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WE SELL PROGRESS BRAND
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The Viper of Milan.

A ROMANCE OF LOMBARDY.
BY MARJORIE BOWEN.

(Continued.)
CHAPTER TWENTY

In The Duke's Absence.
"My chance has come," said Valentine. A day had passed since Visconti had ridden so wildly to the western gate, and as yet he had not returned.

The soldiers, weary and wounded, had reeled that night into the palace courtyard, de Lana at their head, expecting to find Visconti there before them. They had missed him in the wild fray—the Germans had been driven back from the walls without their prisoners—had not the Duke returned?

Neither then nor as yet, near a day after the sortie. Doubtless he, victorious as ever, was reconnoitering some stronghold of the enemy, or their encampments outside Milan.

Still, in the palace some were getting anxious; there was no word, no message. Who, in the Duke's absence, ruled Milan? The question suggested itself among others to Valentine Visconti.

She put it to herself.
"I rule Milan, and I will give myself freedom by it, whether Gian be alive or dead, returning now or never."

It was late afternoon, and Valentine had formed her plan; with courage and skill she made no doubt of success. To enter her brother's private room was her first step.

All day Valentine had plotted some means of accomplishment this. The rooms were locked, and Gian wore the key around his neck.

The Visconti palace was part old, part new; the great circular tower in which Sofia was confined, the low heavy stone buildings that surrounded it, were the only remaining portions of the ancient Gothic castle.

The new building bright in yellow and pink tiles, was supported on low, horse-shoe arches, and gave straightly on the courtyard in front and the gardens at the rear—the whole encircled by a great wall.

Detached from the palace, standing alone in the grounds, was a high, square brick tower, the highest building in Milan, and from the summit there floated night and day the banner of the Viper.

Along the second story of the palace ran the open arcade or corridor, a wide and pleasant walk, paved with black and white stone, looking on the garden through the clustered columns that supported it, richly ornate with carvings.

A private entrance to Visconti's rooms opened onto this corridor.

The banquet hall gave upon it also, and to Valentine Visconti, standing between the arches looking from the fair garden back to the closed doors, a thought occurred.

In her wild intention to escape, she had only one ally, Adrian, poor, feeble and powerless at best, but devoted to her with an utter devotion that might be worth much.

Valentine had confided in him, since she must have help, if only the help of speech; and now, of a sudden, his use appeared.

She had withdrawn from the observation of her women and the court, in women and the court, in pretense of grieving for her brother's safety, and no one was with other.

"Adrian!" she called softly, "Adrian!" She had privately bidden him follow her, and well she knew he was not far away. The boy came forward eagerly.

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HEART and NERVE
PILLS

For Weak People Having Heart or Nerve Troubles.

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Palpitation of the Heart, Irregular or Skipped Beats, Dizzy Spells, Smothering Feeling, Shortness of Breath, Bluish Color of the Lips, Pain in the Region of the Heart, Thin Watery Blood, Cold Hands and Feet, Nervousness, Sleeplessness, etc.,

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will bring the whole system into healthy action, and give power, force and vigor to every organ of the body thereby strengthening the weak heart and unstrung nerves.

Mrs. Harrison Dayball, Welland, Ont., writes: "I write to let you know what good Milburn's Heart and Nerve Pills have done for me."

For over three years I suffered with pains under my left breast and my nerves were completely unstrung. I purchased two boxes of your pills and before I had the first box finished I felt much better and now I am cured."

Price 50 cents per box or three boxes for \$1.25 at all dealers or will be mailed direct on receipt of price by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

Daily Fashion Hint for Times Readers.



LEATHER FOR THE UTILITY COSTUME.

Leather has long since proved its value in auto garments intended for good, hard service, and every variety of auto garment that is made today is produced in leather in the lighter weights for spring and summer, and in the heavier for winter, these latter, of course, being given additional weight by the soft flannel interlining. The coat and skirt of leather is preferred by many autoists to the long, loose coat, and a splendid model of this type is shown in this instance. The skirt is plain and of walking length, but the coat shows a bit of dressiness in the novel cuffs and sleeves, with their pipings of tan leather, half a dozen shades lighter than the brown of the suit. The coat is rather tight fitting, and made with a skirt which reaches almost to the knees. Worn with this is a quaint poke bonnet, covering the coiffure so effectively in the back that if one chooses to dispense with the auto veil they may readily do so.

OBITUARY

Rev. John A. Clark

Rev. John A. Clark died in his home, 107 Wright street, about 10:30 o'clock last night, aged seventy years. The deceased was a brother of Chief of Police W. Walker Clark, had been in the Methodist ministry nearly half a century. For the last ten years of his life he had not been in very good health, and he had been on the supernumerary list for some time. Until quite lately, however, he was able to be around and often assisted in the churches.

During his long life Mr. Clark was noted for his zeal for the cause of righteousness. He was a careful and painstaking pastor and teacher. Possessed of scholarly attainments, his ministrations were acceptable to a degree and widely appreciated.

He was a son of the late John Clark, at one time a prominent mill owner in Carleton Place. Mr. Clark was educated at Sackville, and afterwards at Lima Livingstone College, New York, from which institution he was graduated and was valedictorian of his class. On returning to this province he entered the active work of the ministry, among other places being stationed in St. John, St. Stephen, Halifax, Fredericton and on the North Shore of New Brunswick.

During the present winter Rev. Mr. Clark was seized with an attack of la grippe. Last Thursday complications set in and he sank till the end came last night. He is survived by his wife, two daughters, Gertrude and Jean, both at home; and one son, Percy, who is in the department of railways and Canals, Ottawa. On account of his father's illness he obtained leave to come home, and because of his father's request to have him near he had the leave extended and was here when his father died. Three brothers also survive—Chief Clark, and Robert and James, both of this city. To all there will be tendered much sympathy in their bereavement.

Mrs. J. W. Woods

Summer Hill, Queens Co., April 11—Mrs. J. W. Woods passed peacefully away last Friday evening at her home at Coote Hill after a short illness. She was aged thirty-six years and was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kerr, of Summer Hill, and leaves her husband and four small children, the youngest a girl of six months, to mourn the loss of a loving wife and mother. Her aged parents and five brothers—John, of Lanesville (Mass.); Andrew, of West Newton; James, Willie and Addie, at home—and one sister—Mrs. J. W. Russell—also survive.

John Seaman

Moncton, N. B., April 14—John Seaman, I. C. R. section foreman, passed away at his home, Humphreys Mills, about 10 o'clock last evening after three months' illness. Deceased had been section foreman on the I. C. R. for thirty years. He was fifty-six years old and is survived by his wife, three sons and six daughters.

Seymour Seaman, merchant at Humphreys, is the oldest son; Mrs. Clark, wife of Geo. Clark, I. C. R. operator at Bue-touche railway crossing tower, is a daughter. Deceased was a brother of George Seaman, I. C. R. trackmaster; Jacob Seaman, I. C. R. section foreman; Mrs. Chas. Brown, Sussex; Mrs. Howard Brown, Painswick.

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Exposed to Bad Weather

When away from home and your doctor, always provide yourself with a bottle of Nervine to break up a cold, to relieve neuralgia, muscular soreness. Nothing compares with Nervine for instant relief and sure, lasting cure. Bruises, cramps, rheumatism—call the pain any name you please—it has an antidote in Nervine which is an assured protection against all sickness. Good to rub in—excellent for internal use, the best all-round household remedy on earth—that's "Nervine." Sold everywhere in 25c. bottles, and used by nine out of every ten families in Canada.

Mrs. J. W. Seymour presided at the temperance meeting in the Seaman's Institute Saturday night. Rev. Gordon Dickie addressed the men and at the close ten signed the pledge. The service last night was well attended. R. M. Smith led the singing. S. L. Gorbett addressed the men and J. Bennett sang a solo.

but an open door night. The space she entered seemed so dark after the bright glare outside that at first she could gather nothing.

But soon the light sufficed to show Valentine that this was not the room she wanted.

It was gorgeously decorated, frescoes covered the walls, the ceiling was richly gilt and painted, the floor glass mosaic, the furniture florid and ornate.

Valentine glanced around hurriedly: at one end was a door, and trying it, found it open easily, leading into another splendid apartment—still not containing what she sought.

Hastening on through a door, not only unlocked, but standing ajar, she found herself in a small, sombre room, hung with purple and gold; its principal furniture the secretary's table, Visconti's chair, and the imposing black carved bureau.

This was the room she wanted; and on the bureau, flung down in haste, a bunch of keys.

Valentine seized them with trembling hands; they were the keys of the drawers and one by one she flung them open, so possessed with excitement she could hardly stand. Gian was not in the palace, yet she seemed to feel his eyes upon her; to hear his step; catch his low whisper of her name; feel his touch upon her shoulder.

In one drawer were the parchment passports, some of them, for convenience, already signed with Visconti's name. Hastily Valentine thrust three into the bosom of her dress. But where were the palace keys?

She turned over the drawers in reckless haste; she found Visconti's seal and one of his signet rings, and slipped them both into her gown—still she could not find the keys. The Duke's pass-keys that unlocked every door.

(To be continued.)

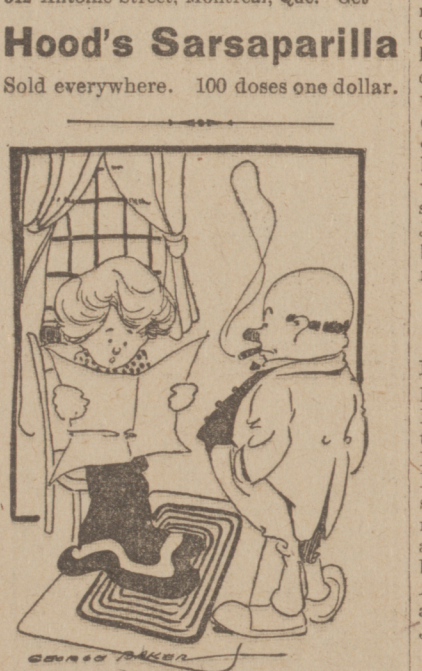
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They are all radically and permanently cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla. This great medicine thoroughly cleanses the blood and restores healthy functional activity to the whole system. It makes people well.

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Sold everywhere. 100 doses one dollar.



HE WANTED TO KNOW.

Mrs. Nokoyne—The papers are full of suggestions what to buy for Easter gifts. Mr. Nokoyne—Are there any suggestions how to get the money to pay for them?

For Catarrh, let me send you free, just to prove merit, a Trial size Box of Dr. Rhoo's Catarrh Remedy. It is a snow white, creamy, healing antiseptic balm that gives instant relief to Catarrh of the nose and throat. Make the free test and see. Address Dr. Rhoo, Racine, Wis. Large jars 50 cents. Sold by Druggists.

THE VOTERS LISTS

The chamberlain's department on Saturday completed the revision of the voters' lists. Out of a total of 10,700, the names of 2,292 citizens have been struck out as not eligible to vote at tomorrow's election, on account of non-payment of taxes. The following statement gives the particulars by wards:

Gays	On List	Struck	Qualifed
Brooks	626	199	426
Sydney	405	63	341
Dukes	699	225	473
Queens	745	119	626
King	1,068	92	976
Wellington	1,074	136	938
Prince	1,017	192	825
Victoria	1,220	287	933
Lansdowne	795	126	669
Dufferin	964	281	683
Lorne	1,063	351	712
Stanley	683	220	463
	247	79	168
	10,700	2,292	8,408

Last year the number qualified to vote before the revision was 10,619. The names of 2,243 were struck out, leaving 8,366 eligible, as against 8,408 at the coming election.

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