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Haywood E. Lynch
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THE PRICE

He owned both gold and silver things
And precious gems to wear,
Watches and plate and glistening rings,
And gave them constant care.

He paid for guards to walk about
His home, without, within
He armed them well with weapons stout
Lest robbers should come in.

By lock and chain and massive door
Were theft and wastage checked.
The more his fortune grew, the more
It cost him to protect.

And yet it never crossed his mind.
'Til freedom stood at bay,
To set a guard of any kind
Lest that be swept away.

He took for granted every night
Which liberty bestows.
And calmly watched the growing might
Of freedom's evil foes.

But now the dreadful truth is plain:
No worth-while treasure's cheap.
What men have bravely fought to gain
Their sons must fight to keep.

—Edgar A. Guest.

CHOICE OF FRIENDS

There is nothing more becoming any wise man than to make choice of friends, for by them thou shalt be judged what thou art; let them therefore be wise and virtuous, and none of those that follow thee for gain; but make election rather of thy betters than thy inferiors, shunning always such as are poor and needy, for if thou givest twenty gifts, and refuse to do the like but once, all that thou hast done will be lost, and such men will become thy mortal enemies.—Sir Walter Raleigh.

A FURLOUGH

Applying for a furlough due to an "emergency at home," Private Atlas Thomas, Fort Bragg, N. C., was told he would have to be more explicit concerning the need for his presence at home. Back to his quarters went Thomas and returned with a letter from his mother in which she explained that a younger son was about to trade off his mule and needed his older brother's advice. Thomas got his furlough.—Capper's Weekly.

Here and There .

By Mrs. A. H. Patterson
Pinch Hitting For Mr. Lynch

Miss Sara Bacon who until recently made her home in Fargo, North Dakota, now a guest at the home of her cousin, Mrs. D. Goforth, on King street, has received her passport and is awaiting completion of arrangements to sail back to Ireland, land of her birth. Miss Bacon came to America from Enskillen, near Belfast, Ireland, forty years ago but the urge to return has been too much for her and the dangers connected with travel at the present time fail to discourage her in her plans to set foot once more on the soil of her beloved Erin.

George F. Ware left Fort Jackson two weeks ago and his address now is: Co. E. 3rd Reg. Qm. R. T. C. Ft Frances E. Warren, Wyoming.

While at Fort Jackson, George went to Sumter, S. C., so we heard, to visit his cousin, Toby Williams, stationed there. Toby who has been "going places" in the air could think of no better way to entertain cousin George than to take him for a ride. He took him up 6000 feet or more with several dives and somersaults thrown in for good measure and — well, George is glad that his Uncle Sam has business for him on terra firma.

By the way, Marion Herndon of Charlotte, former Kings Mountain boy, was sent to Fort Frances E. Warren last week and we hope George and Marion meet.

James Ratterree of Ellington Field Texas, writes of their plans for participating in a big Fourth of July parade in Houston, Texas, but the heavy rains caused cancellation of these plans.

Marcus Long, whose maternal and paternal relatives live in Kings Mountain, was one of the survivors of the Lexington crew brought into San Diego. He got a twelve-day furlough recently for a visit to his parents and best girl at Council. After a one day stay at his home he had to leave for the long hot trip back to report for duty.

We're wondering how many families hereabouts can boast of four stars or more in their windows — Mr. Z. F. Cranford has three sons in service and another ready to go.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Morrison are sending the Herald to their sons Luther, stationed in New Orleans, and Robert, in Norfolk.

Stokes Keller, another of our very young boys, left last week for service in the Navy.

It will be worth your while to visit the Museum at the Kings Mountain Military Park if you haven't done so.

The colorful diorama depicting the battle is no doubt attracting more attention han other exhibits. Looking at their and thinking back, its hard to believe the thing we hear about the big Fourth of July celebration staged in England this year.

A Ladies Home Journal of 51 years ago carried the following: "From across the sea an Englishwoman sent these Christmas greetings to America—Let us press forward in unison, for each day shows more clearly that it is our mission to march hand in hand in the pursuit of true freedom enfranchisement from the tyranny of evil. Peace be within your walls! Oh, women of the New World."

RAMBLING SKETCHES OF

OAK GROVE NEWS

(By Mrs. William Wright)

Mr. and Mrs. Everette Ford had as their guests during the weekend Mr. and Mrs. Dock Phillips, Mrs. Dock Phillips, Jr., and son, Davd of Kings Mountain.

Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Ware were Rev. Luther Hawkins and sister, Daisy, Messrs Eugene Russell and Roger Clark of Gatonia, Mr. and Mrs. Hhn Watterson and children, Walter and Norma of Bessemer City, Mr. and Mrs. William Ware and children, Billy and Wanda Ruth, of Mooresville, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Watterson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Lovelace and Mrs. Ida Watterson of the Patterson Grove section.

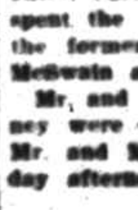
Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Pressley and son, Douglas of Charlotte, are spending several days in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Claudie Bell and family.

Miss Thelia Ray of Hickory was the Saturday night guest of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Ray.

Mrs. T. A. Champion spent Thursday at the bedside of her daughter, Mrs. Robert Ware who is a patient in the Shelby hospital.

Mrs. Cynthia Lovelace and daughter, Carrie Mae, of Pleasant Hill, spent the week end visiting with the former's brother, Rev. Elam McSwain and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Dave White of Gaffney were visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ledbetter Sunday afternoon.



Wasted money is wasted lives. Don't waste precious lives. Every dollar you can spare should be used to buy War Bonds. Buy your ten per cent every pay day.

Government [illegible] that only about one sixth of the total acreage of harvested crops in the United States receive fertilizer in any one year, according to the National Fertilizer Association.

Poultrymen will have to return one and a half pounds of scrap aluminum bands to manufacturers for every 1,000 new wing bands they secure for the 1942-43 season, the WPB has ruled.

WHAT HAS GONE BEFORE: *Marco Polo, famed 13th Century Venetian traveler, is sent by his father to the court of Kublai Khan in Pekin to procure valuable trade agreements. After a long and perilous journey Marco and Binguccio, his servant, reach their destination and are welcomed cordially by the Emperor and his crafty minister of state, Ahmed. Marco also meets Kukachin's, the Khan's lovely daughter, and falls in love with her.*

Chapter Three

Marco Polo's interest in the Princess Kukachin did not escape the sharp-eyed Ahmed. It might be well, he reflected, to acquaint the Venetian with the dangers of such interest. Besides, he had plans of his own for Kukachin, and he was not the sort of man who liked to see his plans disarranged. Having been instructed by Kublai Khan to entertain the visitors, he took them first to his own apartments, connected with the palace by a drawbridge, and showed them his chamber of horrors. Here, behind a handsome tapestry curtain, ravenous vultures were chained to a perch. A trap door in the torture chamber revealed a sheer drop of fifty feet where Marco Polo could distinctly hear the growls of hungry tigers in the cavernous darkness below. Ahmed watched Marco's face as the Venetian witnessed the death of a spy from the camp of Kaidu, the rebel chieftain. He indicated with pride his trusted executioners, two enormous, ugly-looking guards named Toctai and Bayan.

"You came here to be educated, Marco Polo," said Ahmed at length, smiling with satisfaction. "And this is the first lesson."

Marco sighed. "If I were the King, I should be very impatient."

A week had passed since Marco Polo and Binguccio had come to the court of Kublai Khan. A week that had, with the exception of Ahmed's initiation into Oriental persuasion, passed smoothly and pleasantly. On the seventh evening Marco was amusing himself playing with some of Chan Tsu's firecrackers.

"Binguccio," he said, "With enough of these one man could shake the earth."

"I don't doubt it," replied Binguccio, [illegible] "But don't you think we might shake ourselves — home? I don't like the looks of this fellow Ahmed."

"You must learn the Chinese philosophy about time, Binguccio. What is a day? One fifth of a year. What is a year? Only a hundredth part of a century. We have all the time in the world."

Marco rose and strolled into the Palace gardens. Here, at the edge of the lotus pool, he found Kukachin. Her robe was of silver cloth and there were flowers in her hair. She turned with a start when she saw him.

"Strangers are not supposed to come into these gardens uninvited," she said.

"But you need some one to protect you from the powers of darkness."

"I am a Princess. Even the powers of darkness are afraid of me."

"Are there," inquired Marco, "no men in this Empire who forget you are a Princess — who want to take you in their arms and make love to you? Do princesses in this country ever marry ordinary people?"

"Never."

"Good!" said Marco. "And will you love and marry the man you choose?"

"I shall marry a king," replied Kukachin [illegible]

[illegible]

too. "I think," he said, "that I should say goodbye now. There are warnings of danger sounding in my heart. I've heard such warnings before — though never so strongly. You are — you may be a princess — but when I look into your eyes, I see deep beauty — when I touch you, I feel warm life. And I've never been one to regard such things calmly."

His eyes looked deeply into Kukachin's. His hands closed on her arms. "Before I go — I wonder if you would grant me one small favor?"

"You want some token — my scarf, perhaps—for remembrance?"

Marco smiled. "No. I should like to be allowed to kiss you goodbye."

The Western custom of kissing was unknown to Kukachin but she agreed to grant the favor. Marco kissed her once, gently, and again, passionately. Kukachin thought it a delightful custom. She asked if she might try it herself. She put her arms about his neck and he [illegible] closed.

"Is this right? With my arms?" she whispered tremulously.

Marco said, "Yes — I [illegible] think you're learning!"

Kukachin looked up at the [illegible] Goddess, then at Marco. He kissed her again.

Meanwhile, in Ahmed's apartments, the Minister of State was in conference with Toctai. Within the closely guarded chamber they could speak freely.

"The rebellion in Kaidu's province," said Ahmed, "is getting dangerous. We must put a stop to it—before the Emperor learns the truth about the taxes we've" — he paused and grinned "—we've borrowed from those barbarians. Disguise yourselves as Tartar tribesmen and join Kaidu's army."

"And kill him?" supplied Toctai eagerly.

"First you will spread discontent in his army. Make him believe that he is the one who is stealing their tax money. Then — perform your specialty. With Kaidu dead, his army will split and the rebellion will be broken."

Toctai's beady eyes glittered. "And what of Kublai Khan? When do I perform my specialty on him?"

Ahmed said sharply, "I'll attend to him, Toctai. You start for the West at once. If all goes well I shall be your Emperor when you return — and the Princess Kukachin will be my wife. And you will be a nobleman."

It was one of Ahmed's prudent boasts that nothing happened within the Palace of which he was not aware. When Bayan brought him word that Kukachin and Marco Polo had met again in the garden, he hurried at once to the Emperor. Kublai Khan summoned the Venetian.

"You have an adventurous spirit, my friend, and I think I can provide an outlet for it. I want you to go to Kaidu's camp in the West. Enter it as an ordinary traveller, cooperate with our secret agents and help them to kill him."

Marco glanced at Ahmed, instantly aware that the scheme was of his devising.

"I have no experience in murder, Sire," he said with an impassive face.

"That is not necessary," said the Khan. "We merely wish to make use of your remarkable gifts for intrigue," [illegible]

[illegible]

(To be continued)

[illegible]

The Last Sniff

Cites 12 Safety Rules For Bathers

New York, June 22.—Twelve safety rules for bathers were listed by Robert E. Laveaga, president of the National Physical Education Society of the Y. M. C. A., in an effort to lower last year's heavy toll of lake, river and ocean tragedies. He said:

"Six thousand persons died by drowning in the United States in 1941, most of the accidents could have been avoided.

"Now, with our country at war, and every man, woman and child able to share in the war effort, needless waste of life seems doubly tragic."

Here are his warnings and his tips:

1. After the winter lay-off take your swimming in easy doses. You may not be as good as you used to be.
2. Don't take foolish chances. Many fatal accidents result from horse play.
3. Walk out and swim in. That way you'll never get beyond your depth.
4. Dont swim alone. Always have a water-buddy, preferably a swimmer stronger than you are.
5. Swim only at a supervised beach or pool.
6. Don't go in the water soon after a meal.
7. Don't dive until you're sure how deep the water is.
8. It's not brave to give or take a dare.
9. Stay out of canoes and rowboats if you can't swim.
10. Learn artificial respiration.
11. If you can reach a person in trouble with a pole, belt, or towel, do so. It's more sensible than jumping in.
12. In making a rescue, use a boat if possible. It's less spectacular but safer.

American production of the large-type bombing planes of the sort used for destroying centrally located industrial plants in Germany, is running ahead of schedule by as much as 70 percent.

The majority of large-scale egg producers in states where the grading service is available are marketing their eggs on a graded basis, as they find it pays dividends.

Quotas of new tires released for passenger automobiles under OPA rationing in the first three months of this year showed a reduction of almost 95 percent from the total in the same months last year.

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