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The Viper of Milan.

A ROMANCE OF LOMBARDY.

BY MARJORIE BOWEN.

(Continued.)

"Gladly will I," replied Conrad, as they descended the narrow stairs. "And always shall I keep him for thy sake."

"Aye, do," said Vincenzo wistfully again, "otherwise thou wouldst forget of a surety, forget."

"Not I—I shall always remember."

Homes were brought to the courtyard, and Vincenzo called his little page and put him on one.

The sight of him brought memories to both of a certain game of chess—how fatal it had been: how long ago it seemed!

"I tried to make atonement," he murmured.

"My atonement I think, is to come," said Vincenzo. "But Mastino will never hear of it—Mastino is dead."

Conrad winced. He knew Mastino was not dead, but he would soon have stabbed Vincenzo d'Este as told him.

"Fare thee well," he said, holding out his hand.

"Fare thee well."

Vincenzo took his hand, smiled up at him gravely, and re-entered the castle, mounting to the room he had left.

Visconti was on the march.

Vincenzo caught his breath sharply and went to the window to see the last of Conrad.

Again he wished he was riding away into the sunshine, away from the dark walls that seemed closing round him forever.

"Farewell!" called back Conrad, gayly waving his mailed hand, and Vittore, excited at the sudden journey, drew off his cap and waved it gayly too.

"I go to my own land," cried the Count. Vincenzo's lip trembled, but his words sounded as cheerily as Conrad's.

"And we stay here in our's," he called back.

And in after days, in peaceful days in Germany, when that brilliant, blood-stained Lombard summer seemed far away and strange as a wild dream, Conrad remembered; a memory he shared only with the dead.

The spurs jingled, with a trampling of hoofs the horses turned, the strong sun caught Conrad's plumes and Vittore's bright hair, he looked back with a laugh, and at a swift turn they passed through the gate.

Down the long paved street they clattered, till that sound too was gone.

Count Conrad had ridden away. Vincenzo stood silent in the great patch of sunlight that lay along the floor till Conrad's bridle bells were quite lost in the distance; then he turned, with something like a sigh.

He was not alone long—Ippolito re-entered with a calm face, and yet one his son was startled by.

"Count Conrad's news has been confirmed," he said; "a messenger has returned." He paused a moment. "All the country is in Visconti's hands."

"The saints save us!" cried Vincenzo. "Aye, the saints, for there is no hope in man!"

"We must get arms—and succor into the city—"

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Keep it Pure and Clean if You Desire Good Health

The inside of your body requires attention just the same as the outside.

A great accumulation of effete matter is clinging to the various organs, and must be moved off.

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Physicians who have examined the formula of Dr. Hamilton's Mandrake and Butternut Pills say no medicine could be better.

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Daily Fashion Hint for Times Readers.



A PRETTY ACCESSORY FOR THE PLAIN BLOUSE.

The woman who possesses a lace berthe is, indeed, fortunate, for with such an accessory a number of charming effects in dress are made possible. Plain blouses of fine and dainty wash fabrics intended for morning use need but the addition of one of these berthes to make them most appropriate for afternoon wear. There are various ways of adjusting the berthe and one should study these carefully to see which is the most becoming. The he loved his father dearly, for the first time he realized how Mastino loved his wife—he understood. Was all knowledge coming to him so late, things to be made clear only to be darkened forever?

Ab, well, it wasn't all over now; there were only a few moments to what? He shuddered a little to what? He wished his father would return, passionately he wished it; he did not want to think for the first time and the last. He stood there with tight-clasped hands, his eyes on the door, holding desperately onto his control.

And at last Ippolito entered, quietly, closing it behind him. He held a misal in his hand, and a parchment. As he laid them on the table, Vincenzo noticed the last was sealed with the seal of Vincenzo della Scala.

"Mastino?" he whispered.

"Mastino is dead," said d'Este, in a calm voice, and he crumpled the parchment in his hand.

On it was written: "I have betrayed you for Isotta's life," and it was signed with the proudest name in Lombardy—"Mastino Orazio della Scala."

"That shall not destroy the glory of Vincenzo's death," thought d'Este sternly, and he flung it from him, into the room beyond, among the powder—something only fit to be consumed.

The castle within was built largely of wood, and Vincenzo, looking into the darkness with a painful eagerness, watched the powder laid carefully about the walls, extending in a long train to tanks of oil, while fire boughs, dry and leafless, lay scattered thickly. D'Este had not been taken unprepared. Vincenzo's flesh stirred, and shrank; he remembered snatching a bat once from the camp fire, and how the pain in his hurt hand had tortured him.

"Tis a fearful death!" he murmured.

Ippolito turned a drawn face toward him.

"What didst thou say, my son?"

(To be continued.)

SPRING ADVICE

Do Not Dose With Purgatives and Weakening Medicines --- What People Need at This Season is a Tonic.

Not exactly sick—but not feeling quite well. That's the spring feeling. You are easily tired, appetite variable, sometimes headaches and a feeling of depression. Or perhaps pimples and eruptions appear on the face, or you have twinges of rheumatism or neuralgia. Any of these indicate that the blood is out of order, that the indoor life of winter has left its mark upon you and may easily develop into more serious trouble. Don't dose yourself with purgative medicines in the hope that you can put your blood right.

Purgatives gallop through the system, and weaken instead of giving strength. What you need is a tonic medicine that will make new, rich, red blood, build up the weakened nerves and thus give you new health and strength. And the one medicine to do this speedily and surely is Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. Every dose of this medicine makes new, rich blood which makes weak, easily tired and ailing men and women feel bright, active and strong. If you need a medicine this spring try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills and you will never regret it. This medicine has cured thousands in every part of the world and what has done for others it can easily do for you.

The headquarters for the genuine Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People in Canada is Brockville, Ont. So-called pink pills offered by companies located at other places in Canada are fraudulent imitations intended to deceive. If your dealer does not keep the genuine Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People send to Brockville, Ont., and the The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co. will mail the pills to you at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50.

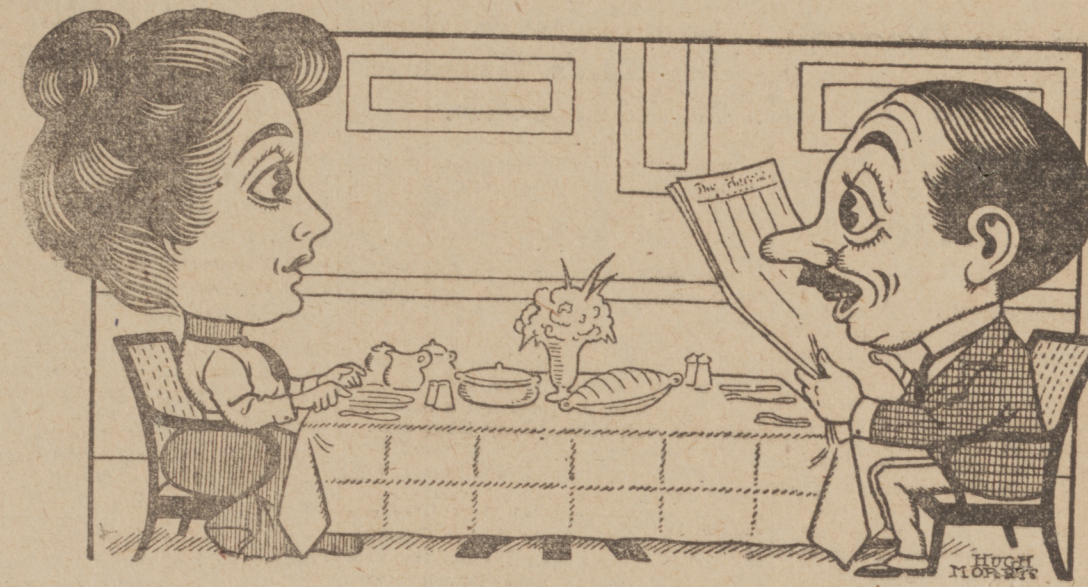
A very enjoyable time was spent last evening in the Orange Hall, Simonds street, when Dominion Lodge, No. 141, L. O. L., gave a reception to the county officers and to lodges Cullion and Dominion of the L. O. B. A. The regular business of the lodge was transacted, followed by an excellent supper. Speeches were then given by J. King Kelly, Alexander Thompson, H. Sellen and others. Songs were sung by Mr. Laskey. Miss Kilpatrick and a delightful social evening was enjoyed.

The Misses Reynolds will leave on Thursday for Buffalo, to spend the summer with their sister, Mrs. P. C. Millard.



COMES IN HANDY

Lion (to Monkey using his tail as a duster)—What are you trying to do? Monk—I just wanted to dust the bric-a-brac.



AT THE PRICE

Wife—By the way, George, there are strawberries in the market. Hubby—Are there? That's the best place for them.

Wife—By the way, George, there are strawberries in the market. Hubby—Are there? That's the best place for them.

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