A Story of American Frontier

By Capt. CHARLES KING, U. S. A. author of "The Colonel's Daughter," "From the Ranks," "The Deserter," Etc.

to the fadies, turned on his heel and good watching him one moment, then calmly rejoined the party at the gate. earned to know so well. This has been day of surprises, has it not? Only ancy our having a beautiful English seiress here within reach and never mowing it until today!"

that you had a surprise of your own and you not? interposed Mrs. Sprague. ale was still chafing over the fact that ar lovely and dangerous neighbor should tare so monopolized the guest she conalered hers by prior right and who neart to remind her thus publicly of peneglect of which she had been guilty

Mrs Page, you mean't responded Hes Helknap with the same languid aperturbable manner "Yes; poor Jen-She is always utterly used up after one of those long ambulance journeys and can only take a cup of tea and go to dina darkened room Ali she wants s to be let alone, she says, until she gets ret it I suppose she will sleep till pio and then be up half the night. of it come in and see her, won't you?

And so calmly and gracefully and deteriously, the dark eyed dame with new leaving her honest hearted antage nst only the sense of exasperation and

it was full quarter of an hour after mrade, and darkness was setting down athe garrison, when Capt. Lawrence's parters, and, being bidden "Come in. pairs on to the sitting room, where he bound that young officer plunged deep in an easy chair in front of the fireplace. satitude one of profound dejection. Beg pardon, Bentemant, said the an "Mrs Lawrence and the captain's

outin dinner for you."



Socially speaking, the garrison was entirened by the advent of Mrs. Page, and every

body flocked to the Bel ps quarters in order to do her proper When Perry called he asked rke to go with him, and when the latseemed ready to leave the former m and went likewise . For two 55 the one subject under constant dis ion at the post was the event of Misa dand's sudden appearance, her perilrun and her daring and skillful res-Everybody maintained that Perry that to be a very proud and happy felto have been the hero of such an sion; but it was very plain that Perry is neither proud por anything like No one had ever known him so and cast down The talk with awace had helped matters very little Is brief, this was about all the capbould tell him, and it was all heargeridence at best. The officers of the enth and their ladies had, with a exceptions, taken a dislike to Dr. sin before Belknap and Lawrence with ompanies of infantry had been or red to Fort Rossiter. The feeling was full blast when they arrived, and durthesix or eight months they served etogether the infantry people heard one side of the story-that of the oth-for the doctor never condesied to discuss the matter. After was forbidden to leave the post his commanding officer, and after taven, it was observed that signals sometimes made from the ranch at the a strong light thrown from a reor was flashed three times and then imwn Next it was noted, by an riding member of the guard, that signals were answered by a light the doctor's windows, then that he sted his horse and rode away down talley of the Monee. He was alaback at sick call, and, if any one the commanding officer of his discnce of orders, it was not done until har the departure of the Eleventh the doctor was not afterwards actcaught in the act. Things would tedly have been brought to a a had the Eleventh been allowed to

as to the story about Mrs. Quin ergoing It was observed during einter that she was looking very and the story went the rounds in leventh that she was stung and sufing because of her husband's conduct. stionably there was some fair en ess at Dunraven who lured him his own fireside. She had no intiong the ladies. She was proud It did not seem to occur to that she was resentful of their disber husband. They were sure she pining" because of his neglect-or When, therefore, without word ning, she suddenly took her deer in the spring, there was a gasp op loving cronies in the garrison; ts were at an end; she had left ad taken her children with her. more I think of it," said Law-

"the more I believe the whole apable of explanation. The only hat puzzles me now is that Quin ng from your colonel, who of the most courteous and considen I ever served with. Perhaps fold him by this time; we don't Perhaps he thought he might be stamp as his predecessor, waiting to find out before he a confidences. As to Mrs. Quin's

his full advice and by his wish, and he simply feels too much contempt for gar it is hard to say what will be the result rison gossip to explain. Very probably of this seizure. he knows nothing of the stories and the ories in circulation. I'm sure I did not doctor, if that he the case-before sick until a very few weeks ago You know. Perry, these are some men in garrison who hear and know everything, and others who never hear a word of scan-

But Perry was low in his mind. He could not forget Quin's sudden appearance; his calling her Gladys; and then he hated the thought that it was Quin who perry's hes tation vanished. ... nane saw him having that confounded tender ros, colonel I pelieve I don't care to interview with Mrs. Belknap. Was there ever such a streak of ill tack as that? No doubt the fellow had told her about burned to his quarters. Mrs. Belknap it! Perry left Lawrence's that night very little comforted, and only one gleam of hope did he receive in the two well said she with the languid days that followed Mrs. Sprague joy drawl that her regimental associates had fully beckoned him on Wednesday after noon to read him a little note that had just come from Miss Maitland, Her father had been very ill, she wrote; his condition was still critical; but she sent a world of thanks to her kind entertain-

ers at Rossiter, and these words: "I was sorry not to be able to see Mr. Perry again. Do not let him think I have forgotten, or will be likely to forget, the service he-and Nolan-did me." Of Dr. Quin he saw very little. With

the full consent and knowledge of Col. Brainard, the doctor was spending a good deal of time at Dunraven now, attending to Mr. Maitland. Indeed, there seemed to be an excellent understanding between the commandant and his medical officer, and it was known that they had had a long talk together. Upper circles in the garrison were still agitated with chat and conjecture about Gladys Maitland and her strange father; Perry was still tortured with questions about his one visit to Dunraven whenever he but all through "the quarters," every-where among the rank and file, there was a subject that engrossed all thoughts and tongues, and that was discussed with feeling that seemed to deepen with every day-the approaching court martial of Sergt. Leary and of Trooper Kelly. As a result of his investigation, Capt.

Stryker had preferred charges against these two men-the one for leading and the other for being accessory to the acsault on his stable sergeant. Gwynne was still at the hospital, though rapidly recovering from his injuries. Not a word had he said that would implicate or accuse any man; but Stryker's knowledge of his soldiers, and his clear insight into human motive and character, were such that he had readily made up his mind as to the facts in the case. He felt sure that eary and some of the Celtic members of his company had determined to go down to Dunraven and "have it out" with the hated Britons who had so affronted and abused them the night of Perry's visit. They knew they could not get their horses by fair means, for Gwynne was above suspicion. He was English, too, and striving to shield his countrymen from the threatened vengeance. They therefore determined, in collusion with Kelly, to lure him outside the stables, bind and gag him, get their horses, having once rifled Gwynne of the keys, ride down to the ranch, and, after having a Donnybrook fair on the premises, get back to Rossiter in plenty of time for reveille and go down again to-night, doctor?" stables. No sentries were posted in such a way as to interfere with them, and the plan was feasible enough but for one thing. Gwynne had made most gallant and spirited resistance, had fought the whole gang like a tiger, and they had egarding a very palpable hint from been unable to overpower him before the ady of the house, picked up his for noise had attracted the attention of the eant of the guard and some of the men in quarters. An effort, of course, was made to show that the assaulting party were from without, but it was futile, and Stryker's cross-questioning among the men had convinced them that he knew all about the matter. There was only one conclusion, therefore, that Gwynne must have "given them away,"

> as the troopers expressed it.
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> Despite the fact that he had been as saulted and badly beaten, this was something that few could overlook, and the latent jealousy against the "cockney sergeant" blazed into a feeling of deep resentment. Garrison sympathy was with Leary and his fellows.

> Thursday came, and Sergt. Gwynne returned to light duty, though his face was still bruised and discolored and he wore a patch over one eye. He resumed charge of the stables in the afternoon. after a brief conversation with his captain, and was superintending the issue of forage, when Perry entered to inspect the stalls of his platoon. Nolan was being led out by his groom at the moment, and pricked up his tapering ears at sight of his master and thrust his lean muzzle to receive the caress of the hand he knew so well. Perry stopped him and carefully and critically examined his knees, f eling down to the fetlocks with searching fingers for the faintest symptom of knot or swelling in the tendons that had played their part so thoroughly in the drama of Monday. Satisfied, apparently, he rose and bestowed a few hearty pats on the glossy neck and shoulder, and then was surprised to find the stable sergeant standing close beside him and regarding both him and horse with an expression that

arrested Perry's attention at once. "Feeling all right again, sergeant?" he asked, thinking to recall the non-commissioned officer to his senses.

"Almost, sir. I'm a trifle stiff yet. Anything wrong with Nolan, sir?" "Nothing. I gave him rather a tough

run the other day-had to risk the prairie dog heles-and, though I felt no jar then, I've watched carefully ever since to see that he was not wrenched. I wish you would keep an eye on him too, will

There was no answer. Perry had been looking over Nolan's haunches as he spoke, and once more turned to the sergeant. To his astonishment, Gwynne's on the starlit prairie might soothe his lips were twitching and quivering, his nerves and enable him to sleep hands, ordinarily held in the rigid pose of the English service-extended along the thigh-were clinching and working nervously, and something suspiciously like a tear was creeping out from under the patch. Before Perry could recover from his surprise the sergeant suddenly regained his self control, hastily raised hand in salute, saying something half articulate in reply, and turned sharply away, leaving his lieutenant gazing after him in much perplexity.

That night, just arter tattoo roll call, when a little group of officers was gathered at the colonel's gate, they were suddenly joined by Dr Quin, who came from the direction of the stable where he kept his horse in rear of his own quarters. Col. Brainard greeted him warmly and inquired after his patient at Dunwhen she did, it may have raven. Every one noted how grave and by that her health was suffer- subdued was the tone in which the docsled change, and went with tor answered:

"He is a very sick man, colonel, and

call to-morrow. I mean, and you had better take one of my horses. I'll tell my man to have one in readiness."

You are very kind, sir I think old Brian will do all the work needed. But I would like to go down at reveille, as we have no even in hospital at all now And, by the way, is Mr. Perry here?"

"I am here," answered Perry coldly He was leaning against the railing rather away from the group, listening intently, yet unwilling to meet or hold conversation with the man be conceived. to be so inimical to his every hope and interest.

"Mr. Perry," the doctor, pleasantly, and utterly ignoring the coldness the young fellow's manner, "Mr Maitland has asked to see you; and it would gratify him if you would ride down in the morning."

Even in the darkness Perry feared that all would see the flush that leaped to his face. Summoned to Dunraven Ranch by her father, with a possibility of seeing her! It was almost too sweet! too thrilling! He could give no reply for a ment, and an awkward silence fell on the group until he chokingly answered "I shall be glad to go What time?"

"Better ride down early. Never mind breakfast. Miss Maitland will be glad to give you a cup of coffee, I fancy. And Perry felt as though the fence had taken to waltzing. He made no answer, striving to regain his composure, and then the talk went on. It was Stryker

who was talking now: "Has the ring been found, doctor?" "No! That is a most singular thing. and one that worries the old gentleman was so incautious as to appear in public; a great deal It had a history; it belonged to Mrs. Maitland's father, who was from Ireland-indeed, Ireland was her country, as it was my father's-and that ring she had reset for her son Archie and gave it to him when he entered service with the Lancers. It was sent home with his watch and other property from South Africa-for he died there-and old Maitland always wore it afterwards. Archie was the last of three sons; and it broke his heart."

"And the ring was lost the night of Perry's adventure there?" asked the col-

"Yes. Mr. Perry remembers having seen it on his hand when the old gentleman first came down to receive him It was missed afterwards, and could easily have slipped off at any time, for his fingers were withered with age and ill health. They have searched everywhere, and could find nothing of it. It could easily have rolled off the veranda on to the grass during his excitement at the time of the row, and somebody may have picked it up-either among the ranch men or among the troopers.'

"I hate to think that any of our men would take it," said the colonel after a

"I do not think any of them would. with the idea of selling it," said Stryker; "but here is a case where it was picked up, possibly, as one of the spoils of war I have had inquiry made throughout the troop, but with no result so far. Do you

"Not if I can avoid it. I am going now to try and sleep, and will not ride down till daybreak unless signaled for Good night, colonel; good night,'all."

Unless signaled for! Instinctively erry edged closer to Lawrence, who had stood a silent listener to the conversation. most in his mind. There was a moment of perfect silence, and then Lawrence

"Does anybody know what the signal

"Certainly," said Col. Brainard promptly. "He has explained the whole thing to me. Those were signals for him that we saw the night you were all on my gallery. It was an arrangement devised by their old nurse-she who came up with the carriage for Miss Maitland the other day. She had a regular old fashioned headlight and reflector, and when Mr. Maitland was so ill as to need a doctor, used to notify Quin in that way. He sometimes failed to see it, and I have given orders today that the guard should wake him when it I seen hereafter.

much about during the last three weeks?

asked Mr. Dana. What on earth did anybody suppose

they meant?" To this there was no response for a

CHAPTER XVL



He could not sleep; he was feverishly impatient for the coming of another day, that he might start forth on his ride to Dunraven. A "spin" around the parade or out

All lights were out in the quadrangle, save those at the guard house. Even at Belknap's quarters, where the veranda had been thronged with officers and ladies only an hour before, all was now silence and darkness Unwilling to attract attention by tramping up and down on the board walk, he crossed the road and went out on the broad level of the parade, but took care so to direct his steps as not to come within hailing distance of the guard house. It would be awkward work explaining the situation to the sergeant of the guard in case the sentry

were to see or hear and challenge him. He edged well over to his left A he walked, and so it happened that he found himself, after a while, opposite the northeast entrance to the post, and close to the road on which stood the commissary and quartermaster storehouses. There was a sentry posted here, too, and it would not do to be challenged by him ness. I thought they might be coming

any more than by "Number One."

Stopping a moment to listen for the sentry's footfall Perry's ear was attracted by the sound of a door slowly and cautiously opened It was some little time before he could tell from which one of the neighboring buildings looming there in the darkness, the sound proceeded. Then he heard muffled footsteps and a whispered consultation not far away, and hurrying on tiptoe in the direction of the sound he presently caught sight of two or three shadowy forms moving noiselessly along the porch of the company quarters nearest him Stryker's troop, that to which he belonged, was quartered down beyond the guard house on the lower side of the parade, these forms were issuing from the barracks of Capt Wayne's troop and before Perry could realize the fact that they were out either in moccasins or their stocking feet, and presumably therefore on some unlawful enterprise. they had disappeared around the corner of the building. He walked rapidly thither, turned the corner and they were nowhere in sight or hearing Stopping to listen did not help matters at all could not hear a sound, and as for the shadows of which he was in pursuit, it was simply impossible to tell which direction they had taken. They had van ished from the face of the earth and were lost in the deeper gloom that hung about the scattered array of wooden buildings-store houses, fuel sheds and cook sneds-at the rear of the post. Had it been his own troop he could

have roused the first sergeant and order ed a "check" roll call as a means of determining at once who the night prowlers might be; but Capt. Wayne had his peculiarities, and one of them was an unalterable and deeply rooted objection to any interference on the part of other officers in the management of his men Perry's first thought, too, was of the stables and Sergt. Gwynne. Were they meditating another foray, and had the feeling spread outside their own company? No time was to be lost. He turned his face eastward to where the dark outlines of the stables could be dimly traced against the sky, and hastened, stumbling at times over stray tin cans and other discarded rubbish, until he crossed the intervening swale and reached the low bluff along which the crude: unpainted structures were ranged. All was darkness here towards the northern end, and the one sentry who had external charge of the entire line was slowly pacing his post; Perry could see his form. dimly outlined, as he breasted the slope. and it determined him to keep on in the hollow until he got to a point opposite the stables of his own troop. If there was to be any devilment it might be well to see whether this soldier, too, would turn out to be in league with the conspirators. Listening intently as he hurried along, but hearing nothing, Perry soon found himself at the pathway leading to his own domain, and the next minute was gazing in surprise at a light burning dimly in the window of the little room occupied by Sergt. Gwynne,

there was not a glimmer elsewhere along the line. Striding up to the window, he tapped lightly, and Gwynne's voice sternly challenged from within, "Who's there?" "Lieut. Perry, sergeant. Come around

and open the stable door for me." "One moment, sir," was the answer and he heard the sergeant bounding, ap-parently, off his bed. Then a hand drew aside the shade, and Gwynne's face appeared at the window, while a small lan tern was held so as to throw its rays on and Lawrence turned and saw him and the face without, "All right, sir," he deceived in the voice."

Perry walked around to the front again taking another survey of the sleeping garrison as he did so, and listening once more for footsteps; but all was still Presently the little panel in the big door was unlocked from within, and the lieu tenant bent low and entered, finding Gwynne, lantern in hand, standing in his uncompromising attitude of "attention"

"Everything been quiet here to-night?" ne asked, as he straightened up.

"Perfectly so, sir." "Come into your room a moment; I want to speak to you," said Perry, after a moment's reflection.

They passed along the broad gangway between the rows of sleepy horses, some lying down in their stalls, others still "Then that was what those mysterious afoot and munching at their hay. The night lights meant that we have heard so stable guard stood at his post and faced them as they turned into the dark and narrow passage leading into Gwynne's "Certainly," answered Brainard little sanctuary. The lamps along the line of stalls burned low and dim, and the ports being lowered, gave no gleam without the walls. Once more, however, moment. Then Lawrence burst out a bright light shone from the window of the stable sergeant's room-brighter than before, could they only know it, for this drinkin' time there was no intervening shade After his brief inspection of the lieuten

ant's face. Gwynne had left it drawn. The sergeant set his lantern on wooden desk, and respectfully waited for his superior to speak. Perry looked him well over a moment, and then be

"Did you tell Capt. Stryker the partic lars of your rough treatment down here at the ranch?

"The rough 'reatment-yes, sir." Would you mind telling me where ou were takent-where you saw Dr /uin/

The sergeant hesitated one moment. roubled look on his face. His one vailable eye studied his lieutenant's eatures attentively Something in the rank, kind blue eyes-possibly some sudden recollection, too-seemed to reas

ure him "It was to Mr. Cowan's little house sir. He interposed to save me from a worse beating at the hands of three brutes who were employed there and had ome grudge against this garrison of which I was ignorant They attacked me without a word of warning. It was he too who called in Dr. Quin."

"Have you-did you see any of the people at Dunraven pesides this young "I saw his mother, sir. She is a nurse there, and has been in the family for

years, I am told." Perry was silent a moment. Then he spoke again Have you heard any furthrer threat mong the men here since the arrest of

Gwynne hesitated, coloring painfully "It is something I hate to speak of, sir

The talk has not alarmed me in the "I know that, ergeant. All the same we want to prevent a recurrence of that performance, and it was that, mainly that brought me over here. I saw some men stealing out of M troop's quarters

awhile ago, and lost them in the dark

over here, and-got here first. Gwynne's face lighted up It touched

him to know his officers were on the lookout for his safety

"I have heard nothing, sir. The men would hardly be apt to speak to me on the subject, since the affair of the other night. What I fear is simply this-that there is an element here in the regiment that is determined to get down there to the ranch and have satisfaction for the assault that was made on you and your party. They need horses in order to get there and back between midnight and reveille, and are doubtless hatching some plan. They failed here; now they may try the stables of some other troop or the quartermaster's Shall I warn the sen try that there are prowlers out to night?

Not yet. They will hardly make the attempt while your light is burning here. What I'm concerned about just now is this: We all know that there is deep sympathy for Leary in the command. and it is not improbable that among the Irishmen there is corresponding feeling against you. I don't like your being here alone just now, for they know you are almost the only witness against

"I have thought of that, sir," answered Gwynne, gravely, "but I want nothing that looks like protection. The captain has spoken of the matter to me, and he agreed, sir, that it would do more barm than good. There is one thing I would ask-if I may trouble the lieutenant."

"What is it, sergeant?" "I have a little packet, containing some papers and a trinket or two, that I would like very much to have kept safely, and if anything should happen to me, to have you, sir, and Capt. Stryker open it. and-the letters there will explain every thing that is to be done."

"Certainly. I will take care of it for

you-if not too valuable." "I would rather know it was with you. sir, than stow it in the quartermaster's cafe," was Gwynno's answer, as he opened a little wooden chest at the foot of his bunk, and, after rummaging a moment, drew forth a parcel tied and sealed. This be handed to the lieutenant "Now I will go back and notify the officer of the guard of what I have seen," said Perry; "and I want Nolan. saddled, over at my quarters right after morning stables. Will you see to it?"

"I will, sir, and thank you for your kindness.

All was darkness, all silence and peace as Perry retraced his steps and weat back to the garrison, carrying the little packet in his hand. He went direct to the guard house, and found Mr. Graham sulky over being disturbed in his snooze by the sentry's challenge.

What the devil are you owling around this time of night for?" was the not unnatural question. "I thought it was the officer of the day, and nearly broke my neck in hurrying out here." But Perry's brief recital of the fact that he had seen some men stealing out of the quarters of M troop in their stocking feet or moceasins put an end to Graham's complaints. Hastily summoning the sergeant of the guard, he started out to make the rounds of his sentries, while Perry carried his packet home, locked it n his desk, and then returned to the

veranda to await developments Sergt Gwynne, meantime, having lighted his young officer to the stable door, stood there a few moments, looking over the silent garrison and listening to the retreating footsteps. The sentry came pacing along the front of the statles, and brought his carbine down from the shoulder as he dimly sighted the tall knew the thought that must be upper continued. "I thought I could not be figure, but recognizing the stable ser geant as he came nearer, the ready chall

enge died on his lips "I thought I heard somebody moving around down here, sergeant. It was

you, then, was it?" "I have been moving around-inside -but made no noise. Have you heard locasters or volces?"

"Hoth I thought, but it's as black as your hat on this beat to-night. I can't see my hand afore my face." "Keep your ears open, then, there are

men out from one of the quarters, at least, and no telling what they are up to. Who's in charge at the quartermaster's

"Sergt Reilly, of the infantry; some of the fellows were over having a little game with him before tattoo, and I heard him tell 'em to come again when they had more money to lose. He and his helper there were laughing at the way they cleaned out the cavalry when they were locking up at taps The boys fetched over a bottle of whisky with

"Who were they?" "Oh, there was Flanagan and Murphy, of M troop, and Corporal Donovan and one or two others. They hadn't been

"But Riley had-do you mean?" "He was a little full; not much." "Well, look alive now, Wicks

my advice to you that you watch that end of your post with all your eyes." And with this Sergt Gwynne turned back into the stable, picked up his lan tern and returned to the little room in which he slept A current of cool night air, blowing in through the open case ment, attracted his attention Odd! He knew he had pulled aside the shade to can the features of the lieutenant when he tapped at the pane, but he could not recall having opened the sash. It swung on a hinge, and was fastened by a loose ly fitting bolt Perhaps the rising wind had blown it in. He set his lamp down bruised and still discolored face. as before, closed the such and then closed and locked the lid of his chest. That too, was open. Wicks, the sentry, well up to the north end of his post and closto the entrance of the quartermaster's corral was bawling: "Half past 12 o'clock, and a-all's well," when the light went out in Gwynne's little room, and all the line of stables was wrapped in

Perry frested around the veranda until I o'clock, then sought his room. He was still too excited to sleep, and it seemed

an interminable time before he dozed off Then it seemed as though he could not have been in dreamfand five minutes be fore a hand was laid upon his shoulder shaking him vigorously, and a voice he well knew was exclaiming, in low but forcible tones:

Wake, lieutenant, wake i borse is gone from the quartermaster's cerral There must be twenty men gone down the valley. I've Nolan here for you at the gate.

In ten minutes Lieut. Perry and Sergt Gwynne were riding neck and neck out over the eastern prairie-out toward the paling orient stars and the faintly gleaming sky-before them, severa niles away, the dark and threatener walls of Dunraven behind them the stir and excitement and bustle conse quent upon a night alarm. The colonel

roused by Perry with the news, had or dered the instant sounding of the assembly, and the garrison was tumbling out for roll call



party and bring them back to the post ried questioning of the sentries and the courts of Berlin and Vienna by dazed, half drunken sergeant of the corral, the troopers engaged in the raid must have selected a time when the sentry was walking towards the south end of his post to lift one of their number over the wall of the inclosure in which were kept the wagons and ambulances. This man had unbarred from within the gate leading eastward to the trail down which the "stock" was driven daily to water in the Monco. Riley admitted that "the boys" had left a bottle with him which he and his assistant had emptied before turning in, and so it happeried that unheard and unseen, the raiders had managed to slip out with a dozen horses that were kept there and had also taken six mules as "mounts' for those who could not find anything Eighteen men, apparently, were in the

party, and the sentry on Number Three heard hoof beats down towards the valley about half past 2 o'clock, but thought it was only some of the ponies belonging to the Cheyenne scouts. There was one comfort-the men had taken no firearm with them; for a hurried inspection of the company quarters showed that the carbines were all in their racks and the revolvers in their cases. Some of the men might have small caliber pistols of their own, but the government arms had not been disturbed. Half the party, at least, must have ridden bareback and with only watering bridles for their steeds. They were indeed "spoiling for a fight," and the result of the roll call showed that the missing troopers were all Irishmen and some of the best and most popular men in the command Whatever their plan, thought Stryker as he trotted down to the Monee, it was probably carried out by this time; it was now within a minute of 4 o'clock.

Dr. Quin, who reined up an instant to of the integrity of our territories, and ask if any one had been sent ahead an engagement not to conclude a peace "Thank God for that!" he exclaimed otherwise than by common consent, when told that Perry and Sergt. Gwynn: The treaty would contain nothing hurtgallop, while the troopers maintained four other great powers known under their steady tre. A from Dun the name of the league of peace, and raven, in the dim light of early morning which, notwithstanding its name, is preshadowy forms of mounted men on the peace of Europe by the mysterious ac-opposite shore, and, despite their efforts tions and the constant armaments of its of them were speedily run down and captured. One of them was Corp. Done van, and Donovan's face was white and his manner agitated. Bidding him ride alongside as they pushed ahead towards the ranch, Stryker questioned him as to what had taken place, and the corporal never sought to equivocate:

sir, to get horses and go down and have it out with those blackguards at the ranch. We took ne arms, sir, even those of us who had pistols of our own. All we asked was a fair fight, man against man. They wouldn't come out of their bole-they dasn't do it, sir-and then they fired on us. We'd have burned the roof over their heads, but that Lieut. Perry galloped in and stopped us. came away then, sir, and so did most of us. We knew 'twas all up when we saw the lieutenant; but there was more firing after I left. This way, captain. Out across the prairie here. We cut down the fence on this side." And so saying, Donovan led the little troop to a broad gap in the wide barrier, and thence straight across the fields to where lights were seen flitting about in the dark shadows of the buildings of the ranch Another moment, and Stryker had dismounted and was kneeling beside the prostrate and unconscious form of his lieutenant Some misguided ranchman mistaking for a new assailant the tall young soldier who galloped into the midst of the swarm of taunting Irishmen, had fired the cruel shot. There tay Nolan dead upon the sward, and here, close at hand, his grief stricken master had finally awooned from loss of blood, the builet having pierced his teg below the knee Beside him knelt the doctor he had cut away the natty riding boot, and was rapidly binding up the wound. Close at hand stood Gwynne. a world of anxiety and trouble in his (TO BE CONTINUED.

RAISING TURKEYS. [Poultry and Peta.]

It is we'l to watch a turkey hen in the spring. She will let you know when she wants to lay. She will hunt around here and there for a suitable place for a nest. When you see her doing this fasten her op in a yard until she makes a nest and lays, and she will be almost sure to go back and lay in the same place afterwards. Leave the gate to the yard open and you will have little trouble finding her eggs. The turkey hen always covers her eggs, and it is well to leave an egg in the nest. * In rearing tur-keys the main thing is to keep them dry until they are full feathered. If they once become thoroughly water soake there is no use trying to do a thing with They will all die sure. main food while young should be wheat soaked in milk. Corn meal alone kills them. If a little corn meal is fed with bran no evil results will follow, but it will not do to feed it alone.

The trying time on young furkeys is when they are taking on their cont of

An object glass for the forty-inch tele scope to be mounted at the University of Southern California has been taken to Cambridge, Mass. Clark Bros. are expected to spend two years on it before is ready for use.

THE POLICY OF RUSSIA.

She Will Never Permit the Dismemberment of France. In the Mussager Russe, a review pub-

ished in St. Petersburg, there is an article upon the future policy of Russia, by Mr. Serge de Tatishoff, the eminent distorian and diplomatist. He declares that Russia may remain indifferent to all the misunderstandings and difficulties of Western Europe, but that there is one thing that the Empire is bound at all hazards to resist, and that is the dismemberment of France by Germany or by the quadruple alliance. In opposing such an act, he says, Russia would only be defending her own interests, because a powerful France is absolutely necessary as a counter-balance to the German Empire, which is at present supported by the armies of Austro-Hungary and Italy and also sustained by the naval forces of Great Britain. This was something that was well understood by the Emperor Alexander L in 1814-15, and of his own men. Capt later still by Alexander II., when in Stryker rode forth 1875 he would not permit Germany to some tifteen minuter invade France for the second time, belater. His orders from Col. Brainard fore she could recover from her disasters were to go to Dunraven, and, if he found and place herself once more on the marauders there, to arrest the entire the defensive. Let it be remembered that at the above-named From all that could be learned from hur dates Russia was bound to the treaty, while to-day she is perfectly free to mold her policy according to her own interests and needs. Germany, at the head of the so-called league of peace, already dominates the whole of Central Europe. Two great powers alone preserve their independence and hinder her domination from spreading all over the universe. Hence the absolute identity of their reciprocal interests. If Germany should succeed in conquering France without the interference of Russia, or in conquering Russia, left without the aid of France, there would then not only be no balance of power in Europe, but none in the entire world. All powers and all peoples would find themselves obliged to bow their heads under the yoke of Germany and to acknowledge her universal soverignty. Therefore, in any struggle with the quadruple alliance it is the duty of Russia to sustain France, just as it is the duty of France to sustain Russia. To the objection that if an alliance were concluded between France and Russia a declaration of war would be the immediate result Mr. Totishoff replies:

"It is just the same as if two separate army corps, acting against a concentrated enemy, were advised to keep separate for fear of hurting the feelings of that enemy. And how should they be kept thus separate? By a maneuver which must necessarily lead to defeat! The absurdity of such advice is plain to every body from a purely military point of view, and only a half-blind and incompetent diplomacy fails to see it as a matter of policy. To our eyes it is as plain as that two and two make four that if the peace of Europe is to be assured it must be by an alliance frank and sincere between France and Russia. The conditions of such an alliance are very simple-common defense against Only a mile out he was overtaken by the common enemy; a mutual guaranty had gone at the first alarm; then, strik ful to anybody, even if it was not justiing spurs to his horse, pushed on at rapid fied by the threatening coalition of the the captain's keen eyes caught sight of cisely the thing that compromises the

SHAN SUPERSTITIONS.

A Primitive People Possessed By a Bellet in Evil Spirits.

The spirits both good and evil have their origin in human beings, and all the common events of life, all phases of good or bad fortune, are regulated by these. Both Hinduism and Buddhism "We've been trying for several nights, have, to a certain extent, left their traces upon the primitive creed, and the ceremonials of worship are naturally of the Buddhist type. Among the Shans Guadama very significantly ranks as the delty of mercy-an indication that his bloodless rites came as a relief to the older human sacrifices to the spirits The village and family and ho spirits, as the nearest to hand and most active, bulk most largely in the minds of the people, and exercise a very serious influence upon their ordinary life. Malicious as monkeys, and can only be kept in good humor by constant coar-ing," is the sentiment which the people have regarding their unseen encompass

ers. Each house has a part assigned to the spirits belonging to it, good or bad. Possession by evil spirit is a common belief, and every malady is attributed to witcheraft or to the influence of some evil being. When descending the rapids of the Meh Ping Mr. Hallett found that his boatmen had to propitiate the Pee Pa, the spirits that guard the defile, before they could venture on the descent These jungle spirits once belonged to human beings who had died a violent death and not received proper funeral rites. All who are killed by their agency have to join their unhallowed company They direct tigers to the lonely traveler, decoy him into peril in the form of some other animal or by imitating the human voice. More dangerous than the Pee Pa are the Pee Song Nang, the spirits of two dissolute Princesses, who, in the form of beautiful enchantresses, lure young men to their doom.—Blackwood's Magazine

Overdoing It.

A prominent fault to be found with New York drawing rooms is the too great profusion of furniture and briea brac crowded into them. It trips you on the floors, drops down at you from the chandelier and cornices, makes it dangerous to stretch your legs or move your elbows when you sit, and ren-ders it impossible to find a bit of un-occupied wall big enough to lean against. It is a great pleasure, of course, to have lots of pretty things, but they need not all be on exhibition at once. One fashionable woman in this city, who can afford to buy almost anything that strikes her fanins a store room in her house filled with bric-a-brac and furniture. Every week a dozen er so of these precious treasures are brought out and ar-ranged about the rooms, and as many others as have been on duty time are packed away again. Thusher parlor has always a certain expres sion about it, so to speak, widely dif-ferent from the look of a bazar, high-ly fashionable, but exceedingly an-

restful, that a too well filled room has. -It is understood that the reason for McGinty's failure to appear is due to the soothing influence experienced by one who is being rocked in the cradle of the