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WALTER BLOOMFIELD

Holdenhurst Hall

CHAPTER XII.

Continued.

"I am Sir Thomas Roe, representative in this country of King James of England. Your passports and your letter of introduction accidentally came into my hands last night, and you may thank God that it was so, for had it fallen out otherwise it is impossible to say what might have become of you. The causes which have produced your recent experiences are quite clear to me. You have not been so unfortunate as in the circumstances might have been expected. But before I explain further, console yourself with the knowledge that your ten chests of sequins are quite safe, and so is your girdle, your passports and your English money, and that you are free to take them when and where you choose. Know then that we are in the second week of September, and that less than five months ago Constantinople was the scene of a bloody revolution. The Janissaries, incensed by deferred payments, broke through all restraints of authority on learning that Sultan Othman contemplated a pilgrimage to Mecca, the expense of which they conceived boded ill for the satisfaction of their claims. This turbulent and powerful military body broke down the outer gates of the Seraglio, and with angry demonstrations demanded the heads of the Sultan's Ministers who had advised the sacred journey. For the moment the discontent of the Janissaries was appeased with fair words, but the Government was in a bad way, with an incompetent Sultan, dire lack of money, and but feeble support of any sort. It was necessary that some vigorous measures should be adopted. The Ulama met secretly and resolved to depose Sultan Othman, who was soon afterward deposed into one of the seven towers which compose this building, where he was strangled by an ex-Vizier assisted by three pashas. This step, while it effectually disposed of the pilgrimage question, raised other questions vastly more momentous to the State. Mustapha, who was Othman's predecessor, and himself been deposed, is again installed Sultan, though he cannot, I think, hold his high office for long his conduct being that of a lunatic. The treasury being almost empty, and money urgently needed, the Admiral Pasha was instructed to make reprisals on Venetian vessels for indignities inflicted on the faithful by Venetian traders at Rhodes and Cyprus. There have been no complaints to the Porte of any such indignities—for the reason, as I suppose, that no such indignities have been committed, but the Admiral Pasha understood his orders in the spirit in which they were issued, and hence the capture of the Venetian frigate in which you came hither. It was seen that you were not of the race, and your own effects were set aside and a special consideration—a consideration delayed by the turbulence of the times, which engrosses the attention of all the officers of State. It was last night when the Grand Vizier put your English papers into my hands for interpretation. I perceived within a little what had occurred, and exercised such power as I have for your benefit. Your property, uninjured and complete, is at my house, and there it is that I would advise you to come and stay for the present. With regard to the captain who has your ring I could by my word cause his head to be brought to you at once on a dish, but you have not been in Turkey long enough to be indifferent to the sight, and indeed his fault scarcely merits the penalty."

No words can adequately express the transports of joy with which I drank in the generous declaration of Sir Thomas Roe. When I was a schoolboy at St. Edmund's Bury I saw a thief standing on a gallows, his arms bound and his neck in a noose, with the hangman at his side ready to turn him off, but the king's pardon at that moment arriving, the halter was removed from his neck, his arms unbound, and he was led back to prison. Nothing can efface from my memory the expression of that man's face while the king's pardon was being read out to him, and I think I must have felt somewhat as the Suffolk robber felt on that occasion. My thanks, however briefly expressed, were very fervent, and I felt faint with pleasurable excitement when Sir Thomas rose to leave and bade me accompany him. The two young Turks who had guarded me threw wide the door to allow of our departure, and bowed to my protector so humbly that their foreheads touched the carpet. I would have rewarded them for the kindly treatment I had received at their hands, but I had nothing wherewith to do so, and the opportunity passed.

After descending a great number of steps and threading our way through some paved courts not much unlike the courtyards of an English castle, my protector and I at last reached a public street, where awaited us six negroes with two fine horses. Sir Thomas and I having mounted the horses they were led by two negroes, with a negro walking on either side of each rider. And in this manner we proceeded to Pera, where Sir Thomas Roe's house was situated. Our progress through

amassed a large fortune by trade, and being a shrewd, clever man he liberally fed an influential pasha, from whom he received in return intelligence of State matters. In this way the unfortunate Battista learned in advance of the Porte's alleged grievance against the Venetians, and correctly estimating the incident he closed his affairs here with as much secrecy and despatch as he could, and accompanied by his wife and his two sons, embarked one night aboard a vessel he had purchased, taking with him an immense treasure of money and jewels. But his flight was noticed almost at once, and his means of information ascertained. His friend, the pasha, was bowstrung, Battista's ship overtaken and sunk with all aboard before it had got out of the Bosphorus, and the treasure brought back and placed in the imperial treasury, where it now is."

This horrible narrative dumbfounded me, and I resolved to get without the dominions of the Grand Turk as soon as conveniently might be. Apprehending that I should experience some difficulty in reaching Venice (for I designed to return to that city), I questioned Sir Thomas Roe as to the degree of safety enjoyed by Englishmen in Turkey, and in particular desired him to tell me how it came about that his representations were more regarded than the representations made by ambassadors from other countries, which appeared very plainly the case.

"The Turks," said Sir Thomas Roe, "have respected England since 1588. In 1587 England humiliated herself by asking these people to aid her in repelling invasion. The Turk, who is nothing if not selfish, of course refused, and Elizabeth's envoys succeeded only in impressing the Porte with an idea of England's impotency. But when in 1588 England single-handed scattered and destroyed the whole might of Spain, it was noted here, as indeed it was throughout the world, that the islanders of Northern Europe are not only keen in trade, but quick to avenge and formidable in fight, accustomed withal to speak the truth and stand for their rights against whatever odds. Your Turk, I say, noted these things, and the benefit to Englishmen has been that to this day their ships ride in the Bosphorus as securely as in their own narrow seas. That it is not so with the ships of weaker States you yourself can witness."

For many days I continued to reside in the house of Sir Thomas Roe, not going abroad further than the boundaries of the garden which encompassed it. My host was a delightful companion, as full of information as an egg is of meat, yet without singularly modest in his manner of imparting it. By his advice I not only delayed my departure for Venice, but refrained from walking about the city, and I was the more content to follow his counsel when I considered the pain which intelligence of the ill-fated Orlo Malpiero and her passengers would inflict on Signor Simona, and so I rested myself, filling my mind from the rich stores of knowledge possessed by my host, and making under his able guidance rapid progress toward a mastery of the Turkish tongue.

But the longer I remained in Constantinople the more I desired to explore the manners and customs of the people, and I intimated as much to my host in the choicest Turkish I could command. My host no further opposed my desire, but merely advised me to adopt the dress of a Turk, and never to stir abroad unless accompanied by at least two stout slaves; suggestions which I very willingly adopted, though at first I found the loose flowing garments of the Ottomans excessively inconvenient, and could not then have believed that I should for twenty-eight years clothe myself in no other way.

The health of Sir Thomas Roe was not robust, and it was always his custom after a spell of sickness to talk of his return to England, a chance which he contemplated with pleasure. He had no regular assistance in the duties of his office, which at times pressed heavily upon him, so that when I volunteered to assist in the preparation of his dispatches to King James my offer was gratefully accepted. And thus the winter of 1622 passed away, the spring of 1623 advanced and still my daily life remained unaltered, but I had meanwhile acquired the language of the Turks, and that, too, with little trouble, for it presents but few difficulties to an earnest student. In June, 1623, intelligence reached Sir Thomas Roe, in answer to inquiries which he had instituted at my instigation, that Signor Pietro Simona was dead; that the good old Venetian merchant had died in the belief that all who sailed from Venice in the Orlo Malpiero had perished. There remained nothing now to attract me to that city, and abandoning my intention to revisit it, I continued to live with Sir Thomas Roe.

To be continued.

Actor's Independent Valet.

Arthur Boucher, the English actor, once hired as a "dresser," a frequenter of the gallery at the theatre. Mr. Boucher says: "One night a new play was produced by me, and when I came back to my dressing-room from the stage I found the door locked. As time was passing, I sent another man to search for my missing servant. He was caught red-handed in the gallery among his old associates loudly 'boosing' his master. Arraigned before me, he maintained the firmest attitude possible and asserted boldly, 'No, sir, I am your servant behind the scenes, but as an independent man and honest gallery boy I am bound to express my unbiased opinion either for or against any play which I may happen to see at a first night.'"

Humor of Today

All Correct.
An antiseptic baby lived on antiseptic milk; His clothes were antiseptic, made of antiseptic silk. In antiseptic carriages he rode, with time to spare. He had an antiseptic nurse, breathed antiseptic air; And though upon this mundane sphere he did not long abide, They placed him in an antiseptic coffin when he died. —Smart Set.

Its Drawback.
"Education is a great thing."
"Yes, it turns out some mighty intelligent criminals."—Life.

Expensive Engagement.
Patience—"How do you know her love for him was strong?"
Patrice—"Because it broke him."—Yonkers Statesman.

Ambiguous.
Jack Nervy—"I'm going to kiss you when I leave this house to-night."
May Kutely—"Leave the house this instant, sir!"—Philadelphia Press.

Mother Earth.
"I wonder why people always speak of Earth as she?"
"It's natural enough. Nobody knows exactly what her age is."—Philadelphia Ledger.

After.
She—"Ah, you men! Before marriage you pay compliments, but after—"
He—"After? Why, after—we do better; we pay bills."—Life.

Advanced.
"You say that Lord Pucash's social position has improved since he married a rich American girl?"
"Yes, indeed. Formerly he was only a nobleman; but now he belongs to our highest society."—Washington Star.

None Such.
"I'm looking for a painless dentist. Can you recommend one?"
"I never knew any that didn't hurt at least once."
"When is that?"
"When his bill comes in."—Detroit Free Press.

Careless Artist.
"Do you think you can draw that ball the length of the table?"
"I'll have to, I suppose. But I don't see why the artist didn't draw it back there to begin with."—Chicago Tribune.

Wisely Chosen.
Mr. Short—"Can I believe it—you will really marry me?"
Miss Tall—"Yes. I always make my own dresses, and, as we are both the same height, you will come real handy when I am cutting and fitting."—New York Weekly.

Not Compulsory.
"Tell me, Colonel," asked the beginner in politics, addressing the gray-haired statesman, "can a politician be honest?"
"I suppose so, my boy," replied the veteran, "but—ah—it isn't necessary."—Collier's Weekly.

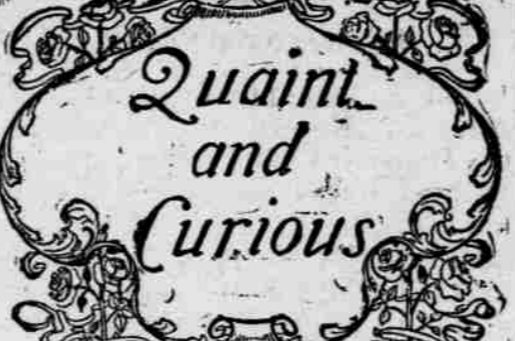
Making Allowances.
"People do not take in proper account," said the broad-minded man, "the nervous strain under which we live. It is necessary to make allowances for some of our public officials."
"That's the idea," rejoined Signor Sorghum. "And liberal allowances, too."—Washington Star.

Physical, Not Political.
Doctor—"You have a perfectly sound constitution, sir, but you are overworked a little and run down, and that is why your physical energies have begun to flag."
Patient—"Then in my case the constitution does not follow the flag? Thank you, doctor."—Yonkers Herald.

No Contretemps.
"How did your nephew's wedding pass off?"
"Just splendid."
"Were there any contretemps?"
"I don't think so. I didn't see any. You see we had the church thoroughly cleaned up just before the wedding took place."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

In the Billville Backwoods.
"How far is it to the next town, my friend?"
"About fifty acres—or better."
"I mean—how many miles."
"Well, hit mout be two, or hit mout be six."
"You're a big fool!"
"I know it; but—your orte seen my daddy?"—Atlanta Constitution.

His Preference.
The father was giving the son some advice.
"Now that you are starting out in life," said the parent, "you will find it pays to cultivate the acquaintance of well-to-do people."
But the son shook his head.
"No, pop," he responded, "I will find it pays me better to cultivate the acquaintance of easy-to-do people. I am going to locate in Wall Street."—Chicago News.



The smallest oak trees are to be found in China. They are one and one-half inches high and will take root in thumbles.

The language of the Republic of Haiti is French while the language of the Republic of Santo Domingo, on the Island of Haiti, is Spanish.

Dr. Carl Schmidt, of Heidelberg, Germany, has succeeded, after seven years of hard work, in piecing together two thousand small fragments of papyrus and translating the contents from the Coptic.

Stunted dogs are very much admired by Parisian ladies. The demand for them is met by at least forty professional "dog dwarfers," who bring up the pups on an alcoholic diet which has the effect of checking their growth.

The Bank of England notes are made from new white linen cuttings—never from anything that has been worn. So carefully is the paper prepared that even the number of dips into the pulp made by each workman is registered on a dial by machinery.

The Emperor Menelik of Abyssinia is the fifth husband of his wife, Taitu, who was once a great beauty. Her first husband was one of King Theodore's generals, her second she divorced, her third was killed by King John, her fourth was "removed," and in 1888 she married Menelik.

Soldiers are despised in China. They belong chiefly to the coolie classes. The German officers engaged some time ago by the Chinese government found that their most important task was to overcome the soldiers' own feelings that they were a lower order of beings than other Chinamen.

The Chinese department of the British Museum Library contains a single work which occupies 5020 volumes. This wonderful production of the Chinese press is one of only a small number of copies now in existence. It is an encyclopedia of the literature of China, covering a period of twenty-eight centuries, from 1100 B. C. to 1700 A. D.

It is not generally known that the vanilla bean is the costliest bean on earth. It grows wild and is gathered by the natives in Papantia and Misantla, Mexico. When brought from the forests these beans are sold at the rate of \$12 per 1000, but when dried and cured they cost about \$12 per pound. They are mainly used by druggists, and last year over 90,000,000 were imported into the United States.

The warrant under which John Bunyan was apprehended and placed in jail at Bedford for six months during the reign of Charles II, was sold at auction in London for \$1525. The warrant, which is signed by thirteen justices of the peace, six baronets and seven esquires, charged the tinker with contempt of law, by preaching and teaching otherwise than "according to the liturgy or practice of the Church of England."

Saving Ptarmigan by Pitfalls.
In Scotland there is a way of taking ptarmigan, which seems so simple that it is hardly credible that any birds can be so captured. Yet reliable witnesses have spoken of it as successful. A place on the mountain side is chosen where ptarmigan resort and the snow lies sufficiently deep. With an old wine bottle, held neck foremost, holes are made in the snow and the bottom of each hole is filled with grain. The ptarmigan lean over to peck it out and find themselves overbalanced and caught head down in the snow, unwilling prisoners, but unable to use their wings in getting out again.

New Potatoes.
The discoverer of a new potato in England is selling the seed at \$500 a pound, or \$30,000 a bushel. That all most ranks with the Lawson Pink. It bears a ginseng garden, which is worth \$50,000 an acre each year. But the Irish potato will surely have to go, as it is becoming too diseased for human consumption. We shall have to turn to Uruguay. The French scientists, you know, have found on the banks of the River Mercedés what they style the "Solanum commersonii," a potato that is immune from all diseases. Its yield is enormous, and its quality is superior to the finest Irish potatoes. Let 'em come in!

Life a Reality.
Life is a reality—a useful, usable, noble reality. Happy, too, when once the grim Idol Self has been dethroned forever. For it is a truth which we all have to learn—oftentimes through many a bitter lesson—that we can never be happy unless we cease trying to make ourselves so.



Carrot Pudding.
Two cups grated carrot, two cups grated potato, two cups chopped suet, two cups flour, one cup sugar, one cup molasses, one cup raisins, one cup currants, one lemon (grate rind and add juice), one teaspoonful cream tartar, spice and salt. Steam three hours, bake half an hour.

Chocolate Souffle.
Melt two tablespoonfuls of butter; add five tablespoonfuls of flour; do not brown, but stir constantly until smooth; add gradually half a cupful of milk and stir until thickened; pour this over the yolks of three eggs and two tablespoonfuls of sugar, which have been beaten together; put two squares of chocolate in a pan over hot water; when melted add it to the mixture; stand aside until cool; shortly before the souffle is to be served beat the whites of eggs until stiff, mix them carefully into a cold mixture; turn into a buttered mold; the mold should be only three-fourths full; cover the mold; stand it in a pan of boiling water and boil half an hour; serve with sugar and cream.

Two Cheese Sandwiches.
A circular cracker, of the variety known as water thin, is crisped in the oven. It is then spread with rich cream cheese, rather thickly, and topped with a layer of ruby bar-le-duc. This is made of stemmed red currants floating in a delicious thin jelly. The other cheese sandwich consists of two oblongs, three by one and one-half inches, of brown bread, cut very thin and freed from crust. The filling is prepared by rubbing some cream cheese very soft and blending it with minced watercress and two tablespoonfuls of mayonnaise dressing. The brown bread sandwich is served on a crisp lettuce leaf. It is a tasty and delicious sandwich for summer lunches and for picnics. Nothing can fill its place.

A Short Cut to Marmalade.
To slice oranges and lemons in the process of making marmalade, there is nothing better than an ordinary carpenter's plane, an instrument which is found in almost all households in the larger or smaller form. The older wooden planes are preferable, as they do not discolor the fruit as the more modern all iron plane would do. To use, invert the plane over the pan in which the marmalade is to be made. Take the whole fruit and move it back and forth over the knife, removing the seeds as they appear. This will give slices equal to those made with the very expensive marmalade machine, though with slightly more trouble, but much more quickly and easily than with an ordinary knife. The plane blade should be sharp and properly adjusted before commencing the slicing. An individual once trying this short cut will never use the ordinary kitchen knife again, for the ease and rapidity with which the fruit is sliced is marvelous.—Boston Cooking School.

HINTS FOR THE HOUSEKEEPER.
Dishcloths are quickly made fresh and sweet by boiling in clean water with a good lump of soda added.
Always put the sugar used in a tart in the centre of the fruit, not at the top, as this makes the paste sodden.
When peeling onions, begin at the root end and peel upward, and the onions will scarcely affect your eyes at all.
In boiling meat for making soup the meat should be put into cold water, in order to extract all the goodness from the meat.
Soup will be as good the second day if heated to boiling point. It should never be left in a saucepan, but turned into a dish and put aside to cool. Do not cover the soup up, as that may cause it to turn sour.
A tablespoon of black pepper put in the first water in which gray and buff linens are washed will keep the colors of black or colored cambrics or muslins from running. A little gum arabic imparts a gloss to ordinary starch.
If motes are in a carpet, turn it over and iron on the wrong side with a good hot flatiron. Then sprinkle the floor underneath liberally with turpentine, pouring it into the cracks if there are any. Rub the turpentine in and then you can turn back your carpet. Repeat this treatment two or three days.
A good recipe which will keep the bristles of hair brushes stiff after washing is as follows: Pour into an open dish a dessertspoonful of ammonia to a quart of cold water. Dip the brush into this, moving up and down, but taking care not to wet the back of the brush. In this way the bristles will be clean and white in less than one minute and without any rubbing. Then dip the brush into clean water, shake and place in a rack to drain.

No "Graft."
Congress has no more widely useful measure of domestic legislation in hand than is contemplated in the bill put forward by Representative Brownlow and Senator Gallinger to give national aid to the good roads movement. The plan is to make a liberal appropriation which will be available for the payment of half the cost of building new roads, the other half to be paid by the State, county or local political division benefited by the improvement. The authors of this design pointed out in addresses to the Automobile Club that the general government, which has spent \$2,000,000 in the Philippines and \$1,500,000 in Porto Rico on road building, could properly do something in that line for the American farmer. As \$450,000,000 has been spent on rivers and harbors since the Civil War, they suggest it is time to make facilities for land travel also a matter of federal concern.

There is no doubt that the American farmer directly, and the whole people indirectly, would gain much by the stimulus the good roads movement would receive from a federal appropriation sharing with the State half the cost of new roadways. There is only one argument against putting to plan quickly into effect, and that is the danger of opening the way to extravagance in appropriations and "graft" in their expenditure. If the American people could have assurance not to say insurance, against turning the plan to the advantage of reckless legislators and corrupt contractors, they would quickly order it carried out. They want no more river and harbor grants or public buildings steals or rural free delivery plunder. There are plenty of arguments against opening the Treasury door to that kind of "graft." But there is no argument against good roads.

A Good Tip.
Be careful what you do here and don't worry about what will be done with you hereafter.—Chicago News.

Good Roads

Checker Board Roads.
In most parts of the West where the public lands were surveyed and laid off into sections, halves and quarters, the public roads have been established on the checker board system. These roads consequently run either north and south or east and west, crossing at right angles. This method of locating roads is sometimes called "the checker board system," and the term is quite appropriate. In some States the road laws contemplate the establishing of a road or every section line, so they will be only one mile apart, but not nearly all these roads have been actually opened.

In comparison with the system, or lack of system, which prevails in the older settled States of the East and South, this checker board system has some advantages. The roads are not left to be located at hap-hazard, or on crooked farm boundaries, or according to the whims or selfish interests of the locators. The order and mathematical regularity of the system naturally appeals to the minds of those who read about those roads or study them on maps, but to those who actually travel them, their location appears to be very far short of ideal perfection. In fact the system involves two very grave defects. If a man wishes to travel directly north, south, east or west, these roads take him by the shortest route. But a large majority of the people wish to travel in other directions. Let us suppose a man lives exactly ten miles northwest from his country seat. In order to reach it he must travel seven miles east and seven miles south, or fourteen miles in all. Thus a majority of travelers suffer a hardship in the matter of distance.

But the second defect in the system is far graver. The mathematical precision with which these roads are located carries them across hills and hollows without any regard to economy in the matter of grades. Where the country is perfectly level there is no difficulty; where it is rolling the roads can only be improved at a heavy cost in making cuts and fills; where there are steep hills and deep ravines to cross the system is wholly impracticable.

Doubtless one of the first benefits that will follow the adoption of the national plan will be the modification of this system so as to remedy these defects in a large measure. Naturally the first roads to be improved in a county will be those leading directly north, south, east and west from the county seat. Then main roads or avenues leading northeast, northwest, southeast and southwest from the county seat should be opened and improved. Thus the first defect shall be largely eliminated.

The second defect pointed out can only be cured by departing from the section lines where the lay of the road makes it economical to do so. Under national and State aid competent engineers will be employed to correct errors of location, so as to increase the usefulness of the roads, and at the same time reduce their cost.

The sentiment for national aid is making great headway in this part of the country. In Nebraska the Legislature has declared in favor of it. Several members of Congress from Missouri are outspoken advocates of the plan. In Illinois a State Commission has been appointed to investigate and report on national aid. In a number of other States definite action will probably be taken in the near future.

Hint for the Housekeeper.
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