

The Fair Captives

OR THE SECRET CABINET

CHAPTER XIII.—(Continued.)

"It surely isn't worth an argument," she says with a little frown, shrugging her shoulders. "I tell you again I am sorry if I have inconvenienced or annoyed you. I confess, too, that if you could assure me you were leaving for some other reason than—than this, I should feel happier."

many a time, to and from Greycourt, and by degrees a little of the constraint that had characterized his early visits has worn away. He has even so far advanced as to be almost on friendly terms with Griselda.

"What's that?" says Griselda, starting and dropping her fork (they are at their early dinner). "Did you hear it? A knock! A thundering knock!"

"Stanton's knock!" says Vera faintly, changing color. "What can have brought him at this hour? London must be reduced to ashes," hazards Griselda, her tone now as genial as usual.

"If I could," supplements he gently. He turns and leaves the room. "Now see, see what you have brought upon me," cries Vera, facing Griselda, with vehement agitation.

"What's that?" says Griselda, starting and dropping her fork. "Did you hear it? A knock! A thundering knock!" "Stanton's knock!" says Vera faintly, changing color.

CHAPTER XIV. July reigns, vice June dethroned, but still the roses hold full sway. In that smaller garden in which Gregory Dystart takes all the walks abroad he ever does, and the love for the flowers in which is the one sole humanizing element about him, the queen of blossoms greets her head in stately beauty, though in every corner fallen petals may be seen.

WORK AHEAD AT PORT ARTHUR

The Forts to Be Taken Are Enormously Strong.

Thirteen of them being killed and three severely wounded. A second storming party, also of volunteers, was then formed, consisting of seven men, including myself, under the command of a non-commissioned officer named Hosel. The night was extremely dark and the absolute stillness of the atmosphere was very impressive. We all covered ourselves with green branches and leaves and proceeded on all fours, keeping as close as possible to the ground.

WORSE THAN SHAMBLES.

A despatch from London says: English correspondents with Gen. Nogi's army, which is besieging Port Arthur, express themselves as being horrified by the carnage at 203-Metre Hill. They declare that the dynamite bombs and hand grenades used by both sides are a hundred times worse than dum-dum bullets.

PREPARING FOR DEFEAT.

A despatch from Paris says:—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Temps telegraphs that the news received there from the front is of the most unfavorable kind. Gen. Kourapatkin telegraphs that unless the number of trains on the Siberian railway is considerably increased it will be impossible to keep the army in provisions.

TROOPS IN MUKDEN.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says:—The general staff apparently is entirely satisfied with the military situation in Manchuria, being convinced that the Japanese will reach their high tide. The general staff also said on Wednesday:—"The Japanese army military history, and changes in the war."

REFORMS THEIR REWARD.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says: It is significant that the soldiers at the front are keenly interested in the proposed reforms in Russia. M. Kirilloff, in a special despatch to the Russ from Mukden, says the soldiers talk of little else, appearing thoroughly to understand the meaning of such reforms and attributing the same to a desire to reward them for the hardships they are now enduring.

YAPIS GAWLED WIKES.

A despatch from London says: An engineer named Kawamura Sakuji, who is now at the military hospital at Yentsuji, has supplied the following account of one of his experiences with the investing army at Port Arthur to the Samuki Shimbun.

CATTLE MARKET.

Toronto, Dec. 20.—Trade at the Western Cattle Market to-day was not so good, and trade was slower in the week. The quality of the cattle was not so good, and trade was slower on this account.

HALIFAX LOSES DOCKYARD.

Ordered Closed Down by Order of the British Admiralty. A Halifax despatch says:—Orders were received from the British Admiralty on Thursday by cable directing that the naval dockyard here be closed down at once.

RED FLAG IN RUSSIA.

An Armed Rising May Take Place at Any Time. A London despatch says:—The newspapers here print further maledictions of the disaffection in Russia. Street demonstrations of increase in frequency in the provincial towns and have begun in Moscow and St. Petersburg.

LEADING MARKETS.

The Ruling Prices in Live Stock and Breadstuffs.

Wheat—Ontario—Very dull, 98c bid for red and white; spring, 92c; goose, 88c to 87c. Manitoba, No. 1 northern, steady at \$1.03; No. 2 northern, 98c; No. 3 northern, 92c.

C. W. RICHARDS, Publisher and Proprietor

The British Mission to Afghanistan arrived safely and in good health at Kabul, December 12.

John D. Rockefeller is said to have given between \$2,000,000 and \$3,000,000 to the University of Chicago for a School of Engineering.