Sinclair Yields to the Natives.

I wrote to little Peru of course and explained how Nina herself had planned the getaway, and do you know to my great surprise in his next letter he declared he was going to be in at the stealing with me, and as he was shortly coming of age, he was going to see me out of that Godforsaken land the west coast. Money he said was no object I must come and sojourn with him where he would build a place in healthy and romantic Peru, where we could love and enjoy life as it should be, with my stolen Goddess of high degree, and where they would both admire my wife and my ruby.

I could only laugh heartily, as I knew his nature so well, British and Inca it was just as I expected. But I wondered if I should tell of my fairy but I never did. In fact he admired my sketch of Nina which he declared was A1. Somehow I felt that if he once saw my Belle Savage he would succum, heart silver mines and all.

And Nina had such simple winning ways I thought it would be wise to warn him but I didn't, anyway come eventually he did but not before he succumed or not we shall see later on in the story. I piloted several steamers up, without mishap or trouble of any kind and as trade was booming these always came down with full cargoes.

When he saw Nina T. in Little Peru's arms, a hot wave of jealousy passed through the heart of the trader.

The Pioneer I conducted up the River Ogowe as far as John Ermys who did quite a large trade and had his store a large one in the Bimvool country. On my return I made ready for following De Brazza the posting traders up country. I had quite a big flotilla with me and selecting a few good ivory and rubber trades, we bade goodbye to Adominango and Herr Shiff and Sinclair told me I should make good and so it proved out.

Free Trade.

We parted the following morning and were at Samquite long before sundown. We made a fond goodbye to Samquite and in a few days we pulled up at Isange Island where I made a fortified post at the east end of the island. This being finished I laid out my large stock of goods for trade and I had not long to wait before the Mpangues and Oshebas commenced to flock in.

Thus I made a free trade island and I had a better trade than I expected both in ivory and rubber. I made frequent shipments to Adonimanango and my goods always arrived safely. Apaques people arrived and established a small town near by in the country vacated by the Oshebas. I despatched traders up country and all did well.

I had news of De Zrazza from the Okandas, and he had opposition from the fighting tribes of the Ilige (?) district, but his machine guns and rifles had proved too much for these savages and he eventually arrived with his donkey troop and his liberated slaves at Brazzaville.

Ordered to Quit.

Thus all went well for a few months till a large consignment of goods coming up the river to my depot had the misfortune to come up the side of the river inhabited by the Bimvool. All went well till they reached Ngogudimas town the head chief of these cannibals. Here they were attacked and the whole of the valuable consignment was captured by this chief.

I heard the news a few days after this event and immediately despatched news of the occurrence to Sinclair who sent me an answer that the Chief had promised to send back the goods intact as well as the prisoners if he, Sinclair, would agree to send me no more supplies and recall me. If not he would not do this. He threatened to do his worst against him and if necessary he would raise his tribe and attack the chief depot.

Sinclair consented to his demands and sent me instructions to come down the river at once and save myself as my accounts were already large in my favor, and for my sake he would like me to return without delay.

Defiance.

There I was stuck. My pet project for which I had labored hard was smashed and I was obliged to acknowledge defeat. As I had little or nothing left in my store I made a resolution to ship the balance down the river and thus obey orders but abandon the post I would not; making the excuse to Sinclair that I had outstanding debts which I would collect in spite of his agreement. And if I had a chance, I would pay back the Cannibal Chief for his insolence.

I had not long to wait. I collected my outstanding debts and called in my traders who all came down the river in due time and I explained everything to them. All those who wished to go down the river to Adominanago I let go reserving only such men and canoe boys as were a necessity to man my four largest canoes.

I then formed hunting parties and we hunted elephants and other animals on Apaque's side of the river. I sent a despatch to Apaque to advise me of any move either on our Chief trading station or in event of Nzoguemba making a move. I send a despatch to Apaque to make all sure. I shall dive in the water without sound and shall climb to the bank near the Icondu tree (great cotton tree). Then as I can run fast you will pull for the middle of the stream. The darkness and speed will help us.

The poor Goddess was really in great earnest and of course any fumbling meant her death if not mine also. I had well understood. And afterwards made a short hand note in short hand as nearly verbatim as possible of what she had told me.

As future events will show she was quite right, and as things worked out well on that memorable night, the night I stole her, I always gave her credit for having a better head than I had, as all the plans I could think of were a swift attack on the Holy Men during a visit and carry her off old Scotch boarder fashion or young Lock Invar in a boat whilst the fathers were drunk.

The Lancashire Lass

And I found her plan work out so plainly that Nina must have seen lots more happenings round the Josh house than what she liked me to know. Anyway she had saved my life by her timely warnings and I was determined on taking her away from that ungodly surroundings.

Strange to say although I liked Nina and it would not have taken much to have balanced my loving in her favor then, I could never keep my head about a little blue eyed lass I had known up in North Lancashire in the country we used to call the Clog and Shawl. She lived close to my grand fathers who was a freehold landholder of Frea, the family of the old Fist-and-Spear.

The country especially there was supposed to grow fairies which she told me used to grow from the pond lilies and would stand on the lilies to hear thrushes and skylarks, and I believed her, as she was my great playmate in those days of ringlets, which I wore as well as she.

(To be continued.)

Dollar Investment Brings Back $4.33

That a dollar would grow to more than $4 inside of one season may sound like a whopper fish story, but a summary of 3,912 Chilean nitrate demonstrations shows that southern farmers are getting this return through the use of good fertilizer.

The average return from a dollar's worth of Chilean nitrate for all principal crops was $4.33, according to the summary of farm demonstrations conducted during the last eight years.

The returns for single crops were as follows: Cotton, $4.78; corn, $3.37; oats, $3.24; wheat, $2.94; sugar cane, $4.16; and tobacco, $12.83.

The demonstrations were conducted under widely varying conditions as regards soil and climate. In every case the fertilizer applications and the harvesting of the crops were checked by county agents or vocational teachers.

I am ready to serve you now.
CLAUDE C. FALLS. advt.

Card Of Thanks.

I wish to thank my many friends and neighbors for their kindness and sympathy during the death of my son and also for the beautiful flowers. May God's richest blessings be with you all.

EUGENE GAMBLE.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

Having this day qualified as administrator of the estate of Annie C. Putnam, late of Cleveland county, N. C., this is to notify all persons having claims against the said estate to present same to me properly proven for payment on or before the 28th day of April, 1932, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of any recovery. All persons owing the said estate will please make immediate settlement to the undersigned. This April 28, 1931.

C. B. PUTNAM, Administrator of Annie C. Putnam, Deceased.
6t 28p

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Pure Silk Hosiery

Ladies' Pure Thread Silk Full Fashioned Hose, Chiffons or Service Weight in all the new summer shades, Moonlight, al shades in Gunmetal, Champagne, Pastel Grey, Atmosphere, Nightengale, Ivory, Florida, Putty Beige, Naive, Beige Claire, Reve, Dream Pink and Mayfair at our very low price of ---------- **$1.00**

Childen's Sport Sox

Children's Anklets, Half Hose and Sport Sox. All the new shades for the light summer frocks in plain and fancy patterns, made of highly mercerized Lisle, Rayon and Silk, Pair ---------- **19c, 25c & 49c**

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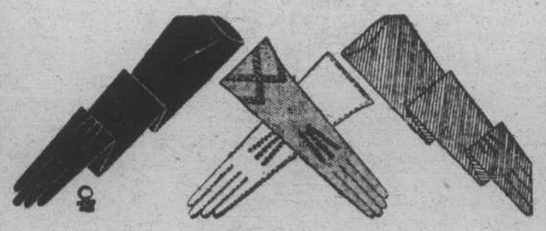

Ladies Leatherweave Fabric Gloves in pastel shades, of Egg Shell, Sky Pink, Doe Skin and white -------- **59c & $1.00**

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REGULAR SIZE OCTAGON SOAP 2½c

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COATS OR CLARK SPOOL COTTON 3c

ANNUAL JUNE SALE

COMMENCES Friday Morning May 29th

Store Closed To Mark Down

Efird's store will close at 1 o'clock Thursday to mark down and re-arrange merchandise for this, the greatest sales event of the year.

SALE OPENS 8:30 O'CLOCK FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 29

EFIRD'S

The Leaders in Low Prices — Come to Opening

Friday Morning May 29th

The Greatest Bargain Event of the Year. Sale Will Continue Entire Month of June.

Store Opens 8:30

EFIRD'S PRICES WILL TELL THE STORY. YOU WILL FIND IN THIS SALE UNHEARD OF FOR 20 TO 30 YEARS BACK, IN MANY CASES LOWEST IN MERCANTILE HISTORY.

Merchandise bought one week ago at the market's lowest forced ebb in great quantities—to go on sale for the first time Friday morning. Prices on Regular Merchandise Re-arranged. This will be a Great Bargain Carnival. "Don't miss it."

Store Opens 8:30

See Our 4-Page June Sale Price List Out Today

Efird's Dept. Store
Shelby, N. C.

— SEE OUR 4-PAGE JUNE SALE PRICE LIST OUT TODAY —