"SALADA"

It has the reputation of nearly a quarter of a century behind every packet sold——

Black—Green—or Mixed —— E 204

The Bride's Name;

Or, The Adventures of Captain Fraser

CHAPTER VIII.—(Cont'd).

The mate's brow cleared and then darkened again suddenly. "I see, some more lies for me to tell, I suppose," he said, angrily.

"After you've raised the alarm and failed to recover the body," said the skipper, with relish, "you'll lock my door and put the key in your pocket. That would be the proper thing to do if I really did go overboard, you know, and when we get to London I'll just slip quietly ashore."

The mate came back to his dinner and finished it in silence, while the skipper kept up a rambling fire of instructions for his future guidance.

"And what about Miss Tyrell?" said the mate, at length. "Is she to know?"

"Certainly not," said Flower, sharply. "I wouldn't have her know for anything. You're the only person to know, Jack. You'll have to break the news o 'em all, and mind you do it gently, so as not to cause more grief than you can help."

"I won't do it at all," said the mate.

"Yes, you will," said Flower, "and if Matilda or her mother come down again, show it to 'em in the paper. Then they'll know it'll be no good worrying Cap'n Flower again. If they see it in the paper they'll know it's true; it's sure to be in the local papers, and in the London ones, too very likely. I should think it would the master of a vessel!"

Fraser being in no mood to regard this vanity complacently, went up on deck and declined to have anything to do with the matter. He maintained this attitude of immovable virtue until tea-time, by which time Flower's entreaties had so won upon him that he was reluctantly compelled to admit that it seemed to be the only thing possible in the circumstances, and more reluctantly still to promise his aid to the most unscrupulous extent possible.

"I'll write to you when I'm fixed up," said the skipper, "giving you my new name and address. You're the only person I shall be able to keep touch with. I shall have to rely upon you for everything. If it wasn't for you I should be dead to the world."

"I know what you'll do as well as possible," said Fraser; "you've got nothing to do for six months, and you'll be getting into some more engagements."

"I don't think you have any call to say that, Jack," remarked Flower, with some dignity.

"Well, I wish it was well over," said the mate, despondently. "What are you going to do for money?"

"I drew out £40 to get married with—furniture and things," said Flower; "that'll go overboard with me, of course. I'm doing all this for Poppy's sake more than my own, and I want you to go up and see her every trip, and let me know how she is. She mightn't care what happened to her if she thinks I'm gone and she might marry somebody else in desperation."

"I don't care about facing her," said Fraser, bitterly; "it's a shady business altogether."

"It's for her sake," repeated Flower, calmly. "Take on old Ben as mate, and ship another hand forward."

The mate ended the subject by going to his bunk and turning in; the skipper, who realised that he himself would have plenty of time for sleep, went on deck and sat silently smoking. Old Ben was at the wheel, and the skipper felt a glow of self-righteousness as he thought of the rise in life he was about to give the poor fellow.

At eight o'clock the mate relieved Ben, and the skipper, with a view to keeping up appearances, announced his intention of turning in for a bit.

The sun went down behind clouds of smoky red, but the light of the summer evening lasted for some time after. Then darkness came down over the sea, and it was desolate except for the side-lights of distant craft. The mate drew out his watch, and by the light of the binnacle-lamp, saw that it was ten minutes to ten. At the same moment he heard somebody moving about forward.

"Who's that for'ard?" he cried, smartly.

"Me, sir," answered Joe's voice. "I'm a bit wakeful, and it's stiflin' 'ot down below."

The mate hesitated, and then, glancing at the open skylight, saw the skipper, who was standing on the table.

"Send him below," said the latter, in a sharp whisper.

"You'd better get below, Joe," said the mate.

"W'y, I ain't doin' no 'arm, sir," said Joe, in surprise.

"Get below," said the mate, sharply. "Do you hear?—get below. You'll be sleeping in your watch if you don't sleep now."

The sounds of a carefully modulated grumble came faintly aft, then the mate, leaning away from the wheel to avoid the galley which obstructed his view, saw that his order had been obeyed.

"Now," said the skipper, quietly, "you must give a perfect scream of horror, mind, and put this on the deck. It fell off as I went over, d'ye see?"

He handed over the slipper he had been wearing, and the mate took it surlily.

"There ought to be a splash," he murmured. "Joe's awake."

The skipper vanished, to reappear a minute or two later with a sack into which he had hastily thrust a few lumps of coal and other rubbish. The mate took it from him, and, placing the slipper on the deck, stood with one hand holding the wheel and the other the ridiculous sack.

"Now," said the skipper.

The sack went overboard, and, at the same moment, the mate left the wheel with an ear-splitting yell and rushed to the galley for the lifebelt which hung there. He rushed on deckily into Joe, who had rushed on deck, put, without pausing, ran to the side and flung it overboard.

"Skipper's overboard," he yelled, running back and putting the helm down.

Joe put his head down the forescuttle and yelled like a maniac; the others came up in their night-gear, and in a marvellously short space of time the schooner was hove to and the cook and Joe had tumbled into the boat and were pulling back lustily in search of the skipper.

Half an hour elapsed, during which those on the schooner hung over the stern listening intently. They could hear the oars in the rowlocks and the shouts of the rowers. Tim lit a lantern and dangled it over the water.

"Have you got 'im?" cried Ben, as the boat came over the darkness and the light of the lantern shone on the upturned faces of the men.

"No," said Joe, huskily.

Ben threw him a line, and he clambered silently aboard, followed by the cook.

"Better put about," he said to the mate, "and cruise about until daylight. We ain't found the belt either, and it's just possible he's got it."

The mate shook his head. "It's no good," he said, confidently; "he's gone."

"Well, I vote we try, anyhow," said Joe, turning on him fiercely. "How did it happen?"

"He came up on deck to speak to me," said the mate, shortly. "He fancied he heard a cry from the water and jumped up on the side with his hand on the rigging to see. I s'pose his bud foot slipped and he went over before I could move."

"We'll cruise about a bit," said Joe, loudly, turning to the men.

"Are you giving orders here, or am I?" said the mate, sternly.

"I am," said Joe, violently. "It's our duty to do all we can." There was a dead silence. Tim pushing himself in between Ben and the cook, eyed the men eagerly.

"What do you mean by that?" said the mate at last.

"Wot I say," said Joe, meeting him eye to eye, and thrusting his face close to his.

The mate shrugged his shoulders and walked slowly aft; then, with a regard for appearances which the occasion fully warranted, took the schooner for a little circular tour in the neighborhood of the skipper's disappearance.

At daybreak, not feeling the loss quite as much as the men, he went below, and, having looked stealthily round, unlocked the door of the state-room and peeped in. It was almost uncanny, considering the circumstances, to see in the dim light the skipper sitting on the edge of his bunk.

"What the blazes are you doing, dodging about like this?" he burst out, ungratefully.

"Looking for the body," said the mate. "Ain't you heard us shouting? It's not my fault—the crew say they won't leave the spot while there's half a chance."

"Blast the crew," said the skipper, quite untouched by this devotion. "Ain't you taking charge o' the ship?"

"Joe's about half mad," said the mate. "It's wonderful how upset he is."

The skipper cursed Joe separately, and the mate, whose temper was getting bad, closed the interview by locking the door.

At five o'clock, by which time they had chased three masses of weed and a barnacle-covered plank, they abandoned the search and resumed the voyage. A gloom settled on the forecastle, and the cook took advantage of the occasion to read Tim a homily upon the shortness of life and the suddenness of death. Tim was much affected, but not nearly so much as he was when he discovered that the men were going to pay a last tribute to the late captain's memory by abstaining from breakfast. He ventured to remark that the excitement and the night air had made him feel very hungry, and was promptly called an unfeeling little brute by the men for his pains. The mate, who, in deference to public opinion had to keep up appearances the same way, was almost as much annoyed as Tim, and as for the drowned man himself his state of mind was the worst of all. He was so ungrateful that the mate at length lost his temper, and when dinner was served allowed a latent sense of humour to have full play.

It consisted of boiled beef, with duff, carrots, and potatoes, and its grateful incense filled the cabin. The mate attacked it lustily, listening between mouthfuls for any interruption from the state-room. At length, unable to endure it any longer, the prisoner ventured to scratch lightly on the door.

"Hist!" said the mate, in a whisper.

The scratching ceased, and the mate, grinning broadly, resumed his dinner. He finished at last, and, lighting his pipe, sat back easily in the locker, watching the door out of the corner of his eye.

With hunger at his vitals the unfortunate skipper, hardly able to believe his ears, heard the cook come down and clear away. The smell of dinner gave way to that of tobacco, and the mate, having half finished his pipe, approached the door.

"Are you there?" he asked, in a whisper.

"Of course, I am, you fool!" said the skipper, wrathfully; "where's my dinner?"

"I'm very sorry," began the mate, in a whisper.

"What?" inquired the skipper, fiercely.

"I've mislaid the key," said the mate grinning fiendishly, "and, what's more, I can't think what I've done with it."

At this intelligence the remnant of the skipper's temper vanished, and every bad work he had heard of, read of, or dreamt of, floated from his hungry lips in frenzied whispers.

"I can't hear what you say," said the mate. "What?"

The prisoner was about to repeat his remarks, with a few embellishments, when the mate stopped him with one little word. "Hist!" he said, quietly.

At the imminent risk of bursting, or going mad, the skipper stopped short, and the mate, addressing a remark to the cook, who was not present, went up on deck.

He found the key by tea-time and, his triumph having made him generous, passed the skipper in a large hunk of cold beef with his tea. The skipper, having found an empty stomach very conductive to accurate thinking.

(To be continued).

Rubber Supply Steady While Leather Gets Scarcer

This Explains Low Price of Rubber Footwear in Spite of Increase in Cost of Chemicals, Fabrics and Labor

The war is using up enormous quantities, both of leather and rubber. At the same time it is seriously restricting the output of the former, much of which came from Russia—while rubber production keeps pace with the demand. From the great plantations now reaching maturity in Britain's tropical Dominions will come this year 150,000 tons of raw rubber—75% of the world's production, and an increase of over 40,000 tons over last year.

Thus, thanks to the British Government's foresight in encouraging these plantations, the Allied armies have been abundantly supplied with all the rubber products they need—Germany and her allies have been cut off—and the price to the world at large has actually been reduced. Meanwhile leather has been getting scarcer and more expensive—80% higher than in 1914—and the end is not yet.

At normal prices a pair of good shoes cost about four times as much as a pair of rubbers—and would last twice as long if rubbers or overshoes were worn to protect them. Or a pair of heavy rubbers for the farm cost much less than heavy shoes, and would stand much more wear in bad weather. So even before the war rubbers were a mighty good investment, to say nothing of their prevention of wet feet, colds and doctors' bills.

Now, when leather costs so much more in proportion, the saving from wearing rubber footwear is so outstanding that no one who believes in thrift will think of doing without rubbers, overshoes, rubber boots, or whatever kind of rubber footwear best suits his needs. Nor will he who is anxious to help win the war, for by wearing rubber he conserves the leather that is so scarce, yet so absolutely necessary to the soldiers.

Wear Rubbers and Save Leather for our Fighting Men!

17

ON THE FARM

Cereals.

Seed Grain.—Early attention should be given to the seed grain which is to be sown next spring. If no special fields for seed purposes were grown last summer, next season's requirements may be met by very careful recleaning of the main crop harvested last autumn. One can never afford to sow weed seeds, and one can seldom afford to sow grain more or less mixed with other types. The fanning mill should furnish plump seed free from weeds. If other grains are present, such as oats in wheat, or barley in oats, it will be necessary, and quite worth while, to hand-pick two or three bushels during the winter so as to have a field of an acre or two to furnish pure seed for the following year. Hand-picking may appear too laborious to any one who has not tried it, but by devoting to it an hour or two at a time a great deal can be accomplished in the course of a few weeks and without undue strain on the eyes.

It there is any doubt about the vitality of the seed, a test should be made before the winter is very far advanced.

While the laboratories of the Dominion Government are always available for farmers who desire to have an official report on their grain, any one can make a test for himself without delay by placing about two hundred seeds between layers of blotting paper or cloth, and keeping them damp for a few days. An ordinary dinner plate is very handy for this purpose, with another plate set on it in reversed position.

The grain, after being moistened must not be allowed to become dry, and must not be exposed to frost. After about six days the sprouts from the seed of strongest vitality will be sufficiently developed. Seeds which take an unusually long time to sprout generally give weak plants. If less than about ninety per cent of the seed produces strong sprouts, it will be necessary to sow such an increased quantity as will bring the strongly vital kernels up to the usual number per acre.

Change of Seed.—The best advice in regard to change of seed is this:—Change only when you are sure you are getting something superior to your old stock. The new grain should be true to variety and free from weed seeds. A very great danger in obtaining seed from a long distance is that it may contain new and dangerous weeds.

If you have reason to believe that the returns from your fields are less than they should be, considering the character and fertility of the soil and the time given to its preparation, it might be advisable to test some new variety of grain from the list of varieties recommended for your district. For the first season the new sort should be sown beside the old, and a careful comparison made of their relative merits.

Purchase of Seed.—If new seed is to be purchased, inquiries should be made early in the winter from those who have grain for sale. No large purchase of seed should be decided upon without first seeing a sample and obtaining a statement as to its germination, and as to the quantity of other grains present. To intending purchasers of seed grain the Dominion Cerealist will be glad to furnish information as to possible sources of supply of the varieties they desire. Farmers who have seed grain for sale are requested to communicate with us.

Free Distribution of Samples.—A free distribution of samples of seed grain will be made from this Farm for the season of 1917. Farmers who desire to test some other variety than those they are already familiar with, may obtain a free sample in this way. The quantity of seed supplied is 5 pounds in the case of wheat, barley and peas and four pounds in the case of oats. Only one sample of grain will be sent to each farm. For an application form, write to the Dominion Cerealist at Ottawa. No postage is required.—C. E. Saunders, Dominion Cerealist, Ottawa.

Adding Fibre to the Soil.

Everyone who has had experience in breaking up new land has noticed how soon the rich black mould disappears after the soil has been brought under cultivation. The reason for this is that the vegetable matter in such soil has been reduced to humus of a very unstaple condition. It is readily attacked by bacteria and broken down so that soon not a trace of it is to be found. The excessive growing of grain crops, so general on new land and by which but little vegetable matter is returned to the soil, hastens this process of depletion. The process is also most rapid in soils that are naturally rich in lime, as this neutralizes the acids formed by the decay of humus and provides ideal working conditions for the organisms that break down organic matter.

In restoring humus to the soil by the growing of legumes, the plowing down of green crops and the application of manure, vegetable matter of a more fibrous nature than that which is found on the forest floor, is needed. This is not readily reduced to humus. It contains considerable cellulose or woody matter, which offers considerable resistance to the attacks of the bacteria of decay. This fibrous matter, when added to the soil, provides a store of vegetable matter which is broken down into humus and finally into available plant food very gradually. Vegetable matter from this origin does not disappear from the soil as rapidly as the humus found in newly cleared land. Permanent productivity in soil demands a supply of this fibrous material.

The Farm Home

A time will come when all intelligent farmers will realize that the farm household is the source of all energy, enterprise and intelligence that makes farming a success and keeps the farmer on the farm possible. It is the indefatigable farmer's wife that makes the farm home, altogether too often she makes it a real home in spite of her husband rather than as a result of his cooperation with her. He, to his shame be it said, too often has by far a greater appreciation for hogs, cattle, grain and machinery than he has for the equipment and environments that make practicable the proper rearing of his own children. Yet he will complain that the young people will not stay on the farm.—American Lumberman.

A Very Merry Christmas

The Gift That Gets A Smile—

because it guarantees unequalled service—from Christmas to Christmas—over and over again—is

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Apply to the nearest Naval Recruiting Station or to the

Department of the Naval Service, OTTAWA.

SPY IS PRODUCT OF PRUSSIANISM

ESPIONAGE AN ATTRIBUTE OF CHARACTER.

"Kultur" Now Turns Its Attention to United States as Next Enemy.

D. Thomas Curtin, continuing his series of articles in the London Times on what he observed in ten months he spent in Germany, writes of Spying and Sentiment. He says:

"Spying is [illegible] as essential ingredient of Prussian character as conceit, inability to see [illegible] of others, [illegible] envy, sectarian faction, [illegible] inquisitiveness, cruelty, materialism, [illegible] and the other [illegible] that will [illegible] those who [illegible] Prussia [illegible] from the [illegible] German State.

"Prussian [illegible] know the [illegible] of the world [illegible] vate, and [illegible] have Prussian [illegible] in greater [illegible] degree all [illegible] other states [illegible] empire [illegible] insured to [illegible] publicity [illegible] the state of [illegible] business and [illegible] tune.

Past Masters in Spying.

"The Prussian [illegible] American [illegible] college students [illegible] spies or [illegible] is not popular [illegible] is apt to [illegible] what he [illegible] All this [illegible] versed in German [illegible] where [illegible] tirely different [illegible] at code [illegible] With these [illegible] in their [illegible] acter it is [illegible] that the German should be past [illegible] of the art of espionage.

"It does not [illegible] equally [illegible] formed from [illegible] foreign matter [illegible] egotistical [illegible] ports, so fond [illegible] only their own [illegible] while they [illegible] obtaining possession [illegible] purchase or by [illegible] say, of a new [illegible] unable to form [illegible] of the character [illegible] people upon whom [illegible] ing.

"Their minds [illegible] to be perfect, [illegible] sionally by the [illegible] for other nations [illegible] military spying [illegible] ters. I presume [illegible] difference in the system of the various nations [illegible] military spying [illegible] thorough.

System of "Spying" Abroad.

"The system of 'spying' Germany in foreign countries, as I have heard it called in Germany, that is, getting them to notice, was used by Prussia prior to the war of 1866 against Austria, and successful under Moltke and Bismarck it was developed [illegible] Thus while comparatively few Germans, for example, have been abroad, German [illegible] the form just [illegible] lar business or [illegible] ment's, double [illegible] garded as a [illegible] Fatherland.

"There are [illegible] of German [illegible] tries—those [illegible] sies, to the [illegible] working [illegible] connection with [illegible] ward their [illegible] many. There [illegible] fairly well paid [illegible] men and women [illegible] foreign countries [illegible] troduction and [illegible] scientific, [illegible] congresses. The [illegible] to $500 monthly.

"Many semi-commercial, [illegible] world are from [illegible] honest workers [illegible] man kultur. [illegible] upon England [illegible] for many years [illegible] regard this component. They [illegible] in the United [illegible] England before [illegible] Germans who [illegible] won believe [illegible] next enemy."

Fire!

Useful articles [illegible] are buckets [illegible] buted around [illegible] with [illegible] count of [illegible] for general [illegible] round [illegible] they should [illegible] regularly [illegible] full. To [illegible] of fused [illegible] in use [illegible] ed red [illegible] epicuous [illegible] danger of [illegible]

"I believe [illegible] ligion, but I [illegible]

"What's that [illegible]

"I both vote [illegible]

Counsel [illegible]

"Year should [illegible] things of life [illegible] "I don't know [illegible] is about the [illegible]

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