THE GOLDEN KEY

Or "The Adventures of Ledgard."

By the Author of "What He Cost Her."

CHAPTER XXXII.—(Cont'd).

"You have become famous," she said. "Do you know that you are going to be made a lion?"

"I suppose the papers have been talking a lot of rot," he answered bluntly. "I've had a fairly rough time, and I'm glad to tell you this, Miss Wendermott—I don't believe I'd ever have succeeded but, for your nephew Fred. He's the pluckiest boy I ever knew."

"I am very pleased to hear it," she answered. "He's a dear boy."

"He's a brick," Trent answered. "We've been in some queer scrapes together. I've lots of messages for you! By the by, are you alone?"

"For the moment," she answered; "Mr. Davenant left me as you came up. I'm with my cousin, Lady Tresham. She's on the lawn somewhere."

He looked down the paddock and back at her.

"Walk with me a little way," he said, "and I will show you Iris before she starts."

"Oh!" she exclaimed.

He pointed to the card. It was surely an accident that she had not noticed it before. Mr. Trent's Iris was among the entries for the Gold Cup.

"Which is the favorite!"

He laughed.

"So they tell me! I've been rather lucky, haven't I, for a beginner? I found a good trainer and I had second sight on Cannon, who's riding here. If you care to back him for a trifle I think you'll be all right, although the odds are nothing to speak of."

She was walking by his side now toward the bookmaker end of the paddock.

"I hear you have been to Torquay," he said, looking at her critically. "It seems to have agreed with you. You are looking well!"

She turned his glance with sightly upliftings, intending to convey by that and her silence a rebuke for his boldness. He was blandly unconscious, however, of her intent, and just then in response to the cryings of passers-by. She looked up and looked straight ahead.

"Afraid," he said, "unless you are very kind to me, I shall be worse than many people for your company. Tell me about her."

"Indeed, sir, I shan't!" she answered. "It's a shame that you should be so jealous of your own horse! I wouldn't tell you even if I knew, for they were on our track all the way down. I wouldn't tell you the whole story of those days, Miss Wendermott, for it would keep you awake at night! I'm a fool for telling you this much! I'll give you a fright for it! I'll make you jealous, for it's the truth. I didn't leave him until I was absolutely and actually certain he couldn't live an hour. He was in a kind of unconsciousness, and a few of these natives were close at his heels. So I left him and they took him with me—and I think, I believe, that it has meant almost as much to me as ever it had been to him."

"Thank you," she murmured, "sometimes a little hint is not to my disadvantage. As a matter of fact, I was—I am—very anxious to see you again, and I am very glad to realize that it is not your fault that I was not."

"Thank you," he said, "I'm very glad to hear that! I'm afraid I was a bit of a nuisance with some at Torquay. As a matter of fact, I was nervous and upset myself."

"Tell me," she said, "I'm very curious about that. I gathered from your letter that you were coming to see me, and I was looking forward to your coming. Then you never came at all, and I was left to finish the evening with Mr. Davenant. I'm afraid I was very rude to him. I was so anxious about you and your task. Did you succeed in your task? Did you fall in love with the lady? Did she fall in love with you? Did you win her and her money? There we go, you see, I'm all curiosity! Shall I be your confidant? Shall I be your partner in the work you have undertaken? Shall I share your success? Shall I share your disappointment? Shall I share your sorrow? I am so curious about her and her old home. I don't think but she'd be—"

"Stop!" he said, looking at her very keenly, "there is more than one reason why I should like you to be my partner. You say that you liked her picture! Try and be as curious in your thought of her for a little while!"

"I will try," she answered, respectfully. "Shall I imagine that picture you showed me the last time we met? Shall I imagine that you are with her now? Shall I imagine that she is sitting by your side? Shall I imagine that you are telling her the story of your life? Shall I imagine that she is listening with her eyes fixed upon your face? Shall I imagine that she is your partner in the work you have undertaken? Shall I share her success? Shall I share her disappointment? Shall I share her sorrow? Shall I imagine that she is—"

"Stop!" he said, "you make me think—sometimes—of such a lovely woman!"

CHAPTER XXXIII.

Trent had done many brave things in his life, but he had never been conscious of such a distinct thrill of nervousness as he experienced during those few minutes. Ernestine, for her part, was curiously exercised in her mind. He had shaken her faith in his guilt—he had admitted her to his point of view, and the result was unpleasant. She had a sudden impulse to tell him the truth, to reveal her identity, tell him her reasons for concealment. Perhaps her suspicions had been hasty. Then the personal note in his last speech had produced a serious effect on her, and all the time she felt that her silence was emboldening him, as indeed it was.

"The first time I saw you," he went on, "the likeness struck me. I felt as though I were meeting someone whom I had known all my life."

She laughed a little uneasily.

"And you found yourself the victim of an interviewer! What a drop from the romantic to the prosaic!"

"There has never been any drop at all," he answered firmly, "and you have always seemed to me the same as that picture—something quite precious and apart from my life. It's been a poor sort of thing perhaps. I came from the people, I never had any education, I was as rough as most men of my sort, and I have done many things which I would sooner cut off my right hand than do again. But that was when I lived in the darkness. It was before you came."

"Mr. Trent, will you take me back to Lady Tresham, please?"

"In a moment," he answered gravely. "Don't think that I am going to be too rash. I know the time hasn't come yet. I am not going to say any more. Only I want you to know this. The whole success of my life is as nothing compared with the hope of one day——"

"I will not hear another word," she interrupted hastily, and underneath her white veil he could see a scarlet spot of color in her cheeks; in her speech, too, there was a certain tremulousness. "If you will not come with me I must find Lady Tresham alone."

They turned round, but as they neared the middle of the paddock progress became almost impossible. The bell had rung for the principal race of the day and the numbers were going up. The paddock was crowded with others, beside loiterers, looking the horses over and stolidly pushing their way through the little groups to the front rank. From Tattersall's came the roar of clamorous voices. All around were evidences of that excitement which always precedes a great race.

"I think," he said, "that we had better watch the race from the railings. Your gown will be spoilt in the crowd if we try to get out of the paddock, and you probably wouldn't get anywhere in time to see it."

She acquiesced silently, recognizing that, although he had not alluded to it in words, he had no intention of saying anything further at present. Trent, who had been looking forward to the next few minutes with all the eagerness of a man who, for the first time in his life, runs the favorite in a great race, smiled as he realized how very content he was to stay where nothing could be seen until the final struggle was over. They took up their places side by side and leaned over the railing.

"Have you much money on Iris?" she asked.

"A thousand both ways," he answered. "I don't plunge, but as I backed her very early, I got 10 to 1 and 7 to 2. Listen! They're off!"

There was a roar from across the course, followed by a moment's breathless silence. The clamor of voices from Tattersall's subsided, and in its place rose the buzz of excitement from the stands, the murmur of many voices gradually growing in volume. Far away down the straight Ernestine and Trent, leaning over the rail, could see the little colored specks come dancing into sight. The roar of voices once more beat upon the air.

"Nero the Second wins!"

"The favorite's done!"

"Nero the Second for a monkey!"

"Nero the Second romps in!"

"Iris! Iris Iris wins!"

It was evident from the last shout and the gathering storm of excitement that after all it was to be a race. They were well in sight now; Nero the Second and Iris, racing neck and neck, drawing rapidly away from the others. The air shook with the sound of hoarse and fiercely excited voices.

"Nero the Second wins!"

"Iris wins!"

Neck-and-neck they passed the post. So it seemed at least to Ernestine and many others, but Trent shook his head and looked at her with a smile.

"Iris wins by a short neck," he said. "Good thing you didn't back her. That's a fine horse of the Prince's though!"

"Wonderful!" she cried. "Are you sure?"

(To be continued.)

STARVATION IN POLAND.

Memorial Urging Better Industrial Conditions.

[illegible] Poland [illegible] the Women's Union of Poland has sent to the Governor General, Count von Beseler, a memorial [illegible] the opening of the factories, [illegible] of a protective tariff and [illegible] machines, machine-building [illegible] and gears, which were taken out of factories and worked there during the early days of German occupation.

The memorial states that "the working population of Poland includes 250,000 workmen in factories, 60,000 in the building trades and 500,000 in small industries." Including the families of these workmen, the industrial population reaches a total of 3,000,000 persons, with a normal income of about $150,000,000 a year.

A certain proportion of this population, it is stated, has been sent to Germany, and another section is receiving aid from former employers—where the latter are still able to help.

"But there is still a great mass of people who are actually starving," says the memorial, "and for the sake of these persons it is advisable to put at least some of the factories into operation, especially the sugar, vinegar and yeast factories, mills, breweries, sawmills, brick yards and foundries."

The memorial deals briefly with the question of articles commandeered by the German military authorities, stating that the complete confiscation of all raw material would paralyze industry and that enough machinery should be left in the factories to enable them to continue in partial operation.

The customs tariff promulgated on June 22 by the German commander is criticized as unsuitable, because it fails to protect Polish industry, and even in normal times would bring about its ruin. Therefore the establishment of the old tariff is asked. There is a further demand for a lowering of railway rates, which are alleged to be now on a burdensome and impossible scale.

SIR JOHN NIXON.

His Campaign In Mesopotamia Is Highly Praised.

Any day now we may hear from Sir John Nixon, commander-in-chief of the British army in Mesopotamia, of the fall of Bagdad, the great Mohammedan capital of the Far East. Most of Sir John's work has been in India. South Africa, where he led a cavalry division with great distinction, was an interlude—a welcome enough interlude in the dusty business of soldiering under the sun of Southern India. Educated at Wellington, he first served in the King's Own Borderers and the Bengal Lancers. One staff appointment after another kept him in the East, and though campaigning took him once to South Africa and several times to the Hills, he has been long years in the heat. When in April he took over the command of our forces in Mesopotamia, he found himself in the hottest spot on earth. Thirst and sand storms—sand storms that carry no refreshing wind with them, but only sand—have been among his troubles. He has

General Sir John Nixon

overcome them, and overcome the Turks into the Bargain. Germany is growing a little less confident about a Berlin-Bagdad thoroughfare, and we all know in what terms Mr. Asquith, in his statement on the war the other day in Parliament, referred to Sir John's victorious campaign. "In April," said the Prime Minister, "a second division was added to the force, and the command was assumed by General Sir John Nixon. After a brilliant series, and an absolutely unchequered series, of land and river operations, the Turks were driven back both up the Euphrates and up the Tigris. In July their final positions on both rivers were captured, with heavy casualties, and General Nixon's force is now within a measurable distance of Bagdad. I do not think that in the whole course of the war there has been a series of operations more carefully contrived, more brilliantly conducted, and with a better prospect of final success."

HANDLING THE BANANA CROP.

How the Planters Rush the Product to Market.

The value of the yield per acre of [illegible] in the Cortes district, Honduras, is [illegible] than that of wheat, but unlike wheat, the banana cannot be stored. It must be marketed when it is ready for marketing, as the demand in the north fluctuates with the extent of the fruit crop.

The banana planter does not go into his fields and pluck his bananas as he thinks they have properly matured, but receives telegraphic orders from the railway or steamship company to cut bananas on a certain day not more than thirty-six hours in advance of the scheduled departure of the ship. Cars are placed on his siding, usually directly in the plantation.

The planter goes over his fields and cuts all fruit ready for shipping, neither too ripe nor too green, has it hauled to the waiting cars on mule-back or ox-carts and inspected.

At the close of the day the waiting cars are picked up by the banana trains and hauled to the coast. A day is required to load the ship, and three days later the vessel is in New Orleans.

POISONOUS GAS.

Its Use Had Its Advocates in Great Britain.

Poisonous gas as a weapon of warfare has had its advocates in Britain. During the Crimean War the late Lord Playfair submitted to the authorities a hollow, brittle shell charged with cyanide of cacodyl, two or three drops of which in a room would suffice to kill the occupants. He held that the explosion of such a shell between decks would account for such of a ship's crew as remained below. The War Office were horrified at the idea, and told Playfair that the employment of such a shell would be as bad as poisoning wells. Playfair, however, declared that his shell, unlike those in use, was painless in operation, and that the more destructive war became, with the least suffering, the sooner would be ended that "barbarous method of protecting national rights."

PRACTICAL FARMING

Disinfecting Stables.

In any outbreak of infectious diseases among animals thorough disinfection of the premises is essential to prevent the spread of the contagion. Certain substances, such as fresh slaked lime or unslaked lime in powder form, chloride of lime, carbolic acid, corrosive sublimate, formalin, formaldehyde gas, and compound solution of cresol possess the power of destroying bacteria with which they come in contact. To make the use of such substances of value, however, the work must be done with the utmost thoroughness. Careless disinfection is probably worse than none, for it merely serves to give a false sense of security.

In the disinfection of stables and premises the following directions should be carefully observed:

First—Sweep ceilings, side walls, stall partitions, floors and other surfaces until free from cobwebs and dust.

Second—Remove all accumulations of filth by scraping, and if woodwork has become decayed, porous or absorbent it should be removed, burned and replaced with new material.

Third—If the floor is of earth remove four inches from the surface and in places where it shows staining with urine a sufficient depth should be replaced to expose fresh earth. All earth removed should be replaced with earth from an uncontaminated source, or a new floor of concrete may be laid, which is very durable and easily cleaned.

Fourth—All refuse and material from stable and barnyard should be removed to a place not accessible to cattle or hogs and covered with freshly slaked lime. If this manure is spread on fields it should be turned under immediately, while the wood should be burned.

Fifth—The entire interior of the stable, especially the feeding troughs and drains, should be saturated with a disinfectant, as a three per cent. solution of compound of cresol, which would be four ounces of the compound to every gallon of water.

The best method of applying the disinfectant is by means of a strong spray pump, such as those used by orchardists.

This method is efficient in disinfection against most of the contagious and infectious diseases of animals and should be applied immediately following any outbreak, and, as a matter of precaution, it may be used once or twice yearly.

Orchard Helps.

It takes about eight years to get an apple orchard into good bearing, but if during this time the work is well done, a permanent income is practically insured.

It is a mistake to set out trees more than two years old. Many good orchardists prefer yearlings, but two-year-olds generally produce the best results.

A young apple tree does not require much pruning until it is four or five years old, and the tree can be shaped better at that age than when early pruning is resorted to.

The orchard that has been properly cared for requires very little pruning after it comes into full bearing.

New Alfalfa.

New seedlings of alfalfa should not be pastured. The ground in these fields is not firm and considerable damage is done by the trampling of the plants, especially during wet weather. Fields established a year or more may be pastured lightly in the fall, but should never be eaten down close.

If the growth of alfalfa is not very strong the field may be top-dressed any time during the fall, preferably just after the third cutting has been removed. New seedings may be top-dressed at any time except during wet weather when the ground is soft.

Clean Water Essential.

An important factor in dairying is the supply of water. In the summer, with plenty of grass and green forage, and in the winter with roots and silage, the consumption of water is relatively less than when the cows are on dry feed, but cows must always have plenty of pure fresh water if they are to produce pure milk. Unless the pasture or yards are watered by a brook or spring, the water should be pumped from a well, kept clean and not subject to surface drainage, and free from foreign matter and taints of any kind.

MYSTERY OF HEREDITY.

Startling New Theory Shows Unexpected Results.

Scientific studies of heredity are showing some very interesting and unexpected results. We know that the typical character of a man undergoes variations at different periods of a long life, and that the son is likely to "take after" his father. But we notice, often with surprise, that capacities that were dominant in a father, which gave him sometimes great reputation, frequently are entirely lacking in his son.

Literary distinction, genius in any particular direction, which distinguished a certain father are quite frequently absent in the case of his son. In wondering at this we fail to take note of the period in the father's life when he "made his mark." After patient investigation Pierce has come to the conclusion that the son inherits from his father only the qualities that were dominant at the time of his birth.

These conclusions are set forth in the book called "Dynamic Evolution," by Caspar L. Redfield, recently published. The author writes:

"As a general proposition the man between 20 and 30 is aggressive, ambitious and conceited. He would rule the world with a club. This stage gradually merges into another, so that as a general proposition the man between 30 and 40 is in the artistic stage of life. He is a lover of poetry, music, painting and sculpture.

"The artistic stage gradually merges into the practical stage, which may be roughly defined as between 40 and 50. The practical man looks at the dollars and cents, wishes to improve government, and has the qualities of statesmanship. As he passes beyond 50 into his Old Age he becomes philosophic in his sentiment and moral in his maxims.

"These different qualities are simply different forms of one and the same mental energy within the man, and they are spread out through his life much as red rays, yellow rays, blue rays and violet rays, all from the same white light, are spread by the spectroscope."

That the son will partake of his father's type of mental energy which was dominant at the time of his birth is shown to be true by history and biography. Mr. Redfield presents a classified list of world celebrities together with ages of their respective fathers at the time of their birth. Thus Alexander, Bonaparte, Cæsar, Grant, Hannibal, Pompey and Tell were all born when their fathers were at the age of less than 30, and of military, civil and [illegible] ages.

At the age of 31 to 40 [illegible] their fathers present [illegible] would such examples as Bach, Beethoven, Goethe, Shakespeare, Carlyle and others of their kind. In the list of state men there are within their fathers were over 41 to 50 Bismarck, Cato, Machiavelli, Webster. Great philosophy born when fathers were over 51 are: Aristotle, Buddha, Confucius, Franklin and Solomon.

"While men born in [illegible] divisions," writes the author, "show the type of character in the [illegible] or below, the extremes do not. No mid-mentality represents types represented by Buddha. Buddha is found in the [illegible] Alexander or Napoleon found in the son of a man [illegible] years of age."

It is remarked that Napoleon, whose father was 35, the age of it and upward, would rule by the sword; also that a man of genius whose father was 51, would become his moral adviser, bent on doing good and not becoming a ruler.

If a man is married to a good woman he may not think it necessary to go to church.

FREE TO HOUSEWIVES

HOW TO GET YOUR COPY.

[illegible] write or write a postcard your name and address to the firm on the list and [illegible] to-day before you forget.

Aikens & Co., Montreal. Alpha Bitt. Salt Co., Toronto.
Lea & Perrins, Toronto. Lake Canton & Rock Ins. Co., Montreal.
Cartwright-Lodge & Roy Co., 510 King St., West, Toronto.
Music Specialty Co., 36 Wellington St., East, Toronto.
Adams Leather Goods Co., 360 Yonge St., Toronto.
Schell Mfg Co., 214 King St., East, Toronto.
Thompson Furniture Co., Belleville, Ont.

Fashion Hints

Among interesting novelties are handbags with translucent crystal tops, plain, tinted, inlaid, jewelled; different from any mountings ever used on bags. There are bags with distinguished tops of antique sterling silver bags which open in entirely new ways; bags which clasp with an emerald bird, a jewelled crown, a green [illegible] bird, a jewelled crown, a green [illegible] with [illegible] frames, [illegible] silk.

A small [illegible] makes [illegible] lace [illegible] French [illegible] it may [illegible] time.

[illegible] packed [illegible] A more [illegible] material.

Seed [illegible] crown [illegible] material [illegible] crown [illegible] of [illegible] ing from [illegible] dressed [illegible] the [illegible] tractable condition.

The peccaries [illegible] battle cry that is short, vicious [illegible] and kept up [illegible] noise drives the [illegible] the trays, and [illegible] their charge [illegible] shoot his pe[illegible] emit a [illegible] safety lies in [illegible]

The prairie [illegible] the [illegible] like the [illegible] a bear as he [illegible] An American [illegible] in Mexico [illegible] says the [illegible] of the latter.

The [illegible] have the best [illegible] of the [illegible] feeding in a dangerous [illegible] on every [illegible] balloons that [illegible] and keep a vigilant [illegible] bark of warning [illegible] outposts, every [illegible] between the [illegible] on the instant. [illegible] resume work [illegible] the second note [illegible] ing; then the [illegible] cold, and all [illegible] deeper parts of the [illegible]

When travelling [illegible] have both a front [illegible] A half dozen powder [illegible] in front of the [illegible] the wood [illegible] now climbing to the [illegible] trees. If the [illegible] a tribe of baboons [illegible] only one of the [illegible] has been savagely [illegible] pole. Farther [illegible] of the whipping [illegible] the rest of the tribe [illegible] lately that two men [illegible] Should the observer [illegible] run ahead, he will [illegible] believe different [illegible] Not silent as [illegible] give quick, sharp [illegible] another chance [illegible] one of the [illegible]

DISCIPLINE AMONG ANIMALS

They Are Almost Governed by Military Regulations.

In these days of general [illegible] things military, it is interesting to know that certain animals are governed by what appears to be military regulations. Among them only the gregarious, [illegible] qualities of leadership [illegible]

Wild horses obey the [illegible] implicitly than any [illegible] well disciplined. Moreover, [illegible] difficult to approach, [illegible] possible to capture, [illegible] votion with which the [illegible] leader and to a [illegible] they never disregard.

A short, shrill neigh [illegible] mand to flee; a long [illegible] ing neigh is the rallying [illegible] herd is scattered; [illegible] stallions to stand [illegible] dangerous beasts [illegible] diates the sight of [illegible] The snort of a mustang [illegible] half a mile or more.

Certain movements [illegible] tant as signals. [illegible] danger, the horse [illegible] throws his head [illegible] air, stands motionless [illegible] ally in the direction [illegible] anticipate trouble [illegible] enough to put the [illegible] alert. She [illegible] herds, wolves, or [illegible] which the drove [illegible] of wild horses [illegible] ing from [illegible] to [illegible] the [illegible] dressed [illegible] herd [illegible] tractable condition [illegible]

The peccaries [illegible] battle cry that is short, vicious [illegible] and kept up [illegible] noise drives the [illegible] the trays, and [illegible] their charge [illegible] shoot his pe[illegible] emit a [illegible] safety lies in [illegible]

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The [illegible] have the best [illegible] of the [illegible] feeding in a dangerous [illegible] on every [illegible] balloons that [illegible] and keep a vigilant [illegible] bark of warning [illegible] outposts, every [illegible] between the [illegible] on the instant. [illegible] resume work [illegible] the second note [illegible] ing; then the [illegible] cold, and all [illegible] deeper parts of the [illegible]

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"Where does this [illegible]

"The lunatic stared [illegible] fully for a moment, [illegible]

"Nowhere. We [illegible] the [illegible]

A Logical [illegible]

"Lunatics [illegible] ing [illegible] were," says [illegible] of a great lunatic [illegible]

"One day a [illegible] with a number of [illegible] and the party met [illegible] far from the railway [illegible] not toward the [illegible] asked one of the [illegible]

"Where does this [illegible]

"The lunatic stared [illegible] fully for a moment, [illegible]

"Nowhere. We [illegible] the [illegible]

figures are [illegible] cases of nervous [illegible] the last few [illegible] high figure.

Even officers [illegible] and men who have [illegible] strain, since the [illegible] say that the sights [illegible] offensive are [illegible] tion.