

The Bow of Orange Ribbon

A ROMANCE OF NEW YORK

By AMELIA E. BARR

Author of "Friend Olivia," "I, Thou and the Other One," Etc.
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CHAPTER VII.—(Continued.)

"Disgrace! The word goes not with our name, Batavius; and what mean you, then? In one word, speak."

"Well, then, Neil Semple and Capt. Hyde have fought a duel. That is what comes of giving way to passion. I never fought a duel. No one should make me. It is a fixed principle with me."

"Poor Neil! His fault, I am sure, it was not."
"Joanna! Neil is nearly dead. If he had been in the right he would not be nearly dead. The Lord does not forsake a person who is in the right way."

In the hall behind them, Katherine stood. The pallor of her face, the hopeless droop of her white shoulders and arms, were visible in its gloomy shadows. Softly as a spirit she walked, as she drew nearer to them.

"And the Englishman? Is he hurt?"
"Killed. He has at least twenty wounds. Till morning he will not live. It was the councillor himself who separated the men."

"My good Joris, it was like him."
For a moment Katherine's consciousness reeled. The roar of the ocean which girds our life round was in her ears, the feeling of chill and collapse at her heart. But with a supreme will she took possession of herself. "Weak I will not be. All I will know. All I will suffer." And with these thoughts she went back to the room and took her place at the table. In a few minutes the rest followed. Batavius had anticipated Adam's amazement and shock. He had felt a just satisfaction in the suffering he was bringing to Katherine. But nothing had happened as he expected. The meal, instead of being pleasantly lengthened over such dread intelligence, was hurried and silent.

It was some comfort that after it Joanna and he could walk in the garden and talk the affair thoroughly. Secretly they watched them away, suits of his hand to her room. And the governess wept! She took from the govern place the few letters her Rome and written her, and she with the sister them as women mourned. Roost, emities. In the full tide Hay, Presid, Lysbet stood at the ed to have heard the inarticulate ferences to, and her heart ached for Hague. The she had followed her to only consent, fort, to weep with her; versy to at a child to be soothed had expressed her kiss. She had bestration to, and a woman's sorrow Roosevelt, suggestion of, red to the. His face was troubled, No fear is disarranged and blood-istration that Lysbet never remember- brought in him so completely ex- any manner in is with Neil," he embarrassing not be home."

An intimate carry—the other. To tions which he took him."
by the Europe is pierced through. deto Castro p, has, and a great spirit, was willing, ish not for his death, the arbitratl him?"
velt, practically, he was when I left has two of the me. Does Katherine ed proposed s which might b- ing to the pres- her room thou could the responsibility crying! My heart e sorrowful one!"

It is under- one, but learn it is. pass, but it a- ve would pass it by, amount of cas- her good it is."
Venezuela bet- ing was the sabbath, nearly so large questions suggested. It is not possi- and Lysbet Van the allies insist- felt that he must Castro, and wh- fully exonerated of and-guiltiness by the no arrangement- ders and deacons in Madam could hard- ight of the glances

W. J. BRYAN at her daughter, slights she would Visit Varied by fine's piteous en- cial to, and she was MEXICO CITY, morning would have visit has been her. She was un- for the solitude of ceived in audien- ce and silence, in and Minister of ave the relief of Mrs. Bryan and ing. About the shrine of thorning, she heard Bram had not

Last evening the's staying from confronted him, a train for Cor- woe-begone, his will travel over ty for her. With- cific road to All- ur hours he had baecienda. The past the temptation had been; begun "The government- love never asks, ough Mr. Bryan- Of what country silver as his view- father? He e lived he must hen as she stood e shadowy store Miriam made him ne. Postmaster at Cory at me, Bram, postmaster suf- Batavius will spector had check- my side; and disgrace I have nd found him to- ou? Wilt thou eening was found- k I shall die of the rear of his resi- round over his rig- er clutched in his

will not. And those that are angry with thee may be angry with me also."

"Bram! my Bram! my brother! There is one comfort for me,—if I knew that he still lived; if one hope thou could give me!"

"What hope there is, I will go and see, and, if there is good news, I will be glad for thee."

Not half an hour was Bram away; and yet, to the miserable girl, how grief and fear lengthened out the moments! When Bram came back, it was with a word of hope on his lips.

"I have seen," he said, "who dost thou think?—the Jew Cohen. He of all men, he has sat by Capt. Hyde's side all night; and he has dressed the wound the English surgeon declared 'beyond mortal skill.' And he said to me, 'Three times, in the Persian desert, I have cured wounds still worse, and the Holy One hath given me the power of healing; and, if He wills, the young man shall recover.' That is what he said, Katherine."

"Forever I will love the Jew. Though he fail, I will love him. So kind he is, even to those who have not spoken well, nor done well, to him."
At this moment the family returned from the morning service, and Bram rather defiantly drew his sister to his side. Joris was not with them. He had stopped at the "King's Arms" to ask if Capt. Hyde was still alive; for, in spite of everything, the young man's heroic cheerfulness in the agony of the preceding night had deeply touched Joris. No one spoke to Katherine; even her mother was annoyed and humiliated at the social ordeal through which they had just passed, and she thought it only reasonable that the erring girl should be made to share the trial.

As the time went on poor Katherine Van Heemskirk shivered and sickened in the presence of averted eyes and uplifted shoulders, and in that chill atmosphere of disapproval which separated her from the sympathy and confidence of her old friends and acquaintances.

"It is thy punishment," said her mother, "bear it bravely and patiently. In a little while, it will be forgot." But weeks went on, and the wounded man slowly fought death away from their pillows, and Katherine did not recover the place in social estimation which she had lost through the ungovernable tempers of her lovers.

But nothing ill lasts forever; and in three months Neil Semple was in his office again, and worn with fever and suffering, and wearing his sword arm in a sling, but still decidedly world-like and life-like. It was evident that public opinion was in a large measure with him, and though in the Middle Kirk the affair was sure to be the subject of a reproof, and of a suspension of its highest privileges, yet it was not difficult to feel the sympathy often given to deeds publicly censured, but privately admired. Joris remarked this spirit with a little astonishment and dissent. He could not find in his heart any excuse for either Neil or Hyde; and when the elder enlarged with some acerbity upon the requirements of honor among men, Joris offended him by replying:

"Well, then, elder, little I think of that 'honor' which runs not with the laws of God and country."
"Let me tell you, Joris, the 'voice of the people is the voice of God,' in a measure; and you may see with your ain e'en that it mair that acquits Neil o' wrong-doing. Man, Joris! would you punish a fair sword-fight wi' the hangman?"

"A better way there is. In the pillory I would stand these men of honor, who of their own feelings think more than of the law of God. A very quick end that punishment would put to a custom wicked and absurd."
"Weel, Joris, we'll hae no quarrel ament the question. Here comes Neil, and we'll let the question fa' to the ground. There are wiser men than either you or I on both sides."

Joris nodded gravely, and turned to welcome the young man. More than ever he liked him; for, apart from moral and prudential reasons, it was easy for the father to forgive an unreasonable love for his Katherine. Also, he was now more anxious for a marriage between Neil and his daughter. It was indeed the best thing to fully restore her to the social esteem of her own people; for by making her his wife, Neil would most emphatically exonerate her from all blame in the quarrel. Just this far, and no farther, had Neil's three months' suffering aided his suit,—he had now the full approval of Joris, backed by the weight of this social justification.

But, in spite of these advantages, he was really much farther away from Katherine. She had heard from Bram the story of the challenge and the fight; heard how patiently Hyde had parried Neil's attack, her than return it, until Neil had a passionately refused any satisfaction less than his life; heard, also, how even at the point of death, fainting and falling, Hyde had tried to protect her ribbon at his breast. She never wearied of talking with Bram on the subject; she thought of it all day, dreamed of it all night.

And she knew much more about it than her parents or Joanna supposed. Bram had easily fallen into the habit of calling at Cohen's to ask after his patient. At first he saw Miriam often; and, when he did, life became a heavy-

thing to Bram Van Heemskirk, Katherine very soon suspected how matters stood with her brother, and gratitude led her to talk with him about the lovely Jewess.

But for some weeks after the duel she could not bear to leave the house. It was only after both men were known to be recovering, that she ventured to kirk; and her experience there was not one which tempted her to try the streets and the stores. However, no interest is a living interest in a community but politics; and far more important events had now the public attention. During the previous March, the Stamp Act and the Quartering Act had passed both houses of Parliament; and Virginia and Massachusetts, conscious of their dangerous character, had roused the fears of the other Provinces; and a convention of their delegates was appointed to meet during October in New York. It was this important session which drew Neil Semple, with scarcely healed wounds from his chamber. The streets were noisy with hawkers crying the detested Acts, and crowded with groups of stern-looking men discussing them.

It was during this time of excitement that Katherine said one morning, at breakfast, "Bram, wait one minute for me. I am going to Kip's store for my mother."

At the store, Bram left her, and after selecting the goods her mother needed, Katherine was going up Pearl street, when she heard herself called in a familiar and urgent voice. At the same moment a door was flung open; and Mrs. Gordon, running down the few steps, put her hand upon the girl's shoulder.

"Oh, my dear, this is a piece of good fortune past belief! Come into my lodgings. Oh, indeed you shall! I will have to excuse. Surely you owe Dick and me some reward after the pangs we have suffered for you."

She was leading Katherine into the house as she spoke; and Katherine had not the will, and therefore not the power, to oppose her. She placed the girl by her side on the sofa; she took her hands, and, with a genuine grief and love, told her all that "poor Dick" had suffered and was still suffering for her sake.

Katherine covered her face, and sobbed with a hopelessness and abandonment that equally fretted Mrs. Gordon.

"If I could only see Richard,—only see him for one moment!"

"That is exactly what I am going to propose. He will get better when he has seen you. I will call a coach, and we will go at once."

"Alas! Go I dare not. My father and my mother!"

"And Dick,—what of Dick, poor Dick, who is dying for you?" She went to the door and gave the order for a coach. "Your lover, Katherine. Child, have you no heart? Put on your bonnet again. Here also are my veil and cloak. No one will perceive that it is you. It is the part of humanity, I assure you. Do so much for a poor soul who is at the grave's mouth."

While thus alternately urging and persuading Katherine, the coach came, the disguise was assumed, and the two drove rapidly to the "King's Arms." Hyde was lying upon a couch which had been drawn close to the window. He was yet too weak to stand, too weak to endure long the strain of company or books or papers.

He heard his aunt's voice and footfall, and felt, as he always did, a vague pleasure in her advent. Whatever of life came through her. She brought him daily such intelligences as she thought conducive to his recovery; and it must be acknowledged that it was not always her "humor to be truthful." For Hyde had so craved news of Katherine, that she believed he would die wanting it; and she had therefore fallen, without one conscientious scruple, into the reporter's temptation,—inventing the things which ought to have taken place, and did not.

(To be continued.)

FOLLY OF REVISION

NO CONDITION CALLS FOR TARIFF TINKERING.

Scripture Says: "They That Be Well Need Not a Physician, But They That Are Sick."—The Country Is Too Healthy for Quack Remedies.

"The extraordinary prosperity of the country makes ridiculous any and all assertions that the tariff is so bad that it must be revised immediately to relieve the people of its burdens." In this single sentence the New York Commercial Advertiser expresses the situation with truth and force. It is not true that the country is suffering because of tariff burdens or tariff inequalities. It is not true, because, as everybody knows, the country is phenomenally prosperous under the tariff as it is—so prosperous, indeed, that to open up a period of tariff agitation and uncertainty at this time would seem to be an act of inconceivable folly. Senator Burrows of Michigan was right in saying that the time to make modifications in tariff schedules is not when the country is everywhere prosperous, but when business depression exists, which can be cured or alleviated by tariff changes. "They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick." This country is not sick. It does not require the services of a tariff tinkering doctor. The prospect of a tariff revision at such a time would make business sick. Even the appointment of a commission to revise the tariff, as the Commercial Advertiser truly says, would create uncertainty and unsettled conditions. No business man would know what changes were contemplated or whether Congress would or would not concur in any recommendation of changes. No calculations beyond the immediate future could be formed and no contracts for a considerable period ahead could be made. Business would have, what business does not want and cannot endure: uncertainty. As Andrew Carnegie has expressed it, "A tariff commission would have to be doing something." Doing what? Doing something with the tariff, of course. Just what it would do, business men would not know. Result, doubt, indecision, uncertainty. These are bad for business, bad for industry, bad for employment, and bad for wage paying.

Senator Scott of West Virginia has lately said:

"But there is one subject upon which I can speak for West Virginia, as represented in both branches of Congress. We are all agreed that we want no revision of the tariff. The Dingley law suits us right down to the ground. One Republican who got scared about the tariff was Mr. Foss of Massachusetts. The result was that his district elected a Democrat. I think that all Republicans should stand firmly against all assaults upon our protective tariff."

Is not this the manifestly correct stand for all Republicans? Is it not the best stand to take for the country and for the party? Congressman Babcock thinks not. He wants an extra session of the Fifty-eighth Congress called to tear up the tariff. Senator Dewey thinks the time has arrived when the tariff should be readjusted to meet changed conditions. We did that in 1897. We readjusted the tariff not only to meet changed conditions, but as a means of changing the then existing conditions. We succeeded in changing the conditions from ruin and distress to a degree of unparalleled prosperity. Shall we change conditions once more? If so, in what direction shall we change them? Certainly not for the better. Tariff revision downward has never been known to change conditions for the better. It has always changed them for the worse. It will do it again if the revision movement is persisted in. Tariff revision upward is the only sort of revision that has ever benefited this country. Nobody is pressing for tariff revision upward, though in some directions an increase in the duties would be distinctly advantageous. But nobody proposes that. If revised at all, the tariff is to be revised downward, always downward. The country does not want that, and if it is done, the country will suffer for it. This is no time to revise the tariff. Let prosperity alone for at least two years to come, and perhaps by that time we shall have become so accustomed to prosperity that we shall have grown to like it. At present it really seems as if some people could not endure it.

Prosperity Was the Issue. The result of the late election shows that, as claimed by the Republicans, the real issue was prosperity. The Democrats attacked national prosperity through the tariff, and the Republicans met them on that issue and won. The old issue between the parties was once more brought to the front, and the voters were asked to pass judgment upon the question of protection to American industries. The Republican party heartily welcomed the issue. There is nothing in its great record of which it is more proud, or in defense of which it can invoke more splendid and conclusive facts. The party is always fully prepared to meet its opponents in a discussion of the tariff policy before the people, confident that the history of the last four years, to go no further back, would amply vindicate and justify Republican policy, which is as necessary to-day to American labor and industry as at any time in the past.

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