

The Bondman

By HALL CAINE.

CHAPTER XII.—(Continued.)

In his little silk skullcap and spectacles the Langmann came back, for he was Judge and Speaker in one, and found Michael Sunlocks alone. At a glance he saw that the trouble of the night before had deepened, and that something of great moment was afoot.

"Langmann," said Michael Sunlocks, "I wish you to summon both Chambers to meet at the Senate House tomorrow night."

"It will be inconvenient," said the Speaker, "for the Committee of All things has risen, and the members are preparing to go back home."

"That is why I wish them to be summoned at once," said Michael Sunlocks.

"Is the matter of such pressing importance?" asked the Speaker.

"It is; and it admits of no delay," answered Michael Sunlocks.

"May I mention its purport?" said the Speaker.

"Say only that the President has a message for All things," said Michael Sunlocks.

"At what hour tomorrow night?" asked the Speaker.

"At mid-evening," answered Michael Sunlocks, and then, with the sigh of a weary man, he turned towards the stove.

The Speaker glanced at him with his dim eyes screwed up, pushed back his little skullcap, and ran his forefinger along his bald crown, then shook his head gravely and left the room, saying within himself, "Why this haste? And why the message? Ah, these impetuous souls that rise so high and so fast sometimes go down headlong to the abyss!"

Michael Sunlocks was turning round from the stove when Greeba entered, and for all the womanly courage with which she tried to carry herself before him, he could see that she looked frightened, and that her eyes sought his eyes for mercy and cheer.

"Michael," she cried, "what is it that you are about to do? Tell me. I cannot bear this suspense any longer."

He made her no answer, but sat at his desk and lifted his pen. At that she stamped her foot and cried again—

"Tell me, tell me. I cannot, and I will not bear it."

But he knew, without lifting his head, that with all her brave challenge, and the spark of her defiant eyes, behind her dark lashes a great tear-drop lay somewhere veiled. So he showed no anger, and neither did he reply to her appeal, but made some show of going on with his writing.

And being now so far recovered from her first fear as to look upon his face with eyes that could see it, Greeba realized all that she had but partly guessed from the chatter of her maid, of the sad havoc the night had made with him. At that she could bear up no longer, for before her warm woman's feeling all her little stubborn spirit went down as with a flood, and she flung herself at his feet and cried, "Michael, forgive me; I don't know what I am saying."

But getting no answer to her passionate agony any more than her hot disdain, her pride got the better of her again, and she tried to defend herself with many a simple plea, saying between a sob and a burst of wrath that if she had deceived him, and said what was barely true, it was only from thinking to defend his happiness.

"And why," she cried, "why should I marry you while loving him?"

pride, Michael—that I want to be proud of him I love. But if that might not have been, and he had been the lowliest man on earth, I could have shared his lot though it had been never so poor and humble, so that I could have had him beside me always."

He listened to her passionate words there was a fluttering at his throat. "Are you sure of that, Greeba?" he said.

"Only let me prove it to you," she cried, with the challenge of beauty in her beautiful eyes.

"So you shall, Greeba," he said, "for we leave this house tomorrow."

"What?" she cried, rising to her feet.

"Yes," he said, "from tomorrow our condition will be different. So get yourself ready to go away from here."

Then her courageous challenge sank away in an instant.

"Whatever do you mean?" she cried, in great terror.

"If you have married the President you shall live with the man," he answered.

"Oh, Michael, Michael, what are you going to do?" she cried. "To degrade yourself?"

"Even so," he said calmly.

"To punish me?" she cried. "To prove me?" To test me?"

"If you can go through with it I shall be happy and content," he answered.

"Are you then to be nothing in Iceland?" she said.

"And what of that?" he asked.

"Think of what you have just been saying."

"Then I have come into your life to wreck it," she cried. "Yes, I! Michael," she added, more quietly, "I will go away. I would not bring shame and humiliation upon you for all that the world can give. I will leave you."

"That you never shall," said Michael Sunlocks. "We are man and wife now, and as man and wife we shall live together."

"I tell you I will not stay," she cried.

"And I tell you," he replied, "that I am your husband, and you shall give me a wife's obedience."

"Michael, dear Michael," she said, "it is for your own good that I want to leave you, so that the great promise of your life may not be wasted. It is I who am breaking in upon it. And I am nothing. Let me go."

"It is too late, Greeba. As poor man and poor woman we must pass the rest of our life together."

22 Bondman Then to five pairs of eager eyes it lay in the harbor with a mysterious cargo of great casks, supposed to contain tallow; that after discharging their contents these casks were to be filled with shark's oil; that waiting the time to fill them they were to be stored (as all other warehouses were full of bonders' stock) in the little cell of detention under the senate-house; and, finally and most opportunely, that a meeting of All things had been summoned on special business for the next night following, and that Michael Sunlocks was to be present.

The Fairbrothers heard all this with eyes that showed how well they understood it and keenly grieved over it. And late the same night the cargo of great casks was unshipped at the jetty, wheeled up to the senate-house and lodged there, carefully, silently, one by one. Thurstan helping, a few stragglers looking on, the stammering doorkeeper, long John, not anywhere visible, and no one else in the little sleepy town a whit the wiser. This being done, Thurstan went back to his lodging with the content of a soul at ease, saying to himself, "As I say, if we don't get anything else, we'll get satisfaction; and if we wet what's promised I've a safe place to put it until the trouble's over and we can clear away, and that's the little crib under the turret of the cathedral church."

Then the worthy man lay down to sleep.

(To be continued.)

Caulye a Rapid Feeder.

One day at dinner a gentleman moved, it may be, by the sight of Mr. Gladstone's conscientious mastication of his food, for the great statesman was not one to eat in haste and repent at leisure—remarked what a victim to dyspepsia Carlyle had been. "Yes," said Mr. Gladstone, "he smoked too much. I have been told that he ate quantities of sodden gingerbread and he was a rapid feeder. I lunched with him one day and he tumbled his food into his stomach. It was like posting letters." After a slight pause, Mr. Gladstone added: "Carlyle did not seem to use his jaws, except to talk!"

Be Merciful.

When thou seest misery in thy brother's face, let him see mercy in thy eye; the more the oil of mercy is poured on him by thy pity, the more oil in thy course shall be increased by thy pity. Take no pleasure in the death of a creature; if it be harmless or useless, destroy it not; if useful or harmful, destroy it mercifully. He that mercifully made His creatures for thy sake, expects thy mercy upon them for His sake. Mercy turns her back to the unmerciful.—Quarles.

Automobiles for Depot Service.

The Baltimore & Ohio Railway company has established an automobile service at Washington, D. C., in connection with its trains. This is believed to be the first railroad to introduce this means of transportation regularly to and from a railroad station. An electrical system is used. Two small trucks can be carried on supports on each vehicle and additional baggage can be placed upon the top. As the streets in Washington are in very fine condition, there is every prospect of the service being successful.

Building Largest Ship.

The Celtic steamship, to be finished and launched this summer, will be the largest vessel on the oceans. It will have a displacement of 33,000 tons, nearly 5,000 tons greater than the largest steamship now afloat; a half dozen long railway trains can be carried by her, and she will be able to provide for nearly 2,500 passengers, almost an army brigade, and Capt. Ismay expects to see an even greater than the Celtic built within a year or two.

Eccentric? Bachelor's Vast Fortune.

Thirty years ago George Johnston, the "Laird of the Fife Isle Estate," near Dundee, made a vow that from that hour no human being should look upon his face. He religiously kept the strange vow. The servant who cooked his food placed it outside of his door, using a bell, and passed out of sight. Johnston has just died, leaving an estate worth £5,000,000. He was a bachelor, and a nephew is his heir.

Emulates Mrs. Nation.

Mrs. Charles Rhodes of Port Huron, Mich., armed with a hammer instead of the usual hatchet, partially wrecked James Wilson's saloon in that city. She entered the place and asked for her son, who, it appears, hangs around Wilson's establishment. He was not there, but after giving the bartender a lecture the woman began her smashing. The bartender put her out and until she had broken a glass case and ten bottles of whisky.

How to Make Ice.

Water in a shallow pan, in a sheltered place, will freeze even when the thermometer is above the freezing point. This is due to the rapid loss of heat of the earth after nightfall. In some hot countries ice is obtained in commercial quantities by setting shallow earthenware pans of water on the ground protected from the wind.

European Shawls in Tibet.

In Central Asia woolen shawls of European manufacture find a ready sale. The trade in merino shawls in Tibet bids fair to develop into a profitable business. The shawls come from France and Germany, and, being very cheap, are readily sold. They even seem to be supplanting the better, but much dearer, "pashminas," or cashmere shawls.

Commoner Comment.

Extracts From W. J. Bryan's Paper.

THE CAPTURE OF AGUINALDO.

The most important event of last week was the capture of Aguinaldo. General Funston planned, and with the aid of a few Americans and a number of natives, executed a brilliant and daring plot for the trapping of the leader of the Filipino forces. Learning of the whereabouts of Aguinaldo, he organized a small band and arranged with some friendly Filipinos to conduct the Americans in the guise of prisoners through some ninety miles of the enemy's country to the presence of the chief, who was then taken into custody by General Funston and conveyed to Manila.

The already famous Kansan displayed great courage in the undertaking for he risked a double danger—the treachery of the natives who accompanied him and the possibility of encountering a superior force.

It is difficult to say what will be the immediate effect of the capture, but it is more than possible that it will hasten the end of hostilities.

When the administration comes to deal with its distinguished prisoner it will be compelled to decide whether it is dealing with a rebellious subject or with a foreigner who owes no allegiance to this government.

To treat Aguinaldo as a rebellious subject, the administration must assert that a defeated monarch can bargain, sell and convey title to the subjects, and that a republic can first incite the subjects of a monarch to rebellion, or assist them in rebellion, then make allies of them and afterwards buy title to them from the king whose sovereignty was disputed.

Aguinaldo has proven his ability as a leader and his military genius; it remains to be seen whether in prison he will continue to proclaim the right of his people to independence or advise his countrymen to submit to the conquest of their country by an overwhelming force.

The question of imperialism is not settled by the imprisonment of the commander-in-chief of the native forces, nor will it be settled by the surrender of all who are in arms. If the Filipinos fall in their appeal to force there is still left an appeal to the American conscience. The republicans have taken refuge behind the fact that war existed and have tried to cry down criticism as unpatriotic; they have asked, "How can we treat with people who are shooting down our soldiers?" Peace will multiply the embarrassments of the administration for it cannot long conceal the real character of the civil government which is to be imposed upon the Filipinos.

The war in the Philippines has been a hindrance rather than an aid to those who have been resisting the introduction of European ideas and methods of government into the United States.

THE FUTURE OF CUBA.

A subscriber asks what position the democratic party takes in regard to the annexation of Cuba. The democratic party has not had occasion to take a position on this question. A discussion of annexation at this time would be premature; it would be like proposing to a widow at the funeral of her husband. The United States declared the Cubans entitled to independence and went to war with Spain to enforce the declaration. To discuss annexation now would cast suspicion on the good faith of the nation; neither is there anything to be gained by raising that question.

No matter whether annexation is desirable or undesirable, it is both right and expedient that the Cubans should be given their independence. If annexation is undesirable there can be no excuse for delaying independence; if, on the other hand, annexation is desirable the granting of independence will hasten it. Annexation to be satisfactory must be voluntary, and it will never be voluntary unless the Cuban people have confidence in and affection for the people of the United States. And how can they have confidence in or affection for the American people, if our nation violates its promise and shows more interest in the franchises secured by private syndicates than in the nation's honor.

LAST DEADLOCK BROKEN.

The last senatorial deadlock has been broken. The republicans of Nebraska, on the final day of the session, elected Governor Charles H. Dietrich and Hon. Joseph H. Millard. They are both successful business men and bankers.

Governor Dietrich lives at Hastings and was satisfactory to the Burlington railroad, while Mr. Millard is a resident of Omaha and is supposed to be satisfactory to the Union Pacific, having once been a government director of that road.

It might as first seem strange that these men should be chosen to represent a great agricultural state, but when it is remembered that the republicans of Nebraska endorse the doctrine set forth in a platform adopted by the New York republicans in 1896 and favor "a business administration, administered by business men in behalf of the business interests," the selection of these gentlemen seems eminently fitting. It is safe to say, however, that the crusade for the reduction of the rate of interest, for the lowering of railroad rates, for the establishment of government savings banks or for the extermination of trusts, will originate with, or be countenanced by, Nebraska's senatorial delegation.

A counting machine has been invented which will count four thousand quarters in seven minutes—a task that would occupy an ordinary person nearly as many hours. This machine is not intended for general use. Until prosperity becomes a little more abundant the average man will, by working at night, be able to count his money by hand.

Before another senatorial election comes in Nebraska Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan should obviate all trouble by doing a little railroad consolidation work within the state.

LINCOLN AND SILVER REPUBLICANS.

The San Francisco Call, speaking of the action of Senator Dubois and other silver republicans in joining the democratic party, takes occasion to misrepresent the position of Abraham Lincoln on the silver question. It says: "The messages and writings of Mr. Lincoln prove him to have been the predecessor of Mr. Cleveland in declaring the principles of sound money, which Mr. Cleveland made the pole star of his administration. Both Lincoln and Cleveland stood exactly in line with Jefferson and Jackson on the issue of sound money."

It also denies the right of the silver republican to claim any kinship with Lincoln or his principles. It is not strange that the gold standard papers attempt to distort history, for they are compelled to do so in order to find any support for their financial theories.

Jefferson believed that the money unit should rest on the two metals, gold and silver; while Mr. Cleveland believes that the money unit should rest on one metal, gold. Jackson affixed his signature to the bill which provided for the free and unlimited coinage of gold and silver at the legal ratio of sixteen to one, without waiting for the aid or consent of any other nation, and in changing the ratio from fifteen to one, to sixteen to one he reduced the size of the gold dollar. Mr. Cleveland is the leader of those democrats who are opposed to the coinage of silver into legal tender money at any ratio or under any circumstances.

Raymond's life of Lincoln, published soon after the death of President Lincoln and before the republican party began to crusade against silver, carries a message which Lincoln sent to the miners of the west. The following is an extract from it:

"Mr. Colfax: I want you to take a message from me to the miners whom you visit. I have very large ideas of the mineral wealth of our nation. I believe it practically inexhaustible. It abounds all over the western country, from the Rocky mountains to the Pacific, and its development has scarcely commenced. During the war, when we were adding a couple of millions of dollars a day to our national debt, I did not care about encouraging the increase in the volume of our precious metals. We had the country to save first. But now that the rebellion is overthrown, and we know pretty nearly the amount of our national debt, the more gold and silver we mine, we make the payment of that debt so much the easier."

It will be seen from the above that Mr. Lincoln held to the quantitative theory of money—a theory denied by the republicans in the campaign of 1896. It will also be seen that he was willing to make the payment of the national debt easier by increasing the amount of money; while Mr. Cleveland tried to make the debt harder to pay by decreasing the volume of money.

On the subject of paper money also the silver republicans are in line with the early statesmen and opposed to the latter day policies of Mr. Cleveland and the republican leaders. Jefferson was opposed to banks of issue, state or national; Jackson made the greater part of his reputation by his character against the recharter of the national bank; and Mr. Lincoln signed the bill which provided for the greenback. Jefferson considered the issue of paper money a function of government and insisted that the banks should go out of the business of governing. Mr. Cleveland considers the issue of paper money a function of banks and believes that the government should go out of the business of banking.

Lincoln assisted in establishing the national bank in order to furnish a market for government bonds during the war; now the republicans are requiring the greenbacks in order to give the banks a chance to issue more paper money.

Senator Teller, Senator Dubois, ex-Senator Towne and the other silver republicans are adhering to doctrine which in former times was republican as well as democratic. The republican leaders and gold democrats are the revolutionists.

AN EXPANSION FROM WITHIN.

The Boston Globe points out that there are 600,000,000 acres of vacant land in this country. Of this 374,000,000 acres are suitable for grazing and farming; more than 96,000,000 acres are woodland; 76,000,000 acres contain forests of commercial value, and about an equal area is at present desert land. The Globe estimates that the arable portion alone would furnish homes and farms for 10,000,000 people, and that the timber from woodland and forest would suffice to build comfortable homes, not only for our present population, but for many generations to come. The Globe therefore pleads for "expansion from within," and very correctly says that improved facilities for irrigation are essential to bring the now unused land into cultivation. Is there not considerable danger that in our craze for expansion toward the Orient we are neglecting our opportunities at home as well as violating national traditions?

Russia and Great Britain are too wise to fight over the Chinese question. While they fought the other members of the concert would jump in and take the territory in dispute.

Mr. T. C. Platt appears to be suffering from a severe attack of gubernatorial elephantiasis.

The fact that Aguinaldo has already been killed several times ought to be taken into consideration by the administration in fixing the remainder of his punishment.

By paying particular attention to several senatorial elections the Cubans will get some idea of the splendid system of self-government we are going to teach them.

A party may achieve a temporary success by compromising with evil, but better a party defeated in a fight for principle than a party triumphant through compromise with wrong.

THURSTON FAVORS CARTER.

Does Not Wish to Be Permanent Chairman for St. Louis.

WASHINGTON, April 5.—It is expected that the newly appointed St. Louis World's fair commission will meet in St. Louis Monday, April 15, or within a day or two of that date. Senator Thurston, who is acting as temporary chairman until the board selects its president and secretary, said today that in all probability Secretary Hay of the state department would call a meeting for April 15, although ex-Senator Lindsay had said it would be impossible for him to leave New York before April 20, but as the people of St. Louis are clamoring for the government commission to get together there is every reason to believe that the board will be convened speedily.

Ex-Senator Thurston was considerably put out today when he read reports in morning papers to the effect that he had been selected as chairman of the commission.

"There has been no chairman selected," said the Nebraskan. "I was asked to look after a few preliminary matters by the secretary of state pending a formal meeting of the board in St. Louis. I have never been a candidate for president of the commission and I am for Senator Carter for that place. There is too much work attached to the chairmanship for me, and realizing this I cannot understand why the report was sent out that I had been made chairman. My name was first of those mentioned as appointees for the reason, I presume, that President McKinley tendered me the place first. I know of no other reason. I have, as I said before, no desire to be president of the commission. I realize the responsibilities and my only desire is to help St. Louis make the greatest exposition the world has ever seen."

George D. Meiklejohn, ex-assistant secretary of war, is to be given, it is understood, a loving cup on behalf of the army officers, bureau chiefs and clerks connected with the war department. The cup is to be a massive silver piece and if it cannot be made in time for its presentation to Mr. Meiklejohn before he leaves for the west, it will be sent to him.

DENIES STORY OF VISIT.

Hay Says There is No Truth in Report of Aguinaldo's Coming.

WASHINGTON, April 5.—The president and Secretary Hay were in conference for almost an hour this morning. Secretary Root was present a portion of the time. The subject of the consultation was not disclosed, although it was surmised that it related to the Chinese situation. Secretary Hay stated that the government had no official advice confirming the press reports that China had definitely refused to sign the Manchurian agreement with Russia.

Secretary Root pronounced the stories that Aguinaldo had been invited to come or that he was coming to the United States in the immediate future to be baseless. After the secretary of state and secretary of war departed Lord Pauncefoot, the British ambassador, called at the White House and was received by the president in the blue parlor. The official explanation of the British ambassador's visit, given out at the White House, was that he called to impart the acknowledgment of the British government for the expressions of regret on the death of Queen Victoria.

WASHINGTON CREDITS IT.

Believes Spain Has Ratified Treaty of Friendship.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 5.—Although so far without official confirmation, the report that the Spanish council has approved the draft of the new treaty of commercial friendship between the United States and Spain finds credence here. Minister Storer has been working negotiating a whole fabric of treaties to take the place of those wiped out by the Spanish war. His first work was the proposition of an extradition treaty and this is now practically complete.

Great difficulty was found in arriving at a common basis for the negotiations for the treaty of commerce and friendship. But it is believed that Mr. Storer has succeeded and that American imports to Spain, which since the war have paid almost prohibitory maximum duties, will secure substantial reductions that will result in enlarged trade.

Two Deaths From Plague.

CAPETOWN, April 5.—Two deaths from bubonic plague and one suspected case were officially reported today, the lowest record since the outbreak of the disease in Capetown.

May Settle Fishery Dispute.

LONDON, April 5.—Mr. Robert Bogi, the premier and colonial secretary of Newfoundland, confirms the statement of E. P. Morris, the Newfoundland delegate on the French shore question, who sailed from Liverpool for New York yesterday, that an understanding had been reached on the French shore question, satisfactory to Newfoundland and Great Britain, and which it is hoped will prove satisfactory to France.