

ROMANCES OF THE RING

True Tales Of Hard-Hitting Heroes Of The Past And Present
(WRITTEN FOR THE FARMER)

THE GIRL OR THE GAME?

There must give up the game or the girl. There's a good lad, Ned, and I like these, but the cruel spot is not my liking. Good had thy choice, for no bruiser shall have my daughter.

The old Quaker beamed kindly on the sturdy young man to whom he addressed these words, but he spoke in tones so determined that Ned Painter realized that as we moderns would put it, he was "up against it for fair."

Although it was nearly a century ago that this conversation took place, and it was then the custom for all pugilists to imitate their noble and wealthy patrons by indulging in all sorts of excesses and dissipation, Ned Painter was an exception. He was a clean-living, intelligent young athlete, and his mode of life had already carried him a long way up the pugilistic ladder. By defeating the celebrated Bambo Sutton and other valiant ring warriors of that period, Ned Painter had become a top-notch fighter, and in a position to aspire to the proud title, which Tom Cribb, the ancient veteran, must soon relinquish.

New Cupid is pictured as a wasp, but for all that he is less than a fly-weight in poundage he has a punch that can stretch giants out for the count. And Cupid had landed on Ned Painter. One look into the limpid eyes of the famous Quaker pugilist, and in a position to aspire to the proud title, which Tom Cribb, the ancient veteran, must soon relinquish.

The maiden proved to be not at all averse to Ned's attentions, but the infatuated youth soon realized that, while the girl loved the fighter, she had a horror of fighting. He had about decided to relinquish his pugilistic ambitions, circumstances conspired to make it necessary that he should again enter the ring. Early in 1828, he went to Deptford to bid farewell to a nephew, Joe Hoop, who was about to sail on the ship North Pole, one of three vessels fitted out for an Arctic expedition.

A great crowd had congregated to see the vessels off and to welcome Prince George, the regent, and the other notables who had honored Deptford with their presence. A pugilistic entertainment was to be a feature of the celebration, and among the bruisers engaged was Tom Spring, the protegee of Tom Cribb and Painter's principal rival for championship honors.

After witnessing the bout between the professional, a number of the amateurs to be invited to the field added to the excitement of the occasion by en-

gaging in a free-for-all battle. It so happened that Ned Painter's nephew and Tom Spring's younger brother, a member of the crew of the Equinox, were paired off in the rousers. Ned Painter came up while the youngsters were vigorously pummeling each other, and as Ned was of a peaceful disposition when not engaged in the practice of his profession, he endeavored to separate the combatants. In the process he slapped Spring's brother on the cheek. Tom came up just in time to see Painter's act, and, after much superheated language, it seemed probable that the famous pugilist would settle the matter then and there. Friends persuaded them to postpone the settlement of their differences to a more appropriate and profitable time.

As a result Ned and Tom were matched to fight in the following April, and Painter, resolutely banishing from his mind all thought of the certain disapproval of the Quaker maiden, prepared earnestly for the feat. Twenty thousand people witnessed the encounter, which was virtually for the title, since Cribb was no longer able to fight. It was a close thing, and nip and tuck most of the way, but in the end Spring was the victor. After the battle the men shook hands and became firm friends.

Ned Painter, crestfallen by defeat and fearing that he had lost the love of his sweetheart, returned to Norwich, determined never again to enter the ring. There the father of the girl delivered the ultimatum which begins this story. Ned, more in love than ever with the charming maiden, was inclined to accept the old gentleman's proposal, especially as the latter was a man of wealth and offered to set his prospective son-in-law up in the honorable business of a publican.

When matters were about arranged to the satisfaction of all, Ned became the subject of bitter attacks in the papers. It was charged that he had thrown the battle with Spring, the Earl of Derby, who backed Painter, was said to have inspired the accusations that Ned had crossed his friends.

Fuming with fury at these charges young Painter bade a sad farewell to the object of his heart's desire, and went to London to face his accusers. Tom Spring was quite as indignant as Painter.

"I'm glad you've come to defend yourself against these vermin," said Tom and the pair shook hands on it. They agreed that the only way to settle the matter was to fight again. Painter insisted that he would meet Spring only on the condition that the purse was to be a purely nominal sum, and that no money was to be put up by his backers.

The cream of the sporting world gathered to see this second contest

between the great battlers. Ned Painter was fighting in defense of his honor as a square pugilist, and after forty-two rounds of desperate mulling he had the battle well in hand. Spring fought on gamely for a time, but in the end Tom Cribb had to toss in the sponge in token of his protegee's defeat.

Ned Painter was hailed as a hero, and it was predicted that he would become champion in a year or two, but these predictions were never fulfilled. Having vindicated his honor as a bruiser, Ned gave no thought to the career within his grasp. The reproachful face of the maiden who loved him was ever before his eyes, and he hurried back to Norwich, hoping to make his peace with the girl and her father. He found the old Quaker very indignant, but Ned's protestations that he had fought only for his good name, and not for money somewhat mollified the old gentleman. Perhaps, too, such is inconsistent human nature—he was privately elated over Ned's victory. In any event, he withdrew his objections, and not long thereafter the Quaker girl became Mrs. Ned Painter. Only once more did Ned enter the ring and that after great provocation, when he whipped his old opponent, Tom Oliver.

As mine host of the Anchor Inn in Lobster Lane, Norwich, Painter became one of the most influential and respected citizens of the city. Ned and his wife were models of domesticity, and if Painter ever regretted having given up the championship to his bride nobody ever heard him say so.

A siege has been proclaimed by the Governor of Tripoli in the regions of Misrata, Gfella, and Gharian, with the object of repressing a revolt of the natives against Italian rule.

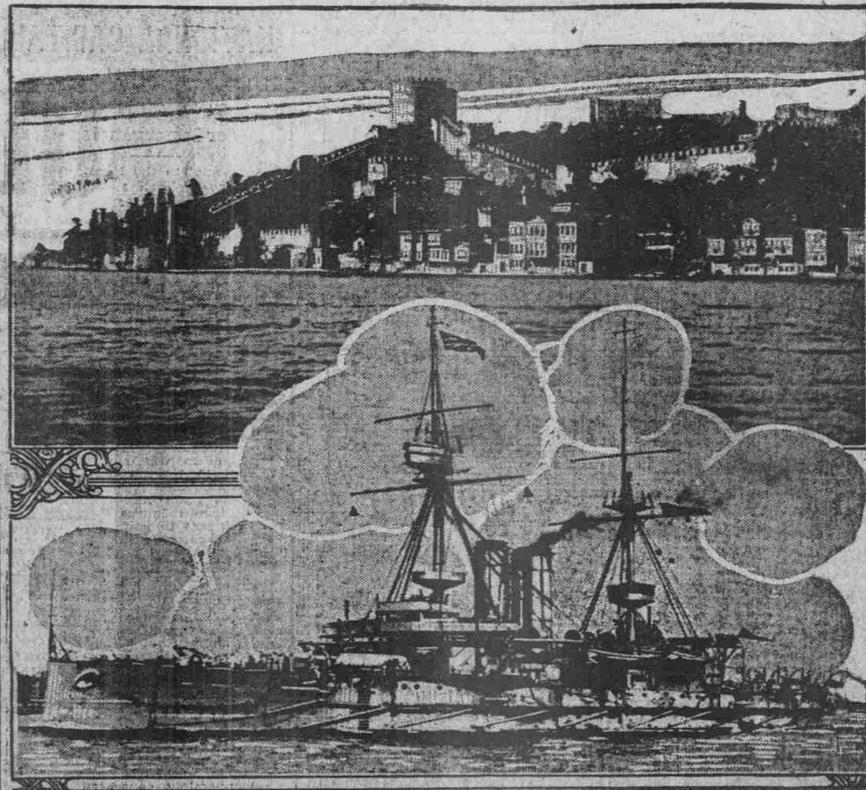
An inquiry into the causes of rebellion in the Transvaal and Free State will be made by a committee appointed by the speaker of the Lower House of the South African Parliament.

At a conference held in Peking between representatives of the Chinese government and diplomatic agents of Japan, the existing Japanese lease of the ports of Daini and Port Arthur was extended 25 years.

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CAPTURE OF CONSTANTINOPLE BY ALLIES WOULD HAVE GREAT INFLUENCE ON WAR



FORT OF CONSTANTINOPLE. ENGLISH BATTLE CRUISER VENGEANCE

Speculation as to the future political and commercial results of the possible capture of Constantinople by the allies and of the formidable passageway thereto is overshadowed just at present by a consideration of the immediate military benefits which will result from such a situation. Once in possession of the waterway and of the Turkish capital through the greatness of their fleet, which includes great battle cruisers like the Vengeance, the allies could reckon upon these important developments without delay. The dissipation of Ottoman resistance and offensive against the Russians in Transcaucasia and the consequent release of large bodies of Russian troops for service against the Germans and Austrians; the ending of all fear of a renewal of Turkish efforts to invade Egypt and capture the Suez canal, with the resultant that Great Britain would be able to employ more than 100,000 troops in land operations against the Turks; the checking of Turkish pressure against Russian and British influence in Persia; the removal of the Turkish menace in the Balkan states and the increase of allied influence in the Levant, and the opportunity afforded the allied squadron to dispose once for all of the Turkish fleet. One political consideration is likewise of present importance. That is the effect which an alleged triumph in Turkey will have upon peace propagandists in Russia. However much Russia may be wearied and discouraged by past or future German successes in Poland, the prospect of a realization of her dream of domination in Turkey will unquestionably assure a continuation of her efforts against her Teutonic adversaries. Whether Great Britain will consent to the complete possession of Constantinople by Russia cannot even be prophesied now, since it depends almost entirely upon events to come. Still one more great benefit will accrue from the capture of the strait. With that passageway opened the entrance of war munitions and supplies from Great Britain and France to Russia will be as easy a matter as will be the access of Russia's great supplies of grain from the Black sea territories to France and Great Britain. Rich in men, Russia is admittedly poor in war material.

THE HEALTH OF OUR SUMMER RESORTS.

Many of our summer resorts have acted on the policy that a good climate, charm of location and beauty of scenery are sufficient inducements to attract the summer visitor; but nowadays people are more than this before selecting a vacation playground. The visitor wants a clean bill of health from the resort he has chosen, and is entitled to have one. Vacation typhoid is becoming known as a serious hazard. The prudent recreation seeker now finds out in advance whether or not this infection prevails at the place he has in mind, and furthermore learns what sanitary measures are being taken there to safeguard the health of the summer colony. The town of York, Maine, has recently taken steps that at once place it in the forefront of progress as far as health is concerned. The way the problem was met may well serve as a model for other summer resorts. Last year there were a number of cases of typhoid fever at York. No attempt was made to conceal the fact of the existence of the disease and its extent. The authorities very properly felt that the way to meet any danger was to face it in the open. An expert was invited to come to York and make a sanitary survey. The chief recommendation of the expert was that York needed a full-time health officer. The town appropriated \$2,500 a year for this purpose and appointed Mr. William Eustis Brown, a graduate of the School for Health Officers of Harvard-Technology, to the newly created position. The town of York is now spending one dollar per capita per year for health, a larger sum than is appropriated by any other American city directly for a like purpose. "Public health is purchasable," the price is moderate and York shows by its action that it intends to enjoy the best attainable protection from disease. Other summer colonies will find it to their advantage to follow the example of York, and take the necessary measures to safeguard their citizens and the strangers within their gates. The Journal of the American Medical Association strongly advises the public to demand the security of health that only a well-ordered sanitary department can furnish. Our sea-shore and mountain resorts can no longer depend on nature and luck for a clean bill of health.

Atlas plant of the Standard Oil Co., at Washington, Pa., resumed operations in full.

The Amosco Copper Mining Co. of Butte decided not to exercise its option of the purchase of the property and leasing plant of the Butte-Duluth.

A bill was introduced in the Italian Chamber of Deputies by Francesco Salandra containing measures against espionage.

Receivers were appointed in Philadelphia for the Fairmount Park Transportation Co., a \$2,000,000 corporation operating park trolleys.

Following the example of the Turkish government, the Ottoman Bank and the Deutsche and Wiener banks of Constantinople transferred their funds and books to Konia.

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