



CHAPTER XVII (CONTINUED) He speaks fiercely, his face working, his fingers clenched in the palms of his hands. "And I will be known to be guilty, too," moans Gardner, "one that has always been square and honest."



"What do you mean," he says hurriedly. "You return to your house, tell your wife everything. It will not make much difference now for now West Chester will know it before noon to-morrow. Wrap the child up warmly and carry her to my house. You can return with your own. To-morrow I shall explain everything to Belknap. He understands my position. Will you know that there is probability in my story. Then the notebook must be found, and all will be proven—you understand me."

On his return to his house, he found for him, put him out of the way, took the money and jewelry from the dead man to avert suspicion. But why in the devil did he take the notebook, and why tear out a leaf? He could not have known of Adrian Dyke's plot. Let me think! He might have followed his partner and in some way overheard the master and man arrange matters. Then, determined to kill two birds with one stone, killed the old man, tore out the leaf to hold it over Dyke's head to force him to give up some of his money and then went back to the house, forced his way into the library, and put the book in the desk, thinking perhaps it might be found and suspicion would fall on Adrian Dyke. By the hokey! There's a plot for you. The house was burglarized that night; the thief left his plunder behind him. A professional would not have done that. No burglar would run the risk of being caught in the act of breaking into a house and then leave his 'graft' behind him. A man like Dr. Gareau would. The plate might turn up to appear against him. He could not dispose of it, he took it only for a blind.

There will be loss when she knows all. What is there in life for him to live for? Nothing. Only exposure, which will bring no recompense now. Only disgrace, shame, the stings of an outraged conscience. "The way of the transgressor is hard." Ah, he begins to feel it. "In what does it benefit a man if he gains the whole world and loses his own soul?" True! Soul! Blackened with the crime of an unnatural parent! Damned by the death of the little treasure, sent helpless and feeble, entrusted to his care to bring joy to his heart! But he has cast her out. She is dead. He would be better dead. Who would miss him? Not one, unless it be the faithful Conrad, or perhaps his brother, that brother upon whom he has turned his hungry back in the days gone by. Will he miss him, mourn for him? His wife? No! She will mourn at first, perhaps, but after? Not one bit. The money which is coming to him from his aunt will so lace her. She can live well upon \$20,000. She married him for his money anyhow.



"I have escaped you," teased man struggles to release himself. "No use," remarks Tucker. "You can't get away from me." "Let me go. You do not know what you are doing. In God's name do not thwart me!" "Listen, Mr. Dyke, I know everything. It is pretty tough I am willing to admit, but you won't better it any by jumping into the lake; besides it's an original offence, and I, as an officer of the law, can't stand by and see it done. Come, if you will promise me to go home, I'll go with you that far to see that harm don't come to you. If you won't I'll be forced to handcuff you and take you to jail. Take your choice."

UPROAR IN THE HOUSE EXCITED WRANGLE OVER A DEFENSE OF SECESSION Mr. Barrett Introduces a Resolution to Censure Mr. Talbot of South Carolina for Remarks Treasonable in Character—The Motion Referred. WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—The debate on the Senate free silver substitute for the House bill proceeded steadily in the House to-day. The House met at 10 o'clock with less than thirty members present and a few stragglers in the galleries. Mr. Newlands of Nevada, awoke the empty echoes of the big hall with a vigorous argument in favor of the free and independent coinage of silver. He asserted that not one debtor nation in the world had maintained the gold standard except the United States and we had done so at the price of continued bond issues.

MONROE DOCTRINE AGAIN Senator Allen of Nebraska Gives His Views on the Subject. WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—Senator Allen of Nebraska addressed the Senate to-day on the Monroe doctrine resolution. He contended that the Monroe doctrine was one of national self-preservation, and that if the invasion of the South American republics by Great Britain will endanger the welfare or menace the safety of this Government in any way, we should resent the action with all the strength and resources of a mighty nation. The United States must be the exclusive judge of when the doctrine is to be applied. The United States, Mr. Allen maintained, cannot permit Great Britain or any other foreign power to determine when and to what extent the acquisition of territory on the Western hemisphere will imperil our Government.

FLOODS IN NEW JERSEY. Boundbrook Devastated by Fire and Water at the Same Time. SOMERSETVILLE, N. J., Feb. 8.—Boundbrook, a town six miles from this place, has been greatly damaged by a flood and by flames. One life has been lost and the town has been deserted. The flood was due to a heavy rainfall which caused the Raritan and Meadowbrook rivers to overflow their banks. While the residents were trying to rescue people from houses in danger of being swept away fire was discovered in the lumber yard of J. D. Cook & Company. The water kept rising in the streets until fighting the flames became impossible. The rescue of people in threatened houses was impeded by the swiftness of the current of water rushing through the streets.

W. H. ENGLISH IS DEAD. The Indiana Statesman Succumbs to a Complication of Diseases. INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Feb. 8.—William H. English is dead. Mr. English was Vice Presidential candidate on the Democratic ticket with Winfield Scott Hancock, who ran for President in 1880. Two weeks ago Mr. English experienced an attack of the grip which resulted in congestion of the mucous membrane of the air passages. This had become much better when inflammatory rheumatism set in. He was worth between \$1,000,000 and \$5,000,000, and was said to be the largest individual owner of real estate in the state of Indiana. Despite their difference in politics he and ex-President Harrison were warm personal friends.