THE SNARE

BY RAFAEL SABATINI.

The Master Tale-Teller, Author of "Bardelys the Magnificent." Another Stirring Story of Adventure and Love in a New Setting—The Peninsular War.

CHAPTER XXIX.

THE RESIGNATION.

As he sat there, his face buried in his hands, he was roused by the touch of Tremayne's hand upon his shoulder, and Tremayne's voice, bidding him pull himself to face the situation. He looked up, the amazement that overcame [illegible]

"You can forgive me, Ned?"

Ned looked across at Sylvia.

"You have been the means of bringing me to such happiness as I should never have reached without these happenings," he said. "What resentment can I bear you, O'Moy?"

Lady O'Moy turned to them, pleading for explanations.

"What does he mean? What has he done?"

Sir Terence answered her: "I killed Sarsfield. And then, believing what I did, I fastened the guilt upon Ned."

"Oh!" It was an outcry of horror from Una, instantly checked. "But," she cried, "if this is discovered, Terence, what will become of you?"

"It must not be discovered," he said [illegible] "I must voluntarily go forward and denounce myself before another witness [illegible] It's the only way [illegible] of honor."

There was a tap at the door and Mullins came to announce that Lord Wellington was asking to see Sir Terence. "Courage, my dear," O'Moy said quietly to his wife. "Wellington may [illegible] more mercy than I deserve." Awaiting him in the study, he found not only Lord Wellington, but [illegible] Grant. By the gravity of [illegible] he realized that in some [illegible] knew the whole truth.

"[illegible] O'Moy," said his lordship, "there are one or two matters to be settled before I leave."

"I have written to you, sir," replied [illegible]

"Perhaps you will first read [illegible]"

His lordship took the letter in silence. Breaking the seal he read it [illegible]

"[illegible] your resignation, O'Moy; but [illegible] no reasons. Perhaps you'll explain."

CONFESSION.

O'Moy raised his arms, only to let them fall to the sides again. "I was mad," he said, heavily. "I killed Sarsfield. He offended me mortally, saying such things of my wife's honor that no man could suffer. I consented to a clandestine meeting without seconds. It took place here and I killed him. And then I had, as I imagined, overwhelming evidence that what he had told me was true, and I went mad." Briefly he told the story of Tremayne's descent from O'Moy's balcony, and the rest.

"You—fool, O'Moy," his lordship raged at him. "Grant suspected this from the first. But I could not believe of you. When Miss Armytage intervened to afford Tremayne an alibi I [illegible] her. I concluded that hers was the window from which Tremayne had climbed down. And now comes Richard Butler to cast himself upon my mercy, with another tale, which completely gives the lie to Miss Armytage, but confirms your own."

"Richard Butler!" cried O'Moy. "He surrendered to you?"

"[illegible] an hour ago."

Sir Terence turned aside with a weary shrug. "Poor Una," he muttered.

"The tangle is a shocking one—lies, everywhere." Wellington's anger [illegible] "Do you realize what awaits [illegible] as a result of all this damned intrigue?"

"I do, sir," said O'Moy.

"You will have to stand a court-martial for the manner in which you secured my removal, and you will probably be cashiered. I can't help you. You have resigned, and you must take the consequences. I have no more time for this [illegible] business."

At this juncture there came a knock at the door, and Mullins opened it to [illegible] the adjutant's orderly, who [illegible] fully to attention.

"His excellency, the secretary of the council of regency wishes to see you [illegible] urgently," he said to O'Moy. Wellington spoke up sharply:

"Tell his excellency to step across here. I will see him myself."

SHAMED.

The sleek and supple secretary of state, Don Miguel, was ushered in. He bowed to the three men present and accepted the chair proffered him by Wellington.

"I have sought you," he began, "on a matter concerned with the late Count Samoval, immediately upon hearing that the court-martial had acquitted Capt. Tremayne."

His lordship frowned. "I trust, sir, you have not come to question the finding of the court-martial."

"Oh, on the contrary!"

Don Miguel was emphatic. "I represent not only the council, but the Samoval family as well. Both realize that it is fortunate in arresting Tremayne the authorities arrested the wrong man and both have reason to dread the arrest of the right one. A further investigation of the manner in which Count Samoval met his death can hardly fail to bring to light the deplorable practices in which he was engaged, and the effect of such revelation would be disastrous to the count's family and to the council of regency."

"I can sympathize with the count's family, but not with the council."

"Surely, the council as a body deserves your sympathy in that it is in danger of being utterly discredited by the treason of one of its members."

Wellington was silent for a moment. "Granting what you have said, there remains British justice to be satisfied."

A BARGAIN.

"British justice may assume that Count Samoval met his death in the pursuit of treachery. Cannot British justice, for the sake of British interests, be content to leave the matter there? Especially, if it be provided that the council shall guard against further intrigues of this sort, and shall loyally support your measures?"

"Your excellency may be right," said his lordship. "Let us be quite clear, then. You suggest that I should suppress all further investigations into the manner of Count Samoval's death. In return your council undertakes that there shall be no further opposition to my plans for the military defence of Portugal. That is your bargain, is it not?"

"That is my proposal, my lord."

"The bargain might be improved," said Wellington, slowly.

"If your lordship will tell me how—"

"Your excellency will remember a certain affair some two months ago—concerning a young officer named Richard Butler—It was an offence committed during a drunken revelry, I believe. To appease the council of regency you demanded that the boy be shot."

"I could not help myself in the matter—"

"A moment, sir. Since all this happened I have had the facts of the case placed before me. I wil go so far as to tell you that the officer in question has been in my hands for the past hour, and that I have closely questioned him. I am satisfied that his conduct was not such as to merit death. And, therefore, I will stipulate, sir, that your council shall relieve us of all obligation in this matter, leaving it to our discretion to punish Mr. Butler in such manner as we may consider condign."

"My lord, the council has given me carte blanche to obtain your consent to a suppression of the Samoval affair. And without hesitation I accept the further condition that you make."

THE MATTER CONCLUDED.

"Then we may look upon the matter as concluded?"

"As happily concluded, my lord," and Don Miguel rose with a low bow to his lordship.

And so he took his leave of them, escorted by Col. Grant, who discreetly volunteered for the office.

Left alone with Wellington, Sir Terence heaved a great sigh of supreme relief.

"In my wife's name, sir, I should like to thank you for what you have done for me."

"Tush!" said Wellington, and then abruptly: "What are you going to do, O'Moy?" he asked.

"Do," said O'Moy. "I am in your hands, sir."

"Your resignation is, and it must remain, O'Moy. You understand?"

"Of course, sir. Naturally you could not alter this——" he shrugged and broke off. "But must I go home?" he pleaded. "I shall be shamed forever to go home when the army is about to take the field."

SANCTUARY.

But Wellington did not hear him, or did not seem to hear him. He had reached the window and his eye was caught by something in the courtyard.

"What's this now?" he rapped out. "That is one of Sir Robert's aides." He turned and went quickly to the door, opening it wide. Col. Grant appeared, followed by a young officer of light dragoons who was powdered with dust from head to foot.

"You appear to have ridden hard, sir," the commander greeted him.

"The urgency was great, my lord," replied the lad. "The French columns are in movement. Ney and Junot advanced to the investment of Ciudad Rodrigo on the first of the month. The commander, Gen. Herrasti, has sent an urgent appeal to Sir Robert for assistance. Sir Robert asks for orders in this dispatch and refuses to stir without instructions from your lordship."

"Good!" His lordship breathed a sigh of relief. He broke the seal and read the dispatch swiftly, then took up his hat and riding crop from Sir Terence's desk. "I shall leave for the frontier at once," he announced.

"As for you, O'Moy, this has changed everything. The French and the needs of the case have decided. For the present no change is possible in the administration here in Lisbon. You hold the threads of your office and the moment is not one in which to appoint another adjutant to take them over. You must withdraw your resignation. Good-bye, O'Moy. I trust you, remember."

ABSOLUTION.

"And I shall not fail you," gulped O'Moy, strong man that he was, found himself almost on the verge of tears. He clutched the extended hand.

"I shall fix my headquarters for the present at Calorico. Communicate with me there. Oh, and by the way, you will find your brother-in-law, Mr. Butler, in the guard-room yonder, awaiting my orders. Provide him with a uniform and bid him rejoin his regiment at once. Recommend him to be more prudent in future if he wishes me to forget his escapade. And in future, O'Moy, trust your wife. Again good-bye."

And thus Sir Terence O'Moy found sanctuary at the altar of his country's need.

He sent a servant to fetch Mr. Butler the prime cause of all this bother, and with him went to bear the incredible tidings of their joint absolution to the three who waited so anxiously in the dining-room.

(The End.)

Gems from Examination Papers.

"Denmark is washed by the Catty Cat and the Scraggy Hack," wrote a despairing English boy at a geography examination. Other gems embalmed in the examination papers included:

"The highest peaks in the Alps is Blanc Mange."

"Amongst the islands of the West Indies are the Pyjamas, noted for toilet sponges."

"Ceylon is joined to India by a chain of coral wreaths."

"A focus is a thing like a mushroom, but if you eat it you will feel differently from a mushroom, focuses is poison."

"Habeau Corpus is what the people use to say to the undertakers at the time of the great plague of London. It means, 'You ma have the body.'"

"Louis XVI. was gelatined during the French revolution."

"Chaplets are small places of worship."

Centenarian's Advice.

"Keep cheerful, eat plenty of pork and potatoes, and drink plenty of good milk," was the recipe of longevity of Mrs. Ellen Parkin, who has died at Falmouth, aged 101.

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ETIENNE BOROSH

110 years old, who lives in the mountains of Rumania, is still very active and in full possession of his faculties. He continues to work about his farm. He is shown seated on the coffin he built for himself, but which he hopes he will not use for many years to come.

GIRLS MAKE MONEY IN THEIR OWN HOME TOWNS

By perceiving that there was a neglected field of effort near at hand and by applying herself to it a girl of artistic ability has made her training a source of income without leaving home.

The town where she lives has only one skilled window dresser, and the displays of the other stores suffered by comparison. Feeling sure that the merchants would benefit if they displayed their wares attractively, she visited the different stores and solicited the work of dressing their windows. She convinced several of the merchants that an artistic arrangement of the goods in their windows would make an appeal to the public that would result in increased sales.

Provide Suitable Displays.

By agreement she gives each store one complete change of window displays every two weeks and a rearrangement that gives the effect of change once a week. She also provides suitable displays for such days as are celebrated locally or more widely. Since she does not have to spend anything on the work, she figures that the two dollars a window that she receives for it is good pay for what is only part-time work, for it brings her at least forty dollars a month.

She stipulated that the two jewelers on the list should allow her a reasonable sum to spend for flowers. By choosing the flowers to harmonize with the rich velvets of jewel cases and accent the beauty of the glass, silver and pottery containers that are on sale she has more than justified the expense.

Friends, interested in her project and pleased with store windows that are a credit to their city, lend her antiques, curiosities and other things to complete and beautify her window designs.

Clever ideas in window-dressing are bringing another girl a neat little income. For a shoe store she arranged a display called 'The Seven Ages of Shoes.' Having collected seven pairs of old shoes, from a baby's pair up to an old man's boots, she had the shoemaker mend one of each pair. The row, in which the worn and the repaired were set side by side, was placed in the window, where they proved to everyone who stopped to look in that by skilful repairing even a hopeless-looking shoe can be restored to reputable appearance and further wear. The girl's charge for the idea was five dollars. It has brought the store a great deal of repair work, made new customers and sold more shoes.

Have Your Ideas Ready.

To girls who feel that they have taste and ability that they could use to advantage in such work, a word of advice may be useful; have your selling ideas ready for the merchant long before the selling time.

If a store has a drapery department or an art department, submit unusual designs to it. Many small stores have no salesman who is competent to cut "overdrape" patterns or to make a drawing suitable for a luncheon design that is to carry out a special plan. If you are clever, you can make from curtain materials or wall paper designs that can be repeated in the sofa cushions or the bed spreads; from china you can copy designs for decorating luncheon sets to be used with that ching. Charge according to the importance of your work.

Trade journals will give you ideas; the special needs of your community will guide you; the surplus stock in some merchant's store may be your inspiration. If your ideas are novel and practicable enough to sell goods, no merchant will begrudge you the price that your idea is worth to him.

Garnet Wheat Lives Up to Expectations.

Garnet wheat is making good every claim advanced by the experts of the Federal Department of Agriculture.

Hon. W. R. Motherwill, Minister of Agriculture, announced that reports from scores of farmers who grew Garnet last year are unanimous on the one vital claim made on behalf of the wheat—that it ripens ten days earlier than Marquis. The yields also have been very satisfactory.

Along the northern edge of the agricultural belt in the three Prairie Provinces, where the frost menace is so great as to make wheat-growing very uncertain, Garnet wheat has come through splendidly. Last year, while other varieties of grain were nipped and rendered unsalable except for chicken feed, Garnet was a good sample of marketable product.

Extraordinary yields are reported from many youths. T. Bain, of Hanribourg, north of Prince Albert, a soldier settler, struggling along with 12 acres of land available for wheat, was given Garnet seed by the Department of Agriculture. He sowed it on the 12 acres and harvested 64 bushels to the acre. The market value of his crop was about $2,000.

Mr. Motherwell declared that there could no longer be a doubt as to the benefit of Garnet. It has rolled back the northern boundary of agriculture in Canada from 100 to 150 miles, bringing all the meadow and lake country from Port Nelson and Port Churchill to the Rocky Mountains within the dominion of the plow.

The one defect of the grain, said Mr. Motherwell, was that it had a slight off-tint in the coloring. However, the millers always bleached the flour before selling, so that this was not a serious defect.

Surrounded by Soup.

"Can I see Lady Brown? I—"

Maid—"I'm sure, madam, her ladyship cannot see you now, as she in the middle of a plate of soup."

A Blind Fish.

A blind fish known as the Ipnope has a searchlight on its head, probably to attract fish food.

Reel Advice for Fishermen.

It is not infrequent that anglers express their preference as to the weight of a reel on a fly-rod of a certain length and weight. Some seem to prefer a heavy weight reel while others prefer a light weight. A salmon fisherman well known in the East says he often employs a salmon reel on a heavy trout rod he sometimes uses for that fish when dry fly fishing for salmon.

The term "balance" is frequently employed in connection with the rod and reel of fly rods, but there can be, in the nature of the thing, no true balance in the ordinary sense of that word, of rod and reel for the ordinary single-handed trout fly rod.

With any fly-rod a true and exact balance cannot be had without employing a reel that is quite absurdly heavy for such a rod. Yet very likely there are anglers who could even get used to such extreme weight of reel, for very soon the hand will get accustomed to almost any weight of reel within reason.

If there was any definite advantage in having a true balance of rod at the place where held in the hand, we are speaking of single fly-rods for trout and black bass, then the makers would long ago have weighted the butts of rods.

Some anglers prefer a light reel and some a heavy reel, and that is about all there is to that. And also, it is a fact that very soon the hand gets used to the weight of reel employed and is not conscious that at another time a heavier or lighter reel was employed.—Field and Stream.

Noon in the Plaza.

It was high noon, and the rays of the sun, that hung poised directly overhead in an intolerable white glory, fell straight as lances upon the roofs and streets of Guadalajara. The adobe walls and sparse brick sidewalks of the drowsing town radiated the heat in an oily, quivering shimmer. The leaves of the eucalyptus trees around the Plaza drooped motionless. Hump and relaxed under the scorching, searching blaze. The shadows of these trees had shrunk to their smallest circumference, contracting close about the trunks. The shade had dwindled to the breadth of a mere line. The sun was everywhere. The heat exhaling from brick and plaster and metal met the heat that steadily descended blanketwise and smothering, from the pale, scorched sky. Only the lizards—they lived in chinks of the crumbling adobe and in interstices of the sidewalks—remained without motionless as if stuffed. . . . At long intervals the prolonged drone of an insect developed out of the silence, vibrated a moment in a soothing, somnolent, long note, then trailed slowly into the quiet again. Somewhere in the interior of one of the adobe houses a guitar snored and hummed sleepily. On the roof of a hotel a group of pigeons cooed incessantly with subdued, liquid murmurs, very plaintive; a cat, perfectly white, with a pink nose and thin, pink ears, dozed complacently on a fence rail, full in the sun. In a corner of the Plaza three hens wallowed in the baking hot dust, their wings fluttering, clucking comfortably.—Frank Norris, in "The Octopus."

The Captive.

God gave me notes of clearest song,
The hills and valleys rang,
The wild woods echoed all day long,
God made me thus, and so I sang.

God gave me wings of lofty flight,
No barrier I knew,
The depths were mine, the dizzy height,
God made me thus, and so I flew.

God gave me notes of clearest song,
I sang, but ah, I sigh,
God gave me wings of lofty flight,
I would, but oh, I cannot fly!

—Frances Pender Carver.

Copper Was Exchange Medium.

It is not so very long ago that copper was used in Sweden as the chief medium of exchange, and at times merchants had to take wheelbarrows with them when they went to receive payment of considerable sums.

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Surnames and Their Origin

PINDAR.

Variations—Pender, Pinder, Pounder.
Racial Origin—English.
Source—An occupation.

The family name of Pindar has, it may seem to you, a foreign flavor. It takes hardly any strain of the imagination to classify it as probably East Indian.

Be not deceived. It's just old English.

It's one of those surnames which developed from an occupation or a title of office. But even when you look at the name of Pounder, and know that the two are but variations of the same name, you are not able to guess it.

The chances are that you will miss the mark even after you have been told that it is directly related to our modern word "pound."

That is because we have two "pound" words and more than likely you have chosen the wrong one. It's not the unit of weight that you want to think of, but the place where the dog-catchers take the luckless Fidos and Sports and Tigers who get tangled up in their nets.

In medieval England, however, the pounder ("le pendere" they called him then) didn't waste much time on dogs. His principal job was to round up the stray cattle that wandered about where they had no business to be, and hold them until their rightful owners called for them.

FLANNER.

Variations—Flawner.
Racial Origin—English.
Source—An occupation.

It is more difficult to find the things from which family names have not been derived, than those from which they have. Family names have been derived from red faces, from crooked legs, from saintly virtues, from habits of immorality, from great strength, height, weight, from prowess in battle, from the signs above inn and shop doors, from river banks, from knives, from arms and armor, from vegetables, animals, birds, fishes, from the names of places and from articles of commerce and industry. One might almost be safe in making a challenge to all comers to mention something from which a family name has not been derived.

Has a family name ever been derived from the pancake?

It has. Flanner and Flawner are the modern spellings of this family name.

"Of my lord and of [illegible] man make flawnes," says Taxton in his "Book for Travellers." And in the story of Havelock the Dane mention is made of "brede and chese, butere and milk, pasties and flaunes."

In the London Corporation records of 1307 there is mentioned a "Regenle Flaoner," for, of course, the medieval English cooked a pancake a "flaune."

Old Roads.

Here where the rotting corduroy
Wanders along the swampy places,
Wanders as well a lonely boy
Looking his last on phantom faces.

Berries are bright along the swale;
Bright on the hills the Autumn
burns.
Silence is heavy on the trail
That leads to nowhere and returns.

The trail returns; and the lad, returning,
Softly smiles as over the hill
Nightfall carries the ancient, yearning,
Rapid cry of the whippoorwill.

He comes to the lighted homes of men
With quiet in his heart at last,
Never, never to walk again
The ruined roadways of the past.

—A. K. Laing.

Next Door For Him.

Hobo—"Lady, I need the dough."

Lady—"Go next door—they make their own bread there!"

Truth.

Nothing is easier than spending the public money. It does not appear to belong to anybody. The temptation is overwhelming to bestow it on somebody.—Calvin Coolidge.

What is Freedom?

The Beatitude for the will is obedience to the truth as the final form of good. Outside of the truth behind all good there is no such thing as freedom. The freedom of the earth, the freedom of the planets, the freedom of every star that parts in the firmament, is fidelity to law. Truth finally a revelation of the moral order of our human world and universe; the moral order is finally the supreme good matched to the inevitable desire and love of mankind; and in obedience to this view of ultimate and eternal reality lies all genuine human freedom. It is not freedom to break from the path that leads from the mountain summit to the plain; it is madness. It is not freedom for the navigator to steer his ship from the great icebergs clear of icebergs and shoals into the unchartered sea; it is a criminal mistake. It is not freedom to do as one pleases when one pleases to run in courses of service, and blasphemy against the demonstration of right and good delivered by the social and moral experience of mankind. To be a Bohemian does not settle the question of a man's freedom or slavery; to be a Philistine or a fundamentalist settles nothing as to the same question. The truth that is moral order, the moral order that is good, is the final judge. Outside of it there is no freedom, to the highest and best freedom, nothing else, is or can be other than slavery.—The Christian Leader.

Raising Herons.

There are six breeding pens in Florida the most important being Tabernacle, which contains more than [illegible] herons.

For Aviators to Coat In.

A newly patented fabric made of rubber will soon be put on sale in water in definite [illegible]

THE CANADIAN HOMEMAKER

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IMPORTANT OPERATIONS IN THE INDOOR AND OUTDOOR GARDEN

By Henry J. Moore, C.M.H.

February.

1. With the advent of February the preparation of the soil for potting and seed sowing purposes indoors will be a matter of first importance. Soil screened to the degree desired and composed of equal parts of loam and leaf soil, to which is added a little sand will be found proper for the general run of ornamental plants.

A good soil in which to sow seeds is that which is stripped off the roots of potted plants during repotting, to it, if insufficient, may be added a little loam and leaf soil and the whole be screened through an 1/8 inch screen. It is essential that enough sand be added to ensure porosity.

2. Sow late in the month in all early spring localities in the greenhouse or warm window, seeds of early Cauliflowers, Cabbages and Onions for later transplanting outdoors. If, when large enough to handle, the seedlings are transplanted to other containers a fine root system will be formed and the plants will make a good start and mature early when set out.

3. It is now time to propagate all manner of bedding plants from cuttings so as to ensure that well rooted and sturdy plants will be available by planting time in May. Among the kinds are Geraniums, Coleus, Lobelia, Ageratum, Acryanthus and Iresine. If propagated early and after potting on, the plants are pinched back they will become bushy and of good appearance.

4. The selection of early Potato sets should now occupy your attention. Sort the tubers, reserving those of about the four oz. size as "seed." Spread out the required quantity of sets on well lit shelves or floors so that sturdy sprouts will be produced. For this purpose the temperature should be about 50 degrees. When planted in April outdoors the crop will mature more quickly and thus be of greater value.

5. Where greenhouses in any sense of the word extensive are maintained, Lettuce and Radish are usually forced as early crops. If sown now Radish will be ready for harvesting by mid-April, Lettuce toward the end of April or early May. Lettuce from a previous sowing transplanted at this time should be read in about eight weeks.

6. Now is the proper time to prune the hard maple trees. Next month the sap will run and the trees be injured, if the work is deferred. The wounds must be painted to prevent the spores of fungi entering and causing the wood to decay. The limbs should be removed at their junction with others or at the trunk, stubs should not be left.

7. Next month is the time to prune our orchard trees — Apples, Pears, Peaches and the small fruits, Gooseberries, Currants and Raspberries. Have your tools and equipment sharpened and everything on hand for early [illegible]

8. The order for your [illegible] should be in the hands of [illegible] Next month a [illegible] will be sown indoors. Some of these will depend upon a [illegible] See that the necessary [illegible] such as pans and [illegible] are ready for reception.

9. If you desire to [illegible] of Dahlias by [illegible] the tubers into growth in a warm greenhouse [illegible] temperature of around [illegible] growths which will [illegible] be taken as cuttings and which rooted and planted out will bring the same year grow into specimen plants and should produce the first flowers.

10. Greenhouse plants of many kinds are propagated by cuttings during February. Among these are Crotons, India Rubber Plants, Ivy, Jasmine, Acacias and [illegible] Seeds of Abutilon, the [illegible] Flowering Maple, Asparagus [illegible] Tuberous rooted Begonias, Dahlias, Carnations for the [illegible] Pansy and Verbena are usually sown during [illegible] of early in