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By F. MARION CRAWFORD

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THE FIRST STANDING ARMY.

Historians Agree That It Was Made
Necessary by Building of the
Chinese Wall.

To describe the war-like use of the wall properly, a military historian is needed, who can set forth accurately and technically all the strategy involved and the weapons employed. In default of him, a lay view may help the general reader.

The very conception of a chain of thousands of strong blockhouses, linked by a rampart, and stretching over more than a thousand miles, betokens a mind that can conceive great measures. Vast resources were needed to execute the idea and to defend the wall when once erected. A wall would need an army of workmen to erect it, an army of soldiers to defend it. The trowel might be laid aside in a few months, the sword must be ever ready. A mere wall without men behind it can not delay an invader for a day. The wall of China involved a standing army, and historians say it numbered 3,680,000 men.

There are signs in the brickwork that the towers were designed and finished first before any wall was erected. The order was not, therefore, wall first and then towers on it; but towers, and then a curtain between them. In China and in South Africa there was a time when it was found wise to erect rows of blockhouses near enough together to command the intervening space by rifle fire, and numerous enough to stretch for miles. The line of Chinese defenses apparently began in the same way; only, as they had no missiles that could be thrown far and swiftly, a solid line of wall became needful at an early stage. We can imagine that each garrison would be charged to build a section of wall on to meet the builders from the next forts and thus the time would not be idly spent in mere watching.—W. E. Geil, in Harper's Weekly.

VERDICT: NOWHERE IN SIGHT.

Colored Jurymen Had Done Their
Best, But Thing Sought For Was
Not In Evidence.

A lawyer from New Orleans tells the story about a jury trial in a little obscure village somewhere in Louisiana: "Of course, strange as it may seem, the jury in this trial was made up entirely of negroes. It seems that all the available white men were either at work or had gone hunting or fishing. And, anyway, it being a case of one negro charged with stealing from another, the interest of the white people of the place, of whom there was a conspicuous minority, was not sufficiently involved for it to make any difference.

"When the evidence was all in and the prosecuting attorney, a white man, of course, had submitted the case without argument, the accused, fortunately, had no counsel—the judge, also a white man, ordered the jury, which could not agree in the box, to retire to an adjoining room and find a verdict.

"The jury retired. At last the judge could stand it no longer, and went in person to the room to see what was delaying the verdict. He found each of the jurymen crawling around on the floor peering under chairs and tables, and also into corners. The court was amazed. He did not know whether the whole jury had gone crazy or what was the matter.

"Here," he thundered, "what are you niggers doing?"

The foreman arose, and, making humble obeisance, answered:

"Yo' honah, tain't no use; we jes' kain't find no verdict in dis here room. Fact is, you honah, I doan b'lieb dere's a vuddict in here nohow."—Central Law Journal.

Consternation in Drawing Room.

In "Stories of a Famous London Drawing Room," in the August McClure's, William H. Rideing says:

"The company always included many delightful women, and I remember the consternation caused among them one day by Burnham, the scout. He explained that he attributed his success as a scout to the acuteness of his sense of smell; it was like a bloodhound's. 'There's no one here to-day,' he affirmed, 'who at any time anywhere in the future I could not recognize in the dark. Yes, I could tell you, and you, and you,' nodding at an alluring group in modish apparel, 'by the way you smell.'

"For an awful moment the conversation flagged."

Decline of Ancient English Fair.

After being held annually for 800 years Stow Green pleasure fair has practically ceased to exist.

Established by charter of Henry III, it ranked as one of the largest fairs in England for merchandise and lasted three weeks. All the large traveling shows in the country used to attend and they covered nearly four acres of ground. The fair is now limited to two days and when it commenced it only consisted of a few catchpenny devices.

This year the magistrates curtailed the hours for drinking and it is expected the fair will soon collapse altogether.—London Standard.

Why Did You?

"Why do women marry?" inquires the Baltimore American. "Usually because men ask them. Give us a harder one," says the New York Herald. "All right! Why do men ask them?"—Washington Herald.

But why call this still harder when you can answer it yourself?—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

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ONE QUESTION ALWAYS ASKED

Employer of Labor Wants to Know
If Formation of Jaw Is Natural
or Acquired.

"There is one question I always ask a man who wants a job," remarked the business man who has to hire several hundred men for different positions each year.

"The question I always ask them is: 'Do you smoke a pipe much?' Of course the answers are various. Some of them smoke a pipe a great deal and others not at all. Some smoke cigarettes, although I seldom can get a man to admit it. There seems to be a general guilty feeling when a man is a cigarette smoker. Some of them smoke cigars. My business is such that it makes very little difference to their availability to me no matter what they smoke.

"Why do I ask about the pipe? Well, not that I have the least interest in their habits, or that I have any prejudice one way or another in the matter. The reason is that I want to know whether the formation of their lower jaws is natural or acquired.

"A man with a firm lower jaw is always a man of parts and of will. I say 'always,' anyway, most always. If he does not smoke a pipe his square jaw, back near where it hinges on to the upper one, is natural. If he is a pipe smoker the looks are deceiving, and I have to judge his caliber some other way.

"Pipe smokers always have strong muscles back on the face about the place a man stops when he makes the first stroke downward in shaving. These are the muscles that hold the jaws together. They often give a square-jawed effect to a man who hasn't any square-jaw characteristics. My men think I ask funny questions, but there's a reason."

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