

The Unarmed Ranchman

By JOHN TURNLEE

When MacDonnell left his home in Edinburgh for the wild west in America to engage in ranching he was as mild a mannered fellow as ever lived. Nothing troubled him so much as to have a difficulty with any one. On the day of his departure one of his friends said to him:

"It seems to me, Mac, that you will be out of your element in a country where there is no law except gun law."

"Oh, I won't be troubled," was the reply. "I'll not offend any one, and if any one offends me and I have to fight I'll try to arrange for a substitute of fists instead of guns."

"You'll not be likely to effect such an arrangement; you're too strong. Those fellows won't care to tackle you in a trial of muscle."

When MacDonnell reached his new home he astonished the inhabitants of the country by going about without the customary enormous revolver slung to his side. He was warned by friends that such a course was unsafe. True, the people of the region were a generous, whole souled lot, who respected any man for doing as he pleased so long as he did not injure his neighbor. But there were men who had come from the lowest haunts of vice, who would not hesitate to shoot any one they took a fancy to shoot, even if unarmed. But MacDonnell refused to be converted and continued to ride over his ranch with no other weapon than a lasso.

The only trouble he had was with a neighboring ranchman named Hawkins, who insisted on claiming MacDonnell's sheep. For a time, whenever there was a question of ownership between them, Mac would give in. This encouraged Hawkins to increase his demands, and it finally became apparent that if Mac did not call a halt all his sheep would in time be transferred to Hawkins' ranch.

One morning Hawkins rode up to MacDonnell's ranch house, called him out and began to abuse him scurrilously, accusing him of branding one of his (Hawkins') sheep. MacDonnell was obliged to stand and take what was said to him, for should he retaliate in any way Hawkins was liable to draw his revolver and shoot him. Mac waited till he had finished and was about to ride away. Then he said to him:

"Mr. Hawkins, you have grievously insulted an unarmed man. I am opposed to the use of firearms, but if you will give me such satisfaction as may be afforded in the ring with fists I shall be obliged to you."

"That kind of fightin' may do for a milkop like you, but it isn't the kind we're used to in this country. When we fight out here we fight to kill."

With that he rode away.

MacDonnell did not take this attack kindly. Reversal of his employees, including one of his herders, witnessed the torrent of abuse heaped upon him, and it galled him to live under the obloquy of having taken it without a fight. Besides, he knew that such a public insult would be spread abroad, and he feared that the community would consider him a coward. Finally he made up his mind that he must follow the custom of the country, and the day after the insult the 42 caliber revolver of the country appeared at his hip.

Fortunately he did not happen to meet Hawkins for some time. When he did it was up in the mountains back of the grazing lands. Mac was passing over a path about a yard wide, leading around an almost perpendicular cliff. Behind him were two of his herders. Suddenly turning a bend, Hawkins and MacDonnell met face to face and not ten feet apart. Hawkins being first of four men.

MacDonnell was a very different man from the man who had left Scotland a year before. He had been brooding over the insult he had received till he was ready to fight to the death the man who had given it. He was very quick in his movements, and before Hawkins had quite taken in the situation Mac had drawn his revolver and had the drop on his enemy.

"Mr. Hawkins," he said, "I'll trouble you to ask the man behind you to relieve you of your revolver and drop it over the cliff."

Hawkins made no reply for a few moments, glaring at his antagonist. "Suppose I decline," he said presently.

"In that case I'll drop your dead body over with a ball in it."

Hawkins stole MacDonnell's glance and the muzzle of his revolver a little longer, then told the man behind him to obey the order. His revolver was dropped over the cliff.

It was followed by Mac's weapon, and both men stood unarmed.

"I now propose a wrestling match, Mr. Hawkins, right here. If you can throw me over after my revolver you are welcome to go so."

"I decline certain death for both," said Hawkins.

"Then turn around with your party and go back."

Hawkins made no reply for some time. It was quite a distance to a place where the parties would have plenty of room to pass. Presently he turned and directed his party to go back.

MacDonnell never replaced the revolver he had thrown over the cliff, and its replacement was never needed.

PLANNING THE MEAL

Balanced Rations an Important Factor in Home Economics.

"Oh, dear! This eternal planning and contriving, from meal to meal, over what to serve next."

A common enough exclamation, especially, and one familiar to the family man, who too often considers wife's work more or less of a nuisance and wonders why she frets so easily over trifles. Just throwing things together in bulk, regardless of the food's effect on the general health and efficiency of those who must eat it, is a wasteful and even a dangerous process.

Nowadays the thoughtful housewife "balances rations" as skillfully and carefully as does the careful stock feeder. She feels that what is good for beasts of the field is surely worth applying to man.

A few hints on balancing rations from the home economics department, College of Agriculture, University of Wisconsin, follow:

Fat, protein and carbohydrates should be distributed through the day so that no meal will contain an excessive amount of any one foodstuff. Don't serve two or more foods rich in the same foodstuff at one meal. For example, macaroni and cheese with meat, rice and potatoes.

Don't serve the same food in the same form twice in the same day except with such staples as bread, butter and milk. Never serve such a combination as tomato soup and tomato salad, or creamed peas and cream of pea soup in the same meal.

Work for flavor contrasts between different courses of a meal. Seek to have pleasing combinations of flavor, color and form in each course.

Plan to serve a fruit or vegetable at each meal. A mixed diet of vegetable and animal food is safest and best.

PARIS AND BERLIN.

Both Know What It Is to See Foreign Armies Within Their Gates.

Paris has had severe experiences in the way of surrenders to invading armies. On March 31, 1814, the allied armies that had hemmed in Napoleon entered the French capital and occupied it with a force of 230,000 troops. After Napoleon's escape from Elba and his defeat at Waterloo the armies of the allies again entered Paris July 7, 1815. Thus the great city had to surrender to its enemies twice within sixteen months. Fifty-five years later—Jan. 28, 1871—the city surrendered again, this time to the victors in the Franco-German war, after a brisk bombardment.

Berlin has seen foreign troops enter its gates no fewer than three times in the last 200 years. The first time, curiously enough, the conquerors were Austrian troops under General Hadik, who entered Berlin in 1757, when Frederick the Great was engaged in fighting the French on the Rhine. During their stay the Austrians imposed a fine of \$20,000 on the city, as well as commandeering a huge quantity of provisions and equipment for their troops.

It was only just over three years later when both the Russian and Austrian troops, then allies of one another, entered Berlin. This time the city was fined \$300,000.

The time that will be best remembered, however, was the entry of Napoleon into Berlin after the victory of Jena. Napoleon inflicted a very heavy fine on the Germans and forced them to feed his troops.—London Tit-Bits.

Saved His Dog.

Lord Rosebery is a great lover of animals, and on one occasion he actually went so far as to risk his life for a favorite dog. His lordship was on board a steamer when suddenly his dog fell overboard. Much distressed, Lord Rosebery asked the captain to stop the ship—a request which was refused.

"If it were a man overboard," said the captain, "why, then, of course!" "Oh," said Lord Rosebery, "that can be easily managed," and to the captain's astonishment, he leapt overboard after the dog himself.

Naturally, the steamer was promptly stopped, a boat was lowered with all speed, and both dog and master were rescued, none the worse for their experience.—London Tit-Bits.

Death by Freezing.

It has never been clearly understood why severe cold causes death, but a variety of reasons have been assumed—the accumulation of carbonic acid, paralysis of the vasomotor centers, loss of heat, accumulation of blood in the heart owing to stagnant circulation, anoxia of the brain and destruction of the red blood corpuscles.—Philadelphia Press.

Important Detail.

Bacon—I see your brother is in business again.

Egbert—Yes.

"Is it a gainful occupation?" "I guess so, but it's hard to tell whether he'll gain money or experience."—Yonkers Statesman.

Would Not Be So Cruel.

Allie—Now that you've broken your engagement with Jack, you will of course return the diamond ring he gave you? Betty—Certainly not. It would be a constant reminder of the happiness he had missed.—Boston Transcript.

One Exception.

"Two negatives are equal to an affirmative."

"Not if her father says no and the girl backs him."—Baltimore American.

The primary vocation of man is a life of activity.—Goethe.

What Lord Blameynton Said

By LOUISE B. CLIMMINGS

One evening at a theater Lord Blameynton, chatting with an American friend who was spending a great deal of time and money on his lordship, seeing Mrs. Harkaway in one of the boxes, asked who she was and when told said:

"She's the most beautiful woman I've seen in New York, and there's no woman in England who can compare with her."

Such a remark made by a member of the London aristocracy was bound to be repeated from mouth to mouth. In a twinkling it permeated the social circle, the members of which were at once agog to see a woman whom Lord Blameynton pronounced more beautiful than any woman in England. The first Sunday after the enunciation had spread in society the church where Mrs. Harkaway worshipped was overflowing with strangers who went there to see her.

Of course his lordship's remark reached Mrs. Harkaway. It was her husband who told her, and he was proud to be the husband of the most beautiful woman in New York or London.

Mrs. Harkaway belonged to that class of New Yorkers who years ago were social leaders, but who now occupy back seats, the front seats being taken up by the commercial multimillionaire aristocracy of America. Why not use Lord Blameynton's enunciation to regain the position occupied by her ancestors? True, the ancestors of present day leaders had some of them sold meat and vegetables to Mrs. Harkaway's forefathers, to say nothing of one who had cooked the said meat and vegetables in her grandfather's kitchen. But times were changed. Present day aristocrats had assumed the leadership by virtue of their enormous wealth, and it was impossible to dislodge them. Possibly they would take in a woman whom an English peer had pronounced the most beautiful in New York or London.

After a consultation between Mr. and Mrs. Harkaway it was decided by the husband that the wife's chance for social prominence should be made available. Certain relatives of Mrs. Harkaway who had married into multi-millionaire families were found to introduce her, and she was launched into society simply on the fact that Lord Blameynton in order to compliment the city of the man who was dining and winning him had said that she was the most beautiful woman in New York or London.

The Harkaways had misgivings about entering the golden circle on a beggarly income of \$10,000. They figured, however, that Mrs. Harkaway's beauty, certified to by a British peer, would be considered a quid pro quo for what they would receive and that they would not be required to give entertainments. In this they were correct. The difficulty in the multimillionaire set is to get persons to attend entertainments. But there was one thing, however, on which their calculations were in error. They thought that Mrs. Harkaway would be able to provide herself with costumes out of her husband's income, leaving enough for their other expenditures.

Possibly had Mrs. Harkaway been admitted to the golden circle on any other plan than Lord Blameynton's expressed opinion of her beauty a few thousands dollars a year for costumes would have sufficed. But society expected the most beautiful woman to wear the most beautiful costumes. Besides, Mrs. Harkaway received the concentrated gaze of society not because she owned the highest bred dog in the universe, but because of Lord Blameynton's remark. For this reason her costumes were of supreme importance. They would attract far more attention than her beauty. Therefore they must not only be superb, but in great variety.

Not only did Mrs. Harkaway's wardrobes cost a great deal of money, but at least one trip abroad a year was necessary to procure them. Then much more jewelry than she possessed was indispensable. Indeed, the Harkaways had not even prepared for the wife's entry into society before they saw that within a short time that which produced their income would melt away like ice under the rays of the sun. Nevertheless the preparations were made.

At the first function attended by Mrs. Harkaway she found herself the cynosure of all eyes. "That's the woman that Lord Blameynton said was the most beautiful in New York or London," said everybody to everybody else. She stood in one position while a throng of persons passed her, ogling her as they would a freak in a dime museum.

It happened that Lord Blameynton was still in New York and was at this assembly. A lady to whom he was talking called his attention to Mrs. Harkaway, remarking that she had been told she was the most beautiful woman in New York or London.

"I can't agree with that," said his lordship. "I think Mrs. Monkerench far more beautiful."

The remark was overheard, and Mrs. Harkaway's beauty was blighted. She was dropped from society, fortunately in time to save her husband's fortune. She resumed her normal position, but somehow the spell of happiness that pervaded the Harkaway family was broken. There has never since been the same contentment.

A Strange Experiment.

Professor Feltz, the eminent physiologist, while experimenting about thirty-five miles from Ohio discovered a flock of the white-breasted nuthatch and found them in the act of building a nest. A tragedy followed the discovery. The building of the nest was covered. The building of the nest was covered. The building of the nest was covered.

"It appears," says Professor Feltz, "that the nuthatches construct only a few bricks so that a man could crawl into the nest. One of the men covered the nest, and the birds, finding the entrance cut off, tried to break through the wall. They could not, however, and so they could easily have been killed. He first found a corner of the nest, which he passed out into the light, where he found it. Then he came to the point in the nest where the birds were working, and took it from the birds. He found that the birds were not at all disturbed by the experiment. They were not at all disturbed by the experiment. They were not at all disturbed by the experiment."

The experimenters found the skeleton of the robber beside that of the mummy.

Stagnant Barometer.

To make a cheap but effective thermometer take eight grains of pulverized camphor, four grains of pulverized nitrate of potassium, two grains of pulverized nitrate of ammonium, and dissolve them all in sixty grains of alcohol. Pour the whole lot into a long and slender bottle, the top of which should be closed with a piece of glass. Shaker— which your family doctor will give you gratis—containing a pin hole to admit air. When rain is about to visit you the solid particles of your liquid barometer will tend gradually to mount. Little star crystals forming in the liquid, which otherwise would remain clear. Should high winds be approaching your barometer will become thick as if fermenting. In addition to which a solid film of particles will form on the surface. Fair weather is indicated by the liquid remaining clear, with the solid particles settling into a firm sediment. —London Answers.

Beavers as Engineers.

In "The Romance of the Beaver," A. R. Dugmore, the author, tells how he watched a colony of beavers in New Foundland building a dam across a swift stream about forty feet wide. "Before the work was quite finished, so that the dam had not yet settled enough to gain its proper strength, there came a great rain, which continued for several days and flooded the country. The beavers, seeing that their new dam was threatened with imminent destruction, came down during the night and made a large opening by cutting away the sticks. This allowed the water to escape, and so the dam was saved. No sooner had the water resumed its normal level than the little engineers closed the break they had made and continued the structure."

The Habeas Corpus.

The substance of habeas corpus was given in the famous Magna Charta of 1215, but as today understood the habeas corpus refers to the act of 1679. This act provides that any man taken to prison on being brought by his accuser before a judge, who shall immediately decide whether or not he is to be given; that the accused shall have the question of his guilt decided by a jury of twelve men and not by a government agent; that no one can be tried twice on the same charge; that every one may insist on being examined within twenty days of his arrest and tried by jury the next session; that no defendant may be sent out of the country for imprisonment.—New York American.

Veritas and Miles.

Many people know that to multiply any number of French kilometers by five and divide the product by eight is to get an exceedingly close approximation to the number of miles in the same distance, but it is even easier mentally to convert yards to miles, as one of the former is equal to 0.0003 of the latter, or almost exactly two-thirds.

Trees and Chimneys.

The existence of tall plants and trees depends largely on the wind force. A tree with square trunk and branches would offer so much resistance to the wind that it would be continually having its branches snapped. Engineers build tall chimneys and piers for bridges round in preference to any other form.

Not Practical.

"Did you attain the high ideals you set for yourself when you were young?" asked the friend of his boyhood. "No," replied the millionaire, "and I'm glad I didn't. I see now there was no money in them."—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Transparent.

The Toucher—I'm going to work next week, but I'll need a few dollars to live on till pay day. Can you see me through? The Wise Guy—No, but I can see through you.—New York Globe.

Subconscious Celebration.

"The bridegroom appeared cool and collected." "Yes, he didn't seem to realize that he was losing control of himself."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Very Poor Taste.

"I hate that girl." "Yet you lend her your clothes." "Yes, and she has the bad taste to look better in them than I do."—Kansas City Journal.

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