

Rob Cleverdale's Adventure.

By Seward W. Hopkins.

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CHAPTER IX.—(Continued.)

The unloading began at once, and Captain Elvin took from the hand of Torrovo the tally Rob had made in Brazil.

He looked at it with a keen scrutiny, then his sharp eyes searched Torrovo's face. But he said nothing then.

Rob was compelled by Torrovo to do his part in the unloading the same as before, but this time Torrovo did not beat him. Somewhere, deep down in that outlaw's heart, there was a tender spot, and Rob had found it.

When the cargo was all safely stowed away in the cave, the very dampness of which made Rob shudder at the memory of his former experience, Captain Elvin called Torrovo one side.

"Who wrote this?" he asked, thrusting the paper under Torrovo's nose.

"Why?" asked Torrovo, to gain time. He did not know what was coming.

"Because I want to know," answered Elvin. "This is not your writing. There is not one of your gang that can write like this. Who did it?"

"My nephew," said Torrovo, holding himself up proudly, as if to let Elvin see that there were educated people in his family, and he was proud of the fact. "When we loaded at Rio I was ill. I could not take the tally, and I set my nephew at it. He did it very well, as you see."

"Very well, indeed. And what is the name of this nephew of yours?"

"Ricardo Torrovo—the same as my own."

"M. M. He does not look like you. Where did he get his light complexion?"

"From his mother, Senor Captain. She was an American lady."

"M. M. And how does he stand? Is he with us? Can he be trusted?"

"With our lives. That boy is true as steel. Oh, you need not fear him."



THEY TRAVELED SEVERAL MILES.

"What's the matter?" he asked. "Are you played out?"

"Yes, captain," said Rob. "I walked fast after your horse."

"Well, go rest yourself. Tomorrow you will have plenty of work."

The plan of the house was commodious, even though it was but one story high. Rob was shown to a comfortable room, in which was a bed and other necessities, and even luxuries, of a bedroom. This room opened off from a larger one, which seemed to be a sort of library or office. There were other rooms like Rob's, all arranged on two sides of a great hall. Three only opened from the office.

Rob was not slow in obeying the captain, and after bathing his aching limbs with cool water he went to bed. He was weary enough to sleep, notwithstanding the new dangers that confronted him. And he did fall asleep and remained in a doze for several hours. He awoke some time in the night, hearing voices outside in the office. The light of the moon came in through the one window of his room, and Rob was enabled to see. He lay there without trying to listen, but suddenly became aware that a voice he knew was speaking. It was Lemuel Starne.

"Yes," Starne was saying. "It was a lucky thing for me I got rid of that American cub when I did. Why, if he had ever reached old Horton, it would have been all up with me. And just as I am getting on so well, too. I have gained the old man's confidence, and am well on to that of the girl's. It would be a fine thing, after I work up my case, ingratiate myself with Horton and marry Elsie, to have the old fool leave his wealth to that young cub and leave me out in the cold. No, no. If I win any, I must win all. Some day old Horton will die, and then we shall control the wealth of South America. It was a most fortunate thing that I heard of his coming. It enabled me to meet him at Rio and chuck him overboard."

"What did Horton say about it?" asked Elvin.

"Oh, he was stricken with grief. But that will wear off. Elsie, the little fool, is crying yet. And she never saw the

cub. Well, I'll take that out of her."

"Are you sure no one suspected you?"

Starne laughed harshly.

"Suspect me? Why, I was the most grief-stricken of the lot. When I reported the thing to the captain of the steamer I could scarcely control myself for weeping. And I've been assuaging Elsie's grief and comforting the old man ever since."

"When you are his son-in-law you can do it better."

"Oh! worlds better."

Both laughed.

Rob lay quietly listening to this diabolical conversation. It made the mystery clear to him at last. Starne was trying to win the hand of his cousin Elsie, to get David Horton's fortune. And he wanted it all. That was the reason he threw Rob overboard—to get him out of the way and leave the path clear for his own plots and plans. Rob clenched his fists and shook with rage at this shameful story. Then fear overcame the rage, and he trembled with apprehension. Truly, he was in a bad fix now. In the very house with his enemy. Oh! if Starne would only leave before morning.

"What about the letters?" asked Starne, after a few moments of silence, in which Rob could distinguish the clinking of glasses.

"I suppose you came to write them," answered Elvin.

"Yes."

"Well, I have done better than that. It seems that Torrovo had a nephew with him who was educated in New York. He wrote the tally of the last cargo, and did it so well that I brought him here to write the letters. The plans are ripe now, and we must hurry."

"True enough. But was it safe to bring a stranger into it?"

"He is only a boy. And at any rate it was safer than for you to write them. You must not be known in the thing at all. There is always the possibility of failure, and if the revolution does not succeed, then you will have Horton's money to fall back on. You must not be known even as my son. I would advise you not to come here again, unless something important brings you."

"Just as you say. Had I better stay tonight?"

"No. Get back before daylight, and no questions will be asked. Don't run any risks. The stake you are playing for is worth all the caution you can use. Horton must be worth twenty millions."

"Forty, if a cent. And it will all be mine some day, and a lovely bride in the bargain."

"Well, be careful. I will have the notices sent out in cipher tomorrow, and by the following day the first steps will be taken to overthrow this hateful government."

"Hateful! I should say so."

Rob could now hear the preparations for departure, and soon a horse passed his window. Lemuel bade his father goodnight and rode away.

"I'll show them how to write letters tomorrow," said Rob to himself, as he clenched his fists again. "Perhaps Mr. Lemuel Elvin Starne won't come out so big as he thinks he will. Oh! wasn't it lucky that Torrovo made me write that tally? Now I can save my uncle and Elsie from the worst villain that ever lived."

It looked so easy to Rob. But there were difficulties of which he was entirely ignorant—difficulties that would blanch his cheek and make his heart almost stop beating when he learned them.

But at least his resolution was good, and proved the nobility of his soul.

(To be continued.)

AMERICAN PROSPERITY

Developed by Broad-Minded Policy of the Republican Party.

HOW OUR PRODUCTS GO ABROAD.

Through a Wonderfully Developing Trade that is Being Built Up the People of This Country are Reaping Great Prosperity—What the Republican Policy Has Brought About.

The rivalry between the great Atlantic and Gulf exports of the United States regarding their relative share in the exportation of the products of the country lends interest to a series of statements just completed by the Treasury Bureau of Statistics, showing the exports of corn, wheat, and flour from the United States and from these ports during the calendar years 1899 compared with preceding years.

The figures, it should be premised, show a falling off in exportation of wheat in 1899 as compared with 1898 which was an abnormally heavy year; the corn exports of 1899 are about the same as those of 1898, but greatly in excess of any preceding years, while the flour exports of 1899 are slightly larger than those of any preceding year, being 18,900,000 barrels, against 15,569,394 in 1898 and 17,408,713 barrels in 1897.

Exports of corn have grown steadily during the decade, starting with \$6 million bushels in 1890 and ending with 297 million bushels in 1899, the growth having been steadily upward and no preceding year equaling the figures of 1898 and 1899. In wheat there has been a much greater fluctuation, the years 1891 and 1892 showing an exportation of nearly 139 million bushels each, 1894 and 1895 dropping to about one-half that quantity, while 1898 made the highest record of our exportations with 149,245,685 bushels, 1899 again dropping to about the normal or average amount with 111 million bushels. Flour has steadily increased, the exports of 1899 being 11,319,456 barrels and those of 1899, 18,900,000, an increase of over 50 per cent.

	Corn, bus.	Wheat, bus.	Flour, bbls.
1899	343,220	49,373,280	11,319,456
1898	292,600,595	150,638,334	13,025,692
1897	274,171,179	125,518,441	17,408,713
1896	25,142,918	108,377,249	16,449,093
1895	41,596,711	12,323,391	15,466,259
1894	41,596,711	66,801,686	14,528,761
1893	121,960,539	82,755,829	15,555,825
1892	139,127,573	109,509,228	13,296,539
1891	272,599,531	142,235,683	16,393,934
1890	207,890,039	111,000,000	18,900,000

The analysis of the movement of exports by ports shows that in the exports of corn several of the great ports on the Atlantic and Gulf are gaining upon New York and that the movement from the grain fields toward the seaboard is apparently being more generally distributed than formerly. The exports of corn, for instance, from the port of New York increased from 13½ million to 40 million bushels between 1893 and 1899, an increase of 200 per cent, while those from Boston increased from 5½ million to 17½ million; those from Philadelphia, from 4 million to 29 million; Baltimore, from 7½ million to 46 million; New Orleans, from 6½ million to 22 million, while Newport News and Galveston, for which the record begins with 1895, show for Newport News an increase from 4½ million in 1895 to 14 million in 1899, and Galveston from 1½ million in 1895 to 7 million in 1899. Thus Philadelphia, Baltimore, Newport News, New Orleans, and Galveston show a much larger percentage of growth in their exports of corn than does New York or Boston.

In wheat exportations Boston has made greater gains than any other Atlantic port, the total having grown from 2,324,125 bushels in 1893 to 11,567,847 in 1899, while at New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and New Orleans the figures for 1899 are in each case actually less than in 1893, the figures for New York being 36,457,499 bushels in 1893 and 26,830,388 in 1899; Philadelphia, 5,957,293 bushels in 1893 and 4,019,927 in 1899; Baltimore, 13,048,702 bushels in 1893 and 9,549,270 in 1899; and New Orleans, 1,806,734 bushels in 1893 and 11,562,812 in 1899; Galveston however shows a marked gain, the figures for 1899 being 3,438,369 bushels and those of 1893, 15,713,400. Prior to 1896 the wheat exportations from Galveston were small, seldom reaching 1 million bushels, but in 1896 they amounted to 3,438,369 bushels and have steadily grown until, as already indicated, they were in 1899, 15,713,400 bushels, in spite of the fact that the total exports of wheat from the United States in 1899 were materially below those of the preceding year.

In flour also the drift appears to be away from New York, whose exports of flour in 1893 were 6,448,931 barrels, and in 1899 4,741,035, while Philadelphia, Baltimore, Newport News, Norfolk, New Orleans, and Galveston show more or less increases in 1899 as compared with 1893.

These figures show that in the movement of grain the west is being substantially benefited, as new and shorter lines are opened, we are able to get the benefit of better markets and obtain a larger per cent of the benefits which accrue to the people of the United States from our increased exports. Policies of government have much to do with the material prosperity of the people, and the broad-minded policy of the republican party is wonderfully developing trade and the people get the benefit.

A STRANGE ROMANCE.

That Connects New York of To-Day With Egypt of 3,000 Years Ago.

A strange romance of history, connecting one of the oldest of lands and civilizations with the youngest of great nations and the most advanced system of government, finds its setting in New York. Three thousand years ago Egypt was one day thrown into a state of excitement by the birth, at the imperial palace, of a princess of the royal line. Not alone was there rejoicing at the advent into the world of a future queen, but the father of the infant, the great Thothmes III., caused to be begun the hewing of an immense obelisk out of solid rock to commemorate the event. Years went by and the maiden blossomed into beautiful womanhood, while the obelisk was being worked upon by hundreds of skilled toilers. When it was at last finished and set up before the royal palace at Heliopolis she spent days in watching the strange hieroglyphics being cut upon it. Nearly all that we know of the history of the world has occurred since then, and yet today, after a lapse of thirty centuries, the body of that Egyptian princess, perfectly preserved, lies in state in the museum in Central Park, and not 200 feet away stands the hoary obelisk as if keeping guard over her remains. Thousands of miles from their former home, these reminders of the glory of dynasties now but a half-forgotten tradition of the remote past are strangely reunited. The obelisk is generally known as "Cleopatra's needle," while the mummy of the princess, whose name was Nefereyt, rests on a sarcophagus in the museum.

Not in His Line.

"So your neck pains you?" said the physician. "Yes, terribly," wailed the patient. "Sorry, sir, but I can't help you. I'm not a specialist in rubber."

—Detroit Free Press.

It is said that worry kills more people than work—probably because more people worry than work.

Lawton's Last Words.

Just before the day of his death General Lawton wrote to a friend: "If I am shot by a Filipino bullet it might as well come from one of my own men, because I know from observations, confirmed by captured prisoners, that the continuance of fighting is chiefly due to reports sent out from America."

ORIENTAL TRADE INCREASING.

Business that is Being Fostered by Wise Republican Management.

Secretary of Agriculture Wilson in an interview the other day said:

"Anything produced in the United States will now permanently find its way into all parts of the celestial empire. Our trade relations there in the future are secured. The trade in cotton goods has been very heavy in Manchuria and other northern provinces. Our interests generally, our dairy, poultry and other products from the farms of the United States, now have assurance of permanent markets in all the provinces throughout the Chinese empire where such things are in demand, and this demand is growing and will continue to grow.

"The work of Secretary Hay in this regard supplements and complements the work of our army and navy. A year ago no nation would have listened to a proposition of this kind, (the open door policy), but the whole world listens to the United States now. The 'white man's burden' came with the islands. Secretary Hay's work brings the reward for lifting the burden. Some idea of the vastness of the interests involved may be gained from the fact that while ten years ago our exports from the Pacific coast to all countries aggregated \$26,000,000, and five years ago \$42,000,000, the steady increase in Pacific coast exports has raised the aggregate to \$73,000,000 a year ago."

Letter from Gen. Wheeler.

Sends Sample of Cotton Grown in Philippines—Regards Insurrection Over.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Jan. 13.—A local cotton firm has received a letter from General Joe Wheeler, now in the Philippines, enclosing a sample of the cotton grown there. General Wheeler says very little cotton is grown in the Philippines and most of the cotton grown in Manila comes from the United States.

General Wheeler says:

"I regard the insurrection as substantially over. Had it not been for the action of those who are called anti-imperialists in the United States who had deluded Aguinaldo into the idea that they would secure him independence it would have been over some time ago.

"The president of the Filipino congress, Senor Boutista, is at this place. He tells me that the congress and cabinet are dispersed and Aguinaldo is a fugitive, and this information we have had from several other sources. These islands are very rich and are charmingly delightful. All they require is a good, honest government. It will be a very great advantage to the United States to have our mercantile depots so near the vast population of eastern Asia."

Reversible Lutescence.

In a recent interview at Minneapolis, Mr. Bryan said: "I am a firm believer in the enlargement and extension of the limits of the republic. I do not mean by that the extension by the addition of contiguous territory, nor to limit myself to that. Wherever there is a people intelligent enough to form a part of this republic it is my belief that they should be taken in. Wherever there is a people who are capable of having a voice and a representation in this government, there the limits of the republic may be extended.

"The Filipinos are not such people. The democratic party has ever favored the extension of the limits of this republic, but it has never advocated the acquisition of subject territory, to be held under colonial government."

One day advocating expansion; the next day talking against it. In one city praising the Tagalogs as patriotic men perfectly capable of self-government and lauding Aguinaldo as a "George Washington;" at the next stopping place denouncing the Filipinos as unfit to become citizens. If Mr. Bryan were president the people might expect a new policy every morning for breakfast.

Prosperity's High Tide.

The high tide under republican control was reached in 1882, when the receipts exceeded the expenditures by \$145,543,000. In 1893, when the demerits again gained control, the excess shrunk to \$2,341,673.29, and in 1894 the expenditures exceeded the receipts by \$69,893,960, although, as in 1858, it was a time of peace. In 1894 the total revenue was \$297,000,000, as compared with \$403,000,000 in 1892, and the same amount in 1890. The receipts for customs in 1894 amounted to \$131,813,130, as compared with \$220,410,730 in 1882, and \$229,668,584 in 1890.

In the fiscal year of 1899, which ended June 30, 1899, the receipts for customs amounted to \$206,128,481, internal revenue \$273,437,161, and the total revenue reached \$515,960,620.18. The difference between 1899 and 1894, is not due to the internal revenue or "war tax," as the internal revenue in 1894 amounted to \$147,111,232.81.

Cotton and Gold.

The world's output of gold in 1898 was \$287,428,600, and that in the United States was \$64,463,000. The value of the cotton crop in the United States, that is, the raw cotton, in 1894, was \$319,491,412. The cotton crop in the United States is therefore 11 per cent greater than the gold output of the world, and five times as great as the gold output of the United States.

To this great value, however, we must add the value of the seed products and we have a total something like three hundred and sixty millions of dollars. But the grand total is not yet reached, for we are working 17,570,000 spindles in the United States in making cotton cloth. The output of these, minus the cost of the raw cotton consumed, must be added before we have the grand total of the value of the product and of the industry to the people.—Ainslie's Magazine.

Prosperity Expansion in Gage.

During the year 1899, the farm mortgages released in Gage county exceeded those filed by just \$165,303. There was a reduction of \$99,710 in the town and city mortgages, making a total real estate debt reduction of \$265,613.

The Public Debt Decreasing.

On New Year's day the national debt, less cash in the treasury, was \$1,134,300,007, a reduction for the month of December of \$7,790,824. The debt-bearing noninterest was \$259,914,640.

America leads the world in the iron industry, there having been an increase in the production of pig iron of nearly three million tons, comparing 1899 with 1898. The production of the leading countries for the year was as follows:

United States	14,000,000
Germany	8,250,000
United Kingdom	9,500,000
France	5,500,000
Belgium	2,760,000
Sweden	1,200,000
Austria	550,000
This is the business which was ridiculed by the free traders only a few years ago.	