne, linen, drill, gingham, chambray, percale and shantung could be used. The apron may serve as a dress, and be worn with bloomers.

A pattern of this illustration mailed to any address on receipt of 15 cents in silver or stamps.

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And His Family Medicines

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Take Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills for example. There is no treatment to be compared to them as a means of regulating the liver, kidneys and bowels and curing constipation, biliousness, kidney disease and indigestion.

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Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills.
GERALD S. DOYLE,
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Notice

To Hard Coal Consumers.

Persons desiring a supply of hard coal for next winter are urged to place their orders for hard coal immediately and take immediate delivery, storing immediately such stocks of hard coal as they may require for the entire winter season until navigation opens next spring.

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