(Continued from last week.)

and laugh at the poor creature."

Send the old man to me.'

frightened tones.

morning.

"It is you who have been foolish, sir.

"So much the better," said the prin-

cess, dismissing him with a wave of

the band. Gartz went away in a daze,

and for days he took every opportunity

to look for other signs of mental dis-

order in the conduct of his mistress, at

the same time indulging in speculation

Ganlook's population lined the chief

thoroughfare, awaiting the departure

of the princess, although the hour was

early. Beverly peered forth curlously

as the coach moved off. The quaint,

half oriental costumes of the towns-

people, the odd little children, the

bright colors, the perfect love and rev-

erence that shone in the faces of the

multitude impressed her deeply. She

was never to forget that picturesque

Baron Dangloss rode beside the coach

until it passed through the southern

gates and into the countryside. A

company of cavalrymen acted as es-

boots, with the deep blue jackets, re-

minded Beverly more than ever of the

operatic figures she had seen so often

at home. There was a fierce, dark cast

to the faces of these soldiers, however,

that removed any suggestion of play.

The girl was in ecstasies. Everything

about her appealed to the romantic

side of her nature. Everything seemed

Two men rode up to the carriage

so unreal and so like the story book

not have laid down his life for the

"Oh. I love your soldlers," cried Bev-

Tour fellows, who knows how soon

they may be called upon to face death

shadow crossing her face.

the Dansberger, hills?" said Yetive.

Dungloss was to remain in Ganlook

for several days, on guard against

assifestations by the Axphainlans. A

rape of spice and scouts was working

ith him and coursers were ready to

the at a moment's notice to the castle

orly extracted a renewal of his promise

for take grand cure of Baldon. She sent

I message to the indused mint deplies

as he was in condition to be removed.

Bernetty won Greater Lorry and w.

The bright red trousers and top

as to his own soundness of mind.

"He has gone, your highness,"

"They wouldn't do that in the Unit- | your highness, that we could but gibe ed States," murmured Beverly, who knew something about red tape at Washington

"It is a command to you, baron, said Yetive, handing him the document with a rare smile. He read it through slowly. Then he bit his lip and cough What is the matter, baron?" ask ed Yetive, still smilling.

"A transitory emotion, your highness. that is all," said he, but his hand trembled as he folded the paper.

CHAPTER X.

RIGHT and early the next morn ing the party was ready for the last of the journey to Edelweiss. Less than twenty miles separated Ganlook from the capital and the road was in excellent condi-Beverly Calhoun, tired and contented, had slept soundly until aroused by the princess herself. Their rooms adjoined each other, and when Yetive shortly after daybreak, stole into the American girl's chamber Beverly was sleeping so sweetly that the intruder would have retreated had it not been for the bolsterous shouts of stable boys in the courtyard below the win dows. She hurried to a window and looked out upon the gray cloaked morning. Postilious and stable boys were congregated near the gates, torment ing a ragged old man who stood with his back against one of the huge posts. In some curiosity, she called Beverly from her slumbers, urging the sleepy one to hasten to the window

"Is this one of your friends from the wilderness?" she asked.

"It's Franz" cried Beverly, rubbing her pretty eyes. Then she became thor oughly awake. "What are they doing to him? Who are those ruffians?" she demanded indignantly.

"They are my servants and" Shame on them! The wretches! What has old Franz done that they should- Call to them; tell 'em you'll cut their heads off if they don't stop. He's a dear old fellow in spite of his rags, and he"-

The window sash flew open, and the tormentors in the court below were astonished by the sound of a woman's voice coming as it were, from the A dozen pairs of eyes were turned upward; the commotion ended suddenly. In the window above stood two graceful, white robed figures. The run, still far below the ridge of moun tains, had not yet robbed the morning of the gray, dewy shadows that belong

"What are you doing to that poor old man?" cried Yetive, and it was the first time any of them had seen anger in the princess' face. They slunk back The princess smiled lovingly upon the in dismay. "Let him alone! You through that lined the street. Gartz, see that he has food and drink was no man among them who would and without delay. Report to me later on, sir, and explain, if you can, why gracious rater. you have conducted yourselves in sc unbecoming a manner." Then the window was closed, and the princess found herself in the warm arms of her

I couldn't understand a word you said, Yetive, but I knew you were giving it to them hot and beavy. Did you see how nicely old Franz bowed to you? Goodness, his head almost touched the ground?

was bowing to you. Beverly, THe You forgot that you are the princess to in Edelwood. Before they parted Bey

"Isn't that funny? I had quite forgotten it. The post old goose?

Later, when the coaches and escort ling the fact that she was compelled to were drawn up in front of the Ballo- leave Gambou a thort seeing him as wits palace ready for the start, the she had promised, it was her intention princess called the chaef postilion, in have him came to Enerwess posterior

Garts, to the step of her coach. What was the meeting of the dis Borns Indianes shilled mystermany turbance I withessed this morning?" but he bud no comment to make. He

Garts Jong his head. "We thought my them to the letter the man was cross, your highness. He is negative if strenfall has been of had been to ling as such monstrons my forcem scarum trip to St. Peters. the man was cross, your lighness. He

s," he mumbled they were there is the control of th

"Oh pairs size your highness. They said the multilates were far beliefwere implicated. He said, for one. I'll go you a box of descripts creams thing, that it was no a box of descripts we get to highness community transported team. Blebwess," ventured Benerly, ing when some lost knows that I had "Agreed" soil the process. That charge of the court and horses." That say warreed done is

are two much mistakes, the world converted the American god Garta," she said destroys. He hims winds

Your legitures? he gasped, "you small out may if however rode up in

furnished her legacine me was was "Enough air. Frank drawe the print in motivar, An Attendig to a part the cost time that had been until the says words to work him and he continue

for the his power upon have accorded and the time beginning to come, merced, faith beautiful. was sent to fine to the fact to the fact of the plant of the party of the state of

she had reached Gambook safely and sought to put him off with subterfuges. He stormed to such a degree, however, that their object falled. The result was that he was off for Ganlook with the earliest light of day. Regarding the conference with Prince

Galgiel's representatives, he had but little to say. The escaped murderer naturally refused to surrender and was to all appearances quite firmly established in power once more. only hope was that the reversal of feeling in Dawsbergen might work ruin for the prince. He was carrying affairs with a high hand, dealing vengeful blows to the friends of his half brother and encouraging a lawlessness that, sooner or later, must prove his undoing. His representatives at the conference were an arrogant, law detying set of men who laughed scornfully at every proposal made by the Graustarkians.

We told them that if he were not surrendered to our authorities inside of sixty days we would declare war and go down and take him," concluded the American.

"Two months," cried Yetive. "I don't understand."

There was method in that ultimatum. Axphain, of course, will set up a howl, but we can forestall any tion the Princess Volga may undertake. Naturally one might suspect that we should declare war at once, masmuch as he must be taken sooper or later, but here is the point Before two months have elapsed the better element of Dawsbergen will be so disgusted with the new dose of Gabriel that it will do anything to avert a war on his account. We have led them to believe that Axphain will lend moral if not physical support to our cause. Give them two months in which to get over this tremendous hysteria and they'll find their senses. Gabriel isn't worth it, you see, and down in their hearts they know it. They really loved young Dantan, who seems to be a of a good fellow. I'll wager my head that in six weeks they'll be wishing be were back on the throne again. And just to think of it, Yetive, dear, you were off there in the very heart of Asphain risking everything!" he cried, wiping the moisture from his brow

"It is just eleven days since I left Edelweiss, and I have had a lovely journey," she said, with one of her rare smiles. He shook his head gravely, and she resolved in her heart never to give him another such cause for alarm

"And in the men" . Mr. Grenfall Lorry, you are b me and hating me and all that ... being the real cause of your wife's escapade," said Reverly Calbonn plaintively. "I'm awfully sorry. But you must remember one thing, sir-I did not put her up to this ridiculous trip. She did it of her own free will and accord. Besides. I am the one who met the lion and almost got devoured, not Yetive. if you please.

'I'll punish you by turning you over to old Count Marianx, the commander of the army in Graustark," said Lorry laughingly. "He's a terrible ogre. worse than any lion."

"Heaven pity you. Beverly, if you fail into his clutches? cried Yetive. "He has had five wives and survives to look for a sixta. You see how terrible It would be." "I'm not afraid of him." boasted Bev-

thought of those words with a shudder. "By the way, Yetive, I have had word from Harry Augusta. He and the countess will leave Paris this week if the bully's willing and will be in Edelweiss cam. You don't know how it relieves me to know that Barry will

with most this time. Yethers ever answered his enthus: tem. Both had a warm and grateful nemory of the loyal service which the coming American had rendered his rietid when they had first come to brustork in spiest of the princess. and both had a great regard for his aife, the Counters Dogman who as Yetiye's lady to wairing had been through all the perits of those exciting STORY WILL ABOVE

As they drew nour the gutes of Hookwebs a large tody of hereamen take and no one disputed by the faculty to most them. The afternoon Anguish the natural bysame was well on the way to hight and the the strategist and soldier. He planned ing despite the record the fone and "Edelwates at high married fire

Mr. "Grow to gray, heary, old, know."

great man in all Grandurk - the train optimistic as the sunshine. His plan from uf Mariana, and Yetive leak for the recapture of Gabriel was ridle by down the road. See the strange alousty improbable, but it was after grad man in front there is not greated, ward seen that had it been attempted general, our entities figures our party much discress and delay might actually

had become of the princess. Those at look at his strong, sardonic face to where Gabriel spout his first days of the eastle were aware of the fact that know that he was a fearless leader, a savage fighter. His eyes were black, plercing and never quiet; his hair and close cropped beard were almost snow white; his voice was heavy and without a vestige of warmth. Since her tabyhood Yetive had stood in awe of this grim old warrior. It was no uncommon thing for mothers to subdue disobelient children with the threat to give them over to the Iron Count. "Old Marianx will get you if you're not good," was a household phrase in Edelweiss. He had been married five times, and as many times had he been left a widower. If he were disconsolate in any instance, no one had been able to discover the fact. Enormously rich, as riches go in Granstark, he had found young women for his wives who thought only of his gold and his lands in the trade they made with Cupid. It was said that without exception they died happy. Death was a joy. The fortress overlooking the valley to the south was no more rugged and unyielding than the man who made his home within its walls. He lived there from choice, and it was with his own money that he fitted up the commandant's quarters in truly regal style. Power was more to him than wealth, though he enjoyed both

Colonel Ouinnex brought news from the castle. Yetive's uncle and aunt, the Count and Countess Halfont, were eagerly expecting her return, and the city was preparing to manifest its joy the most exuberant fashion. they drew up to the gates the shouts of people came to the ears of the the travelers. Then the boom of cannon and the blare of bands broke upon the air, thrilling Beverly to the heart. She wondered how Yetive could be so calm and unmoved in the face of all

this bottonge. Past the great Hotel Regengetz and the tower moved the gay procession into the broad stretch of boulevard that led to the gates of the palace grounds. The gates stood wide open and inviting. Inside was Jacob Fransch, the chief steward of the grounds, with his men drawn up in line; upon the walls the sentries came to parade rest; on the plaza the royal band was playing as though by inspiration. Then the gates closed behind the coach and escort, and Beverly Calhoun was safe inside the castle walls. The Iron Count handed her from the carriage at the portals of the palace, and she stood as one in a dream.

CHAPTER XL

HE two weeks following Beverly Calboun's advent into the royal bousehold were filled with joy and wonder for her. Daily she sent glowing letters to her father, mother and brothers in Washington, elaborating vastly upon the paradise into which she had fallen. To her highly emotional mind the praises of Graustark had been but poorly sung. The huge old castle, relic of the feudal days, with its turrets and bastions and portcuilises, impressed her with a never ending sense of wonder. Its great halls and stairways, its chapel, the things room and the armor closet; its underground passages and dungeons all pnited to fill her imaginative soul with the richest, rarest joys romance. Simple American girl that she was numsed to the rigorous etiquette of royalty, she found embar- cerning his plans. Out I fancy he is rassment in the first confusion of eager to return to the hills."

Her apartments were near those of the Princess Yellio. In the private intercourse enjoyed by these young womon all manner of restraint was abandoned by the visit and every vestige ment," retorted Beverly severely. of regulty slipped from the princess. Count Halfaut and his adorable wife, the Counties Yvenne, both of whom had grown old in the court, found the girl and her strange servant a source.

Some day's after Beverly's arrival there came to the castle Harry Anguish and his wife, the vivarious Dagmar. With them came the year-old cooing habe who was to overthrow the heart and head of every being in the household from princess down. The thy Dagmar became queen at once,

Anguish the painter became Anguish air of the tailoy was contained a resch with Lorry and the ministry, advance ing some of the most harebrained proj note that over eccouraged discussion in erly, her face uples. The heart of a solemn conclave. The staid cautious Greaterk. De you know not I have ministers loosed upon him with wonder, but so plansible did he make his proposals appear that they were forced to consuler them seriously. The old Count of Marianx beld him in great b strong Old and strong limit it distain and did not hesitate to expose his contempt. This did not disturb August in the least, for he was as three been stonded.

Yenve and Beverly, with Dagmar and the to'y, made metry while the Two part water to the were spent in the shady park sur-Soor Gerth:

"What more did by ear to you?"

The said of the first time is the first time in the shady park sur
"What more did by ear to you?"

The said of the first time in the said to the first time in the said times the princess was barred from the said times the princess was barred from without with young quantox's face to grant and suces, observe certain cuspost that he had be was but following that came directly under for superviin the flatterps of his forefathers, and and content with the mobile on all take to the underground passages. They sig "He does and swears by you."

Then my mind is made up. Fill ge case. It was all so found and the room in which Lor to Ganlook and bring him back with the case of the c

teres to show in trying to enscorer what mand of the army. One had but to tried to abduct Vetice. The dangeon confinement, the tower in which Lorry had been held a prisoner and the monastery in the clouds were all places of

unusual interest to her Some of the people of the city began to recognize the fair American girl wh was a guest in the castle, and a certain amount of hounge was paid to her. When she rode or drove in the streets with her attendant soldiers, the people bowed as deeply and as respectfully as they did to the princess herself, and Beverly was just as grand and graclous as if she had been born with a scepter in her hand

The soft moonlight nights charmed her with a sense of rapture never known before. With the castle bril-Hantly Illuminated, the balls and drawing rooms filled with gay courtlers, the surplets at their posts, the military band playing in the parade ground, the balconies and porches offering their most inviting allurements, it is no wonder that Beverly was entranced. Was had no terrors for her. If she thought of it at all it was with the fear that it might disturb the dream into which she had fallen. True, there was little of nothing to distress the most timid in these first days. The controversy between the principalities was at a standstill, although there was not an hour in which preparations for the worst were neglected. To Beverly Cathoun it meant little when sentiment was laid aside. To Yerive and her people this probable was with Dawsbergen meant everything Dangloss, going back and forth be

tween Edelwelss and the frontier north of Ganlook, where the best of the police and secret service watched with the sleepless eyes of the lynx, brought unsettling news to the ministry. Axphain troops were engaged in the annual maneuvers just across the border in their own territory. Usually these were held in the plains near the capltal, and there was a sinister significance in the fact that this year they were being carried on in the rough southern extremity of the principality within a day's march of the Graustark line, fully two months earlier than usual. The doughty baron reported that foot, horse and artillery were engaged in the drills, and that fully 8,000 men were massed in the south of Axphain. The fortifications of Ganlook. Labbot and other towns in northern Graustark were strengthened with almost the same care as those in the south, where conflict with Dawsbergen might first be expected. General'Marianx and his staff rested neither day nor night. The army of Graustark was ready. Underneath the castle's gay exterior there smoldered the fire of battle, the tremor of defiance,

Late one afternoon Beverly Calbour and Mrs. Anguish drove up in state to the Tower, wherein sat Dangloss and his watchdogs. The scowl left his face as far as nature would permit, and he welcomed the ladies warmly.

"I came to ask about my friend, the goat hunter," said Beverly, her cheeks a trifle rosler than usual.

"He is fer from an amiable person. your highness," said the officer. When discussing Baldos he never failed to address Beverly as "your highness." The fever is gone, and he is able to OLIVER S. BROWN, walk without much pain, but he is as restless as a witch. Following instructions. I have not questioned him con-

"What did he say when you gave him my message?" asked Beverly, "Which one your highness?" asked be, with tantalizing density,

"Why, the suggestion that he should come to Edelweiss for better treat-

"He said be was extremely grateful for your kind offices, but he did not deem it advisable to come to this city He requested me to thank you in his bebelf and to tell you that he will ever forget what you have done for

'And he refuses to come to Edel wise " irritality demanded Beverly. Yes, your highness. You see, he still regards himself with disfavor, being a White. It is hardly fair to blame him it respecting the security of the

I hoped that I might induce him to give up his old life and engage in some her perfectly bonest, although, mind ton Baron Dungioss, I do not queshis integrity in the least. He should have a chance to prove himself that's all. This morning I petioned Count Marianz to give him a place in the castle guard."

'My dear Miss Callyoun, the princess has" - legan the captain.

"Her highness has sanctioned the request." luterrupted she.

"And the count has promised to discover a vacancy," said Dagmar, with a smile that the baron understood per-

This is the first time on record that old Marianx has ever done anything to oblige a soul save himself. It is won derful, Miss (*Ihoum. What spell do 2000 Americans cast over rock and mor al that they become as sand in your fincers !" said the baron, admiration and wonder in his eyes. "You dear old flatterer!" cried Bever

ly so warmly that he caught his breath "I believe that you can conquer even that stubborn fellow in Ganlook," he said, fumbling with his glasses. "He is the most obstinute being I know and yet in ten minutes you could bring him to terms, I am sure. He could not

to Ganlook and bring him back with Everything neat and clear and

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