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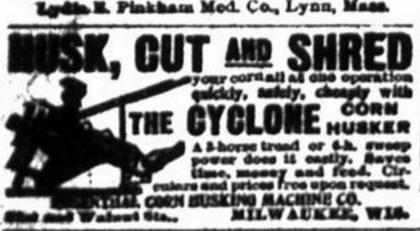
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KING DON: A STORY OF MILITARY LIFE IN INDIA. ....BY MAVOR ALLAN.... BUNNINGWANNINGWANNA 

CHAPTER II.-(Continued.) She looked up in his face with a little smile that would have appeased a very martinet in love.

"I am very sure that Roddy does not care a scrap nowadays for me." said demurely, adding, with sweet contrition, "and I am not surprised, after the way I treated him. But I was only a thoughtless girl in those days, and I know he has forgiven me."

"How long ago is it since 'those

days'?" queried Don, toying with golden strand of her hair. Her words had restored his reassurance and calm. "I try to think it is a long, long time, Don," she answered gravely, "for then I never thought of right or wrong, or how beautiful it makes life if we try to serve God rather than self. Oh, she broke off, with a thrill of emotion in her voice, "sometimes I pray I may live to be an old woman, just to try to make up for all those wasted years."

"And so I, too, pray that you may, though it were only to solace the deelining years of a 'est sinner like myself, sweet saint," he rejoined, lightly. "And now, my darling, since I know your heart is mine, beyond retraction, I can risk to tell you my news from home today. That faithless Roddy is if his mastery arose more from the about to be espoused to my sister, Di."

"Oh, I am so glad-so glad!" she exclaimed, and there was no mistaking doubt about his earnestness. "If you ter should ever be my wife?" Don the genuine warmth of her words. "You will tell him that when you write, won't you, Don? And I myself I would take you. I could not bear will write to Di. Oh, Don, I think Di is one of the noblest women in the whole world. But for her example I should never have learned to remember our lives are not our own."

Don rose from her side with a momentary flush on his cheek.

"You were not always such a little Puritan, Lillie," be rallied her, "or. don't you know, 'pon my word, should have been afraid to think it possible you would ever look at such a reprodute as me, for-you know I am not a hypocrite, Lillie-I'm not a good fellow by any means, and, to tell the trnth. I don't want to be one."

It was a bold thing for him to say in the face of her guileless professions gown. of faith; but love made Lillie blind to everything but the bliss of knowing he had claimed her heart forever. and that into his hands had been put the wondrous power of making his chequered life blessed.

to him with a sweetness that banished at the most. all thought of alien opinion.

"Some day, Don, perhaps you will come to know, as I do now, that this world is not everything; and so long as you love me I am content to wait for I know that God will make it plain frightened when my father went out to you in His own good time."

Don's arms closed around her with more demonstrative tenderness than he had yet shown.

"My white Lily, I am perfectly certain we shall prove a model Darby and Joan, for, since you will have me, what do I care for anything else?"

And then he kissed her again, and murmured "sweet nothings" in her ear that brought the color flitting happily to her lovely cheek. Lastly he drew from his little finger a gold band, bearing a diamond ivy leaf, and inscribed inside with the single word "Bydand" -stradfast-the Gordon badge and motto.

And when he had placed it on the third finger of Lillie's fair hand, she repaid him by throwing her arms about his neck and giving him the first shy kiss of love.

"Oh. Don, may we be like the ivy, and always cling close to each other. May nothing ever come between us two!" she cried.

Those words of deepest love might mayhap have fallen more fitly from the man's lips than the girl's; but Don read in their sweet solemnity the hidden meaning of a hoped-for higher bond of union, and he only smiled considerately as he held her close and returned her kiss with liberal interest.

"I hope," he said playfully, "that means you never, never would be so cruel as to filt me as you did old Roddy. There! forgive me, sweet, I'm a brute to have reminded you of those days when you were such a dear little coquette. Are you quite sure you are not afraid of giving yourself to such a jealous beggar as I am, Lillie? For

you know I am jealous." "Do you know why I didn't tell you of Roddy's engagement till I knew that I had won your dear heart? Because I didn't want to be taken out of pity.' "You need never be jealous of me any more, Don," she said, with sweet

earnestness. "What of His Highness Prince Clement Sing, who your father told me sent you lately a present of a certain cashmere shawl, and a champac necklace?"

he queried, laughing. But the question turned Lillie's blushing face for the instant pale. had suddenly reminded her of Captain Gordon's memory down to the veriest Derwent's favor of this would-be suit- trifle. or for her hand. Prince Clement Sing,

"I would have returned the presents, rive serious offense," she said depre- silvery wings of the front night. ingly. "It was unpleasant to have

to accept them; but if it is the custom of the country to give costly things like that as we give flowers and trifles at home-" She stopped.

"I was only joking," Don interrupted her calmly. "But this reminds me, love. I shall have to get your father's consent, I suppose, before I can ask you to name the happy day? For you know of old I'm not a patient fellow, Lillie. I like things to be assured and smooth-sailing. I stick to the fine old | ble!" maxim: 'If 'twere well 'twere done, then 'twere well it were quickly'."

She looked up in her tall lover's face with a piquant, dubious smile.

"That sounds almost like getting over a disagreeable duty," she objected. 'And I am sure my father won't want me to run away from him just yet-not till this disturbance on the frontier is over, and he is ready to take me

For to the heart of a Briton, in whatever foreign clime, the sacred name of "Home" belongs to the beloved British Isles alone.

For answer Don drew her once more within his arms.

dogmatic will of the man than the impetuosity of the lover, there was no ever go back home, it must be as my wife; but, Lillie, i won't promise you it, for I am a homeless wanderer now." The quiver in his voice moved her profoundly.

"We will make a fresh home, Don. you and i wherever you like in the whole woi. .!," she said.

Even Don, self-absorbed as was his "You are very generous, my darling, and I am going to take you at your word by asking your father to give you to me before the summer. I hope to see him in a very short time, for 1 have just had orders to take a relief I ask why it is perfectly impossible?" draft of our Derbys out to join his camp to-morrow.

leave me to-morrow?"

soon," he answered gently But

But she clung to him, with the tears | dic---" swimming in her beautiful blue eyes. "Oh, Don, my dearest, I shall be

dreading all sorts of things happening to you on the way! I used to feel so first; but now I know he is safely in camp it is different. Oh, Don!" she broke off, "If you never come back to me it would break my beart!"

"My darling," he reassured her, "the wibes have surrendered, and the war is practically over. There's really nothing to be nervous about."

"You must think of me killing time counting the hours which will bring me back to the dear little woman who is going to open a paradise for the poor outcast wanderer."

She put up her little hand to his

"Don't call yourself that, Don, As we hope to be forgiven, forgive and forget the wrong your mother did you when she brought you up as Gadie's heir. Remember it was all for love of you she sinned."

"What then, sweet pleader, would you have it that love condones a sin?" he queried, capturing the hand and covering it with kisses. .

"God forbid!" she answered earnestly; "but surely, because of that love, forgiveness should be easier?"

Ah! how both were to remember that conversation in a bitter day to come!

All too soon came the final moment for last caresses and parting words, for presently the red-turbaned native announced that "Gordon sahib's horse was at the gate as ordered, and his cloak also, as dew was failing."

Lillie picked up a silk coverlet from the divan, and throwing it over her shoulders, accompanied her lover to the veranda.

The moon had risen, and in its clear light her lovely face, with its aureole of golden hair, shone radiant with its love, but quivering with the pain which this moment of farewell brought.

The red fireflies were flashing, the perfume of rose and pink oleander wafted from the garden on the hot air. On the far-stretching terrace of the bungalow a great adjutant bird, with its head nestling under its wing, was silhouetted against the silvery expanse

From the prickly-pear hedge of the compound rose anon the melancholy howl of a jackal.

All unconsciously, scene and hour were to be fixed irrevocably upon Don

He took his cloak from the native's though a native of the Punjaub, had hand, and, throwing it on, stood trifling European blood in his veins, and had with its clasp to prolong the exquisite lived from boyhood in England, and fascination of the spell which had sudgraduated at one of the English uni- denly fallen upon him and held him in its grasp.

Was it the mystic secret of love He stooped at last and gathered the Philadelphia North American.

trembling girl in a linkering embrace. "What message shall I take to the

father, little one?" "That I love you," she answered simply, "and that I only live for you both to come back to me."

He sealed the confession with a passionate kiss, and tore himself away, to spring lightly to the saddle.

For an instant he paused on his prancing steed with bared head, his brown eyes bent upon her, and a smile on his moustached lips.

"Till we meet again." He spoke softly then, as, kissing his hand to her, he resumed his belmet and galloped away into the moonlit night. "Till we meet again!"

She lifted her tear-dimmed eyes to the star-spangled heavens in a mute supplication that the Father of all would watch between him and her till that day came.

Ah! she little knew what the interval held in store.

CHAPTER III. "Impossible, my dear sir-impossi-

It was Captain Derwent who spoke

in that decidedly aggressive tone of decision, and he whom he addressed was Don Gordon, as they strolled in company along a narrow track by the side of a winding nullah, on their way back to mess at the Tirah camp.

It was nearly three weeks since the lover had bidden Lillie farewell, and she it was who was under discussion

eyes glowed ominously as their glance followed the clouds of pale smoke from the cheroot he puffed for several minutes in proud silence.

That he had never contemplated Captain Derwent's blunt refusal of his suit "I can't wait for that, Lillie." And was very certain, by the easy assurance with which he had courted and won Lillie's own consent.

> "You say it is impossible your daughspoke at last, with painful distinct-

It was characteristic of Don's nature that he was rarely roused to passion; but, once roused, it was deep and lasting; and by the pallor that had replaced the flush upon his face it was too evident he was moved to passion

"Perfectly impossible, my dear felnature, was touched by her devotion. low, though I hate telling you so, don't you know?"

"Since you have told me so much, I should like that you will tell me more," said Don, in that calm voice that little betrayed the fire at his heart. "May

"My dear sir," exclaimed the elder officer, somewhat sharply, "if your own She turned pale as her clinging common sense does not tell you my chief reasons, then you must pardon "To-morrow? Oh. Don. why didn't my being outspoken. You've said youryou tell me before you were going to self you haven't a rupee beyond your pay and what your uncle, Colonel Gor-"Because ill news is told all too don, chooses to allow you yearly. Now, honestly, do you consider you are at cheer up, child, I don't expect to be all a suitable match for my little girl, She rose, too, and put her hands out gone more than three or four weeks who, you must remember, is now an heiress. Had you been heir of Ga-

"Thanks," said Don curtly, "I do not need to be reminded of my reversed fortunes, and, I will confess. should never have asked Lillie to share my poverty. It is only the fact of her being an heiress makes it possible she could ever become my wife."

"'Pon my word, sir, you're frank!' exclaimed Captain Derwent, irritated | rection of protecting their mines. The by what he deemed effrontery on Don's part. "My daughter should be honored to know that, had she been 'tocherless lass,' as we say in the north, you would have had none of

He laughed, as if to pass the matter off es a joke; but he was genuinely annoyed

(To be continued.)

The Spread of Contagious Discuss. The responsibility of those persons who supply the public with food and drink is not sufficiently realized by the community at large. Not long since a number of cases of diphtheria broke out in a neighborhood. The disease was of a very severe type, and, in several instances, proved fatal after two or three days' illness. It seemed impossible, at first, to trace the contagion to its source, but after a thorough eanvass of the vicinity it was discovered that a dealer in milk had in his family a couple of cases of diphtheria. He professed ignorance of the cause of the children's sickness, and even when assured of its nature, claimed that he had no idea that it could be conveyed in milk. The fact that parents do not know how children could have contracted this disease often acts as a check upon any efforts to combat it, insisting that as the little once have not been exposed to this malady it certainly must be something else that ails them. When illness of this sort breaks out in a family the only proper course is to have it investigated at once. Delays are quite sure to be disastrous if not fatal, and in the present condition of medical knowledge on this subject, there is reasonable hope of relief if attention is given when the first smyptoms of illness manifest them-

All Kinds.

Snobson (to inhabitant of out-ofway seaside resort)-"What sort of people do you get down here in the summer?" Inhabitant-"Oh, all sorts, zur. There be fine people an' common people, an' some just half and half, like yourself, zur,"-Punch.

Love's Playfulners. "And there's nothing more between us?" he asked. "No, Harry, dear," but father explained to me it would which was coming to him there on the she replied, nestling against his shoulder; "I can't get any closer to you."-

## DOCTOR AND PREACHER.

A Noted Ante-Bellum Character Whe Could Also Put Up a Stiff Fight.

"One of the noted ante-bellum char-

acters of the south," says a Georgian, "was Dr. McKane, who lived between Washington and Augusta. He was a physician of the old school, and being also a man of strong religious views, he was in the habit of occasionally preaching in the rural churches. Physically McKane was a giant, and if he failed to convert a sinner by word of mouth he was not averse to finishing the argument with his fists; so, needless to say, his proselyting was singularly successful. One Sunday, as the story goes, he drove to a neighboring village for the purpose of holding services, and was met as he descended from his buggy by the local blacksmith, who was the bully of the community. The blacksmith had heard of the doctor's prowess, and, regarding his presence as a menace to his own prestige, decided not to let him preach. 'Well, stranger, who be y'. anyhow?' he asked as a starter, planting himself in the visitor's path. 'My name is McKane,' replied the doctor, 'and I've come to hold a meeting in the church yonder.' 'My name is Bill Williams,' said the blacksmith, 'and I'm here to tell y' that y' can't hold no meetin' in this town today.' 'That's something we'd best settle immediately, said McKane, with perfect coolness, and proceeded to pull off his coat. Don's cheek was flushed, and his dark | The blacksmith had the advantage of brute strength, but McKane was a skillful boxer, and after a few swift passes he saw an opening and knocked his man down. The bully got up raving and was promptly floored again. The third time McKane stretched his adversary out he jumped on his chest and began slugging him about the face. 'Hold on,' bellowed the blacksmith, spitting out a couple of teeth, 'I've gotter 'nuff!' 'Do I preach here today?" asked McKane, landing a stiff punch on his nose. 'Yes! yes!' yelled the other; 'preach all y' want to!" 'And will you come and hear me?" continued the doctor, hitting him a terrific lick in the eye. 'Yes! I'll come!' 'All right, brother,' said the fighting parson, rising and wiping his hands; 'the services will begin at 10 sharp.' The blacksmith kept his word and was on the front bench. They say he afterward became a class leader."

## COAL FAMINE

In France Affords a Market for Ameri-

can Products. The coal famine imminent in France affords an opportunity for American coal of all grades in these markets. The coal famine that has existed in France and a large part of Europe during the present winter and the consequent high price of all kinds of fuel have called very general attention to the coal supply of the world. The sitnation is supposed to be due to the war in the Transvaal and the strikes in the French coal districts. It could also be attributed to the unexampled activity in the channels of manufacture, which one and all rest upon coal as their foundation and have been steadily increasing their consumption for the last decade. The governments of several European nations have been asked to take prompt action in the diannual coal output of France is about two-thirds of the consumption. The railroads in France consume annually about 4,500,000 tons; the metallurgical establishments, 6,000,000 tons; the mining industry, 3,000,000 tons-over half the output. It is asserted, but not authoritatively, that France can greatly augment her output of coal. The more general opinion is that the country will have to look for her coal supply to the United States and other lands, where there are rich mines yet

## The Rhine of Ireland.

The Blackwater, which has been styled the Irish Rhine, has been included in many tourist programmes. Wicklow, a run of only an hour or two from Dublin, with its lakes and hills, has been made easily accessible to the ordinary tourist by good services of public cars and coaches. The up-todate character of tourist enterprise in developing our tourist industry is evidenced by the fact that a service of automobiles is at present being organized to run from Dublin to the Dargle. The beautiful Lough Gill, in Sligo, and the winding banks of Erne, in Fermanagh, are now visited by hundreds for the one-generally a stray fisherman-who used to stroll along their shores.

## Edmund Barton's Work.

Mr. Edmund Barton, who goes to London to represent New South Wales during the passage of the commonwealth bill, of which he is part author, is a personal friend as well as a colleague in many fights for the national idea of Mr. Deakin, who represents Victoria, so that the twain will speak with one voice. Mr. Barton is a protectionist, an incisive speaker, a skillful lawyer, an excellent conversationalist. As an instance of his scrupulous sense of honor it may be mentioned that before leaving Sydney he resigned his seat in parliament, thinking that the £1,000 he receives for his delegation constitutes him a paid servant of the colony.

"The colonel's been getting the drop on somebody, I guess."

"Yes; he evident has a drop too much, and nobody ever knew him to buy any liquor himself!"-Detroit Journal









Thirty Years



