



VI. HEN I asked Dick Fenton to relate his experiences, I did not mean him to do so at such length. But there, as he has written it, and as writing is not a labor of love with him, let it go.

When Madeline Rowan found the bed, by the side of which she had thrown herself in an ecstasy of grief, untenanted, she knew in a moment that she was the victim of a deep laid plot. Being ignorant of Carriston's true position in the world, she could conceive no reason for the elaborate scheme which had been devised to lure her so many miles from her home and make a prisoner of her.

A Tale of Three Lions

BY H. RIDER HAGGARD

CHAPTER I.
Most of you boys will have heard of Allan Quatermain, who was one of the party who discovered King Solomon's mines some little time ago, and afterward came to live in England near his friend Sir Henry Curtis. He had gone back to the wilderness now, as these hunters almost invariably do, on one pretext or another. They cannot endure civilization for very long, its noise and racket and the omnipresence of broadclothed humanity proving more trying to their nerves than the dangers of the desert. I think that they feel lonely here, for it is a fact that is too little understood, though it has often been stated, that there is no loneliness like the loneliness of crowds, especially to those who are unaccustomed to them. "What is there in the world," said Quatermain would say, "so desolate as to stand in the streets of a great city and listen to the footsteps falling, falling multitudinous in the rain, and watch the white line of faces as they hurry past, you know not whence, you know not whither. They come and go, their eyes meet yours with a cold stare, for a moment their features are written on your mind, and then they are gone forever. You will never see them again, they will never see you again; they come up out of the blackness, and presently they once more vanish into the blackness, taking their secrets with them. Yes, that is loneliness pure and undefiled; but to one who knows and loves it, the wilderness is not lonely, because the spirit of nature is ever there to keep the wanderer company. He finds companionship in the rushing winds—the sunny streams babble like Nature's children at his feet high above him, in the purple sunset, are domes and minarets and palaces, such as no mortal man hath built, in and out of whose flaming doors the glorious angels of the sun do move continually. And then there is the wild game, following its feeding grounds in great armies, with the spring-buck thrown out before them for skirmishes; then rank upon rank of long-faced ibex, marching and wheeling like infantry; and last the shining troops of quagga and the fierce-eyed shaggy vilderbeeste to take the place of the great cockscap that hangs upon an army's flank.

"Oh, no," he would say, "the wilderness is not lonely, for, my boy, remember that the farther you get from man, the nearer you grow to God," and though this is a saying that might well be disputed, it is one I am sure that anybody who has watched the sun rise and set on the limitless deserted plains, and seen the thunder chariots roll in majesty across the depths of unfathomable sky, will easily understand.

Well; at any rate he went back again, and now for many months I have heard nothing of him, and to be frank, I greatly doubt if anybody will ever hear of him again. I fear that the wilderness, that has for so many years been a mother to him, will now also prove his monument and the monument of those who accompanied him, for the quest upon which he and they have started is a wild one indeed.

But while he was in England for those three years or so between his return from the successful discovery of the wise king's buried treasures, and the death of his only son, I saw a great deal of old Allan Quatermain. I had known him years before in Africa, and after he came home, whenever I had nothing better to do, I used to run up to Yorkshire and stay with him, and in this way I at one time and another heard many of the incidents of his past life, and most curious some of them were. No man can pass all those years following the rough existence of an elephant hunter without meeting with many strange adventures, and one way and another old Quatermain has certainly seen his share. Well, the story that I am going to tell you in the following short pages is one of the later of these adventures; indeed, if I remember right, it happened in the year 1875. At any rate I know that it was the only one of his trips upon which he took his son Harry (who is since dead) with him, and that Harry was then fourteen. And now for the story, which I will repeat, as nearly as I can in the words in which hunter Quatermain told it to me one night in the oak-paneled vestibule of his house in Yorkshire. We were talking about gold-mining—

"Gold-mining," he broke in; "ah, yes, I once went gold-mining at Pilgrims' Rest in the Transvaal, and it was after that that we had the turn up about Jim-Jim and the lions. Do you know it? Well, it is, or was, one of the queerest little places you ever saw. The town itself was pitched in a sort of stony valley, with mountains all about it, and in the middle of such scenery as one does not often get the chance of seeing.

"Well, for some months I dug away gaily at my claim, but at length the very sight of a pick or of a washing-

trough became hateful to me. A hundred times a day I cursed my own folly for having invested eight hundred pounds, which was about all that I was worth at the time, in this gold-mining. But like other better people before me, I had been bitten by the gold bug, and now had to take the consequences. I had bought a claim out of which a man had made a fortune—five or six thousand pounds at least—as I thought, very cheap; that is, I had given him five hundred pounds for it. It was all that I had made by a very rough year's elephant hunting beyond the Zambesi. I sighed deeply and prophetically when I saw my successful friend, who was a Yankee, sweep up the roll of the Standard Bank notes with the lordly air of the man who has made his fortune, and cram them into his breeches pockets. "Well," I said to him—the unhappy vender—"it is a magnificent property, and I only hope that my luck will be as good as yours has been." He smiled; to my excited nerves it seemed that he smiled ominously, as he answered me in a peculiar Yankee rawl: "I guess, stranger, as I ain't the man to want to turn a dog's stomach against his dinner, more especial when there ain't no more going of the rounds; as far as that there claim, well, she's been a good nigger to me; but between you and me, stranger, speaking man to man now that there ain't any filthy lucre between us to obfuscate the features of the truth, I guess she's about worked out!"

"I gasped; the fellow's effrontery took the breath out of me. Only five minutes before he had been swearing by all his gods, and they appeared to be numerous and mixed, that there were half a dozen fortunes left in the claim and that he was only giving it up because he was down-right weary of shoveling the gold out.

"Don't look so vexed, stranger," went on the tormentor, "perhaps there is some shine in the old girl yet; any way, you are a downright good fellow, you are, therefore you will, I guess, have a real A1, plate-glass opportunity of working on the feelings of Dame Fortune. Anyway, it will bring the muscle up upon your arm if the stuff is uncommon still, and what is more, you will in the course of a year earn a sight more than two thousand dollars in value of experience."

"And he went, just in time, for in another minute I should have gone for him, and I saw his face no more.

"Well, I set to work on the old claim with my boy Harry and a half a dozen Kafirs to help me, which, seeing that I had put nearly all my worldly wealth into it, was the least I could do. And we worked, my word, we did work—early and late we went at it—but never a bit of gold did we see; no, not even a nugget large enough to make a scarf pin out of. The American gentleman had mopped up the whole lot and left us the sweepings.

"For three months this game went on till at last I had paid away all or very near all that was left of our little capital in wages and food for the Kafirs and ourselves. When I tell you that Boer meal was sometimes as high as four pounds a bag, you will understand that it did not take long to run through our banking account."

(TO BE CONTINUED.)
WHAT OUR FAIR DID.
Taught the People the Lesson of Enthusiasm and Appreciation.
It is a but a couple of years since the vision of the White City of Chicago ended in flame and smoke or vanished before the rains of winter, and yet already the dream is materializing, the phoenix has risen from the ashes by Lake Michigan to fly from city to city, wherein the plaster and stucco of the Columbian palaces are becoming enduring stone, says Scribner's. The great educational institutions have opened the way, not only with plan, but also with realization, with colleges in New York, and the beautiful library of Boston, and with the huge and magnificent pile which has arisen beside the national capitol. But although some of these buildings were projected and designed before the World's Fair grew into being, the latter has taught to the people that shall visit them the lesson of enthusiasm and appreciation; above all, of that enthusiasm which results in a common direction, of that interappreciation which results in harmony. Harmony was the great lesson of the Columbian city; the architects joined hands, and in the court of honor each of the great buildings assumed greater beauty and significance from the fellowship of the charming palaces that surrounded it.

Trains Without Rails.
Experiments which are described as satisfactory have recently been made in the suburbs of Paris with a train, drawn by a steam locomotive, running not on rails but on an ordinary road. The train used at present consists of only two cars, one of which contains the locomotive machinery, together with seats for fourteen passengers, while the other has twenty-four seats. The engine is of sixteen horsepower and the average speed is about seven miles an hour. The train is able to turn in a circle only twenty-three feet in diameter. Another train has been constructed for the conveyance of freight. It is hoped by the inventors that trains of this kind will be extensively employed in and near cities.

French peasants have a belief that if a fire with much smoke is made in the stove on the approach of a storm, safety from lightning will be insured. Schuster shows that the custom is based on reason, as the smoke serves as a very good conductor for carrying away the electricity slowly and safely. In one thousand cases of damage by lightning, 6.3 churches and 8.5 mills have been struck, but the number of factory chimneys was only 0.3.

THEY DECLINE OFFICE.

Two Distinguished Nebraskans Eschew Political Place.

Washington special to the Omaha Bee: Nebraska enjoys the unique distinction of having two of its distinguished citizens decline to hold office under McKinley, Hon. John L. Webster and Gen. J. C. Cowin.

On Saturday the position of assistant secretary of war, paying \$4,500 a year, was tendered Mr. Webster by Senator Thurston. Mr. Webster could not see his way clear to accepting, and so indicated to Mr. Thurston. Immediately the junior senator from Nebraska wired Gen. Cowin, that the place was open to him, and that the president would be pleased to have him accept. Word was returned that Gen. Cowin had left for Washington on Friday. On his arrival here Senator Thurston called on Gen. Cowin and had a long conference with him as to the place, but Cowin also declined. The place is regarded next to that of a cabinet secretary, there being only one assistant secretary of war. He really cuts as much figure in the administration as his chief, the only difference being that he does not sit around the cabinet table. Senator Thurston, after having learned from the president that the place could be had for either Mr. Webster or Mr. Cowin, endeavored to secure a further tender to some other distinguished Nebraskan, but it is not believed that the president will give it to any one in the state, for he feels that the place should be filled by a man of prominence, and knowing both Webster and Cowin personally and having a great regard for their ability, he stipulated that it should be offered to these two gentlemen.

The president also insists upon the position being filled by a man who has served as a soldier. Except for this last fact, ex-Congressman George D. Meiklejohn might have been appointed, as Senator Thurston urged his nomination very strongly, in addition to several other prominent republicans from the state. Could the president be induced to change his opinion as to having a soldier fill the place, Mr. Meiklejohn still stand a good show of being selected, but this is extremely doubtful. Tremendous pressure is being brought to bear on President McKinley from outside of Nebraska for this place, and undoubtedly it will have some effect now that Cowin and Webster have both declined the position because they could not afford to sacrifice their law practice in Omaha. Should the appointment go to some other state, as now seems likely, Senator Thurston will receive an equivalent for the place in other branches of the service.

General J. C. Cowin, who arrived here this afternoon, comes to consult the attorney general regarding the Union Pacific foreclosure cases pending in the circuit court. After the conference with Mr. McKenna, he will probably go to New York to consult with Governor Hoadley, special agent of the government in these cases.

Suit on Bartley's Bond.
Lincoln special: The attorney general will tomorrow or next day commence suit against the bondsmen of ex-Treasurer J. S. Bartley to recover the amount of the shortage of state funds not turned over to Treasurer Meserve. The papers in the suit have been prepared for several days and are now ready for filing. The suit will be commenced in the district court for Lancaster county. If the bill now pending before the legislature becomes a law, as now seems probable, the present suit will be dismissed and another commenced in the counties in which the bondsmen reside. The amount for which suit is brought is recovery is \$55,790.66. This amount includes the money belonging to the permanent school and sinking funds still in Bartley's possession and also the amounts deposited in the defunct banks at Alma and Orleans in excess of the 50 per cent allowed under the depository law. The Alma bank held \$15,312.28 and the Orleans bank \$2,716.05 in excess of the amount permitted.

Under the present law all suits against sureties on the bond of state officials must be commenced in the district court for Lancaster county. The pending bill provides that the suit may be commenced in the county in which the sureties reside. It will be remembered that the case commenced by Judge Wakeley against the sureties on the bond of ex-Treasurer J. E. Hill was first filed in the district court for Douglas county. Judge Davis, then on the bench, dismissed the case for want of jurisdiction, and the supreme court upheld his decision. Then the case was filed in the supreme court and the trial had before a jury of sixteen men, drawn by a specially appointed jury commission selected by the court. The result of the first trial was a disagreement. The second trial resulted in a victory for Hill.

It May Come to Omaha.
Washington dispatch: Congressman Mercer had an interview with Secretary Bliss of the interior department in regard to his project of establishing an Indian supply depot at Omaha. The conference was wholly of an informal character, Mercer simply explaining the advantage of making Omaha the base of supply for the Indians of the great northwest, so as to get the matter into the proper channel for future reference. The secretary manifested considerable interest in the matter and promised to give it proper attention as soon as a new commissioner of Indian affairs is appointed. As this will, in all probability, be ex-Congressman Pickler of South Dakota, who is locally interested in the project, the prospects appear excellent of something being accomplished under the new administration.

The York county fair this year will be minus the horse races.

Over a Thousand Conversions.
In the farewell service tendered Major Cole, the evangelist, in the Menard opera house last night, says a McCook dispatch, closed the most remarkable revival service ever held in southwestern Nebraska. In this city alone 501 conversions are reported. This evangelistic campaign opened in Hastings with 320 conversions, 415 at Holdrege, 202 in smaller towns reached, closing with 501 in McCook, giving a grand total since November of 1,448 conversions. All classes and conditions have been reached by these extraordinary services and incalculable good has been accomplished.

SILVER MEN ALARMED

INTERNATIONAL BIMETALLISM WILL SPOIL THEIR JOBS.

President McKinley Captures the People of the Capital City—Will Pass the Tariff Bill and Then Go Home—"A Plain American Citizen."

(Washington Correspondence.)

Senator Wolcott's return, and the favorable report which he made in his talk with President McKinley regarding the prospects for international bimetalism, has alarmed the silver leaders. They begin to fear that they are going to lose their occupation. They have talked themselves into public prominence and public positions on the silver question and they are now scared lest the proposed international silver conference will take that subject out of politics. They recognize the fact that if the bimetallic conference agrees upon a plan and it is adopted by the various nations, the silver question will go out of politics in the United States and they will be out of a job. They also recognize the fact that if the nations fail to agree upon a system for an increased use of silver, it would be folly for the United States alone to undertake it, hence, they would be under those circumstances, out of a job. So, it is not surprising that such men as DuBois, Teller, Stewart and other alleged friends of silver sneer at the proposed bimetallic conference and are doing all in their power to prevent its success, or even its consideration.

Protection Gaining Ground.

The protective tariff idea is gaining a foothold permanently in every party. Senators McEnery, Caffery, Smith, and several others on the Democratic side of the senate are likely to support the Republican tariff measure. Populists Kyle, Helfield and one or two others of that party are, it is understood, likely to vote for protection. Of the silver Republicans, practically all are in principle protectionists. Thus the great principle of the Republican party, that which has been the leading thought in its declarations since its existence, is coming to be gradually recognized and accepted by members of all parties.

Great Britain has another evidence of the distress of free trade in the experience of one of her children, Australia. New South Wales recently entered upon a new experiment in low tariff and the result has been extreme distress. An official report of the New South Wales Chamber of Manufacturers shows the effect of the low tariff to have been "reduction in wages, workmen discharged, works closed and industries abandoned which had taken expenditure of many years of effort and much capital to establish." This is very much like our own experiences with low tariff.

Free Traders Responsible for Big Appropriations.

The Republicans in the new congress are going to make an effort to get back to the system of placing the appropriation bills in the hands of one committee. The free traders who got control of congress when Grover Cleveland first came into the White House distributed the appropriation bills to a half-dozen committees in order to take them out of the hands of Protectionist Sam Randall and at the same time more thoroughly control the house in favor of the free trade plans. They succeeded, both in distributing the appropriation bills and in passing their free trade tariff act. The result of the distribution of the appropriation bills was an enormous increase in expenditures and the result of the passage of the low tariff act was an enormous decrease of the receipts. Result: An increase in national indebtedness in the last four years amounting to 262 million dollars. The Republican party, now that it resumes control, must first change the systems which produce these evil results and then go to work and pay the debts which the Democrats piled up. To do this they will first reduce expenditures by placing the appropriation bills in the hands of one committee; second, increase the receipts by a protective tariff and general business activity, and then resume the task which they carried on successfully for many years of paying off public indebtedness.

"A Plain American Citizen."

President McKinley has shown himself a plain American citizen in the first week of his occupancy of the Presidential office.

There were no "frills" about his inaugural address, no unnecessary exclusiveness in any part of his share of the day's doings, and when he became master of the White House its doors were thrown open, and day after day throngs of people from every section and state have been received by him. The surviving members of his old regiment, the Twenty-third Ohio, called upon him the day following his inauguration, and not for many years have the walls of the White House echoed such ringing cheers as those with which they greeted their old comrade and commander. The day's work over, this statesman and plain American citizen donned his hat and overcoat, and for the first time in many years there was witnessed the spectacle of a President of the United States walking unattended through the streets of Washington. This habit, which was characteristic of General Grant, has been revived by that other Ohio soldier, Major McKinley, and strollers on Pennsylvania avenue now doff their hats to the President of the United States as he walks by, and in return receive a pleasant salutation from him.

G. H. WILLIAMS.

Americans Are Well Fed.

Herewith is given a table showing the average annual food consumption per inhabitant among the leading countries of Europe, as compared with the United States:

	Grain.	Meat.
	Bushels.	Pounds.
France.....	24.02	81.88
Germany.....	23.71	84.51
Belgium.....	22.84	87.10
Great Britain.....	20.02	119.10
Russia.....	17.97	54.05
Spain.....	17.68	25.04
Austria.....	15.57	54.08
Sweden and Norway.....	12.05	51.10
Italy.....	9.62	20.80
Europe.....	17.66	57.50
United States.....	40.96	120.00

As it is a truism of history that no ill-fed nation has ever been great, it follows that, in the matter of food consumption the American people are well provided with a physical basis for greatness as a nation, and for intellectual superiority among its individual people. Our per capita consumption of meat and grain is considerably more than twice the average per capita of all Europe. Each American averages twice as much grain consumed per year, and a little more meat, than the average Englishman; and the latter stands at the head of all European consumers.—Toledo Blade.

Silver "Republicans."

The signers of this call for the organization of a "Silver Republican party" are all conspicuously known as malcontents and deserters. Senators Teller, DuBois, Mantle and Cannon have violently opposed Republican measures in congress and assisted in defeating them. They and Senator Pettigrew formally bolted the Republican national convention and gave more or less active support to Bryan in last autumn's Presidential campaign. Congressman Charles A. Towne of Minnesota, who is put forward as the chairman of the new party, was denied a renomination a year ago by his Republican constituents because of his extreme silver views, and running as an independent against the regular candidate in his district, was defeated at the polls.

For such men as these to claim the title of Republicans is sheer impertinence. To all intents and purposes, they are Democrats and Populists, all of them. They should be honest enough to show their true colors.—Boston Journal.

Pass the Tariff and Go Home.

President McKinley's first duty is to insist, not upon the treaty, but upon a tariff bill that will give adequate revenue for governmental expenses and also give proper protection to the industrial interests of the country and the American workingman. When he has made this clear to the special session, and the Dingley bill has been passed and becomes a law, the next step will be to dissolve congress. There is no other legislative business for it to take up or discuss. The tariff is the only matter of pressing importance. But a new tariff bill with congress in session will hardly bring about prosperity. Every business interest will feel safer if senators and congressmen are in their homes instead of in Washington. We need the tariff bill mightily badly, but we need the rest cure also. Let us have both!—N. Y. Advertiser.

The Political Scrap Bag.

The ever-increasing deficit brought about by the Wilson tariff bill is causing no end of trouble in every city, village and hamlet in this country.

As a practical business man of great experience, Mr. Hanna, says the New York Tribune, is sure to be a most useful member of the senate, even though inexperienced in the rules.

When the tariff question is out of the way, with the certainty that for four years at least there will be no change in economic policy, business can not help but grow better, and with the improvement will come the dissipation of questions which have been so disturbing to the public mind.

General Sikes, who has been in poor health since his exertions during the late presidential campaign, says: "My bitterest disappointment is that I must give up my cherished project to form a legion of Union and Confederate veterans to escort Major McKinley in the inaugural parade from the capitol to the white house."

The election of Major McKinley was a popular uprising of the best elements of American citizenship. Such a large percentage of the legal voters of all the states was never polled before in the history of our politics. The election will also go on record as the cleanest, fairest, most honorably conducted of any contest in our political annals.

Mr. Altgeld does not seem to realize, says the Times-Herald, that the world "do move," and that the population increases in several states of the Union. He also persistently refuses to believe that the full vote of both parties was not cast in 1892. As long as the ex-governor prefers to grope around in such darkness it is useless to attempt to convince him of the error of his ways.

Mr. Cleveland's zeal in getting his Democratic appointees under cover is too obviously partisan to be mistaken. Assuming that the public service would be promoted by placing practically all the government's employes under civil service rules, there is clearly no fairness in permitting a president to fill the offices with his own partisans and then declare them sacred from all political interference.