

daughters for scores of miles around who had at first marked the baron out as a suitable matrimonial prize, eventually abandoned their efforts to capture him and left him to enjoy life in the solitude of his bachelor establishment. His aversion to the fair sex went so far that he dismissed all the female servants in his household and limited his staff of domestics and retainers to men. His pleasures were principally shooting and hunting in the primeval forests which covered his estates. He was tall, staid and handsome, with bold and energetic features and muscular limbs. His eccentric habits and his dislike to female society caused him to be regarded among his neighbors as a man to be avoided, and the stories which were told of his quarrelsome and violent nature gave him a most undesirable reputation throughout all the countryside.

BARON SAW OLGA.

One fateful day Baron Lupianoff set eyes on Olga Ostrelsky, who at that time had just passed her sixteenth birthday and was a girl of striking beauty. She was tall and dark, with flashing black eyes and jet black hair. Baron Lupianoff, however, who had been for so long—was fascinated by her charms and recalling his former conquests in the Russian capital began assiduously to court her in the hope of persuading her to be his wife. He had come into contact with the girl through business transactions with her father, who still carried on business as a dealer in furs. Ivan Ostrelsky's business establishment was situated in the city of Kazan, but the merchant lived in the vicinity of Kabanbakh, some 30 miles from the capital of the province. He was the possessor of a stable of thoroughbred Russian horses, which enabled him to speed along the deserted roads between his residence and Kazan within three or four hours in the summer by means of sledge, and in the winter by means of sledges. His wife had died soon after his daughter's birth and Olga was committed to the care of an English governess, Miss King.

INVITED TO DINE.

Olga Ostrelsky had chanced to be present in her father's store when Baron Lupianoff came into the city to purchase his winter furs. The baron requested the merchant there and then to present him to his daughter, and the eccentric nobleman took good care to continue the acquaintance. The party usually began, henceforth he carried on his business transactions with the merchant, not in the store in the city of Kazan, but at Ostrelsky's private residence on the outskirts of Kabanbakh, in order that he might utilize the opportunity of seeing Miss Ostrelsky. His visits became more and more frequent, at first under the pretext of business, and subsequently for the avowed purpose of paying his attentions to the merchant's daughter. Ivan Ostrelsky, a man of plebeian birth who had accumulated his great riches by his own industry and commercial acumen, was considerably flattered by the attentions which the great nobleman paid to his daughter and favored Baron Lupianoff's suit. He encouraged the baron to visit his house, frequently invited him to dinner, and gave him numerous opportunities of being alone with his daughter.

VISITOR DIDN'T PROGRESS. Miss Ostrelsky, however, did not share her father's partiality for the aristocrat, who made no progress whatever with his suit, but on the contrary became more and more undesirable in the eyes of the heiress of plebeian birth. Olga Ostrelsky, it must be remembered, had been brought up in great seclusion in her country home, and was absolutely unacquainted with the weaknesses and vices of the ladies of high society in the Russian capital. Baron Lupianoff, however, whose experience of women had hitherto been confined to the gay dames of the capital, wooed the innocent country girl in the same dashing style by which he had won the conquest of so many feminine hearts in St. Petersburg. His audacious advances, however, only frightened the country girl, and his conversation, full of witticisms and veiled allusions which would have suited the taste of St. Petersburg ladies, only shocked Miss Ostrelsky, whose English governess, Miss King, encouraged her in her dislike to the aristocrat, and the expiration of the first fortnight Baron Lupianoff made a formal offer of marriage to Miss Ostrelsky, which was immediately and emphatically rejected by the young lady.

WOULD NOT HAVE HIM.

The baron, however, who believed that he had to deal merely with the whims of a capricious young creature, continued his visits and his courtship and ignored or effected to ignore Miss Ostrelsky's aversion to his personality. At the end of the third week he renewed his offer, which was again rejected. A third, fourth and fifth offer he also likewise rejected, and on each occasion Miss Ostrelsky declared her dislike of her persistent suitor in emphatic language. On the last occasion she cried, "I dislike you more than I can express in words. If you were the only man in the world I would not marry you. Your attentions are distasteful to me and your persistence is absolutely repulsive. Accordingly he wrote a polite note to the baron, informing him that his attentions to Miss Ostrelsky

Ivan Ostrelsky, who at first openly and afterward secretly favored the suit of the great nobleman, veered round and sided with his daughter after her determination became apparent to him. After her first and second rejections of the baron's suit, the merchant had shared the aristocrat's belief that these refusals were due to a maidenly caprice and Mr. Ostrelsky had encouraged the young man to continue his visits to her in his country home. But after the final scene with the baron Miss Ostrelsky told her father that she would never see her admirer again and that his visits to the house must be considered as ended.

Ivan Ostrelsky reasoned with his daughter, endeavoring to point out the numerous advantages of so brilliant a match, but Olga remained obstinate. "I would rather kill myself than be compelled to marry that man," said the girl, and her father, who was well acquainted with her self-willed character, realized that all further efforts to alter her determination would be absolutely futile. Accordingly he wrote a polite note to the baron, informing him that his attentions to Miss Ostrelsky

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AUTHOR WHO KILLS CHINAMAN TO ADVERTISE BOOK IS SENTENCED.

Lionel Terry, an Englishman of 35, has been sentenced to death at Wellington, England, for having shot a Chinaman in order to call attention to the yellow peril and his book, "The Shadow." Mr. Terry is a native of Kent, was educated at Eton and at Oxford, served against the Matabele, and has traveled a great deal.

Terry has for some time been one of the most vehement protestors against alien immigration. He went into the Chinese quarter of Wellington and deliberately murdered an aged Chinaman with two shots from a revolver. On the following day he informed a bookseller that the sale of "The Shadow" was likely to increase, and then gave himself up to the police. It seems probable that the state of Terry's mind will be investigated before the sentence of the court is carried out.

He was no longer desired and that it would be an embarrassment to all parties concerned if the aristocrat ceased his visits to the villa.

ATTEMPTED ABDUCTION.

On the following day Baron Lupianoff rode on horseback from his own residence to the merchant's villa. Entering the grounds, he dashed up to the house, opened the door and strode in without further ceremony. Entering the drawing room, he found Miss Ostrelsky sitting in the company of her governess, Miss King, and frightened the ladies by his sudden appearance. Seizing Miss Ostrelsky by her arms he kissed her again and again and declared that he intended to marry her. The girl's screams soon brought the servants on the scene and they were henceforth carefully guarded day and night by the merchant's retainers, and half a dozen armed men were always in the house ready to protect their young mistress from outrage.

DISPERSED ASSAILANTS.

Meanwhile the baron, who was a man of extraordinary strength, dispersed his assailants with ease, bestowing on them black eyes, bleeding noses, and other conspicuous marks of his heavy fists. In his rage he demolished some of the furniture of the room and killed Miss Ostrelsky's pet dog, which had flown at his throat, by a blow with the butt end of his riding whip. Then, mounting his horse again, he rode off and disappeared. Ivan Ostrelsky, who was absent during this invasion of his premises, now realized the dangerous character of the young aristocrat and took precautions to prevent a repetition of the violent intrusion. The approaches to the grounds of the villa were henceforth carefully guarded day and night by the merchant's retainers, and half a dozen armed men were always in the house ready to protect their young mistress from outrage.

PLANS AGAIN.

This took place in February, 1902. Henceforth Baron Lupianoff plotted and planned and schemed to kidnap the merchant's daughter. Finally, an opportunity presenting itself on the occasion of the midnight service held in the cathedral at Kazan on Easter Sunday. The baron, by means of his spies, ascertained that Miss Ostrelsky and her governess intended to drive from the villa to Kazan on the Sunday evening and to meet Ivan Ostrelsky at the cathedral. The two women were to be accompanied by a maid almost unprotected during the long drive of 30 miles, and the baron perceived that this would be an excellent opportunity of carrying out his plan of kidnapping the girl. Notwithstanding the lawlessness prevailing in Russia and the license which aristocratic magnates enjoy, the project was a dangerous one, and the baron intrusted the secret of his scheme to two accomplices, his own groom and his own personal valet, both sturdy, muscular fellows.

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THE SECRET BOUGHT.

In spite, however, of the secrecy with which Baron Lupianoff had planned his coup Ivan Ostrelsky had received information regarding the projected seizure of his daughter. Baron Lupianoff's personal valet was a married man, and in an incautious moment had confided the secret of the scheme to his wife. This woman, having no particular love for her husband, and seeing an opportunity for a liberal reward, betrayed the secret to Ivan Ostrelsky and received \$2,000 for her information. So, instead of allowing his daughter and her governess to drive at night to the cathedral, the merchant placed two of his own strongest retainers in the carriage and two others on the box by the side of the coachman. The carriage was thus manned by five faithful servants of the merchant, all of whom were well armed and all fully prepared for an attack.

CLEVER COUNTER CAPTURE.

When the baron and his two retainers held the carriage up they met with a reception for which they were entirely unprepared. Ostrelsky's five servants overpowered them after a short, sharp struggle, bound them hand and foot, pitched them into the carriage and drove them back to the merchant's villa, where they arrived at midnight. The merchant himself was waiting to receive them, and when the baron was brought before him he addressed him as follows: "You are a dangerous character. You are worse than an outlaw, for your rank and position give you undesirable power. I see my daughter will not be safe from your persecutions until she is married, so I intend to keep you prisoner until she has the protection of a husband. Your men must share your imprisonment. My cellars have been prepared for your reception, Adieu."

INTO CELLAR PRISON.

This speech ended, the baron and his two companions were dragged down in-

BOY KING MAKES SUBJECTS QUAKE.

(Continued from page 9.)

which was published in the Madrid Review, "Nuevo Mundo," and which pictures the king, like Patience, on the throne, but this picture gave rise to so many commentaries that by order of his majesty himself the proprietors of "Nuevo Mundo" had to destroy the plate from which the picture was made. One may add, however, that when King Alfonso was lowered from his elevated position he tore his trousers, and that those identical nether garments now form a part of his collection of souvenirs.

FOOT IN A WHEEL.

Another day, Alfonso XIII, who has a passion for agricultural labors and has repeatedly declared that he desires to be "the first agriculturist of Spain," went to the Royal Park of the Pardo in order to try for himself a new reaping machine which had been sent to him from a firm in Barcelona. But when he found himself on top of the machine he became so enthusiastic with the results obtained by his agricultural experiments that, not understanding the

mechanism of the apparatus, he allowed one of his feet to be caught by a wheel. If the persons present had not instantly managed to stop the rotation of the machinery, his majesty would have had his foot completely crushed.

More recently King Alfonso, who is a first class shot and very fond of hunting, was invited by the former Conservative minister, Marquis de Vadillo, to shoot quail on a property of his called Vega de Cidones, in the province of Seville. The king accepted the invitation, and a little while after the hunting had commenced saw some quail rise. Forgetting to assure himself that nobody was standing within range of his shot, he let off his gun, the charge of which actually grazed the head of a servant of the Marquis de Vadillo. The servant had been half-hidden among some plants. From that shooting party Alfonso XIII brought home, as a remembrance destined for his collection, the branch of a tree in which his charge eventually had lodged.

A HAZARDOUS HUNT.

Last September, following his extreme liking for the chase, King Alfonso determined to take a party of friends on a particularly hazardous hunting expedition to the Picos de Europa. These constitute the highest part of the range of mountains of Cantabria and have a maximum height of 2,678 metres above the level of the sea. They lie on the borders of Asturias and Santander and mark the boundary of the great cool region of the first of these two provinces. It is a region of very high and sharp peaks and deep abysses, and from the beginning of August it is thickly covered with snow. The king's excursion to the Picos de Europa lasted three days. His majesty went in a motor car, and the party, which he led at the southeast of the Picos, and proceeded as far as Camaleño, where he left his machine and got on horseback. Riding between precipices and on rocky roads, King Alfonso went the distance of 17 miles in little more than two hours, exciting the admiration of the mountaineers by his rapid progress. Only half a dozen horsesmen managed to keep up with him. The rest, numbering more than 50, arrived much later.

The royal caravan stopped at a place called La Lloraza, where an encamped army of 100 men were waiting. Tents and a grand pavilion, splendidly decorated and furnished for the king. From that point the latter, accompanied by his friends, culled forth daily at the borders of Asturias and Santander of these animals were killed, but they did not come cheap. For altogether, the hunting excursion had cost his majesty over \$40,000. From that daring expedition his majesty is not known to have brought home any other souvenir for his collection than the 23 pieces of game and a terrible cold which it took him a long time to get over.

Another little escapade of King Alfonso's that is likely to cost him something handsome was reported in the Spanish papers a few days ago, when an aeronaut named Daro said the king for damages to a balloon which he had used at \$16,000. It seems that Alfonso XIII was present at some almsip trials near Madrid a while ago, and in walking about came across Señor Daro's balloon,

which was unattended. The king jumped into the car and began throwing out the ballast with a view to making an ascent on his own account. An aide de camp who saw the risk he was running, hurried up just as the car was rising. It was too late to stop the king, so he pulled out a knife and ripped up the envelope, thus allowing the gas to escape. King Alfonso was intensely angry for a moment, but afterward he admitted that it would have been extremely foolish.

At this writing the Madrid court has not decided how much the king will have to pay Daro, but no doubt some portion of the injured balloon now forms part of the boy monarch's private museum.

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