

The Courtship of Miles Standish

With Illustrations by Howard Chandler Christy

(Copyright, The Bobbs-Merrill Company)

The March of Miles Standish

Meanwhile the stalwart Miles Standish was marching steadily northward, winding through forest and swamp, and along the trend of the seashore. All day long, with hardly a halt, the fire of his anger burning and crackling within, and the sulphurous odor of powder seeming more sweet to his nostrils than all the scents of the forest. Silent and moody he went, and much he revolved his discomfort; he who was used to success, and to easy victories always, thus to be flouted, rejected, and laughed to scorn by a maiden, thus to be mocked and betrayed by the friend whom most he had trusted!

"I alone am to blame," he muttered, "for mine was the folly. That has a rough old soldier, grown grim and gray in the harness, led to the camp and its ways, to do with the wooing of maidens? Was but a dream,—let it pass,—let it vanish like so many others! At I thought was a flower, is only a weed, and is worthless; of my heart will I pluck it, and throw it away, and henceforward but a fighter of battles, a lover and wooer of dangers!"

After a three days' march he came to an Indian encampment on the edge of a meadow, between the sea and the forest; men at work by the tents, and the warriors, horrid with war-paint, and about a fire, and smoking and talking together; when they saw from afar the sudden approach of the white man, the flash of the sun on breast-plate and saber and musket,



He Sprang at a Bound.

They leaped to their feet, and from among them advancing, parley with Standish, and his furs as a present; but in their looks, but in their hearts there was hatred. The tribe were those, and were gigantic in stature, the death of Gath, or the terrible king of Basan; Pecksnot named, and the one who was called Wattawamat. Their necks were suspended

their knives in scabbards of wampum. Two-edged, trenchant knives, with points as sharp as a needle. Other arms had they none, for they were cunning and crafty. "Welcome, English!" they said,—these words they had learned from the traders. Touching at times on the coast, to barter and chaffer for peltries. Then in their native tongue they began to parley with Standish. Through his guide and interpreter, Hobomok, friend of the white man, begging for blankets and knives, but mostly for muskets and powder. Kept by the white man, they said, concealed, with the plague, in his cellars, ready to be let loose, and destroy his brother, the red man! But when Standish refused, and said he would give them the Bible,



Plunged it into His Heart.

Suddenly changing their tone, they began to boast and to bluster. Then Wattawamat advanced with a stride in front of the other. And, with a lofty demeanor, thus vauntingly spake to the Captain: "Now Wattawamat can see, by the fiery eyes of the Captain, Angry is he in his heart; but the heart of the brave Wattawamat is not afraid at the sight. He was not born of a woman, But on a mountain, at night, from an oak-tree riven by lightning, Forth he sprang at a bound, with all his weapons about him, Shouting, 'Who is there here to fight with the brave Wattawamat?' Then he unsheathed his knife, and, whetting the blade on his left hand, Held it aloft and displayed a woman's face on the handle, Saying, with bitter expression and look of sinister meaning: 'I have another at home, with the face of a man on the handle; By and by they shall marry; and there will be plenty of children!'"

Then stood Pecksnot forth, self-vaunting, insulting Miles Standish; While with his fingers he patted the knife that hung at his bosom, Drawing it half from its sheath, and plunging it back, as he muttered: "By and by it shall see; it shall eat; ah, ah! but shall speak not! This is the mighty Captain the white men have sent to destroy us! He is a little man; let him go and work with the women!"

Meanwhile Standish had noted the faces and figures of Indians Peeping and creeping about from bush to tree in the forest, Feigning to look for game, with arrows set on their bow-strings, Drawing about him still closer and closer the net of their ambush. But undaunted he stood, and dissembled and treated them smoothly; So the old chronicles say, that were writ in the days of the fathers. But when he heard their defiance, the boast, the taunt, and the insult, All the hot blood of his race, of Sir Hugh and of Thurston de Standish, Bolled and beat in his heart, and swelled in the veins of his temples. Heading he leaped on the boaster, and, snatching his knife from its scabbard,

Plunged it into his heart, and, reeling backward, the savage Fell with his face to the sky, and a fiendlike fierceness upon it. Straight there arose from the forest the awful sound of the war-whoop. And, like a flurry or snow on the whistling wind of December, Swift and sudden and keen came a flight of feathery arrows. Then came a cloud of smoke, and out of the cloud came the lightning. Out of the lightning, thunder; and death unseen ran before it. Frightened the savages fled for shelter in swamp and in thicket, Hotly pursued and beset; but their sachem, the brave Wattawamat, Fled not; he was dead. Unswerving and swift had a bullet Passed through his brain, and he fell with both hands clutching the greensward. Seeming in death to hold back from his foe the land of his fathers.

There on the flowers of the meadow the warriors lay, and above them, Silent, with folded arms, stood Hobomok, friend of the white man. Smiling, at length he exclaimed to the stalwart Captain of Plymouth: "Pecksnot bragged very loud, of his courage, his strength and his stature,— Mocked the great Captain, and called him a little man; but I see now Big enough have you been to lay him speechless before you!"

Thus the first battle was fought and won by the stalwart Miles Standish. When the tidings thereof were brought to the village of Plymouth,

And as a trophy of war the head of the brave Wattawamat Scowled from the roof of the fort, which at once was a church and a fortress, All who beheld it rejoiced, and praised the Lord, and took courage. Only Priscilla averted her face from this specter of terror, Thanking God in her heart that she had not married Miles Standish; Shrinking, fearing almost, lest, coming home from his battles, He should lay claim to her hand, as the prize and reward of his valor. (TO BE CONTINUED.)

BIGGEST CITIES OF WORLD

London Still Far in Lead, but New York is Growing Faster Than Any Other.

London, the largest city in the world, has a population, as now officially announced, of 7,252,963, as against 6,581,402 in 1901—an increase in ten years of 671,561, or only 10.2 per cent. The population of New York is 4,766,883, and with a gain in the ten years of 38.7 per cent., is growing faster than any other great city in the world. At the rate at which the two largest cities are growing it will take a long time for New York to catch up with London; but it would be a great misfortune if it ever did catch up—there is too much congestion in New York already. The third city in size is Paris, whose population is probably 3,000,000. The fourth city is perhaps Berlin, which had a little over 2,000,000 five years ago. Tokyo and Chicago fall a little under the 2,500,000 mark, and St. Petersburg, Vienna, Canton, Peking, Moscow and Philadelphia are below 2,000,000.—Rochester Post-Express.

Great Saving of Time.

The manager of one of the electric light companies of the western part of the country has greatly facilitated the business of making the monthly readings of meters by having these instruments placed on the rear porches of houses instead of in the cellars. About half of the meters of this company are now located in some convenient and protected place in the rear of the house, where it is always accessible without regard to the presence or absence of the inmates of the house. The result is that the average time formerly consumed by the inspector has been cut about in half.

DIFFICULT TO EXTERMINATE INJURIOUS PLUM CURCULIO

Two Methods, Jarring and Spraying, Have Been Found Fairly Satisfactory—Commercial Grower Must Fight This Enemy If He Expects to Raise Profitable Crops Each Year.

In reply to the following query: "I have green gage plum trees that are full of bloom at present, but every year when they get about half size the plums get wormy and fall off. I would like to know if there is any way of preventing this," the Wallace's Farmer makes the following reply:

A little black beetle, which at present is feeding on the leaves and blossoms is the cause of wormy plums which drop off. When the blossoms fall this little beetle takes round bites out of the green plums. It is these little round bites that causes the lopsided and gnarly plums. If the beetle is a female, it will, in addition, make crescent shaped cuts in the green plums and insert eggs in these cuts. These eggs hatch out into the dirty-white little worm with which all who eat plums, cherries or peaches are familiar.

The only way to prevent wormy plums is to in some way kill the beetles before they have laid their eggs. This is difficult to do, but two methods have been found which are

fairly satisfactory. These are jarring and spraying.

The jarring method of beetle destruction is based on the fact that the beetles "play possum" when there is any disturbance near them. Jarring is commenced just as the blossoms are falling, and is repeated every day for four or five weeks, or until no more beetles are secured. The method is to place a sheet or some other container under a plum tree, and then to strike the tree a quick, hard blow with a padded stick or mallet. The beetles fall to the sheet and may then be collected and destroyed. In large plum orchards time is saved by rigging up a sheet arrangement on a sort of a wheelbarrow, or by stretching sheets on wooden frames. In a large orchard in Georgia where peach and plum trees were jarred sixteen times in the spring over 100,000 curculio beetles were caught in this way. It is estimated that the destruction of these beetles prevented the growth of over 13,000,000 worms in the fruit. At any rate only about four per cent. of the crop was wormy, while in surrounding orchards about forty per cent. was injured. An easier though not quite such a certain way to kill the beetles is by spraying with lead arsenate. If the leaves and fruit are thoroughly covered with this poison, the beetles, in securing their food, are poisoned before they lay their eggs. In brief, the method of spraying is as follows:



Plum Curculio.

Dissolve lead arsenate at the rate of two pounds to fifty gallons of water, then spray the mixture on the trees so that they are completely covered. The spraying should be commenced just as soon as the blossoms

DISCOVER NEW LEGUME EFFECTS

Experiments Made With Timothy and Oats in Connection With Legume Crop at Cornell.

It is well known that a leguminous crop, when vigorous and abundant, exercises a beneficial influence on the soil and on succeeding crops. That a legume may benefit a nonlegume growing with it, by causing the nonlegume to contain a large quantity of nitrogen or protein, seems never to have been ascertained.

Experiments have, therefore, been conducted with timothy growing with alfalfa, timothy growing with red clover and oats growing with peas by Profs. T. L. Lyon and G. A. Bizzell, of Cornell experiment station at Ithaca, N. Y., to determine what effects were produced. These show that the timothy and the oats contain more protein when grown with the legume than when grown alone. The increased protein contents of the hay crop thus produced is a matter of considerable practical importance. It indicates, moreover, that the nonlegume receives during the growth of the legume a larger supply of available nitrogen than if grown alone. Other conclusions drawn from the experiments are reported in bulletin No. 294, which details the work done.

Norway Spruce in Maine.

Great importance is attached to the experiment of planting Norway spruce in Maine. This is the first attempt of the kind in New England, but experimenters believe that the future supply of the denuded states may be replaced in this way.

Trees in Cities.

Kansas City last year set out in the public streets 4,042 hard maples and white elms and in addition to those were a large number planted by the park board along the public boulevards and in the parks.

Desiccated Eggs.

Pennsylvania food experts declare that certain forms of concentrated or desiccated eggs are decomposed and unfit for human consumption and in some cases produce ptomaine poisoning.

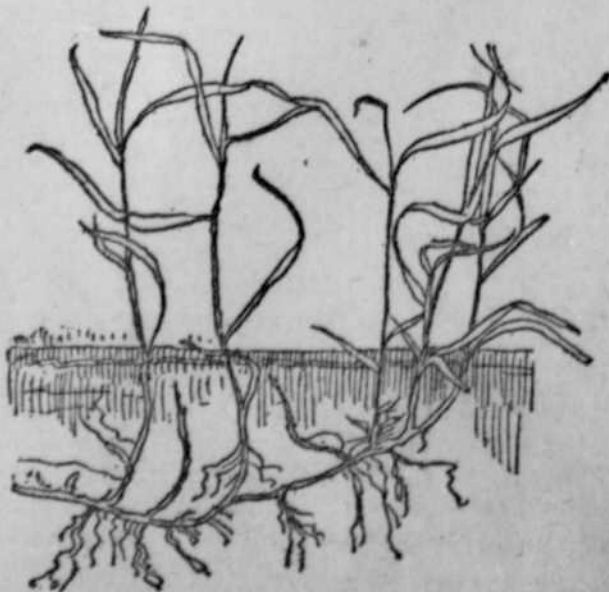
Buying Stock.

Before you buy foundation stock make a close study of the breeds and their adaptability and buy the kind that are adapted to your needs. Do not buy anything that is a sheep, simply because it is a sheep.

Trellis for Tomatoes.

Chicken wire makes a good trellis for tomatoes. A single stake will do, or a barrel hoop supported about two feet from the ground by three stakes is good.

ERADICATE INJURIOUS WEED



Couch or quack grass is a most injurious weed in all kinds of soil. Root and destroyed. Rape, buckwheat or millet are good cleaning crops for late stocks must be brought to the surface and wing.