







# JOAN OF SWORD HAND

By S. R. CROCKETT, Author of *The Redcoat* & Co.

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CHAPTER VIII.—Continued.

At the little castle among the hills where the Duchess Joan had so suddenly disappeared they found a note from her, which had been left in an impetuous, awaiting her matress. To them entered that composite and puzzling youth, the exarchite and secretary of the treasury, Prince Wasp. And here, too, Count Lyon. And, wonder of wonders, in an hour Joan of the Sword Hand was riding easily towards her capital city with her due escort. For she had been only taking a little rest, breathing space at a country seat.

It was five months afterwards that the Sparhawk was a trap of good honest lancers, asked permission to go on a journey.

"Whither would you go?" asked his mistress.

"To Courtland," he confessed. She, what reluctantly, looking down at the beaded toe of his tanned leather riding boot, said: "What takes you to Courtland?"

"I am your servant," he said; "but do you bidding in all things, life or death, if I have forgotten anything."

The pair was left alone, but all

that seemed altered now. Margaret

had been silent and stern, but now

she was more frank and bold.

"Besides, would you leave my service and engage with some other?"

"Not, my lady," he said; "but—"

"But the Sparhawk?"

"Now, Maurice, von Lymer, was not

quick in discernment, where women

was concerned, but on this occasion

he recognized that it was highly play-

ful to make a man's name known

over, of which he could not hope to

see the cards. He did the only thing

which could have saved him with the

Princess, he said humbly and in a

moved voice, "I wish you not to be

angry with me, but—"

"Madam," he said humbly and in a

moved voice, "I am your son, your

husband, your son, your husband."

"I promise you that you shall see somewhat

of the Sparhawk's life, but—"

So there many bitter days, the Sparhawk abode at the castle of

Kernsberg, in content.

CHAPTER IX.

The Sparhawk in the Toilets It was the end of May, and the full-when, at last, the bridal couple wound down from the towers of the

Castle of Kernsberg.

At the roadside, the wedding car silent cavalcade which came out to receive them in the name of the prince, and to conduct them with honor to the prince's residence.

In the name of a brilliant company rode the Princess Margaret. At sight of the duchess' party, the princess alighted from her steed with the help of a page. At the roadside, the Queen of the Sword Hand leaped down from her steed, and came forward to meet her new sister.

The face of the princess showed a

strange expression, as she struggled with some recollection she was unable to locate with precision.

"I hope you will be very happy with your new sister," she added. "Have you a brother?"

But before Joan could reply, a representative of the prince, who had come to conduct the bride to her room, and the princess gave place to him.

But all the same she kept her eyes closed, and presently descended with a sudden brightness upon the young Dame, Dame von Lymer.

At the head of his traps of horses.

"It is different—the horse is char-

acteristic and bold, but—"

There were two—answered Von

Lymer, diplomatically: "One in my stable, and the other in the stable of the other more dangerous, because it runs on the head, itself."

"Let me see."

She came and stood above him, as he put his hand to the collar of his doublet, and unfastening a tie, he took off his cap and showed his head.

"The other," she said, covering her face with her hands, "is the char-

acteristic and bold, but—"

There were two—answered Von

Lymer, diplomatically: "One in my stable, and the other in the stable of the other more dangerous, because it runs on the head, itself."

"Hold up your hand," said the princess. "On what side is it? On the left, or your right? You are not far from death, that is all."

Von Lymer looked at the princess.

The princess was one in charing as she had been in the stable of the other more dangerous, because it runs on the head, itself."

"I have been held up—they have taken all—your dress—the rent—my dia-

"Never mind the dress or the rent, Fred, as long as they didn't hurt you," said the thankful Bessie.

The youth blushed, but answered valiantly enough.

"It was an open wound, and—"

"I am a soldier—so—so—so—"

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There were two—answered Von

Lymer, diplomatically: "One



#### Limitations Everywhere.

A person who inherits fifteen million dollars may have requests for a million dollars a week and that would be more than the interest on the inheritance. This is also true of muscle and mind as well as of money.

#### How First Things First.

Make a list of things not done which should have been done and another list of things done which were not worth doing, then re-read the list on each legal holiday and Sunday.

#### The Handling of Help.

We should know more about diplomacy for this subject, as every person in the world is an employer in some way at some times. The little girl customer is the employer of the big merchant when she hands over her money for merchandise. No one is independent.

#### LIFE ON THE MISSISSIPPI.

Veteran River Man Tells of the Days That Are Departed.

"Rafting and lumbering on the upper Mississippi has passed away with the disappearance of the great forest along the father of waters and its tributaries," said Capt. Peter Conley of Winona, Minn. Mr. Colney is one of the pioneer river men of the Mississippi and has been connected with rafting on the river for twenty-five years.

"Five and ten years ago there were at least fifty boats plying the upper river engaged only in towing rafts to the mills. This year there will be not more than ten. Packet lines afforded employment to some of the old pilots, but many have passed away and others have gone to Alaska, while some are now piloting boats on southern waters.

The transfer of the lumbering industry from the northern waters of the Mississippi to southern has afforded the steamboat man a chance for employment far from his home. Many accumulated fortunes while working for the great lumbermen of the river and have built homes and settled down to steadier occupation. Traveling on the river during the summer months is a pursuit which gives one a nomadic disposition hard to lose.

"Some of the pilots and captains I know have become owners of tow-lines and some of packet lines. Others are now engaged in general business, but they always desire to get back on the river and feel the tremble of the boat when under full steam."—Milwaukee Free Press.

#### A Very Brave Man.

Mrs. Emma E. Porter, of Marysville, sister of Congressman Calderhead, tells a good hempecked husband story. Evelyn is the little daughter of a Marshal county family. She's very cowardly. Her father, finding that sympathy only increased this unfortunate tendency, decided to have a serious talk with his little daughter on the subject of her foolish fears.

"Papa," she said at the close of his lecture, "when you see a cow ain't you afraid?"

#### No; certainly not, Evelyn."

"When you see a horse ain't you afraid?"

#### No, of course not."

"When you see a dog ain't you afraid?"

#### No!"—with emphasis.

"When you see a bumblebee ain't you afraid?"

#### No!"—with scorn.

"Ain't you afraid when it thunders?"

"No!"—with loud laughter. "Oh, you silly, silly child!"

"Papa," said Evelyn, solemnly, "ain't you afraid of nothin' in the world but mamma?"—Kansas City Journal.

#### At Last.

The mother of the small boy had been trying to instill within him an idea of conscience. She described it as a little voice which whispered in one side when he was doing wrong.

"I never heard it," said the small boy, cynically, and in the tone of one who shrugs his shoulders.

A little later the small boy did something he had been told not to do, and was sent to sit on a chair, and ordered not to get off until the powers that be gave him leave.

Ten minutes later he came into the room where his mother was sitting, jubilant.

"I've heard it, mother," he exclaimed.

"Heard what?" asked his perplexed parent.

"Heard the little voice. It said, 'Sam Smith, you get off that chair. Don't you care what your mother says?'"

#### "Russian Lion" a Wonder.

George Hackenschmidt, commonly called the "Russian Lion," is Russian only by the accident of birth. By blood he is part German and part Swede. He is described as a man "with a student's face and a gladiator's body, massive of torso, catlike in quickness and as kind of disposition as sound in wind and limb." He has long been famous abroad, but seems unpolished by admiration. His extraordinary qualities as a wrestler are explained as due to a combination of muscular strength, common enough in men of bulk, and that nervous strength which in the bodies of slender men makes them so formidable.

#### Gompers on Long Workday.

Mr. Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, says the bakers are so short of sleep from long hours at work that they lie down on their dough and rise with it.

#### Gets News Second Hand.

Tolstoy has given up reading the newspapers, but his friends tell him the news. He spends much time roaming in the woods.

#### PAID PENALTY FOR HASTE.

Messenger Boy's Speed Resulted in Spectacular Tumble.

A district messenger boy emerged from a big office building on Nassau street, and to the amazement of passersby, began to run. He had not gone far when his foot caught in some obstruction and he fell. It was not the ordinary fall. It was a picturesque, acrobatic performance. He landed on his stomach with hands and legs outstretched.

It had just stopped raining and the asphalt was slippery. In addition, there is quite a down grade at Cedar street, where the sudden drop of mercury took place. So when he struck the roadway he kept on going toboggan fashion, for a foot or two, his hands and feet being used as brakes.

When the headway finally was checked, the messenger boy arose, slowly and easily. His once natty blue uniform was a finished study from collar to the ends of his trousers. There was some bark off his hands and a gash in one knee of his trousers seemed to open its dumb mouth to protest against such treatment.

"That's what I get for runnin'," said the boy sadly, as he entered a convenient hallway to cleanse himself with a "latest edition" handed to him by a sympathetic observer.

What and When.

After urging railroads for a dozen years to let me study with their employees in the interest of individual accuracy, one road gave me a three months' order. During the three months someone must have seen the difficulties with which I had to contend, because one day there came to me in a sealed envelope an unsigned page on which were the following cheerful suggestions:

If you like the blues, read the 27th Psalm. If your pocketbook is empty, read the 37th Psalm. If people seem unkind, read the 15th chapter of John. If you are discouraged about your work, read the 126th Psalm. If you are all out of sorts, read the 12th chapter of Hebrews. If you are losing confidence in men, read the 13th chapter of First Corinthians. If you can't have your own way in everything, keep silent and read the 3d chapter of James.

JEVELS 7,000 YEARS OLD.

Marvels of the Goldsmith's Art Discovered in Ruins.

Remarkable discoveries have been made in the ruins of the temples of Susa, the ancient capital of Persia, where marvels of jewelry have been brought to light, the earliest examples ever known of that country, says Harper's Bazaar.

The jewels of gold and silver which we now possess are the first of those countries and those ages which have come down to our day. In this they present a great interest. Unfortunately, it is not possible to assign precise date to each of them. As the cylinders and the seals which form a part of the finds belong to all periods, from the fortieth or fiftieth century B.C. down to the date of the foundation, so it is with the jewels. There are some of every age. The rings of filigree work and the scepters with the lion's head seem to be more recent than the statuettes of gold and silver, which have a frankly archaic appearance, but one cannot be sure of this appreciation. Have we not been surprised at finding rings which, if their origin had not been certain, would be attributed by the most acute connoisseurs to the Greek or Etruscan epochs?

Before the discoveries at Dashur we knew nothing of Egyptian jewelry. The opening of the tombs of the princes of the twelfth dynasty was a revelation. It is the same now as regards Elam; but while in the case of Dashur we were dealing with objects of a well-known age, here we can only fix a minimum limit to the antiquity and this limit is the twelfth century, B.C.

Deceived the Natives.

Only a few weeks ago it was announced to the world that vaccination was not a new thing, but that, on the contrary, it had been known ages ago to the natives of India. It was Lord Amphilus who made the claim for the antiquity of cowpox inoculation. His lordship quoted as his authority a passage from a book by Dhawantaria, the greatest of the ancient physicians, in which vaccination was clearly described. Now, however, it is said that this passage was merely an interpolation. The British Medical Journal tells the following story of it:

"According to Sir John Malcolm, a well-known Scotch surgeon, on the introduction of vaccine inoculation into India, the practice met with great opposition from the natives. In order to overcome their prejudices Dr. Ellis of Madras, who was well versed in Sanskrit literature, composed a short poem on vaccination in that language.

"This poem was inscribed on old paper and was said to have been just discovered. The object of the poem's fraud was that the impression of vaccination's antiquity might help to reconcile the minds of Brahmins to the use of a prophylactic drawn from their sacred cow."

Kept His Word.

"I was up in Northern New York at a hotel for two weeks last summer," said a Philadelphia man, "and of all the inconvenient, barren sites I ever saw for a hotel that took the cake. The meals were poor, the beds worse and, as for service, you had mostly to wait upon yourself. Being alone, I stuck it out, but when ready to go I said to the landlord:

"Does this thing pay you?"

"Not a cent."

"Then why don't you burn the blamed thing down for the insurance?"

"I'm going to this winter."

"And he has kept his word like a man. Only a week ago I saw that the hotel had gone up in smoke, with the usual explanation: 'Probably spontaneous combustion.'

Result of Wastefulness.

A buffalo bull recently slaughtered in Iowa brought its owner nearly \$1,000. The head sold for \$600, the hide for \$300, and the meat for 50 cents a pound. In the year 1877 a drove of buffalo, estimated at 4,000,000, head crossed the North Platte river in Nebraska, and were worth a dollar apiece for the poachers who exterminated them for their hides.

Fire Building With Salute.

When the Italian cruiser Umbria entered the harbor of San Jose de Guatamala she fired a salute. A burning wad from one of her guns dropped on the roof of the government building and set fire to it. The crew was ordered ashore and assisted in a hard fight, which resulted in saving most of the building.

Museum Memorial for Donizetti.

In honor of the great composer Donizetti, a museum is to be erected at Bergamo, his native place. Relatives of the late composer have agreed to furnish the material. Baroness Bassani-Scoffi will supply the furniture of the room in which Donizetti died.

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## Fashion in Tonic Flavors

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It had just stopped raining and the asphalt was slippery. In addition, there is quite a down grade at Cedar street, where the sudden drop of mercury took place. So when he struck the roadway he kept on going toboggan fashion, for a foot or two, his hands and feet being used as brakes.

"Did you do it?" asked the listener.

"Yes, I had to. I won't take the stuff if you don't," said she. "You won't be able to. It will be so nasty you can't swallow it."

"But that argument never feasted the woman." It is lilacs or nothing, she said. "I'd rather die than be inconsistent."

"So I gave her lilacs.

"It is queer, anyway," proceeded the doctor, "about the flavoring of medicine. I don't know whether you know it or not, but styles in flavoring extracts used by druggists change with the seasons, the same as hats and coats and dinner-table decorations. Last spring the majority of prescriptions compounded tasted like sweet

peas. Before that peppermint was the favorite, now it is lavender. Pepper mint, by the way, has its innings most frequently as a popular essence. There are a good many people who don't like peppermint, but there are more who do, and it comes into favor three or four times as often as any other essence. For one thing, it mixes with other ingredients more harmoniously than other extracts, and there are some doctors who are old fashioned enough to stick to it year in and year out, no matter what their more up-to-date brethren may be using for a time. Fortunately, the flavor of a prescription has nothing to do with its efficacy, so if a doctor feels like it he can make a fool of himself, as I did just now, and satisfy the whim of a fashionable patient by flavoring her tonics with an essence that matches her perfumes without endangering her life. However, freak flavors are not calculated to make a disagreeable drug more pleasant to the taste, and after a few experiments of that kind most doctors, at the request of the patients themselves, go back to lavender and sweet peas, and the ever reliable peppermint."—New York Herald.

PAID PENALTY FOR HASTE.

They Were Considered Important in the Gas Business.

"Well, my son," said the venerable gas magnate, beaming benevolence on his young protege, "how are you getting along. Do you think you are learning the business?"

"I am working hard at it, sir," said the youth. "I flatter myself I have picked up quite a little information since you were kind enough to get me my position with the company. I have learned the exact cost per cubic foot of making gas; the exact amount of water in the stock; how to get a franchise, and how to get along without one if you don't happen to have one that fits; how to make gas bills go up while gas rates go down; how to make a gas meter travel like an automobile—with a policeman after it; how to handle customers who kick, and—well, quite a number of things."

"You are doing well, my son," said the old gentleman.

"But I trust you will not neglect two of the most important features of the gas business—how to prepare a statement which nobody can make head or tail of, and how to talk to an investigating committee, without telling them anything everybody doesn't already know."

PAID PENALTY FOR HASTE.

Making the Garden Pay.

"This garden has a southeast exposure," said Uncle Bob, "which is the best. I shall have all of the rows of vegetables running north and south so that they will get the full benefit of the sun. I am going to divide it with a path running each way for convenience, and I shall cultivate entirely with hand tools. I rely particularly upon my combined double and single wheel hoe, hill and drill seeder, which saves me many an hour of back-breaking, hard and uncomfortable work during the summer."

"Lettuce and radishes may be sowed in many odd corners of the garden, without interfering with other crops. Oftentimes crops fail to come up in various places in the garden, and these vacancies may be filled with beets, carrots and turnips. The latter may be planted as late as the first of September, and carrots up to the first of August. My early lettuce is followed by cabbages or excelsior peans. I often put turnips in the ground which has just grown a crop of peas. You will be able to find pretty nearly all kinds of common vegetables in this garden. I don't always succeed with everything, and I have had for some time a very small garden. I should confine myself, I think, to a smaller list."—Suburban Life.

PAID PENALTY FOR HASTE.

A Memorial Day Memory.

The twenty-first challenged at the open rate. Who passed him by, because the hour was late.

"Halt! Who goes there?" "A friend." "Friend—old mate?" "A friend's fare-well."

And I had passed the gate; And the long last notes were shed. And shrilly clarion's echoes dead; And sounded like a stod at noon.

Those last sad notes of all: "Lights out."

"Lights out."

Farwell, companions. We have side by side.

Watched the history's lengthened shadows past us glide.

And past the blue and laughed at pain. And pain and hardship have we borne; And toll and where the flag has gone;

But all the echoes answered, and about Hail bidden to you, "Lights out."

And never more for me the bayonet's flash.

The trumpet's summons, Oh, the eruning ash.

Of life a short fruition; fall.

The withered friendship, and they all.

Are sleeping, lay by day.

The fabrics of our lives decay.

And changed, and met away.

Like a dream like the noise of a call.

Like mortal warnings from Life's grim redoubt;

Like those last notes of all: "Lights out."

"Lights out."

John R. Rathorn.