

The Tourniquet

By R. RAY BAKER

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"My hermitic business is ruined," James Morrison stood in the doorway of his hermitage and gazed resentfully at a street lamp which reflected the full brim of the moon against a blue June sky.

The slight frown developed into a pronounced scowl as his eyes detected a faint humming, which originated some distance back of the shack. The humming became a roar as a motor car, with cutout open, whizzed past not far from the dwelling of the dejected hermit.

"It's the limit the way civilization chases a fellow around," he growled. "Here I got a place all picked out for a quiet, untroubled summer of solitude, and when I arrive to begin my hermitic life I find that some one has built a concrete race track at my back door, and some one else has erected a kill-or-cure place in my front yard between shikking motorists and complaining, convalescent patients and caddy nurses my landings have had to ripen from a moon street of a bare lawn on a Saturday night."

He shrugged his shoulders in disgust and strode into the shack, which consisted of a living dining room and sleeping room all in one. Three open windows permitted plenty of light and breeze to disperse gloom and gloom.

In one corner were a cork stove and a table, in another a narrow cot devoid of bedding. Still another corner held a bookcase in which were some dust-laden volumes. Two three-legged stools and one which possessed four, stood aside in proud disdain, comprised the other articles of furniture.

The hermit rummaged in his pockets and produced a pipe, a sack of tobacco, a box of matches and a railroad guide. Planting himself on the haughty stool, he filled the first mentioned article from the second, and applied part of the third and began to peruse the fourth.

He was not a veteran hermit. His face was clean-shaven and he had clear-cut, youthful features, set off by a pair of piercing brown eyes. He was only twenty-seven years old, and that it altogether too young for one to be in the business of hermiting.

The decision to become a hermit was due to two things. They were the acquisition of a fortune and the loss of an attractive young woman he had intended making his partner in a venture far different from hermiting.

Janet Ellison had decided after all that she did not care to settle down so just before she left with her parents for a tour of the continent she broke off her engagement with James.

A month later James inherited nearly half a million dollars from an uncle who died in the Klondike. The money acted as something of a stimulant to his shattered heart for a brief period until dotting mothers heard of his stroke of luck and began setting snares for him.

This having succeeded, thrust upon him when he had just lost his fortune's desire was to reach for James. He got tired of attending debates of young misses and listening to their chatter of society and fashion and other subjects that held no interest for him, especially since he was still yearning and longing for Janet. The desert of the whole thing grew on him and made him cynical. He determined to sever the sphere of feminism from his universe.

He decided to spend a winter in California, and then in the summer to start hermiting for fair. Before his trip West he located this shack in the Ohio woods, tenured who the owner was, and rented it for the season. When this transaction took place there was no sign of a habitation or a road in the vicinity.

Only one man knew his present whereabouts, and that was his chum at college days, Ralph Williamson. Williamson helped him locate the place and even offered to spend some of the time with him, but James declined, declaring he was going into hermiting "for all there was in it."

Williamson laughed and remarked, "You'll soon be back and you'll marry Janet," after all, when she comes home. Then, thinking to do his friend a favor, Williamson secretly sent a letter to a certain address in the Canadian wilds, taking pains to detail facts about Klondike gold.

The day after James arrived at his cabin, to find it no longer a solitude, he set out on a hike, avoiding the turpentine and heading into the woods that fringed the shore. Heavy underbrush made progress rather difficult, so he took out a long clasp knife to cut a walking stick from a tree. Spying a branch that looked good to him some distance up the trunk, he climbed the tree and, seated on one branch, began to saw at the one he had selected, which was just above him.

James was not adept as a tree climber, or as an equilibrium artist, and somehow, just as he was taking a final whack at the branch he desired, he lost his balance and fell. The knife, clutched in his right hand, slashed his left arm and severed an artery, and as he sank in a faint to the ground blood gushed from the wound in vicious spurts.

When James regained consciousness

he was lying on the cot in the hermitage. But what! It was a hermitage no longer. A young woman, clad in a white uniform with narrow stripes, was holding his left arm about the elbow, and the other hand was busy about the wound, in which a tourniquet had been fastened.

"The young woman holding his arm was very pretty. Her eyes, which were blue, were looking at him with a steady gaze. What she was doing he could not tell, but he felt a steady pressure about the wound, and a sharp pain in the arm.

"My friend and I were endeavoring to get you out of the shack, but you would not let us. We found you lying on the cot, and we were very anxious to get you out of the shack, but you would not let us. We were very anxious to get you out of the shack, but you would not let us.

"The girls fingers holding the arm were suddenly soothing to the feel of his skin, and her smile was one of the most lovely things he had ever seen.

"My friend is preparing something for you to eat," she announced. "It's something light, just the thing for you."

James felt that it was good to have this girl looking after his comfort in this way.

"She knows her business," he thought. "She's a very capable person all right, and that's what I need."

"One day, a man of the name James was passing by a certain dinner, he heard an incoherent cry and several shrieking voices, followed by the sounds of a tumultuous commotion to stop back of the shack.

Soon there was a knock at the door, and it was thrown open to admit Ralph Williamson, radiant with smiles. The two young men clasped hands warmly, and Williamson was offered the four-legged stool as a special honor.

"Don't stop," he remonstrated, "just come out to see if you had enough of hermitic life."

"Oh, no answer, he went on. "I've a pleasant surprise for you, Janet Ellison is out there in my car, and she wants you to be her special guest at a house party starting tomorrow. She got back just this week, and immediately inquired about you. Come on and see for yourself."

James held up the coffee pot. "Have a drink," he invited, and receiving a shake of the head from his visitor, he poured another cupful for himself. Dropping in a lump of sugar he stirred it and said:

"I had enough of hermiting, all right, Ralph, but I can't go with you now. I'm getting in a good row with my old man, and you know tonight will be a long course of training in that hospital across the lake."

CUSTOM OF COLONIAL DAYS

Beating the Bounds" Was Enjoyed by the Boys More in America Than in England.

I believe that, in earliest colonial days, boys also took part in a joyful and public custom known as "beating the bounds" or "beating the bounds." This custom is described in the "Life of George Washington" by George Catlett, in the "Life of George Washington" by George Catlett, in the "Life of George Washington" by George Catlett.

After the War is Won.

Mr. Smith, this is Mr. Blankenship. "Did to know you? Say, your name is awfully familiar. Didn't you serve with the minuties over at...?"

"Why, yes?" "And didn't you once lend me a light when I was all out of briquet juice, and happened to be going by your duggings with an nalt pipe in my paw?"

"Seems to me I do remember a mutt with a phiz like yours, straying up in our neck of the woods one morning looking like a lost soul; yes, I remember snuffing addresses with him after fighting his stove for him. So you're an' you?"

"I am that-shake!" "Shake!" Stars and Stripes.

Rather Fastidious.

"Copperhead" Lefew, our erstwhile comrade with the "Hemphill" shirt, looks strenuously at escorting negro women around camp. He claims that if he had a good shirt it would not be so bad to walk with the women, but when in his old shirt he has been very faithful and courteous to the negro folks. We agree with you, Lefew, that it is tough to walk around camp with the women wearing a ripped shirt.—Camp Lee Bayonet.

WHY Prince Eitel Is Execrated in France

Here, as how, Nonchalant HILLS in his book entitled "Germany Against the" tells of the crime for which Prince Eitel, son of the Kaiser, was guilty in the attack on Paris, the evening and night of a September 5, 1914.

One of the first things that happened on the night of September 5, 1914, was the attack on Paris. It was a night of horror and confusion. The German army, led by Prince Eitel, had entered the city and was looting and burning.

When a judge and jury held inquiry for the crime of the attack on the French city, who had ordered the French lighting and had charge of the gas plant during Eitel's occupation, stated that he heard the German officers telling Eitel, Frederick, that he would disgrace the German name if he destroyed a building that had no relation to war, that could be of no aid or comfort to the French army, and that he would make his name and that of his family a name of shame and contempt, of obloquy and scorn. But the judge would not yield. He brought in his own verdict, and carried to the gallows every hero who had in the past done his duty. Having pledged himself to leave the building unharmed, the prince stepped into the gates of the city, ran back to the hotel house, lighted the gas, and spread the flames upon the city, and until the flames were well in progress and then ordered his men to light the fuse of dynamite-bombs. A few days later the city was held and testimony of aged servants and little children was taken. The officers of the German police as then revealed has not been equaled since the first chapter of Rome's catalogue the unnumbered crimes of the men of the ancient world."

BROUGHT TOGETHER BY FATE

How Two Brothers in the British Service, Long Parted, Met Each Other on Hospital Dock.

The part which fate played in the reunion of two long separated brothers is told from an embarkation point in the south of England. Two hospital ships were berthed at the same time alongside the landing stage. One was from France and the other from the near east.

For the most part the cases removed from one ship saw nothing of those removed from the other, but it happened by chance that one of the British stretcher cases from the near east was taken to the shed along side one of the last stretcher cases from the French ship. But the two men were not seen each other as their beds were facing in opposite directions.

An orderly walking between the stretchers added a newspaper to one of the beds, and as he spoke he turned back a few feet and saw and recognized the other. They were brothers. Both had been serving since the outbreak of 1914, and neither had the remotest idea of what had become of the other.

How War May Overcome Prejudice.

How War May Overcome Prejudice. The war has overcome the old-fashioned prejudice against the "other side" and has brought men of different races and religions into contact. It has shown that in the face of a common enemy, men of different backgrounds can work together and overcome their mutual prejudices.

Why Huns Are Hated.

The following extract from a letter received from Wallonia is printed in the Belgium Bulletin. "A farmer was plowing his field in front of his house. A green devil (German policeman) came along and demanded his identification card; first conviction, for not carrying it with him. The farmer crossed the road to his house to get it; conviction number two, for having abandoned his horse. The green devil followed the farmer. The housewife was cooking new potatoes, unauthorized before September 15; conviction number three; the chickens in the yard were pecking eye, a serious offense; conviction number four.

How State Encourages Settlers.

Colonization in California is being pushed by the state on a 600,000-acre tract, purchased recently, near Chico. The state proposes to provide the settler not only with land, but will erect simple, modern houses, barns, silos and other necessary buildings, payments to be made on an installment plan, with terms that may be met easily. One-third of the investment must be paid at the start, but 25 to 30 years' time is given to pay the balance. The prime requisite is a loyal, patriotic citizen, not holding land in any other part of the state. Plans are made to invest at least \$500,000 in the project at the start.—Engineering News-Record.

HOW AMERICAN TROOPS IN TRENCHES IN FRANCE

The American troops used what is sometimes known as the new French system of defense, and sometimes as the new German system. At the beginning of the war the front trenches were held very "thick," especially by the British. Later the idea was to have only a handful of men in the first line, the rest being in the second line, and many more men in the third line, and many more men in the fourth line, and many more men in the fifth line, and many more men in the sixth line, and many more men in the seventh line, and many more men in the eighth line, and many more men in the ninth line, and many more men in the tenth line, and many more men in the eleventh line, and many more men in the twelfth line, and many more men in the thirteenth line, and many more men in the fourteenth line, and many more men in the fifteenth line, and many more men in the sixteenth line, and many more men in the seventeenth line, and many more men in the eighteenth line, and many more men in the nineteenth line, and many more men in the twentieth line, and many more men in the twenty-first line, and many more men in the twenty-second line, and many more men in the twenty-third line, and many more men in the twenty-fourth line, and 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