

A HAZARDOUS WORK

[Original.]

In the fourteenth century there flourished in northern Italy a ducal principality presided over by the Grand Duke Savonola. At that time assassination was the common method of getting rid of an enemy, and the duke had his own special assassin, who removed with poison any one obnoxious to his master. At state banquets this man stood behind the duke's chair and now and again would be dispatched to one of the guests to pledge him by proxy for the sovereign. The royal rule was that the two should exchange glasses, it being the greater honor to drink from the duke's glass. The distinction came to be considered one which might better be declined, for it was quite likely to be followed by the death of one of the persons honored.

There was at the capital a woman, the Countess of Vincenza, of extraordinary character and virtue, something not usual in that profligate age. She was much respected by the duke and stood high in his confidence, even to being consulted by him in affairs of state. She had endeavored to inculcate into him a higher code of morals, but had failed. She at last determined to put a stop to his murders, even if it was necessary to sacrifice her own life. One day while she was driving she met a man, evidently a stranger, whose likeness to the duke was astonishing. She sent a servant to bid him call at her villa that evening.

"Who are you?" she asked when he appeared.

"Ricardo Mardi, the youngest son of a nobleman of southern Italy."

"What do you here?"

"I am in quest of some adventure to better my condition. I am starving."

"Would you like to be grand duke?"

The man, thunderstruck, stammered that he would, whereupon the countess told him that it was possible, though to affect the object he must risk his life. Ricardo was much impressed with the striking individuality of the countess, falling every moment more under her influence.

"I shall ask for an invitation for you," she said, "to the next state banquet. We will attend it together, sitting side by side. As you are the duke's man, you will be asked to give him a toast. You will drink with his master, exchanging glasses. The glass you receive will be poisoned. I will put into practice one of several plans I have in mind, using the one which at the time seems most practicable."

Ricardo impulsively resolved to place his life in the countess' keeping and consented to do her bidding. She at once wrote to the duke, asking for the invitation, and when the banquet came off she was there with Ricardo Mardi. His likeness to the duke caused a sensation. Indeed, he was several times mistaken for the ruler. The moment the host set eyes on Ricardo it was plain to the countess that he was much incensed. But he controlled himself and later in the evening sent his proxy to honor the stranger in the usual way. Ricardo rose, and was about to take the glass offered him when the countess seized it and, holding it aloft, turned to the duke.

"I claim the honor of first pledging your highness," she said. Ricardo, who had been instructed by her, protested the two exchanging for the glass. The duke, who saw his intention liable to be turned awry, sat anxiously watching the scene. Presently he saw the countess drink. She had no sooner done so than, appearing to be ill, she retired to an anteroom. From there she sent word to the duke that she was dying and asked him to come to her alone, since she would communicate to him a state secret of vital importance. The duke hurried to the chamber.

The countess in her efforts to get the glass from Ricardo had succeeded in drinking from her own glass, making it appear that it was the one offered by the poisoner. When the duke entered the anteroom, Ricardo closed the door, and while the former hurried to the countess Ricardo stabbed him in the back. Then, exchanging clothes with him, he hid the body under a divan and, returning to the banquet room, took the host's seat.

As soon as Ricardo had left the anteroom the countess called for one of her servants, who had been instructed, and, wrapping the duke's body in her mantle, she carried it out to her carriage and drove away with it. Then the countess slipped out unseen.

Ricardo Mardi remained but a few moments at the table, feigning to be grieved at the illness of the countess and withdrawing apparently much affected. In fact, it was plain to the guests, some of whom recognized a difference in his appearance from the real duke, that something extraordinary had happened. When he drove up to his palace, he at once went into seclusion, and the next day it was announced that he was very ill. He was accessible to no one for some weeks, except the countess, whose unexpected recovery was received by every one with delight. When the duke emerged from his retirement, he was much altered in appearance, but this was attributed either to venereal or illness. That there was a great change in him was indicated by his ordering his poisoner to be thrown into prison, where he was secretly executed.

The countess, who was a wife and the mother of several children, kept the secret of how she had saved future ducal guests from drinking the fatal draft. The grand duke afterward asked the likelihood of her daughter's marrying, but the countess would not consent. When the duke died the government passed to the hands of one in the background.

A Bunch of Arizona Kicklets

[Copyright, 1903, by C. B. Lewis.]

The superintendent of the Glendard Gulch stage line has not sent us our annual pass for 1903 yet. Must we sail with a gun and shoot it out of him?

At the performance of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" last Monday night the cowboys shot fourteen kerosene lamps to pieces in honor of little Eva. If little Eva doesn't replace them, the theater will be pretty dim the rest of the winter.

Among the natural products found on Bill Williams mountain, which we own body and soul, are borax, soda, alum, potash, emery, rock salt, copperas, soap and sandstone, and yet we don't feel that we are quite happy.

We are not hoping for war, but we'd like Uncle Sam to know that if he ever gets into any trouble he can depend upon 250 men from this town at the drop of the hat. They are men who can stand up to anything, from a bar to a cannon.

How the report got over to Lone Jack that we had shot Captain Henderson during a quarrel we don't understand. We did not do the captain the other day for money he owed me and he told us to go to. But there was no quarrel. We simply went as far as we could.

M. QUAD.

Mathematical.
Johnny (aged eight)—When I was two years old and my big brother was six, was he three times as old as I?
Teacher—Yes.
Johnny—And when I was four and he was eight was he twice as old as I?
Teacher—Certainly.
Johnny—And now I'm eight and he's twelve is he only once and a half as old as I am?
Teacher—Yes, why?
Johnny—Well, how long will it take me to catch up to him?—Philadelphia Ledger.

Misunderstood.
"What was the cause of the row in the cell?" asked the police captain.
"Two fellows came to bail Murphy out," said the lockup keeper.
"What of it?" asked the captain.
"Oh, just a little misunderstanding," answered the lockup keeper. "Murphy was looking for some one to get him out, but when these fellows said they would bail him out he thought they were insulting that he was a tank and so he called into them."—New York Times.

Always Ready.
The Wool-Woolens don't dread the 1st of May. They are ready to move at a moment's notice.—Chicago News.

Privilege of Invaldism.
Little Jane had heard her mother say that sick people demanded a great deal of consideration. A few days later Jane said:
"Mamma, I think it would be lovely to be sick."
"Why?" asked her mother.
"Oh, because sick people command so much consideration!"—Little Chronicle.

Uncommon Beliance.
Tess—I hear you became acquainted with Miss Travis the other day.
Jess—Yes, and she's such a remarkable girl. She told me she had been out of town for several months.
Tess—Yes, she was in Europe.
Jess—Exactly, and she didn't mention a word about it to me.—Philadelphia Press.

Not Worth the Trouble.
"You write your first name very well indeed," Miss Pinkie, criticised the writing teacher, "but you make a sad batch of the Johnson part of it."
"What is the difference, Mr. Spencer?" asked the pretty girl. "I expect to change the Johnson part of it some day."—Chicago Tribune.

Not Too Precipitate.
"Ah, Gracie, dear," she said to the duke, "why don't you go to papa to-day? Delays are dangerous, you know."
"Yes, I realize that," he replied, "but I've only known you three days, and these get rich quick schemes always seem to be so risky."—Chicago Record Herald.

Appreciative.
Wesley—Laird, does this anybody see appreciative like dog under the tree?
Wesley—But no?
Wesley—Yes, especially when he's on the right side of the fence.—The Owl.

Rheumacide

The great rheumatic remedy not only cures every form of rheumatism, but makes radical cures of

Contagious Blood Poison, Scrofula, Sores, Boils, Catarrh,

and all diseases arising from impurities in the blood. Endorsed by physicians and prominent people everywhere after thorough trial.

DOES NOT INJURE THE DIGESTIVE ORGANS.

BALTIMORE, N. C.
Gentlemen—I take pleasure in bearing testimony to the curative properties of your "RHEUMACIDE." Two bottles cured my son of a bad case. It is well to be of any benefit to you in advertising your meritorious remedy, you can use it.

Yours truly, W. H. RAND, Steward State Blind Institution.

All Druggists, \$1.00; or prepaid on receipt of price.
Bobbitt Chemical Co., Baltimore, Md.
J. E. HOOD, DRUGGIST, KINSTON, N. C.

CASTORIA.
The Kind You Want
Beware the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*

A GREAT REDUCTION

in

BABY CAPS

and

READY-TO-WEAR HATS

by

MISS MEACHAM & CO.

After Saturday, July 11

we will ask all customers using our Bread, Cakes and Pies to please send to the store for them, as we find that the wagon trade does not pay.

We can give larger size bread if you send for it.

Hoping to furnish you as much as ever.

Very respectfully,

Kinston Bakery Co.

TOWN TALK

TOWN TALK

For Broken Biscuit, Bread or Bun, Or any thing Pastry under the Sun. The Talk of the Town, the Vogue of the Hour. The Hit of the Season, is TOWN TALK FLOUR.

Ask your Grocer for it. If he hasn't it in stock, he can get it from

T. W. NEWBORN & CO.,
Sole Agents for Kinston

THE OWL DRUG STORE

For Lunch Today

Come in and try an Egg Drink. You will feel better and work better in the afternoon if you take a light noon lunch. All of the following are extremely easy of digestion and very nutritious. 10c each.

Egyptian Frappe	Mint July
French Sip	Vichy a La Egg
Kola Fizz	Bismarck
Silverian Fizz	Lila Juice
Cream Dr. Mint	Corned Orange
Strawberry Mint	Amalasia Frappe
Pineapple Smash	Mountain Fizz
Cream De Cocoa	Imperial Crown
Frosted Fruit	Southwestern Slight
Nectarine Fizz	Fratina
Alaska Snowball	Cupid's Kiss
Triple Egg Phosphate	Vini Frappe
Beach Blossom	Pepsin Phosphate
Peach Blow	Royal Flip
Wine a La Egg	Viola
Rising Wine Fizz	Snow Crown
Golden Ape	Golden Idea
Silver Ape	Raspberry Cordial
Honey Pearly Fizz	Wine Punch

Female University

Schools of Arts, Science and Philosophy; Rhetoric, Art, Epitaph and Inscriptions. Faculty of five men and ten women, who, at whole time, with two exceptions, is given to one subject. Recitation periods an hour each. \$2.00 worth of new equipment for the departments of Chemistry, Biol. and Physics. History and Mathematics. Music department embraces two of the three best systems of grand-voice teaching in the South.

Other departments up to date. Study to be cared for by Lady Principal, Lady Physician, Manrou and Trained Nurse.

Expenses: the Literary course \$167.50 per session. In the lab, about \$45 less. Next session opens September 1st. For other information add

R. T. VANN, President, BALMOR, N. C.
J. W. GRAINGER, Vice-President

The Bank of Kinston

Capital Stock, \$50,000.00
Surplus—Profits, \$21,500.00

Legal Depository for State, County and Municipal Funds

Solicits deposits from Farmers, Merchants, Corporations and Individuals.

Capital and Surplus Profits was \$21,000 six years ago.

This Bank was safe then—you can see that it is nearly three and one half times stronger now.

If you are not a depositor would be pleased to have you open an account.

Yours truly,
R. L. STONE, Cashier

UNDERTAKER and EMBALMER.

Will give competent service to all so unfortunate as to need such service. Just simply give me notice and all details will be attended to.

Caskets of all qualities carried in stock, and by patronizing my establishment you will get competent services at as low prices as from anyone.

I respectfully solicit a continuance of the patronage of the people in this section.

Very truly,
GEO. B. WEBB,
KINSTON, N. C.

White Furniture Co.

110 W. NORTH ST.
Just around the corner from LaRoue's Store

New Firm, New Furniture and Lowest Prices.

It will be to your interest to call and examine our stock and prices.

Don't fail to see our Baby Jumpers, Baby Walkers, Reclining Chairs, they are solid comfort. Baby Carriages, Go-Carts, Bedside Tables, indispensable for the sick.

We also carry in stock Matting, Rugs, Quilt Lace Curtains, Curtain Goods, Clocks, Trunks, etc., etc.

You should have one of our Kitchen Cabinets, a necessity to any housekeeper.

Call or installment. We solicit your patronage and promise prompt and faithful service and lowest living prices.

A new line of Beautiful Pictures and Mirrors just open today. Call and see them. Prices will surprise you—they are so cheap.

Mattresses and Clocks

GOOD TICKS

QUINN & MILLER

WHOLESALE ONLY

We successfully compete with other Reliable Houses in Quality and price.

SUMPELL & COGOY

106-108 E. GORDON ST.
KINSTON, N. C.

PILE! PILE! PILE!

Dr. Williams' Indian Pile Ointment will cure itching, bleeding, chafed and itching Piles. It absorbs the tumors, always the itching at once, acts as a poultice, gives instant relief. Dr. Williams' Indian Pile Ointment is prepared only for Piles and itching of the private parts and nothing else. Every box guaranteed. Sold by druggists, sent by mail for 50c and \$1.00 per box. WILLIAMS' MED. CO., Prop., Cleveland, O. Sold by Temple-Marston Drug Co.

W. T. PARROTT, Ph. G., M. D.,
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON.
KINSTON, N. C.

Office Hours: 9 to 10 a. m. and 8 to 9 p. m.
Telephone calls: House 24, Office 78.

SEE YOURSELF!
Have those old defaced Mirrors re-plated—as good as new.

O. G. Hartsfield
C. H. POOL
Contractor and Builder of Wood and Brick Buildings,
KINSTON, N. C.

Estimates furnished on application.
Good Work Guaranteed.

Beware! Beware!

Sanitary Plumbing is the only kind that can be connected to the Sewerage System.

Slate Roofing, Tin Roofing, Cornice Work, Repairing of All Kinds, Tobacco Flues.

S. H. Isler, Jr.,
We have on hand several thousand feet of

Dressed Flooring and Ceiling

ready for immediate delivery.

THE YELLOW PINE MFG CO.

KINSTON, N. C.
PHONE 86.



THINK FIRST—THEN ACT.

Don't send for any plumber, no matter how urgent the need for one may be. A rash order may result in nothing more than a promise to send a man around.

Take the time—a minute or two longer, perhaps—to communicate with us. Then the job is as good as done and "done so" it is. We are the plumbers who never promise unless we can perform and never fail to perform well.

MOORE & PARROTT
KINSTON, N. C.

WHOLESALE ONLY

We successfully compete with other Reliable Houses in Quality and price.

SUMPELL & COGOY
106-108 E. GORDON ST.
KINSTON, N. C.

H. W. SIMPSON Architect

KINSTON & NEWBERN, N. C.

Notices left at the office of J. W. Grainger will receive prompt attention.

Cold Drinks OF ALL KINDS.

Ice Cream DAILY.

J. T. Skinner

132 N. QUEEN ST.

BEEF BEEF

Having purchased a lot of fine Cattle, our market will be constantly supplied with Home-Raised and Western Beef.

Our Grocery Department is also first-class and up-to-date.

O. M. HOOKER & CO.
Successors to MOORE & HOOKER.
Phone No. 271

BILTMORE Wheat Hearts

The Heart of Wheat scientifically prepared, retaining only the nutritive elements, appetizing, easily digested and nutritious

A Bountiful Breakfast, A Satisfying Supper

QUICKLY PREPARED.

Mark Mewborn

THE GROCER
Phone No. 145.

Everyth

that the appetite in the way of

Table Dedicacies

at our place. A stock of

Fancy Groceries

that is complete in every detail. Call or phone for anything you want to eat and it will be quickly delivered, for "PROMPT-NESS" is our motto.

FRENCH & SUGG.

For Sale!

Paris Green, Tobacco Sprayers, Tobacco Twine, Thermometers, Lanterns, Fruit Jars, Stone Churns, Flower Pots, Jardinieres, Crockery, Glassware, Paints, Oil, Varnish and a complete line of Builders' Hardware, Farming Implements, Stoves, House Furnishing Goods, Tinware, etc., etc.

Be sure to get my prices before buying.

Very respectfully,
H. E. MOSELEY,
Central Hardware.