Ghe DED MI A TALE OF CIVIL STRIFE FRANDALL PARRISH ILLUSTRATIONS & C.D. PHODES A.C. MECLURE &CO.

CHAPTER XXV-Continued.

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"True; if Fox comes through alive; here, and I know not which I distrust | handclasp tightened. the more. I did wrong to permit your ever coming with me; to risk your life to go?" in so desperate a game."

"Do not say that, Tom," her voice eager and earnest. "I am no worse that noise? Is it the preacher?" off here than I would be if you had left me in Lewisburg. It was my choice, and even now I would rather be here with you. Why," she paused, drawing in a quick breath, "if-if I had remained behind I might be helplessly in the grip of Anse Cowant Have-have you forgotten that?"

"No, I had not forgotten; but there is danger enough here-more than you realize. You have never seen men mad with battle lust, crazed from victory. They see through a red mist. and forget sex. They are coming in here presently, firing and killing, smashing their way through from wall to ever raise a white flag-he'll go none o' them sojers ter hear." down fighting, and his men beside him. I've been thinking of it all, my girl, and there is one thing I want you to do now, before the final assault comes."

"What ?" "Let me send you out under flag of truce to the protection of Captain Fox. He'll guard you as he would his own daughter."

"And-and leave you men in here to die?"

"To take our chances, of course; that is a part of the trade. Your re old Ned, who was shot last night." maining with us cannot change the result, whatever it may prove to beand, with me, it is merely a choice between bullet and rope."

She buried her face in her hands, but there was no sound of sobbing. I waited, ashamed of my inconsiderate words, yet when her eyes were again lifted they were tearless.

"I know," she said, "and you feel that it will be best for you-for you. If I go?"

"Yes, Noreen," earnestly. "The very knowledge that you are here saps my courage. Surely you can understand why this should be so, for the more desperate our defense the more ruth less our enemies will prove in the hour of victory. The very knowledge of what the result may be would almost lead me to surrender, and, to a less degree, your presence here must affect your cousin."

The lieutenant! Why to a less gree?"

"Because," I broke forth swiftly. 'you are less to him. There is no tie between you, except a distant relationship, that is all. His solicitude is merely for the protection of a woman, while I cannot forget that you are my

"A temporary matter, a mere form So you wish to forget?"

"I did not say that, and have never thought it."

"Yet you regret?" "Only because of the danger-here

comes Harwood." "Ah! my bold gunner of Staunton," he exclaimed as he stepped on to the pulpit platform, "and is everything still quiet here? Now you know what it means when they sing if you want a

good time jine the cavalry. Let me get a glimpee without." He stook gazing forth into the moonlight, and our eyes took in the same scene. Except for the dead bodies lying in the open, there was little to see, although a few figures, apparently of men, moved back and forth at

a distance well beyond range. "As I thought, Wyatt," said the lieuare massing their forces again at the

real war presently." "They may delay the next attack till

daylight." "No such luck; those fellows are soldiers, not Indians, and are anxious to get through with the job."

"I have been urging your cousin to let us send her out under flag of truce." I said quietly, "to the protection of Captain Fox."

"That is really what I came back here for," he admitted, "and we haven't any time to spare. What say you, fair cousin?" She stood between us, and before

she answered her eyes sought both our faces. "My choice is to stay." Suddenly I

felt her hand on mine. "You will not refuse me this privilege, Tom?"

"No," reluctantly; yet at the same time strangely delighted at the prompt decision, "but I thought the other best."

Harwood laughed lightly.

"Again the blood," he said gayly. Bah! so far as I was concerned the asking was mere form; the answer was already in the lady's eyes. But I must go back to my lambs." "You have secured the door?"

"The best we can; braced it with benches solld to the wall. The wood will not resist long, but 'twill make an ugly abatis for the Yanks to clam-

ber in over." He lifted his cap gallantly, and

softly as he felt his way along the moonlit aisle. His very light-heartedness left me sober and depressed. She but Cowan and Raymond are both must have realized all this, for her

"You are sorry? You wished me

"I hardly know, Noreen; I have every confidence in Fox-who is making play fair if I released him, and left

CHAPTER XXVI.

One Way of Escape.

He was propped up against the wall, not far from us, and I bent over, not ing how he was bound. Instantly I cut the cords and began rubbing the up, are you?" man's wrists to restore circulation.

"I never noticed you were strung up like that. Nichols," I said earnestly.

Who did the job?" "The sergeant," he answered, choking. "I tried ter speak as soon as saw you an' the lady yere, but I couldn't git the gag out er my mouth. to wall. Your cousin is not the kind Bend down a bit lower; I don't want

"All right-what is it?" "Yer ol' Jedge Wyatt's boy, ain't

"Yes." "An' she's the darter o' Major Harwood?"

"This is Noreen Harwood." "I thought so, but thar ain't hardly light 'nough fer me ter be sure. I married yer over cross ther mountings-an' is Anse Cowan along with

them Yanks out thar?" "Yes, and all the gang, excepting

"You shot him?" "Well, it was my pistol; we were fighting together." Suddenly a thought swept through my mind. "See here.



Nichols, you are in as bad shape as we are. Anse has treated you like a dog, and he will never forgive you for that marriage, even if it was performed to save your life-'

"It wasn't," he chuckled. "I wa'n" afeerd yer would shoot. I was thet mad at Anse I didn't care; but I reckon he'll 'bout skin me alive if ever he ketches me yere."

"Do you know of any way out?" He glanced about cautiously, to assure himself that no soldier was within earshot.

"The paptistry under the pulpit; this is a Baptist church, and ther is tenant, finally turning about. "They an opening in the floor just back of where you are. Feel a little to the front. My lady, you will witness some left-yes, about thar-don't you touch an iron ring? What? Well, thar's one thar, an' it lifts two puncheon slabs spiked tergether."

"Yes, but what is below-just a tank?"

His voice trembled with eager excitement, and he gripped me tightly. "I ain't afeerd ter tell you, 'cause knew both yer daddies, an' I reckon yer'll take me 'long with yer, won't you? Yer won't leave me yere fer ter face that Anse Cowan? Ye'll promise me that?"

"Of course. Nichols," I said soothingly, the man's cowardice almost disgusting, "if you show us a way of escape we'll go together if the chance

comes-what is it? Speak quick?" "I-I know the ol' trail over the mountings down ter Covington; 1 reckon as how you couldn't never git thar without me. I-I thought it all out while I was lyin' yere trussed up close the trap-and God help you if like a turkey, but they never giv' me no chance fer ter get loose. Now if you folks will cut this yere rope offen my legs I'll show yer how fer ter git out-an' nobody'll never know nuthin'

"Explain first." I said shortly. "At far as trust goes. I have confidence in

you. What is below?" "Five steps leadin' down inter a wood tank," he explained slowly, real- single moment I stood there motion- despot, who, while clinging to imizing that his only hope of release lay less, my feet on the lowered trap, dim- memorial usage, was not indisposed in a full description. "It's empty now, ly conscious of the uproar about me. to concede something to the virile

kin stand on ther upper step an' open | tinually through the hideous discord. an' shut the thing, an' never git yer

"And how big is the opening?" "Wal, I don't fist know, but I've crawled through thar fixing a leak, an' if I did it onct, I reckon I kin again. 'Taint mor'n 'bout six feet beyond ther wall till it hits the edge o' ther ravine. Thet's why the Yanks didn't make no attack on thet side o' ther churchthar ain't no room.'

feet wet."

The whole situation lay clear before me. I had no thought of utilizing this perform my part of the fighting to the Fire! damn you-fire!" end. But here was protection, and possible escape, for Noreen. Yet could the preacher be trusted? Would be them alone together? Did not his interests also lie in getting away safely? What act of treachery could he commit, and, besides the girl was armed.

"How do you light this church?" "Candles mostly," surprised at the question, "yer ain't goin' fer ter light

"Not here-no; but below; where is there one?"

"I reckon on thet thar shelf in the pulpit yer'll find a dozen er so." "Bring a couple here, Noreen."

She slipped across silently, and came back with two in her hand. "You are going to try to get away?"

she whispered cautiously. all these men out I would gladly do so very faces we poured our fire-our such attempt. But there is a chance for you, and it is even barely possible that, when all hope of defense is over, I may find some way of joining you."

"You-you promise that?" she asked. "If I consent to go, you-you will come later if you can?"

"Yes: I will pledge myself to accept every chance, when I can do no more fighting. I'll come to you, if I live. Now, Nichols, listen-I am going to in memory-the infuriated faces, the set you free, and permit you to slip down through that trap door with this lady. She is armed, and she knows how to shoot. Attempt one treacherous trick and you pay the penalty." "I ain't thet kind," he whined.

"Oh, yes you are; but it will never And they fought like fiends, driven by pay this time. Don't take your eyes off him, Noreen; the moment that trap door closes light the candle, and keep the revolver ready. Make him unscrew the cap, and leave it off out of the way. Set the candle down in one corner as far back as possible. You better go out first."

"I-I am not to wait for you?" bewildered.

"Not in there-no; outside, for they might fire the building. Nichols, where is the best place for the two of you to hide so I could find you?"

"In the woods to the west; there is a trail half way down the ravine a limbin' up-an ol' hog trail."

My fingers touched his throat, and bent lower staring straight into his "Now, mark well what I say,

Nichols. I am going to release you, and give you a chance to get away. But you stay with the woman-do you hear! Stay with her until you both reach the Confederate lines at Covington. I! I ever get out of here alive, and learn you have attempted any trick, I'l run you down, Nichols, if it takes ten years. Now I'll cut the rope, and you creep over to where that ring is in the floor, and wait my order."

Evidently his limbs were numb from the tight cord, for he crept the few feet painfully, and then sat up rubbing the afflicted parts with both hands. I swept one glance out through the window, and then about the dim interior, endeavoring to locate the men nearest us. Only one stood close enough to observe our movements, and I sent him with a message to the sergeant.

"Now, Noreen," I whispered swiftly, "this is the best time. Take these papers; they are for Jackson; give them to the first Confederate officer you meet, and have them forwarded at once. Don't trust Nichols for a single moment out of range of your revolver." "You will not come?"

"Not now; you would not wish me to desert my comrades-would you?" "Oh, I do not know! I do not know. It is so hard to decide. You really wish me to go? It will please you?"

'Yes.' "And you will come if-if you can? am to wait, and-and hope for you?" "I pledge you my word, dear girl."

She clung to my hands, her face uplifted in the moonlight. "1-I am your wife," she said softly,

and I-I want you to-" Three shots rang out clear and distinct without, and a voice shouted hoarsely.

"Stand to it, lads!" cried Harwood from the dark vestibule. "The Yauks are coming!" I swung her light form across the

platform to where Nichols crouched "Quick now, both of you! Careful; don't fall, Noreen! Go on, man; I'll you don't remember!"

CHAPTER XXVII.

The End of Defense. I had no time for thought-action called me. Yet her last unfinished sentence rang in my memory. Could breeches at court!" you, Nichols, just so far as I can see it be that she cared also? That out of this strange association there had wearing ordinary pants with bicycle grown an awakening interest? For a clips at the ankles," commanded the turned away, humming some gay tune | an' dry as a board; ain't been a bap | yet scarcely able to realize the immi- | democracy of the West .- Puck.

tism yere to six months. The place | nence of the peril. They were pouring whar' the water runs out is at the volleys into the front door-the roar south side, right down 'gainst the bot- ing of discharge ending in the sound tom: ther cover ter the opening is of splintered wood, and sharp cries of rerewed tight by a wheel. Ol' Ned pain. Carbines cracked in response, Cowan made ther contraption, an' yer and Harwood's voice sounded con-

> "Get back, men! Get back! Ay, beyond the partition, you fellows in front there! No, don't leave the windows; they'll charge presently, and there is no use firing those carbines now-the range is too long. Load again-load! and stand ready. Wyatt!" "Here, sir."

"Any work for you there?" "No; only a half dozen Yanks in sight from this end."

"Bring all but two men, and come here! Wharton, stand ready to take unexpected opportunity myself, for I a hand. Ah! there the blue-bellies meant to stay with the others, and come, lads-now give them the lead!

The little squad of us leaped down the aisle, and Wharton's men clambered over the benches, cursing and yelling. Already the smoke of the carbines filled the church, and we could see little except in the flash of the gunfire. The swirl of bodies burled me to the right, away from where Harwood stood, and brought me in front of the opposite door. Through this opening and the narrow window beyond, I got a glimpse outside-at a black mass of men sweeping straight toward us, their guns gleaming viciously, their voices echoing in savage shout. It was a mere glimpse, an infernal vision, and, almost at the same instant they came crashing against the shattered door, beating it down with their gun-stocks, and leaping through into the maze of overturned benches littering the vestibule. The door fell in "No, not now. An opportunity may splinters. How they got through that come later. If it was possible to slip tangle of death I know not. Into their -but it is already too late for any own men, caught within the narrow space, striking at them with clubbed guns-but they were too many to be held. Over the dead poured the torrent of living, firing, cursing, striking, jamming the few gray-jackets against the inner wall, and, in two resistless streams, hurling themselves against

both vestibule doors. Wedged in the portals, I saw all this so clearly that each detail stands out falling bodies, the disfiguring bloodstains, the savage glint of steel. Those who came first were not soldiersthey were Cowan's men, gaunt, rough fellows, bearded and dirty, their fierce curses sounding above the uproar Cowan's voice, and pressed remorselessly forward by the cavalrymen behind. I saw him once, a blood spot on his cheek, and I fired over the heads of those between us, but though he fell, he came to his feet again and was swept to one side by the rush of men. saw all this, and no more; it was like a flash on the screen-and then everything became an indistinct blur. (TO BE CONTINUED.)

URGE KINDNESS TO ANIMALS

Many Reasons Have Been Advanced as to Why Cruelty Should Be Avoided.

Here are some of the reasons why we should do all we possibly can to protect animals, says an exchange, 1. They are, humanly speaking.

dumb and defenseless. 2. They are especially liable to cruel treatment.

3. They are the victims of science. sport, fashion, ignorance and prejudice. 4. There is so much suffering in

this world that we ought to do everything we can to lessen, and not to increase it. 5. It is cowardly and contemptible

to cause a living, sentient creature unnecessary or avoidable suffering. 6. The animals do so much for us in so many ways, ministering to our needs, that they earn exemption for

their various races from cruelty, suf-

fering and ill treatment. 7. Selfish and callous disregard of their rights can only react disastrously upon the moral nature of the buman family, and make other similar evils appear excusable. It is a short step from cruelty to animals to cruelty to human beings. The parents who train their children to be kind. considerate and thoughtful for the antmals are laying up treasures which they themselves will reap when those children are grown up.

8. As Jeremy Bentham, the great jurist, wrote of the claims of animals: "The question is not-'Can they reason, nor 'can they talk,' but 'can they suffer?"

Shadow Pictures for Children. For shadow pictures hang a sheet in a double doorway, if possible. Have a lamp, or preferably a bull's-eye lantern, set about two feet from the floor at the back of the room used as a stage. All kinds of interesting and amusing shadow pictures may be given with the help of stiff paper cutouts. which may be pinned to hair and costume to change the outlines. Large paper noses, pointed chins and beards may even be fastened to the features with a bit of paste. Indians with paper feathers and cardboard tomahawks, and Puritan maids and men with paper caps and broadbrimmed hats, can give appropriate historic scenes.-Modern Priscilla.

Way Out of the Difficulty.

"The American ambassador," nounced the imperial chamberlain. perturbedly, "refuses to wear knee

"Ask him if he has any objection to

LAW MAY BE REVISED

ANTI-CIGARET BILL MAY BE UP FOR REFERENDUM

NEWS OF THE STATE HOUSE

Items of General Interest Gathered From Reliable Sources at State House.

Western Newspaper Union News Service. There is a possibility, if not a probability, that the anti-cigaret law, turned down by the last legislature, will come before the people of the state next year as a referendum proposition.

If it does and there are some now considering taking this step-it will be in an endeavor to meet a condition which the legislature apparently did not recognize as existing when the Peterson bill was voted down. The present state law is an abso-

lute prohibition against the sale of cigarets. Yet at this time in the state cigarets are being sold freely. Business has picked up in this regard 300 per cent in the past year and over 1,000 per cent in the past two and a half years, according to dealers, who ought to know what they are talking about.

For instance, in Lincoln-almost directly under the noses of the lawmakers who turned down the Peterson bill-cigarets are being sold from a score or more cigar stands. People acquiesce in it because they believe the present law is a farce and that to enforce it would be merely accenting what is said to be an ill-conceived and poorly-drawn statute.

Opposes Continental Army.

Adjutant General P. L. Hall, jr., of the Nebraska national guard, is opposed to a part of President Wilson's preparedness program. He believes better results will be obtained by passing a bill for the benefit of the national guard, one allowing \$4 a month to each guardsman for attending drill four times a month than to appropriate \$45,000,000 for a continental ramy. He contends that young men cannot afford to neglect business and serve three months each year in a continental army for the pay they will get and their employers cannot afford to have them absent that length of time. His plan of paying guardsmen would cost the government \$19,200,000 as against \$45,000,000 for a continental army of 400,000.

Sale of Junk Nets Eig Sum

Warden Fenton, of the state penitentiary, has demonstrated the fact that he possesses quite some ability as a salesman. And because of the warden's power as a conversationalist, the state has realized the neat sum of \$230.

This amount represents the worth of the junk which has accumulated at the prison for years and piled up in rubbish back of the south walls. A campaign against the rubbish was declared recently and much of it burned. The money comes from the sale of bones, iron, copper and brass.

But the warden had to stand pat to pull the amount for the junk. For the iron, a junk man paid \$175, although he offered only \$40 on his first bid. The collector offered \$5 for the brass and copper. Fenton put the price at \$15. After considerable discussion the man was induced to give \$13 for the lot. For the bones the man offered \$2. The warden said \$4 and four it finally was. For old rage the warden received \$38.

By seiling \$347,000 of Mississippi per cent state bonds on January 1, and reinvesting the proceeds in 5 per cent municipal and school district securities of Nebraska, this state will profit to the extent of about \$2,000. That sum is the difference between the two rates of interest from the beginning of the year to August 1, 1916, when the Mississippi bonds would become due and be paid off in the natural course of things. A deal has been made by State Treasurer Hall with the Harris Trust & Savings bank of Chicago to take the bonds on January 1 at their par worth.

The board of educational lands and funds heard protests from citizens of Howard county, and at the close agreed to order a reappraisement of school lands in that county, the appraisement to be made by the county board at no expense to the state. The new appraisement will be subject to review by the state board and can be raised or lowered.

W. H. Thompson, mayor of Chicago, has asked Secretary of State Pool to withdraw his name from the presidential primary ballot.

Tuberculosis Amongst Teachers. Eleven per cent of the present pop-

ulation at the Kearney state tubercular hospital consists of public school teachers, according to the official report of E. R. Van der Slice, who recently retired from the superintendency of the institution. This large proportion is supposedly due to the fact that many schoolhouses are not properly heated or ventilated. Four school teachers, of whom three were women and one was a man, were received into the hospital during the past year.

Everyone Should Drink Hot Water in the Morning

Wash away all the stomach, liver, and bowel poisons before breakfast.

To feel your best day in and day out, to feel clean inside; no sour bile to coat your tongue and sicken your breath or dull your head; no constipation, bilious attacks, sick headache, colds, rheumatism or gassy, acid stomach, you must bathe on the inside like you bathe outside. This is vastly more important, because the skin pores do not absorb impurities into the blood, while the bowel pores do, says a well-known physician.

To keep these poisons and toxins well flushed from the stomach, liver, kidneys and bowels, drink before breakfast each day, a glass of hot water with a teaspoonful of limestone phosphate in it. This will cleanse, purify and freshen the entire alimentary tract, before putting more food into the stomach.

Get a quarter pound of limestone phosphate from your druggist or at the store. It is inexpensive and almost tasteless, except a sourish tinge which is not unpleasant. Drink phosphated hot water every morning to rid your system of these vile polsons and toxins; also to prevent their formation.

To feel like young folks feel; like you felt before your blood, nerves and muscles became saturated with an accumulation of body poisons, begin this treatment and above all, keep it up! As scap and hot water act on the skin. cleansing, aweetening and purifying, so limestone phosphate and hot water before breakfast, act on the stomach, liver, kidneys and bowels.-Adv.

Sly Fox. "Jiblets is having his wife's voice

cultivated." "What's the idea?"

"He's found a professor who won't let her talk while she's taking les-

SYRUP OF FIGS FOR A CHILD'S BOWELS

It is cruel to force nauseating, harsh physic into a sick child.

Look back at your childhood days. Remember the "dose" mother insisted on-castor oil, calomel, cathartics. How you hated them, how you fought

against taking them. With our children it's different. Mothers who cling to the old form of physic simply don't realize what they The children's revolt ed. Their tender little "insides" are

injured by them. If your child's stomach, liver and bowels need cleansing, give only delicious "California Syrup of Figs." Its action is positive, but gentle. Millions of mothers keep this harmless "fruit laxative" handy; they know children love to take it; that it never fails to clean the liver and bowels and sweeten the stomach, and that a teaspoonful given today saves a sick child tomor-

Ask at the store for a 50-cent bottle of "California Syrup of Figs." which has full directions for babies, children of all ages and for grown-ups plainly on each bottle. Adv.

Oh, Very Welli Biggs-What is your idea of the lo gevity of the ancients?

Diggs-Well, I think being an ancient must have been a healthful occupation.

FALLING HAIR MEANS DANDRUFF IS ACTIVE

Save Your Hair! Get a 25 Cent Bottle of Danderine Right Now-Also Stops Itching Scalp.

Thin, brittle, coloriess and scraggy hair is mute evidence of a neglected scalp; of dandruff-that awful scurt

There is nothing so destructive to the hair as dandruff. It robs the hair of its luster, its strength and its very life; eventually producing a feverishness and itching of the scalp, which if not remedied causes the hair roots to shrink, loosen and die-then the hair falls out fast. A little Danderine tonight-now-any time-will surely save your hair.

Get a 25 cent bottle of Knowlton's Danderine from any store, and after the first application your hair will take on that life, luster and luxuriance which is so beautiful. It will become wavy and fluffy and have the appearance of abundance; an incomparable gloss and softness, but what will please you most will be after just a few weeks' use, when you will actually see a lot of fine, downy hair-new

Josef Hofmann, the planist, earns \$2,500 an hour.

hair-growing all over the scalp. Adv.

British India's 1914 Imports wer

valued at \$508,000,000