

Mildred Trevanion

BY THE DUCHESS.

CHAPTER II.

The eventful Friday at length arrived, and with it the unwelcome Younges. They came by the late train, which enabled them to reach King's Abbott just one hour before the dinner bell rang, and so gave them sufficient time to dress. Sir George met them warmly, feeling some old, half-forgotten sensations cropping up within his heart as he grasped between his own hands the hard, brown one of his clement school friend. The old man he now met, however, was widely different from the fair-haired boy and light active youth he could just barely remember both at Eton and Oxford. Indeed, Mr. Young, oddly enough, did strangely resemble the fanciful picture drawn of him by Miss Trevanion, being fat, "pussy," jolly, and altogether decidedly after the style of the farming gentry.

But, however right about him, Miss Trevanion's prognostications with regard to the others were entirely wrong. Mrs. Young, far from being fat, red and cookish, was remarkably slight, fragile, and very lady-like in appearance. Her daughter, Miss Rachel, though lacking her gentle expression and the quiet air of self-possession that sat so pleasantly on her.

But in her description of Denzil Miss Trevanion had been very much at fault indeed. Any one more unlike a "boor" could not be well imagined. Denzil Young was a very handsome young man. Tall, fair and distinguished looking, with just the faintest resemblance to his mother, he might have taken his place with honor in any society in Christendom. He wore neither beard nor whiskers, simply a heavy, golden moustache, which covered, but scarcely concealed, the almost feminine sweetness of his mouth.

Miss Trevanion, having made up her mind that there would be plenty of time just before dinner to get through the introductions, stayed in her own room until exactly five minutes to seven o'clock, the usual hour for dining at King's Abbott, when she swept downstairs and into the drawing room in her beautiful, graceful fashion, clad in pure white from head to foot, with the exception of a single scarlet rose, fresh from the conservatory, in the middle of her golden hair. And certainly Mildred looked as exquisite a creature that evening, as she walked up the long drawing room to where her father was standing, as any one could wish to see.

"This is my eldest daughter—unmarried," said Sir George, evidently with great pride, taking the girl's hand and presenting her to his guest, who had been gazing at her with open, honest admiration ever since her entrance.

"Is it indeed?" the old man answered; and then he met her with both hands extended, and, looking kindly at her, declared out loud, for the benefit of the assembled company, "She is the bonniest lass I have seen for many a day."

At this Mabel laughed out loud, merrily, without even an attempt at the concealment of her amusement, to Lady Caroline's intense horror and old Young's intense delight. He turned to Mabel instantly.

"You like to hear your sister admired?" he said.

And Mabel answered:

"Yes, always, when the admiration is sincere—as in your case—because I, too, think she is the bonniest lass in all the world."

"Right, right!" cried old Young, approvingly; and these two became friends on the spot, the girl chattering to him pleasantly the greater part of the evening afterward, although the old man's eyes followed Mildred's rather haughty movements with more earnest attention than he bestowed upon those of her more light-hearted sister.

Miss Trevanion, when Mr. Young had called her a "bonny lass," merely flushed a little and flashed a quick glance toward her mother which said plainly, "There, did I not tell you so—Yorkshire farmer, pure and simple, and all that?" and moved on to be introduced to the other members of the unwelcome family. She could not forget, even for a moment, how intrusive their visit was, and how unpleasant in every sense of the word. She was only three or four years Mabel's senior, but in mind and feeling she might, so to speak, have been her mother. When she remembered how Eddie always required money, and how difficult they found it to send Charles regularly his allowance and still to keep up the old respectable appearance in the county, she almost hated the newcomers for the expenses their coming would entail.

Miss Trevanion raised her head half an inch higher, and went through her inclinations to the others with a mixture of grace and extreme hauteur that made her appear even more than commonly lovely, and caused Denzil Young to lose his place in the languid conversation he had been holding with Eddie Trevanion. She had not so much as deigned to raise her eyes when bowing to him, so he had been fully at liberty to make free use of his own, and he decided, without hesitation, that nothing in the wide earth could be more exquisite than this girl who he could not fail to see treated them all with open coolness.

He took her in to dinner presently, but not until soup had been removed

Was she really as worthless as she declared herself to be? Could those handsome, cold blue eyes and faultless features never soften into tenderness and womanly feeling?

He quite forgot how earnestly he was gazing until Miss Trevanion raised her eyes, and meeting his steady stare, blushed warmly—angrily. He recollected himself then, and the admiration his look must have conveyed, and colored almost as deeply as she had.

"I beg your pardon," he said, quietly; "do not think me rude, but I am strangely forgetful at times, and was just then wondering whether you really meant all you said."

"Do not wonder any longer then," she retorted, still resenting the expression of his eyes, "as I did perfectly mean what I said. I detest with all my heart boors and ill-bred people, and parvenus, and want of birth generally."

And then Lady Caroline made the usual mysterious sign, and they all rose to leave the room, and Miss Trevanion became conscious that she had made a cruelly rude speech.

She felt rather guilty and disinclined for conversation when she had reached the drawing room; so she sat down and tried to find excuses for her conduct in the remembrance of that last unwarrantable glance he had bestowed upon her. A man should be taught manners if he did not possess them; and the idea of his turning deliberately to stare at her—Mildred Trevanion—publicly, was more than any woman could endure. So she argued, endeavoring to persuade her conscience—but unsuccessfully—that her un courteous remark had been justly provoked, and then Mabel came over and sat down beside her.

"I liked your man at dinner very much," she said; "at least what I could see of him."

"He seemed to like you very much, at all events," Mildred returned; "he watched your retreating figure just now as though he had never before seen a pretty girl or a white-worked grenadier."

"He is awfully handsome," went on Mabel, who always indulged in the strongest terms of speech.

"He is good-looking."

"More than that; he is as rich as Croesus, I am told."

"What a good thing for the young woman who gets him," Miss Trevanion remarked, and smiled down a yawn very happily indeed.

"Look here, Mildred; you may just as well begin by being civil to him," counseled Mabel, wisely, "because, as he is going to inhabit the same house as yourself for the next six weeks or so, it will be better for you to put up with him quietly. You were looking all through dinner as though you were bored to death—and, after all, what good can that do?"

"I rather think you will have the doing of the civility," observed Miss Trevanion, "as he is evidently greatly struck by your numerous charms."

"I shouldn't mind it in the least, if he can talk plenty of nonsense, and look as he looked at dinner," Mabel returned. "There is always something so interesting about a superlatively rich man, don't you think?"

"Not when the rich man owns to cotton."

"Why not? Cotton is a nice clean thing, I should fancy; and money is money, however procured. I am a thoroughly unbiased person, thank heaven, and a warm admirer of honest industry."

"You had better marry Mr. Young, then, and you will be able to admire the fruits of it from this day until your death," Mildred said.

"Not at all a bad idea," returned "the queen"; "thanks for the suggestion. I shall certainly think about it. If I like him sufficiently well on a nearer acquaintance, and if he is good enough to ask me, I will positively go and help him to squander that cotton money."

(To be continued.)

Pictureque Old Castle.

Tourists who wish to see the castle which Victor Cherbuliez, the famous French academical, has pictured in one of the most popular novels, "Paule Mere," ought to visit Fossard. An electric train runs from Geneva to Chene. Thence it is only a few minutes' walk through a shady lane to the Chateau des Terreaux, situated on the border of the little river which separates Switzerland from France. The old building is highly pictureque. Nothing has been changed since the celebrated author wrote the description. At sunset the mountain is a mass of changing color, and visitors are subject to a spell which will prevent them from ever forgetting the little hamlet of Fossard and its castle.—Philip Jamin in Chicago Record.

Easter in the New Century.

In the century just begun there will be 5,217 Sundays. In that which we have hardly yet learned to speak of as last Easter Sunday has occurred once on its earliest possible date—March 22, 1818—but this will not recur till the twenty-third century. The earliest Easter in the new century will fall once on its latest day—April 25, 1943. This also occurred once in May, but on three occasions in the past century it occurred in June, and in the new century this will happen four times.

How Niagara Is Receding.

The falls of Niagara eat back the cliff at the rate of about one foot a year. In this way a deep cleft has been cut right back from Queenstown for a distance of seven miles to the place where the falls now are. At this rate it has taken more than 35,000 years for the seven-mile channel to be made.

NATIONS ARE ALARMED

Russia's Course in Manchuria Rouses United States and England.

BOTH DECIDE TO ACT AT ONCE

Ambassadors Are Instructed to Ascertain the Sentiment of Others—Propose to Startle the Czar with a United and Menacing Front.

LONDON, March 9.—A crisis has arisen in far eastern affairs, which in the opinion of the British government is graver almost than the troubles which originally turned the eyes of the world to the Orient. In this crisis, secret negotiations are going on between the United States and Great Britain with a view to thwarting what both governments appear to consider a determined attempt on the part of Russia to plant herself permanently in one of the richest tracts of the Chinese empire.

The conference held Wednesday between United States Ambassador Choate and Lord Lansdowne, the foreign secretary, had nothing to do with the Nicaraguan canal affair. To quote from a British official, "the Nicaraguan controversy is a minor matter compared with the present situation." What Mr. Choate did was to receive from Lord Lansdowne an important message declaring that Great Britain was not satisfied with Russia's declaration regarding Manchuria as delivered to Sir Charles Stewart Scott, British ambassador at St. Petersburg, by Count Lamsdorf, and asking the United States if they were prepared to take joint action of such a decisive nature that Russia would have no alternative but to recede from her position.

Almost simultaneously, the United States government instructed the various ambassadors to take similar steps.

The answer of Secretary Hay has apparently not yet been received in London, although the fact that almost concurrent instructions were issued from Washington is taken here to be a sufficient guaranty that Russia's action in Manchuria will not be tolerated by the United States.

Japan is relied upon to act in line with Great Britain and the United States. Germany, despite the compact, is regarded as rather doubtful, owing to Emperor William's friendship for the czar. France, of course, will side with her ally.

The significance of the present phase can only be appreciated by those cognizant of the lethargic attitude of the British government hitherto regarding Russian action in China. Within the last few days all this has changed. What, a week or two ago, was pronounced only in line with Russia's usual policy is now termed a "grave and serious state of affairs."

Lord Lansdowne is using every effort to bring the powers into line in order to present Russia such a menacing front that without any ambiguity regarding temporary or other occupation, she may give up all designs upon Manchuria.

What prompts the British Foreign office to take such an alarmist view of circumstances usually looked upon as fatalistic sequences is the apprehension that Russia, having held her own in spite of the protest of the ministers of the powers to the Chinese government, and having put herself on record in the reply to Sir Charles Scott as determined on at least a temporary occupation of Manchuria, will refuse to back down. That she must do so, Lord Lansdowne considers vital, both for the future of China and for the continued existence of the concert powers.

Count Lamsdorf's reply to Sir Charles Scott is considered quite unsatisfactory.

"If such excuses are accepted by the powers," said a British official last evening to a representative of the Associated Press, "there will be nothing to prevent the immediate partition of China, for with almost exactly the same verbiage any European power could justify the occupation of other provinces."

Will Build the Nebraska.

WASHINGTON, March 9.—Mr. Payson, representing the Moran Bros. of Seattle, Wash., today signed at the navy department the contract for the construction by that firm of the battleship Nebraska.

HARRISON A VERY SICK MAN.

Closest Friends Much Alarmed on Account of His Advanced Age.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., March 9.—Ev- President Benjamin Harrison is a very sick man and his closest friends are alarmed. His condition is more serious than is generally believed.

However, Dr. Henry Jameson, the family physician, said tonight that there was no immediate danger, and, in fact, he was not at all alarmed, he said, as to the outcome. Asked if the age of General Harrison would not weigh very much against his recovery, the doctor said such would naturally be the case to a certain extent, but he declined to discuss the matter further than to say that he was not at all alarmed over the condition of the patient.

General Harrison is troubled with a complication of grip and intercostal neuralgia, and there is some fear that this will develop into pneumonia.

Confirmations by the Senate.

WASHINGTON, March 9.—The senate confirmed the following nominations: Thomas Werthington, attorney for the southern district of Illinois; J. Otis Humphrey, district judge for the southern district of Illinois; James L. McIntosh, jr., receiver of public moneys at Sidney, Neb. The senate also confirmed all of the nominations sent to it by the president today, except the members of the board of visitors to the naval observatory.

CUBAN CRISIS IS PASSED

Nothing in the Nature of an Uprising Is Feared Any Longer.

HAVANA, March 8.—The Cuban constitutional convention met in secret session this afternoon for a formal discussion of the Platt amendment. The conservative element scored a victory. It was decided to continue the sessions of the convention and to refer the amendment to the special committee on relations, with instructions to bring in a report.

Twenty-nine delegates were present. Senator Llorente and General Rivera being the only absentees. General Sangullily favored dissolving the convention and returning the amendment without discussion. The other delegates were unanimously in favor of continuing the sessions and of sending some answer to the executive department.

The argument turned on the question whether the convention had power to adopt a scheme of relations that would be binding upon the future republic. Last week a majority of the delegates opposed this view. Today Senator Nunez, representing the conservatives, argued that the delegates were empowered to call for the convention to establish permanent relations with the United States, and ought not to attempt to shirk this duty. General Sangullily contended that the intention of the original call was annulled by Governor General Wood's instructions at the opening of the convention, when delegates were asked to give only an opinion. The radical element did not flock to General Sangullily, as had been expected, and the convention's action in referring the question to the special committee on relations shows a willingness to recede from the former attitude.

It is evident that many of the delegates still hope the amendment will be changed, but there is no bitter feeling now apparent. It is doubtful whether the convention will ever agree to accept the amendment, but the conservatives maintain that the willingness of the radicals to discuss and, if necessary, to send a committee to Washington, gives a more hopeful aspect to conditions which were growing strained.

BENJAMIN HARRISON IS ILL

Physician Declines to Say Whether Grip Is the Only Trouble.

CHICAGO, March 8.—A special to the Times-Herald from Indianapolis, Ind., says: General Benjamin Harrison is very sick at his residence on North Delaware street. His physician refuses to discuss his case without permission from the family and this was refused by Mrs. Harrison this evening. She said the general is suffering from the grip, but his condition was not considered alarming. When asked if the patient was suffering from any complication of his disease, and particularly as to bronchial affection, Dr. Henry Jameson, who was with General Harrison for more than an hour this evening, refused to answer.

Judge Telford Will Not Resign.

CRESTON, March 9.—Judge W. H. Telford in a letter to the Advertiser asks the editor to deny the report circulated by a Des Moines paper that he intended to resign. Judge Telford says he has had no thought of resigning and that the state of his health is not so critical that he considers his retirement necessary. In Union county Judge Telford is very popular and the news that he will not resign is received with satisfaction.

Rockhill Ordered to Buy.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—The executive and consular appropriation bill has placed at the disposal of the State department a sum of money for the acquisition by purchase of legation premises for the United States legation at Pekin. Therefore, Secretary Hay has instructed Special Commissioner Rockhill that he is permitted to proceed immediately to consummate the purchase of a suitable tract of land.

Wins Against Mrs. Nation.

TOPEKA, Kan., March 7.—Several months ago Mrs. Carrie Nation, in a street speech at Medicine Lodge, stated that Samuel Griffin, county attorney of Barber county, was granting the saloon keepers of Kiowa immunity from prosecution for money consideration.

"They are giving \$15 a month," she is quoted as saying, "and I have witnesses to prove it."

Question Allen's Presence.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—Senator Allen's name is still carried on the rolls as a senator from Nebraska and it is understood that it will be until the Nebraska legislature elects or adjourns. There is some contention that his appointment expired on March 4, but the authorities hold otherwise.

Death of Kidnaping.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., March 7.—The house tonight passed the senate bill punishing kidnaping for ransom at death or not less than five years in the penitentiary. The bill was amended in the house and goes back to the senate for concurrence before going to the governor to become a law.

The Population of Alaska.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—The total population of Alaska in 1900, as shown by the returns of the twelfth census, is 63,592, as against 32,052 for 1890. This is an increase in ten years of 31,540, or 98.4 per cent.

There are two cities in the territory which have a population of over 2,000, namely, Nome City, 12,485 and Skagway City, 3,117.

Iowa Man Dropped \$3,000.

ONAWA, March 9.—Advices from California state that Dr. W. W. Ordway, who now spends the winters in California, but who has lived in Montana county for over forty years, and is the largest land owner in the county, his wealth being estimated at from \$300,000 to \$500,000, has just dropped \$3,000 to a couple of confidence men in Los Angeles.

MORGAN AGAIN TALKS

Declares that the Enforcement of the Treaty Would Precipitate War.

ROOSEVELT ENDS DEMONSTRATION

Warns Spectators Who Applaud that There Must Be Order in the Galleries—Other Matters in the Senate and at the Capital.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—Again today Vice President Roosevelt was the central figure on the opening of the senate. When he appeared at his desk to call the senate to order a wave of applause swept over the thronged galleries.

He evidently was impatient at the demonstration and sharply tapping his desk with the gavel, warned the spectators that repetition of the applause would result in an order to clear the galleries.

After a brief debate the amendment to the rules of the senate placing a limit on the duration of debate, offered yesterday by Mr. Platt of Connecticut was referred by the committee on rules. The debate brought forth the fact that no intention exists with the proponent of the amendment to urge its discussion at the present extraordinary session.

The chaplain in his invocation referred with deep pathos to the sorrow which has fallen upon the junior senator from Alabama (Mr. Pettus) and his wife in the death of their only son.

Mr. Platt of Connecticut then called up the amendment to the rules of which he gave notice yesterday, relating to the limitation of the debate.

After the journal was read Mr. Platt whether he expected to secure action upon the amendment at the present extraordinary session. Mr. Platt replied that he did not desire to discuss the proposed amendment at the present time. He wished to have the amendment referred to the committee on rules, but he doubted very much whether the committee on rules could consider it so fully as to enable the senate to take action upon it at this session. He had felt, he said, that the senate ought to change its rules and he had thought that the proper time to introduce his proposition was at the beginning of a new session of congress.

He added that he would be glad to have action upon the amendment at this session, but he did not suppose it could be had. He desired that the amendment be referred to the committee on rules, in order that the committee might have opportunity to consider it during the recess.

"I hope," said he in conclusion, "that some fair amendment to the rules may be devised by which there can be a reasonable (not an unreasonable) limit placed on debate."

Mr. Teller said he had no wish to enter objection to the reference of the amendment to the committee on rules. That was the proper place for it. He inquired, however, whether there was any expectation on the part of the majority to do anything more during the present session than executive business, pending an answer to that question, Vice president Roosevelt announced in a low but distinct tone that the proposed amendment would be referred in the absence of objection to the committee on rules.

Mr. Morgan, who yesterday offered a resolution declaring the abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty between the United States and Great Britain, addressed the senate for nearly two hours in opposition. He declared that if Great Britain should endeavor to enforce the terms of the treaty the effort would result in a war in which the great empire, which had controlled for scores of years the commerce of the world, would be swept from power and her king would be left with only sovereignty over his own island.

Without concluding his speech, Mr. Morgan yielded the floor and at 2:45, on motion of Mr. Warren of Wyoming, the senate went into executive session, adjourning at 3 o'clock.

EXPENSE OF THE FIFTY-SIXTH

Cannon and Livingston Report Total of Appropriations.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—Representative Cannon, chairman of the house committee on appropriations, and Representative Livingston, the senior democratic member of the committee, have prepared statements of the appropriations of the Fifty-sixth Congress which will be printed in the Record tomorrow. Both place the total appropriations for the congress at \$1,440,962,545, placing these for the first session at \$710,150,862, and for the second at \$729,811,683. Mr. Cannon publishes a table showing the expenditures of the previous congress at \$1,598,212,637, and Mr. Livingston makes a comparison with the Fifty-fourth congress, which appropriated \$1,044,580,273.

Hay Has to Indorse Himself.

WASHINGTON, March 7.—Secretary Hay has been forced to testify to his own ability and fidelity. Today he signed his own commission, as he is required to sign all the commissions of cabinet officers, and he thereby declared that he imposed implicit confidence in himself and in his own fidelity and ability.

Land Transfers Are Brisk.

OMAHA, March 7.—The land movement in the west goes on with unprecedented vigor and the sales that are being made are enormous. Yesterday's mail at the offices of the Union Pacific Land company brought in applications for 6,559 acres, divided in fourteen applications. Most of these ranged from 80 to 640 tracts and were farming lands in central Kansas. One application, however, was for 2,883 acres in Arapahoe county, Colorado, the applicant being A. N. Crawford of Fort Morgan, Colo.