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HEALTH

deries for the want of a simple simply exist. In the faces of of a wasted life and blighted unknown to them because there coele, wasting drains have ex- and left them wrecks upon the

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building up wrecked humanity. It fills the fire of life. If you will use it while youthful vigor to every organ of the appliance in the world to-day that will in- arts.

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I have been wearing your Belt nightly for nearly a month. I am using it for constipation, and I am also applying the suspensory with good results.—W. F. GRAHAM, Petrolea, Ont.

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HIS—ILL-GOTTEN WEALTH.

The Untimely End of Joseph Devas.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

It was all in the morning papers. A paragraph headed "Escape of a Convict from Chatham" told also of his recapture.

Meggitt saw it in The Times at breakfast.

He had reason to be very dejected as he went down that morning to the bank, and the news which greeted him on arrival did not serve to reassure him.

Directly he entered the parlor the cashier came in.

"I am glad to see you sir ; in fact, I was waiting for you anxiously. Something very unpleasant has occurred. Two of our bills for large amounts have been protested by Rothschilds."

"I will step round to New Court myself, and see what this means," said Meggitt easily.

But Meggitt's assurance was only skin-deep ; he had but too good reason to know that this was only the first of many similar bills. The credit of the bank had been already impugned, and its real condition was becoming known to the great leaders of the financial world. The crowd would soon take up the cry, and it would probably be impossible to make head against the storm.

What should he do ? was the first thought. To go off altogether ? "No, it is premature," he said. "By waiting a day or two I may be able to lay my hands on a good round sum, sufficient, perhaps, to last me till I can make a new start at the other end of the world."

Cupidity got the better of caution, and Meggitt decided to go back to the bank.

He had been away fully half-an-hour, but in the interval a crowd had collected round its doors.

"What is it ?" asked Meggitt, as he pushed his way excitedly through the throng.

"A run on the bank," said some one, as he passed out.

Meggitt took in the situation at a glance, and passed on into the parlor, where the cashier again joined him.

"How long will it last ?" asked Meggitt.

"Certainly not beyond the day," answered the cashier.

Then Mr. Waldo arrived, and decided to draw upon reserves. Meggitt went, and on his return from the Bank of England Mr. Waldo asked, in so many words,

"What amount have you brought ? It should be one hundred and fifty thousand pounds."

Meggitt flushed crimson, and stammered out :

"Not so much, sir. The reserve is only seventy-nine thousand pounds."

"Impossible ! It cannot have been reduced. I shall require explanation: the very fullest," said the old banker, sternly.

The run still continued.

"We must appeal to our friends. I had many : surely some will help us now in our sore distress," said old Mr. Waldo.

But Mr. Waldo found little encouragement and less support. Already it was forced in on him, by the unanswerable logic of hard facts, that Meggitt was a scoundrel, a rascal ; a dishonest rogue, who had played fast and loose with the bank.

"I should like to see him directly he returns," said Mr. Waldo, shortly.

But he asked in vain. Three, four, five o'clock came, but no Meggitt. What did arrive was far more damning evidence against the absent man.

The run on the bank had not been confined to specie payments. Several old clients had called or sent for securities deposited in the strong-room.

They were not to be found.

Once more Mr. Waldo sent post-haste to Mr. Faske, and put the affair in his hands. From Faske he learnt everything : the truth about Leon Lantimeche the false Marquis, Meggitt's treachery, and above all the wrongful sentence passed upon the old cashier.

Meggitt, meanwhile, had hurried home, laid hands on all property, jewels, bonds, and so forth, convertible into cash, and made up his mind to start that night for Havre via Southampton, intending to take the Saturday steamer of the French trans-Atlantic Company for New York.

But he lingered just to have one last dinner at his club. He had no idea that arrest was so near at hand. He left the club, fully confident that he had stolen a march upon his enemies, and that within a few hours he would be safe from pursuit.

It was a terrible shock to him to meet Faske face to face as he came down the marble steps of the club.

"I want you," said the police officer ; "I have a warrant."

"Where are you going to take me to ?" asked Meggitt, surrendering on the spot, and in a complete state of collapse.

"Vine Street lock-up for to-night, and to-morrow the Mansion House and Clerkenwell."

The day after Meggitt's arrest was a busy one for Daunt. Following Faske's advice he went first to Saville Row and had a long talk with Mr. Lilljearth. Thence he went to the Home Office, and saw the same high personage that he had interviewed before.

"Well, I don't deny that you have a strong case, Sir Richard, but still many of your facts have got to be proved ; what do you want us to do ?"

"I think Mr. Surtees ought to be released conditionally."

"That's out of the question ; a sentence of penal servitude cannot be set aside in that easy fashion. But I tell you what I will do ; the man shall be brought up to Millbank. He ought to be close at hand in case you want to consult him."

Daunt thanked the great personage and withdrew. Then he hastened to Victoria, and took the first train to Chatham.

"You bring good news," said Josephine, directly she saw him. He had gone straight to her.

"The very best. Your father will be released within a month ; I can almost promise you that. Nothing can be settled finally till after Meggitt's trial. Meanwhile, Josephine, you must be preparing to welcome him home."

"Where am I to go ?"

"Back to the old home, of course. I have arranged it all. The tenant will vacate at once, and you must go and keep house for Bob until your father returns, and then—we will be married from there."

Josephine could not speak—her heart was too full ; but she found a few words at last, spoken in a soft low whisper as her head lay against his breast.

"Yes, Richard, if you will take me. But I am not worthy. You are too good, too—"

Daunt silenced her in the readiest way a lover can.

After many fond adieus Daunt tore himself away. Snatching a hurried dinner he travelled on to Dover, and took the night mail to Paris.

Daunt paid an early visit to the Prefecture next day, and explained to M. Acme the last service he required.

"Fanchette ? Yes, she is here, we have kept our eye on her as you wished, and now you want her to speak out ? Is that it, mon cher Sir Daunt ? we may persuade her, I think," and he touched a hand-bell. "Have this mandat taken to the Rue du Bac," he said to his huissier. "I wish to see the person named in it at once—here."

Presently Fanchette, smart and coquettish as ever, was ushered in.

She started at seeing Daunt seated there, and looked from him to the chef.

"There is nothing to fear, Madame,"—the chief consulted a paper in front of him—"Poirat, yes, Poirat. Your assistance is needed in a case which will be heard in London shortly. The prisoners are Percy Meggitt and Joseph Devas, alias Leon Lantimeche.

"I know nothing ; I shall say nothing," replied Fanchette, doggedly.

"Pardon me. On further consideration I think you will."

"I will pay you anything in reason to appear," put in Daunt, hastily.

"A moment, Monsieur. Justice is not to be bought. Madame Poirat will come forward out of pure good feeling, I think."

Fanchette did not look much like it just then.

"At least, if Madame Poirat won't, Leonie Fanchette Jocasses, dit La Felluse, dit Caramel, dit Patata, will do so, I feel sure."

Fanchette turned very pale.

There was little doubt after that of her appearance as a witness at the trial.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

Meggitt's trial caused great excitement in the city. The case was strong against him, and looked very black from the first. It was skilfully and pertinently stated by the attorney-general, who prosecuted on behalf of the Crown. This attorney-general was no other than Sir Silas Standaloft, who had defended Mr. Surtees, and who had since entered Parliament and risen to a high office under the newly appointed Ministry.

Sir Silas licked his lips and went at Meggitt tooth and nail.

"I shall show and prove in evidence," said Sir Silas, having freely lubricated his lips, preparatory to a great effort, "I shall show how the prisoner, making use of information he had received, procured the appointment within the precincts of Mr. Waldo's house of a creature devoted to his own interests, who was employed as personal attendant to Mrs. Waldo, and having the run of the private apartments. This person was found for him by the other prisoner, Devas, between whom and Meggitt a close alliance had been formed. By the instrumentality of this woman—a clever and unscrupulous Frenchwoman—a false key to the strong room was obtained. She is here, and she will tell herself how it was done."

At this statement a gleam of baleful light flashed from Leon's dark eyes.

"Having thus obtained access, at will and secretely, to the strong room, it was easy to abstract any number of securities and valuables. But at this point simple robbery was not their object. They were playing a far deeper game: they were conspiring to bring the whole resources of the bank under their control. For this purpose it was essential to get the cashier out of the way, the honest and unsuspecting superior, who could have soon detected and put an end to any foul play. This they accomplished in a cruel and unscrupulous manner, with a result well known to your lordship and to others in this court.

"I shall be able to show you how they smuggled into Mr. Surtees possession some of the stolen bonds, and thus gave strength and color to the grievous accusation under which the poor man succumbed. I will prove to you that Meggitt had access at will to the cashier's drawers and boxes, that he had false keys to all of them——"

Sensation in court.

"That he abstracted from one of them an old contract for the purchase of certain Portuguese stock, a contract which Mr. Surtees naturally could not produce at his trial, and the existence of which he had, unfortunately forgotten. By this means Mr. Surtees was prevented from proving that he had long possessed securities—similar to those stolen—of his own. It will be proved to your satisfaction that these bonds were also abstracted, and a part of the stolen bonds—those stolen from the strong room—were substituted for them. In support of this I shall produce the contract of which I have spoken; the bonds which were Mr. Surtees's property, and—mark this well—the balance of the stolen bonds. The whole of these damnatory and convincing proofs were found in the possession of one or other of the prisoners."

Sir Silas here paused to give full effect to his words.

Then amidst breathless silence he continued:

"After these facts have been fully established, and I have not the slightest doubt that I shall do so, an act of tardy justice will, I trust, be done to the first, and, I think the chief, victim of these vile machinations. An innocent man, my lord and gentlemen of the jury—an innocent, a much-wronged and deeply-suffering man—cries aloud from the depths of the gloomy prison-cell to which the crafty knavery of these villains consigned him—he cries aloud, I say, for restitution, revindication, rehabilitation, and redress. Mercy, and justice—pardon, apology and compensation—must be dealt out promptly and without stint to that grievously ill-used man.

"It is not difficult to trace the further proceedings of this precious pair. Fortune, or rather misfortune, them. A very lax control seems to have been exercised over the new cashier; one partner, now deceased, was a dilettante and a virtuoso, who had practically withdrawn from affairs. The other, through sickness, was unable to keep this Meggitt in his place; and it is impossible to withhold some sympathy from Mr. Waldo, whose neglect and over-confidence dated only from his own inability to attend closely to business. Thus Meggitt soon got his hegd. One of his first acts was to introduce to the bank, as a most eligible and valuable client, this friend and confederate, the man who, clothed in the garb of shame, stands there by his side, the man who, assuming a fictitious title and all the airs of a nobleman, was at that very moment a convict on ticket-of-leave.

"What follows is told in the books of the bank; they will be produced in court, and they will lay bare the vast and intricate frauds conceived by these consummate rogues, the boldness with which they were carried out, and all the clever shifts and artful contrivances by which they were concealed almost to the last. It will be shown you how the chief conspirator misappropriated and made away with the property of the bank, with its own funds, and with the securities intrusted to his care. Some of these were found in his possession, some in that of his confederate; others, to a large extent, have been sold to cover defalcations; and the brokers, through whom and by whom they were sold, will go into the witness-box and swear that they acted under instructions from Meggitt. It is not strange that the bank should break after being thus pillaged and plundered right and left; and that there should be at this moment somewhere, but entirely unaccounted for, a sum of nearly two hundred thousand pounds, which has passed out of the assets of the bank into the keeping of one or other or both these prisoners at the bar."

It is not necessary to follow Sir Silas Standaloft further. The learned counsel was tedious, though eloquent, and his speech lasted several hours. But when he sat down and his junior began to call the witnesses, it was felt that neither of the prisoners had the ghost of a chance.

Fanchette's evidence was especially damaging, although Leon's evil eye was upon her throughout. She spoke out openly and confessed all she knew. She had come from Paris on purpose to take service with Mrs. Waldo. She had watched her opportunity, and entered Mr. Waldo's dressing-room one morning while he was at his bath, and had taken the impression of the key. This she had done more than once under the prisoner Leon, or Devas's, instructions.

The judge's summing-up was clear for conviction, and the verdict of guilty came as a matter of course. In passing sentence he drew a distinction between the crimes of the two prisoners.

"You," he said, addressing Meggitt, "are the most culpable. Through you an innocent man has been suffering severe but unmerited punishment. I feel it my duty to mark my sense of the enormity of the crimes you have committed by an exemplary sentence; and I do therefore direct that you be kept in penal servitude for twenty years."

"As for you, Devas, an habitual criminal, who knows already the interior of many gaols, imprisonment has, I fear, no terrors. But it was you, I believe, who originated this vast scheme of fraud, and it was to your baleful influence that your miserable confederate succumbed. I shall therefore treat you to your deserts, and now sentence you to penal servitude for fifteen years."

Thus ended the second great case in which Waldo's bank was concerned.

But there was a sequel to the trial. Later that same day a neat brougham drove up to the door of Millbank prison. Sir Richard Daunt alighted from it; he was admitted, and ushered into the presence of the governor, to whom he handed a letter from the Home Secretary.

In less than half an hour Mr. Surtees, appeared, and, taking Sir Richard's arm, walked out from the prison a free man.

Josephine, who was in the brougham, waiting, fell into her father's arms, and the two were driven rapidly home to Chiswick.

To be Continued.

English people eat, on an average, 430lb. weight of food in a year, a total of 7,160,000 tons.

FOR FARMERS

Seasonable and Profitable Hints for the Busy Tillers of the Soil.

CARE OF STOCK.

The rules for taking care of the cows are so few and simple that we wonder why we should repeat them each year, but each year we see so many people who do not practice them, that we cannot refrain, hoping that we may reform some of them. One of the first requisites is a warm barn, not only for the comfort of the cows, but for the profit of the owners.

Of course good food and enough of it is necessary, but this is not all. The food should be varied in such proportions as to make what is called a balanced ration. Enough grain so mixed with the rough fodder as to keep the proportions of protein to carbohydrates at about one to five, but so much depends upon the breed, and more upon the animal and its condition, that there can be no exact amount. Any farmer can get from the experiment stations bulletins giving tables of the value of feeding stuffs, and figure out rations for his animals to suit himself, watching the results and varying them as he finds it necessary.

After food naturally comes water. This should be always pure and clean, and we would wish it could be always warm. There should be some cheap device for quickly warming the water in the trough. In fact we think there has been such patented, but have not seen them in use. We have seen

WATER WARMED BY STEAM.

at a low pressure conveyed to the trough in pipes, and were told that for a herd of twenty cows the milk product was increased enough to make it very profitable. After getting up in the morning and sitting by a warm fire to take one or two cups of hot coffee and warm breakfast, it seemed cruel to turn the cows out to drink ice-cold water.

A few more general rules may be added to these. Always feed at a regular hour. To stand watching and waiting for food that should have been ready before is conducive only to worry, and does not make milk or put on fat. Feed no more than can be eaten, and if any is left, clean the troughs or mangers as soon as they seem to have had enough. In the short days of winter two good feeds a day have been found better than three. Do not feed before daylight or after dark, and do not disturb them during the night unless the barn is on fire. When we say regular hours we do not mean by the clock, for the cows have no clock, and measure the day by the amount of daylight. They want the hours of darkness for sleep or rest. They will be the better for a carding and brushing every day, not only for cleanliness' sake, but it puts the blood in circulation and invigorates them. Always treat them kindly and gently because kindness is a good investment. Follow these rules, and there will be but little use for veterinarians or

COW DOCTORS.

If sheep are less exacting than the cows in their demands upon the time and attention of the farmer, they should not be neglected. Good food and plenty of it every day is needed, and if they are, as they should be, turned out every pleasant day for exercise and fresh air, do not expect them to get a living from the frost-bitten grass that they may find, as a little of it may not hurt them and may do them some good, but it cannot be a very nourishing food. A few oats, little bran, and if there is roughage of inferior quality a little cornmeal every day will do them good, helping them to bring better lambs and grow more wool. Plenty of water which they can go to as they please, for when on dry feed and they want it often and clean. A nad they want it often and clean. A sheep will go long without water rather than drink that which is not clean. Give them bedding enough to keep their sheds dry and clean, and plenty of pure air. Cold does not hurt them when they get on their winter coats, but keep them dry with the fleece free from rain or snow. If there are any weakly ones separate them and give better feed for a time. Allow no crowding through narrow gates or doors.

THE STOCK SWINE

need but little attention more than to see that they are fed regularly, twice a day in winter being enough for them. A few raw roots every day being good for them, or a little clover hay. We think it is of little use to cook food for them, but when they are given a mash of bran and meal with a handful of beef scraps mix it well with hot water and let it steam awhile to get well scalded. Give a little less than they will eat instead of more. See that they have a warm sleeping place, dry, clean and well bedded, yet with plenty of fresh air. Do not crowd too many in one pen. These may seem small things to write about but it is the attention to details that leads to success in all the walks of life.

What has been said of swine is almost equally adapted to poultry. Regular feeding is important and if the pens are well bedded, and the whole grain scattered among it so that they have to scratch for it, the exercise will do them good. They are better in the house than out of doors when the ground is covered with snow, but if kept shut up they must not be crowded. Give plenty of water, which will be the better if warm, three or four times a day, and plenty of grit with which to grind their food.

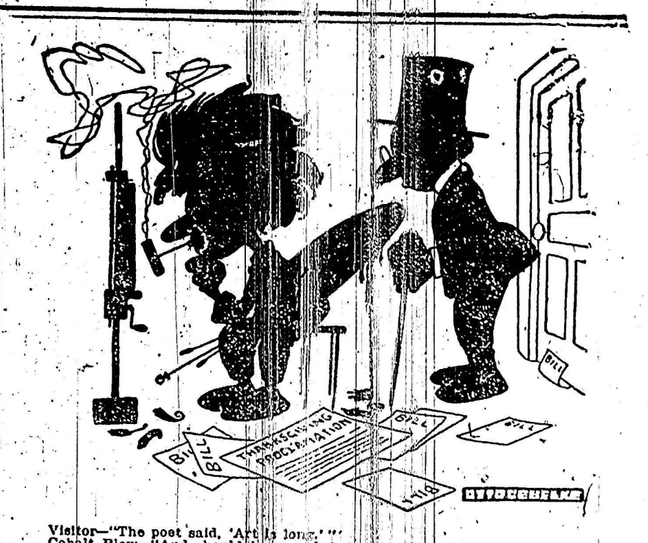
TO FEED POULTRY.

The proper feeding of laying hens and other poultry should be conducted on the same lines as that of other farm animals. There are similar losses and wastes as are found in mammals, and there is the same necessity for replacing and replenishing the tissues, fluids, etc., of the body. We must of necessity know the composition of the body of the fowl and of the egg, but after that we do not have to make new laws or found new principles, but have merely to adapt the knowledge we have gained from the investigations made for other animals to the hen, modifying rules and rations to suit the case in question. The scientific research called for, and urgently, too, is that of ascertaining the digestibility of the different foods fed to the hen. For the cow, sheep, horse and swine, we have the digestive coefficient for almost any food consumed, while for the hen we have very few reliable data with which to work, and in a view of the great value of the poultry industry it should receive more scientific attention than is at present allotted to it.

When feeding growing chickens the main object is to supply sufficient nourishment to insure hardy growth. In the case of the mature hen it is a somewhat more complicated proposition. The feeder must bear in mind the fact that eggs are almost the transformation or assimilation of food eaten. The yolk and white contain water, protein, fat, and a small percentage of mineral matter, while the shell consists almost entirely of mineral matter of which carbonate of lime constitutes 94 per cent. of the entire weight of the egg. That is, in one dozen good-sized eggs there are fully 2.5 ounces of carbonate of lime, familiar to all under the name of marble. We thus have proved to us the absolute necessity of a generous supply of lime in the diet of the hen. One of the best materials that a poultryman can use for supplying the requisite lime is oyster shell, or any other variety of shells. An experiment in this direction was made at the New York Experiment Station, and the result was such that the use of oyster shells during the laying season, where they can be cheaply obtained, was strongly recommended. It was found that one pound of oyster shells contained sufficient lime for the shells of about seven dozen eggs.

TO TEACH THE MOORS.

It has been definitely arranged that ten British sergeants are to join the army of the Sultan of Morocco as military instructors. Several of them are at present in Gibraltar and are wearing the Moorish uniform. It is also reported that an Englishman is to be put in charge of the custom house at Tangier.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