

VALDIMIR, THE MONK.

BY SYLVANUS COBB, JR. CHAPTER VII.

In order to understand the circumstances under which Burie was brought before the Emperor it will be necessary to go back a few hours. The first had occasion to send for the surgeon, a man who had attended at the duel, and as he was some time in answering the summons he was questioned, when he did come, concerning his tardiness. His answer was, that he had been attending the Count Damonoff.

"And what was the Count?" asked the Emperor. "He was well yesterday." "Yes—but he met with an accident today."

"Look, Kopani," the young ruler cried, who saw in an instant that something unusual had happened, "think not to conceal anything from me. What is it now?" "Sire, I meant not to hide anything from you. The Count has been engaged in a duel."

"His name—was he challenged?" "No, sire—he was the challenger." "So, so. And who was the other?" "An humble gun-maker, sire, named Burie Nevel."

"Nevel—Nevel—" soliloquized Peter. "The name is familiar." "His father was a captain in the last war with the Turks. He arose from the ranks under Feodor, and was one of the bravest of the brave."

"Captain Nevel—Ah, yes. I remember now. He and Valdimir were the two who first mounted the ramparts at Izium. So the old dispatches read."

"Yes, sire. Poor Nevel was shot a month afterwards while leading his brave company against a whole squadron of Turkish infantry, while Valdimir came home and got a colonel's commission."

"And afterwards received a title," added Peter. "Yes, sire." "And this gun-maker is this captain's son?"

"Yes, sire." "And methinks Valdimir left a child." "He did, sire—a daughter, who is now with Olga—she is his ward."

"Yes, yes. And the Count fought a duel with young Nevel, and got beaten, eh?" "Before the surgeon could answer a page entered the chamber and announced that the Duke of Tula wished to see his imperial master."

The Emperor directed that he should be admitted; and ere long afterward the proud Duke entered the apartment. He was a tall, stout man, with light hair and blue eyes, and not far from five-and-forty years of age. His bearing was haughty, though he was forced to a show of respect now that he was before his master.

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MEETINGS. ANCIENT LANDMARK Lodge, No. 3, G. R. M. A. F. & A. M.—An emergent meeting will be held Saturday, December 27, in Masonic Hall, corner Main street and Portage avenue at 23 o'clock. Visiting brethren cordially welcome. W. A. Windlett, W.M. D. H. Purdon, Secretary.

ST. JOHN'S LODGE, No. 4, A.F. & A.M.—An emergent communication Saturday, December 27, in the Masonic Hall, Winnipeg, at 8 o'clock p.m. sharp. Visiting brethren cordially invited. A. A. Aird, W.M. W. Braden, Sec.

TONIC LODGE, No. 25, G.R.M. A.F. & A.M.—Emergent meeting Saturday, Dec. 27, in Masonic Hall, Visiting brethren cordially welcome. By order of J. J. White, W.M. E. L. Milligan, Acting Sec.

MINNEHARA Lodge, No. 7, I.O. O. F., meets every Thursday evening in Pythian hall, Clements block, east side Main street, near James street. Visiting brethren cordially welcome. R. Horsley, O.G. A. E. Caulfield, K. of R. & S.

WINNIPEG LODGE, No. 1, K. of P., meets every Tuesday evening in Pythian hall, Clements block, near James street. Visiting brethren always welcome. Endowment branch insures members for \$1,000, \$2,000 or \$3,000. H. H. Smith, C.G. R. A. Brock, K. of R. & S.

ARNDT LODGE, No. 4, A.O.U.W. (Pays \$2,000 to beneficiaries.) Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month, in Friendship hall, McIntyre block, Main street. Visiting brethren always welcome. J. H. Dobson, M.W. J. Miller, Sec.

WINNIPEG LODGE, No. 1, A.O.U.W. (Pays \$2,000 to beneficiaries.) Meets 1st and 4th Friday of each month at 8 p.m. in Friendship hall, McIntyre block. Visiting brethren always welcome. A. R. Christie, M.W. P. McKenzie, Sec.

MANITOWA LODGE, No. 2, A.O.U.W. (Pays \$2,000 to beneficiaries.) Meets 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month, in Friendship hall, McIntyre block, Main street. Visiting brethren always welcome. J. H. Dobson, M.W. J. Miller, Sec.

RED RIVER LODGE, No. 4, A.O.U.W. (Pays \$2,000 to beneficiaries.) Meets on first and third Friday of each month in Friendship hall, McIntyre block. Visiting brethren always welcome. J. J. Philip, M.W. J. M. Matthew, Sec., P.O. Box 628.

COURT EXCELSIOR, No. 658, A.O.F., meets on the first and third Thursday of each month, in Foresters' hall, over Y. M. C. A. rooms, corner Main and Alexander streets. Visiting brethren always welcome. R. James Piper, C. R. J. Chalk, Secretary, P. O. Box 10.

COURT GARRY, No. 2, C.O.F., meets in Friendship hall, McIntyre block, on first and third Mondays of each month. Visiting brethren always welcome. A. K. Roy, C.R. T. B. Robinson, R.S. P. O. Box 165.

COURT RUPERT, No. 13, C.O.F., meets Monday, Dec. 23, in Foresters' hall, over the Y. M. C. A. rooms, corner of Main and Alexander streets. Visiting brethren always welcome. John Manson, G.R. I. Godbolt, R.S.

ULSTER HEROES, I. O. O. F., No. 1520, meets first Tuesday in each month in the District Orange hall, corner of Main and Market streets. Visiting brethren cordially invited. Geo. McLeod, W. M. Wm. Conolly, R. S.

UNITED BROTHERHOOD of Carpenters and Joiners of America, Union No. 345, meets Monday, Dec. 23, at 8 p.m., in Foresters' hall, over Y. M. C. A. rooms, corner of Main and Alexander streets. Visiting brethren cordially invited. W. H. Reeve, Pro. G. M. Elliott, R.S. P. O. Box 55.

SONS OF ENGLAND BENEFICENT Society, Westward Ho! Lodge, No. 18, meets at 8 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 22, and alternate Mondays thereafter. For proposition forms and information address T. C. Andrews, Sec. P. O. Box 353.

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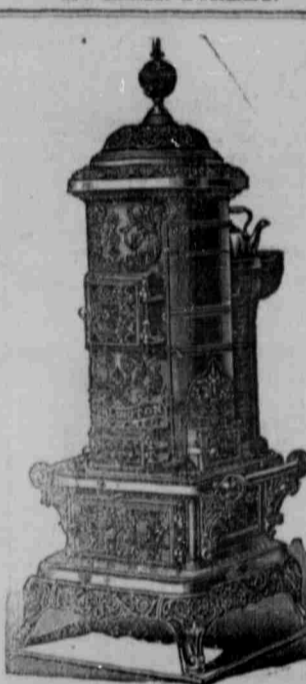
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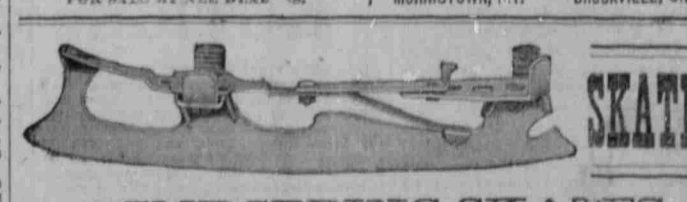
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