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Nothing for Old Age.

But the other half of the two great problems I am wrestling with to-day is yet to come; it is that John and I have not a cent laid up for the old age that is almost upon us. What is to become of us? We have always given away our tenth conscientiously. It is an inbred belief that it must be done, and though sometimes I felt sure that the Lord would willingly excuse us for once from tithing our little salary in some year of need, yet I could never bring myself to hold it back nor could John. Besides the people would never give if their minister did not, and his name must head the subscription lists and his hand give generously to the board collections. But we had, long ago, to give up John's life insurance, for we simply could not raise the money to pay the premiums. We are not in debt, and so far have been able to hold up our heads in self-respect; but what of the future? The church will soon be looking for a young man for their minister. It seems hard, but that is the way churches do.

There is the fund for ministerial relief, but the pension is so small it would be impossible to live on it. Perhaps we ought to expect our son to support us; but suppose he marries, as we did, on a tiny income; should we be doing right to go to him and be a burden for perhaps many years?—"Minister's Wife," in Success Magazine.

London Losing Music Halls.

Not only are there fewer music halls but competing forms of amusement—picture shows on the one hand and skating rinks on the other—have arisen in fast increasing numbers. Business has probably been affected more by the growth of these forms of entertainment than by any excess of music halls.—London Stage.

Cause for Anxiety.

Mrs. Starvem—I'm sure I don't see why you complain of the bacon. It was only cured last week.

Victim—No doubt, no doubt; but it must have had a serious relapse.

John J. Gafill, Attorney, Detroit, Mich.

MORTGAGE SALE

Mortgage sale under the power of sale contained in mortgage, Albert P. Jacobs and Grace W. Jacobs, his wife, of the Village of Birmingham, Oakland county, Michigan, mortgagors, and Whitehead & Mitchell, a co-partnership, of the Village of Birmingham, Oakland county, Michigan, mortgagees. The mortgage bears date March 2, 1907, and was recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Oakland county, Michigan, on the 6th day of March, 1907, in Liber 173 of Mortgages, on pages 438 and 439. The mortgagees hereby declare that the principal sum interest is now due, and the amount due at date hereof is the sum of four thousand six hundred and seventy-one and 56-100 dollars ($4,671.56). The mortgaged premises are situated in the Village of Birmingham, County of Oakland, State of Michigan, and are described as follows: Lots numbered forty-three (43), forty-five (45), sixty-one (61), sixty-two (62), sixty-three (63), sixty-four (64) and sixty-six (66), of Merrill's Plat of the said Village of Birmingham, Michigan, according to the plat thereof as recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds in and for the county aforesaid. Also the following described lands: (1) Lot numbered fifty-seven (57), according to the Willitts Plat, so called, containing 2'44 acres of land; (2) a piece of lot numbered fifty-nine (59), according to said Willitts Plat, lying west of lot fifty-seven (57) and running so far west as to contain two (2) acres of land; (3) a parcel of land commencing twenty-two (22) chains and eighty (80) links west of the quarter post between sections twenty-five (25) and twenty-six (26), in town two (2) north, range ten (10) east, Oakland county, Michigan, thence north three degrees (3°) west three (3) chains and sixteen and one-fifth (16 1-5) links, thence south three (3°) east three (3) chains and sixteen and one-fifth (16 1-5) links to the place of beginning, containing one (1) square acre of land; (4) a piece of land bounded north by lands formerly owned by E. Harmon, east by lands formerly by Edwin Baldwin, south by Maple Avenue, and west by lands formerly owned by E. Harmon. All of said lands latterly described being the former residence and the grounds appurtenant thereto belonging and occupied by Horace A. Randall, now deceased. This land, with the appurtenances, will be sold at the Saginaw-Street entrance to the Oakland County Court House at Pontiac, Oakland county, Michigan (that being the place where the Circuit Court for the County of Oakland is held) on Saturday, the 7th day of August, 1909, at 10 o'clock a. m. of said day, to satisfy the amount due on said mortgage, costs and expense of sale, and the attorney fee provided for in said mortgage and by law.

Dated May 10, 1909.

WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL, Mortgagees.

JOHN J. GAFILL, JR., Attorney for Mortgagees, 710 Wayne County Bank Building, Detroit, Michigan. may14-aug6

The Algerian Swordsman.

By Fred Gilbert Blakeslee

(Copyright, 1909, by J. B. Lippincott Co.)

"Foil-play is pretty, but it is not sword-play. A man does many things with a buttoned foil that he would scarce dare attempt with an uncovered point."

M. Beaupre, ex-officer of chasseurs, sat in the salle d'armes of his friend Roget Rouleau watching an assault with foils between two pupils of that celebrated master.

"Who, for instance," continued M. Beaupre, "would risk making such complicated movements as counter-parries, doubles and ripostes with the disengagement, in an actual duel? Elaborate combinations are well enough in the salle d'armes where one risks nothing but a touch on a padded jacket, but they have no place in the play of a man who is fighting for his life."

"There is truth in what you say, Pierre," responded M. Rouleau; "but do you not think that a knowledge of this nature serves to develop to the highest degree that fencer's judgment which is of the greatest importance to a man who engages in actual, instead of mimic, combat?"

"Undoubtedly, my friend, the training of which you speak is excellent so far as it goes, but it is not varied enough. The fencer is usually taught to defend himself with but one type of weapon and in a certain rigidly prescribed manner; a thoroughly competent swordsman, however, should be able to fight with all weapons and to withstand attacks, no matter how irregular they may be. What chance, for instance, do you think one of your pupils would have if called upon to defend himself a half-savage Algerian, whose method of fighting violates every principle of the fencer's code,

My Savage Adversary Awaited Me.

but whose utter unconventionality makes him all the more dangerous an opponent? But you shall hear, and draw your own conclusions.

"While I was serving with my regiment in Algeria, we were stationed at Wargla, a dreary post lying on the outskirts of the great desert, where there was little to do except eat and sleep. We had been there for some months without anything occurring to break the monotony of our existence, when to our great delight, we were one day ordered upon active service.

"Reports had reached headquarters that a certain Mohammed el Hadid had declared himself to be a prophet and was inciting the desert tribes to join him in a holy war. We were ordered to take the field at once, find the reputed prophet, and stamp out the rebellion before it had a chance to spread further; orders which you may well believe afforded us the keenest pleasure.

"After a five days' march through the desert we discovered Mohammed encamped at Hassa Insokki, on the Moussa river. We found, however, that the prophet, with a military skill for which we had not given him credit, was strongly entrenched among the foothills with which the country at that point abounded, and it was at once evident that dislodging him would be a task of considerable difficulty.

"We accordingly encamped in front of his lines, and, having thrown up hasty entrenchments and established suitable outposts to guard against surprise, we settled down to study the hard problem before us.

"It was evident that Mohammed was the mainstay of the revolt, and that if he could be either killed or captured the tribes that had joined him could, lacking a leader, be easily crushed. But it did not seem possible to get at the prophet in any way except by a general assault, and our colonel had about decided upon that course, when quite unexpectedly a way out of our difficulties was opened to us, and an opportunity presented to show the fanatical Mohammedans that their belief in the reputed powers of their prophet was in vain.

"Mohammed was noted for his great skill in swordsmanship and possessed a blade which was said to be able to cut through the sword of any infidel. Judging that a single-handed victory over a Frenchman would enormously increase his reputation, as well as his influence over his followers, he sent a message into our camp saying that he defied and challenged us, and daring us to send a chief to fight him with the sword between the two armies.

"Our commander received the messenger, told him that we would accept the challenge and send an officer to meet the prophet, and that we would show his followers how little they could rely upon their leader's promises.

"After the messenger had gone, the colonel called the officers together to select a champion for our cause. All of us were anxious to volunteer, but, as our chief pointed out, it was absolutely necessary for us to send our best man, for a defeat at the hands of the fanatical prophet would immensely lower the prestige of our arms, while victory might break the backbone of the rebellion at once. As I was, even then universally acknowledged to be the best swordsman in the regiment, the selection naturally fell upon me, and I was formally assigned to uphold the honor of the French arms—a decision, my dear Roget, which you may well believe afforded me the greatest pleasure.

"It was just before sundown when I stepped out from behind the shelter of our guns and advanced towards the enemy's lines to meet their redoubtable champion. I was clad in the uniform of my rank and carried my drawn sword in my hand, having discarded my scabbard so as to avoid the risk of accidentally tripping over it in the coming encounter. My weapon, the regulation cavalry sabre, was a good one and I knew that it would not play me false.

"Midway between the two forces my savage adversary awaited me, and as I advanced towards him his tall spare figure standing outlined against the red disk of the setting sun was truly an awe-inspiring spectacle. He was robed entirely in white, and held in his right hand his famous scimeter, while his left gripped a small circular buckler of hippopotamus hide. A great silence had fallen over both forces, and, as I walked briskly over the heated sands of the desert, it seemed to me that I had never known the air to be so still.

"Within a dozen paces of my adversary I halted. Then for a few moments neither of us moved, but each subjected the other to the keenest scrutiny, seeking to discover some weak point of which he might take advantage.

"I saw at once that the possession of the buckler gave the Algerian an enormous advantage over me, since it enabled him to both cut and parry at the same time, while I had to rely upon the sword itself for both attack and defense.

"For what seemed minutes we stood gazing intently at each other; and then with a wild cry of 'Allah!' the Algerian raised his glittering blade aloft and rushed upon me.

"With my sword in tierce I stood my ground and let him come.

"Down came his blade with a vicious cut for my right shoulder, up sprang my sword and met the blow, back went my point for his breast, only to be put aside by his buckler while he cut again, this time for my head. I successfully parried his head cut, and, seeing that it had failed, he sprang quickly back in time to avoid my riposte. For a few seconds neither of us moved, except that I shifted my ground a bit so as to get the sun on my left, instead of in front of me as it had been at first. Then with another shout he charged me again.

"And so the fight went on, until our breath came in hoarse quick gasps and the perspiration streamed down our faces, well-nigh blinding us.

"The red sun had by this time sunk below the horizon, but still we continued to struggle, sometimes out of distance and sometimes locked so close together in corps-a-corps that each could feel the other's hot breath on his cheek.

"However, it is evident that such a combat could not go on forever, and at last I determined to risk a ruse—a trick which was sometimes employed successfully by the rapiermen of the sixteenth century.

"Being at the time somewhat out of distance with Mohammed watching me as a cat does a mouse, I advanced my right leg more than I had previously done, pretending at the same time to overbalance myself. The prophet was quick to see the opening and to take advantage of it. With a triumphant cry he sprang forward and delivered a terrific cut against the inside of my exposed leg.

"It was a fatal error. As he cut, I slipped the leg back out of danger and, at the same time bending my body forward, I ran him through the heart with a straight thrust over his arm.

"There is little more to tell. Just as the colonel had prophesied, Mohammed's death broke the backbone of the rebellion, and we had little difficulty in dislodging and dispersing his followers.

"I was warmly congratulated upon my victory by my brother officers, and received from the government this cross of the Legion of Honor."

Japan Beautiful in the Spring.

To a person contemplating a trip to Japan I would advise that he come in the spring. About the first of April the cherry blossom season is on, followed by the flowering of the azalea and wisteria, and the parks and forests are beautiful, but in the winter there is little to be seen in the way of color.

The cities and towns are an almost continuous aggregation of unpainted shanties with picturesque roofs of tile or thatch, while the fields beyond are generally covered with water as a preparation for the next planting of rice. The picture is odd and interesting, but not beautiful.

Travel through the country is cheap and fairly comfortable, the passenger cars are small and arranged in compartments like those used in Europe. Good hotels, conducted like our hotels on the "American plan," are to be found in every place you will care to visit, but outside the cities their lack of heating facilities will be noticeable and in the winter will result in suffering.—Kobe Letter to the Denver Post.

ORDER FOR PUBLICATION—Appointment of Administrator.

State of Michigan, the Probate Court for the County of Oakland. At a session of said Court, held at the Probate office in the City of Pontiac, in said county, on the 6th day of May, A. D. 1909. Present, Hon. Kleber P. Rockwell, Judge of Probate. In the matter of the estate of

JOHN HULBERT, Deceased.

Helen S. Hulbert having filed in said Court a petition praying that the administration of said estate be granted to Alberon Whitehead, or to some other suitable person,

It is ordered that the 29th day of May, A. D. 1909, at 9 o'clock in the forenoon, at said Probate office, be and is hereby appointed for hearing said petition. It is further ordered that public notice thereof be given by publication of a copy of this order for three successive weeks previous to said day of hearing in the BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC, a newspaper printed and circulated in said county.

KLEBER P. ROCKWELL, Judge of Probate.

(A true copy.)
Jupson A. Fredenburgh, Probate Clerk.
may7-28

ORDER FOR PUBLICATION—General.

State of Michigan, the Probate Court for the County of Oakland. At a session of said Court, held at the Probate Office in the City of Pontiac, in said county, on the 29th day of April, A. D. 1909. Present, Hon. Kleber P. Rockwell, Judge of Probate. In the matter of the estate of

ANDREW H. PORTER, Deceased.

Thaddeus D. Seeley, executor of said estate, having filed in said Court a petition praying for the examination and allowance of his final account as such executor and for the assignment of the residue of said estate,

It is ordered that the 29th day of May, A. D. 1909, at 9 o'clock in the forenoon, at said Probate Office, be and is hereby appointed for hearing said petition. It is further ordered that public notice thereof be given by publication of a copy of this order, for three successive weeks previous to said day of hearing, in the Birmingham Eccentric, a newspaper printed and circulated in said county.

KLEBER P. ROCKWELL, Judge of Probate.

(A true copy.)
JUDSON A. FREDENBURGH Probate Clerk
may7-28

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