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## With Edged Tools

By HENRY SETON MERRIMAN Author of "The Sowers." "Roden's Corner." "From One Generation to Another." Etc.

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(Continued from Page 2.) They stood in the hall for some time while Guy told her in whispers about the belladonna liniment. Then they went upstairs together and found Thomas Oscard, the great historian, dead on the floor. The liniment bottle. which Guy had left on the mantelpiece, was in his hand-empty. He

They picked him up and laid him reverently on the bed, and then Guy went for the doctor.

"I could," said the attendant of death, when he had heard the whole story, "I could give you a certificate. could reconcile it, I mean, with my professional conscience and my-other conscience. He could not have lived thirty hours. There was an abscess on his brain. But I should advise you to face the inquest. It might be"-he paused, looking keenly into the young fellow's face-"it might be that at some future date, when you are quite

Again the doctor paused, glancing they should believe in me." Co., of Waterloo : Federal Life As- with a vague smile toward the woman of Hamilton; Empire who stood beside them. "Or even nurse," he added, not troubling to he said in a jerky, self conscious voice. Office-Telephone build- finish his sentence. "We all have our moments of expansiveness. And it is a story that might easily be dis-

So the eccentric Oscard finished his earthly career in the intellectual atmosphere of a coroner's jury. And the world rather liked it than otherwise. The world, one finds, does like novelty, even in death. Some day an American will invent a new funeral and, if he can only get the patent, will make a fortune.

The world was, moreover, pleased to pity Guy Oscard with that pure and simple sympathy which is ever accorded to the wealthy in affliction. Every one knew that Thomas Oscard had enjoyed affluence during his lifeate. Office over Post New Building. | time, and there was no reason to suppose that Guy would not step into very comfortably lined shoes. It was unfortunate that he should lose his father in such a tragic way, and the keen eye of the world saw the weak point in his story at once. But the coroner's jury was respectful, and the rest of society never so much as hinted Store, corner Kent and William- at the possibility that Guy had not

tried his best to keep his father alive. Among the letters of sympathy the young fellow received a note from Lady Cantourne, whose acquaintance he had successfully renewed, and in due course he called at her house in Vere Gardens to express somewhat

lamely his gratitude. Her ladyship was at home, and in du course Guy Oscard was ushered into her presence. He looked round the room with a half suppressed gleam of searching which was not overlooked by Millicent Chyne's aunt.

"It is very good of you to call," she said, "so soon after your poor father's death. You must have had a great may." deal of trouble and worry. Millicent and I have often talked of you and you forget," said Millicent, holding out sympathized with you. She is out at her hand, with a smile full of light the moment, but I expect her back heartedness and innocent girlish almost at once. Will you sit down?"

CHAPTER V. ss ND what do you intend to do with yourself?" asked Lady Cantourne when she had poured out tes, "You surely do not intend to mope in that dismal house in Russell square?"

"No, I shall let that if I can." "Oh, you will have no difficulty in doing that People live in Russell square again now, and try to make one his back loomed a dense forest, believe that it is a fashionable quarter. Your father stayed on there because his puny hand armed with ax or saw. soldier slightly relaxed by abnorma the curpets fitted the rooms and on ac The trees were not high, few of them

He did not live there. He knew nothlived in Phoenicia."

"Then," continued Guy Oscard, shall go abroad!" "Ah! Will you have a second cup? Why will you go abroad?" Guy Oscard paused for a moment.

know an old hippopotamus in a certain-African river who has twice upset me. I want to go back and shoot him." "Don't go at once: that would be running away from it-not from the hippopotamus-from the inquest. It does not matter being upset in an African river; Durnovo, employee of the Loango

but you must not be upset in London Trading association, whose business it "I did not propose going at once," re- Interior of Africa to buy, barter or plied Guy Oscard, with a peculiar smile steal ivory for his masters. which Lady Cantourne thought she understood. "It will take me some time to set my affairs in order-the will and

Lady Cantourne waited with perfectly suppressed curiosity, and while she was waiting Millicent Chyne came into the room. The girl was dressed with ner nabitual perfect taste and success, and she came forward with a smile of genuine pleasure, holding out a small hand neatly gloved in suede. Her ladyship was looking, not at Millicent, but at Guy Oscard.

"Ah!" said Miss Chyne. "It is very arms and a somewhat truculent way good of you to take pity upon two lone of walking, as if his foot was ever females. I was afraid that you had gone off to the wilds of America or somewhere in search of big game. Do you know, Mr. Oscard, you are quite a celebrity? I heard you called the big game man' the other day; also the 'traveling fellow.'" The specimen smiled happily under

this delicate handling. "Mr. Oscard has just been telling me," interposed Lady Cantourne con-

versationally, "that he is thinking of going off to the wilds again." "Then it is very disappointing of him," said Millicent, with a little droop of the eyelids waich went home. "It seems to be only the uninteresting peo-

ple who stay at home and live hum-

drum lives of enormous duration." "He seems to think that his friends are going to cast him off because his poor father died without the assistance of a medical man," continued the old

At this moment another visitor was

announced and presently made his appearance. He was an old gentleman of no personality whatever, who was nevertheless welcomed effusively because two people in the room had a distinct use for him. Lady Cantourne was exceedingly gracious. She remembered instantly that horticulture was among his somewhat antiquated accomplishments, and she was immediately consumed with a desire to show him the conservatory which she had had built outside the drawing room window. She took a genuine interest in this abode of flowers and watered the plants herself with much enthusiasm-when she remembered.

Added to a number of positive vir- they got within a hundred yards of his tues the old gentleman possessed that of abstaining from tea, which enabled the two horticulturists to repair to the conservatory at once, leaving the had feigned sleep in order to carry out young people alone at the other end of the drawing room. Millicent smoothed her gloves with

> downcast eyes and that demure air by which the talented fair imply the con- beyond the fact that it was a native sciousness of being alone and out of others' earshot with an interesting member of the stronger sex.

Guy sat and watched the suede gloves with a certain sense of placid enjoyment. Then suddenly he spoke, Africa. Therefore he dropped a bullet continuing his remarks where they had into the water, under the bow of the been broken off by the advent of the cance, at 800 yards. useful old gentleman.

"You see," he said, "it is only natural which can only be written "P-ttt" bethat a great many people should give tween his legs, and he had to wipe a an old man, you may feel inclined to me the cold shoulder. My story was a shower of dust from his eyes. A puff little lame. There is no reason why of blue smoke rose slowly over the

"I believe in you." she answered. "It was a very unpleasant business," "I didn't know that I was that sort of fellow. The temptation was very great. I nearly gave in and let him do it. He was a stronger man than L. You know-we did not get on well together. He always hoped that I would turn out a literary sort of fellow, and I suppose he was disappointed. I tried at one time, but I found it was no good. From indifference it turned almost to hatred. He disliked me intensely, and I am afraid I did not care for him very much."

Millicent was listening gravely without interrupting-like a man. She had the gift of adapting herself to her environments in a marked degree. "And." he added curtly, "no one

knows how much I wanted that three thousand a year." The girl moved uneasily and glanced toward the conservatory.

"It was not the money that tempted me," said Guy very deliberately; "it was you." She rose from her chair as if to join her aunt and the horticultural old gen-

tleman. "You must not say that," she said in little more than a whisper, and without looking round she went toward Lady Cantourne. Her eyes were gleaming with a singular suppressed excitement, such as one sees in the eyes of a man fresh from a mad run Guy Oscard rose also and followed

more deliberately. There was nothing for him to do but take his leave. "But," said Lady Cantourne graclously, "if you are determined to go away, you must at least come and say goodby before you leave." "Thanks: I should like to do so, if I

"We shall be deeply disappointed if CHAPTER VI.

URSE this country! Curse it!

'Curse it!" The man spoke

aloud, but there was no one

near to bear. He shook his skinny yellow fist out over the broad river that crept greasily down to the equatorial sea. All around him the vegetable kingdom had asserted its sovereignty. At penetrable to the foot of man, defying

being above twenty feet, but from their branches creepers and parasites hung in tangled profusion, interlaced, joining tree to tree for acres-nay, for

bank of the slow river was thus cov-

ered with rank vegetation-mile after

mile without variety, without hope.

The glassy surface of the water was

broken here and there by certain black

forms floating like logs half hidden be-

neath the wave. These were croco-

diles. The river was the Ogowe, and

the man who cursed it was Victor

was at that season to travel into the

He was a small faced man, with a

squarely aquiline-nose and a black

mustache which hung like a valance

over his mouth. From the growth of

that curtain-like mustache Victor

Durnovo's worldly prosperity might

have been said to date. No one seeing

his mouth had before that time been

prevailed upon to trust him. Nature

then covering them up so that

into the forest to find a few dates.

"Curse this country!" he shouted.

"Curse it, curse it-river and tree, man

come over him, for his eyes lost their

arms were crossed behind his head.

Suddenly he sat upright, all eager-

ness and attention. Not a leaf stirred.

It was about 5 o'clock in the evening.

the stillest hour of the twenty-four. In

such a silence the least sound would

travel almost any distance, and there

was a sound traveling over the water

peated with singular regularity, but to

his practiced ears it conveyed much.

He knew that a boat was approaching.

as yet hidden by some distant curve in

the river. The thud was caused by the

contact of six paddles with the gun-

wale of the cance as the paddlers with-

Victor Durnovo rose again and

brought from the boat a second rifle,

which he laid beside the double bar-

reled Reilly which was never more

than a yard away from him, waking

or sleeping. Then he waited. He

knew that no boat could reach the

bank without his full permission, for

all the rowers could be killed before

rifle. He was probably the best rifle

shot but one in that country, and the

other, the very best, happened to be in

Durnovo over the sight of his rifle.

He looked upon this river as his own.

and he knew the native of equatorial

A moment later there was a sound

boat and a sharp report broke the

Then Victor Durnovo leaned to his

feet and waved his hat in the air.

From the canoe there was an answer-

ing greeting, and the man on the bank

went to the water's edge, still carry-

Durnovo was the first to speak when

peans in the approaching craft, with

a courteous wave of the hand, "no

blacks in the long and clumsy boat.

One of the Europeans lay in the bow

while the other was stretched at his

ease in the stern, reclining on the can-

vas of a neatly folded tent. The last

named was evidently the leader of the

ted the servitude of a discipl

silence a second time.

the boat came within hail.

the approaching cause.

drew them from the water.

to him. It was nothing but a thud re-

who might come in his way.

the air of equatoral Africa.

Before him lay the river.

Who fired that shot?" inquired Durnovo, when there was no longer any necessity to shout. "Joseph," replied the man in stern of the boat, indicating his com-As far as the eye could reach either

panion. "Was it a near thing?" "About as near as I care about It threw up the dust between my legs." The man called Joseph grinned. Nature had given him liberally of the wherewithal for indulgence in that

relaxation, and Durnovo smiled rather constrainedly. Joseph was grabbling at the long reedy grass, bringing the canoe to a standstill, and it was some moments before his extensive mouth submitted to control.

"I presume you are Mr. Durnovo?" said the man in the stern of the boat. rising leisurely from his recumbent position and speaking with a courteous savior faire which seemed slightly out of place in the wlids of central Africa. He was a tall man with a small aristocratic head and a refined face,

crat of old France. "Yes," answered Durnovo. The tall man stepped ashore and

which somehow suggested an aristo-

held out his hand. has a way of hanging out signs and "I am glad we have met you." said. "I have a letter of introduction casual fail to see. He was a man of to you from Maurice Gordon of Lomedium height, with abnormally long

Victor Durnovo's dark face changed slightly. His eyes-bilious, fever shot, ready to kick anything or any person unhealthy-took a new light. "Ah!" he answered. "Are you Victor Durnovo had sent his boatmen friend of Maurice Gordon's?"

There was another question in this, few handfuls of firewood, and while an unasked one, and Victor Durnovo they were absent he gave vent to that was watching for the answer. But the wild unreasoning passion which is inface he watched was like a delicately haled into the white man's lungs with carved piece of brown marble, with a courteous, impenetrable smile.

Presently a peacefulness seemed to

This conveyed nothing to Durnovo. who belonged to a different world, glitter and his heavy lids drooped. His whose education was, like other things about him, an unknown quantity. "My name," continued the tall man, "is Meredith-John Meredith-some-

times called Jack." They were walking up the bank toward the dusky and uninviting tent. "And the other fellow?" inquired Durnovo, with a backward jerk of the

"Oh, he is my servant." Durnovo raised his eyebrows in somewhat contemptuous amusement and proceeded to open the letter which Meredith had handed him. "Not many fellows," he said, "on this

coast can afford to keep a European "I understand," answered Meredith, with a half suppressed yawn, "that the country gets finer farther up; more

mountainous." The proprietors of very dark eyes would do well to remember that it is dangerous to glance furtively to one side or the other. The attention of dark eyes is more easily felt than the

glances of gray or blue orbs. Jack Meredith's suspicions were aroused by the suspicious manner of "There is no white man knows this

river as I do, and I do not recommend After the space of ten minutes the it. Look at me, on the verge of jaunboat came in sight-a long, black form dice; look at this wound on my arm, it on the still waters. It was too far began with a scratch and has never away for him to distinguish anything healed. All that comes from a month up this cursed river. Take my advice. Try somewhere else." "Eight hundred yards," muttered "I certainly shall," replied Meredith.

"We will discuss it after dinner. My chap is a first rate cook. Have you got anything to add to the menu?" "Not a thing. I've been living on plantains and dried elephant meat for

the last fortnight." "Doesn't sound nourishing. Well, we are pretty well provided, so perhaps you will give me the pleasure of your company to dinner? Come as you are; no ceremony. I think I will wash, though. It is as well to keep up these

CHAPTER VII. N that part of Africa which lies

ing the rifle from which he was never within touch of the equator life is essentially a struggle. There is hunger about, and where hunger "Very sorry," he shouted. "Thought is the emotions will be found also. Now, Jack Meredith was a past master you were a native boat. Must establish a funk-get in the first shot, you in the concealment of these, and, as such, came to Victor Durnovo in the guise of a new creation. He had lived "All right," replied one of the Eurothe latter and the larger part of his life among men who said, in action if not in words, I am hungry or I am thirsty; I want this, or I want that; and if you There were two white men and six are not strong enough to keep it, I will

take it from you. This man was different, and Victor Durnovo did not know, could not find out, what he wanted.

He had at first been inclined to laugh at him. What struck him most forcibly was Joseph, the servant. The idea of a man swaggering up an African river with a European manservant was so preposterous that it could only be met with ridicule; but the thing seemed so natural to Jack Meredith, he accepted the servitude of Joseph so much as a matter of course that after a time Durnovo accepted him also as part and parcel of Meredith. Joseph took off his coat, turned up

his sleeves and proceeded to cook such a dinner as Durnovo had not tasted for many months. There was wine also, and afterward a cigar of such quality West Indian palate. The night settled down over the land

ness came a greater silence, for the

subject which had never really left his thoughts, "you have come out here for titles. Do you follow me?" "Not exactly. I came chieny make money, partly to dispel some of

the illusions of my youth, and I am

lusions they were. The man who drew the pictures had never seen Africa." The evening had turned out so very differently from what he had expected that Durnovo was a little carried of A puff of blue smoke rose slowly ove his equilibrium. Things were so sociable and pleasant in comparison with the habitual ioneliness of his life. The little expedition, while the manner and fire crackled so cheerly, the moon shone down on the river so grandly. the subdued chatter of the boatmen

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"I say," he said, "when you told me that you wanted to make money. were you in earnest?" "In the deadliest earnest," replied

tone which he never wholly learned to

premature; not known you long enough and all that. But in this counyou when you got out of that boat so cool and self possessed. You're the right sort, Mr. Meredith."

ting about and smoking first class cigars and thinking second class thoughts I am exactly the right sort. But for making money, for hard work and steady work. I am afraid, Mr. Durnovo, that I am distinctly the wrong sort."

There was a little pause. Durnovo

Jack Meredith turned and looked at

face. The eyes alone seemed living. "Yes! I can do that." "I can see you're a gentleman," Durnovo said. "I'll trust you. I want a man to join me in making a fortune. I have got my hand on it at last. But I'm afraid of this country. I'm getting

out of this for a bit, but I dare not leave until I set things going." "Take your time," said Meredith. quietly and soothingly. "Light that

hurry." Durnovo obeyed him meekly. "Tell me," he said, "have you ever

Jack. "What is it for, brown boots or spasms?" "It is a drug, the most expensive drug in the market. And they must have it, they cannot do without it, and they cannot find a substitute. It is the

"Where is it to be found?" asked Jack

The scientific chaps called it simiagrain of truth in it. The legend is would take you and snap your backa gun barrel as you would bend a cane, merely by the turn of his wrist. That tree with one leg and tackle a leopard with his bare hands-that's simiacine. At home they are only just beginning to find out its properties. It seems that it can bring a man back to life when he is more than half dead. There is no knowing what children that are brought up on it may turn out to be. It may double the power

Jack Meredith was leaning forward, watching with a certain sense of fascination the wild, disease stricken face, listening to the man's breathless periods. It seemed that the fear of death, which had got hold of him, gave Victor Durnovo no time to pause for breath.

"Yes," said the Englishman, "yes "There is practically no limit to the

demand that there is for it. At present the only way of obtaining it is as appealed strongly to Durnovo's through the natives, and you know their manner of trading. They send a little packet down from the interior, 119 while they sat there, and before them and it very often takes two months the great yellow equatorial moon rose and more to reach the buyer's hands. slowly over the trees. With the dark- The money is sent back the same way and each man who fingers it keeps a little. The natives find the leaf in "Se," said Durnovo, returning to the the forests by the aid of trained monkeys and only in very small quan-"Yes, I follow you."

Victor Durnovo leaned forward until his face was within three inches of (Continued next week.)

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19 For Toronto..... 8.05 a.m.

From Haliburton...... 8.55 a.m

18 From Toronto..... 34 For Port Hope. 51 For Toronto ..... 10 For Belleville .. 21 For Toronto .... 55 For Whitby .....

48 For I. B. & O. Jet ..... 11.00 a.m. 33 For Haliburtog...... 2.40 p.m 28 For Toronto ...... 6.28 p.m. 81 For Coboconk ..... 6.80 p.m.

From Port Hope...... 2.05 p.m From I. B. & O. Jet ... 5.45 p.m. From Port Hope...... 6.23 p.m From Whitby ...... 7.30 p.m 24 From Toronto ...... 8.05 p.m 56 From Whitby..... 8.45 p.m 1 From Belleville ..... 9.45 p.m 6.00 a.m

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imparted such a feeling of safety and comfort to the scene, that he gave way to that impulse of expansiveness which ever lurks in West Indian blood.

Jack Meredith in the half mocking

"Then I think I can put you in the way of it. Oh, I know it seems a bit "I met him again the other day at try we don't hold much by the formali-Loango. He is an old Etonian, like ties. I like you. I liked the look of

"Possibly for some things. For sit-

looked round as if to make sure that Joseph and the boatman were out of ear shot. "Can you keep a secret?" he asked

the questioner with a smile. His hat had slipped to the back of his head, the light of the great yellow moon fell full upon his clean cut sphinxlike

shaky; look at that hand. I've been looking for it too long. I take you into my confidence, the first comer, you'll think. But there are not many men like you in this country, and I'm beastly afraid of dying. I want to get

cigar again and lie down. There is no

heard of simiacine?" "I cannot say that I have," replied

leaf of a shrub, and your hatful is worth a thousand pounds."

"Ah, you may laugh now, but you won't when you hear all about it. cine, because of an old African legend which, like all those things, has a that the monkeys first found out the properties of the leaf, and it is because they live on it that they are so strong. Do you know that a gorilla's arm is not half so thick as yours, and yet he bone across his knee? He would bend is similacine. He can hang on to

of the human brain; some think it to quote the closest prices.

Meredith's, and the dark, wild eyes getting on very well. Picture book il-

should have a Fountain Pen.