

# LAFFITE of LOUISIANA

BY MARY DEVEREUX  
WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY DON C. WILSON  
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## CHAPTER XXVII.

Early in December, 1814, Gen. Jackson, arrived at New Orleans.

Lafitte had, some time before this, at Shell Island, seen a copy of the proclamation issued by Jackson while yet at Mobile, after the general had received from Gov. Claiborne a full statement of the proposition made to Lafitte by the English, together with the Baratarian leader's offer of service on behalf of himself and his followers.

Between 8 and 9 o'clock of an evening toward the middle of December, Jackson and Gov. Claiborne were seated in the library of the latter's residence, engaged in an earnest discussion of some of the many perplexing questions with which they were confronted.

"We are too weak, by far, I tell you, Claiborne," Gen. Jackson was saying with irascible emphasis, "and without anything like a sufficient strength to meet what is now at our very doors. I feel—to be frank with you—some doubt of our ability to sustain the present enthusiasm of these people who were talking so lately of capitulating to damned Britishers."

"Capitulating!" echoed the governor. "Surely, general, at this late date, and in the face of the pledges they have made, neither the legislature nor the citizens would return to any such idea."

"I am not so sure of that, if they were forced, as are you and I, to realize that the enemy outnumber us ten or more to one," growled Jackson.

Before the governor—whose back was to the door—could reply to this outburst, he became aware that a third person had entered the room; and he glanced over his shoulder to see who it might be, while his face showed the irritation he felt at any one presuming to interrupt him at such a time.

But his expression changed to one of mingled anger and consternation; and Jackson, who had been sternly regarding the intruder, started to his feet.

After bowing respectfully, the newcomer stood silent, while his black eyes searched with curious intentness the stern face of Gen. Jackson, whose right hand had stolen into the breast of his coat.

The governor, who had risen when he saw the key turned in the door, now made a step or two toward the chair where lay his sword; but the stranger, picking up the weapon before Claiborne could reach it, presented

made were true, and my former offer was submitted in perfect good faith, inspired by earnest desire to fulfill my duty to the country in which I have made my home, and whose laws I have never been found guilty of transgressing. All I asked in return was that the names of myself and followers should be freed from the obloquy which has unjustly become attached to them."

Lafitte's words and manner were full of stern dignity, and Claiborne made neither reply nor comment. Jackson, however, accepted the implied challenge.

"Have you never been accused of smuggling, and slave-trading, Capt. Lafitte, and of being a privateer?" he asked, in a tone of dry sarcasm.

"Accused, yes; but never convicted," was the quick reply. "I was once, as Gov. Claiborne will tell you, indicted; but I was tried before an impartial judge, and acquitted by a jury composed of the foremost citizens of the state."

Jackson's face expressed surprise, and he glanced inquiringly at Claiborne, who nodded, as if in affirmation of the statement. Then the former, again turning his stern eyes upon Lafitte, asked, "How is it with you in regard to privateering?"

"Let me ask how it is with you, Gen. Jackson, and with your own country, in regard to privateering?" And a curl of scorn touched Lafitte's lips. "Tell me, I pray you, sir, how many scores of vessels, flying the flag of the United States, are, at this moment, preying upon foreign commerce?"

"But only upon the commerce of Great Britain, with whom we are at war," declared Jackson, his grim features relaxed—but only for an instant—by a satisfied smile; "and they are acting under regular letters of marque and reprisal."

"True; and the vessels in which I have been interested acted under letters of marque from the Republic of Cartagena, and sailed under the flag of that nation. Never, since I controlled them, have they interfered with the ships of any nation excepting Spain, with whom, as you are aware, the Republic of Cartagena is at war."

Jackson was silent, and glanced scowlingly at Claiborne, who was tapping the table absently, and appeared absorbed by his own reflections.

"I thank you, general," Lafitte resumed, speaking with less emphasis, "for the opportunity you have

"But it matters not at whose instigation the outrage was committed. The facts are as I have stated, and what is past must stand. Now, Gen. Jackson, may I ask that you open that package, and read the papers it contains?"

As Jackson perused the first paper, the impressions he gathered were plainly observable in his look, and half-audible comments.

"Fine bombast," he growled, before going very far. Then, a little way on, "Sophomoric rubbish! Savors of Elton, with some of George the Third's silly maunders." And so on, until the end was reached.

Claiborne had seated himself closer to Jackson; and presently, the latter, with an exclamation of the strongest disgust, handed him the paper.

"Here, Claiborne, you have seen a copy of this; but you had better refresh your memory by reading the original."

The governor took the paper, and had begun to read it, when, chancing to glance at Lafitte, he was puzzled by the expression of the latter's face.

He was leaning back in his chair, his lips half-parted, and his face softened by a glow seeming to come from an inward light, as his eyes rested upon something hanging against the wall, back of the governor.

It was an old engraving of Napoleon, one that, as the governor knew, was brought from Barataria by a soldier from whom he—an ardent admirer of the emperor—had rescued it.

The thought of this made him—in the new light thrown by Lafitte's accusations with reference to the attack upon Barataria—feel uncomfortable; for, should Lafitte recognize the picture as his own property, its present possessor would be placed in an unenviable position.

He had forced his eyes back to the paper, whose contents he recalled quite accurately. But now, with the impression already made upon him by Lafitte, and the latter's face—as he had just seen it—intruding itself between his eyes and the writing, he was forced to acknowledge to himself that, pirate and outlaw as he had been named, the Baratarian leader had shown the greatest generosity and patriotism, together with a personal courage which appealed strongly to his—the governor's—sense of loyalty.

Possessed by this feeling, he glanced again at the younger man, to see him still looking in the same direction, apparently oblivious of all surroundings, while his rapt expression made the governor wonder.

Jean Lafitte's heart was in communion with that pictured face, and with its original, whom he seemed to be once more facing upon Elba, looking into the eyes that had rested so kindly upon him at the last, and hearing the voice uttering words of old-time affection.

(To be continued.)

SIMPLE LIFE IN JERSEY.

Inhabitants Not All Imbued With the Spirit of the Octopus.

"How far is it to Somerville?" asked the newspaper photographer.

"Nigh on six miles," replied the village shoemaker, looking up from his last.

"Can I get somebody here to drive me over?"

"I'll do it, if you'll wait till I hitch up."

In a few minutes the team was ready, and the cobbler and his passenger were on the way.

"Pretty quiet life you lead up here in the hills," observed the photographer.

"Yes, pretty quiet—not much doing, like there is down in town. But I manage to make a living."

"Shoemaking profitable, is it?"

"No, not very. I s'pose I'll average 80 cents a week at that. But I do other things, you see. I carry the papers, and that's good for a dollar twice a week, and that's another dollar. And I do barbering, too. Some weeks I make \$4 clear, but generally not more than three-fifty. We get along somehow, me and my family, and we ain't gone hungry yet. Once in a long while somebody wants to be took over to Somerville, and then when I strike it rich. Oh, you needn't think I ain't going to soak you!" And he smiled broadly upon the passenger beside him.

The photographer remembered that he had less than \$5 in his pocket.

"How much will you charge me?" he asked.

"Well, you work for one of them big, rich metropolitan papers, and I'm going to make you pay as much as—75 cents, by gum!"—Newark News.

## Cheese Brought the Tears

Christine Nilsson and Signor Tagliapietra, at one time co-members of the Strakosch Grand Opera company at the Academy of Music, New York city, figured in an episode a la limburger, says a writer in Lippincott's, most inappropriate in consideration of their nationalities.

One evening "Faust" was the opera scheduled to be given, Nilsson the Marguerite, the late Del Puente (altering barytone) the Valentine, and so on. Tagliapietra was "off," and had invited some German friends to a "small and late" at the then famous old Moretti restaurant in East Fourteenth street. As the dinner was drawing to a close the singer found the feast lacking in what he considered the essential limburger cheese for his Teutonic guests, and ascertaining Moretti could not supply them with it, rushed forth to an establishment in the vicinity, where he purchased a quantity and was returning therewith when he ran into the arms of the Impresario Strakosch, who was tearing about distractedly to find him.

"Come quickly, Tag," Del Puente has taken ill," he gasped. "The curtain is up and there is no one to finish the part of Valentine."

Remonstrances from the barytone proving vain, he was obliged to hasten to the "academy," where, depositing the cheese in a corner of his dressing room, he donned his costume and dispatching a note to his friends at the restaurant "to keep it until he was dead, when he would rejoin them," he answered his "call" and went on the stage.

Before appearing for his death scene Tagliapietra bethought him of his purchase, and, to his dismay, discovered that members of the chorus had demolished half of it during his absence from the room.

At white heat of anger over the theft he seized what remained, and before he could find a safe hiding place for it his "call" came, so shouting the limburger within the breast of his doublet, he rushed "on."

During his death agonies Mrs. Moretti throws herself prone across her brother's body, bending over tearfully to kiss him. The audience said Nilsson had never acted the part so realistically, little dreaming when she raised herself so suddenly and faced them with that horrified expression and tear-streaked eyes, which they naturally ascribed to a passion of remorse, were merely due to a too close contact with the barytone's limburger cheese.

Wife Was Good Manager

Mrs. Benton had been away for a much-needed vacation, and "Aunt Jane," her husband's sister, had kept house for her. When she came home the house looked bright and shining, but Jane seemed a good deal depressed.

"The two women sat down together the next morning, after Mr. Benton had gone to his office, and took account of stock.

"I don't believe you've had a very good time, after all," said Mrs. Benton, looking at her sister-in-law keenly, after they had discussed the state of the larder.

"Oh, yes," was the answer. "Only I feel sort of depressed, I've made so many mistakes."

"How did you know they were mistakes?" inquired Mrs. Benton. "Did Henry tell you?"

"Well, yes, I suppose so. He did say his wife was the only good manager he knew. That was after I'd bought those canned soups, and had to send them back because they were the wrong kind."

"What made you tell him they were the wrong kind? Why didn't you serve

## Dispepsia Yields

A NINE YEARS' VICTIM FINDS A REMEDY THAT CURES.  
For Two Years Too Weak to Work—A Dozen Doctors Had Tried to Check Disease. Treatment That Succeeded.

All sufferers from weakness or disorders of the digestive organs will read with lively interest the story of the complete recovery of Mrs. Nettie Darvoux from chronic dyspepsia which was thought to be incurable.

"To be ailing for nine years is not a very pleasant experience," said Mrs. Darvoux, when asked for some account of her illness. "For two years I was critically ill and could not attend to my household duties, and at one time I was so weak and miserable that I could not even walk. My trouble was chronic dyspepsia. I became extremely thin and had a sallow complexion. I had no appetite and could not take any food without suffering great distress."

"Did you have a physician?"

"Yes, I took medicine from a dozen different doctors, but without getting any benefit whatever."

"How did you get on the track of a cure?"

"A book about Dr. Williams' Pink Pills was thrown in our doorway one day. My husband picked it up and read it through carefully. He was so impressed by the statements of those who had been cured by that remedy that he immediately bought three boxes of the pills and insisted on my taking them."

"Did they help you at once?"

"I began to feel better the second day after I started to use the pills and by the time I had taken the three boxes I was entirely well. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills can cure even when doctors fail, and they cure thoroughly, for a long time has passed since my restoration to health and I know it is complete and lasting."

The surest way to make sound digestion is to give strength to the organs concerned. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills give new vigor to the blood. No other remedy yields such radical results.

Mrs. Darvoux lives at No. 497 Sixth street, Detroit, Mich. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are sold by all druggists in every part of the world. Dyspeptics should send to the Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Schenectady, N. Y., for a new booklet entitled "What to Eat and How to Eat."

WHO OWNS THE RAILROADS?  
H. T. Newcomb of the District of Columbia Bar, has compiled statistics showing that 5,174,718 depositors in savings banks of six eastern states are directly interested in the joint ownership of \$42,354,086 of steam railroad securities, that insurance companies doing business in Massachusetts hold \$845,889,028 of steam railroad stocks and bonds and 74 educational institutions depend on \$47,468,327 invested in similar securities for a portion of their income. Other fiduciary institutions own enough railroad securities to bring such holding up to more than a billion and a half dollars, about one-sixth of the entire capital invested in railroad property. These investments represent the savings of the masses, there being twenty million holders of life insurance policies in the country, as many more of fire insurance policies, and an even greater number of depositors in banking and trust institutions, where investments are largely in railroad securities.

Weather prophets have more home competition than honor.

GOOD ROADS SPECIAL.  
The Burlington and Northern Pacific Roads Will Run Train to Pacific Coast in Interest of Good Roads.

Arrangements have been completed between the National Good Roads Association and the officials of the Burlington and Northern Pacific roads, to install a Good Roads Special over these systems, to leave Chicago Wednesday, May 3. It is to be known as the Burlington & Northern Pacific Lewis & Clark Good Roads Special, and will cover an itinerary of 45 to 50 of the principal and most progressive cities of the systems.

The object of this itinerary is for the agitation, education and organization of communities for permanent improvement of primary roads, and to aid cities in questions of street paving, etc. Government experts and men of national reputation will go on this Special, and participate in the conventions. The entire arrangement is concerned, have been passed over to the charge of W. H. Manss, Industrial Commissioner. After completing the itinerary of Burlington cities the Special will continue from Billings to the Pacific Coast, over the Northern Pacific, and will hold a final convention the last of June, to be known as the Pacific Coast National Good Roads Convention. The full equipment of the Special is provided for by the Burlington and Northern Pacific roads, whose object is to aid the cities on their systems in the improvement of public roads. The first stops will be in seven or eight principal cities of Illinois, then a number of cities in Missouri, also in Iowa, Nebraska, Wyoming, Montana, Washington and Oregon.

Aspiration proves itself by perspiration.

W. L. Douglas Shoes  
UNION MADE \$3.50 & \$3.00 SHOES FOR MEN.  
W. L. Douglas shoes are the greatest sellers in the world because of their excellent style, easy fitting and superior wearing qualities. They are just as good as those that cost from \$5.00 to \$7.00. The only difference is the price. W. L. Douglas shoes are sold through his own retail stores in every city and town in the world. They are made of the best material, and are of great value to the consumer. Buy W. L. Douglas shoes on the market to-day. You will find them better value than any other shoes you can buy. W. L. Douglas shoes are made in the United States. Buy them in the bottom of each shoe. Look for the name. W. L. Douglas shoes are sold through his own retail stores in every city and town in the world. They are made of the best material, and are of great value to the consumer. Buy W. L. Douglas shoes on the market to-day. You will find them better value than any other shoes you can buy. W. L. Douglas shoes are made in the United States. Buy them in the bottom of each shoe. 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