

Never Take Me Alive!

How the Unconquerable "Maiden Moonshiner" of Kentucky, Intrenched in the Rocky Hills, Has Faced Single States Government Officers, and Is Accused of Moulding, Perhaps Mortally, One of the Attacking Party.



WHERE MARY FOUTS BARRICADED HERSELF FOR BATTLE

Down in a natural fortress of huge boulders in western Kentucky a woman who has not yet seen her thirtieth birthday is calmly, intrepidly and successfully defying the mighty government of the United States.

A few days ago, single-handed, she beat back a posse of the best revenue officers Uncle Sam could muster. Her aim is true and her belief in her sovereign right to make her own brand of whiskey from her own corn is as pronouncedly innovative as it is unshakable.

Mary Fouts, aged 27, is America's only moonshine maid, and she is a moonshiner by birth, inclination and training. Her father was a moonshiner before her, and the several ramifications of her family hold records that show that moonshiners were not only a mountain range but a national institution.

For 40 years the Beaver Creek district, on the Knott-Fletcher border, has been a moonshine stronghold, the scene of many a pitched battle between moonshiners and government officers. Blood of both sides has stained its narrow ravines and picturesque mountain paths. If a record of lives sold for the mountain brew had been kept doubtless the greater number of notches would have been cut by Uncle Sam. But when it came to this woman, this tall, stalwart, calm-eyed, serene-voiced young woman on her native hills, Uncle Sam was baffled. Chivalry died hard, even when backed by law and justice, and to send his picked shots against a woman was more than even Uncle Sam wanted to do.

In the time the clash had to come, yet the woman won against the law, and its armed officers.

Mary Fouts was born in the rude home where she now distills what is said to be the best brand of whiskey obtainable in all Kentucky. Her baby eyes studied the still, and her baby ears learned to catch quick, ominous whispers. Just as the child of the mountain artist accepts the price of the parental genius, as the child of the king believes that royalty can do no wrong, so this child of the mountains believes that making whiskey without government consent was the inalienable right of hill people.

Her parents were ambitious for the little Mary, however, and sent her to school, where she proved exceptionally bright, and acquired an amount of "book learning" which dazzled her humble relatives. But she never forgot her love of the mountain life and never lost her grip on mountain traditions.

When other girls were writing notes to each other or making picture dolls in Mary Fouts was drawing pictures of stills, and finally she presented to her astonished teacher a perfect reproduction of still, including the worm which she had evolved from some bits of copper that came her way.

During her twelfth year, when home on the mountain, she was making gold-bearing carpet.

Floor Coverings That Grow Valuable with Age.

A regulation has come to the treasury department at Washington from the San Francisco mint asking that a new carpet be placed in the adjusting room, as the one there now has been worn after ten years' service. In ordinary instances such a regulation would excite no unusual interest on the part of the treasury officials, but in this case great care has to be taken in removing the old carpet, for it has become more valuable with each day's service, because it is literally lined with gold.

Fouts. The government felt that peace with a fair woman had ceased to be a virtue. The dignity of the law must be maintained, without bloodshed if possible, with bloodshed if necessary. But first diplomacy.

A revenue officer sent to Miss Fouts by a trusted friend to the moonshiner this message in writing:

"Meet us at the schoolhouse on Beaver Creek Thursday and promise you will never violate the law, never moonshine any more, and we will see to it that you are fully pardoned for all."

"I will never meet you," was her curt reply, and to her mother she said:

"There's no use talking—I will keep this still going in spite of the law, never moonshine any more, and we will see to it that you are fully pardoned for all."

For you, see Mary Fouts, for all her

ling by the Chinese, a view which is indulged in on such a scale and which involves such evil results that the presence of Orientals in general becomes objectionable in the eyes of American citizens. Japanese agitation for the suppression of this vice proved to have the result of clearly differentiating them from its practice.

The second movement has for its immediate outcome this idea of a supplanting by photograph. There are about 150,000 Japanese in the United States, and fully 90 per cent. of them lead single lives. Such a condition was favorable so long as a settlement consisted merely in earning as fast as possible enough to return home. In view of the anti-Oriental spirit now prevailing in the United States, the Japanese residents see that the only practical remedy lies in becoming permanent settlers, and in carrying out that program a wife is a prime essential.

To return to Japan/ however, for the purpose of providing himself with a wife means not only that a man would have to incur great expense.

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The following is a partial list of Farms, City and Village Lots, and Real Estate generally which we have for sale. As our list is constantly changing, we request that parties will write us if they do not see what they want in this list.

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