

Through Time And Space With Ferdinand Feghoot: XLIX

Ferdinand Feghoot not only shared the hardships of General Washington's soldiers at Valley Forge, but he managed to protect his fellow Time Watcher, Coop-Major Leghorn Gallinorum, from their hunger. Feghoot was disguised as a volunteer Neapolitan officer; the Coop-Major, a telepathic mutant rooster from the 43rd Century, as a gamecock. They were watching for a British sympathizer who, along that time-line, was due to make an attempt on Washington's life.

Finally, late in February, Baron von Steuben summoned Feghoot excitedly. "Ach!" he cried out. "In der bones I haff der stranche feeling—Vashington iss in dancher!"

Responding immediately, Feghoot's colleague began searching the area where the Baron felt especially uneasy, and very promptly he discovered the culprit, cunningly hidden in an old cider press.

When the man had been led off to court-martial, they settled down to their evening meal of boiled boot-tops and birchbark; and von Steuben, looking hungrily at the Coop-Major and licking his chops, sighed that there was nothing he missed as much as old-fashioned Italian cooking. "Donnerwetter!" he exclaimed. "I would giff anything for pollo al burro, pollo con funghi, for chust plain pollol!"

"My dear Baron," laughed Ferdinand Feghoot, "have you forgotten your calories, your cholesterol? Don't you realize that you just had a first-rate chicken catch a Tory?"

—GRENDAL BRIARTON (*with thanks to Robert E. Spenger*)