

The Last Voyage of The Donna Isabel

By Randall Parrish

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and then, all at once, I found the crest and breathed in the welcome air, my stiffened limbs moving mechanically, my brain throbbing with pain. I could see nothing until a huge roller flung me upward, buffeting my face with icy spray, and there, below in the hollow, tossed the long-boat, every pallid face staring up at me. I saw them frantically back water, as the great surge hurled me down headlong. I was beside them; they clutched at me and missed. The stern, swung suddenly about by the blow of the sea, loomed over me, and then my fingers gripped a dripping oar-blade. God knows how I ever clung to it, wrenched by that sea—how the strength remained in my numb hands; but some one twisted a boathook in the collar of my jacket, and so they hauled me, dripping and half-conscious, over the gunwale. I saw Doris. I looked into her eyes. I felt her bare hands on my wet cheek. I think it was the simple touch of her that gave me back life and comprehension of my condition. I endeavored weakly to lift my head, fighting against the awful numbness that held me prostrate. Everything seemed a dream, yet in that dream I heard De Nova's voice:



She Still Sat at My Knee, Yielding Me New Courage.

her. But Doris remained aft with me, resting when I was off duty, but sitting wide awake, her head touching my knee whenever it was my trick at the tiller. It seems a strange thing to say, yet I believe it was the very certainty of death which kept her strong, self-reliant, almost happy. Not for one instant did she consider our final rescue as possible. She lived in her love for me, utterly insensible to the drear surroundings, and merely anxious to prolong our life together. It was a revelation to me of a woman's heart, a woman's constancy. May I never forget the clasp of her hand, the tender lovelight in her gray eyes, the words of faith and hope on her lips, as we sat thus through those long hours battling against the sea, the motionless forms of the blanketed sleepers alone evidencing other human life within the boat. It was her presence, her love, her inspiration, which stiffened me to the continued performance of a labor growing harder with each day.

It became easy to see what this meant to us all. It was neither hunger nor thirst, although I felt it safer to put all upon short rations from the beginning, but rather the awful, continuous strain of hopeless loneliness in that vast desert of ocean. The contemplation of it maddened us one moment into frenzy, and depressed us the next into profound melancholy. We could not shake it off; awake or in dreams it held us to slavery. Everywhere, everywhere the same eternal swell of the seas, the same eternity of clouded sky, the same dull, dead monotony of scene and motion, hour after hour, day after night. It drove us mad, crushing down upon the brain as though it was a real weight, merciless, agonizing. The air remained frosty, the southwest wind chilling, the spray which slapped into our faces icy cold. Our fingers stiffened with cold, our bodies shook from the chill; only beneath the warmth of the blankets could we find comparative comfort. Hour after hour the men lay, curled up and motionless, only crawling forth reluctantly to take their turn on watch. Our greatest effort was to keep the straining cordage free from ice, and to prevent its formation along the gunwale or at the bows, over which spray dashed in constant shower.

CHAPTER XXIX.

In Which We Fight Death.

I remember distinctly enough the first six days of that boat voyage; it seems as if every detail was burned upon my brain with fire. I see the faces of the men constantly becoming more haggard and hopeless as they stared, dull-eyed and aimlessly, out over the endless waste of water to the dun sky. We were so tired of it; it had grown so hateful in its pitiless vacancy, its dull, dreary void. It seemed to me that with every recurring dawn those within the boat appeared older, grayer, more deeply lined; their exposed flesh caked more heavily with the salt spray; their limbs cramped from confinement and cold; their eyes lusterless and heavy with despair. They conversed with some effort at cheerfulness at first, figuring on the speed with which we sailed, dividing up the treasure, counting the gold pieces, and speculating upon their probable value. But depression followed swiftly as day merged into day, with only that same desert of tumbling waters stretching about us, that same wild sky overhead. Finally the growling voices ceased entirely, the fellows becoming moody and sullen, scarcely answering even when addressed.

If anything the women managed to bear up better than the men, but whether this was because of their dispositions, or failure to comprehend fully the desperation of our situation, I am unable to say. Yet outwardly they seemed to retain courage longer. However, their eyes told me plainly enough how heavily the hours rested upon them. I saw comparatively little of Celeste, as she chose a position near the foot of the mast, and remained there much of the time,

THE FALL FESTIVAL

The Progress of Preparation for the Fall Festival Continues.

The progress of preparation for the big festival goes on apace. What threatened to be one of the principal obstacles to the complete success of the affair has been removed by the kind action of Rev. Luther Moore, who was to open a series of revival meetings on the north half of the court house block on Sunday, September 5. For this purpose a monster tent had been secured, which was to be put up on the lot in question. Rev. Moore has decided to postpone the opening of his meetings for one week, or until Sunday, September 12, and he has tendered to Chairman Schneider of the executive committee of the festival the use of the big tent. Needless to say his kind actions are much appreciated, as they assist materially in the success of the enterprise.

It has been suggested that the tent be utilized as a place to exhibit a pure food show. The local merchants can secure exhibits of pure food products by the several wholesale houses with whom they trade, and the different lines can be suitably displayed in this big tent. At all such shows samples of the different articles are given out to the public and demonstrations made of the different brands of goods. This tent would come in excellently for this purpose, and it would aid materially in making the pure food exhibit a grand success.

It has also been suggested that the tent be used for the meeting of the pioneers on the second day, as it will have a central location and do away with the long climb to Garfield park. It would also afford a sure protection against a possible hot sun. These two purposes could make the tent just the thing needed and deserve to be considered.

The live stock committee, headed by Luke L. Wiles and George Kaffenberger, met last Saturday night with the executive committee and a program was mapped out for Live Stock and Agricultural day. Prizes for the best animals of several kinds and classes were determined on and the committee reported that they had been most agreeably surprised at the enthusiasm which had met them in their efforts to secure exhibits. The great difficulty which they feared was that there would be so many exhibits of fine animals that room would be hard to find for all of them. They are reported as coming from great distances to take part in the show, and the prediction was freely made that the show would be the biggest and best ever held in the county.

The committee on sports and games is hard at work and a fine program has been mapped out, which includes a great list of splendid events and assures the public of something to keep them busy all the time. At night on Saturday, September 4, it is expected a great carnival and miniature Mardi Gras will take place, and that the streets will be given up to merriment and gaiety.

The committee which has charge of matters at the shops is getting in action, and today was securing contestants from Havelock to make things warm for the several local champions. It is the endeavor to arrange a day of field sports in which contestants from the two big Burlington shops will come together and give a rare exhibition of skill and strength. All kinds of games between the two places are slated and when the sun goes down on Labor day it will close the best and grandest festival ever held in the state.

Manager Warren of the baseball team is still booking attractions, and there will be a fast ball game every day. Plattsmouth meeting all comers. Among the teams which are booked, or with whom negotiations are on, are Elmwood, Union, Manley, Louisville, Ft. Crook, Havelock, Weeping Water, Malvern and more teams. Every one of these teams play about the best of ball and that means games worth going miles to see, as the local team is also in fine fettle and playing speedy and snappy ball.

This brief synopsis shows that the several committees are getting after their parts in good shape, and when the festival opens on Wednesday, September 1, everything will be in shape to run smoothly.

William Puls, jr., came in this morning from his home in Mt. Pleasant precinct to deliver the ballots to the county clerk. Mr. Puls states that he never experienced a primary in which the voters took less interest and that all who voted in the precinct amounted to but nine votes. Mr. Puls is an excellent election officer and was among the first to report at the clerk's office.

Advertised Letter List.

The following letters remain at the postoffice at Plattsmouth, Neb., uncalled for for the week ending August 19. Persons calling for same will please say "advertised." Mrs. Johel Andrews, Mrs. Myra Brown, Miss Anna Tavese, Jas. Bettey, Art Delaney, J. C. Dullin & Son, Ike Fry, Carl Kline, Ed. Koepfel, Harry Libbey, Thomas Lytham, Asa M. McCullough, William Mane, Sylvester Martin, Chas. Straus, F. C. Smith, Tom Sherwood, Mr. Thomas. C. H. Smith, postmaster.

GOLDEN WEDDING

State Journal Has Interesting Write-up of Pleasant Event

Last Sunday's issue of the State Journal contained an excellent likeness of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Pollock of this city, together with a fine write-up of the recent golden wedding celebration of this most estimable couple at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Charles C. Parmele. The pictures of the aged couple are excellent and very life-like, as their many friends well know. The article in question is reproduced below in part, the remainder having been heretofore printed in this paper:

Many of the elderly acquaintances were present, notable among them being Mrs. J. F. Buck of Union, Neb., now 90 years of age, and no one enjoyed the occasion more. The scene was one of real enjoyment for all present, and there was much exchange of kindly greeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Parmele, who always entertain most delightfully, were assisted in receiving their guests by Mrs. C. M. McElroy of Minneapolis, and Mr. T. H. Pollock, sister and brother of the hostess. The unavoidable absence of James K. Pollock, the only member of the family not present, was much regretted.

Thomas Pollock, son of Judge Thomas Pollock of Ligonier, Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, August 9, 1859, was married to Mary R. Kerr, daughter of Mrs. R. D. Kerr of Florence, in Washington county, Pennsylvania. Miss Kerr resigned a position as teacher in Sayre Institute, Lexington, Ky., after six years spent in educational work in the southern states. The first years of their married life were spent in Madison, Ind., where Mr. Pollock was secretary of the Madison & Indianapolis Railway company, and where three children were born to them. From there they went to Kankakee, Ill., where three years were spent, and a fourth child, T. H., was born.

Hoping to find a more healthful climate they continued their way west and in 1870 located in Plattsmouth, where they have since resided. Mr. Pollock has for years been connected with the surveyor general's office, later serving for seventeen years in the county treasurer's office and since that time actively representing several insurance companies.

The children are Mrs. C. M. McElroy of Minneapolis, Minn.; Mrs. Charles C. Parmele of Plattsmouth, James K., who recently left for the state of Sonora, Mexico, as assayer for a mining company, and Thomas Herbert, manager of the Plattsmouth Independent Telephone company. They have eleven grand children.

They are active members of the Presbyterian church, with which they have so long been closely identified. Mr. Pollock has served for nearly forty years as an elder, and for many years was superintendent of the Sunday school, and Mrs. Pollock will be known to many as their "old teacher," having served for twenty years as teacher of the infant class.

Five Dollars and Trimmings.

Last Sunday night Frank Mack obtained some bug juice in some way and proceeded to fill his tank with the same, later on raising a disturbance on the street which attracted the notice of El Toro Henry Trout, who sought him out and endeavored to calm down his heated imagination. El Toro had no disposition to hurry Frank before the law, as the saying is, and besought him to exercise a little discretion and quit his vocal exercises on the street. He suggested a trip to the Hotel Plattsmouth yeelpet Peter Gooch, where Frank might find a room and rest up awhile. This seemed satisfactory and escorted by the minion of the law, he hurried thither. Later on he was seized with the wanderlust again and once more strolled out on the boulevard. Herein he erred, as he fell among Phillipsines, and on the upper end of Main street he soon found himself beset by a son of Mars, who had war in his eye and fists and who was of the opinion he ought to batter

THIS HOT WEATHER DEMANDS

COOL WEARABLES

- Soft Shirts in cool, light colors, with soft collars attached or without collars, going at..... 39c
- Wast ties in four-in-hand style, light and dark colors..... 12c
- Soft light airy Jap Silk handkerchief ties, 75c values..... 39c
- Men's full sized hemstitched white linen finish handkerchiefs..... 5c
- A few children's wash suits left at..... 49c
- A few children's wash pants left at..... 25c

C. E. Wescott's Sons

Home of Satisfaction.

again appeared upon the scene and this time he wasted no more good advice, but proceeded to throw Frank in for the night. This was done with the highest motives, viz: to teach him how vain it was to endeavor to beguile the law.

Yesterday morning Frank was haled before Judge Archer, who had his famous "Terror to Evil-doers" sign hanging on the outer walls. The latter gave Frank one of his justly celebrated baleful looks and asked him to explain why he persisted in taking on such tonnage and getting into trouble. This the young man failed to do and the judge assessed him to the tune of five simoleons and trimmings, aggregating some eight plunks, which he was invited to deposit with the court before he could go on his way rejoicing.

DAMAGE TO CORN

Recent Dry Spell Damaged Corn Crop 25 to 50 per Cent South of the Platte River.

Reports that are coming to the grain dealers from various parts of the state indicate that the corn crop is greatly damaged by the recent spell of dry and hot weather. Dealers estimate the loss to the corn crop south of the Platte at anywhere from 25 to 50 per cent of the crop. E. A. Twidale, a grain dealer from Hastings, who called at the office of the Barstow Grain company a few days ago, said that corn west of Hastings on the Burlington was hurt 50 per cent. Other reports say that the corn west of Holdrege will yield very little. All reports indicate that the conditions north of the Platte are much more promising than those south of the north section of the state has had more rains.

Elliott Lowe of the Lincoln Grain company has a number of letters from various sections of the country that represent the prospects for the corn crop very poor. This company operates largely in the South Platte country. One of the agents of the company writing from Alexandria, Jefferson county, says that about 60 per cent of the fields are in fair shape, but that perhaps 25 per cent of the fields of late corn will not produce ears at all. In many of the fields in that section the tassels died just when the ear should have started. A man from Maryville, Kas., reports to the company that one-fourth of the corn in that country is already killed. Mr. Lowe believes that half the corn throughout the state would yet make a full crop if a general rain would visit the state now, but that the rest of it is hurt beyond recovery. Even the corn that at present looks good, he says, would not fill out and get solid if no further rains are had. One of the customers of the company from DeWitt writes that the corn is there damaged to the extent of 50 per cent.

There are a number of localities that have recently had excellent local showers that have greatly improved prospects. Agents report good rains in the east part of Harlan and Phelps counties on last Friday night. Reports from the agents of the Barstow Grain company say that at Elyria, Valley county, there

Frank up a whole lot. El Toro Trout was a fine rain Tuesday night. A letter from Sargent to the same company says that there was a heavy rain there Saturday night and that the corn is doing fine. A letter from the agent at Ericson, north of Greeley, says: "We had a big rain Wednesday, and the prospect is good for a corn crop. Reports have been received of rains at Arcadia, and a letter from the agent at Brayton says: "We need no more rain to insure the crop in Greeley county." W. T. Barstow of the Barstow Grain company has received letters from his agents at ten of the stations, including Ord and vicinity, all of which report the conditions good.

Reports from Gage county are bad generally. James S. Ewart has had a call from Mr. Miller of the Beatrice cereal mills. Mr. Miller said that prospects were exceedingly bad at Beatrice. Ewart says: "There is a strip from Lincoln to Nebraska City and south that is very poor; then there is a strip from Fairmont down to the Kansas line that is much better." A letter from Mr. Wallace of Exeter says that rain is badly needed there and that corn is drying up. York, Seward and Butler counties are reported greatly in need of rain. Within the last few days the Ewart company has received reports stating that at Ulysses, Butler county, the prospect is bad, while only a few days ago letters from there said the prospect was favorable. Every day while the intense heat lasts, unfavorable reports come in from sections that a few days ago were looked upon as safe.

"The so-called 'garden spot' of Nebraska," said Mr. Ewart yesterday, "was this year the first to be affected by the drouth. The entire South Platte country is seriously affected as well as the north tier of counties in Kansas. South of there in Kansas the prospects are better." The managers of the Gooch Milling and Elevator company have received letters from their agents which lead them to believe that the damage so far to the corn in the South Platte country is only about 15 per cent of the average normal crop. They have received reports of big rains at Norfolk, and at Columbus, and say that they have received few if any damage reports from sections north of the Platte river.

Farmers who came to the city yesterday from the northern part of Lancaster county reported the late corn damaged almost beyond hope of a crop. Some early corn will make a fair crop. From the southern part of Lancaster county similar reports have been received.—State Journal.

From Eight Mile Grove.

W. J. Schneider of Cedar Creek an uncle of Register of Deeds Schneider and a good citizen of his section, spent today in the city, coming down with the returns from the primary election in Eight Mile Grove precinct. He paid the Journal a visit, which was much appreciated. Mr. Schneider states that the Cedar Creek ball team is getting in fine shape and expects to get a game with the Plattsmouth boys and also to trim them. Whether they do so or not they intend to come down and bring a big crowd and have a good time. Mr. Schneider returned to his home this afternoon on the Schuyler train.

(To be Continued)