

NOR KING NOR COUNTRY.

BY GILBERT PARKER.

Of all the good men that Lincolnshire gave to England to make her proud, strong and handsome, none was stronger, prouder and more handsome than John Enderby, whom King Charles made a knight against his will. "Your gracious majesty," said John Enderby, when the King was come to Boston town on the business of draining the Holland fen and other matters more important and more secret, "the honor your majesty would confer is well beyond a poor man like myself, for all Lincolnshire knows that I am driven to many shifts to keep myself above water. Times have been hard these many years, and, craving your majesty's pardon, our taxes have been heavy."

"Do you refuse knighthood of his majesty?" said Lord Rippingdale, with a sneer, and patting the neck of his black stallion with a gloved hand.

"The king may command my life, my Lord Rippingdale, was Enderby's reply, "he may take me, body and bones and blood, for his service, but my poor name must remain as it is when his majesty demands too high a price for honoring it."

"Treason," said Lord Rippingdale just so much above his breath as the knight might hear.

"This in our presence!" said the king, tapping his foot upon the ground, his brows contracting, and the narrow dignity of the divine right lifting his nostrils petulantly.

"No treason, may it please your majesty," said Enderby, "and it were better to speak boldly to the king's face than to be disloyal behind his back. My estate will not bear the tax which the patent of this knighthood involves. I can serve the country no better as Sir John Enderby, than as plain John Enderby, and I can serve my children best by shepherding my shattered fortunes for their sakes."

For a moment Charles seemed thoughtful, as though Enderby's reasons appealed to him, but Lord Rippingdale had now the chance which for ten years he had invited, and he would not let it pass.

"The honor which his majesty offers, my good Lincolnshire squire, is more to your children than a few loaves and fishes which you might leave them. We all know how miserly John Enderby has grown!"

Lord Rippingdale had touched the tenderest spot in the king's mind. His vanity was no less than his impecuniosity, and this was the third time in one day he had been defeated in his efforts to confer an honor, and exact a price beyond all reason for that honor. The gentleman he had sought had found business elsewhere, and were not to be seen when his messengers called at their estates. It was not the king's way to give anything for nothing. Some of these gentlemen had been benefited by the draining of the Holland fens, which the king had undertaken, reserving a stout portion of the land for himself; but John Enderby benefited nothing, for his estates lay further north and near the sea, not far from the town of Mablethorpe. He had paid all the taxes which the king had levied and had not murmured beyond his own threshold. He spoke his mind with candor, and to him the king was still a man to whom the truth was to be told with a directness, which was the highest honor one man might show another.

"Rank treason," repeated Lord Rippingdale, loudly. "Enderby has been in bad company, your majesty. If you are not well wiled with the king, you are against him. He that is not with me, is against me, and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad."

A sudden anger seized the king, and turning, he set foot in the stirrup, muttering something to himself which boded no good for John Enderby. A gentleman had the stirrup while he mounted, and with Lord Rippingdale beside him in the saddle, he turned and spoke to Enderby. Self-will and resentment were in his tone.

"Knight of Enderby we have made you," he said, "and knight of Enderby you will remain. Look to it that you pay the fees for the granting of your patent."

"Your majesty," said Enderby, reaching out his hand in protest. "I will not have this greatness you would thrust upon me. Did your majesty need and speak to me as one gentleman to another in his need, then would I part with the last inch of my land; but to barter my estate for a gift that I have no heart nor use for—your majesty, I cannot do it!"

The hand of the king twisted in his bride-rein, and his body stiffened in anger.

"See to it, my Lord Rippingdale," he said, "that our knight here pays to the last penny for the courtesy of the patent. You shall levy upon his estate."

"We are both gentlemen, your majesty, and my rights within the law are no less than your majesty's," said Enderby, stoutly.

"The gentleman forgets that the king is the fountain of all law," said Lord Rippingdale obliquely to the king.

With Thy favor to behold our most gracious sovereign King Charles, Endue him plentifully with Heavenly gifts; grant him in health and wealth long to live; strengthen him that he may vanquish and overcome all his enemies; and, finally, after this life, he may attain everlasting joy and felicity."

With a heavy heart Enderby turned homewards; that is, towards Mablethorpe upon the coast, which lies between Saltfleet Haven and Skegness, two ports that are places of mark in the history of the kingdom, as all the world knows.

He had never been so vexed in his life. It was not so much anger against the king, for he had great reverence for the monarchy of England; but against Lord Rippingdale his mind was violent. Years before, in a quarrel between the Earl of Lindsey and Lord Rippingdale upon a public matter which parliament settled afterwards, he had sided with the Earl of Lindsey. The two earls had been reconciled afterwards, but Lord Rippingdale had never forgiven Enderby.

In Enderby's brain ideas worked somewhat heavily; but to-day his slumberous strength was infused with a spirit of action and the warmth of a pervasive idea. There was no darkness in his thoughts, but his pulse beat heavily and he could hear the veins throbbing under his ear impetuously. Once or twice as he rode on in the declining afternoon he muttered to himself. Now it was: "My Lord Rippingdale, indeed!" or "Not even for a king!" or "Sir John Enderby, forsooth! Sir John Enderby forsooth!" Once again he spoke reining in his horse beside a tall cross at four corners, near Stickford by the East Fen. Taking off his hat he prayed:

"Thou just God, do Thou judge between my king and myself. Thou knowest that I have striven as an honest gentleman to do right before all men. When I have seen my sin, oh, Lord, I have repented! Now I have come upon perilous times, the pit-falls are set for my feet. Oh, Lord, establish me in true strength! Not for my sake do I ask that Thou wilt be with me and Thy wisdom comfort me, but for the sake of my good children. Will Thou spare my life in these troubles until they be well formed; till the lad have the bones of a man, and the girl the wise thought of a woman—for she hath no mother to shield and teach her. And if this be a wrong prayer, oh, God, forgive it: for I am but a blundering squire, whose tongue tells lamely what his heart feels."

(To be Continued.)

PHOTOGRAPHING A SHOT.

Wonderful Experiments in Determining the Time Life of a Flash of Electricity.

Recent achievements in the moving photography that has produced the cinematograph, biograph, cinematograph and other representations of motion are not more wonderful than the lately perfected photography of the flying bullet. Prof. C. Vernon Boys, F. R. S., has worked on this seemingly unsolved problem with great success, as have also two Italian artillery officers.

In the course of a lecture on the subject, Mr. Boys demonstrated that the ordinary notion that an electric spark is instantaneous was quite erroneous, and stated that the light of the two ends of the ordinary electric spark lasted a little less than the 100,000th part of a second. It was of course instantaneous to our senses, but to tests which could measure accurately to the 100,000,000th part of a second the electric spark was anything but instantaneous. This spark was no good for taking the photograph of a flying bullet, as the lecturer showed by exhibiting one of his attempts, which made quite a blurred picture.

Mr. Boys then proceeded to explain the steps which he took in order to reduce the length of time of the electric spark. To this end it was essential that the terminals should be made of copper, platinum, or some metal which did not produce readily an ignitable vapor, and the electric current must not be driven through wires at all. He used a very thick, broad band of copper, not more than two inches long, which reached around the edge of the plate, so that the electric current had not got more than three or four inches to go together. He explained by diagrams how he had effected his object, and shortened the time of the spark to about one thirteen millionth of a second, or about a hundred times quicker than the ordinary flash.

To give the audience some idea of the infinitesimal fraction of time, he said the time occupied by the spark as reduced by his apparatus was proportionately as much less than a second as a second was less than five months, and during that time a bullet fired from a magazine rifle could not travel more than one 500th part of an inch. By this simple contrivance he was able to get a brighter and shorter spark and all that was necessary to make a good and short picture.

BITUMINOUS COAL LARGELY USED

The changes which have taken place in the operative economy of manufacturing plants are notably conspicuous in the matter of fuel. Formerly anthracite coal was used universally for steam purposes, but now the bituminous is used in all large mills, with very few exceptions. Then, again, the improved methods of handling coal present quite as marked a change, and particularly in the reduction of cost, some of the latter having been at the mine but most of it in freights and handling. Some fifteen years ago vessels ranged from 400 to 800 tons burden, 1,000 tons being an extreme size, and loading was uncertain; at the present time craft average fully 2,000 tons, schooners run as high as 3,000 tons and barges between 4,000 and 5,000

HOUSEHOLD.

MILDEW, IRON, RUST AND STAINS.

Some years ago such a thing as getting rid of mildew and ink stains was impossible, it seemed, without using such acids as made your garments fall into holes, but it is possible now, without injuring your goods. It is especially depressing to have anything happen to your handsome damask table cloths, for every fastidious housekeeper prides herself in having pretty nappy and table linen. It is expensive to buy it, and costs to have it laundered properly, but it is more apt to give you trouble by getting stains on it than any other household articles.

An equal quantity of prepared chalk and powdered borax spread on thickly will remove mildew. It must be dried in the sun. Of course everyone knows how difficult it is to deal with iron rust, and are incredulous about anything doing it any good, but (this remedy is effective, and makes it very valuable to anyone that succeeds with it. Use benzine and borax. You have only to try it once, and then you should tell your friends and neighbors if you are successful, and let them have the benefit. There is no simple powder so powerful and helpful about a house as borax. We know its good as a disinfectant, but it is also as good in its medicinal uses, for sore throats. One of the most healing gargles I ever used was made of salt water and powdered borax, for ulcerated throat. If used freely, it will cure speedily and you will need no doctor.

Fruit stains, and coffee and tea and wine on table linens can be done away with by immediately washing them, or just pouring boiling water through the stain, first having added a small quantity of borax. This must be done before the goods are put in wash. Such a practice will reduce your laundry bill, for usually table cloths and napkins are expensive to be laundered properly, but you can make a large cloth last for several meals longer by cleaning the spots off in this manner. I put a plate under the stain, after having poured the boiling water through it, to make it dry smoothly, and you will not notice the difference in the washed pieces at all. This is a great saving to a mother with little folks that made mistakes or happen to accidents such as turning over the coffee cups or tea, and big folks are just as unfortunate often.

HELPS AND HINDRANCES.

If the members of the family are unselfish, thoughtful and considerate of the comfort of each other it is a help. Another help is to have meals at regular hours, all the little details being in harmony which makes the gathering at the meal hour pleasant and agreeable.

If possible the wife should not burden her husband with her daily trials, because his trying perplexities are sometimes exceedingly annoying, and appear difficult to overcome. A help-mate to the bread winner, she is always ready to aid by her counsel and inspire by her own enthusiasm. Tired and discouraged ones receive new life from the kindly welcome at the close of day, to the home which seems a haven of rest after the wearisome work, which has exhausted both mind and body. One of the greatest helps is a pleasant and sunny disposition, especially in the morning. The old saying is "As goes the morning so goes the whole day." A fretful disposition is infectious and is a hindrance to the happiness of the entire family just as a cross cow in the barn yard, begins to look her neighbor, and she in turn looks another, till the entire herd are disturbed and in commotion. It is a hindrance to the housekeeper or kitchen maid to be obliged to go forty rods, in the summer heat or wintry blast, for the family supply of water. It is a hindrance to have the wood sawed too long for the stove, and to be obliged to take off the covers in order to get it in, causing the room to be filled with smoke, and making every one feel uncomfortable. It is a help to have the windows built so they can be lowered at the top, so that the smoke can escape. Sickness is also a hindrance which disarranges the whole household affairs. It is a hindrance sometimes to the patience to have a dog coming in with muddy feet making tracks on the kitchen floor so freshly washed. Last but not least money of whatever denomination, whether gold or silver is an inestimable help. Society, friendship, and love are helps. Where love and willing hands make labor light, some of the hindrances do not annoy so much.

SUGGESTIONS TO HOUSEKEEPERS.

Do not hang pictures with cord, but procure wire which is made for that purpose. It comes in several sizes and is quite inexpensive beside having a much better appearance than heavy cord.

If one has fine plates which are in danger of becoming nicked or broken by being placed one upon the other, have soft crocheted mats of common cotton twine between each one.

When flavoring has been forgotten in a pudding or cake the fault may be remedied by rubbing the desired extract over the outside of the cake as soon as it is taken from the oven.

When the eiderdown comforts or pillows lose their elasticity hang them where the air and sunshine can have full sweep at them, and in a few hours they will be fluffly and light as when new.

To make camphorated oil, get ten cents' worth of sweetoil and put five cents' worth of camphor into it. Shake frequently and in a week or ten days you will have an extra camphorated oil, good for aches and pains.

length of the breadths. Then run four rows of machine stitching across each breadth. Cut between the rows, two on each side, and it will not ravel. In making up an ingrain carpet the same plan is advisable.

If you have cooked cornmeal mush, instead of filling the kettle with water to soak after it is emptied, set it on the back of the stove, where it will keep pretty warm, and let dry. In a few hours the mush will have dried and is ready to peel off, leaving the kettle so that an ordinary washing will clean it.

There will be no compensation for all the labor and worry of spring cleaning unless all doors and windows are provided with screens. There will thus be immunity from flies, bugs, mosquitoes and all insect pests, and it will be a matter of economy in the end, considering the comparatively small amount they cost.

Here are some hints for book lovers:

To remove ink stains dilute oxalic acid with water, apply with a camel's hair brush and dry with blotting paper. To remove grease spots use pipe clay, covered with blotting paper and a hot iron. To polish old leather covers clean with a flannel rag, rub with the beaten yolk of an egg applied with a sponge, and pass a hot iron over the covers.

An exchange suggests, as a method of preventing rich cookie dough from sticking to the moulding board to cover the board with thin unbleached muslin, put on without a wrinkle, dust it well with flour, then roll out the dough. We know a much less troublesome method than this, and it is very simple. Don't make rich cookies. Then you'll have no trouble with them.

TWO SHIPS OF MYSTERY.

THEY ARE TO HAVE SPEED TWENTY-FIVE KNOTS.

Extraordinary Features Which Make It Hard to Tell What They are Intended For—The Steamers are Very Long and Narrow—May Belong to Russia.

Building in one of the great shipyards of Scotland are two steamers about which there is much mystery. In the first place, the contractors decline to make public the name of the government or steamship company for which these vessels are intended. Moreover, while the plans of the two craft make it impossible that they should be used in any ordinary commercial enterprise, they are not supplied with a protective deck, covering their vitals, and therefore it does not seem probable that they can be designed for war ships.

They are to be marvels of speed for vessels of their size. Having a length of 420 feet, an extreme width of thirty-two feet and a depth of thirty-two feet from main deck to keel, they have been supplied with engines of 12,000 indicated horse power, calculated to give them a sea speed of twenty-five knots in ordinary weather.

As an English officer who inspected these two vessels on the ways recently said:—"There is no space below for anything except speed," meaning that all her carrying room was occupied by machinery.

Their boilers are placed in a long, narrow compartment amidships, forward of the engines, and usually

LARGE BUNKERS

are on each side, giving much coal protection to their motive power.

An extraordinary system of bracing and strengthening all the bulkheads is one of the peculiar characteristics of these vessels, and it is evident that they will be exceptionally stiff and strong.

In the Edgar class of cruisers the British navy possesses several vessels having the same horse power as the mysterious occupants of the Scotch shipbuilders' ways. The Edgar has a length of only 360 feet, compared with a length of 420 feet in the "mysterics." But the cruiser's beam is 60 feet and her depth is fully 48 feet. Naturally, having a beam nearly double that of the "mysterics" and a depth fully fifty per cent greater, the Edgar cannot do better than a speed of twenty and a half knots.

The normal draught of the two Scotch built craft is not given, nor is their normal displacement obtainable. Probably their draught is not more than eighteen feet and their displacement about 4,000 tons. They have the extraordinary ratio between length and beam of more than thirteen of one and with a shallow draught they will meet comparatively little resistance from the water.

To insure their steadiness in a sea-way bilge keels extend more than one hundred and sixty feet on each side, showing that the intention is to run at a

LIGHT DRAUGHT.

The stern body of these two vessels is one of the most remarkable of their peculiarities. The twin screws do not project from the counter at the end of long outboard shafts, supported by struts, as is the case in most twin screw steamers. Instead, the after-part of the ship is composed of two distinct sterns, extending abaft the above-water structure, and one screw works at the end of each of these prolonged sterns. The rudder is shipped in a frame between the two.

It would be unprofitable to speculate about these two vessels without knowing the work they will be expected to do. While the lack of a protective deck argues against their warlike mission, the fact that they have no room for cargo and only very limited accommodations for passengers seems to indicate that they may be found eventually acting as commerce destroyers.

The secret of their ownership cannot now be long maintained, and it—as is strongly suspected—it should be found that Russia will hoist her flag over them there will be undoubtedly, a demand in England that the Admiralty build something a little bigger and faster.

YOUNG FOLKS.

A TROUBLESOME FAULT.

If one stops to think how much trouble, discontent and discord are caused by jealousy, one will come to the conclusion that it is the worst fault with which poor humanity is afflicted. It lies in the nature of every one, but alas! too many have more than is good for their peace of mind, and, worse still, they make no attempt to check it. How often do we not hear of estrangement between members of family simply because good fortune comes to one and not to all. Just as long as all had equal their love for each other was unquestioned, but when fate smiled on one the ugly demon of jealousy was admitted, and oh! what hard feelings followed. This jealousy at first may seem but a little thing, but it is encouraged and allowed to come forth on the most trifling occasions, and so it grows and grows.

Two girl friends probably get new dresses at the same time, and because the dress of one may be a little better in quality or may be adorned with a bow or two more the other girl becomes sarcastic about it, or pouts and makes herself disagreeable generally. Now to foster jealousy about such a trifle is most ungenerous, and no girl who wants to keep friends can afford to do it. I have in mind two girl friends, who had been playmates since childhood and were the best of friends. Their mothers had contrived to give each the same advantages so that they might be the happier. But one fine day a young man came to see one of these girls, and it was immediately noised abroad that Bessie had a beau. When Caroline heard this she burst into tears, and when next she saw her friend she treated her quite contemptuously. This was the beginning of an estrangement which has never quite healed. The dear old comradeship was sacrificed because of jealousy, and never more would be the same.

There are two sisters of our acquaintance who profess to love each other dearly, but often their friends are provoked to laughter because of the jealousy exhibited. If one gets something new, no matter how trifling the other immediately gets a similar article, but always one a little better. This cause of dissatisfaction on the part of the first one, and so it is in everything they do or get. They make themselves unhappy just because of this.

Jealousy is an exaggerated form of self-love and is responsible for most of the ugly things we say about friends and acquaintances. We cannot endure to hear others praised, unless we do it ourselves. We cannot see anything good in the girl or boy who receives the attentions we crave. We make ourselves blind to their merits, even if theirs outshine ours. But, worst of all, jealousy makes us sarcastic, which is most ill-bred; and then our friends laugh at us for displaying our weakness. So whatever you do, girls, do control the little jealousies which crop out. We cannot always be pleased, or always have just what we want. Wish your friends happiness when it comes to them, and be content that it will come to you also.

THE TIME TO BE PLEASANT.

"Mother's cross," said Maggie, coming out into the kitchen with a pout on her lips.

Her aunt was busy ironing, and she looked up and answered Maggie:

"Then it is the very time for you to be pleasant and helpful. Mother was awake a good deal of the night with the poor baby."

Maggie made no reply. She put on her hat and walked off into the garden. But a new idea went with her—"The very time to be pleasant is when other people are cross." "True enough," thought she, "that would do the most good. I remember when I was ill last year, I was so nervous that if anyone spoke to me I could hardly help being cross; and mother never got cross or out of patience, but was quite pleasant with me. I ought to pay it back now, and I will."

And as she jumped up from the grass on which she had thrown herself, she turned a face full of cheerful resolution toward the room where her mother sat soothing and tending a fretful teething baby.

"Couldn't I take him out to ride in his carriage, mother? It's such a sunny morning," she asked.

"I should be so glad if you would," said her mother.

The hat and coat were brought, and the baby was soon ready for his ride.

"I'll keep him as long as he's good," said Maggie, "and you must lie on the sofa and take a nap while I'm gone. You are looking dreadful tired."

The king words and the kiss that accompanied them were almost too much for the mother, and her voice trembled as she answered:

"Thank you, dear; it will do me a world of good. My head aches badly this morning."

What a happy heart Maggie's was as she turned the carriage up and down the walk! She resolved to remember and act on her aunt's good words:

"The very time to be helpful and pleasant is when everybody is tired and cross!"

TITLED PERSONAGES IN JAIL.

The sentence of Lady Scott to imprisonment for circulating slanders concerning her son-in-law, Lord Russell, in England, calls attention to the fact that at present there are in the various jails of Europe quite a number of persons of title who are undergoing terms. Lady Gunning, widow of Sir Henry Gunning, and grand daughter of the second Lord Churchill, is serving a term of several years' penal servitude for forging her father's name to a number of notes. She might have escaped with a punishment less severe if during the trial the fact had not come to light that her frauds had extended over a number of years, and the financial necessity that had tempted her to this course was her recklessness in betting on horse races.