

The Times' Daily Short Story.

An Intended Sacrifice

(Original.)

Vera was a young Russian girl who if she did not belong to the peasant class was not far above it. Alexis Demidoff, the son of a wealthy gentleman who lived in the same province as Vera, met her one day while he was hunting, and an intimacy sprang up between the two young people which ended in love. When Alexis' father heard of the attachment he forbade his son ever to speak to the girl again under pain of being disinherited. This naturally led to secret meetings.

One afternoon Vera went to the wood to meet Alexis by appointment. She waited a long while at the trying place, but her lover did not come. Fearing some misfortune, she walked toward the Demidoff home. She had gone but a short distance when she saw Alexis' horse nipping the grass beside the road. Then her eye rested on his master lying near by. The horse had thrown him, giving him a broken arm and a sprained ankle.

As soon as Vera came up the two consulted as to what should be done. Vera proposed to mount the horse and ride for help, but the animal refused to be caught and ran back toward the Demidoff estate. Vera did what she could to make her lover comfortable. Then night came on.

Presently they heard a distant bark. Vera, who was holding her lover in her arms with his hand in hers, gave a convulsive clutching of her fingers. Both knew the sound to be the baying of a wolf.

It was far distant, but it reminded them that there were other wolves scattered through the wood. Indeed, it was not long before they saw within a stone's throw two eyes glaring like coals of fire.

Vera had had time to prepare herself for this. She knew that Alexis could neither stand on his feet nor hold a gun, except with one hand, and that the left. Disengaging herself from him, she seized his rifle, which she had taken the precaution to recover, and waited for the wolf to draw nearer. When he had come within proper range she raised the rifle to her shoulder and fired, aiming between the eyes. The wolf, whose head was only cut by the ball, gave a yelp and dashed away.

"Draw the shell, quick!" said Alexis. "He will be back presently."

Vera drew the shell and, taking a cartridge from Alexis' belt, fixed it in the rifle and waited. Alexis, who was a splendid shot, begged her if the wolf returned to hold the rifle for him and let him fire with the gun against his left shoulder. Vera consented and they took the position required, to see how it would work, but Alexis was

obliged to sit up, and was so faint that he did not dare try the experiment.

When the wolf came back there were four pairs of glaring eyes instead of one. Vera had lived all her life in a country infested with wolves and knew that when one was killed the others would eat the carcass before pushing on. Selecting one pair of eyes—for she could see nothing else of the wolves—she was about to fire when she felt her hand tremble. She paused and, turning, kissed her lover on the lips. That kiss strengthened her nerves, and, again aiming, she fired, and a wolf dropped dead.

While its fellows were scrambling for the food Vera drew the shell of the exploded cartridge and inserted another. But this unequal contest could not last. The four wolves were joined by half a dozen others, and the lovers knew that as soon as the dead wolf had been devoured there would be another rush which it was hopeless that they could withstand. Vera to gain distance took hold of Alexis under the arms and dragged him back as far as she was able; then, taking the rifle, she stood before him, waiting for the wolves to finish their meal.

Most of the carcass was consumed. She could hear a few wolves still picking at the bones, while one or two, she fancied, were licking their chops. One pair of eyes appeared in the middle of the road glaring at her, and in a moment she was sure they were drawing nearer. She raised her rifle, aimed and pulled the trigger.

The cartridge did not explode. Vera realized that the end was at hand. Throwing down her rifle, she deliberately advanced to offer herself a sacrifice to delay her lover's death.

At the moment there was a clatter of horses' hoofs before her and a shot. In an instant the wolves had vanished. Horsemen came up and found Vera standing in the road some distance before Alexis. In the darkness the would have run her down had she not stepped aside. They were a party of the Demidoffs. Alexis' horse had gone home without his rider, and they had come out to search for him.

Alexis was taken home and insisted that Vera should go with him. Demidoff, the father of Alexis, questioned Vera, who told the story, leaving out her intended sacrifice.

"Why were you so far in advance of my son, unarmed, when you were found?" he asked.

Vera hesitated, then replied: "It was plain that one must die. If I could delay the wolves there was chance of help coming for Alexis. It was also possible that their hunger would be appeased with my body and leave Alexis untouched."

Demidoff, who was a great huntsman and a brave man, could not withstand this heroic devotion. He consented to Alexis' union with Vera, and never tired of telling the story of how she had saved his son and offered herself to the wolves in his stead.

LULU ROSS MIDGELEY.

Comfort
TRADE NAME
MEDICINAL SKIN Powder
Heals and Comforts the SKIN
A medication different and immeasurably superior to talcum powders and lotions for all
SKIN SORENESS,
Itching, Chafing, Scalding, Sunburn, Nettle Rash, Burns, Pimples, Wounds, After Shaving, Tender Feet, Offensive Body Odors, and Bed Sores.
A Perfectly Ideal Baby Powder.
At Drug Stores, Etc. Large trial pkg. free.
Comfort Powder Co., Hartford, Ct.

FOR SALE BY
Fickett & Wells, J. W. H. Gladding, E. A. Brown.

CHINA WANTS OUR MEN.

Its Army Officials Offering Commissions to Soldiers in Philippines.

The reduction of the army in the Philippines will be welcome news in the Chinese empire, says a Washington special to the New York World. It will enable the military men in China to get what they are looking for—a lot of good drillmasters. They have learned there are many men in the army in the Philippines who feel that they will never see any more active service if they remain under the stars and stripes.

Chinese officials have been sending agents into the archipelago offering subaltern commissions in the vice royal and imperial armies. They have been offering sergeants' commissions. Their offers have been accepted by, it is estimated, several dozen youngsters who would rather continue the free and easy life of the orient than return to the United States and settle down to the humdrum of civil life. These Americans are wanted chiefly for the purpose of drilling the Chinamen under enlistment in the various armies.

INDIANS TO HUNT BUFFALO.

Novel Contest to Be Held on an Oklahoma Ranch.

Perhaps the very last big hunt which the Indians of the territories will ever have will be held on the famous "101" ranch near Bliss, Okla., next fall, says the Kansas City Journal. The plan is to secure a number of buffaloes, give them a mile start of at least fifty Indians, who, armed with bows and arrows and stripped the same as they were in the days when they roamed the plains, will hunt the buffaloes. The Indian bringing in the first buffalo tongue is to get a big prize, and it is being so arranged that the contest will be one possible to be witnessed by thousands of visitors.

Already the animals have been secured and are being prepared for the race. And invitations have been sent to the Poncas, Cheyennes, Otoes, Kaws and other tribes.

Raid on Steel Stocks.

New York, July 22.—United States Steel common was driven down on the Stock Exchange to below its May panic price—the lowest at which the security has ever sold. At the opening of the market the pressure upon industrial stocks was renewed. Five thousand shares of Steel common sold at from 25 to 24 1/2, a net loss of 3/4, and the price fell before closing to 22 1/2.

The Mississippi Valley. If the Mississippi valley was as densely populated as Massachusetts it would have 350,000,000 inhabitants.

The Mule Ducks.

If a horse touches his ears in going under a low bridge or through a tunnel he will invariably throw his head up and receive a hard knock. When a mule's ears touch anything his head goes down.

WE MUST REPEAT
When Everybody in Barre Tells the Same Story.

It's hard to say new things about Doan's Kidney Pills. They cure the lame and aching back, the sufferer from kidney disorders and the troubles of those whose urinary organism is wrong in its action. It is at they do this is so easy to prove that not a vestige of doubt remains. Public endorsement of local citizens is easily proven. Read this case:

Joseph Barner, stone-cutter, Graniteville, says: "I do not want the residents of Barre or anywhere this paper circulates to think that Doan's Kidney Pills, sold at E. A. Brown's drug store, absolutely cured me of kidney complaint, but I want them to thoroughly understand that in all my experience with medicine and prescriptions said to be cures for disordered kidneys I never received anything like the assistance I obtained from Doan's Kidney Pills. I tried so many different remedies and obtained so little success that it was only after they were strongly recommended to me by a friend who had been cured of a case similar to mine that I commenced the treatment. My back grew stronger, my general health better, unless brought about by over-exertion on the muscles of the loins I did not feel the continual lameness and aching. This, to a man who has given up all expectations of ever being helped by the use of medicine, is of considerable value and is greatly appreciated."

For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y., sole agents for the United States. Remember the name Doan's and take no substitute.

CZAR'S LATEST MOVE.

Reforms Instituted to Show Mercy to His Prisoners.

CHAINING CONVICTS PROHIBITED.

Only Criminals Convicted of Unusually Brutal Conduct in Jail to Have Heads Shaved—Russia's Ruler Abolishes Some of the Worst Tortures—Remarkable Effect of Blows Delivered by a Flogger in Siberia.

The czar sent a confidential official to the principal central prisons in European Russia and in Siberia last February to get an absolutely impartial, uncolored report about the state of the prisons and the nature of the punishments inflicted on prisoners for refractory conduct.

This official, a former colonel in the guards, named Zabelnikoff, has now returned to St. Petersburg and made a full and fearless report to his imperial master, as a result of which some improvement in the condition of things has already been made, says the New York World.

For instance, no political prisoner's head is to be shaved—only those of criminals convicted of unusually brutal conduct while in jail.

No woman and no male under eighteen is to be subjected to blows or stripes from a stick or whip for any offense, and in all cases where whipping is regarded as necessary by the prison authorities the consent of the governor of the province must be first obtained and full reports of circumstances be sent to St. Petersburg.

The practice of chaining refractory convicts to cars in mines or elsewhere has been abolished.

The minor punishments, such as confining a prisoner in a totally dark cell underground, have been much modified. No prisoner is to suffer this punishment for more than three days. The doctor who accompanied Colonel Zabelnikoff on his journey says a week's confinement in a totally dark underground cell injures the eyes beyond recovery.

Colonel Zabelnikoff's attention was especially directed to complaints which had reached his imperial master's ears that in the military prisons Jewish soldiers suffered far worse treatment than Christians. Zabelnikoff found this to be the case in only isolated instances and that any difference in the treatment of the two religions was due rather to the attitude of the lower ranks of wardens than to the action of the prison directors.

A Russian traveler and litterateur named Doroshevitch recently returned from Sakhalin, a penal island off the east coast of Siberia. While there he had an interview with one Komleff, a man employed to flog prisoners. Komleff is an "artist" with the whip.

Doroshevitch asked him with how many blows he could kill a man.

Komleff answered, "Two." Then, reflecting, he said, "With one," explaining that he thought he could break the backbone.

Komleff distinguished between apparent blows and real blows. He told Doroshevitch to lay his thick notebook on the flogging block. The traveler did so, and with one whizzing blow Komleff shattered it into a thousand fragments.

"Now put your hand on the block," said Komleff.

Doroshevitch complied and heard the same dreadful whizzing sound, but his hand was only gently touched by the whip.

It is optional with Komleff what sort of blow to inflict. He said: "I can either torture or tickle, as it pleases me."

When Doroshevitch told this terrible man that sort of punishment would now be abolished the executioner responded fervently: "God grant it may be so!"

A Novel Industry.

"Song spotting" is a new industry described by T. A. T., the new English penny magazine journal. The "song spotter" is the accredited and responsible agent of the big London music publishing firms—or some of them, at all events. His business is to go from one seaside resort to another all the summer round, spending a week or so at each and "spotting" which ditties "go" and which do not. He knows that some among the songs whose choruses are hummed upon the sands this summer will be the favorites during the dark winter evenings. So he reports each evening to his principals in London. These latter have, of course, other "song spotters" working on similar lines in other districts, and should the reports coincide regarding any particular ballad negotiations are at once opened with the composer for the acquisition of the copyright.

A New Type of Collier.

The value of colliers to accompany fleets in time of war was thoroughly demonstrated during the Spanish war, Germany at the recent maneuvers along the Spanish coast experimented with coaling at sea, and now the British admiralty is considering plans for an entirely new type of collier. The proposed vessel is 250 feet long, 60 feet wide, with a draft of 27 feet when carrying 10,000 tons of coal. The most interesting fact about it is that the plans call for a speed of eighteen knots, or as high as that of the latest battle ships. The estimated cost of these ships is \$1,250,000, which will include patent apparatus for unloading them at sea.

Railways Plant Trees.

A number of western railways have found that the growing of trees along the right of way is profitable, both for ties and snow breaks, and are setting out millions of cuttings.

IN BOSTON MARKETS.

Quotations on the Leading Products That Are in Demand.

Boston, July 22.—Butter has been steady, with a fair demand at practically unchanged prices. Northern creamery, round lots, 21 1/2@22; western, 21 1/2@21 3/4; Vermont dairy, 21 1/2@22; renovated butter, 19 1/2@20; jobbing, 5 1/2@6 more.

Cheese is quiet with the tendency downward. Liverpool continues to decline. Round lots, new, 19 1/2@20; jobbing, 1 1/2@1 3/4 higher.

Eggs are firm, with a large part of the arrivals of poor quality. There is a good summer demand for choice marks. Western fresh, 17 1/2@18; eastern, 20 1/2@21; nearly, 23 1/2@24; jobbing, 1 1/2@1 3/4 higher.

Beans are quiet, with a moderate demand. Prices are unchanged. Carload lots, pea, \$2.35@2.40; medium, \$2.35@2.40; yellow eyes, \$2.80@2.85; red kidneys, \$3.40@3.50; California small white, \$2.60@2.65; foreign pea and medium, \$2.25@2.30; jobbing, 10c more.

Apples have been in full receipt from the south during the week. Prices are firmer, but large arrivals of poor stock forced them down again. Old apples are very quiet, with only a few offerings. Baldwins from cold storage, \$2.50; No. 2 all kinds, \$1.25@1.50; russets, \$2.00; southern, new, baskets, 75c@81.50; bbls, \$2.00. Small lots and jobbing, 50c@81 per bbl more.

A few Nova Scotia strawberries are still in the market. They are fine large berries and sell at 17 1/2@22c. Other berries are in full supply and sell at: Blackberries, 9@15c; blueberries, 10@13c; raspberries, cups, 4c; pints, 8@10c; currants, 9@12c; gooseberries, 7@8c. Georgia Alberta peaches are jobbing at \$1.50@2.25 per 6-bkt-ct.

Watermelons are more plentiful and sell by the load at 20@30c each, according to size.

Cantaloupes are quoted at \$1.25@2 in a jobbing way.

California cherries sell at \$1.85@2.50 per bx; apricots, \$1.75@2.25 per bx; plums, \$1.25@2.50.

Potatoes have been in heavy supply. The quality, however, has improved, some choice Jerseys coming forward. Prices closed fairly steady. Fancy, \$3 @3.25 per bbl; low grades, \$2.50@2.75. Bunch celery is selling at 25c@31 per bch.

Onions are easier at: Egyptian, bgs, \$1.75@2; Bermudas, \$1.75 per crt; bunch onions, 50c per bx.

Hothouse tomatoes are quoted at 10 @15c per lb; southern, \$1.50@2 per crt. Cucumbers sell at 75c@85 per bx for all sizes.

Yellow turnips sell at \$2 per bbl; bunch turnips, 3@4c; new beets, 50@75c per lb; bunch beets, 14c; carrots, \$1.25 per bu.

Cabbages sell at \$1@1.50 per crt. Marrow squashes bring \$1 per crt; crooknecks, 35c per crt; white, 35c per crt.

The market for lettuce is quoted at 20@50c per bx, 1 1/2 doz in bx. Endishes sell at 35c per bx; mint, 30c per doz; cress, 35c per doz; leeks, 50c per doz. String beans are quoted at 50c for both green and wax. Green peas sell at 75c@81.25 per bu for native.

Spinach is quoted at 25c per bu for native; parsley, hothouse, \$1.30 per bu; romaine, 50c per bu; best greens, 25c per bu; bunch carrots, 30c per doz; rhubarb, 24c per lb; peppers, \$1.50@2 per crt.

Hay is dull, with the market generally weak. Receipts are liberal and buyers are holding off expecting lower prices. Poor grades are slow of sale and easier; straw is steady and unchanged; millfeed is quiet at the decline. Hay, No. 1, \$2.4@2.5, lower grade, \$1.7 @2.2; rye straw, \$2.1@2.4; oat straw, \$1.0@1.1.

There have been some sharp fluctuations in lard during the week, though part of the advance was lost at the close. Other pork provisions have also changed, though not to such a marked degree as lard.

Although the receipts of fresh beef have not been fully up to the previous week, the supply has still been large and prices have ruled easy. The demand is quiet.

Lambs are doing better, with the market well cleaned up; muttons and veals are steady. Western fall lambs, 10@11c; spring lambs, 13@14c; yearlings, 8@10c; muttons, 6@8c; veals, 7@9c.

There is a quiet market for poultry, with prices generally steady. Western turkeys, frozen, 18@19c; cod, 15@16c; western fowls, iced, 13@13 1/2c; western, frozen chickens, 14@15c; fresh killed northern fowls, 14@15c; broilers, 18@20c; western broilers, 15@18c; spring ducks, 16@17c; pigeons, \$1.75@2 per doz; squabs, \$2.50@3.50 per doz.

A Highly Interesting Rumor

Wellington, N. Z., July 18.—A rumor emanating from the French colony at Papeete, Island of Tahiti, is current in New Zealand that France intends to transfer its possessions in the eastern Pacific to the United States. The French possessions in the eastern Pacific have a total area of about 1520 square miles and their population is about 20,000.

Colombia Will Ratify Canal Treaty

Bogota, July 18.—Senator Caro, former president of Colombia, who is President Marroquin's political rival and who has been the leader of the opposition to the Panama canal treaty, declares that, although personally still opposed to the treaty, in his opinion the opposition will be beaten and the treaty will be ratified.

A Cloud Arrested.

Hon. Rollo Russell, a member of the British parliament, advocated the building of immense walls to increase the rainfall in sterile districts. The walls were to be so high that their tops would arrest the clouds and cause a downpour of rain, thereby rendering the land fit for cultivation.

TRUE PREVENTIVE OF HAY FEVER

Hymel Destroys Germs of the Disease and Keeps People Well.

There can be little or no doubt as to hay fever being a germ disease. It is, too, one disease where prevention is much easier than cure.

All who are subject to this disagreeable trouble should use Hymel daily for at least two or three weeks before the time of their annual attack. In this way the annoying paroxysms of sneezing, running at the nose and watery and stinging eyes can be avoided.

This remarkable discovery makes it possible for anyone to breathe air at home which is almost identical with that of the Adirondacks or White Mountains, or other resorts where hay fever sufferers go to escape their trouble.

If, however, Hymel has not been used until the disease has begun, it is necessary to use it more frequently, at least half a dozen times daily, and Hymel Balm should be rubbed into the nostrils both morning and night. This treatment will relieve at once and will effect a cure in nearly every case.

Buckert & Wells have a complete line of the Hymel goods and will sell an outfit of inhaler, Hymel and medicine dropper for \$1.00 and will also agree to refund the money if the treatment does not give satisfaction.

Do not try to cure hay fever by dosing the stomach. Breathe Hymel and in that way the medication will reach the minutest air cells in the nose, throat and lungs, soothe and heal the irritated mucous membrane, and prevent and cure all hay fever troubles.

A COWBOY'S ROMANCE.

How He Became Engaged to a W. C. T. U. Girl.

In Culbertson, Mont., Miss Edith O'Mara, a pretty young woman who is a prominent member of the Women's Christian Temperance union and a church member of that place, recently arrested "Red" Cutcheon and John Morley, two bad men who came drunk into the town and terrorized all the male inhabitants with their pistol practice, says the Portland Oregonian. After landing the desperadoes in jail Miss O'Mara immediately fell violently in love with Cutcheon and promised to marry him. On his part, Cutcheon has agreed to stop drinking liquor. The whole town is watching the end of this queer courtship with unabated interest.

The young woman was walking along the street in the evening when the two men rode into town and began to shoot out lights, whooping like Indians on a raid. Miss O'Mara was the only resident of the town who did not run for shelter. As the men came dashing up she accosted them politely, and then she suddenly drew a pistol from the folds of her dress. The muzzle was first pointed at one and then at the other with such rapidity that the two desperadoes failed to see any joke in it.

"Drop your revolvers and drop them at once!" commanded the girl. The two men allowed their revolvers to fall to the ground. The weapons were picked up by the girl, who then marched her prisoners to the jail and turned them over to the marshal.

Then, like a true daughter of Eve, Miss O'Mara began to pity her prisoners, especially Cutcheon, and pity, a poet says, is akin to love. She was heard to remark that "Red" Cutcheon was not such a bad looking fellow, after all, when he was sober and washed up. She talked long and earnestly with him in his cell about his salvation.

"Why don't you brace up and be a man?" she asked.

"Because no good lookin' young woman like you ever asked me," said "Bad Man" Cutcheon. He swore he loved her and promised that he would never touch another drop of liquor if she would be his wife. She cried a bit and then consented to marry him. So when "Red" Cutcheon was arraigned in court and fined \$25, charged with shooting his revolver inside the city limits, his fine was paid. After a foid temporary parting with his newly found sweetheart he went to the ranch where he is employed strangely quiet, and the manager was so tickled when he heard of the strange adventure that he made Cutcheon foreman of the ranch.

Macrame Lace.

Macrame, or knotted lace, is of very ancient origin. It was brought from Arabia to Spain and from Spain to England in the days of good Queen Bess. Ladies at the court of Elizabeth used it for the trimming of their dresses, and by the sovereign it was employed for the decoration of her household and table linen.

Consumption in Canada.

The annual number of deaths from tuberculosis in Canada is about 9,000.

Rapid Painting.

In the Boston Museum of Fine Art is a portrait of Ferdinand de Lesseps which was painted by the late G. P. Healy in one day, July 10, 1879.

They Left the Sheep.

During a dark night some thieves entered a field at Melindue, New South Wales, and sheared all the wool off a flock of sheep. They managed to get away with the wool without being discovered.

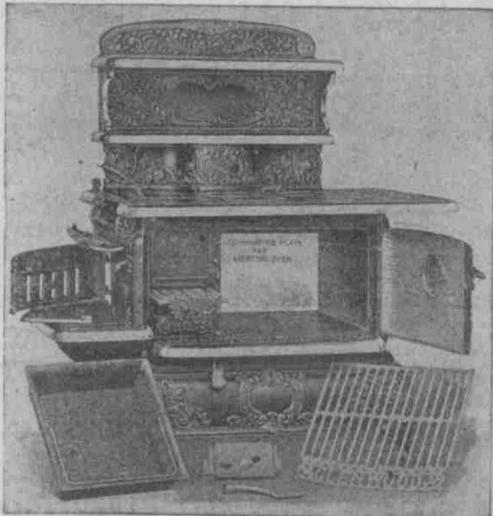
Human Growth.

Recent statistics have proved that men's stature increases up to the age of fifty years. This is a refutation of the former belief, according to which men stopped growing at twenty-two or twenty-three.

Kangaroos in Australia.

There are no native kangaroos except on the continent of Australia. That country contains millions of them.

GLENWOOD Ranges and Heaters



UNION MADE AND HAVE THE UNION LABEL.

REYNOLDS & SON