

Making Restitution;

Or, The Bridal Dress.

CHAPTER XXX.—(Continued).

"What makes you so absent-minded?" said she, suddenly. "Are all lovers so?"

"And the dear old daddy, I dare say, is overjoyed at the prospect of my being Lady Ferrier one day. Lady Ferrier, Lucian? I don't sound badly, do I?"

"I would not advise you to count too much upon that, Fenella," said Lucian.

"Why not? That old fool of a baronet can't live forever, can he?" demanded the fair fiancée, lightly.

"The Ferriers of Talote Court are a long-lived race," said Mr. Ferrier.

"I don't know," said Mr. Ferrier. "I suppose so."

"Oh, please!" said Fenella. "It isn't according to nature. But never mind old Sir Lucian now—there are plenty of other things to talk about."

"So I think," observed Lucian, dryly.

"And when we are to marry, I shall abruptly demand Fenella, anticipating the question which is usually pressed by the gentleman in such a case as this."

"When? I had not thought so far as that. Some time in the fall, I suppose."

"Indeed, then, I shall not wait until fall," said Fenella, half in jest, half in earnest. "A pretty lover, you, to be so indifferent!"

"I am only thinking about ordinary usage," apologized Ferrier, beginning to feel that he was rather a lukewarm suitor, or even in outward appearance.

"What do I care for ordinary usage?" retorted Fenella, with an impatient shrug of the shoulders. "I am in for the extraordinary. Look here, Lucian, Marian Faber is to be married before me."

"I mean to be married before me," said Lucian, slowly. "But Marian has been so long in the land, and she is so old."

"It made me to him whether the golden chains were clamped upon him three months later," Fenella preferred it, he felt that he had no particular objections to offer.

"It's a little sudden, to be sure," said Miss Lancaster, as she counted up the days on her fingers. "But Marian has been so long in the land, and she is so old."

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intended bride that very afternoon—a tall, pale, sweet-faced lady, black, with a soft voice and manner, whose perfect repose and quietude somewhat awed the noisy heiress and her demonstrative mother. As for Mrs. Ferrier herself, all though she considered this wealthy marriage as one of the best blessings that Providence could grant her hard-worked and overburdened son, she was a little taken aback at the manner and appearance of Fenella Lancaster.

"However," she told herself, "if Lucian is pleased, I have no right to object. And she seems a good-hearted girl, although a little coarse and brusque until one gets accustomed to her ways. And it is a great thing for her to be promoted to the rank of a countess in a career like that."

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Present-Day Napoleon of France and His Wife.

A new photograph of General Joffre and his wife. In view of his success as commander-in-chief of the allied armies in France, he is looked on not only as a great tactician, but as a more able general than the man who went down to defeat at Waterloo. Like the great Napoleon, his men just worship General Joffre, and the great activity shown by the French lines along the entire battle front is the answer to the army order issued by General Joffre to his men. "Soldiers," it read, "more than ever before France relies upon your courage and your desire to conquer at any cost. You already have been victorious on the Marne and on the Yser, at Ypres, in Lorraine, and in the Vosges. You will know how to conquer until the final triumph."

"Not yet," said Fenella. "There are to be three or four more rather stunning affairs, so Lucian must wait, and I want to stay long enough to outshine Marian Faber when she comes."

"Lucian shrugged his shoulders rather scornfully."

"Oh," said Fenella. "Of course I have no argument to offer against such overwhelming reasons as those."

"Lilian says," said Mrs. Ferrier, quite unobtrusively, "that Mrs. St. Just, who was at the wedding, and I want to stay long enough to outshine Marian Faber when she comes."

"Who?"

"Mr. and Mrs. St. Just. She's the beauty, you know, that every one is raving about. But why do you look so pale, Lucian? Do you know who they are?"

"I have never met any one by the name of St. Just," said Lucian, calmly, although the hand which he grasped the newspaper was clenched until the blood stood in purple dots under each finger nail, and his cheek was deathly white.

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Four pounds of dynamite or gun-cotton are considered sufficient to demolish breastworks of two to three feet thickness, composed of earth rammed between planks or railway sleepers. It is not, then, difficult to estimate the destructive powers of such a mass of high explosive falling into the trenches.

The effect of ordinary shrapnel shell is obtained by the bullets and splinters of the envelope when the shell bursts. With the "minenwurf" shell the effect is almost entirely explosive. The walls of the shell are too thin to be capable of doing much damage, and it is not in this direction that the effect is expected.

When the trenches are less than 500 or 600 yards apart a shorter range can be obtained by elevating the howitzer to a greater angle than 45 degrees. At 60 degrees, for instance, the range would be 470 yards. The shell would then reach a height of 630 feet in the air, and would take 12½ seconds to complete the trajectory.

The highest angle at which the "minenwurf" can operate is 80 degrees. At this elevation the range would be only 190 yards. Nearly a quarter of a minute would elapse between the moment of discharge and the instant of the shell falling into the opposing trenches.

At a maximum height of 800 feet being attained in its journey. One has but to remember that a crack run can cover 100 yards in approximately 10 seconds to appreciate the slowness with which the shell completes the distance between the trenches when fired at this high elevation.

"Eye-witness" narrative does not tell us what are the actual capabilities of this little howitzer as a destructive agent. This we have yet to learn. But we are aware that trench-to-trench fighting with rifles and hand grenades has now an added terror in the form of this new and curious kind of small ordnance.

REGIMENTAL RECORDS.

The Present War Will Increase the Records of British Troops.

By the time the war is over most British regiments will have added immeasurably to their fighting records. The policy of keeping secret the names of the corps that figured prominently in battle has been wisely discarded by Sir John French, and his latest dispatch will thrill many people with pride and gratification at the stirring deeds of their city or county regiments.

Londoners are justly proud of the special mention made by the Field Marshal of the exploits of the Middlesex and West Kents—two regiments which have their recruiting ground in the metropolitan area—and the industrial north, the midlands and the west country will feel equally delighted at the fine work accomplished by the Lancashire Fusiliers, the Royal Lancasters, the Worcesters, the Northampton and the Somersetshire Light Infantry and the Dorsetshire respectively. Ireland is represented in the despatches by the Royal Irish Rifles, and the North of Ireland by the Scots Fusiliers. Local patriotism, which has been fostered by county cricket and football, will receive a decided stimulus by the news of the heroic work which is being done by individual regiments. This in turn should do much to stimulate recruiting by promoting a friendly rivalry between the different counties. It is widely hoped that for the future the censorship, in so far as it applies to suppressing the names of regiments and individuals which distinguish themselves, will be relaxed. It is inconceivable that the publication of names can prove useful to the enemy, in cases where such publication is made weeks after the actual date of the event recorded.

THE TRENCH HOWITZER GUN

ANOTHER OF THE PRODUCTIONS OF KRUPP.

Weights Only 130 Pounds and Throws Shell Weighing 200 Pounds.

As the war progresses we become more and more aware of the completeness of the German fighting machine, says the New York Herald.

The howitzer itself is only three feet or so long, and weighs 130 pounds. Its mounting is a small affair of about 100 pounds, but it is attached to a heavy bed or platform of 930 pounds dead weight.

This complete mass of a little over half a ton is provided with wheels and a couple of handles, and can be towed by a horse or a mule.

Its small size and mobility permit of its being moved about in the trenches. When in position the howitzer, with its bed, is removed from the travelling wheels, and the weapon can then be fired from the ground. It is a decided novelty in military warfare.

The calibre of the howitzer is less than three inches, but the shell thrown is a sphere over a foot in diameter, weighing, with its charge of high explosive, close upon 200 pounds.

To enable the little howitzer to accommodate such a huge shell, an adapter has to be used.

When the howitzer is fired the adapter and shell are forced out together. The two are soon separated, however, the air, forcing its way between them, causing the adapter to fall apart, and to allow the shell to travel on its way alone.

The velocity given to the shell as it leaves the bore of the howitzer is only 280 feet per second. The lowest elevation employed is 45 degrees, and at this angle the shell travels a distance of 550 yards, the maximum range obtainable. The accuracy of fire is said to be very good.

Shell Weighs 200 Pounds.

Although this range is so small, the shell takes no less than 10 seconds in its flight, and reaches a height of 410 feet in the air. It is difficult to imagine the feelings of those in the trenches against which the howitzer is operating, as they see the large circular shell lobbing toward them. The projectile consists of but a thin steel envelope, the greater part of its 200 pounds weight consisting of high explosive.

FROM ERIN'S GREEN ISLE

NEWS BY MAIL FROM IRELAND'S SHORES.

Happenings in the Emerald Isle of Interest to Irishmen.

Bricker recruiting is reported from Ireland, where up to the present, 35,000 have joined Kitchener's armies.

There are now over 100 Castlebar men already at the front and last week twenty more young men were accepted.

An eight-year-old girl named Mary Mullen, Coag, was fatally injured by being knocked down by a motor car near her home.

Mr. Henry Horne Cuffie Knox, J.P., of Creagh, Ballinrobe, has been appointed deputy lieutenant for the County of Mayo.

At Clonmel an old woman named Letitia Hayes was found in her house, where she lived by herself, burned to death.

The death took place in London-derry recently of Mr. Patrick Maxwell, one of the best-known solicitors in the northwest.

Thomas McClay, a corporal in the 9th Battalion Irish Rifles, was run over by a motor lorry in Elgin street, Belfast, and killed.

At Belfast, George Hopley has been committed for trial charged with communicating information calculated to be useful to the enemy.

Mrs. Cooke, Mullintine, Portadown, has received an intimation from the War Office that her son has been killed in action at the front.

It is proposed to fit up and fully equip the Exhibition Hall, Belfast, in a hospital and to place the same at the disposal of the War Office.

The death has occurred at Newtownbutler, County Fermanagh, of John Clarke, a farmer, who had reached the remarkable age of 105 years.