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The Viper of Milan.

A ROMANCE OF LOMBARDY.

BY MARJORIE BOWEN.

(Continued.)

"How indeed?" said Visconti, with a curious smile. "And yet there are enough ways of dying abroad. I will see for myself—so that if it indeed be Isotta d'Este she may have fitting honor."

"The group moved forward. The advance of the army was already marching past the walls of the garden, past the gate through which Mastino had ridden, the pennons from their lances showed above the yellow jasmine that covered the stone-work, and the drums beat loud as Visconti and his company reached the laurel clump and stood looking down at the silent figure in the crushed and bedragged white and purple."

"Isotta d'Este!" said Visconti, under his breath, and yet with an unmoved face, that showed no surprise.

"Dead!" said de Lana, after a pause, and looked at him.

Visconti laughed softly, and turned with shining eyes.

"Did I not tell you Della Scala was mad—did we not see it for ourselves last night?" he said.

"So it is the Duchess?" whispered de Ribera. "She was very beautiful, they say."

She lay where they had drawn her from the shelter underneath the laurels, her dress clinging close, her head turned away. Mastino had wrapped her round carefully, with a clumsy tenderness; wrapped her veil about her face, and laid his own cloak over her to shield her from the night and rain. And his last whisper was for her—an appeal to some one's humanity to see that Visconti should not look upon his victim's face, should not defile her with his touch.

It rushed on Giannotto with the certainty of conviction—he had caught only the ghostly whisper, but he was sure in this moment of the sense of it; and the music, the colors and sunshine, and splendor and pomp of triumph, and Giannotto's cold, mocking face began to dance before Giannotto's vision like figures and fancies of a dream. He heard Visconti speak to Arezzo, saw Arezzo stoop and lift the mantle, and he moved back a step and put his hand to his breast.

"Isotta d'Este!" said Visconti, turning to the others, and pointing down to the dead uncovered face. "Now what was she to lose everything for?"

"His wife," said de Lana, and turned his head away.

"Yes, my friend—do not forget it: Della Scala's wife!" said Visconti, touching him on the shoulder warningly.

The group turned to go, and the secretary saw it with a feeling of relief, when by some sudden impulse Visconti stepped back, and stood looking down once at the poor white face.

His own shadow neither fear, nor remorse, nor wonder, only triumph, and the secretary felt the blood rise slowly from his heart toward his brain, and drew the stiletto half from his breast.

"Donna mia," said Visconti, speaking to her with a smile, "you must not part so coldly, you and I—I will give you a fair tomb in Verona—in red Verona, donna mia."

He dropped on one knee beside her, holding the laurels back and the lilies that hung about her head.

"This is an earnest," he said, and bent over her and kissed her—kissed the cold cheek of Mastino's wife.

The group watching stirred among themselves; no smiling faces now; each eye averted, but still no one spoke.

And Visconti stooped and kissed her again, where the dark hair lay about her forehead.

Then something gave in Giannotto's brain: a voice seemed to thunder in his

ears—"Judgment!" His hand flew from his breast and up and down upon the kneeling figure, while he cried out terribly with a white, inspired face, and Visconti fell forward, stabbed through the back.

"Treachery," cried de Ribera, scarcely seeing who had done it. "The Duke is stabbed!"

Visconti clutched at the flowers and fell without a word.

"Killed!" screamed de Lana. "Now God is just!"

Guido d'Arezzo bent over him with a white face, but della Torre stamped in a passion of excitement and dragged at his shoulder.

"Killed!—come away—there are ourselves to think of—come away!"

Arezzo sprang to his feet.

"To Milan!" cried della Torre. "He leaves no heirs!"

Visconti was still breathing; he struggled, and Giannotto pushed to his side and stood above him, bursting into wild words.

"I did it—Visconti!—I did it—do you hear—do you hear! I knew, and I did it!"

"Keep away!" yelled della Torre, and pulled him back.

"Back—all of you!" said de Lana, and he raised Visconti. "He is not dead—"

"He is past life. To Milan!"

"The garden was one wild, yelling confusion; the news was spreading like fire; fight thought and acted for himself; and Giannotto, instrument of vengeance, whistled on his knees.

The rush to the gate came by so close, the flying feet almost touched Visconti's face; and as della Torre passed, he struck his glove across him.

De Lana lifted Visconti from the grass but with a last effort he struggled from him and dropped back.

"Milan!" he sobbed.

De Lana bent down eagerly to catch a muttered prayer, but there was nothing more.

"Milan!"

The voices and shouts rose to a deafening pitch of confusion, the very air seemed fevered with excitement; a flock of startled doves flew past in panic, a rainbow of color flew so low and so close to the whirr of their wings, and in that moment was a terrible cry.

They passed, beating the lilies down. "My lord!" cried de Lana. "My lord!"

But even as he spoke, he knew Giannotto was dead.

THE END.

Confirmation Services

There was a large congregation in the Mission church of St. John Baptist, Paradise row, last evening, when Bishop Richardson confirmed twenty-two candidates, eleven male and eleven female. In an address before the ceremony, the bishop explained the nature of the confirmation vows, and in an address after the ceremony spoke of the necessity for observing the vows.

Many of those present took advantage of the opportunity to say farewell to Rev. P. Owen-Jones, who will leave in a few days.

Bishop Richardson will hold a confirmation service in St. Mary's church this day. A large number are to receive the rite.

TO BURN THE MORTGAGE

The chief feature of the celebration of the sixty-sixth anniversary of the Ludlow street Baptist church to be held tonight will be the burning of the mortgage. All the Baptist ministers of the city will be present and take some part in the proceedings. The full programme will be: Hymn No. 26; scriptural reading, Rev. Mr. McMaster; prayer, Rev. Mr. Hutchinson; hymn No. 7, Rev. Mr. Camp; address, Our Baptist Progress for the Last 100 Years, Rev. Dr. McIntyre; solo, The Holy City, G. S. Mayes; a report, the pastor; messages from the members of the Baptist Ministerial Association of St. John, Rev. Messrs. Camp, Manning, Hughes, McMaster, Hutchinson, King, Cohoe, Bishop, Nobles, Fletcher, Swin, Black; hymn No. 38; burning of the mortgage, G. S. Mayes, assisted by Phoebe Beatey and Pastor Jenkins; prayer, Rev. Mr. Hughes; a silver thank offering; hymn No. 64; benediction, Rev. Dr. McIntyre.

It is expected that the work of tearing down No. 1 Salvation Army barracks in Charlotte street, to make way for the new and fine brick structure for the Army's work, will be begun next Tuesday. The contract for the building work is not yet awarded.

A meeting of the St. John City Rifle Club will be held Friday evening in the temperance hall, Market building, at 8 o'clock, to arrange for the season's programme. The sterling silver plate won by the league team for 1906 will be presented to N. J. Morrison. All members of the club are requested to attend.

Daily Fashion Hint for Times Readers.



HATS AND DRESS OF FINEST EMBROIDERY.

The prettiest summer costume of the small maid will be the lingerie hat and dress of fine eyelet or blind embroidery.

The dress is made of any one of the fashionable white wash fabrics used for children's dresses around trimmed in simple fashion with frills and insertion of embroidery. The dress with full blouse and deep bertha is a pretty style for all children. Here the yoke is formed of alternate strips of tucked lawn and embroidery insertion and the bertha, which outlines it, is of the lawn, cut in handkerchief points and edged with the insertion

and a three-inch embroidery ruffle making the bertha so deep that the front and back points fall below the waistline and the shoulder points over the elbow. The skirt is straight, finished with a deep hem and a single row of embroidery insertion and gathered into a belt of the embroidery. The hat is a lingerie poke of white batiste, with a wide embroidery frill, which droops fascinatingly round the small wearer's face, and the shirred crown is almost covered with a large white satin bow, ending in long streamers which hang almost to the edge of the dress skirt.

WEDDINGS

Mills-Manchester.

Apoheal, N. B., May 15.—An event which has been looked forward to with unusual interest in society circles took place in the Church of the Ascension this afternoon at 3 o'clock, when Miss Emma Manchester, eldest daughter of Mrs. John Manchester, became the bride of Walter J. Mills, of the Sussex Mercantile Company.

The ceremony was performed by the rector, Rev. Scott Neales, and was witnessed by a large number of guests and friends, as the couple are very popular.

At 3:30 the bride entered leaning on the arm of her uncle, James Manchester, of St. John, and was attended by her sister, Miss Katie Manchester, while the groom was supported by his brother, Joseph Mills, of Sussex.

The bride wore a suit of navy blue broadcloth with hat to match, and the bridesmaid wore a suit of brown broadcloth with hat to match.

W. A. Jones and Geo. H. Second acted in the capacity of ushers. The church was beautifully decorated with cut flowers, and potted plants of many descriptions were artistically arranged around the altar, the whole presenting a most striking appearance.

The Voice That Breathed O'er Eden and O' Perfect Love were rendered by the choir during the ceremony and at the close of the service the wedding march was played, Miss Nellie Vaysey presiding at the organ in a most acceptable manner. At the close of the ceremony the wedding party were driven to the depot and took the P. R. for a trip through the upper provinces. Immediately after their departure the guests were driven to the home of the bride's mother where luncheon was served.

Among the numerous presents received by Mr. and Mrs. Mills were: Oak cabinet containing 82 pieces of sterling silver, accompanied by an address from the employees of the Sussex Mercantile Co.

Cheque from Mr. and Mrs. S. H. White and daughter, Della.

Oak music cabinet, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Mills.

Fish set from Mayor and Mrs. J. A. Murray.

Mirror and cut glass centre piece, Mrs. Robert Lee, St. John.

Cabinet of cutlery, James Manchester, St. John.

Mr. Mills' associates in the Sussex town council met at the town clerk's office yesterday afternoon and called Mr. Mills by telephone to appear in their midst. Mayor Murray in very happy speech congratulated the high appreciation in which his character and services were held by his brother assemblymen. He was

Mr. Mills was taken by surprise, but spoke feelingly of the kindly relations subsisting between himself and the other members of the council.

O'Brien McGivern.

In the church of St. John the Baptist, Broad street, yesterday morning at 6 o'clock, Miss Pauline McGivern, daughter of James McGivern, and Arthur E. O'Brien were married by Rev. W. C. Gaynor. The bride wore a navy blue travelling suit, with white picture hat and was attended by Miss Bella O'Brien, sister of the groom, wearing a grey cloth dress with hat to match, while Leo H. McGill was groomsmen. The groom presented to the bridesmaid an amethyst ring. After the ceremony the happy couple drove to the home of the bride, where a wedding breakfast was served. Many presents testified to the esteem in which the young couple are held. Mr. and Mrs. O'Brien will reside at 15 St. Andrews street.

Maguire-Cunningham.

A quiet wedding was celebrated in the Methodist parsonage, Carleton, last evening at 8 o'clock, when Miss Sarah McKnight, second daughter of William Cunningham, of Lorneville, was united in marriage to Walter Harris Maguire, of Lorneville. The ceremony was performed by Rev. H. D. Marr. The bride wore a travelling dress of champagne San Toy, with lace and applique trimmings, and hat to match. Mr. and Mrs. Maguire will reside in Lorneville.

Wood-Phillips.

A very quiet wedding took place last night at the home of the officiating clergyman, Rev. Dr. W. O. Raymond, when Mrs. Alice Phillips was married to Joshua H. Wood, of this city. Mrs. Phillips is a daughter of the late James Ireland, and was formerly of Brookline (Mass.). There were no attendants. Mr. and Mrs. Wood will reside in Hawthorne avenue.

Cotier-Gibson.

Miss Ada May, daughter of W. C. Gibson, was quietly married last night to John Kenneth Cotier, of the staff of the Canadian Bank of Commerce. The ceremony took place in the residence of Rev. A. A. Graham, in the presence of only a few of the most intimate friends of the contracting parties. Herbert Nice was groomsmen and Mrs. James Barke, sister of the bride, acted as bridesmaid. Many valuable and beautiful gifts were received. Among them was a fancy parlor chair from the staff of the bank in which the groom

is employed. Mr. and Mrs. Cotier will reside at No. 9 Elliot row.

Woods-Hamilton.

A very pretty wedding took place last evening at the home of the bride, Port Dufferin, when Miss Alma Hamilton was united in marriage to Staff Sergeant Fred Woods, of No. 7 section, O. S. C., Quebec.

Rev. G. F. Scovil performed the ceremony. Miss Ella Squires acted as bridesmaid and the groom was supported by Army Sergeant F. G. Silliphant, of No. 8 section, O. S. C.

The bride's costume was silver-pink silk with veil, and she carried a handsome bouquet. The bridesmaid was attired in a pretty white silk, and carried a bouquet of carnations. The groom and groomsmen wore their military uniforms.

The bride received many handsome presents. After the ceremony a wedding supper was served and about 200 of the bride's friends were present.

The room in which the marriage took place was decorated with evergreen and carnations, and a bell hung in the centre. The wedding cake was cut with a sword carried by the groomsmen. Flags floated from the tower and Fort Dufferin in honor of the event, and a large bonfire was burning at the Fort. Mr. and Mrs. Woods will leave for the home in Quebec City, Saturday evening. They will reside at 27 Scott street, Quebec.

Crealock-Northrup.

A pleasant event in the home of Mr. J. A. Northrup, of Balise Creek, on the 8th inst. was the marriage of his second daughter, Ada Lucretia, to Mr. William Crealock, of Johnson, Queens Co. Rev. Henry Penna tying the knot.

The bride was very becomingly attired in a dress of blue velvet, trimmed with white lace, her only ornament being a gold bracelet, the gift of the groom. The young couple received many tokens of the high esteem in which they are held by their numerous friends, and after a pleasant social evening with their relatives, drove away to their home at Pearsonville, followed with best wishes and showers of rice.

Winter Weakens the System and Allows Disease Germs to Enter.

Great epidemics, such as fevers, infectious skin diseases and pestilence break out in the spring.

Winter shuts out fresh air from many homes, and only a few get even a little sunshine. The blood naturally grows thin, colors are discolored—we tire easily, sleep poorly and have headaches. In such condition we are easy prey to sickness and fill the hospitals and graveyards.

You must create resistance and strength. The blood must be purified, must be given power to expel the seeds of spring fever.

Ferrozine is the only remedy. It calls back vim and energy, fills the body with vitality, makes every fibre sing with new found life and health.

That gnawing tiredness leaves you—Ferrozine drives it away. Sleepless nights are turned into periods of rest, and you pick up fast. Day by day your appetite improves—this means more food is transformed in nutriment that will build and energize weak organs. The inclination to worry passes away because Ferrozine imparts nerve—tone and bodily strength that prevents depression.

Think it over—Ferrozine is a wonderful tonic, in fact it is more because it establishes health that lasts. Thousands use it in the spring and thereby cleanse and restore the entire system to a perfect condition. You'll feel the uplifting power of Ferrozine in a week—it's bound to help you if you only give it the chance. Sold by all dealers, 50c. a box or six boxes for \$2.50; be sure of the name Ferrozine.

W. J. Mahoney, state deputy, Knights of Columbus, and Dr. T. H. Lunney, grand knight of St. John council, returned yesterday from Halifax, where they attended the annual meeting of the state council. They report a big growth in the order in the maritime provinces, and fine condition, both financial and general, prevailing. They also tell of very hospitable entertainment by the Halifax Knights.

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Many low-priced imitation baking powders are upon the market. These are made with alum or phosphate acid, and care should be taken to avoid them, as neither alum nor bone phosphate in abnormal quantities should be taken in the food.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

BRITAIN IS PLEASED WITH FAST MAIL SERVICE PROJECT

The Atlantic Line Must be Independent of Railway Control and Treat All Roads Alike—Winston Churchill Denies the Story of Bond's Humiliation

Montreal, May 15.—The Star's special London cable says: In authoritative Anglo-Canadian circles the assent of the British government to the scheme of Empire fast mail services is spoken of as already assured.

The official précis of yesterday's proceedings at the imperial conference gives an inadequate notion of the warmth of the support given by Premiers Deakin and Ward on behalf of Australia and New Zealand, though they insisted upon the necessity, and are willing to pay proportionately, for at least an eighteen knot service between Vancouver and Australia.

In that case the Canadian Pacific Expresses now on the Japan route, being only thirteen knot boats, would not suffice for the Australian service. Faster steamers might, however, be bought or would have to be built.

New Zealand, which now gives \$200,000 to subsidize to the extent of \$500,000.

The Empress of Ireland and Empress of Britain might, it is thought, be an effective link in the empire's service on the North Pacific to Japan under an arrangement with the Canadian Pacific Railway. But it is held essential that the Atlantic link must be independent of all railway systems here or in Canada or in Australia, open to all on equal terms.

Mr. Lloyd-George's seeming reluctance at yesterday's conference is accepted as being largely diplomatic to assist him in carrying the scheme with the doubting Radical ministers, who, in the words of the Daily News today, regard the subsidies as "unsound and discriminating unfairly between different firms and different industries." The Daily News warns the ministry against commitment to any such plan.

Liverpool shipping interests add their criticism in today's papers that it is most unfair that the governments of the empire should step in with heavy subsidies part of their business, which they built up at a great expense and risk.

A press cable says: The news of the probability of the establishment of an empire-linking mail and passenger service caused great interest among commercial men of the principal British ports. The president of the Southampton Chamber of Commerce, though disappointed that Liverpool was named as the home port, welcomed the proposal and said the day might come when it would be feasible to run a second line of subsidized steamers from Southampton to Canada.

"If it is in the interests of Canada and does not cost more than it is worth," Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, president of the C. P. R., would not be opposed to the new proposed fast subsidized service between England and Canada and Australia as recently laid before the colonial conference by Sir Wilfrid Laurier. These views he gave out in an interview today. Two new steamers which the C. P. R. will build could be made faster than the Empress boats, but local considerations and unnecessary calls have to be taken into account.

A special London cable says: Regarding the statement that Sir Robert Bond had declared at the conference that gross humiliation had been inflicted upon him and other representatives of the colonies, Mr. Churchill, replying to a question, said as he had learned that the statement had been cabled fully to the colonies, it became necessary for him to state that from beginning to end it is a baseless and impudent fabrication. There was nothing in the statement that bore

the slightest resemblance or form to what took place at the conference.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Sir Jos. Ward and Sir Robert Bond were today presented with the freedom of the city of Bristol and afterwards they visited the docks at Avonmouth.

Thomas Bent, premier of Victoria, says wherever he went in England he heard nothing but the cry "Canada." The newspapers scarcely spoke of Australia, which is a glorious country, more loyal to the king even than the people at home.

Dr. Jameson, addressing the members of the Baltic exchange this afternoon, said it was to Mr. Deakin they owed what had been got at the conference. Referring to the secretariat, Dr. Jameson ventured to prophesy that the present arrangement would be such a failure that at the next conference they would get what they wanted.

Let me mail you free, to prove merit samples of my Dr. Shoop's Restorative, and my book on either Dyspepsia, The Heart, or The Kidneys. Address me, Dr. Shoop, Racine, Wis. Troubles of the Stomach, Heart or Kidneys are merely symptoms of a deeper ailment. Don't make the common error of treating symptoms only. Symptom treatment is treating the results of your ailment, and not the cause. Weak Stomach nerves—the inside nerves—means stomach weakness, always. And the heart and kidneys as well, have their controlling or inside nerves. Weaken these nerves and you inevitably have weak vital organs. Here is where Dr. Shoop's Restorative has made its fame. No other remedy even claims to treat the "inside nerves." Also for bloating, biliousness, bad breath or complexion, use Dr. Shoop's Restorative. Write for my free book now. Dr. Shoop's Restorative sold by all druggists.

Hon. H. R. Emmerson came to the city from Fredericton last night and is at the Royal. He will go to his home in Dorchester probably at noon today. Of his visit to the provincial capital, Mr. Emmerson would say only that he had been in consultation with his counsel, Hon. Wm. Pugsley, Hon. A. S. White and Judge Barry and A. B. Copp.

The following were elected members of the R. K. Y. C. last evening: James Lewis, Charles T. Green, Charles M. Hawkes, Fred W. Fowler and F. C. Bonnell.

Rev. H. J. McGill, of Caribou (Me.), is in the city on a visit.

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St. John, N. B.

GOT A PAIN IN YOUR BACK?

You get a pain in your back, and you wonder what it means. You perhaps pay no attention to it. Backache is caused by imperfect action of the kidneys, in fact, is the first sign of kidney trouble to follow.

The kidneys, proper, are composed of a close network of fibrous tissue, interlaced with tiny elastic fibres. Their object is the excretion of the uric acid, and other poisonous matter composing the urine, from the blood.

They are continuously at work to preserve the general health of the body and most people are troubled with some form of kidney trouble, but do not suspect it.

Some of the symptoms are: A feeling of weakness in the small of the back, sharp pains in back, pain under the eyes, and swelling of the feet and ankles, urinary troubles such as suppressed urination, excessive urination, cloudy, thick or highly colored urine, etc.

Mr. J. L. Whiting, Oshabuck Centre, Ont., writes: "I suffered for two years with kidney trouble. I had terrible pains in my back, hips and legs. I could not sleep and had a poor appetite. I took four boxes of Doan's Kidney Pills, and the pains left me, my appetite returned and I was all right. I can recommend Doan's Kidney Pills to anyone suffering from kidney trouble."

Doan's Kidney Pills are 50 cents per box or 3 boxes for \$1.50 at all dealers or mailed direct on receipt of price by The Doan Kidney Pill Co., Toronto, Ont.