

**DAN RUSSEL THE FOX,  
AN EPISODE IN THE  
LIFE OF MISS ROWAN**

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Dan Russel the Fox, an episode in the life of Miss Rowan by E. C. Somerville & Martin Ross

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**E. Œ. SOMERVILLE & MARTIN ROSS**

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BY  
E. C. SOMERVILLE AND MARTIN ROSS

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DAN RUSSEL THE FOX

Then Dan Russel the fox stert up at once,

His colour was betwix yelwe and red ;  
And tipped was his tail, and both his eres  
With black, unlike the remenant of his heres.  
His snout was smal, with glowing eyen twey ;

A col fox, ful of sleigh iniquitee."

THE NONNES PREESTES TALE  
The Canterbury Tales,  
*Chaucer.*

# DAN RUSSEL THE FOX

## CHAPTER I

**I**T is better, when practicable, to begin at the beginning of the episode.

Katharine Rowan went to Aix-les-Bains, primarily because, at the moment, she had nothing else to do; she went there, in the second place, because Mrs. Masterman suggested it, and moreover assured her that she would find it a thoroughly conducive place for writing; wherein Mrs. Masterman lied.

Not intentionally, it may be admitted. Her mornings were devoted to her "cure" in its various ramifications. Doubtless, as she lay simmering in her blankets and viewed the fervent foreign sky, sandwiched between the slits of the Venetian blinds, and heard the tangled chiming of many church bells, and smelled the strange and excellent savours that ascended from the kitchen through the vine curtain of the balcony, and absorbed the sweet influences of France through every pore, she believed that the balmy leisure must be fraught with inspiration, and that the pages of foolscap were falling like snow from the pen of her young friend. It was characteristic of Mrs. Masterman's generous belief in her friends