

CHAPTER XVII-Continued. -23-

"Has Texie Colin passed the gate t'day, Uncle Asbury?-you know 'er,

don't y'u?" No, she hain't passed the gate t'day, nary way-why?"

"Oh-she rid up this way-" "Did she?-no, she didn't pass." He hobbled a step closer. "Ol Sime had t' let loose at last, didn't 'e? Dern shame, though, 'e had t' be bumped

yit that done it?" The woodsman made no reply. It is even doubtful if he heard. His mind was flying fast from point to point of every possibility that lay between Black rock and the tollgate. He washed the froth off Graylock's nose; tightened the saddle girth; paid his toll and

mounted. "Thanks fr the drink, Uncle Asbury."

"I don't make no business o' waterin' hosses," the old man called after him as he rode away, "but a hoss like that-he's welcome t' drink the well dry."

The concealed house-boat - the woodsman pondered the significance of it; the possibilities of it; the horrible threat of it as he galloped down the

He glanced at the sun-within half an hour of the tree-tops. He had blundered-Hopkins had just undercut him-but maybe the light would hold to redeem the blunder. His jaw tightened and he gave Graylock the rein, closely scanning every inch of the road -and every foot of river-that came into view as he passed.

Two miles above Black rock, just where a by-road, a mere wagon track, led off across the wooded bottoms, he found what he was looking for-a mass of horse tracks, with a print or two of a boot heel that he knew.

His lips twisted into a hard grin; trall; like a hound at fault, had actually | deck run by it-and here it lay, right where he had crossed it hours before.

He had been bending low in the saddle. He straightened and rode cautiously down the by-road through the dank and dismal bottoms. Where the sarrow by-road approached Mud haulhe again found what he was looking for -Brownie hitched to a tree, restless and prancing from side to side.

Hiding Graylock in a thicket, he unbuttoned his blouse, loosened his revolver in its holster and crept down the mucky bank toward the hidingplace of the houseboat; crawled close to its lurking place-it was gone.

He came out of the bushes and found where the gangplank had freshly scarred the mud; searched the shore for footprints; found them-the marks of a shapely small shoe, and the print of a stylish boot heel.

A speck of color caught his eye near the scar of the gangplank-a spot of gold on the dank mud. He stepped forward and bent over it. The next moment he had snatched up something and stood gazing at it-a yellow orchid, flattened and faded, in all likelihood the very one he had found for her he Friday before-lady slipper day. Over the man's fine face spread a light that transfigured it.

But there was a task calling-tense; insistent; mayhap horrible. Taking out his pocketbook, he put the flower carefully away; frowned hard down the river shore.

Knowing that the narrow by-road led through the wooded flats almost to Alpine island, angled sharply and crossed to the bluffs something more than a mile above Black rock, he went back to Graylock, left Brownie prancing and pawing the weeds, and rode cautiously on down the river.

Just short of the point where the narrow road angled toward the bluffs. he again hid Graylock, went on afoot some distance farther and stole through the trees to the river bank.

Creeping down to the edge of the water, with a caution so great that a crane wading a rod or two below falled to take the alarm, Jack crawled out many times since being left a prisamong the limbs of a cottonwood that had uprooted and lopped over the stream and peered down the sides of held just a shade of petulance, she the island, lying less than two hundred turned away.

A short distance down the south side, almost completely hidden among the willows and riding at the end of a rope hitched to a tree on the bank, lay a small houseboat with a skiff tied at its side-unmistakably the same tiny craft that had found concealment at the head of Mud haul.

The woodsman was just stealing back through the limbs of the cottonwood, with the bold intention of creeping farther down the bank and swimming out to the island, when a man came out of the snug little cabin, careas if focking it and stood on the diminu- after deck, he rendered the padlock vation, is the highest city in Europe.

tive forward deck looking guardedly about.

There was no mistaking the somber frock coat, neck stock and high hatit was Caleb Hopkins. A moment he "Ol' Sime Colin's da'ter-the purty stood listening at the door; glanced leetle gaf wi' the brown hair an' laugh- around again in every direction, and in' eyes-well, I reckon I do know 'er. slipped over the side of the houseboat into the skiff.

As he rowed up around the head of the island and across the north channel to shore, he passed within less than fifty yards of where the woodsman lay concealed, his eyes hard and dangerous, his fingers betraying an almost iroff. Reckon they ain't found the feller resistible inclination to stray toward the butt of the revolver at his hip.

Drawing the skiff well in among the fringe of scrub willows, Hopkins glanced back in the direction of the houseboat, snarled out an impatient exclamation and set off across the bottoms. The woodsman rose and softly followed; shadowed him through the tangle of bushes and vines and fallen logs out to the River road; watched him cross, pick his way up the bluff and slip away among the trees of the upland.

The unguarded safe, the bundles of money under the floor of the cabin at the homestead, crossed the woodsman's mind. But there was a far higher stake in his tense thought just then than safes and bundles of money. The frock coat and high hat were no sooner well out of sight than he sprang up from where he lay in the thicket at the edge of the bottoms and hurried back to the skiff; slid it out from the willows and crossed the channel to the island. There he hid it again and slipped through the tangle of underbrush and driftwood to where he could

get a view of the houseboat. There reached him the dull sound of footfalls on the cabin floor, and the tiny craft rocked slightly as some one evidently crossed from side to side. but there was no sound of voices; from which he concluded that the unknown tenant was alone.

In the fast gathering shadows he crept to the edge of the island; crawled tightened till they squeezed every mite with extraordinary care under the of mirth out of it. He had lost the hand rail to the diminutive forward

The door he had watched Hopkins fumbling over he had locked-padlocked on the outside. He stood still



The Door He Had Watched Hopkins Fumbling Over He Had Locked-Padlocked on the Outside,

and listened-some one was moving about inside the cabin, and a speck of light showed behind a narrow crack between the door and the jamb.

Very guardedly he crossed the deck and brought his eye close to the crack -it commanded a view of a narrow section of the room. A candle was alight somewhere at the side, and a shadow-one shadow-flitted about the floor. The shadow slid across the section that he could see; deepened;

disappeared; and in its place-Texie. She came to the door on the outside of which he was crouched and tugged at the latch, as she had probably done oner, but the stout padlocked hasp held firm. With an exclamation that

He waiched her till she passed out of range of the grevice-doubtless to sound the walls for some other means

of escape. But the narrow opening had told him what it heartened him much to know. He took a bullet from his pouch; flattened it between his teeth; with his powerful fingers forced it noiselessly into the keyhole of the padlock in such a way as to make it impossible to insert the key; jammed I get back home. Then I'll look after it so tight with the blade of his pocket | you." knife that nothing short of a locksmith's tools could have dislodged it. closed the door, fumbled a while Crawling along the gangway to the

on the rear door equally useless; listened a moment to the quick restless steps inside; crawled under the hand rail to the bank and, with every precaution known to woodcraft to hide his trail, recrossed the island to the

He shoved the skiff into the water, rowed up around the head of the island, down the south channel and back-to the house-boat. Fastening the skiff to the rail, he unhitched the rope from the willow on the bank; sprang lightly to the forward deck, being careful to keep out of range of the crevice between the door and jamb: picked up one of the two light poles with which such craft are propelled; pushed off; suffered the snug little vessel to catch the drift of the current and, being careful to keep well within the shadow of the willows, let it drift down the channel.

Far down toward the lower point of the Island a narrow pocket gashed into the rather steep bank-a place well known to the woodsman. Carefully withdrawing the boat from the current as he approached, he deftly turned the prow; poled the little vessel into the slack water of the pocket and far up under the overhanging vines and branches, where it would likely escape anything short of the very closest scrutiny, either from land or water; hitched it securely to a tree on the bank; went back to the deck and stood listening.

The girl inside the cabin had repeatedly wrenched at the doors as the vessel drifted down the channel. Several times she had called the name of Hopkins, begging him to release her, doubtless believing it was he that set the boat adrift. To all this the woodsman had returned no answer.

She must have known when the boat stopped, must have heard the scrape of the limbs and vines as it was poled up into the pocket, for there followed an interval of silence. He could not resist the longing to steal ence more to the narrow crevice where the bar of candle-light escaped. He brought his eye close; peeped within.

She was standing near the middle of the floor, listening intently and apparently in deep thought. As he watched, he saw a sudden light leap to her face and wake the wonder of her eyes. She crossed the floor; came close to the door and, with the caution of a woodcraft almost as fine as his own, softly called:

"Jack-! It took the utter sum of the man's resolution to keep still. He watched the wonder of her eyes transform to disappointment and despair; watched her stand clasping and unclasping the slim fingers of her shapely small

One consideration alone restrained him from beating to fragments the disabled padlock and setting her freeright in that stout cabin, with its doors secured by jammed locks that Taffeta and Milan Used could not be opened without breaking, securely hidden at the end of a covred trail, was the safest place in th Flatwoods for her just then. There would be hard faces and quick fingers in the red-roofed cottage that night.

But even so, it was the most difficult thing the big woodsman had ever tried to do in his life to turn away from that door and go back to the skiff.

With set and serious face he rowed up the channel, around the head of the island, across to the mainland and carefully stepped ashore; dropped both oars into the river; set the boat adrift; stood a moment watching it float away and, with extraordinary pains to hide his trail, hurried back to Graylock.

CHAPTER XVIII

In the Dead Night.

Twilight had long faded into dark, the hazy stars seeming only to intensify the deep gloom of the woods, when Jack Warhope returned to Black rock, coming in by way of the feedpens, and slipping the horses into the barn through the cattle sheds.

He crouched a long time on the kitchen step listening. No unusual sound disturbed the silence. Very carefully he fitted his key-the same that had come so near causing him trouble at the inquest-into the lock; guardedly turned it; worked the door slowly open; entered; softly closed and locked it.

Stealing across the floor, he made his way to the small office room where the papers and safe were kept.

He tiptoed behind the curtains that hung over the entrance to a closet under the stair in the sitting room and stood still, his ears strung for every sound that rode the night

It couldn't have been short of midnight, and his mind had gone back to the house-boat, riding safe and secure in the pocket at Alpine island, when there came the sound for which his ears were straining-hands outside

prying at the window of the west room. He drew his revolver, cocked it and took a position so that he could see through the curtains without causing them to move. '

There came a low sound of crumbling wood; the muffled slither of cracking glass; the soft grate of the sash as it was slowly raised; finally the creak of the window-sill and the faint swish of clothing as somebody grawled through. The sounds were repeatedone-no more,

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

A Temporary Substitute. Mr. Peewee-"Good-by, dearle. I'll write every day." His Wife-"Be sure you do. And God be with you till

Highest City in Europe. Madrid, in point of geographical ele-

# Trifles Used Are Odd and Artistic

### Numerous Gay Decorations Among Accessories for Milady's Apparel.

Quaint jingles are attached to a card of little ornaments made of ribbon and slik flowers, called lingerie sets-rings, rosettes, bow-knots and streamers which are sewn on the front or the shoulders of white and light-colored underwear. Most of these dainty tricks are done in Dresden colors, but there are as many shades as there are silks and chiffons of which the lingerie is made: pale rose, blue, yellow, green. orchid and violet. And with each card is a merry little verse.

Things fo intrigue the fancy of elegantes are the little fans that have just been received from Paris by an exclusive New York shop. Novelties in fans are of a variety as great as the new fashions in stockings. The latest, writes a fashion correspondent in the New York Times, are the reverse idea of the huge feather, spangled and lace affairs that have been conspicuous and popular through the winter season.

One of the daintiest of these small fans is a high oval, when open, brown Spanish lace over cream gauze covering the sticks, which are of fragrant sandalwood, delicately carved. Others have ribs of ivory, of mother-of-pearl, tortoise-shell or amber, and are cov ered with lace, the most charming having no underlining of slik or other material, and showing the lace in the filmy beauty of its pattern.

Among these fans are some of such intrinsic artistic value as to be in cluded in the catalog of a museum of fine arts. An ingenious novelty is a little fan of white satin, with spangles and lace applique, which, when closed. "breaks" in the middle and folds to a length of four inches-to be easily carried in an evening bag. It may be mentioned that these fans, with a few exceptions, are not costly. They make the most graceful gifts.

The mah jong fad has been carried into some of the accessories of dress. and is found just now in umbrellas and parasols. The newest are short and chubby, even more so than were those of last season, when the clublike handles with short, blunt ferrules were introduced. They are made also on frames like those of the Japanese paper sunshades, of bamboo, the ribs close together. The handles, of colored wood, highly polished, of Ivory or of colored composition, are marked with the figures and the pawns-to use n chess phrase-of the Chinese game. The covers of the parasols are almost



all in black.

Tunics are seen in many gowns from

long and short, extending to a point

but a few inches above the bottom of

Even the lingerie gowns, the sheer,

and her skirts are invariably short.

Kasha Cloth and Twill

absolutely straight and beltless.

out other finish.

Beltless Dress Shown Among Spring Fashions an to look to her figure.

One conspicuous feature of the new In the suits shown, the quality maspring models is the beltless dress, observes a fashion writer. Heretofore, the chemise tunic, or coat dress, has been broken by a narrow belt tled joy of the more conservative, broadloosely about the low waistline, though | cloth, not breaking the straight silhouette.

But now no belt is seen, even on the dresses to which are added plaitings, there is an elegance in broadcloth that floating or attached godets and no other cloth produces, flounces, flat or shaped. These, joined

# to the bedice, are simply stitched with- Comfort Protectors

Comfort protectors which cover the upper edges of blankets and quilts where they come in contact with the the skirt, or ending at the line of an face and hands, are almost a necessity ordinary overblouse, but in every case to the fastidious housekeeper who is trying to keep down laundry and cleaning bills.

Make them of unbleached muslin. daintily embroidered nets combined dimity, flaxon, linene or any other fabwith lace and batiste, are made like infants' frocks, over a slip having at ric which washes easily. Cut strips of the hem a band or frill of lace that the material one and one-half inches gives the effect of an underskirt, longer than the width across the top of the blanket and from fourteen to Jenny is sending over some charming models in the beltless dresses, some of eighteen inches wide. That is, dimity them with rather exaggerated godets, of the required length and thirty inches others with straight, narrow panels; in width will cut two protectors. Fold the material lengthwise and baste and stitch across each end. Turn a oneinch hem on both sides.

Are Favored Materials the with the color in the bed coverings The ultimate return of the strictly with which they are to be used. Aptailored suit has been seen for two sea- plique designs in plain ginghams look sons past. Other styles for the street well on unbleached muslin and the have come and gone, and women have flaxon and dimity lend themselves to turned with a renewed appreciation to dainty cross-stitch patterns. Linene is the severe straight lines of skirt and attractively and quickly finished with coat, untritamed and well tallored. Italian hemstitching.

# Chic Blazer Jacket and White Plaited Skirt



Showing winsome modified blazer jacket for spring wear. It is combined with the popular white plaited skirt. It is of red flannel, trimmed with white soutache.

all of gaily colored silk, brilliant green and flamingo red being much used. Quite the most fantastic sunshade seen in many seasons is one of black silk, covered almost to the outer edges with white rabbit fur. In the very middle of the parasol when open the head of a pussycat is reproduced. the eyes and nose being made of imitation tortolse shell, the ears and whiskers standing out briskly. When the shade is closed it appears to be a bunch of folded (imitation) ermine. with an ornament of tortoise shellthat being the kitten's nose. Notwithstanding the childishness of the concelt, it is accomplished with such success as to gain it importance as a novelty.

#### Waistcoats Are Made of Woolens and Linens

The prestige of the tallleur for the season is assured. One of the signs is the waistcoat, the new, ultra-smart of the tea kettle. for an All-Black Hat affair that is cut so severely as to be easily mistaken for a man's "vest." that detail in which he appears al-

ways to have a particular pride. The present model for women is a distinct contradiction to the loose overblouse. It is fitted trim and presupposes a soft shirtwaist or guimpe, a strictly tailored skirt, plaited or plain, and a severely plain coat. It is a compromise between the tailored suit with normal waistline, shirtwaist and belt. and the elongated blouse that has lately been in favor, dropping the waistline to an indefinite point.

Some of the new waistcoats are made of somewhat "loud" patterns in woolens and linens-gay checks and blocks and stripes-yellow and green, black and white, scarlet and white, and endless other striking combinations and contrasts.

# Vogue of Lace

Lace has a vogue which seems in Dignity is the keynote of this little no danger of diminishing. The Parisispring hat in which taffeta is inter- enne is wearing wide lace sleeves twined with the milan straw of the from elbow to wrist and a lace skirt, crown and also used as a facing. It's the rest of the gown being usually a hip length mandarin coat of velvet.

# Nothing else is so youthful, so smart: and no other model so inspires a wom-

terial is emphasized, and most of the models from houses of prestige are built of kasha cloth, twill, and, to the

The twills are like the old-time serge, and the fabric is very satisfactory, but

# of Unbleached Muslin the best conturieres. They are both

Decorate the protectors to harmon-

# HOME HINTS AND DIET

By INEZ SEARLES WILLSON inanananananananananana

### SPECIFIC METHODS OF REMOVING STAINS

The following directions applied to the problem of removing specific stains may simplify the housewife's labor in this respect:

Blood may be removed by soaking first in cold water and then washing in lukewarm, soapy water. Wet starch will absorb the stain from a thick material. Put a lump of wet starch over the spot and, when dry, brush off. Repeat until the stain is gone. Old stains may be removed by means of hydrogen peroxide, to which a litle ammonla has been added. Rinse with very weak acetic acid and finally with water. Colors of fabrics are also faded by the peroxide. This fact must not be overlooked.

Cover chocolate or cocoa stains with borax and soak in cold water.

Coffee, tea, and most fruit stains may generally be removed by stretching the fabric over a bowl and pouring boiling water onto it so the water will strike the stain with force.

Peach stain is particularly resistant. It is the stain which old-fashioned housekeepers used to tell us would come out when the peach season was over. Rub glycerin over the spot two or three days before washing.

Cream, milk and meat juice stains should be washed first in cold water and then with soap and hot water.

Grass stain is one which is frequently found in households where there are small children, and a knowledge of how to treat it is valuable to the mother. Such stains may be soaked in alcohol if the color is not affected, otherwise, make a paste of soap and baking powder, spread over the spot and allow to stand for several hours. Milk may prove effective when the stain is fresh. Hydrogen peroxide and ammonia, or just ammonia may be used. The effect of the agent upon the color must govern the

method employed. Mildew, when newly formed, may usually be removed by strong soapsuds and sunlight. As the old stains are very stubborn, it is well to see that they are not allowed to grow old. In such cases, a strong bleaching agent must be used, and then the question of color enters to complicate

the problem. Medicine stains are soluble in alco-

hol, in which they are soaked. Iron rust may be removed by covering with lemon juice and salt and putting in the sun or holding in the steam

The removal of ink stains is rendered more difficult because it is impossible to know the exact nature of the lnk. Colored fabrics may be soaked in sour milk, as the color is unaffected by the mild acid in the milk. Oxalic acid may be effective. Oxalic acid is a deadly poison, therefore it should always be plainly marked and kept on a high sheff. Salt and lemon may be used with success in mild cases.

# WHAT WE MUST EAT TO BE WELL NOURISHED

Proteins are the "tissue builders." They contain an element, nitrogen, fruit and other foods, but a certain amount of additional "sweets" are craved and the diet should contain them in some form.

Fat is another energy giver. It is furnished by such foods as potatoes, rice and other cereals.

Starch supplies energy. It is one of the most abundant foods and is found most abundantly in oils, butter and cream. Energy is stored in the body in the form of fats,

Mineral salts such as lime, iron, phosphorus and others are needed by the body to build tissue and to counteract certain acid formations which may take place during the process of digestion. Vegetables and fruits and milk are the sources of these valuable substances. Milk is rich in lime, which is one of the reasons it should figure largely in the dlet of children. Spinach and beets give us iron, as do raisins.

Roughage, in the form of cellulose, which is the woody part of fruits and vegetables, is necessary to regulate body processes and aid in the elimination of waste. Therefore the diet should contain the coarse vegetables such as cabbage, lettuce and asparagus, the coarse breads and gritty cereals.

Liquids also aid in elimination of waste.

Last, but not least important, are the vitamines, which have been called "the protective foods." The exact nature of these substances is still a problem for the scientist to solve. This much is certain, there are substances present in some foods which are essential to the proper growth of children and the good health of every one. The lack of these substances in the diet is the direct cause of certain diseases. Milk, meat, eggs, fruits and vegetables contain vitamines. All vitamines are not present in all these foods, one may be found in one and another in a dif-

ferent one. Peaches, canned in halves, pears also canned, served with whipped cream and a sprinkling of nuts, are always enjoyed as a light dessert. Serve

with white cookies. Chestnuts pounded to a paste after being cooked, added to a custard, make another often asked-for dessert