

THE MURDEROUS MOOR

SOME REMINISCENCES OF THE LAND OF RAISUL.

The Principle of an Eye for an Eye and a Tooth for a Tooth Is Maintained.

There is probably no country in the world—say, perhaps, the Congo—where human life is held so cheaply as in the land of the Moors. And certainly there is no land where the sanctity of the human body is so lightly violated. In a walk through the squalid, market-place of any Moorish town what chiefly impresses itself on the visitor is the extraordinary number of mutilated persons. Poor wretches who have lost a hand, or foot, or an eye, are to be encountered at every turn; and should a question be put to any of these unfortunate, reply would be made, with a shrug of the shoulders, that "one can hardly hope better, had he been the cause of this ghastly punishment." On one occasion the writer put the question to a maimed Berber, the withered stump of whose arm seemed to indicate that more than ordinary brutality had attended the loss of his hand, writes Frank Sandomore, the famous war correspondent.

AN EYE FOR AN EYE.

"How was it done?" was the question. And the maimed creature's reply was: "And the condemned eye for a nose, and the condemned tooth for a tooth." So said the fellow, and still the skin of the wrist with his knife had been cut off the hand!

"And did you scream?" was the further question.

The Moor shook his head.

"One does not protest," he said, "one would lose his head as well as his hand."

Of course, throughout Morocco the legislation is everywhere in force. The principle of an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth is maintained, with literal exactness; and although the alternative of a money compensation is accepted in theory, in practice, it is seldom allowed. Intellectual vengeance, indeed, are carried out with an atrocious ferocity that Europeans can ill conceive.

A necessary outcome, perhaps, of the rite of bloodshed that prevails throughout the land is the existence of the slave-traders who are scattered all over the country. These places are ordinarily about the haunts of some half-mad or a string of connoisseurs; some local

THE STORY OF ABRUZZI.

Whoever takes shelter in one of Abruzzi's huts, he is either blind or nearly a fugitive from what passes for justice—he is immune from pursuit or punishment for so long as he chooses to remain within the sacred precincts;

moreover, the people of the Duan nearest to the shrine are constrained by custom to provide food and drink for him. And, inasmuch as these sanctuaries are numerous, it is readily guessed that many a poor criminal leads a life of vagabondage. If I were not for those shrines, I would probably become a thief.

The most common form of crime is the abduction of children for purposes of domestic slavery, and from this cause still blood feuds that continue from generation to generation.

The wish nextest to the heart of every Moor is to find his neighbor—and especially from his superiors—the existence of my property he may possess. The reason for this is very simple, for wealth in Morocco brings misfortune on its owner.

One of the best-known bandits of modern times was a Berber named El Abruzzi, tales of whose atrocities are even yet.

WHISPERED UNDER THE BREATH.

Although their perpetrator is no more, Abruzzi and his less brutal than few others. Albeit now unashamed, he would make a sudden descent upon a village, and carry off the best horses and the prettiest women of the tribe. He had many wives—one of them, in the way being a beautiful girl who accompanied him on his many plundering expeditions and was as valiant as intrepid as himself.

Moorish law is not far-reaching, but at length his many villainies drew down upon him the vengeance of the law. Abruzzi fled from shrine to shrine, but at length found himself surrounded in a wood away from the shelter of a sanctuary. There he fought like a wild beast at bay, until covered with wounds and utterly exhausted, he recognized that he must fall into the hands of his enemies. His last companion was also wounded, but still sought to make a shield for him with her body. The soldiers closed in upon her body. The soldiers closed in upon the doomed pair, but before they could reach them, Abruzzi stabbed his wife to the heart, and then, turning the weapon on himself, put an end to his life.

RAISUL AS RULER.

I am not sure that it would be correct to describe Abruzzi as a thief. Heless aid ruthlessness he undoubtedly is, and many cold-blooded crimes have been committed by him, but it should be pointed out that his hand has been against society at large, and it must be allowed that his many followers regard him as being the rightful ruler of the land. Considering, of course, he has persecuted many others, and not a man, been necessitated by his lack of private resources. All Moors are educated. His methods, indeed, may be favorably compared with those obtaining at the Moorish Court.

BLOOD-CURLING HORRORS.

One bandit who is justly notorious, has elaborated a system of torture which rivals the methods of the Inquisition. He employs, indeed, one form of argument that seldom fails to obtain from his victims the secret hiding-places of their wealth. In his entourage are two highly-trained wrestlers of huge stature. At a signal from their master, these ruffians seize the captive, and throw him into the air in such a manner, that, according to

their master's desire, the victim falls and breaks his right or left shoulder, or his legs, or even, if he has been rechristened, his skull is smashed like an egg. Another device of this amiable person, which generally has weight with the friends of his captives, is the sending to them of various portions of the poor wretch's anatomy—an eye, a nose, a hand, even, have been received in succession by the family of a wealthy victim as reminder of his ultimate intention if the ransom exacted be not forthcoming.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

Interesting Ti-Bits of Knowledge About Most Everything.

The eyes of the hare are never closed, as, it has no eyelids.

A chimney 115 feet high will sway 13 inches in a high wind without danger, bounded in price in prior to \$150 a ton.

In France 4,000,000 tons of potatoes are annually used in the manufacture of starch and alcohol.

Weddings were worn by both Jews and Romans at dates long prior to the Christian era.

The average size of Australian sheep runs is 36,000 acres, while sheep runs in South Africa average only 5,500 acres.

The population of the British Empire is estimated at about 420,000,000, of whom approximately 33,000,000 are natives.

Germany's colonies are five times as big as herself, those of France eight times, and Britain's ninety-seven times bigger than herself.

If all the land in the United Kingdom were divided among its inhabitants, a little over 13 acres would be the share of each person.

A vast portion of Australia is virtually empty. The ratio of white population in Northern Australia is about one to every 700 square miles.

The people of Iceland are so honest that there are neither prisons nor police in the country. It is said that there have only two thefts in one thousand.

A centaur foot-race was recently witnessed in Paris. Nineteen men, each with a wooden leg, were the contestants. The winner ran a mile in twelve minutes.

It is a great deal of money to keep a medical doctor. It is estimated that first cost to have a complete medical education in the highest lines runs into \$50,000.

A coal-bank, composed of the fossils he collected in his rambles, is to be erected in a granite cemetery the memory of an engineer who was an amateur geologist.

Dimitri Flounders, a remarkable Indian, happened at a house near Deal, Kent, to find a perfect photograph of a flower on a mirror which it stood.

In France the average yield of wine is 12 gallons to every acre of vineyard; in Spain it rises to 40 gallons per acre; but in Algeria with the record with 300 gallons.

There are twelve thousand people. The new gas company opened for business without a single customer June 15, 1907. As a competitor there was an old established gas company, furnishing gas to three hundred families. After one month of operation the new company is lighting the city, has three hundred houses already installed, has fifty more installed and has just as fast as possible and has three hundred applicants.

As to the character of the new gas, the name of several of the local miners is a sample.

Formerly it was necessary to keep the fires under the metal pots lighted for ten hours before use in order that the type and metal might be liquid when needed.

The new gas burns just ninety minutes before the metal is ready for use.

To exact, the coal gas produced 600 British thermal units, while the vegetable gas produced 600 units of heat in the same time.

TOM PRODUCES 10,000 CUBIC FEET.

One ton of the best coal producing oil and down in France costs \$800 and will produce 10,000 cubic feet of gas. But one ton of the same old coal costs \$100 and produces 10,000 cubic feet of gas, or 100 cubic feet of a letter.

Gas "gas" then does the coal.

After the gas is estimated there remains 600 pounds of the best coke obtainable. In the case of straw almost pure carbon remains.

And this coke is burned beneath the retorts, thus producing the heat necessary to make more coke and more coke.

BEARICE PLANT COSTS \$80,000.

The Bearice plant cost \$80,000, including eighteen miles of gas mains.

This is just about the cost of an ordinary gas plant of the same capacity.

But the ordinary gas plant can be made in a corncockle by expending about \$2,000. The burners and other fixtures are the same for both.

INSECT-EATING BIRDS.

Ready to Change Their Habits When Introduced Into a New Country.

When settlement began in New Zealand farmers gave a hearty invitation to the small birds of England to help in the great work of colonization, says J. Dunsmuir, writing in "The Saturday Review." The colonists went in a rather sad plight, then, through plagues of caterpillars, which threatened to make farming on anything like a large scale impossible. The gathering of the insects caused consternation. They advanced through the country in armies, devouring crops and leaving fields as bare as if the seed had not been sown; as if the seed had not been sown.

A section of the Canadian Northern Railway running north-west from Sudbury and crossing the Vermilion River, is unique in that it is ballasted with gold. Every yard of the gravel used for ballast has been found to contain from one to four dollars worth of gold.

It is said to return from official sources that, in spite of the high cost of circulation, an average of nearly 30,000 addressed letters find their way to the British Post Office yearly, and that even \$30,000 per annum is, in this way, remitted to the Royal Exchequer.

The amusing part of the matter is the way in which many letters are addressed.

"Obamlock" was, on one occasion, made to do duty for Holborn Viaduct "Maunder" was found to be Mire End in masquerade. "Hillevic" was alleged to be phonetic; but most experts collapsed when it came to "Basleach in no Hampshire" which, it is said, emerged to be Basleach, North Dorsetshire. This last production, however, was the best: "To the Queen of Wore, Chelcy Ostie, London, Queen Victoria."

Consumption is less deadly than it used to be.

Certain relief and usually complete recovery will result from the following treatment:

Hope, rest, fresh air, and—Scott's Emulsion.

ALL DRUGGISTS: 50c. AND \$1.00.

THIS GAS PLANT IS UNIQUE

LIGHTING THE STREETS FROM STRAW AND CORN COBBS.

May Revolutionize the Gas Industry Coal is Needed No Longer

Red tongues of flame shooting through the black smoke of a rifle gave J. R. Coutts, idea which bids fair to revolutionize the gas producing industry of the United States. He has solved the great problem for the Great West, which has the gas coal, but has millions and millions of tons of straw, corn cobs, etc., now considered waste matter on the farms.

Coutts worked three years on his idea and last month there was opened in Beatrice, Neb., the first results of his work—a gas plant which used not the high priced coal and oil, but simply the waste matter of the farm. The new gas plant is not an experiment on the small scale, but instead, is a full-fledged gas manufactory, and its product is lighting the streets of the city in addition to furnishing gas for heating and lighting hundreds of homes.

PLANT LOOKS LIKE FEED STORE.

Instead of paying out hundreds of dollars every day to coal mines and railroads for material from which to make the gas which is sold, the Beatrice plant buys straw, cobs, corn stalks and matter of that kind, throws them into the retorts, and the result is a splendid gas with ten per cent. more heating power than the best coal gas known. And for ton the straw and cobs make sixty per cent. more than does the best gas coal.

The Beatrice plant looks more like a feed store than a gas plant. On every side, instead of cars of coal and tanks of oil, are piles of hay and cornstalks, and criss-crosses of corn-cobs. There is the old familiar odor of gas in the atmosphere and all the smells of the farm.

Gas is made where the gas is made, and in that little room are the secrets of the business. Here are the formulas and the processes which represent the three years' work done by Mr. Coutts, and of which the completed plant is the result.

Beatrice is a city of twelve thousand people. The new gas company opened for business without a single customer June 15, 1907. As a competitor there was an old established gas company, furnishing gas to three hundred families. After one month of operation the new company is lighting the city, has three hundred houses already installed, has fifty more installed and has just as fast as possible and has three hundred applicants.

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OUT OF THE PAST.

Historical Traditions of Some English Schools.

Some of the old customs kept up in English schools by way of tradition are very curious to the student of history. The customs for helping the poor, for instance, which are still observed in the schools of the country, are of great interest.

Dr. Williams' Pill Box, for example, is a good illustration of the custom.

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No person should go from home without a bottle of Dr. J. D. Kellogg's Biscuit Cordial in their possession, as it is a great convenience.

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