A TALE OF CIVIL STRIFE RANDALL PARRISH LUSTRATIONS 6, C.D. PHODES

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> SYNOPSIS. -14-

Confederate Sergeant Wyatt is sent as a six to his native county on the Green Briar. He meets a mountaineer named Jem Taylor. At a house beyond Hot Springs they meet Major Harwood. Taylor murders Harwood and escapes Wyatt changes to U. S. uniform, escapes to the Green Briar country and goes to Harwood. He introduces himself as Lieutenant Raymond. Parson Nichols comes to the house and Wyatt forces him to confess that he has been sent in advance of Anse Cowan, who proposes to marry Norcen at once, and so quiet title to the land in dispute between the Cowans and Norcen's dead father. Anse Cowan and his gang arrive Wyatt tells Norcen who he is. They force the preacher to silence Unable to escape while the gang is on the first floor and around the house, Wyatt proposes to marry Norcen and protect her from Cowan. She accepts and Wyatt forces the preacher to marry them. Cowen's gang is driven off by Federal thoors, one of whose officers is the real Lieutenant Raymond. Wyatt is trapped, though Norcen attempts to defend him. Wyatt is taken to Lewishurg for trial as a say. The camp communicant and Captain Fox visit Wyatt in his cell in the courthouse basement. He refuses elemency in return for in-ormation, and uses his boyhood's knowledge of the building to escape to the attic and thence to the sheriff's office by means of a dispused, old fashioned changes clothes in the describe washroom and recommonders. He surprises Raymond and the camp commandant, holds them up, and with the assistance of Norcen, gets out of the courthouse.

CHAPTER XIX—Continued. Confederate Sergeant Wyatt is sent

CHAPTER XIX-Continued.

gag you."

"The pleasure is mine; don't menher face, but her eyes were serious.

"Better leave the musket leaning against the wall," I whispered, noting only arouse suspicion. There are two guards at the front entrance?"

'Yes," she answered swiftly, "and you had better give the word. If they | more!" stop you and ask any questions, give them any name you please-only you came with dispatches from General Ramsay two hours ago, and have been with Colonel Pickney ever since. It is less than an hour since the guard was relieved, for Captain Fox left me these men will not know. You under-

"Perfectly. And the countersign?"
"Kanawha."

I hesitated, and her eyes flashed into mine.

"I will go also," she said simply, "for I can guide you through the camp. Draw the cap visor lower down over your eyes-we may meet with someone who saw you brought in as a prisoner. That is better; now we will chat as we go-about-about West Point. Do you remember, lieutenant, that last cadet dance? Captain Fox tells me-"

We turned the corner into the wide entrance hall, strolling slowly side by side, her face turned upward to mine Apparently my eyes were upon her. and I made some inane response to her words, yet I saw the sentries at the door come stiffly to attention, and then cross their musket barrels to bar prise.

"Are there any new orders?" I asked in tone of authority. "You remember passing us in, do you not?"

"We passed the lady, sir," the older man answered respectfully, "but no officer."

"Ah, yes, I see; you are not the same men who were on guard when I arrived. I am Lieutenant Mann. of General Ramsay's staff, and have been with Colonel Pickney. The lady will vouch for me."

"Yes, sir," yet with lingering doubt in his voice. "No doubt it is all right, sir; but the orders are very strict tonight. If you have not the word I shall have to call the sergeant."

"Quite right, my man; but that is not necessary," and I took a step nearer and bent my head. "Kana-

The two men shouldered their muskets, and the older one brought his

hand up in salute.

"Pass, sir," he said soberly, and stood aside. We went down the broad steps, dimly lighted by a distant fire. my hand touching her arm. The infantry camp lay between us and the diers apparently sleeping on the ground. I could perceive only a few tents, showing white in the firelight. but the figures of sentries appeared here and there, slowly pacing their beats. Had I been alone I should have crept forward and endeavored to slip by unseen, but I was conscious of the hand which grasped my sleeve, and my eyes fell to her face.

"You are my guide tonight," I whispered softly. "Have you some plan already devised? There must be instant action."

"Hardly that; this has all occurred had no time in which to think. Isn't it best to go straight ahead, and run the chance?"

"Past the guard yonder?"

"Yes; I am not greatly afraid of him! We have the word, and Captain utterly in your power." Fox and I were together when I ber me, and have no suspicion. Only there may be officers sitting on the strue your real purpose?" veranda of the hotel."

"It looks dark and deserted from here, and the hour is late."

"True; I suppose all who are not on duty are at the dance. Besides. there is no other way in which you can attain the stables. I-I am ready to try it-are you?"

I answered with the pressure of my hand on the fingers clasping my sleeve. There was no response; netther were they withdrawn. She drew a long breath, and stepped bravely forward. The way was clear, easily friends, no defense. Tom, I must go followed even in the darkness, and I on with you!" walked close beside her. Within a few yards of the fellow she gave vent to a little ripple of laughter, barely hang in the morning." I answered, slipped her hand into the support of in their justice—that was the whole amused by his unexpected good hu- my arm. The soldier stood at atten mor. "Sorry, Jack, but I'll have to tion, but made no effort whatever to bar our progress.

We strolled on slowly, passing dition it," and he winked facetiously, rectly beneath the glare of the lamp. with a nod of his head toward the We attempted to talk, but I retain no heavily breathing colonel. I bound a memory of a single word that was bit of rag over his mouth, more to uttered. My heart was beating like give him an excuse for silence than an engine, and my throat was dry, the because I had any fear he would raise inners of one hand gripping the butt an alarm. Noreen had silently opened of a revolver in my belt. I was dimly the door, and slipped out into the cor- aware of the tremor in her voice, the ridor. With a swift glance over the pressing closer to me of her slender three helpless men left behind, I tigure. We passed out beyond the joined her, and tightly closed the door. glow of the revealing light, to where The light of the distant lamp revealed our eyes were able to sweep the darkened porch. There were a dozen chairs standing back of the rail, but none were occupied. She gave a little sob she still grasped the weapon. "It will of relief, both hands nervously grasping my steeve.

"Thank God!" she said fervently, "now if we only have five minutes

CHAPTER XX.

A Step Nearer. "The stables?" I asked. "What

"Officers' mounts; but there were in order to make the rounds, and several others tied at the hitch rail an hour ago. They appeared to be

good stock; better even than the gov-

ernment horses." I could perceive them dimly, from where we skulked in the shadow of the building. I took a step or two forward, circling the house, so as to better approach the animals along the shadow of an orchard fence. I knew she followed close at my heels and,

turning, got a glimpse of her frightened face. "There is no reason why you should worry," I said softly, taking her hands in mine. Now listen to me; your nerves are all unstrung; this night's work has been too much for youtoo much for any girl. And God knows you have done enough for me already. Where are you stopping?

"Y-yes."

Here at the hotel?"

"Then slip inside while there is no one hanging around; and get safely to our exit. I halted as though in sur- your own room. There is nothing more you can do. I will take one of those horses yonder and be off, and I know the country well enough to find my way. Once in the mountains I shall be safe. You will do as I say?"

To my surprise, she looked straight into my face, standing motionless. She seemed to catch her breath, as though

it was difficult to speak. "You mean that-that I am to go to my room?" she asked slowly.

"Certainly; that will be the safest and best thing for you to do. I cannot tell you how grateful I am to you; nothing I can ever do will repay the service you have rendered me. You are a wonderfully brave girl."

"Do you think so? Oh, but I am neither brave nor wonderful. I have scarcely known what I was doing; it didn't seem as if there was anything else I could do. But I know now; I have no doubt any more-unlessunless you refuse to let me.'

"I refuse! I do not understand what I could refuse. All that remains is for on her bridle rein, keeping in the deeper shadows along the side of the you to go to your room. You will be perfectly safe here."

"How will I be safe here?" she asked indignantly. "Do you suppose road. The campfire in front yielded they will spare me, merely because I just enough light to enable me to am a woman? This has not been done study out our surroundings. The band in secret; there are too many who still played noisily in the courtroom know my part in your escape to ever above. The camp was quiet, the sol- keep the truth hidden. Colonel Pickney will have to make his report and place for raiding parties to cross, and shield himself from blame. There is all those hills beyond were full of not an officer here who will stand guerrilla bands eager to strike quick openly in my defense, unless it be and get safely away. That they dared Captain Fox, and he could not help to attack small bodies of troops, and me. Is it under such conditions you desire I remain here?"

"But do you realize what going with

me will inevitably mean?" "Yes, I realize—not only the peril certainly knew of its feasibility, and a the boards are nlumb."

and hardsnip, but every issue involved | the wonder was they had never at made my choice back in the court- lized it before, house It is too late to withdraw."

She paused as though unable to find her eyes

she faltered, driven to it by my conand-and I desired to justify my accause of confidence in my loyalty. Imy duty to aid you. There was no she was the woman I loved. other possible way; no other reason

"In my power, Noreen! Surely you passed here before. He will remem do not think that I will ever take advantage; that I will ever miscon-

> "No! but will you live up to the obligation? Oh, you do not see the situation at all! When I said you were my husband I threw myself on your protection. I-I burned the boats. I am all alone now, unless—unless you stand by me. My father is dead: there is not one person anywhere to whom I can go. If I remain here I shall be placed under arrest before daylight-charged with aiding your escape; perhaps charged with aiding back there; but, if you think it best you in your work-and I have no

I could not ignore her plea, nor would I misconstrue it. It was fear which thus drove her to me; she had "The spy you fellows planned to enough to attract attention, and again more confidence in my kindness than



"I Trust You: Is Not That Enough?"

story. The poor girl was so fright ened she had chosen blindly-she could perceive nothing, realize nothing, except the necessity for immediate escape. My own resolve was instant.

"Do not say any more, Noreen." said soberly, but making no attempt to touch her. "I understand now. You mean you wish to ride with me? You trust me fully?"

"I trust you; is not that enough? All I ask now is, do not leave me here

Her fingers clasped my coat, her eyes suddenly lifted to my face. "Promise me that, Tom," she begged brokenly. "It will be all I ask."

"Surely; we will go together," and gripped her hands tightly in mine. Whatever happens I will do my best. But we must go at once." "Yes, and-and thank you."

We crept forward along the shadow of the orchard fence, until we mingled with the horses fastened at the hitching rail. I selected among them, as best I could in the darkness, two that seemed well adapted to our purpose. I helped her silently into the saddle. thrusting one of my revolvers into the empty holster, and then mounted my

"Which way had we better go?" I asked, my face close, our horses touching.

"Along the south road at first; there is a cut-off just back of the old school."

"And the pickets-do you know where they are posted?" "At the ford of the Green Briar-

the main ford." "There are none at Benton?"

"No; I do not think they even know the river is fordable there; it is not on the maps." We rode forward slowly, my hand

road, until we passed beyond the last house of the village. If the camp was not alarmed for another half hour. our pursuers would be given a hard task. Strange that the Federal scouts had never located the Benton ford. To be sure it was narrow, and of no value in high water, yet an ideal especially poorly guarded wagon trains, had been demonstrated more than once, and this secret ford gave of the instrument, remarked:

The longer I thought the more I began to dread the unknown dangers expression, breathing heavily, and her ahead-the gauntlet we must run be face sank until I could no longer see fore attaining the Confederate lines We could baffle pursuit, but if once we "When-when I told Colonel Pick came into contact with those irreguney that-that you were my husband." lars of the mountains-merchess, irresponsible-no one could predict the tinued silence, "I spoke hastily, it is result I could skulk along through true; for my only thought just then the night, discard my horse, traver was the necessity for saving your life afoot, and thus avoid encountering I felt that-that I could do no less, any of those villains. I was myself a mountaineer, and knew the secret tion. They-they had to know why I trails. But with her beside me, the did it; do you not understand? 1-1 two of us mounted, such a feat was am a Union woman; they have trust almost impossible. I must find her ed me always, these men; even to food and shelter, and we could not night they told me the countersign be travel on horseback without leaving a trail unconcealed To be sure, I was the daughter of an officer on knew her of old; that she was strong General Ramsay's staff. I could not resourceful, fearless-yet she was a so quickly, so unexpectedly, I have let those men think me a traitor. I-I woman to be protected from insult, to had to tell them why it had become be guarded against exposure; more,

But would she be in any less danger which would justify me in such an if I compelled her to return to Lewisact; but-but that confession left me burg? She would be exposed to indignities, to almost certain persecu tion from Raymond.

"Noreen," I said, turning my face toward her. "Do you really think it best to try this ride with me?" "You do not wish me to go?" she

asked, as instantly reining up. "You want me to return?" "No, not that. I have no thought

but for your own good. Only do you understand the perils through which we must pass in those mountains?"

"Yes, I do understand," she answered soberly, "and I comprehend, as you cannot, the danger of my returning to Lewisburg. I will never go for us to part, I will endeavor to reach Charleston alone."

"You would rather go on with me?" "I made that choice, but if you consider me a burden-"

"No, it is not that, Noreen," I interrupted, touched by the regretful tone of her voice. "It was of you I was thinking, not myself. Then we go on together?"

She was silent, her eyes on the darkness ahead.

"It must be your decision." I inisted.

"I made my choice an hour ago," she answered frankly. I waited an instant, thinking she

might say more, but she sat motionless in the saddle. Just what her decision signified I could not judge. It seemed to me that between two dangers she had simply chosen the one she deemed to be the lesser. It was not affection for me, but fear of others, which urged her forward. Grasping her bridle rein, I rode on through | gave an exhibition of worldly wisdom the dark without another word. The decision had been made; now we must both of us abide the consequences. (TO BE CONTINUED.)

REAL MONEY FROM THE OCEAN

Fishing Grounds Yield Abundance of Profit to Those Who Can Take Advantage of Them.

a new gold nfine one is very apt to wink the other eye and hold a trifle tighter to the pocketbook. Also, there is no very great rush to the scene. But it is a different story when some al truist fisherman discovers new fishing grounds and lets the world know of it. Then there is a real rush of fish-

ing boats, for the owners thereof know that such new discoveries are often real gold mines.

Such has proved to be the case with the new halibut grounds discovered in the Pacific, lying due west from North Head, Wash, from 27 to 35 miles off the mouth of the Columbia river. These grounds, whose area and exact location are yet unknown, probably constitute a veritable bank lying immediately between two areas which the bureau of fisheries surveyed with

the steamer Albatross last year. They are reported to be from 9 to 95 fathoms deep and are beyond the 100-fathom line given on the

charts. A small vessel fishing out of Puget sound caught 18,000 pounds of halfbut on these grounds in one day, the largest single day's take this vessel had ever made. During the three weeks ended June 2, 1915, over 200,000 pounds of halibut were brought in from the new gold mines of the ocean.

Cut-Throat Competition. A correspondent of the New York

Sun informs the editor of that paper that a rooster has been discovered which cannot crow. It-or he-can hiss, but the bright chanticlerical call is not for him.

Such are the marvels of science! Each day it conserves a new strength. cuts out waste, diverts energies into useful channels. The matutinal salute of the rooster has long been an example of criminal waste and inefficiency. It announced, at great expense of energy, a perfectly obvious thing-that the sun had risen. Roosters, besides. have been in the babit of trying to "scoop" each other, to score a beat on the sunrise-as if anyone were passionately interested in the matterand the result has been a distressing series of "Extras" called at 2 a. m. Cut-throat competition has killed the rooster.-Philadelphia Evening Led-

Sure of One Thing. The Town Council of a thriving Scotch burg recently acquired a plane for their town hall, and appointed three of their number to inspect and report on the purchase. cilors were not musical experts, but one-a joiner-bending down and applying his eye to the several corners "I'm them easy opportunity. The Cowans nae judge o' music, but I'll warrant ye

INTERNATIONAL **ESSON**

iBy E. O. SELLERS, Acting Director of Sunday School Course of Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.) (Copyright, 1915, Western Newspaper Union.)

LESSON FOR DECEMBER 5

UZZIAH'S PRIDE AND PUNISH-MENT.

LESSON TEXT-II Chron. 26:8-10. 15-21. GOLDEN TEXT-A man's pride shall bring him low, but he that is of a lowly spirit shall obtain honor.-Prov. 29:2 Again we consider the southern

kingdom. No better character could have been chosen to illustrate the condition of rulers and people in the declining days of Judah's glory. Uzziah ruled for 52 years and his reign was almost midway between the days of Solomon and those of the Babylonian captivity.

I. Priest and Parents, vv. 1-5. The name Uzziah means "God has helped me," and no king ever had better advantages in the way of parents and counselors. To the influence of his parents he yielded in his youth (v. 4), followed the good counsel of Zachariah the prophet of God (v. 5), and as long as he sought the Lord, "God made him prosper." Ancestry and environment are not, however, a guaranty of any perpetuity in character.

II. Pride, vv. 6-15. Uzziah er Azariah (marg.) made a fine start and his reign, considered as a whole, was one of the most brilliant in Judah's history. It bears some striking resemblances to that of Solomon in that the dangerous enemies became subject nations (v. 8). In the conduct of his campaigns Uzziah "waxed exceedingly strong" (v. 8 R. V.) Uzziah also greatly improved and strengthened Jerusalem and gave much heed to stock raising and forestry (v. 10). The secret of all of this prosperity was that he sought Jehovah. Christendom is not Christianity, yet it is a fact that in those lands where God is most highly exalted and most nearly followed we witness the greatest prosperity and men living amidst the most comfortable surroundings. Seek Jehovah, know his will as revealed in his word, and do that will when learned, is the only true basis of real and lasting prosperity. Uzziah also that he strengthened the defenses of the nation (v. 9-10). Confidence in God does not paralyze human energy or make us presumptuous and careless (I Chron. 27:25-31). Uzziah brought the army up to a high point of efficiency (v. 13-15), using the best weapons known in his day. We, likewise, may be "marvelously helped" from the same source and upon the same conditions; viz., that we "seek the Lord" (Eph. 6:10; Phi. 5:13). III. Punishment, vv. 16-21. (1) Pride

-Uzziah's fall and shame is one of the saddest chapters in history. His strength became his ruin. "When he was strong his heart was lifted up.' Poverty, struggle and adversity are not passports to glory though they have strengthened the moral fiber of thousands. The tempting tests of prosperity, gilded, perfumed and attractive are, however, far more hard to withstand. Pride always leads to (2) Presumption-Centuries before God had warned men that prosperity would lead to ruin (Deut. 8:11-17; 32:13-15) and Solomon also gave warning (Prov. 16:18). The subtlety of pride is the gradual way by which we come to look upon our prosperity as the work of our own hands, thereby forgetting the source of our power and becoming filled with a feeling of our own self-sufficiency. The next step was that Uzziah assumed to himself those duties (v. 16) which rightfully and exclusively belonged to the priesthood (see Num. 16:40; 18:7; I Kings 12:33; 12:1-4; Heb. 5:4). (3) Protesting-We now behold the strange spectacle of the king protesting for the wrong and the faithful priests Azariah for the right. A sad spectacle indeed when the head of a nation openly avows the wrong and persists in it despite the protests of the servants of God. The last part of verse 18 indicates the extent and perversity of Uzziah's pride. Admonition only aroused the anger of the all-conquering monarch. No honor ever comes from disobeying God (I Sam. 2:30; Dan. 5:37). Uzziah apparently (v. 19) was about to use the censer in his hand as a weapon in execution of his wrath, but God interfered (I Peter 6:6-7). Azariah is saved and Uzziah becomes a leper.

We must not press the teaching that all sickness is the result of sin (read Job).

Uzziah was forever separated (v. 21) and was in his death "unclean" because "His heart was lifted to his destruction."

There are four suggestions in closing: (1) Uzziah's pride had gone too far; secretly and perhaps unconsciously it had slowly, but surely permeated his whole nature.

(2) Leprosy was a fitting punishment, for it was an emblem of the foulness of his sin.

(3) His leprous condition was in marked contrast with what he had formerly enjoyed.

(4) His punishment shut him out effectually from the work of his kingdom-ability, strength, experience and ambition fall before the blighting blast of sin.

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