The Scourge of Damascus

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CHAPTER XIV. As he spoke the Arab gave a loud, shrill whistle, at the same time leaping across the spring and striking the slave in the face. But Shubal was not to be overcome so easily by one man. The whistle had alarmed him, and when he saw the fellow leap, he was not wholly unprepared. The blow in the face blinded him for a moment, but as soon as his eyes served him, he caught his assailant by the throat and hurled him to the ground.

"What sort of a man are you?" the slave cried, as he held the rascal down.

"I am a juggler," replied the Arab, holding fast upon Shubal's tunic.

"Let go my clothing, or I'll kill you." The slave might have carried out his threat, but before he could make any decided movement to that end he found himself surrounded by, a body of armed men. Quick as thought he leaped to his feet, leaving a piece of his tunic behind him, and made a movement toward his horse; but he was too late to reach the saddle. Half a dozen strong hands were laid upon him, while as many more were busy with the horses of the females. The princess cried aloud for help, and would have leaped from her saddle had she not been held back.

"Fair lady," spoke a rough voice, in a harsh, strange dialect, "you must keep still, and give us as little trouble as possible."

"But you will not harm me, good

"You have no occasion for fear, lady. But tell me-who are you?"

"I am the daughter of Aboul Cassem, the prime minister of Damascus." Could Albia have moved quickly

enough, she would have prevented her mistress from answering this question, but the story had been told. Ulin innocently thought that the name of her father would strike the marauders with awe, and that they would fear to molest her further, but in this she was somewhat mistaken, as subsequent events proved.

"By my life, comrades," cried he, who seemed to be the leader of the party, "we have found a rich prize. Hold still, noble lady. We will not harm you. Let us look to this unruly slave of yours, and then you shall be properly cared for. You might have fallen into worse hands than ours."

When Ulin had collected her senses, so that she could observe and comprehend things about her, she looked to see her real situation. She counted eight of the Arabs, and she had no doubt that they were robbers. Four of them were securing the slave, while Le other four were watching the horses. Shubal was very soon pinioned, and restored to his feet, after which she and Albia were lifted from their saddles.

"Don't be alarmed," said the leader, as the princess cried out for mercy. "You shall be restored to your horses very soon. We have horses close at hand, and when they are brought, you shall be on your way again."

"You will set Shubal free?" "He shall be free soon enough, Rest easy a few moments, lady. One of my men has gone after our animals. We left them upon the other side of the wood.

"But why have you taken us from our horses?" asked our heroine.

"You will see that anon, fair lady, Ah-here comes my man. Now, my fair damsels, you shall understand the whole matter. These horses of yours are not such ones as I would have you ride. I have some here much better." "What does he mean?" asked Ulin, speaking in a low tone to her bond-

"Wait," replied Albia, trying to conceal her real suspicions. "They may inform us."

Before Ulin could ask another question the Arab leader came forward with two horses, upon which he directed his companion to fix the ladies' saddles; and when this had been done he turned to the princess, and informed her that she might take her seat again. She would have opposed the movement, but a strong hand was laid upon her, and, almost before she knew it. she was once more upon her saddle.

"You will excuse me," the fellow said. "but as this horse will not carry you quite so easily as your own, I will

secure you in your place." As he spoke he passed a strong cord about Ulin's body, and fastened it to the girth upon either side. The same thing was done for Albia, and then attention was directed to Shubal, who was seated upon another strange horse, and likewise bound in his place.

"What can they mean?" asked the pencess, gaining another opportunity to speak to her attendant.

"I dare not guess," said Albia.

"Do not speak in that way," urged Ulin. "Tell me what you think-I command you."

'My dear mistress," replied the bondmaiden, reluctantly, "their mean- speech has been made touching a cer- My mother bade me keep my fingers ing is evident enough. These horses tain Arab robber, whose deeds had back. I insisted on putting them forwill follow their masters!"

"Ha!-and are we prisoners?" "I fear so. But let us hope for the best. We may not be harmed."

At this juncture the Arabs had mounted their horses, three of them damsel. I am the robber, Al Abbas; taking the animals which belonged to and I am a terror to those who fear time I asked." their prisoners, and at a word from the to lose their money. But, my dear leader they were on the move. Ulin lady," he continued, turning to the instinctively clung to the rein to hold princers, "you cannot have any such |-A. Kempis.

A Story of the East... SYLVANUS

followed the others, with the slaves

under charge. Through the wood they

rode at an easy pace, and when they

had gained the open plain beyond they

struck into a swift gallop. Ulin had

discovered to her satisfaction that the

strange horse paid no attention to the

rein, so she only sought to keep an

easy seat. She was weak with fear

and alarm, and all sorts of dreadful

pictures arose to her imagination as

she sped on. She could not speak with

Albia, for the clattering of hoofs

On they sped, straight over the plain

on, on, on-without halting or turn-

ing-on through the darkness of the

night-on, league after league-until

the gray streaks of morning appeared

in the eastern horizon. Another wood

was before them, and when it was

reached, the party stopped. Not far

distant, where a clump of noble palms

reared aloft their plaited foliage, a

crystal spring burst forth from the

green earth, and the Arabs held their

panting horses back from the tempting

"Now, lady, you may find repose,"

said the leader, as he came and lifted

Ulin from her seat. "We shall re-

main here a few hours. I will be with

He turned and handed Albia to the

ground, and then went to where his

followers were taking care of Shubal

"Albia, what will they do with us?"

cried the princess, clasping her hands

But the bondmaiden could not an-

swer. If she held suspicions, she

"O, I wish I had not taken this false

"Hush, dear mistress. It is our fate.

tnow what this Arab means to do

"What can he mean?" It must be

something dreadful. Why has he

taken us away so far? O, Albia, I am

"No, no, sweet lady. Have a hope.

"Ah," murmured the princess, with

folded hands, "there may be a fate

from which death would be a happy

The bondmaiden shuddered, and

from her thoughts at that moment

she could frame no reply which she

CHAPTER XV.

The Arab's Purpose.

with her back against a palm tree,

and one hand resting upon Albia's

arm, she could take a clear view of her

captors. The sun was just tinging the

distant mountain tops with its golden

light, and the last shadow of the night

had gone. The Arabs had watered the

horses and left them where they could

crop the green grass, and were now

gathered together, listening to the

They were rough, dark looking men,

these Arabs. Their clothing was

sparse and poor, and their skin swart

and dirty; but their weapons were

bright and keen and their horses in

most perfect condition, both as to

health and cleanliness. A little while

they conversed together, and then one

of them brought forth the bundle

which had been taken from Shubal. It

was opened by the leader, and the ar-

ticles of clothing which it contained

were spread out upon the ground.

Folded up in a silken scarf was found

a purse, from which fell a score or

more of broad gold pieces; whereupon

the marauders gave utterance to vari-

"They are robbers," said Ulin, as

"Can they belong to Julian's band?"

"Why should you ask such a ques-

tion, my mistress? You know that

Julian would never have such men

As she spoke, the Arab leader came

towards them, and after gazing upon

them for a few moments, he said, ad-

"I hope you find yourself none the

worse for this little deviation from

your original course; for, let me as-

sure you, the meeting has afforded

me much pleasure. Does the princess

Ulin know who is speaking to her?"

"Then she shall know into whose

protecting hand she has had the for-

tune of falling. I am Al Abbas. Does

"It is familiar enough to me," said

"Ah, pretty one-and what know

"I have heard the name, sir, when

The rascal seemed pleased with this

"You have hit the truth, my fair

remark, and smilingly returned:

"No, sir," replied Ulin.

the name sound familiar?""

"No. sir."

you of it?"

travelers."

ous exclamations of satisfaction.

she saw them dividing the gold.

about him."

dressing the princess:

"Certainly," responded Albia,

have suspected that from the first."

As Ulin sat upon the greensward,

step! It is a punishment for my sin!"

you again presently."

dared not speak them.

They will not kill us."

dared to speak aloud.

words of their chief.

with us."

frightened."

escape!"

drowned her voice. What did it

mean? Where would it end?

He approached nearer as he spoke, and held out his hand. Ulin knew not how to refuse, and she furthermore saw that refusal would be useless; so she drew forth from her bosom a casket of chamois skin, bound with bands of gold, and handed it over. The robber took it, and opened it; and as his herself steady, but her horse noticed eyes rested upon the sparkling jewelsnot the guiding of her hand. The leadpearl, diamond, emerald, topaz and er of the party rode in advance; then opal-he gave utterance to an exfollowed two more of the gang; then clamation of delight. came two females; and behind them

We have found some little

money belonging to you, and I take

the liberty of asking you if you have

any jewels about you."

"By my life, lady, you came well provided. I will take care of these gems for you. They will be much

safer in my custody." "I understand you," said the princess, as she saw the fellow close the casket and place it in his own bosom. You mean to keep those jewels, as you do the gold which you have found."

"You are shrewd at guessing, lady." "I think I have good grounds for my opinion, sir. Take them if you want them; and in return I only ask that you let us go free. You are welcome to all that you have if you will give us our liberty."

"You will rest before you go."

"I do not wish to rest long," "Nor would I have you. But for the present you had better lie down upon this soft grass, and find some slight repose. I will call you when we move." And as he thus spoke, he turned away and joined his companions. "Will they let us go?" murmured

Ulin, letting her head fall upon her companion's shoulder. "I hope so, my mistress. But come

-we cannot learn their intent until they please to tell us; and in the meantime you had better seek some rest. You are tired and worn. Lay your head upon my lap-so. And we will hope for the best." Albia drew the head of her mistress

gently down, and in a little while the weary princess was asleep. And the bondmaiden did not long remain upon the watch. Her own lids were heavy, and very soon her senses were locked in slumber.

Al Abbas moved noiselessly to the spot where the worn maidens slept, and presently others of his band joined him.

"By the blood of Cush," muttered It is no punishment. Wait until we the robber chief, "they are beautiful enough! The lady Ulin is the fairest maiden I ever saw."

"They are both of them far too beautiful to be roaming at large," said another of the gang.

"They are worth more than jewels," added a third.

"You are right," responded the leader. "This princess would sell for a diadem, beyond the Syrian desert. But let them sleep, and when they are rested we will call them. If we would turn the prize into gold, we must not suffer it to fade from neg-

After this the robbers sat down to their morning's meal; and when they had done eating some of them went to sleep upon the grass.

At the expiration of two hours Ulin awoke with a sharp cry, and caught her companion convulsively by the arm, and cried:

"O!-and it was only a dream. How frightful it was." "Only a dream, dear mistress. We

are safe and well."

"Thank heaven!"

Al Abbas, as soon as he saw that the girls were awake, gave a shrill whistle, such as he had sounded on a previous occasion, and in an instant his men were upon their feet. The horses, also, noticed the signal, for they lifted their heads and moved up together, as though ready to serve

their masters. (To be continued.)

The Nigeria Region. Nigeria is an important region in Africa and comprises the whole of the British sphere (with the exception of the colony and the Protectorate of Lagos), within the lines of demarcation arranged by the Anglo-German agreements of 1885, 1886 and 1893, and the Anglo-French agreements of 1889, 1890, and 1898. The region covers between 400,000 and 500,000 square miles, and its population is variously estimated at from 25,000,000 to 40,000,000. but in the absence of any census, no reliance can be placed on such estimates. It is certain, however, that a great number of towns in Nigeria contain considerable population. For administrative purposes Nigeria is temporarily divided into two governments. Northern Nigeria and Southern Nigeria, but in the absence of any data it is impossible to say which section has the largest population. Brigadier-General Sir F. J. D. Lugard, K. C. M. G., C. B., D. S. O. is the high commissioner for Northern Nigeria-Montreal Herald and Star.

How Ruskin Learned Obedience.

John Ruskin, who wrote so many famous books, said the first lesson he learned was to be obedient. "One evening," he says, "when I was yet in my nurse's arms. I wanted to touch the tea-urn, which was boiling merrily. It was an early taste for bronzes, I suppose, but I was resolute about it. caused him to be feared by honest ward. My nurse would have taken me away from the urn, but my mother said: 'Let him touch it, nurse,' So I touched it, and that was my first lesson in the meaning of the word liberty I got, and the last that for some

Truth, not eloquence, is to be sought,

APOLOGY NOT ENOUGH

Kaiser Sends Word to Chinese Emperor that More is Expected.

FUTURE CONDUCT TO INFLUENCE

Von Ketteler's Murder to Be Explated by Good Behavior-Emperor William Im presses Chun With the Solemnity of the Ocrasion.

BERLIN, Sept. 5 .- Emperor William's reception of the Chinese mission of expiation headed by Prince Chuan, which took place today at Potsdam, was marked with all the severity consistent with an audience nominally

The Chinese imperial envoy on entering the palace was not accorded a salute by the Garde du Corps. The emperor received him seated. The buttons and epaulettes of his majesty's white uniform were enveloped in crape. Prince Chun bowed thrice on entering and leaving. Emperor William remained seated during the reading of the Chinese address. Afterward, however, he relaxed his stern demeanor and welcomed the envoy courteously and subsequently, accompanied by his adjutant, he called upon Prince Chun at the Orangerie. Later in the evening the emperor, Prince Chun and a dozen members of the expiatory mission took tea on an island in the Spree.

The emperor had evidently arranged the entire ceremony with the view of impressing Prince Chun that the ceremony meant expiation for a foul crime and only through expiation had Prince Chun acquired the right to be treated with princely honors. Not until after the ceremony did the atmosphere change. Then the troops outside saluted, the bands played and the Hussars escorted Prince Chun back to the Orangerie.

The imperial envoy seemed deeply Impressed with the solemnity of the occasion and when summoned to the throne room he showed visible embarrassment. He bowed repeatedly while approaching the throne and his voice was agitated while he was reading the imperial address.

The entire manner of Emperor William was calculated to impress Prince Chun with the solemnity of the ceremonials. He spoke emphatically and seriously, emphasizing particularly the word "civilized."

The ceremony lasted only ten minutes. In the meantime six Chinese dignitaries of the highest rank who were halted in the anteroom remained there perfectly motionless and speechless, awaiting Prince Chun's return with evident anxiety. Prince Chun retired backwards from the throne room, bowing profusely.

According to the Lokal Anzeiger, the Chinese envoy will breakfast tomorrow with the emperor and empress.

There was apparently but little public interest in the mission among the people of Berlin. A small but demonstrative crowd watched Prince Chun driving in the park.

END OF STRIKE MAY BE NEAR.

Conference of Labor Leaders and Steel Officials in Session in New York.

NEW YORK, Sept. 5 .- A conference at which conditions of peace in the great steel strike are being discussed is in progress at the office of the United States Steel corporation. The participants in the discussion include Charles M. Schwab of the United States Steel corporation, Sampel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor; John Mitchell, president of the United Mine Workers' association; Prof. Jenks of the Industrial commission, Secretary R. M. Easley of the Civic Federation, and Harry White, secretary of the Garment Workers; association. The conference was arranged this morning and was asked for by Samuel Gompers and John Mitchell, who are believed to be acting in behalf of President Theodore J. Shaffer and the Amalgamated association. They reached here early this morning an., were joined by Messrs. Jenks, Easley and White. The entire party came down town at 12 o'clock and at 12:15 o'clock entered the office of the United States Steel corporation. They were received by Mr. Schwab and shown to the consulting room.

Shortly after their arrival Verly Preston and some of the officials of the subsidiary companies entered Mr. Schwab's office and joined the conference. None of the participants in the conference could be seen and the basis of the discussion could not be learned.

Chun Cails on the Emperor. visited the mausoleum at Friendenkirche today and placed wreaths on the tomb of the Emperor and Empress Frederick. Emperor William received Prince Chun at noon in the to the emperor.

START ON THE EXPOSITION.

Elaborate Ceremonies Mark the Driving of the First Stake.

months from the date of the organiration of the exposition company the first stake of the World's fair, to be THE FINEST EXHIBIT OF THE YEAR held in this city in 1903 to celebrate iana purchase, was driven today on the site at Forest park. Officers and directors of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition company, municipal officers and others assembled this forenoon on the site near the structural center of the grounds and there the stake was driven by William H. Thompson, president of the Bank of Commerce, in his official capacity of chairman of the committee on grounds and buildings.

President David R. Francis of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition company, C. W. Walbridge, representing the committee on ceremonies, and President Hiram Philipps of the Board of Public Improvements made addresses. At the conclusion of the ceremonies the stake, which had been specially prepared for the occasion, was withdrawn for preservation and a stake ordinarily used by surveyors substituted for it.

According to the plans adopted by the commission of architects, the principal buildings - agricultural, mines and minerals, fisheries, transportation and fine arts-will be built on foundation lines radiating from the point where the first stake was driven.

COMES THE MASTERS' WAY.

Steel Strike Develops More Gains for the Trust Operator.

PITTSBURG, PA., Sept. 4.—Developments today in the steel strike show decided gains for the manufacturers. The accession of thirty-two skilled men to the Star plant, the increased production at the Painter and the Lindsay & McCutcheon mills, the defection from the strikers' ranks of seventy-five machinists and pipe cutters at the Continental Tube works and fifty at the Pennsylvania Tube works, the importation of twelve men ing for a better place to live has been to the Monessen Steel Hoop mill and the installation of three mills on the night turn at the Clark mill all point to an early resumption all along the the following plaintive note to J. line, as viewed by the steel officials.

The Amalgamated officials, however, make the claim that everything is progressing satisfactorily and say that much of the supposed advantage of the manufacturers is bluff and cannot be made good. As an instance they cite the Lindsay & McCutcheon plant, where the company claims to have as many men at work as they can accommodate.

FRANCE KEEPS A BOLD FRONT.

Refuses to Yield Its Demands Upon the

Sultan. CONSTANTINOPE, Sept. 4 .- Munir Bey, Turkish ambassodor to France. wired the porte on Saturday that he receive a few more settlers, despite had strong hopes that a settlement the drouth stories so freely bandied of the Franco-Turkish difficulty would about by the yellow journals. be reached which would preserve the dignity of both governments.

M. Delcasse, French minister of foreign affairs, on the contrary, wired on the governor of Colorado for the M. Bapst, councillor of the French em- return of Owen E. Mason, who is wantbassy, categorical instructions to ed in Tecumseh to answer to the take no steps to show that the re- charge of embezzlement, was issued by lations getween the two countries were Governor Savage. Mason is accused modified.

For Violation of Game Law.

Hubbard of Cedar Rapids and Judge sion as record keeper of the lodge. H. H. Timble of Keokuk were arrested at Ledyard, Kossuth county, by Deputy Game Warden Murphy, charged with violating the game law. They were tried before a justice of the peace, who reserved decision until he could look up the law. Judge Hubbard acted as counsel for himself and Judge Timble.

First Stake on State Fair Site.

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 4.-Under the direction of Chief Architect Isaac S. Taylor, a party of surveyors, whose duty it will be to run the lines of the buildings erected on the World's fair site in Forest park, will drive the first stake of the Louisiana Purchase Centennial exposition today. This survey is necessary to determine accurately have been drawing 7 per cent for fifthe space available for the structures, teen years, were sold to Matthiesen

Whisky or the Revolver. CEDAR FALLS, Ia., Sept. 4.-J. H.

Hough was found dead near Parkersburg with a revolver in one hand and a bottle of whisky in the other. He was 45 years old. He was unmarried. The seed bed is in the finest condition The body was buried in the potter's it has been for many years, and the

Financing the Omaha Line. CHICAGO, Sept. 4.-It is reported,

Stickney of the Great Western has versity, will sail for the Philippines succeded in forming a syndicate to on his third trip to the islands on underwrite an issue of \$5,000,000 Chi- September 15. Lieutenant McConnell cago Great Western debenture bonds, first went out with Company H, First presence of the royal princes, Baron to provide for the building of the regiment. He was first sergeant. Von Richthofen, the foreign secretary, proposed extension to Omaha and Afterwards he enlisted with the Thirthe principal ministers and generals | Sioux City. Work on these extensions | ty-ninth infantry and after his comand the court dignitaries. The prince is to be commenced next spring, but pany was mustered out returned to read a letter, written in yellow ink, some preliminary grading may be done Nebraska. Two weeks ago he passed

NEBRASKA GROWS CORN

ST. LOUIS, Sept. 4 .- Just four Hon. James Wilson Invited to Come and be Convinced.

the 100th anniversary of the Louis- This Vigorous Young State a Very Important Part of the Corn Belt-Coming Back to "God's Country"-Misceliansous Nebraska Matters.

> LINCOLN, Sept. 4.-The following message was sent by telegraph to James E. Wilson, secretary of agriculture, at Washington:

"The Nebraska State Board of Agriculture sends greeting and cordially requests your presence at the finest agricultural exhibits shown in the United States during the year 1901.

"E. L. VANOE, President." "It has been demonstrated that M:braska is a very important part of the corn belt," said a member of the board, referring to the message, "and we want the man who said the state was not in the corn belt to come here and be convinced of his error. If Mr. Wilson comes to Lincoln he will see corn that is not excelled in any state in the union and we will have no difficulty in proving that both in acreage and yield Nebraska occupies a posttion pretty near the top of the col-

The sending of the message was the result of a conference of the board of agriculture, held soon after the state fair gates closed Monday. It was unanimously agreed that the agricultural and live stock exhibits at the fair surpass all previous efforts in this state. Claims of this nature have been made during the last two or three days, but they were generally thought by the public to be exaggerated. Now the board has reaffirmed the claim and went still further by sending the euthusiastic message to Secretary Wil-

Back to God's Country.

OMAHA, Sept. 4.—The man who left Nebraska twenty-one years ago lookheard from and he wants to come back. His name is Charles F. Adelmann of Socorro, N. M., and he writes Francis, general passenger agent of the Burlington:

"I have seen an ad. in the Corn Belt, Where Shall I go in Nebraska?' and this is just what a few friends of mine and I would like to know. We have been here now over twenty-one years and want to get back to God's country again. We used to live in Omaha, Columbus and Madison, from 1872 to 1879, but there the land is high now. Will you please mail me a few of your new books, 'The Nebraska Grazing Country?" "

Mr. Adelmann's request for information about God's country has been granted and, if nothing unforseen occurs, it is probable that Nebraska will

Requisition for Owen E. Mason.

LINCOLN, Sept. 4 .- A requisition of stealing \$60 from the treasury of the Tecumseh lodge of the Knights of Maccabees. It is alleged that he took DES MOINES, Sept. 4 .- Judge N. M. | the money while it was in his posses-

M. S. Pollard is Commander.

CAMBRIDGE, Neb., Sept. 4 .- The Southwest District Grand Army of the Republic Reunion association elected these officers: Commander, M. S. Pollard; vice commander, A. G. Keyes; junior vice commander, John Ganymill; quartermaster, W. W. Borland; chaplain, Rev. O. R. Beebe. The elective officers constitute the administrative council. The reunion will be in

Blair Refunds Its Debt.

BLAIR, Neb., Sept. 4.-At a special meeting of the city council last night \$20,000 of water refunding bonds and \$5,000 of city court house bonds, which Bros., retired merchants of this city. on their own bid at 4 per cent, par.

Sowing Wheat at Beaver Crossing.

BEAVER CROSSING, Neb., Sept. 4 -The farmers are sowing fall wheat acreage will be large.

Third Trip to the Philippines. LINCOLN Sept. 4.-Lieut. says the Tribune, that President McConnell, formerly of the State unihis examination.