A DEAD RECKONING

CHAPTER XIV.

upon as their rendezvous, was a spot less after dark. A grim tragedy cenbeen the home of a certain game-keepers of the district. One night he was his cottage fired in two places. one, neither was the cottage ever rebuilt. But of all this neither Clara Brooke nor Margery, being newcomers in the neighborhood, knew anything.

The elder woman hurried feverishly enward, the younger leading the way. Scarcely a word passed between them. Presently they reached the through which Margery had followed the two men, and crossing it, took a winding footway through the fields. They went swiftly and silently, walking hot on the pathitself, but on the soft grass which bordered it. Not a hollow, then came some straggling patches of brushwood, and presently they were in the spinney itself, with The lanterns were extinguished, sides of them. Margery led the way as by a sort of instinct, only pausing but just time to draw their shawls over To Clara, the adventure, with its dark- amid the brushwood, when three of the ness, its silence, and its mystery, had all the complexion of a nightmare. stood up. Never on any previous oc-Again and again she had to ask her- casion when danger threatened her self whether it were indeed a reality.

"We are nearly there now, mum," said Margery presently in a whisper, tions of six armed and desperate men? "Do you wait here among the trees, while I creep forward and try and find out what they be about." saying the girl stole forward, and was -lost at once lost to view.

The young wife waited with a heart that beat high and anxiously. moments seemed terribly long till Margery returned, although in reality she was not more than three or four minutes. Clara trembled so much that she could not speak.

"There's four of 'em now, mum," said the girl. "I could see them quite plain through the crack in the shutter, and from what I could make out, there's more to come. O mistress, I wouldn't go near 'em if I was you; they're a desperate bad lot, and if they found you there, nobody can tell what might hap- things, you know, that Muster Geril

like a net round the husband she loved so devotedly that nerved her to the ery," she mad after a brief silence, "where you can go with safety I can surely go. I must see and listen to this. Should I be discovered by them, or should anything happen to me, you will fly as for your life and warn your the girl's words lifted off her heart.

"I understands, wum, never fear," was the girl's earnest response

Then the two crept together through the trees, almost as silent as the shadtage. Margery guided her to where a rickety shutter still guarded a small square window, from which, however, the glass had long since disappeared, Through a chink in this, the interior of the room, such as it was, was plainly discernible. Two old-fashioned lanterns threw a dim weird light over the scene. Clara's eyes sought instinctively for the face of Crofton before taking any note of the others; it may be that some faint hope had all along lingered in her breast that Margery had been mistaken. But if that were so, the hope at once died out. George Crofton himself was before her. was the only one of the party that was seated, and his seat consisted of nothing more than a pile of loose bricks. with part of the stone shelf of the mantel-piece laid across them. He was smoking, as were also two of the others and seemed deep in thought. The rest of the party were utter strangers to Clara; they talked in low tones among themselves, and, much to her surprise, she saw that one of them by the hand. "Let us hurry-let us was in the garb of a clergyman.

things, when a low whistle sounded from somewhere outside. sprang to his feet, and all were instantly on the alert. The whistle was answered by another from within and ery sank noiselessly back into the undergrowth of bush and bramble by which the cottage on three sides was

When, two or three minutes later. Clara ventured to resume her post of observation at the window, she found erately. Every second was precious. that the party inside had been augmented by two fresh arrivals. The men had now grouped themselves round Crofton in various attitudes of attention, listening to the instructions he was evidently impressing upon them. Whatever the objects of this strange company might be, there could be little doubt that George Crofton was the leader of it. One man, who bent forward a little, had made an ear-trumpet of his hand, and it might be for his benefit that Crofton now pitched his voice in a higher key than he had previously done. Clara hardly breathed as she strained her senses to ratch the words that fell from his lips.

What she heard gradually piecing the plot together in her own mind as Crofton issued his final orders to the men was enough to blanchk the heart of any woman with terror and dis-

treasure—Clara could not make out of Warley's Cottage, which place George night, which these desperadoes had de-Crofton and his confederates had fixed termined on making their own. As a der Pit Junction was to be seized, of ill copute for miles around, and one which no inhabitant of the district would willingly go near by day, much a member of the gang who answered to the name of the gang who answered to the name of Slinkey, and who underless after dark. A grim traged, stood the manipulation of points and tred round the spot. Some quarter of signals, would install himself in the a century previously the cottage had box. Then, when the train came up on its way to Cummerhays, passing the box at a speed of about twenty miles an hour, by a reversal of the points it was to be turned by Slinkey on to the branch leading to the colleries. As a matter of course, the driver would bring his train to a stand as speedily as possible, and then would come the passengers and officials together by this train rarely numbered half a score people. It would be strange if half-adozen desperate men, armed with re-volvers could not so far intimidate the driver, the guard, and a few sleepy pas-sengers as to have the whole train at their mercy. Five minutes would suffice to successfully achieve the object they had in view, after which the train

ing had happened. Such were the chief features of this audacious scheme, as gathered by Clara from Crofton's instructions to the others. Of course, each man had known beforehand what he was expected to do, fore long the path began to dip to a merely a sort of final rehearsal of the scene that was to follow.

might go on its way again as if noth-

Crofton now looked at his watch and announced that it was time to start tage, half of them taking one road and half another. Clara and Margery had men passed within as many yards of them. When all was silent again, they husband had Clara felt so helpless as she did now. What could she, one weak woman, do to confound the machina-"O. Margery," she cried, seizing both the girl's hands in the extremity of her distress, "there seems no help either in heaven or on earth. We are lost

The faithful girl could only kiss with a sob the hands that held her own. "What be they going to do, mistress?" she asked a moment or two later. She had not been able to see and hear what

"They are going to seize and bind your master, and then they are going to stop and rob the train. O Margery, if there was but some way by which apparatus for guiding the force of the cut open to entice them to eating them, the train could be warned in time! Think, think; is there nothing we can

"Why, o' course there is, mum," answered the girl with one of her uncanny chuckles. 'You just let me run streams of electricity. There are not pasture and plenty of it. They also home as fast as my legs'll carry me and get three or four singles-them used to fasten on the rails when the Of a truth, Clara might well hesitate fog was bad in winter. I know how to fasten them, 'cos I watched Muster and it was only the thought that some | Geril do it one day when I took him new and unforeseen danger might pos- some to the box. Then I'll take the sibly at that very moment be closing short cut across the fields to where the line turns sharp round more'n half a mile away from the box, and I'll fix the singles there.—But what am I to task she had set herself to do. "Marg- tell the driver, mum, when he stops

"Tell him there are half-a-dozen men with revolvers who are going to stop and robt he train, just beyond your these men for myself-Now, attend to master's box. After that, he will know what it will be best to do." She could have flung her arms around Margery's neck and kissed her, such a weight had

mum?" urged Margery had not failed to notice that her husband had never been mentioned band had never been mentioned band not failed to notice that her husband had never been mentioned band had never been mentioned by the same things in summer and product. In dry and regions the proper curing of cheese is accomplished by degrees and 32 minutes. The south-which with the greatest difficulty as the ern termination of this arc, which ows of which they seemed to form a by name by Crofton who had spoken part, and presently Clara found heroff by name by Crofton who had spoken the of him to the others as though he were part, and presently Clara found heroff by name by Crofton who had spoken the others as though he were the dwelling. They should not be neroff by name by Crofton who had spoken that the change its temperature.

With the greatest difficulty as the ern termination of this are, therefore the others as though he were cheese suffers from cracking. Such means one of those lines you see drawn the dwelling. They should not be neroff by name by Crofton who had spoken its temperature.

The present machine is the most powmeans probable; but in that faint three feet. chance lay her only hope of her husband's safety. In that case, should be and Crofton not encounter each other the rest of the gang would merely regard Gerald in the light of an ordinary railway servant; and although he might chance to be assailed and maltreated by them, that would be but a minor evil in comparison with the other, and one which an hour or two at the most would set right. These thoughts passed through her mind far up at a small public house. more rapidly than she could have given them utterance in words. The only question now was, had she time to warn' desperate one, but she must attempt it-no other course was open to her.

"Come!" she said, grasping Margery hasten! While you go and fix the sig-Scarcely had Mrs. Brooke noted these | nals I will go and warn your master,

With scarcely a word more they sped swiftly back along the starlit fields; but when they reached the stile, then one of the men left the cottage Clara said: "Is there no nearer way carrying a lantern. Clara and Marg- to the signal-box than going round to it by the high-road?"

"There's a way through the fields, that cuts off a big corner. I've walked it onst; but I dunno, mum, as you could find it in the dark.' "I must try." answered Clara, desp-

The near cut in question was through la second stile somewhat farther on. At this point, after a few last words, the was utterly unable to distinguish it, and had to trust to her vague local knowledge that she was going in the right direction. In a little while she surmounted a rising ground, and then the lighted window of the signal-box aminer asked. Yes: Go, thou, and do tions of temperature and moisture.

she had reached the boundary of the line, but at a point still some distance from the box. It now became needful to exercise more caution that she had hitherto done, lest she should be seen by any of the gang, who were doubtess somewhere near at hand.

ine at this point was bounded by wooden fencing put up to prevent the straying of cattle, close to which, on the field-side, grew a thin straggling hedge. Under the shelter of this hedge Clara now stole softly and cautiously right kinds of hay will be carefully seforward, with eyes and ears pretern- lected, and also the quality of the grain she drew nearer without being disturb ed by a sight or a sound, till at length she faced the box with its lighted win- forgets that he has sheep, and he gives dow where it stood on the opposite side himself no anxiety about their welfare. of the line. Then with a heart, the pulsing of which sounded like a low drumming in her ears, she parted the bushes and peered through.

For a moment or two a mist dimmed her eyes and all she could discern was that there was some one inside the box. Then the mist cleared away, and she saw that the man standing there with time, but the summer season is rife one hand resting on a lever was not husband, but the man Slinkey, whose sinister face she had seen through the broken shutter. Gerald was nowhere to be seen. She had come too late!

ELECTRICAL INFLUENCE

Power to Project Light.

A machine has just been made that has exactly what people are very fond of securing-influence. It is the science of mind reduced to practical mechanics So great is the influence of this machine that it can throw an electric spark a distance of thirty-four inches -that is, the spark starts at one ter- and maggots soon hatch which will minal and lengthens out until it reach- cause the death of the sheep or lamb trees and a thick undergrowth on both the men filed silently out of the cot- es the other terminal, a distance of thirty-four inches

This strange machine-for nothing past two seasons a heretofore new for a second new and again to listen. their heads and crouch on their knees like it has ever been invented—is one of the principal objects of interest at twisted stomach worm. the Victoria Era Exposition, at Earle's Court, London. Oddly enough, it does not seem to have attracted the attention which it really merits, for in its way it indicates as great a stride in electrical progress as the Roentgen ray. ing its work by keeping the flock clean At first sight it seems rather com- Should they succeed in laying a lot of plicated, but really it is nothing of the eggs the maggots can be killed by an sort, as machinery goes.

discs, each three feet in diameter, and fourth stomach of the sheep. Worm of course it has the usual parapherna- powders mixed in the salt is the only lia, consisting of what are technically Some shepherds recommend lime, but I known as sectors, collecting combs, have had no experience with it. I somehad passed in the cottage, as Clara had brushes, etc., To the non-mechanical times plant a field near the house or mind this is all Greek, but it is simple pasture to corn, being careful to see enough in reality when one considers that all these things means simply to in the field early. A few pumpkins are electrical fluid

> The influence of this machine is, therefore, confined to electricity and its effect upon men and matter. It is designed so that it gives two separate two streams at the same time, but elec- should have free access to water and tricity may be drawn from either terminal at the will of the person who is operating the machine and directing its is well to provide some grain or good influence. The tremendous improvement this machine is in the matter of procuring an electric current can best be understood by contrasting conditions. In the earlier years a dry atmosphere, much warming and heavy labor were required to show only small changes, while now, with three marvellous machines, no warming is needed, even when the atmosphere is bad. and with only little labor torrents of electricity may be obtained

It is with the old and new in electricity just as it used to be with photography. Years ago it was considered impossible to photograph anything unless the sky was unobscured. Nowadays it any more until after frost or freezpictures can be taken if it is raining ing weather, will afford excellent winever so hard. So it is with electricity. "But what about pore Muster Geril, The atmosphere had to be brought up to just such a temperature before it days when blizzards were raging. Shade, Ah, what indeed! Clara shivered as was possible to bring about the gen- water and salt is the trinity of good though am key wind had struck her. She eration of a current. Now the same things in summer management. The

an utter stranger. Could it be possible erful ever invented, when its size is the dwelling. They should not be perhe was unaware that Gerald filled the taken into consideration. Think of mitted to go to the far-away pasture this sort is experienced. position of signalman at Cinder Pit what it means when a machine throws too early in the morning. It is the Junction? It was possible, but by no a spark thirty-four inches-almost early morning hours when wolves are

> BLOWN UP. A Painter's Experience With a Chimney or

A Scotch journal says that a certain well-known painter went to a sea- The normal variations in temperature Germany a large portion of the milk side village to paint a picture, and put and moisture exert a much more harm- sold for retail consumption is pasteur-

a commotion, and on running down- the product into a marketable condi- manufacturing machinery especially her husband before the attack took place? The gang were on their way fire. Two or three men were trying ter is ready for the market in a few on this subject, "have not seen the to 1852, was measured by the geometers her husband before the attack took stairs found that the chimney was on tion is much longer with cheese. But- adapted for that purpose. already; could she overtake them, pass to put out the flames by sweeping the days from the time it is made. In ornecessity of pasteurizing, as milk is so of the three nations. them unseen, and reach the signal-box soot down with brooms, but the blaze der that cheese may be properly cured, cheap and easily obtained, but in the was too high to be reached in this man- the green product must be stored under economies that have been practiced for

painter caught up a thick mat, ran ture, but the prevention of rapid flue- dinary, will become necessary, so that with it to the roof, and climbing up tuations for an extended period. This along that line we expect to see pasonly pray heaven I may not be too the stack of chimneys, placed it on the demands the construction of proper top of the one that was on fire. His rooms for curing a point of great im-

> It happened that a stiff breeze was In fact, the inferior quality of much A Gigantic Scheme Inaugurated to Accom blowing, and as the mat was in danger of the cheese that is made is traceable of being blown off, the artist sat on it to hold it down. He was just comlifted bodily and landed upon the tiles of the roof.

What had happened? That was more than he could imagine till he went down-stairs. No one knew he had gone sweeping down the soot was ineffectual but the mat and the painter. Fortunately, the painter was not badly hurt.

BUBLICAL ADVICE.

PRACTICAL FARMING.

SUMMER CARE OF THE FLOCK. Many sheep breeders believe that about all the care sheep need is to be Sheep need some care in summer as well as in winter time. All kinds of insects are up and doing at this sea son of the year. It is quite true that ticks and lice and many of the internal parasites are quite active in the winter with many kinds of insect enemies not found in winter. Among the great pests in summer is the little oestrus ovis fly which attacks the sheep in the months of July and August. They lay eggs in the nostrils of the sheep and when they hatch out and crawl up the nasal cavity to the upper recesses of the region of the head they give great trouble. These will cause death if they are found in too large numbers in the early spring of the following year. Another fly is always watching to make trouble for the sheep owner, and that is the maggot fly. It lays eggs in the filthy parts of the sheep in the region of the tails or in hurts and wounds if not destroyed. In the latter part of the summer has appeared for the

trouble, in the West, and that is the

The prevention of the oestrus ovis fly is to provide shade or a dark barn where the sheep can go during the heated portion of the day; the hotter it the better the fly seems to like it. The maggot fly can be prevented from doapplication of kerosene or turpentine The stomach worm is not nearly so eas-The machine contains twenty-four ily dislodged from its stronghold in the preventive. This consists of wormseed. that plenty of pumpkins are growing in it, and then the lambs are turned and soon the lambs will eat them without being cut. It is the pumpkin seeds that do the work. These are a great vermifuge. Other summer care of the flock consists in the provision of good salt at all times. If the pasture is sufficient they will do well, otherwise it clover hay to help out. Sheep require so much food, and if they do not get it they will try a good fence, and also try the patience of their owner. I have tried the plan of having two pastures and changing the flock about every two weeks, and I like it first rate. If a rain comes and freshens up the pasture the sheep are sometimes changed after a good rain. If plenty of pasture is at hand it would be better to reserve what is considered too much for them to keep down close for a winter pasture. Bluegrass, if pastured until about the first of June, and the sheep removed and not permitted to run in ter food. I have had sheep live all winter in a pasture of this kind except on looking for breakfast. I have also noted that a close watch will have to be kept for any sheep that may get cast. Occasionally a sheep will lie down in a low place or with its back down hill and lie so until it dies.

CHEESE CURING.

ful effort on cheese than butter, chief- ized before being delivered, and there One day, while in his room, he heard ly because the time necessary to put are several establishments, that are such conditions as will permit not only continue to Seeing their want of success, the the control of temperature and mois- sweet for a longer period than the oridea was, of course, to obstruct the portance, and one which has not received adequate attention.

directly to improper curing methods. fortably seated when he found himself of the so called curing room often apof the so called curing room often approximates blood heat are the curse of in the way of a survey ever attempt. Little Johnny Squanch, sobbing year the cheese business as they either force ed. It is proposed to measure the earth. the marketing of the product before it Now, it only needs a glance at one is ripened or cause a great deterioration of the humble imitations of this terrestaloft, and when the landlord saw that in quality. Such products are necessarily sold on the home markets and rial sphere to see that it is no light two parted, each going a separate way. lighting a charge of gunpowder. This properly ripened cheese will not only millions. It means continuous scientific have materially prejudiced consumers task. It involves the expenditure of command a price sufficient to compen- research for a period the length of the same to you, ma'am, I-I believe I'd sate the maker for time and trouble which no one can tell. involved, but will also tend to develop Scientific men are considering the terially increase the consumption of plan with the deepest interest. It is a this article. A control of this tempera- strange fact that the more the problem to her utter dismay, she saw, from the the position of the signal lamps in the valley below, that she had wandered a valley below. The valley below, that she had wandered a valley below, that she had wandered a valley below. The valley below the valley below that she had wandered a valley below. The valley below the valley below that she had wandered a valley below. The valley below that she had wandered a valley below that she had wandered a valley below. The valley below the valley below that the more the problem to this temperature that the more the problem to the control of this temperature. A constant that the more the problem to the complished in cooler climates and is one by savans the more is the belief that the more the problem to the complished in cooler climates and is one by savans the more is the belief that the more the problem to the complex to the compl full quarter of a mile too far to the strained. The latter asked him if there cheese industry. Thus, for example, may seem like a ridiculous statement. right of them. It was a thousand strained. The latter asked him if there cheese industry. Thus, for example, may seem like a ridiculous statement, ally at the top, near Marseilles, the pances to one now that Crofton and were any text in the whole Bible he the limestone caverns of Rochefort in but such authorities as Professor A. Anguish lent wings to her feet, and repeated: And Judas went out and curing rooms for this famous brand of Fowler, on eof the leading members of she flew down the slope like a creature hanged himself. Is there any other cheese, the good qualities of which are the Royal Astronomical Society, is pursued by the Furies. She could see verse you know in the Bible! the ex-largely dependent upon equable condi-tions of temperature and moisture.

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CD | Are you a victim? Have you lost hope? Are you contemplating marriage LAULI! Has your blood been diseased? Have you any weakness? Our New Methed will cure you. What it has done for others it will do for you. Consultation Free. No matter who has treated you, write for an honest opinion Free of Charge Charges reasonable. Books Free.—"The Golden Monitor" (illustrated), on Diseases of Men. Inclose postage, 2 cents. Sealed. Book on "Diseases of Women" Free. BE'NO NAMES USED WITHOUT WRITTEN CONSENT. PRIVATE. No medicine sent C.O.D. No names on boxes or envelopes. Everything confidential. Question list and cost of Tre

more humid region less difficulty of

KILL THE GERMS.

From time immemorial farmers have lost money from the fact that their tion or the heating process is used in other countries, even where milk is simply sold for drinking purposes. In

the three last years and that will teurization become universal."

MEASURING THE EARTH.

plish the Object.

Preparations are under way in Lon-

may. The train to Commerchays was shining in the distance, a faint yellow and the proceedings terminated.

Sents a host of others of equal prominance.

The proceedings terminated.

Sents a host of others of equal prominance.

Nekrassowka, in latitude 45 degrees 20 minutes 2.8 seconds. This termination is marked by a pyramid of cast fron, which rests on a cube seven feet wide, bearing an inscription showing what the monument really is. The northernmost limit of this are is at Hammerlest in Norway. Another monument is milk would not keep sweet. Pasteuriza- there. The column and pedestal are of granite, and at the top, on a bronze base, is a terrestrial globe of copper, bearing the following inscrip-

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"The northern termination of the arc of meridian of 25 degrees 20 minutes from the Arctic Ocean to the River Danube, through Norway, Sweden and Russia, which, according to the orders of His Majesty King Oscar L and the

When the present arc was completed it was celebrated as the conclusion of the greatest undertaking of the sort ever carried to completion. Therefore how much greater is the present plan for it contemplates the measurement of an arc of 105 degrees.

The probabilities are that the carrying out of the latest plan will not take nearly a century and a half. The knowledge which is already ours with accelerate action.

HAD SOME TASTE.

Antique Schoolma'am-What is the Some of the-hoo-hoo-big boys made me kuk-kiss a little gul-girl out on the pup-pup-playground Antique Schoolma'am- That was shameful! The next time they attempt to make you kiss anybody come

rather kiss the little girl. OSCILLATION OF TALL CHIMNEYS.

oscillation of which was observed by the shadow during a high wind to attain

KNOWING WHAT IS WHAT "Say, waiter, is the proprietor in to "No, sir; he's just gone out for lunch."

ONTARIO ARCHIVES **TORONTO**