

DOCTOR JACK

By St. George Rathborne.

(Continued.)

His manner, more than the words he utters, gives them warning, and if this is not sufficient, the storm of hisses from the audience declares that such interference with the just rights of the bull-fighter will not be tolerated.

Doctor Jack has tamed the beast, and his must be the glory of the final sacrifice. They once more climb the fence, and watch the work of the man in the arena jealously.

Never since the days of Montes or Romero has a Spanish audience looked upon a scene the equal of this. Jack is determined to do the thing up in good style now that he has entered the game. He cares little for the applause of the rabble. It was not to please them that he sprang over the stout barrier and faced this terror of a black toro, but he hopes Mercedes is satisfied now. He seems to once more hear the Spanish beauty say with that expressive glance, "I adore a brave man," and a warm glow thrills him as glancing up he sees Mercedes watching his movements with an eagerness she makes no attempt to disguise.

Again comes the now wearied brute. It is nearly time for the thing up in good style now that he has entered the game. He cares little for the applause of the rabble. It was not to please them that he sprang over the stout barrier and faced this terror of a black toro, but he hopes Mercedes is satisfied now. He seems to once more hear the Spanish beauty say with that expressive glance, "I adore a brave man," and a warm glow thrills him as glancing up he sees Mercedes watching his movements with an eagerness she makes no attempt to disguise.

Waiting until the massive head is lowered again, instead of springing aside, as has been his wont, he places one foot upon the broad space between the short horns. The animal has evidently expected to miss his enemy, as usual, and must necessarily be tremendously surprised at this movement.

Before he can take advantage of the sudden opportunity, Jack, with a light spring, has vaulted to his back, where he stands for a few seconds waving the muleta, to the intense mystification of the puzzled bull and the delight of the Spanish audience, who are forgetting that the brave matador is a foreigner, give vent to their approval in a whirlwind of shouts and clapping of hands.

Then Jack drops lightly to the ground and makes ready for the final work. He knows his audience, and how far show goes with these people of impulse, so he rolls up the right sleeve of his shirt for business, showing the wonderful arm that has already ready this day elicited words of admiration from Don Carlos.

All readily guess his motive in doing this. He desires to warn them that the time has come for the serious work, and begs them to keep silent in order that his attention be not distracted at the trying moment. The shouts cease. Again an ominous silence spreads about the amphitheater.

The toro stands near the centre, pawing at the ground with one of his hoofs, as though to prove that the spirit has not yet been entirely broken in him. Evidently he is endeavouring to recoup his broken wind in order to make a last gallant charge.

All is now ready. Muleta in one hand and Toledo blade in the other, Doctor Jack advances toward his adversary. The scarlet flag is waving in the eyes of the bull, and tantalizing him to his death. He is no coward, and the stratagem succeeds perfectly, just as Jack has planned.

As the American steps away a dozen feet, and waving the flag, plants himself for business, the black bull lumbers forward, shorn of much of his former activity, but still determined to carry the war into Africa.

Not once has the red flag deceived



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him, and on this occasion, too, he heads direct for the man. Jack has fully expected such a thing, and hence is not caught napping. Just before that heavy set head reaches him he steps aside. His eye has marked the spot where he means to press the point of the sword, and the forward motion of the bull will do the rest.

An inch or two out of the way may be the cause of a failure, but Jack is no novice in the study of anatomy, and knows just where to find the heart every time. So the point of Pedro Vasquez's sword presses upon the black satin skin, vanishes from view, and a foot as the weapon is buried in the body of brave old toro. The great beast pushes on a yard or so, stops, trembles, staggers—a mighty shout seems to make the very ground quake—the terrible bull is down—blood issues from his mouth—the Toledo blade has snapped off under its weight, but half of it remains buried in his quivering body, and the deadly point has undoubtedly pierced his heart.

When danger menaced him, Doctor Jack was cool. In the midst of the wild plaudits that greet his work, he does not for an instant lose his remarkable presence of mind. Bending down, he secures the broken sword, places it upon the still struggling but dying animal, makes a proud bow in the direction of the governor-general, after which he lays his course for the barriers, leaping the outer one in a manner that pleases the people.

In another minute he has regained his place and resumed his outer garments. Save the fact that he is breathing hard, no one would see anything about him to tell of the encounter which he has just figured in as the leading character.

Don Carlos bends over and squeezes his hand, uttering warm praises, but Doctor Jack hardly knows whether they come from his heart or not. There is a something in Senor Catalina's eyes and face that gives the lie to his words.

Mercedes says nothing, but if looks can convey the language of the soul, then is her silence eloquent indeed. Presently she takes her little lace kerchief and removes a speck of blood from the face of the American. He had gone to what seemed like death because of a woman's whim—herself. No one notices the act, for a new bull has been entered, and the chulos and picadors, goading him—no one—

intuitively Jack's eyes shoot sideways to the seats of honour given the members of the Turkish embassy, and when he catches the black scowl of Adallah Pasha, he knows that this day's work has gained for him the hatred of an unscrupulous prince, who will descend to any depth in order to

He wraps up the hilt of the sword in a newspaper which he takes from his pocket, intending to place it among his trophies, as a souvenir to remind him of this affair.

Shouts arise, for the scene in the arena is the old familiar one of charging bull and fleeing chulos, but the animal is only an ordinary specimen, and soon wearies after hurling one wretch into the crowd, when the dart throws appear, and the ribbons-decked missiles, and decorative toro like the prize cattle at Christmas time in Old England.

At last the second matador comes cut, makes a bungling stroke, and has to repeat the job before he succeeds in finishing the animal, to the disgust of the audience, who, in derision, loudly call for the American, to which appeal Jack, of course, makes no response.

There are other bulls waiting their turn, but the spectacle has become tame to many in the audience, who admire bravery such as the American has shown, and empty seats begin to become frequent.

Jack himself is tired and disgusted with the business. Still, as long as the ladies make no complaint, he does not offer to withdraw, but welcomes with pleasure a suggestion from Don Carlos that they depart.

(To be Continued.)

The Bridegroom Said, "Do."

As during the months of October and November weddings follow each other in quick succession, it might be well for the prospective groom of the coming days to see to it that he does not make the mistake that a nervous groom made not long since.

Although well aware of the fact that the guests all observe the bride and groom, nevertheless he is generally worried and wonders if he will answer all questions correctly. At one of the Kansas City weddings each detail of the ceremony had been carefully and studiously gone over. The happy couple, were positive that not a single mistake could occur to mar the stately ceremony in which they were to be the principals.

The expected guests waited in the parlor decked with costly flowers and vine- festooned for the bride to enter. They came slowly down the stairway, across the reception room, and at last stood before the officiating minister.

Sweetly conscious was the bride of the solemn service, nervous was the groom as he stood with eyes gazing intently at his fair bride's pastor. After the usual kindly words of advice the pastor commenced the service by asking the groom: "You, Edward, declare in the presence of God, that you do not know any reason by precontract or otherwise, why you may not lawfully marry Louise, whom you hold by the right hand?"

With his hand clasping tenderly the hand his bride, he murmured, "I do."

Quickly, but in a very low tone, the pastor prompts him by saying, "I do not."

The dazed groom instinctively responds by repeating the pastor's words, and not until then did he realize that he had not yet reached the most pleasing part of the ceremony in which he was to say "I do," and "do" it properly.

Comparative Value of Foods.

Prof. Atwater's exhaustive studies and experiments in this line have led him to the conclusion that the greatest nutritive value in any kind of food of the same specific cost is to be found in cornmeal. He finds that in ten pounds of the latter there are slightly over eight pounds of actual nutriment; in eight and one-third pounds of wheat flour there are over six and three-fourths pounds of nutriment, in five pounds of white sugar there are four and one-half pounds of nutriment, in five pounds of beans there are four pounds of nutriment in twenty pounds of potatoes there are three and three-fourths pounds of nutriment in 35 cents worth of fat salt pork there are three and one-half pounds of nutriment—in the same value of wheat bread, there are two and one-fourth pounds, in the neck of best a point and three-fourths. In skinned milk cheese the same as the latter, in whole-milk cheese a trifle more than one and one-half pounds, in butter one and one-half pounds, in smoked ham, which leg of mutton about the same, in eggs at 35 cents a dozen about seven ounces, and in oysters at 35 cents a quart about three ounces.

There is no better way to keep the feet warm in winter than a sheet of newspaper wrapped around the foot before placing it in the shoe.

How to Cure a Corn.

It is not one of the easiest things in the world to cure a corn. Do not use such or other drastic preparations and don't cut a hole in your boot. It is simply to apply Putnam's Painless Corn and Wart Extractor. In three days the corn can be removed without pain. Sure, safe, painless. Take only Putnam's Corn Extractor.

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Feb. 27.—J.W.K.

Heart relief in half an hour.—A lady in New York State, writing of her cure by Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart, says: "I feel like one brought back from the dead, so great was my suffering from heart trouble and so almost miraculous my recovery through the agency of this powerful treatment. I owe my life to it."—19

Salves and Ointments.

There is a wide difference between salves and ointments, especially Milburn's Burdock Salve and Milburn's Burdock Ointment.

A salve draws and heals while an ointment soothes and heals. Below will be found, in two columns, the different classes of diseases or complaints for which they are recommended, so that the casual observer may see at a glance which kind to purchase in case he should require either:

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J. S. SCOTT,

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Precious Ink Bottles.

Four ink bottles, from which some of the greatest literary works of the century issued, are to be on view, says our Paris correspondent, at an approaching exhibition of relics. They were used severally by Victor Hugo, Lamartine, the elderly Dumas and George Sand. Mme. Victor Hugo collected them to sell at a charity bazaar in Guernsey. To this end she had them set in a frame of oak that could be used as a table. With each is a letter attesting its authenticity. Victor Hugo said: "I did not buy or choose this ink bottle, but fell on it by chance and used it for months. It was asked of me for a work of charity, and here it is.—Hauteville House, June, 1890." Lamartine wrote: "Presented by Lamartine to a master of the pen." Dumas the elder thus certified: "I certify that this is the ink bottle I used in writing my last fifteen works.—A. Dumas, 10 April, 1880." George Sand, in a letter of three pages, begs Mme. Hugo to excuse the ugliness of her box ink bottle, which she shut with a spring. She used it in all her tours and wanderings, and could only part with it for the sake of Mme. Hugo's charity.—London News.

Chloroform's Effect on the Mind. "I dare say many of us," said Sir James Chrichton Browne in his late lecture on dreamy mental states, "recollect the story of the professor who, having experienced a magnificent thought in the early stage of chloroform inhalation, resolved that he would by one bold salty lay hold of it and so read the riddle of the world. Having composed himself in his easy chair in his study, with writing materials at hand, he inhaled the German soldiers with a decoration and 1,000 francs and caused them to be shown the city and its surroundings. The two war dogs were a present to the Sultan from the German Emperor."

Germany's War Dogs. The Gardejaeger Pachmann and Herch, who took two German war dogs to Constantinople the Saturday before Whit Sunday, have returned to Potsdam. The two dogs, when they arrived at Constantinople, had several days' rest before they were shown to the Sultan. His Majesty and his officers were so much surprised at the clever and useful performances of the dogs that the German Emperor was begged to give some Turkish soldiers instruction in the training of such dogs. This was done for several days, after which the Sultan gave the German soldiers each a decoration and 1,000 francs and caused them to be shown the city and its surroundings. The two war dogs were a present to the Sultan from the German Emperor.

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