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"FRUIT-A-TIVES" has been one of the great successes of the century and the sales are enormous, both in Canada and the United States. 50c a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size 25c. All dealers, or sent postpaid on receipt of price by Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa.

The Cardinal's Enemy

A Bit of History That is
Also a Romance.

By F. A. MITCHEL

If one were asked what period in history furnished the most themes for stories he might be right in replying that containing the administration of the government of Louis XIII. of France by Cardinal Richelieu. Louis' queen, Anne of Austria, was a bitter opponent of the cardinal, and what Richelieu was to the king the Duchess de Chevreuse was to the queen. The duchess was one of the most beautiful, the most attractive and the most intriguing women who ever lived.

After the exposure of a treasonable plot the cardinal banished her to Lorraine, where she infatuated the king, Louis XIII, mixing him up in another conspiracy. The cardinal's policy forbade him to imprison a woman, so after banishment from France had failed he sent Mme. Chevreuse to a country estate she owned. There, having no better subject for her fascination, she bewitched an octogenarian official. This amusement failing to satisfy her, she turned her attention to another intrigue with a view to overthrowing the queen's and her own detested enemy, Richelieu.

At this time the queen was secretly corresponding with those opposing the cardinal, among them Mme. de Chevreuse. The person who conducted this correspondence was one La Porte, her secretary. He was the keeper of her cipher code, translated her letters into it, forwarded them to their destination and received the replies, handing them in the same way.

But the cardinal was watching and suspected the frequent goings and comings of the man. One of the queen's supposed adherents was won over and told La Porte that he was going to Tours, where Mme. de Chevreuse was held in restriction, and asked if he had any message for her. If so he would carry it. La Porte replied that he had a letter and would bring it to him. While doing so he was arrested with the queen's letter on his person and lodged in the Bastille. The letter was not important, but the queen and her friend had been forbidden to correspond. The cardinal at once ordered the seizure of the private papers of both the queen and the duchess.

When the queen was accused of treason she falsely made an oath that she had not corresponded with any foreign power. Richelieu knew better, and on promise of the king's pardon the queen confessed that she had written her relatives in Madrid and in Brussels, but not on matters of state. La Porte declared that he had carried no letters for the queen except to Mme. de Chevreuse. Knowing that La Porte's statement and hers would not agree, Anne desired to post him on what she had declared and ask him to make the same statement. This she hoped would satisfy Richelieu and prevent his investigating further.

But how reach La Porte in his cell at the Bastille? So carefully watched was he that a warden quitted him only for a few hours during the day and slept in his cell at night. One of the queen's maids of honor and devoted to her, Mlle. de Hautfort, not only suggested a plan of conveying a letter to La Porte, but volunteered to carry it herself.

The Chevalier de Jars, who had been involved in a former conspiracy against the cardinal, was confined in the Bastille and occupied a cell directly over that of La Porte, though between the chevalier's and La Porte's cell were two others. It was hoped by the queen's adherents that De Jars might find some way of conveying a letter from the queen to La Porte. De Jars had suffered a paralytic stroke and was allowed the privileges of an invalid, being permitted to receive friends and converse with them in the courtyard of the prison.

Mlle. de Hautfort early one morning issued from the palace of the Louvre before the inmates were awake, being dressed in the costume of a maidservant. Mademoiselle's hair, which was luxuriant and beautiful, was concealed under a large coil, and she was robed in loose gown which concealed her superb figure. Calling a sacre, she was driven to the Bastille, where she asked to see the Chevalier de Jars, saying that she was a lady's maid of a niece of the chevalier and bore a message for him.

The hour was before the prisoners' time of rising, and the queen's maid of honor was obliged to wait in the guard-room among a lot of soldiers of low degree. After some time the chevalier arrived and asked what was wanted. Mademoiselle drew him into the court and, raising her coil, showed him who she was and handed him the queen's



letter with her majesty's request that he find means to convey it to La Porte.

De Jars was no coward, as he had demonstrated in the schemes in which he had embarked to overthrow the cardinal. Nevertheless he hesitated to become mixed up in a scheme which it discovered would cost him his head. But when mademoiselle reminded him of the terrible risk she was herself running he consented.

The queen's messenger returned to the palace without having been discovered. De Jars, who was full of resource, worked out the problem of getting the queen's letter to La Porte. Had the latter occupied a cell directly beneath his own he might contrive to get the letter through the floor. But to pass it through other floors was impossible. The next cell below the chevalier's was occupied by some men who had been implicated in an insurrection in Bordeaux. The next cell below theirs held the Baron de Tenace and a man named Revellon, who had been a servant of a nobleman who had lost his head for a conspiracy against the cardinal. The chevalier planned to pass the queen's letter through these two cells to that of La Porte.

De Jars enlisted in his service a young fellow named Bois d'Arcy, the valet of a prisoner who was confined with his master. D'Arcy while in attendance on his master at the hour of exercise found a broken stone with a sharp point, which by eluding the observation of the sentinel he managed to slip in his pocket and at the same time asked the aid of the Bordeaux prisoners. Any prisoner was ready to do anything for another unfortunate, and they at once granted the request. Then they were given the broken stone for an implement.

The men succeeded in boring a hole through the floor to the cell next below and passed the letter through to Baron de Tenace and Revellon. These made another hole in the floor of their own cell and had not La Porte been so closely watched would have had no difficulty in passing the message on to him. They learned that the warden usually left La Porte for a few minutes in the morning. Waiting till they heard him go out, they passed down the letter.

The goal was won. La Porte made his confession tally with that of Anne of Austria, and the cardinal for once was outwitted. Being convinced that he had got the truth and the whole truth, he asked the king to pardon his wife, whom Richelieu believed to have been led into mischief by Mme. de Chevreuse. The pardon was granted on condition that the queen would hold no further correspondence with the mischief maker.

Anne, whose conscience was very elastic, regarded this promise solely as pertaining to letters. Through Mlle. de Hautfort she had contrived to inform the duchess that if their machinations against the cardinal were going well she would receive a prayer book bound in green. If there was danger it would be bound in red and she must look out for herself. Through some misunderstanding Mme. de Chevreuse one day received a prayer book bound in red. She decided upon flight. An official whom she had enthrallied provided her with directions for proceeding to Spain, and thither she directed her course. Ordering her carriage, she gave out that she intended to visit friends in the neighborhood. She set out near evening and as soon as it was dark ordered her coachman to stop and stepped out disguised as a man in a long cloak and riding boots. A horse was waiting for her, and mounting, followed by two servants also mounted, she rode southward.

In her excitement she had left in the carriage the official's directions as to the route and was obliged to proceed without them. Riding all night, she arrived at a town near which a nobleman, La Rochefoucauld, was at the time stopping. He had carried messengers between her and the queen, and she knew she could trust him; but not willing to compromise him, she wrote him as a stranger who had killed a man in a duel and was flying from the authorities, begging him to send a carriage and a valet.

La Rochefoucauld sent the carriage and the valet, and the duchess set out for another of his houses occupied by a gentleman in his service named Malbast, where she arrived before daylight the next morning. Mme. Malbast recognized the valet as a servant of La Rochefoucauld, and the man

told her that the gentleman he was conducting was an intimate friend of his master and related the story about the duel. M. Malbast asked the duchess how he could serve her. She replied that she would tell him tomorrow and asked him to go with her, since the two men she had brought from town might be recognized, and she wished to leave them behind until she should send for them.

Malbast consented, the carriage was sent back, and, mounting a horse which was provided for her, the duchess proceeded on the journey, accompanied by her host and the valet. She had banded her head to conceal a wound that she said she had received in the duel.

The hairbreadth escapes from recognition that were made by the fair fugitive were many. She was constantly meeting persons who knew her and was obliged to resort to various devices to avoid acknowledging her identity. One man she met said that if she were dressed as a woman he would certainly mistake her for the Duchess de Chevreuse. She replied that she was a relative of the duchess.

Despite the fact that as soon as her flight was discovered the cardinal sent after her in great haste, she reached Spain, where she was safe.

Philip IV., brother of Anne of Austria, was then king of Spain, and as soon as he learned that his sister's adherent was within his dominions he ordered that she be received with great distinction and sent several royal carriages, each drawn by six horses and occupied by his representatives, to fetch her to the capital. On her arrival the people turned out en masse to see the distinguished stranger who had come to them after so many romantic adventures. The king, like all other men, was captivated with her, and the queen showed her every attention.

From Spain the duchess went to England, whose queen, Henriette Maria, was a sister of the king of France and a bitter enemy of the cardinal who dominated her brother. There she received no less a welcome than in Spain.

Just Why We Sneeze.

Sneezing may be due to one of a number of causes. A bright light will cause many people to sneeze, as also the pollen of certain plants, while there are few people but will sneeze in the presence of dust. When you have a cold the sneezing is due to an attempt by nature to cure you. She is trying to make you sneeze for the same purpose that she wants you to shiver—to generate heat for warming the blood and preventing you from taking more cold—to help relieve the cold you have. For one does not sneeze with his nose, but with the entire body. During the act every muscle of the body gives a jump, as it were. It goes into a sort of spasm that warms the entire system.—New York American.

Forgot Her Sister.

A woman from a small town, in the city to do some shopping, stepped up to a clerk at the hosiery counter in one of the department stores. "Say," she said, "I want to get two pairs of stockings like my sister from Kentucky bought here last August." "I don't know your sister, and I probably would not remember what she bought, even if I were acquainted with her," explained the clerk. "You must remember my sister," insisted the customer. "She is a little, heavy set woman."—Indianapolis News.

The Duke's Walk.

"To meet one in the duke's walk." This is an invitation to fight a duel. In the vicinity of Holywood house, Scotland, there is a place called the duke's walk, so called from its being the favorite promenade of the Duke of York, afterward King James II. This walk is said to have been the common rendezvous for settling affairs of honor, as the site of the British museum was in England.

Revenge!

"Why are you so crazy to take mud baths?" "There's nothing the matter with you." "It's this way, doctor. I was brought up in a lace collar and a Fauntleroy suit. And I always vowed that I would get my share of playing in the mud some day."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

It Made a Difference.

"Billers is always talking about his love for the plain people." "Yes?" "Well, the other day somebody called his daughter plain, and he was hotter than a red headed hornet."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Curious Old Custom.

In Peru it was once the custom for domestic servants to have two of their upper front teeth extracted. Their absence indicated servitude.

Hard and soft corns both yield to Holloway's Corn Cure, which is intrinsically safe to use, and certain and satisfactory in its action.

Wb-n cooked by electricity meats shrink less than when cooked by coal.

POULTRY CACKLES.

For market profits the Toulouse and Embden varieties of geese are about equal.

Better have a few chicks and feed them well than a lot of scrawny, underfed youngsters.

Our common grains are the best foods for poultry. Feed well, but see that there is no waste.

Pinhead oatmeal is one of the best things that can be fed to young chicks. Cracked rice is also a good feed, though it is better when boiled.

A good ration for ducklings is composed of four parts bran, one part middlings, half part beef scrap, a little sharp clean sand and a pinch of salt. Mix with milk and feed in a crumbly state.

RAISING GEESSE IS EASY AND PROFITABLE

For the keeping of geese little if any special equipment is needed. They seldom seek the shelter of buildings, spending virtually all of the time in the open, regardless of cold or storm. Of course it is always well to provide some inexpensive place to which the birds may go if they wish, but these coops need not be large in size and may be most simply and roughly constructed.

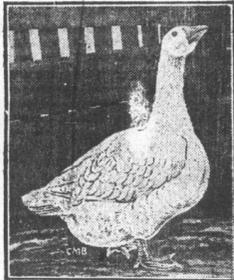
A liberal sized pasture must be supplied. One containing a stream, pond or marshy land is best, though sufficient water to permit a swimming place is not absolutely required.

If it is desired that the geese be kept confined to a certain tract of land this may be inclosed with a low fence of wire netting. However, free range is best and is usually given where conditions permit.

Geoslings may be successfully hatched in incubators and reared in brooders, but the natural method is used almost exclusively.

Give the geoslings reasonable protection and a plot of tender grass and they will thrive without much attention. It is possible to grow them on no other feed than that found on a good range, but this is not a satisfactory plan. They develop slowly and fail to reach satisfactory weight.

Geoslings do not require the services of a French chef. A mash mixture of



American poultrymen recognize six breeds of geese as being pure bred—the Toulouse, Embden, African, Chinese, Egyptian and the wild or Canadian. Among these the Toulouse is the largest and is a fine market bird. The White Embden is also a favorite market bird. It possesses the advantage of white plumage, which is a big factor in profit producing ability, since white geese feathers are in strong demand at top prices. The goose shown is an Embden.

two-thirds wheat bran and one-third cornmeal, with a little beef scrap added after the third day, is about all they require. Feed the moist mash three times daily and watch them grow.

Fresh water in abundance is positively required, and green feed must be given if the supply of grass is limited. Provide plenty of shade and protection against sudden, chilling showers.

In from three to four months the youngsters will have reached market size. For two or three weeks before killing them induce them to eat heavily, increasing the amount in the mash until it comprises two-thirds of the mixture.

Market geoslings are killed by bleeding in the mouth and striking on the head with a short club. They are picked clean, excepting the first joint of the wings and the upper half of the neck.

Special care must be used to insure thorough cooling before shipping.

Any large city furnishes a good market. During the summer months hotels at summer resorts are especially good customers.

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