## THE DOOM TRAIL

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By Arthur D. Howden Smith

Author of PORTO BELLO GOLD, Etc.

WNU Service

"Master Murray, I am concerned

goods going up-river have enormously

dreds of tons in excess of what for-

"On the contrary," returned Master

lords of trade in withholding the as-

sent of his majesty's government to

"I am not surprised," he commented

"I am free to say, your excellency, that I have noted hitherto a laxness

on the part of the provincial authorities in administering the free-trace

"You charge that?" inquired the gov

"I do, sir. And I give fair warning

that, with a view to the best interests

of the province and in response to the

wishes of the majority of the mer-

plaint before the privy council at the

Govenor Burnet rose from his chair.

"This meeting is dissolved," he pro-

nounced. "No, not a word, gentle

men"-this as several undertook to ob

ect-"I still hold his majesty's com

mission as governor, and I purpose to

secure assent to my authority by one

means or another. I have striven to reason with you. I shall now proceed

as seems best to me. Master Murray, file your charges in writing and be.

prepared to bear testimony in their

Governor Burnet shook his head

"You forget that unfortunately your

"Why, 'tis incredible, your excellen-

beside myself, Peter Corlaer, who is

The governor shook his head again.

"I dare not, Master Ormerod, Un-

fortunately, as I have said, and

friend Master Juggins in London.

"Ta-wan-ne-ars is an Indian.

He hesitated a moment, deep in

"There is no other way," he decided

The cordiality was gone from his man-

chants, I purpose to carry my com

requirements of their lordships."

ernor coldly.

earliest opportunity."

defense. You may go."

turbulent group.

our law prohibiting the trade in In-

dian goods with Canada."

Murray took snuff deliberately.

blandly

## CHAPTER XII—Continued

"It may be so," replied the governor. "But I would suggest to you, my friends, that certain knowledge hath come to me which compels me to wonder whether you would persist in this attitude were you acquainted with it. Briefly, I have lately obtained definite information that the French are begin-ning the erection of a stone fort at Jagara. The territory this side of the falls of Jagara is secured to us by the Peace of Utrecht. 'Tis not only that the French have no right to construct a fort there. They have no right to maintain a trading post there.

"Yet my agent talked with the officers in charge, Monsieur de Joincare and Monsieur de Lery, and they boasted of their intent to erect such a fort as would be a curb on our Indian allies, the Iroquois, and divert to their posts farther up the Cadarakui lake the fur trade which now comes to us at Irondequoit and Oswego, Schenectady and New Albany.

"At the time I received word of the building of the fort at Jagara, I received also this report from an agent in Montreal, announcing the doubling of the price paid for beaver at the French posts, so that now they are on a par with us"

"We can afford to pay more than we do. London will still take it from us at a profit," rejoined the merchant who had first spoken.

"Trade is trade," cried another. "It goes where the money is."

"Aye, we have no fear," clamored others. "Let us suppose," resumed the governor, "that the French permit you to draw supplies of furs through them.

I can conceive they might do so if it netted them the prices they desire. Does that mean that you will always be safe in expecting to have your wants so filled?" "To be sure," answered three or four

men at once.

"I differ with you," replied Master Burnet. "The fur trade is not only a means to earn profits. 'Tis a most important stake in securing military success. The nation which controls the fur trade, my masters, will have the interest of the larger numbers of savages. The nation which owns the support of the most Indian tribes will be the nation superior in extending its territories in time of peace and superior in battle in time of war."

"It ill becomes a plain merchant to take issue with your excellency," remarked a hard-featured merchant, "but it seems to me you attach overmuch importance to savage tribes and war. There is enough land in North America for French and English and Indi-

ans, too. Trade is everything."
"So long as 'tis rightly conducted,"
amended Master Burnet. "Bear in mind, my masters, that the whole history of our possessions on this continent disproved the statement that the French. The French are the first to dispute this view

They plan openly to drive us into the sea. The New France they see in the future will embrace all the ray pointed his foreinger at my combined make he would dismiss as in the future will embrace all the ray pointed his foreinger at my combined make he would dismiss as settlements of the Atlantic coast together with the inland wilderness." "If you bait them sufficiently, doubt-

less they will seek to fight us," asserted a merchant. "But they know not our English

"Good! That is the spirit I want to arouse," acknowledged the governor, quick to seize what he thought an adfrom you especially today is your sup-The volume reached in re- Montreal." cent weeks passes all reason. If permitted to continue 'twill exhaust our hands of-

But he was not suffered to continue. "Free trading!" shouted a group. "Stick by the law, governor!"

"The law is the law!" cried a third. The prosperous-looking merchant stood up and made himself heard by bounding his stick on the floor. "Do I understand your excellency

to mean that you would alter the instructions received from the lords of trade?" he asked.

"My plan is rather to amend the carrying out of the law by certain re strictions until I can forward repre sentations on the situation to their lordships," replied Master Burnet steadily.

"But as one of my brethren has just remarked, the law is the law."
"The trouble here, sirs, is that there

is no law," declared the governor. "We have the suspension of the law, and in the interim there is no provision for a substitute statute."

"Tush, we want no such law," proclaimed the hard-featured merchant. "Let us not quibble. His excellency might as well know the truth. Since Master Murray won his case we have been able to sell and buy as we chose. And our coffers have swollen thereby

"The law was an ill-judged law. It They may do the dirty work. We will suit.

····· sit back and reap the profits. Better | acquaint him with what I have laid true to nature. When one considers | ing to the whims of milady. have free trade under France than before this gathering, all the more so other country."

"You talk treason, sir," said the govin Canada-

n Canada—"

"Well, we have it here; and by ——, bound to say my information indicates that the French have your assistance we'll keep it as long as we can," re- in the matter. The quantities of tradeplied the merchant.

"That is not like to be very long, my increased this summer. They are hunmasters," announced a new voice. All eyes were turned to the door, merly passed through Albany." There stood Andrew Murray, laced and cocked hat tucked under his arm. profited thereby," suggested Murray

He bowed low to the governor. "I must beseech your excellency's pardon for my unheralded entrance," Burnet with decision. "Our trading he said. "I am but just arrived in posts have fared worse, if anything. town, and I hastened here to present | Aside from the Iroquois, the savages my case to you."

are patronizing more and more the

He swept his eyes over the room as French traders. Briefly Master Mur-

he spoke and fastened them upon my ray, I am canvassing the sentiment of

ace.

"You sie welcome, Master Murray,"

our merchants on the advisability of suspending for the time being, to some returned the governor. "Had I known | degree at any rate, the proclamation I where to reach you I should have in- issued in response to the action of the vited your attendance."

"I am honored, sir. I venture to intrude upon you because of information I possess which I am sure will



be of interest to you and all others who have the prosperity of the prov-

"I am interested," said the governor impartially. "Pray state your case, Master Murray."

"I shall do so all the more readily, your excellency, because I am persuaded you can have no knowledge of the crimes recently committed by persons who represent themselves to be Ta-wan-ne-ars to corroborate me."

your agents. "I see in this room three men whom I charge with the wanton destruction

there is land enough for ourselves and murder of two of my servants and a eyes of the law. Did I charge him with and the blouse of heavy white crepe rope of pearls and a cluster of white number of friendly Indians."

mades and me. Murmurs arose and mere efforts to offset your guilt. hostile glances were bent upon us. "Be explicit, if you please," said the cy," I cried with heat.

governor. "I will, sir," replied Murray boldly. surely known for trustworthy, if I am "The young man known as Harry Or- not. And Ta-wan-ne-ars is a chief as breed if they think to do so," cried a neighbor.

"Or the Dutchman, either," said a merod, with reter conact and a second a fleet of canoes on the shore of the Cadaraqui lake near Oswego and Cadaraqui lake near Oswego merod, with Peter Corlaer and a Sen- well as a man of education, even acfurs which the far-western savages

were bringing in for trade." "I have heard something of this mat- through no fault of your own, you are vantage. "Gentlemen, what I desire ter," admitted Master Burnet. "But I discredited in advance as a witness. understood the savages were in charge Peter is known for a sturdy hater of port in a plan I have been considering of Monsieur de Joincare, the French the French and devoted to me and to commandant at Jagara, and bound for those who think as I do, notably your

"Monsieur de Joncaire was accompanying them, 'tis true," admitted will acquit me of intent to offend if It plays directly into the Murray. "But the savages were bound I say openly that my enemies will refor my own trading stations. The loss. fuse to accept his word against that which will run into thousands of of a great merchant like Murray." pounds, will fall upon our New York

merchants.' The murmurs grew into an outburst of indignation which the governor suddenly. "Draw up your chairs, I quelled with difficulty.

"I shall look into Master Murray's more than fair that I should present charges," he said. "So much, at least. for you all the facts in the case.

Two bachelors, Smith and Brown,

Smith-Would you like to know the

"Well, I'll guarantee to tell you her

"Welf, you take a piece of paper

Brown, after a lengthy struggle and

were seated in the flat of the latter.

name of your future wife?

name by arithmetic."

"That's impossible."

Brown-I certainly would.

he is entitled to. But first I wish to Brown Proved Quite Unable to See Joke

wife will be Mrs. Brown,

thought.

Smith-Now these figures obviously indicate that the name of your future

Brown and Smith are no longer

friends. Breeds Butterflies

Butterfly farming is a career new and work out this sum: Write down to most people. But at least one man the year in which you were born, sub- has made a success of it. He labels tract the last two figures from the himself a lepidopterist and he has a first two. Now multiply what remains farm at Bexley, Kent, England, devot- of handsome black embroidery describ- a black-and-white chapeau of exceedby the date of the month in which you ed to nothing else but breeding of ing a wide girdle and sash effect. ing great chic, this indeed is a cos-

They are reared on trees and bushes restricted trade, reduced profits. Let much thought, at last works out the covered with muslin bags, and are ex- in embroidery and smocking is a fore- piece tailleur of fine black twili. the French secure furs if they wish. problem and hands his friend the re- ported to museums, schools, and coi most favorite. These range from leges in all parts of the world.

## BLOUSES LAVISHLY TRIMMED. BLACK AND WHITE COMPOSE

FASHION is in a lavish mood when it comes to embroidering the blouse. of crepe de chine models. If you are at all gifted in the art of needlework, the blouse of the present is opportunity knocking at your door, of the present-day modes.

Lovely is a white jersey blouse enlivened with realistic flowers-daisles, casions, black and white plus all the buttercups, forget-me-nots and wild roses-done in wool yarns in colors than enough when it comes to caterits effectiveness, the simplicity of the limited trade under England or any because he is more vitally interested work is amazing. Even an amateur without a doubt it is making a recneed not hesitate to undertake it. A ord display this season. When it few "lazy daisy" stitches, consider- comes to carrying the message of that ernor coldly. "Moreover, you talk fooi- over the extent to which the fur trade able outlining stitch, a solid worked, intangible something called "style," ishly. There is no freedom of trade is passing into French hands, and I am flower here and there, and presto! you there is no combination quite so con-

The mode continues to "say it" most emphatically in black and white, and this, too, when colors were coaxing to use your talent to the glory of the present-day modes.

never more entrancing. However, since the fashionable wardrobe must contain many costumes for many oc colors of the rainbow are not more

As to the black-and-white mode,



Blouse Trimmed With Embroidery.

are the possessor of a blouse which | vincing as black with white. Starwill excite both the envy and admira- tling effects as here pictured are the

ery of today: it individualizes the this black-with-white flat crepe dress The door closed on the last of the garment it adorns. That is, it be- is the skirt which alternates the comes a very part both of the costume | plaits in striking contrast. One notes design and its color scheme. In no this treatment not only in connection "But, your excellency," I protested "why do you permit Murray to make instance is this so definitely stressed such charges without bringing up as in connection with the present but repeatedly when two colors or against him the information we gath black and white vogue, enthusiasm for materials are employed. There's a ered at La Vierge du Bois? Sure, 'tis which is sweeping throughout the bit of embroidery on the girdle. some measure of offense to apply tor world of fashion. The smartness of ture to a fellow-countryman; and for black embroidery on white is artfully the rest, there is the testimony of told in the two-piece frock here portrayed. At a private exhibit of ex-clusive modes held by the Fashion dainty white accessories. A smart Art League of America, this stunning | black crepe or crepe-back satin frock costume occasioned much favorable with a becoming and fashionable flat own past is somewhat clouded in the comment. The skirt is of black satin neckline either V-shaped or square, a

stylist's pride this season. An inter-There's this about the hand-stitch- esting feature in the development of with the black-and-white compose.

Methods of interpreting the blackand-white vogue are many and varied. Some there are who prefer the anything on your evidence, he would de chine, the same harmonized to the violets on the shoulder, a white fur-



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were born. Divide your answer by butterflies and moths—millions of them.

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If one aspires to the high neck and the button trimtume ideal for spring.

sheer white cotton voiles done in vivid

If one aspires to tailored perfec-The peasant blouse which abounds | tion, then choose a short-jacket two-

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getting up in the morning tired, sapped my strength.

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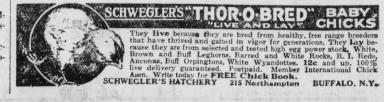


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"The Foolish Nooz' WORLD'S SMALLEST PICTURE SECTION

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