

System 861

Chapter 861: Sudden Death of the Emperor of the Empire (6)

One must know.

With Hunter from the Riverside Rest Tavern continually coming to his territory to purchase liquor.

A portion of the grain in the territory was invested into the brewing workshop.

Therefore.

The brewing workshop produced a lot of leftover distillers' grains.

Apart from some used to make distiller's grain cakes for the townspeople's use.

Most of the distillers' grains were used as feed for the poultry and livestock on the farm.

For omnivorous animals like wild boars, distillers' grains mixed with some other tuber plants or peas, etc.

Is the best feeding material.

Perfect for fattening up the wild boar piglets.

After arranging things with Guy, Lynn was satisfied and returned to the town as the sky gradually darkened.

The five wild boar farms have been completed and put into use.

The next constructions would naturally be the Pigeon Nest and the Wolf's Den.

However, with Jode leading the construction workers.

He didn't have to worry too much.

At least, after this period of constructing the wild boar farms.

They have already gained considerable construction experience.

With the construction blueprints available, it wouldn't be difficult for them.

The hardest part is.

The training of wild boars, pigeons, and wild wolves!

Apart from the recently arrived family of Old Simeon, who could train and breed warhorses.

He was still lacking trainers who could handle special wild animals.

If, by the time the wild boar empowerment and breeding are completed, he still hasn't found suitable trainers.

He would have to try doing it himself.

Suppressing these thoughts, he traversed a large piece of farmland.

Lynn returned to Lord's Square.

Just as he returned to Lord's Square, a figure quickly approached him.

Lynn looked up to see that it was Gasper, the spy leader previously lurking in Morgan Town!

After the manor in Morgan Town was eradicated by him.

Gasper and his team were dispatched by him to Kakasong City to gather intelligence.

Because they never received proper training in intelligence gathering skills, their abilities were limited.

Therefore.

He did not have Gasper's team establish an intelligence-gathering center at Hunter's Riverside Rest Tavern.

Their abilities were more suited to mingling among various crowds to glean information.

Apparently.

Gasper had just returned from outside the territory.

He was panting heavily and was out of breath.

Gasper seemed to remember Lynn's previous instructions.

He didn't immediately begin to report but instead tried his best to calm his breathing and steady his heartbeat.

Lynn didn't urge him, just quietly waiting.

A minute later.

When Gasper's breathing had calmed, he began to speak: "Master Lynn, we've received accurate information!"

"The Emperor of the Karedi Empire, Charlemagne VI, was killed in his sleeping chamber, dying suddenly at dawn four days ago."

Gasper's words didn't stop, he continued: "The murderer who killed Charlemagne VI is... his second son, Caesar Carolin!"

Lynn's brows instantly furrowed as he questioned Gasper for confirmation.

"Are you sure of the accuracy of the intelligence source?"

He had to understand.

The Karedi Empire now was in a highly sensitive period due to the struggle over Imperial Authority.

It was very possible rumors were being spread to gain some advantage.

Gasper hesitated not even for a moment, speaking firmly: "Master, the one who delivered the information is a court messenger..."

Lynn nodded without saying a word.

He was only slightly surprised by the murder of Charlemagne VI.

After all.

Charlemagne VI was the Emperor of the Karedi Empire!

An Emperor being murdered in his own sleeping chamber...

Rare, but not unheard of.

The most unimaginable part was.

The one who killed Charlemagne VI was Kai Caesar Carolin!

Compared to Mitchell, who once had the title of 'Spear of the Empire'.

Caesar, being the second son, was indeed much more obscure.

Nevertheless.

Lynn wouldn't choose to underestimate this prince who seldom appeared in the public eye!

He must acknowledge.

Caesar Carolin was trusted and loyally followed by the Duke of Red Dragon, who had the strongest military power among the Three Great Dukes of the Karedi Empire.

That was a heavy cavalry corps that could make the entire Karedi Empire tremble!

Quickly.

A question arose in Lynn's mind.

Though Caesar Carolin was a second son, he was deeply cherished by Charlemagne VI.

Even in his memories, he clearly recalled.

Charlemagne VI many times openly expressed his admiration for Caesar at banquets.

Lynn even felt that even with Mitchell, the eldest son present.

Charlemagne VI seemed prepared to pass the throne of the Karedi Empire to Caesar.

With the strong military support from the Duke of Red Dragon.

And the affection from the Emperor of the Empire.

What necessity did Caesar have to assassinate a ruler long in the twilight of life like Charlemagne VI?

Lynn was more inclined to believe that the one who killed Charlemagne VI in the sleeping chamber was 'Spear of the Empire' Mitchell!

There must be some huge hidden truth behind this!

However.

The intelligence gathered so far was too limited, allowing him only to speculate this far.

Lynn continued questioning Gasper: "Is there any other intelligence?"

Gasper's face showed embarrassment as he shook his head: "For now, that's all, Master."

Lynn bore no blame, speaking: "Well done, you've delivered this intelligence back to the territory in a timely manner, now go and rest."

Gaspar said no more, replying with a sound, and withdrew.

As he watched Gaspar leave, Lynn's mind was still pondering over the murder of Charlemagne VI.

The Karedi Empire might very well become embroiled in open conflict due to Charlemagne VI's death.

Causing the simmering struggle for Imperial Authority to ignite directly into war!

Lynn had a vague premonition.

War was coming!

As Lynn mulled over things in his mind.

Under a golden sunset, a long convoy of carriages was approaching Lord's Square.

Perhaps because he recognized the convoy, Alan, residing at the trade guild house, strutted quickly to Lord's Square.

Seeing Lynn, Alan immediately approached.

A smile on his face as he said: "Lord, my carriage convoy has returned once again!"

"Having lived on your territory for so long, it seems it's time to leave."

Lynn nodded, preparing to speak.

Alan's Guard Commander swiftly dismounted and, with quick steps, approached Alan.

A harried expression and rapid pace.

Alan quickly surmised something.

After signaling to Lynn, he moved toward the Guard Commander.

The Guard Commander went up to Alan, recounting something in his ear...

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Due to the distance, Lynn couldn't hear the words that Mr. Alan was speaking.

But Lynn could clearly see that Alan's expression, which was originally calm, gradually became serious.

The Guard Commander's whispering stopped.

Alan stood still, seemingly contemplating something.

Until a few minutes later.

Alan stepped forward again towards Lynn.

When he reached Lynn, his words seemed full of regret.

"Master Lynn, I thought I could stay a few more days in your little town."

"Enjoy the idyllic leisurely life."

"But now it seems, I have to prepare to leave..."

Before Lynn could inquire, Alan began to explain on his own.

"I don't know if you have received intelligence, Master Lynn..."

"My Guard Commander just informed me that Charlemagne VI, the Emperor of the Kaladi Empire, has been killed."

"The murderer is Charlemagne VI's second son, Caesar Carolin."

Lynn nodded, "I also just received some information."

"However, I haven't had the chance to tell it to you, Mr. Alan, as your carriage team has already returned."

Alan understood and continued speaking.

"But, Master Lynn... I've also received some other intelligence."

"In Charlemagne VI's chambers, after the Imperial Guard entered, they only found Caesar and the dead body of Charlemagne VI."

"Inserted into the chest was the Dagger of Judgment, which Charlemagne VI had once given to Caesar as a coming-of-age gift."

"Apart from that, there was no one else in the chambers."

"Upon learning of Charlemagne VI's assassination, the eldest son, Mitchell, went straight into the Emperor's chambers."

"But Caesar, under the escort of an Imperial Guard unit, had left Triumph City overnight, heading towards the Duchy of the Red Dragon!"

Upon hearing this, Lynn's brows furrowed slightly.

The information Alan was sharing now was evidently what his Guard Commander had just informed him of.

Regarding the Empire's situation, he had no conflict of interest with Alan.

That is to say.

Alan could not be using false information to hide from him.

The most crucial thing is.

Alan had no benefit in doing so.

Merchants would not do things that hurt others if it doesn't benefit themselves.

If it was truly as Alan said.

Caesar Carolin, identified as the murderer of Charlemagne VI, escaped from Triumph City.

Even if Caesar wasn't the killer, he would be unable to clear himself of suspicion!

Thinking of this, Lynn felt even more puzzled.

If Caesar wasn't the one who did it, why would he run away?

Once Caesar is identified as the murderer and leaves Triumph City.

Wouldn't Triumph City naturally fall into Mitchell's hands?

No matter how the situation unfolds afterward.

At least.

Defending the city holds much more advantageous geographical conditions than attacking it.

Soon, a thought occurred in Lynn's mind.

He couldn't help but sigh once again in his heart.

Gathering intelligence is truly critical.

At present, he can only obtain limited intelligence through spies hidden in the city.

Far less detailed and accurate than the intelligence Alan receives!

The establishment of an intelligence-gathering center must be expedited.

The words from Alan's mouth were still continuing.

His tone seemed somewhat excited now.

"Master Lynn, the war... the war is finally about to break out..."

There was a peculiar glow in Alan's eyes.

Seeing Alan's expression, Lynn couldn't help but frown.

He finally remembered that although the Alan in front of him wasn't a slave trader like Grayson.

He was an undeniable war profiteer!

Exploiting economic chaos caused before or during the war to conduct speculative activities!

Buying goods at low prices and transporting them.

Then selling them at high prices to lords or armies engaged in warfare.

Thus, earning enormous profits.

The existence of war profiteers often exacerbates the destructiveness of war and even influences political landscapes.

Just like Audrey far away in the Portlands Empire!

Using her economic ability, she directly influences the course of the Portlands Empire's war.

If it were up to Alan's capability alone, perhaps it would be hard to achieve what Audrey accomplished.

But who can say.

What economic or military powerhouses lurk behind Alan?

Merchants are often tied up with many powerful and influential figures!

After waiting for the last batch of fine salt to be loaded onto the carriage compartment.

After saying goodbye to Lynn.

Alan led his fully loaded carriage team away from Lord's Square, heading toward the shadow of the distant mountains and woods.

Despite it being evening now and the sky gradually darkening.

It was still impossible to stop Alan's steps to leave.

Lynn stood fixed in place, watching Alan's carriage team gradually move further away.

Finally disappearing from sight, he then withdrew his gaze.

The battle for Imperial Authority was finally about to begin!

War was finally coming!

For a war profiteer businessman like Alan, it presents both risks and challenges.

Firstly.

As the Empire enters war, merchants' trade routes become unsafe due to military conflicts.

They might encounter robbery, attacks, or even have their goods seized and damaged.

Secondly.

The market will definitely be affected, with prices fluctuating wildly.

On one hand, war leads to shortages of goods, causing the prices of necessities to skyrocket.

On the other hand, people's purchasing power declines due to war, and the market demand for luxury goods will surely shrink significantly.

It is difficult for merchants to control market demand and price trends.

But similarly.

With risk and challenges come greater opportunities and profits.

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War will trigger a massive demand for weapons, armor, provisions, and other military supplies.

If merchants can supply these materials in time, they are sure to earn substantial profits!

Furthermore.

They can also establish long-term cooperation with certain Great Lords or Nobility, providing a stable supply of resources!

After the war ends, due to the spread of conflict, the Empire will surely need large-scale reconstruction.

They can still provide massive amounts of building materials, tools, furniture, and various other supplies.

They can even participate in infrastructure projects.

...

Walking on the way back to the castle, Lynn slightly furrowed his brows.

He knows that the battle for Imperial Authority is far from him and his territory.

However, it is closely related to him!

Once the war for Imperial Authority starts, the military factions of Mitchell and Caesar will certainly oppose each other.

If war breaks out, the entire order of the Karedi Empire will collapse in an instant.

As they vie for Imperial Authority, it will undoubtedly trigger chain reactions across the land of the Karedi Empire!

Lords from across the regions will choose to support different forces based on their interests, forming military factions.

Either that.

Seizing the opportunity amidst chaos to withhold taxes, expand armed forces, and no longer obey the commands of Imperial Authority.

Ultimately leading to the intensification of territorial fragmentation within the Empire.

Merchants will find it difficult to continue transporting goods to his territory!

Moreover, the demand for everyday necessities in the market will increase, and prices will inevitably rise.

He cannot conveniently purchase or trade for more goods.

Even worse.

If a nearby Lord with strong military power learns about the three mines in his territory.

They will not hesitate to send troops to attack his territory!

They no longer need to consider the orders previously issued by the Emperor of the Empire or the Great Lord!

Thinking of this.

The previously slightly diminished sense of crisis once again enveloped Lynn.

He must arm the soldiers in his territory completely before the flames of war reach his land.

To arm the soldiers, he must speed up the production in the handicraft industry on his territory.

Lynn turned to the guard beside him and said.

"Summon Ehrelo, Yimini, Colin, Jose, Rose, and Wesley, all six to the castle."

Several guards heard the command and promptly answered.

Then, they retreated and left.

Going separately to the handicraft workshop district and the army camp in the forest.

After giving instructions, Lynn returned to the castle.

In the guest hall.

Kuisi had already arranged dinner and was waiting.

With the service of Kuisi and several maids, Lynn finished his dinner.

Sitting on the lord's throne at the back.

While resting.

He pondered how to cope with the upcoming war for Imperial Authority!

First.

The crucial thing is undoubtedly improving the military strength within the territory.

The current armed forces in his territory consist of only four thousand soldiers.

Especially among these four thousand soldiers, nearly a thousand are recruits recently enlisted as soldiers.

It's necessary for Rose to speed up the training intensity and efficiency of the soldiers.

Otherwise, when faced with a large-scale enemy force attacking the city walls.

These soldiers can't even wield their weapons.

Not to mention defending the city and killing enemies, just swinging their weapons a few times will exhaust them!

In addition to training soldiers, the soldiers also need armor and weapons for outfitting.

Secondly, the production in the handicraft workshops.

Whether it's the armor and weapons produced by the Blacksmith Workshop and Textile Workshop.

Or the large equipment crafted by the Woodwork Workshop.

Or the standard longbows and crossbows made by the Bow and Arrow Workshop.

Production efficiency must be accelerated!

Even with the most advanced scientific technology in his territory.

If it cannot be manufactured and applied in reality.

It all amounts to mere paper talk.

Before the intel about Charlemagne VI being assassinated came.

He was considering letting the three thousand townsmen settle in once the expansion of the Red Brick House area for their accommodation was completed.

Then deploy them into the territory's infrastructure construction.

But now, he has to change his mindset.

With the territory facing imminent crisis, infrastructure must be temporarily shelved.

He needs to assign all three thousand townsmen into production in the handicraft workshops!

Excluding the production and construction within his territory.

Various external factors of the territory also require his consideration.

The current military strength of the territory is naturally unable to expand against the Lords nearby amidst the collapse of order.

What he can do.

Is rely on the fortress-like city walls, guarding them, and continuously developing the production and construction within the territory at full speed.

Even for Morgan Town, which recently received recognition and the certification document from the Kakasong City Church.

If faced with a crisis, he can afford to abandon it!

Because.

Given Morgan Town's open and easily attackable geographical conditions.

Plus, the lack of sufficient labor force.

Added to that the absence of enough soldiers for control.

With his current military power, he is fundamentally unable to fully control Morgan Town.

Rather than spreading resources thinly and worrying everywhere, it's better to make reasonable trade-offs.

All focus of development can only be centered on his existing territory!

For Morgan Town, his sole expectation now is...

To harvest the crops that the Manor Lord had planted previously before the flames of war reach Morgan Town.

No matter how many crops he can gather from those fields.

As far as he's concerned, it's all an unexpected bonus!

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Sitting on the lord's throne, Lynn glanced at the maids tidying up the tableware.

His thoughts continued to swirl in his mind.

To harvest the crops in Morgan Town,

he certainly wouldn't deploy the townsmen from the territory for large-scale outings.

The best approach is to attract a large number of Free People from Kakasong City to Morgan Town to harvest for him!

Before obtaining the land ownership documents from the Kakasong City Church, he had already made his decision!

As long as Free People are willing to come to Morgan Town to harvest crops for him,

they can receive a tenth of the harvested crops!

Furthermore, if they are willing to stay in Morgan Town, he can allocate them corresponding houses and residences.

This is the most attractive condition he can think of and implement to attract Free People from Kakasong City.

If, like other lords, he offered a daily wage in pence to hire Free People, it certainly wouldn't catch their attention.

There are many job opportunities in Kakasong City.

Moreover, it's not lacking in wealthy nobility hiring them.

With the same labor rewards each day,

who would be willing to leave a city they've lived in for decades or generations,

to come to a remote town on the outskirts?

Even if there were a few, it certainly wouldn't be many.

Therefore,

to attract more Free People, more manpower, to Morgan Town,

he is willing to offer a tenth of the crop yield.

Even obtaining only the remaining nine-tenths, it's still a lucrative deal, with no loss at all.

It should be known.

These lands were cultivated and planted without any investment of manpower, materials, or effort from him.

It was only after exterminating the five manors of Morgan Town that he gained these extra spoils.

If afterward, these Free People are willing to reside in Morgan Town,

while he establishes the first garrison at Frank Manor Castle,

these manpower can be recruited as garrison soldiers.

Farming during peace, training during leisure, and fighting during war!

A win-win situation!

...

Time swiftly passed.

The originally quiet reception hall was filled with the sound of footsteps echoing from afar.

Upon hearing this, Lynn looked up, seeing several foremen of the workshops approaching.

The four Ehrelo individuals arrived before the steps of the lord's throne and in unison called out, "Master."

Lynn glanced at them and said, "Wait a moment, Rose and Wesley have arrived at the Lord's Square."

The four Ehrelo men responded and quietly waited.

A few minutes later,

the sound of footsteps with metallic clinks echoed from behind them.

The four slightly turned to look.

It was none other than Rose and Wesley, clad in armor.

Perhaps due to galloping on horseback, their hair was somewhat disheveled.

Upon coming in front of Lynn, Rose and Wesley glanced at the four Ehrelo men.

Only then did the two respectfully address Lynn, saying, "Master."

Lynn acknowledged with a nod.

His gaze moved around, confirming all six guards had arrived.

He directly stated, "Ladies and gentlemen, early last evening I received intelligence from spies in Kakasong City."

Rose and Wesley remained unfazed.

Guarding the city walls of the territory,

they naturally knew what intelligence Gasper had brought back.

The four Ehrelo men displayed evident confusion.

Lynn continued, "The intelligence reports that the Emperor of the Kaladi Empire, Charlemagne VI, was assassinated four days ago."

"The murderer is his second son, Caesar Carolin."

Upon hearing Lynn's words, the eyes of the four Ehrelo men widened instantly.

Filled with disbelief.

The Emperor of the Empire wields the supreme authority of the Empire!

The entire Kaladi Empire belongs to him.

To think that he was murdered!

Most crucially, it was by his own son!

Being ordinary people, the Ehrelo men naturally felt deeply shocked.

Lynn didn't care about their shock, continuing to speak.

"The struggle for imperial power, though distant for us in the remote area,

"is certain to drastically alter the entire landscape of the Kaladi Empire!"

Listening to the words from Master Lynn's mouth,

they nodded in agreement.

What a phrase 'Under a toppled nest, no eggs remain intact'!

Before coming to Master Lynn's territory, they were merely ordinary Free People or even Peasants.

They naturally understood what consequences a war would bring.

Bloody battles, the death of loved ones, the destruction of homes...

Even themselves as Free People being sold off as slaves indiscriminately!

Seeing everyone silent, Lynn continued speaking.

"Therefore, to ensure that this territory survives better amid the upcoming chaos,"

"I need to adjust the teams led by and under the management of you all."

Rose Ehrelo's expression became serious, waiting for their lord's instructions.

Lynn stated, "Only a few days remain until the Red Brick House expansion area is completed."

"Nearly 2,500 units of manpower will temporarily be idle."

"Initially, I planned to have them expand the roads within the territory."

"But now, the road expansion plan is postponed."

"I want to dispatch all of them to your workshops — focusing on production and manufacturing!"

Lorin Ehrelo's expression showed slight surprise upon hearing this.

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To know.

Now, the entire labor force in the Handicraft Workshop District.

Nearly takes up half of the labor force owned by Master Lynn!

And Master Lynn still wants to make adjustments?

However.

They also understand.

The importance of the Handicraft Workshop District for Lord Lynn's territorial development.

If developing Agriculture is to ensure that all residents in the territory have enough to eat, as the foundation of territorial development.

Then developing handicrafts is a supplement to agriculture.

Only the Handicraft Workshops can produce enough tools, weapons, and armor.

To ensure the smooth progress of agricultural development.

Lynn's eyes shifted, looking at Rose standing to his right, and he asked.

"How large is the shortfall in equipping soldiers with weapons and armor?"

Rose almost instantly answered: "Master, including the newly recruited 1,000 soldiers, 1,200 sets are still missing."

Lynn responded, his eyes turning to Ehrelo and Yimini, "Too slow!"

Feeling Lynn's gaze and hearing his stern words.

Both Ehrelo and Yimini couldn't help lowering their heads.

Lynn continued: "I know, with the labor force you currently have, and the production efficiency you possess."

"Even with overtime work, it only reaches this level."

Ehrelo and Yimini's faces were full of complex emotions.

But they had no words to say.

Currently, in the territory, everyone is working on a nine-to-five schedule.

Only their Blacksmith Workshop and weaving workshop operate from nine to eight!

Despite this.

They still had no complaints.

Because they know the importance of the Blacksmith Workshop and weaving workshop to Master Lynn.

And also know the importance to this territory.

Lynn said, "If the production efficiency of the Handicraft Workshops were higher, these 2,500 people, I could completely use them elsewhere."

"As mentioned earlier, on infrastructure Construction within the territory."

"But with the current limitation on production efficiency, I can only increase labor force input to improve production efficiency."

"I will allocate 700 out of the 2,500 people to both the Blacksmith Workshop and the weaving workshop for the Forging and weaving of weapons and armor."

He is currently managing a Blacksmith Workshop with already 1,700 people.

Adding 700 more, that is 2,400 people.

The number of laborers almost matches the population of a small town.

Isn't this a bit too much!

Lynn looked directly at Ehrelo, speaking in a deep voice: "Foreman Erelo!"

Hearing his words, Ehrelo tensed up and quickly responded: "Master."

Lynn continued: "I need you to lead them and work at full speed!"

"I need to see all soldiers in the territory armored and equipped with uniform weapons within two months!"

"Is there any problem?"

Upon hearing this, Ehrelo couldn't help but feel nervous.

Two months, Forging 1,000 sets of armor and weapons!

The production efficiency of the current Blacksmith Workshop has indeed improved a lot compared to before.

From previously producing 15,000 Armor Plates per day, now more and more Blacksmith Apprentices are mastering basic Forging technology.

The number of Armor Plates produced daily has reached 18,000!

This number of Armor Plates seems a lot, using thousands and ten thousands as units of measurement.

However.

Excluding some special parts, the vast majority of Armor Plates are only about three to five centimeters in length and width!

To weave them into a complete set of Composite Armor requires thousands of plates.

Calculated this way, producing 18,000 Armor Plates daily is not much.

Only about a dozen sets.

If according to Master Lynn's words, 1,000 sets of Armor Plates need to be Forged and produced within two months...

Plus, the 700 labor force soon to join.

The Blacksmith Workshop can indeed achieve this!

Ehrelø understood.

Sitting on the lord's throne, Master Lynn must be extremely knowledgeable about the current production efficiency of the Blacksmith Workshop.

And it was after meticulous consideration that he issued this order.

An inexplicable sense of admiration emerged in Ehrelø's heart.

He quickly bowed and responded firmly: "No problem."

"If unable to produce 1,000 sets of Composite Armor Plates and weapons in two months."

"Ehrelø is willing to accept any of Master your handling!"

Lynn nodded, "Very well."

Finishing speaking, Lynn's gaze turned to Yimini.

"Foreman Yimini, the Blacksmith Workshop and weaving workshop are complementary."

"Even if the Blacksmith Workshop's Forging efficiency is higher, if your weaving workshop cannot effectively weave and produce."

"The efficiency of making armor still cannot be improved!"

Upon hearing this, Yimini quickly replied: "Master, please rest assured."

"As long as the Blacksmith Workshop can Forge enough Armor Plates, the weaving workshop promises to complete the weaving production within a week after receiving the Armor Plates!"

Lynn nodded slightly.

Looking at Ehrelo and Yimini with slightly upright expressions.

Lynn felt a slight sigh in his heart.

Even though he had previously built a Forging Water Wheel, utilizing water power for Forging.

Using water power to conduct large-scale Forging still has limited efficiency.

However.

No matter how slow, compared to the previous method of purely using manual Iron Hammer swinging for Forging.

The efficiency of water-powered Forging has indeed improved greatly.

Lynn's gaze shifted once more, looking at Colin and Jose.

To inquire about the production progress of the Woodworker Workshop and Bow and Arrow Workshop.

Until he had inquired about all the work progress in the workshops.

Only then did Lynn stop his words.

With a solemn gaze, he scanned the six of them once again, and spoke.

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"Everyone, war is imminent!"

"If we want this territory to survive this war, or even move forward..."

"We must give it our all!"

Hearing Lynn's words, Erelo Wesley and the others were solemn.

In unison, they said, "Yes, my lord."

Lynn spoke, "You may all withdraw."

Upon receiving Lynn's directive, Rose Elero and the others refrained from any further words.

They bowed in acknowledgment and retreated towards the back.

As the sound of footsteps faded away, the reception hall fell into silence.

Looking at the empty reception hall,

Lynn still frowned in thought.

But soon.

Lynn pushed the distracting thoughts out of his mind.

Even if the Karedi Empire descends into a war for imperial authority.

Even if the entire Empire is engulfed in flames of war.

Even if outside the territory the common people are suffering.

With the defensive structures currently built on his territory and the number of soldiers he has.

As long as there aren't tens of thousands of regular soldiers with siege weaponry coming to attack his walls.

He can fully utilize the walls and Weng City to hold fast!

While all the lord nobility seeks to gain more benefits and higher status from the war for imperial authority.

He ensures his territory has more time to develop.

The farmland he's sown needs enough time to reach maturity and harvest.

His craft workshops also need plenty of time to produce sets of armor and weapons.

His pastures and breeding farms are the same...

Compared to external expansion, seizing labor, collecting food supplies, and occupying vast lands.

What he needs more is time!

His territory is still in the development stage.

It is far from having the strength to contend with the great lords outside the territory!

Getting up from the lord's seat, Lynn stepped forward towards his private quarters.

Not long ago, Kuisi had already informed him that the hot water for bathing was ready.

Janet, donned in a thin robe, was already standing by the bathtub waiting.

Upon seeing Lynn entering the private quarters, Janet's heart involuntarily sped up.

Even though it wasn't her first time serving Lynn with bathing and massage,

each time she saw Lynn and the images in her mind emerged unbidden.

Janet would become inexplicably nervous.

Is it because of the aura of pressure emanating from Lynn as the Lord?

While Janet speculated.

Lynn, who was walking, stopped in front of her.

In her puzzled gaze, Lynn raised his arm, waiting.

Janet naturally understood Lynn's intention.

Lynn wanted her to undress him!

A faint blush instantly appeared on Janet's cheeks.

She didn't speak but dutifully walked to Lynn and began to unfasten his belt.

Janet didn't notice at all.

Because of her bending posture, the snowy smoothness in front of her was fully exposed to Lynn's view.

The thin silk robe on Lynn was slowly removed by Janet.

Seeing Lynn's vigorous, muscular body before her, Janet's breathing slightly quickened.

She reminded Lynn, "My lord, you can start bathing now."

Lynn acknowledged and stepped forward, climbed the steps, and entered the bathtub.

Watching Lynn gradually lie down, Janet felt a slight sense of relief.

Just as she was about to soak the linen cloth for Lynn's face,

Lynn's voice reached Janet's ears.

"No need for a massage today, just join me for the bath."

Janet's eyes widened instantly.

No massage...

Bathtogether...

Even if Lynn didn't spell it out,

with the previous experiences.

Even without saying, Janet knew what would happen next.

But Janet found.

She no longer resisted inwardly!

In fact, there was more anticipation...

Janet responded softly, "Yes, my lord."

She stepped to the side of the bathtub.

Janet's hands moved, starting to untie her linen robe.

A few seconds later.

The linen robe naturally slipped off her shoulders and piled on the floor.

Seeing Lynn's unrestrained gaze sweeping over her body.

The nervous tension in Janet's heart intensified.

She could even clearly hear the 'thumping' of her heartbeat.

Despite this.

Janet still stepped forward and entered the bathtub.

She slowly squatted down, immersing herself in the hot water, approaching Lynn beside her.

Upon touching Lynn's strong arm, Janet's body trembled slightly.

Ignoring the nervousness in her heart, Janet wrapped Lynn's arm in her embrace.

Allowing the buoyant softness in front of her to twist and deform.

Before Janet could fully enjoy the comfort of the hot water,

a strong hand fell on her abdomen, quickly climbing upward.

In just a moment.

The strong hand grasped the snow-white in front of her.

Janet's eyebrows furrowed instantly.

Her rosy mouth slightly parted, involuntarily exhaling a hot breath.

Her gaze towards Lynn was full of wavering.

...

Three mornings later.

Lynn awoke early.

Seeing Janet nestled in his arm, tears still at the corners of her eyes, his brows lifted slightly.

This time.

Lynn didn't wake Janet up.

He rose from the bed and dressed himself in a clean robe.

Chapter 867: Profession System and Reassignment

Lynn walked out of the bedroom.

He came to the reception hall, and after finishing breakfast, Lynn left the castle with Red.

Because it is currently summer.

Even though the time is only around six or seven o'clock.

The entire sky is already fully bright.

In the distant eastern horizon, a touch of golden light is rising from the horizon, covering the entire earth with a golden layer.

Under the watchful and respectful eyes of the townsmen.

Lynn passed through rows of red brick houses.

He arrived at the very back of the town, the red brick house expansion area.

Rows of newly expanded red brick houses instantly caught his eye.

More than three thousand red brick houses, neatly arranged in front of him.

Uniform color, uniform size, and uniform front and rear spacing.

Even just looking at them from afar, one can feel a strong sense of comfort.

Wells for drinking water, public bathrooms for personal hygiene, and public restrooms...

The roads between the red brick buildings are all paved smoothly with red bricks.

In addition to the red brick houses, there are trees that have been dug up and transplanted for greening!

Such scale.

Even more orderly than the previously unified constructions of red brick houses.

Clearly.

The red brick house expansion area is already in the finishing stage.

Teams of townsmen are already pushing two-wheeled carts, delivering furniture into each red brick house.

Waiting for all the necessary furniture to be delivered into the houses.

The six thousand townsmen brought back from Morgan Town and Frank Manor, after being registered, can then move in!

He had considered.

Starting vocational training from the six thousand townsmen, and after passing assessments.

Then arrange a unified housing for them.

Ultimately, Lynn decided to start with the next batch of labor.

He now needs to put this batch of labor into the handicraft workshops to improve production efficiency.

Simultaneously, they need to continue to cultivate the wastelands.

While Lynn was inspecting the red brick house expansion area.

Clive and two townsmen came to meet him from the front.

Coming before Lynn, Clive bowed respectfully and said, "Master Lynn."

Lynn asked, "Is the construction of the red brick houses completed?"

Clive didn't waste any words and directly explained, "It can be considered completed."

"If you need to reassign these townsmen, just leave me a few hundred people, and that should be sufficient."

"The need for them to make some furniture, and for the construction of the territory court you requested."

Lynn looked at Clive with surprise, "Has the format for the territory court been determined?"

Clive hurriedly replied, "Scholar Erin roughly told me the requirements, and I drew up a preliminary design based on her requirements."

"Since I have been busy with the planning and construction of these red brick houses, the drawing progress has not been fast."

"It may take a few more days to submit it to you for review and decision."

Lynn nodded, "I'll leave you five hundred people."

"Regardless of the finishing work of these red brick houses or the subsequent construction of the territory court, it will also be faster."

Clive said joyfully, "Thank you very much, Master."

"I'll go gather the townsmen now!"

Lynn responded, watching Clive leave with large strides.

Waiting for Clive to gather the townsmen in the Lord's Square.

Lynn looked at the crowd before him.

His heart was somewhat moved.

It turns out the feeling of having abundant labor is like this.

Just randomly gathering a portion of townsmen, the number reaches two thousand five hundred!

And these two thousand five hundred townsmen are only a tenth of the total population of his territory!

Lynn didn't take to the stage to deliver an inspiring speech to these townsmen.

Instead, he instructed guards to call the foremen of the Blacksmith Workshop, Textile Workshop, Woodworker Workshop, and Bow and Arrow Workshop.

He instructed the four foremen a few words and had them take the townsmen to their respective workshops.

The Blacksmith Workshop and Textile Workshop took seven hundred people each.

The Woodworker Workshop and Bow and Arrow Workshop took five hundred fifty people each.

The distribution of two thousand five hundred laborers was completed.

Lynn's heart slightly relaxed.

Now what he needs to do.

Is to slowly wait for these laborers to produce more weapons, armor, and crossbow equipment for him.

With a thought, Lynn opened the "Heavenly Artifacts" panel.

[Construction: Level 3 (976/1000)] (+)

The Construction skill is only short of a few dozen points from leveling up to four.

Lynn didn't hesitate, stepping toward the farm outside the town.

One hundred and fifty wild boars have already been locked in the Mutated Wild Boar Farm, undergoing empowered breeding.

Next to the farm.

Jode was leading the construction workers to build the Pigeon Nest.

Lynn didn't waste any words and directly joined the construction team.

[Construction Experience +1]

[Construction Experience +1]

[Construction Experience +1]

...

Experience increased rapidly.

Until the afternoon.

A text panel appeared before Lynn.

[Your Construction leveled up to 4, unlocking: Profession System and Reassignment]

[Reward obtained: Special Promotion Book ×1]

Looking at the text panel before him, Lynn's eyebrows raised.

He was aware of the Profession System.

Production professions include Farmer, Miner, Craftsman, Woodcutter, Tailor, Chef, and others.

Combat professions include Cavalry, Infantry, Archer, and others.

But this "Profession System and Reassignment"...

With a thought, Lynn opened the "Heavenly Artifacts" panel to examine.

In the lower part of the interface, a new icon with a shield and flag crossed appeared.

Lynn directly opened it.

Suddenly, a row of character information boxes appeared before his eyes.

Lynn slightly furrowed his brows, scanning them.

After reviewing for a moment.

Lynn understood the function and purpose of the "Profession System and Reassignment."

Simply put.

He can use "Profession System and Reassignment" to assign townsmen to different professions.

For example, assigning a townsman to the "Farmer" profession.

He will gain an additional effect.

[Farmer]: Increases cultivation speed by 10%, increases crop yield by 10%

Other professions have different effects as well.

[Miner]: Increases mining speed by 10%, improves ore quality by 10%

[Craftsman]: ...

[Woodcutter]: ...

Looking at these lines of text information, Lynn's heart felt joyful.

At first glance.

A ten percent increase might not seem significant for individual labor.

However.

By conducting profession assignments, nearly twenty thousand townsmen can have additional enhancement effects.

It becomes different then.

Most importantly.

This is an additional effect!

He can still use ways to enhance townsmen's cultural level to further improve their technical level and production efficiency!

Chapter 868: Making You the Commander

Apart from the regular production professions.

There are also some special production skills.

For example, beekeeper, fisherman, hunter, etc.

Besides the production professions, combat professions are the same.

[Cavalry]: Attack and movement speed increased by 10%

[Infantry]: Defense increased by 10%

[Archer]: Accuracy and speed increased by 10%

Lynn discovered that in the [Profession System and Reassignment], there are currently only these three major categories for combat professions.

There are no professions like [Priest] for Old John, [Witch] for Sienna, or [Succubus] for Bell.

After scanning the panel.

Lynn closed it.

As for categorizing the professions of the townsmen in the territory, it can only be done at night or during free time.

It's daytime now, and he still has a lot of things to do and arrange.

Lynn's gaze turned to the [Special Class Promotion Book].

[Special Class Promotion Book]: Can transfer residents to other special classes (of the same race)

Looking at the yellowish-brown promotion book with only a few simple words, Lynn couldn't help but raise an eyebrow.

Other professions?

The only restriction is the same race?

Lynn instantly thought of something.

With a thought, he opened the [Resident Information Column] and clicked on Red's personal information panel.

Indeed.

On his information panel, a [Reassignment] option had appeared.

With a thought, Lynn clicked on [Reassignment].

Various reassignment options appeared before his eyes.

[Warrior]: Specializes in offense or defense, proficient in various weapons, balanced abilities, outstanding attack power and defense.

[Mage]: Weak in physical attack abilities, but can freely use a magic wand to cast magic of various attributes, unleashing powerful destructive force.

[Assassin]: Pursues speed and one-hit kills, adept at using various auxiliary techniques to carry out hit-and-run attacks with a swift and ghostly body technique.

[Priest]: Possesses various healing skills, can use holy power to restore the life of oneself and companions.

[Paladin]: Possesses high health and excellent sustained combat capability, with outstanding constitution.

[Ranger]: Wears light armor and crossbows, excels in sudden attacks, can simultaneously shoot multiple arrows to attack multiple enemies, and uses traps to prevent enemies from approaching, possessing excellent mobility.

...

Looking at the reassignment options before him, Lynn couldn't help but furrow his brow.

Even though beings like [Mage], [Priest], and [Paladin] are indeed extraordinary.

The professions the [Special Promotion Book] can reassign are somewhat different from what Lynn imagined.

But soon.

Lynn tossed aside his concerns.

The [Special Promotion Book] is just a skill upgrade, unlocking special functions, with attached rewards!

Like the previous [Memory Pearl], [Skill Duplication Book], and [Talent Duplication Book].

Each skill upgrade can earn one.

When he upgrades all nine skills to Level 4, he can obtain nine [Special Promotion Books]!

Apart from the existing extraordinary beings in the territory.

He can also cultivate nine more extraordinary beings!

The extraordinary beings in this world are not as powerful as imagined!

Just like Joao Frank he encountered before.

At a height of two meters, with a burly physique!

With his strength alone, he could barely be in the charge of a group of heavy cavalry.

Slashed down three heavy cavalry riders, both horse and rider!

But that was all.

Eventually.

Joao Frank still died under the winged spears of many heavy infantry!

Perhaps there are even more powerful extraordinary beings.

But from what he has seen and heard.

As long as there is enough armed force, extraordinary beings can also be slain!

Putting down the plastering knife and red brick house in his hand.

Lynn walked out of the [Pigeon Nest] under construction, standing on the outskirts, surveying the construction workers busying themselves.

The [Pigeon Nest] is not like the Wild Boar Farm, which occupies a large area.

It also requires making iron cages to prevent wild boars from jumping out of the pen.

The [Pigeon Nest] has a diameter of only five meters and a height of about ten meters.

With such dimensions, the [Pigeon Nest] can accommodate at least seven to eight hundred pigeons.

If large-scale production can be achieved, in addition to meeting the demand for pigeons, the pigeons raised can be a steady source of meat.

Pigeon meat is highly nutritious!

Rich in protein, various vitamins, and minerals.

There's even a saying that 'one pigeon exceeds six chickens.'

As Lynn observed, Jode stepped forward and came to him.

Jode bent slightly, saying respectfully, "Sir."

Lynn responded and asked, "According to the current construction progress, how long until the [Pigeon Nest] is completed?"

Upon hearing this, Jode pondered for a few seconds and responded, "Sir, it might take about ten days."

"The construction of the [Pigeon Nest] isn't particularly complex, but we need to build separate nests for each pigeon..."

Lynn nodded, "Complete the construction as soon as possible, and then you'll need to lead them to continue building the [Wolf's Den]."

Jode bent slightly, "Yes, Sir, I understand."

After instructing Jode with a few words.

Lynn walked out of the [Pigeon Nest] construction area.

Just as he arrived at the entrance of the ranch, Guy's respectful voice reached his ears.

"Sir, Sir."

Lynn turned his head to see Guy striding towards him.

Standing before him, Guy bent slightly again and said, "Sir."

Lynn nodded and asked, "Is there something you need?"

Guy smiled and began to explain.

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"Master, according to your previous instructions, I took the meat to the edge of the forest, intending to bring White Spirit Night back to the ranch."

"I roughly counted, and there are about twelve wild wolves following White Spirit Night!"

Lynn nodded again.

A pack with twelve wild wolves has already formed a scale.

Their attack capability is almost as strong as a small cavalry.

If left unchecked, their growth and expansion could even endanger some of his industries within the forest.

Guy continued, "The dozens of pounds of meat I brought were completely devoured by them."

"White Spirit Night is fine, it still remembers my appearance and smell and comes to my side."

"But the other wild wolves are very wary of me, even baring their teeth and growling."

"Trying to bring them all back will be very difficult."

Lynn replied, "Make many attempts while ensuring your own safety."

"If it really doesn't work, then proceed with hunting to capture them alive!"

The empowered breeding of wild wolves, like that of the forest pigs, requires a breeding cycle.

If taming is not achieved with meat.

Then the only option left is the use of a whip!

Upon receiving Lynn's affirmative instruction, Guy's worries disappeared.

He responded: "Yes, Master, I'll follow all your instructions."

Lynn continued to ask, "How is Old Simeon's family doing on the ranch?"

Without any hesitation, Guy immediately explained: "Master, I almost forgot to tell you."

"Old Simeon's family is indeed very impressive, especially in horse breeding."

"Particularly Old Simeon, he can tell what's wrong with each horse just at a glance."

"If I didn't have to manage the workers on the ranch every day and had enough time."

"Otherwise, I would've wanted to join their apprenticeship team myself..."

Lynn raised an eyebrow, "Alright, from today on, you can follow Old Simeon for horse breeding."

"I'll have someone else manage and handle the ranch!"

Guy's face froze immediately, and he shouted, "Huh?"

Seeing Lynn remain silent, he said mournfully, "Master, are you serious?"

Lynn looked directly at Guy and said calmly, "Isn't that what you wanted?"

Guy pursed his lips awkwardly and said, "I... was just joking..."

Seeing Lynn remain silent, Guy quickly added, "Well, Master Lynn, there are still some matters in the ranch that need my attention."

"I'll take my leave for now."

Without waiting for Lynn to speak, Guy rushed back into the ranch without looking back.

Watching Guy's back disappear around the corner.

Lynn withdrew his gaze and continued towards the town.

Previously, as the foreman of the ranch, with limited labor available.

He had to manage those with no breeding skills.

And personally tend to the breeding on the ranch.

Not to mention the smell of manure in the ranch.

Even if Guy didn't say it, he could imagine the workload.

But now.

Along with the newly assigned apprentices, the ranch workers numbered nearly a thousand.

As the foreman of the ranch, Guy only needs to assign tasks to the ranch workers and supervise their work.

Such work is naturally easier than many other jobs.

If Guy still didn't want it, he could agree to give Guy a more stable job.

Currently, there are many industries and workshops in the territory, offering many job positions.

Naturally.

There will be different work intensities between different positions.

Disparities will naturally exist when assigning jobs.

Not to mention other lords.

Even Lynn himself acknowledges, it's impossible to achieve absolute fairness!

However.

Fairness is relative!

No matter how intense the work in his territory's industries.

Could it be more intense than the labor they previously endured under other lords?

No matter how tiring the work is.

Could it be more exhausting than their previous labors?

The nine-to-five work schedule, even now.

In the future, it would still be difficult for others to achieve.

At the very least, a flexible work schedule will be implemented!

Suppressing his thoughts, Lynn passed through a large expanse of cultivated land and returned to the Lord's Square.

Seeing the time, it was only afternoon.

After pondering for a moment, Lynn headed into a nearby cafeteria.

Preparing to grind the experience of the Cooking skill.

After more than a year of exploration, he had found some tips for grinding skill experience.

Repeating the same labor for a long time only decreases his rate of gaining experience.

For example, during the construction of the Mutated Wild Boar Farm a few days ago.

His experience gain slowed significantly as he continued to lay bricks and build.

However, when he started constructing the Pigeon Nest.

The experience for the Construction skill began to increase rapidly again.

Not just the Construction skill.

The same applies to other skills.

For example, when he grinds the Cooking skill in the canteen kitchen.

By preparing different foods and employing various cooking processes, the rate of experience gain also increased significantly!

Under the gaze of over a hundred chefs, Lynn strode into the kitchen.

He approached a workstation where a chef was preparing ingredients and promptly dismissed the chef.

After washing his hands, Lynn picked up two kitchen knives placed nearby and began chopping a large piece of pork on the cutting board.

With both hands gripping the knife handles, Lynn's arms moved swiftly and rhythmically.

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The sharp edge of the polished kitchen knife continuously fell upon the pork.

It produced the constant 'pa pa' sound of the knife's blade hitting the pork, which then deformed and collided with the chopping board.

The technique was skilled, the arm motion seamless.

[Cooking Experience +1]

[Cooking Experience +1]

[Cooking Experience +1]

...

Bit by bit, the experience was rapidly increasing.

The nearly ten-pound piece of pork on the chopping board, from its initial block form, visibly turned into a paste-like consistency.

The previous 'pa pa' sound turned into a 'dong dong' noise of the knife blade penetrating the pork paste and hitting the chopping board.

Despite the overwhelming smell of oil and smoke permeating the entire kitchen.

Despite the anthracite burning in the stoves, with waves of heat flowing.

Lynn did not give up continuing to grind away at his [Cooking] skill experience.

A journey of a hundred miles begins with a single step.

The nine great skills he possessed had all reached Level 3.

To rise to Level 4 or 5, more experience was needed.

Only then could he unlock more functions and gain more rewards.

Grinding skills might seem tedious and monotonous.

However.

The feeling of seeing results for the effort one puts in can only be truly felt through personal experience.

Especially.

That state of immersing oneself completely in work, nearly shutting out everything around.

Made him extremely enjoy it.

Until evening came.

Lynn, covered in a layer of oil and smoke all over his body.

Walked out of the kitchen, out of the dining hall, under the puzzled and shocked gazes of the townsmen enjoying dinner.

These new townsmen to the territory never dreamed.

That the Lord they revered and admired would actually cook dinner for them!

It was unbelievably astonishing!

The townsmen who had been in the territory for some time had much calmer expressions.

Yet they still couldn't restrain themselves from casting admiring gazes at Lynn.

Lynn directly bypassed those gazes from the townsmen.

Just stepping out of the dining hall, a breeze with a comfortable coolness blew past.

Slightly easing the sticky and uncomfortable sweat on his body.

Lynn comfortably let out a breath of hot air.

Whether it was the chef in the dining hall or other positions, it was not as simple as imagined.

Now, due to the excessive number of townsmen, the dining hall had long started to implement shift meals.

That means.

The stoves in the entire dining hall kitchen had to continuously cook food from before dawn.

All the townsmen's breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

While townsmen ate in shifts.

Cooks in the kitchen also needed to work in shifts.

Otherwise.

No one could keep cooking from morning till night in the hot temperatures and thick smoke smell of the kitchen.

Sitting on a bench in the Lord's Square, resting for a while.

After drying the sweat on his body, he stepped on the path back to the castle.

The sky at this time had already begun to dim.

A day's time almost fleetingly passed!

Although for Lynn, it was just a day of grinding experience.

But for this territory.

It was another day of stable accumulation and development!

...

Nightfall descended.

Enveloping the entire sky and earth.

A group of cavalry, wearing chest armor marked with a gold-bottom black-crowned lion emblem, rode into the city gate, entering the city.

"Hyah hyah hyah~"

"Get out of the way!"

"Get out of the way!"

"Get out of the way quickly..."

Under the hoarse urging shouts.

Groups of residents' expressions changed dramatically, hurriedly dispersing.

To avoid the charging and reckless heavy cavalry charge.

Some, due to excessive panic, stumbled and fell, letting out cries of fear.

This group of cavalry did not slow their speed because of this.

Instead, continued galloping past.

Where the heavy cavalry passed, there was chaos, residents voiced their complaints.

But that was all they could do.

They clearly saw and knew.

That group of heavy cavalry wearing standard armor came from the Ducas Clan!

The Ducas Clan, Marquis Duca, was their lord!

Not until more than a dozen minutes passed.

The heavy cavalry troop moved away, and the once noisy street returned to normal.

Those needing to make a living at night resumed their work.

As ordinary residents, they could only cling to the lord's side, eking out a living.

They had long become accustomed to such a life.

Passing through the outer city, after entering the inner city, the cavalry squad slowed down considerably.

Until they arrived at the gates of the Marquis's Castle.

After some exchange with the guard at the gate.

The cavalry squad leader in front dismounted from the horse.

Under the guidance of the guard, running through the castle corridors in quick steps.

Some patrol soldiers responsible for castle security.

Just glanced at the cavalry squad leader being led and chose to ignore it.

They knew he was a messenger cavalry from Triumph City!

After turning through corridor after corridor and corner after corner.

Finally.

The messenger cavalry stood before the large double doors guarded by four sword and shield soldiers.

The messenger cavalry took out the letter from his chest, explaining to the guards at the door.

"Marquis, His Highness Mitchell has an urgent report!"

The sword and shield soldier guards at the door looked at the letter in his hands without saying a word.

One of them strode forward, took the letter from the messenger cavalry's hands, and walked towards the door.

After delivering the letter, the messenger cavalry finally retreated, panting heavily.