

At Swords Points,

OR,
A SOLDIER OF THE RHINE.

By ST. GEORGE RATHBORNE.

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CHAPTER IX.—(Continued.)

She was no ordinary woman, this Parisian countess. He remembered that he had heard her name in the hands of the secret officials of Bismarck.

He began to understand the villainy of which a jealous and unscrupulous woman might be guilty.

"Apparently a cipher which could be easily read and which Hildegarde was instructed to pass on to the next agent, who would carry it swiftly over the border to Paris."

She read his thought. "You mean to betray me to the authorities?"

"It would only be fair. In that way I might save your intended victim."

"You do not dream what a heretofore secret you would bring down upon your ears if you attempted that. And do you think they would believe you, whose name was signed her with the name of Hildegarde?"

"I am lost!" he groaned.

"Wait. There is a chance of escape."

"You mean you have terms to propose."

"I will give you a promise that you will be faithful to me while I live. If I am ever again in the hands of the German secret police, I will be your ally."

He took her hand in a perfunctory way, and would have released it, but she held it so tightly that he could not do so.

"You certainly accomplished that," he said, "I believed, you would be overjoyed to see me, and I had looked forward with such eagerness to this meeting."

"I have had the blues and have gone actually blind."

"That is too bad, but you should not allow eyes of state to worry you," he said.

"Ah! that was what I did not wish. I am not stopping at a hotel, and they do not know me here as they do at Almee. Besides—it was my desire to surprise you."

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He inclined her head, as though unwilling to trust her voice as yet.

"It is my duty to warn you against one who has been at night at the garden; a woman, who, taken on an endless dislike toward you, fumed on a woman's fabric, but who wishes you ill."

"What was the reason of this scruple?"

"Did she wish to avoid recognition by Paul? He had never cared for her, though dazzled for a time by her beauty and the scintillating brilliancy of her intellect."

"Hence, it was with renewed interest and not a little satisfaction that he discovered a certain fact."

"The countess had a shadow in her turn, she had been watched and something about the appearance of the man who kept her under constant surveillance gave him the impression that he belonged to the secret police of Berlin."

Then her mission to Baden was not dead secret as she might suppose, and if she gave her enemies the means and sufficient cause for an arrest, the beautiful Frenchwoman who dared to take such risks in order to gain the royal favor of Napoleon might be the inside of a German battle-squad, she dreamed, even in her most sanguine moments.

Paul had much to consider while walking to his lodgings. Being possessed of means, Paul had a very luxurious establishment, which Karl shared with him of late.

The old woman who took care of the several flats usually waited up, though Paul could always enter with his key, and this he did on the present occasion.

To his surprise, the lights were turned up. Karl must have reached home ahead of him.

With a smile on his lips he abruptly entered the sitting-room to see the figure of a woman rise from a chair by the table with a book in her hand, and to feel a cold hand laid upon his heart as he recognized in his late visitor the charming enchantress and abroad female diplomat, Countess Almee!

CHAPTER X.
A Stormy Interview.

Paul knew he was in for a siege as soon as his eyes fell upon his visitor, and it required all the fortitude of which he was possessed to brace him self for the encounter.

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HE KNEW HIS DEEDS.

Worked on the New Beach and Learned to Distinguish Them.

"Did you ever hear of a man who could recognize a bee from the other members of its swarm?" asked Col. J. E. Shwalter while talking to a group of horsemen in the Hoffman house lobby a few evenings ago.

"Oh, you needn't give me the laugh; it's so. I've done it."

"Of course it isn't every one who can do it—just as there are few artists that can catch the expression of a horse and put it on canvas. It is on the same principle that some shepherds know every sheep in a flock of two or three thousand."

"When I was a young man I went west from Kentucky to locate. I was charmed with the beauty of southern California and settled for a year or two at San Diego. I found that I could starve there if I tried to practice law, so I turned to almost the only thing at which one could make a living then, that section, and went on a bee ranch."

"There you go again! Because you never heard of anything but horses you imagine a bee ranch doesn't exist."

"The ranchers of that section are practically covered with a white wax, the bloom of which makes perhaps the best honey in the world. Consequently the country has been divided into great bee ranches and the production of honey became quite an industry."

"Some of the best pure white honey on the New York market to-day," said Col. Shwalter, according to the New York Times, "comes from the San Diego section of the country."

He is the author of the book, "The Beekeepers of California," published by the California Beekeepers' Association, San Francisco, Cal.

ENGLAND'S NEW COINAGE ACT.

Designs for the gold and bronze pieces of money.

The proclamation by the king with regard to the new coinage is justified under the "coinage act, 1870," which gave the king the right to alter the design of the coinage.

PUTNAM FADELESS DYES do not stain the hands or spot the kettle. They are green and purple. Sold by drug-gists, 10c per package.

The highest number in the W. Continent is 10,000,000. Bolivia, 2,500,000; Argentina, 1,000,000.

Garfield's Powder! A Powder is sold for 1c. Powder is a medicine.

Before God will do much for us, we must first do something for ourselves.

YELLOW CLOTHES ARE ESSENTIAL! Keep them white with Row's Bleaching Blue.

Garfield's Tea cure constipation.

A PETIFIED FOREST.

Almost everyone has heard of the petified forest in Arizona, but few know that it is comparatively easy of access to visitors.

The distance from the railroad is but seven miles, and at the station Adams in the Santa Fe, a few miles from Holbrook, Mr. Albert Stevenson maintains a small inn, accommodating a few people and providing a spring water outfit and several saddle ponies for those who desire to visit the forest.

The old pioneer, Adam Hanna, who has moved from the old Adams place, in the sense that John Hanna made the Grand Canyon, made the Petrified Forest.

A little village kept being on the store-while onions or cabbage are cooking will prevent the disagreeable odor going through the house.

THE READER'S PAPER will be pleased to learn that there is at least one trade-dressed dress in the world, and that it is made of the finest material, and is the most perfect of its kind.

When a man is sure that his friends never say anything of him, he is sure that all his friends are with him.

John Stow was a beggar's son, and in his later days was almost a beggar.

Send to Garfield Tea Co., Brooklyn, N. Y., for Garfield's Tea Cure, 10c per package.

Crito considered the old of chimney to be a very efficient remedy in all diseases of the head.

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ST. ALBANS

Comforting, Soothing,
Kills Pain Instantly,
Nothing So Good!

The C. H. & D. Ry. have inaugurated through car service from Detroit to St. Albans, Pa., commencing January 1st.

Through cars will leave Detroit every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday during the Florida season. The train is made up of through Pullman Sleepers, Parlor and Cafe cars, offering the public the first type of modern train service.

"You look all broken up," said Tilling, hast to Gilberte. "You look all broken up," said Tilling, hast to Gilberte.

Make it a few extra dollars. The character of the work is not very different from the work of a stenographer, and it is not very different from the work of a stenographer.

Next to knowing when to ride an ostrich, the most important thing in life is to know when to ride an ostrich.

The true grandeur of humanity is in the mind, and the mind is the most important thing in life.

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WE PAY \$20 A WEEK AND EXPENSES. NO FAKE SALARY. NO FAKE SALARY.

820 A WEEK. Straight salary and expenses to meet with pig to introduce country matters in country. No salary.

GENTLEMEN HERE PRIZE LIST! If you are not married, lady, please write to me.

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