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The Viper of Milan.

A ROMANCE OF LOMBARDY.
BY MARJORIE BOWEN.

(Continued.)

They carried the body to the edge of the steps and pushed it over, crashing it down the foliage that half over- spread the marble.

Visconti stepped to the parapet and looked over.

"He said something as he fell," he whispered to himself. "I heard him—but he must be dead now—"

He turned back into the room, breathing more freely.

"Now close the door again," he said, and watched while it was done.

CHAPTER THIRTY-FOUR.

An Instrument of God.

"How many, de Lana—how many?"

"Five—six or seven—"

"Hundreds!"

"Thousands, my lord!"

Visconti leaned forward in his chair in his excitement.

"Thousands?"

"The men from Magenta are come in, laden with plunder."

Visconti laughed.

"I said I would give them Lombardy to sack—and there are thousands of prisoners."

The scene was the summer palace, that same night. Visconti sat at the head of a table in a room adjoining the one in which the tapestry was torn and the floor still sticky with blood. It was a small apartment, beautifully inlaid with mosaic, now blazing with lights, and full of a fine company of officers and nobles.

"Thousands—men women and children—some men of note, too, my lord; the ransacking of palaces for miles—"

"And Novara?"

"Some heat the flames out still—they say half the place is saved."

"Let them plunder it!" cried Visconti. "Let them pick Novara bare! The palace was burned?"

"To a cinder—"

"To a heap of ashes!" said another. "There is nothing but the bastion, red hot—"

"As you should know da Ribera," laughed the officer next him, "seeing you tried to ride over it."

"And killed his horse," said another. "And saved himself!" shouted da Ribera. "I look for a reward for that, my lord—the saving of a valiant officer of yours—"

"Shall not be forgotten!" laughed Visconti. "Be paid by this advice—remember burning towns are dangerous, as to his mortal coat a certain great Frenchman found at Rouen, and several great Germans more recently at Milan—"

"When they lay along the ramparts like flies, I have heard my grandfather say, striving to loof in the midst of the very flames," said de Lana, "like da Ribera here."

"Had I been in Milan, Barbarossa himself would have burned in the midst of it," said Visconti, sweeping back the glass and silver before him. "The town had weeks to prepare."

"Had you been there, Milan would not have burned at all my lord!" said a flattering voice.

"Maybe it would not. It was certainly before the Visconti's rule began," and he looked down the table with a smile at the dark face of Martin della Torre.

"And now the plans, de Lana—Novara to Magenta, Magenta to Verelli."

He swept the glasses still further back, and spread the parchment of de Lana handed him on the colored marble table.

"Verelli—my hold Verelli, de Lana?"

The officers moved up closer, leaning over the table.

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Daily Fashion Hint for Times Readers.



AN EVENING USE OF THE FASHIONABLE SCARF.

Among the novelties of the season, which are but revivals of modes of a past century, is the shoulder scarf, exceedingly ornamental to the summer's wardrobe, but not without its element of practicality, for the summer girl will not only drape her scarf coquettishly over her shoulders, but she will use it as a head drapery when the occasional cool of a summer's eve demands some slight protection for throat and head. The material of these scarfs may be silk, chiffon or mousseline, though crepe is much to be preferred. It is light in weight, yet possesses

enough body to keep it from becoming a mere string, as it were. Some plain scarfs are seen, but the majority show some sort of elaboration, such as a border design, in delicate floral printings inside of a hemstitched hem. Exquisite are those of fine crepe, overlaid with a large satin bar in self or delicate pastel tint. Still another scarf is that of white or cream crepe with deep Persian printings on the ends. There are also some beautiful embroidered effects, the embroidery wrought in self or contrasting colors, and silver and gold embroideries are not unusual.

gold and silver vessels before them, showing in a garish contrast with the soft light.

"Seneca," said Visconti, turning over the volume the soldier had brought. "Where is that knave Giannotto? Seneca, spoiled by interlining, but still Seneca. Giannotto—I say!"

The secretary was not in the room, but the page dispatched soon brought him. He stood in the doorway, blinking at the daylight, looking around confused, and the company broke into laughter.

"Take this," cried Visconti. "A Seneca on vellum, with some doll's comments; take it, Giannotto."

"There is a library being brought in below," said the secretary.

"Because we spared the church of Santa Claire, who must have been the patron saint of poets—eh, de Lana?"

"Messer Francesco Petrarca found her so," said a noble laughing. "A lucky day for him, when he stepped inside the door of Santa Claire!"

"He has had cause to thank her, doubtless—"

"If Messer Hugues had not, smiled Visconti.

(To be continued.)

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Truly wonderful is the tonic effect of Dr. Hamilton's Pills which are considered the best system purifier extant.

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HE IS AT THE DOOR

The Rev. J. Campbell Morgan's subject on a recent Sunday in London was taken from the passage beginning, "It is not for you to know the times or the seasons." The breadth and variety of the exposition, the changing moods of the preacher, his complete absorption in his theme, and the concentration of the hearers on his message, must have filled every chance listener with admiration. Towards the close he said, "I received this morning a letter from San Francisco, telling me that the Lord is to come in seven years, and that I must be ready for Him. I don't care for letters like that. I don't want to feel that my Lord's coming is seven years off. I want to feel that He is at the door. He may come and disturb my preaching. Whether He disturbs me at work or at play, I wish to say gladly, 'Even so come, Lord Jesus.'"

Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Blackadar, of Halifax, were at the Royal Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Harding returned Saturday after their honeymoon trip.

Why does Pabst spend eight days preparing the food values of the barley which make Pabst Blue Ribbon Beer nourishing.

It is understood that James S. Ford, organist of Trinity church, has just been offered an excellent position as organist and choirmaster in one of the most important churches in the Northwest of the dominion.

Shrubly after Longboat.

New York, May 12—Alfred Shrubly, the English distance runner, who, it is said, holds several records, was a passenger on the steamer Cedric, which arrived today from Liverpool. He comes here to make a match, if possible, with the Indian runner, Longboat.

A Rise in Corn

Always follows the use of Putnam's Corn Extractor which cures all kinds of Corns in 24 hours, without pain. Putnam's gives the best results. Use it.

Mr. and Mrs. H. A. McKeown and Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Barnhill, of St. John; J. B. Kenny, Gilbert Stairs and Miss Ethel Stairs, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Archibald and Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Harris, of Halifax; Ivan McKinnon, R. E. Palmer, Mrs. M. A. Palmer and Miss E. M. Palmer, of Charlottetown; Mr. Lodge, of Moncton; Mrs. G. H. Duggan, H. S. Duggan and K. L. Duggan, of Sydney, and Rev. Francis Singleton, of Montreal, were registered at the high commissioner's office, London, during the week ended April 30.



One Exception

At the post office in an Alabama town they pointed out the colored janitor as a man who had had fifty-six wives. As he did not seem to be over sixty years old I refused to credit the story. Along in the afternoon I found him idling at the door and said to him:

"Sam, I don't want to be impertinent, but I'd like to ask you about a story I heard this morning."

"Yes, sah—yes, sah—go right ahead and ask all about it," he replied.

"I was told that you had been married fifty-six times."

"Yes, sah, fifty-six."

"How old were you when you were first married?"

"Just twenty, sah."

"And what's your age now?"

"Sixty-two, sah."

"Then, in the space of forty-two years you have been married fifty-six times. Why, Sam, that is almost a wife and a half a year. There must be some mistake about it."

The old man scratched his woolly head and looked around in a perplexed way for a moment, and then sinking his voice to a confidential tone, he said:

"Stranger, I reckon I order say fifty-five instead of fifty-six, fur dar was one woman who simply lingered around de



I was told that you had been married fifty-six times.

cabin fur three days and den hung herself to a plum tree. Reckon she don't count."

JOE KERR.

All Run Down

In the spring—that is the condition of thousands whose systems have not thrown off the impurities accumulated during the winter—blood humors that are now causing pimples, boils and other eruptions, loss of appetite, bilious turns, indigestion, and other stomach troubles, dull headaches and weak, tired, languid feelings.

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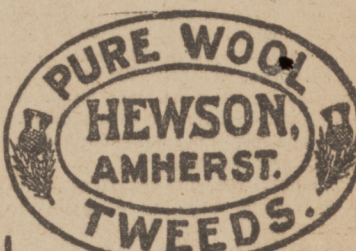
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There was an exceptionally fine programme of music at the sacred concert in the Every Day Club hall last evening. The numbers were as follows: Quartette, Mrs. C. E. Vail, the Misses Worden and Miss Edwards; solo, Miss Irvine; duet, Mrs. Tufts and E. W. Appleby; the quartette, in second number; solos, Mrs. Tufts, Mr. Appleby, Miss Edwards, Miss Colwell and Fred. A. Dixon. The accompaniments for Mrs. Tufts and Mr. Appleby were played by Miss Cochran, for Miss Irvine by Mrs. R. H. Cother, for Miss Edwards by Miss Worden, and for Miss Colwell by Mrs. Colwell. Mr. Sandford played the organ while the audience was assembling. The hall was crowded beyond its seating capacity.

Thos. McMullen was arrested early Saturday evening on a warrant charging assault. His mother was the complainant and after arrest Judge Ritchie held a special session of court at 8.15 o'clock on request of McMullen's parents. He was let go on promising not to drink liquor for a year.



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