

THE TILLER OF THE SOIL

By dint of craft he coaxes from the field, Stubborn oft-times, a rich, luxuriant yield...

A Mystery of the Desert

By Neville Cain

"DURING my sojourn in Egypt," said Walton, removing his hookah from his burnt black beard...

"Negro slaves were roasting coffee, which gave forth a perfume only 'Araby the Blest' could yield.

"Sheik Hassam, a man of noble appearance, met me, and after reading the letter, at once relaxed the stern dignity of his countenance...

"The black had already clambered to the highest rock and lay clasping the base of a large palm, face down, enveloped in his burnous.

"One evening (that before the day set for my departure) while strolling and smoking, as usual, in the moonlight, at some distance from the encampment...

"That forbidding pile," said Sheik Hassam, with a wave of his long arm, causing a meteoric effect with the glowing end of his cheroot...

"This oasis seemed the portal of paradise when, in the splendor of the noontide, we halted, after days of travel beneath a copper sky...

"Allah be praised! We shall prosper here!" I cried aloud, and bade them set up the tents, which were not few, and dig a cistern, which was filled from the springs amid the groves.

"Here and there we encountered beaten paths, which struck us as being rather singular, as we had seen no living thing save birds.

"What's the matter with the old way?" "No good, I've kept five or six wires red hot for half a day trying to get my brother-in-law to send me money to get home on, but I can't even raise him."

"Comfort and Appearance." We wonder why it is that nice-looking clothes are rarely ever comfortable.

daily, and the skies assumed the reddish tinge which bodes no good to the dweller in the desert.

"On the morning of the fifth day Hamed, my Circassian slave, a man of rare courage and singular personal beauty, disappeared into the depths of the oasis in quest of fresh water...

"The riflemen who had been nearest to him fell upon their faces, paralyzed with some awful fear, and could not be induced to stir.

"Crouching behind a ragged mass of rock which seemed to have been split by the heat (the black calling incessantly upon Allah with chattering teeth) I peered through the crevice in- to the space beyond.

"Sprawling upon its belly at the entrance to a cavern, the lithe tail beating the ground, was a creature, the sight of which caused my scimitar to fall from my nerveless grasp.

"Before her, slightly propped against a bowlder, lay Hamed, white and limp, but conscious and fascinated. Ever and anon the great furry paw was thrust forward caressingly, the claws sheathed, and the eyes of the dread creature became narrow and tender, and the purring sound was repeated.

"Streaming with sweat, I had managed to level my pistol across a projection, when a shadow fell over us which deepened, and a murmur broke upon our ears, increasing to a roar.

"The black had already clambered to the highest rock and lay clasping the base of a large palm, face down, enveloped in his burnous.

"I was rescued in a delirious condition by my partner, who came weekly to visit the encampment.

"That I am stopping in this vicinity is owing to an irresistible fascination the spot has for me, and to its being in the direct road to the market town, whither I go at intervals to trade.

"The hairpins worn in her hair are beautiful in their workmanship. They are made out of the wood of a cocoanut tree, and are carved with a dead cocoanut leaf. This is most delicate work.

"The girls are taught to swim when babies. They are graceful and readily learn to dance. As a people the Samoans are great dancers, and during their holiday seasons they dance day and night.

"The marriage of the Samoan girl is arranged by her parents. The girl never thinks of having any opinion of her own on the subject, but accepts the parents' decision as inevitable.

"Here is a unique method of saving old letters. A youthful bride has been trying to bring herself to burning up her love letters. They had accumulated during the years of her engagement to such an extent that to save them all was out of the question, and to burn them was out of the question, too.

"We wonder why it is that nice-looking clothes are rarely ever comfortable.

Washington Democrat.



THE GIRLS OF SAMOA

They Wear Kilt Skirts and Necklaces of Shark's Teeth and Are Born Coquettes.

The girl of Samoa is a born coquette, full of romance and natural grace. Her usual costume is a necklace of shark's teeth, some metal earrings and a short skirt.

From the time she is ten years of age she begins to make eyes from behind a beautifully carved fan. As usual with coquettes, she is fickle in the extreme, as well as romantic.

For dress occasions the older Samoan girls wear the same costume as a man. This is a kilt or piece of drapery wound about the waist in a manner which seems to a foreigner nothing short of miraculous.



SEALATANA, A SAMOAN BELLE.

ern countries of Asia. It is called by the Malays the sarong.

But the Samoan girl has been out in the world more or less of late years. The tourists from other countries have visited Samoa; so the natural beauty of the native Samoan girl is being spoiled by her great vanity.

Although the Samoan girl does not wear clothes, properly speaking, she is taught while still very young to embroider and sew.

The hairpins worn in her hair are beautiful in their workmanship. They are made out of the wood of a cocoanut tree, and are carved with a dead cocoanut leaf. This is most delicate work.

The girls are taught to swim when babies. They are graceful and readily learn to dance. As a people the Samoans are great dancers, and during their holiday seasons they dance day and night.

The marriage of the Samoan girl is arranged by her parents. The girl never thinks of having any opinion of her own on the subject, but accepts the parents' decision as inevitable.

Here is a unique method of saving old letters. A youthful bride has been trying to bring herself to burning up her love letters.

Washington Democrat.

WATCH THE SHOULDERS.

They should Be Level, Large, Erect, In a Slightly Descending and Delicately Poised.

A common form of neglect is the shoulders, which are allowed in childhood to grow lopsided, and take on an ungraceful, stoop.

Doctors and nurses who have to deal with foreigners in hospitals know by experience how careful they must be in the use of words when giving directions about medicine, otherwise the most ordinary instructions would be apt to be misunderstood, with probably fatal results.

HOSPITAL INCIDENT.

Curious Way in Which an Ignorant Foreign Woman Interpreted a Simple Prescription.

Doctors and nurses who have to deal with foreigners in hospitals know by experience how careful they must be in the use of words when giving directions about medicine, otherwise the most ordinary instructions would be apt to be misunderstood, with probably fatal results.



"KIN I PUT A LITTLE SUGAR IN, TOOT?"

known. Knowing from experience that the mother would have little faith in the efficacy of soap and water alone, the doctor wisely added that she should put a certain amount of salt in the water.

The woman looked up and asked: "Please, lady, ken I put a little sugar in it, toot?"

"Sugar?" said the astonished doctor. "Why do you want to put sugar in it?"

There is not an inch of erinoline used in the new skirts; there is not an ounce of starch put in the petticoat, but everything around the foot must ripple and billow and curl and swirl until one feels as if one were following in the wake of a steamship when going behind the fashionably dressed woman!

RUNNING SORE ON HIS ANKLE.

After Six Years of Intense Suffering, Promptly Cured By S. S. S.

Obstinate sores and ulcers which refuse to heal under ordinary treatment soon become chronic and deep-seated, and are a sure sign that the entire circulation is in a depraved condition.



Mr. L. J. Clark, of Orange Courthouse, Va., writes: "For six years I had an obstinate, running ulcer on my ankle, which at times caused me intense suffering."

Valuable books mailed free by Swift Specific Company, Atlanta, Ga.

Advertisement for Sechler & Co's groceries, listing various goods like canned goods, butter, cheese, and lard.

Advertisement for Wellington No. 2 typewriter, highlighting its features and price.

Advertisement for The Williams Mfg Co, Ltd, featuring their Pennyroyal Pills.

Advertisement for Chichester's English Pennyroyal Pills, detailing its benefits for various ailments.

Advertisement for the Cornish Patent Musical Attachment, offering a free trial and listing prices for pianos and organs.