

CHAPTER XX.

LL that night Boyd stayed at his post, while the cavernous building shuddered and hissed to the straining toll of the machines and the gasping breath of the furnaces. As the darkness gathered he had gone out upon the dock to look regretfully toward the twinkling lights on the Grande Dame, then turned doggedly back to his labors. He would have sent Mildred word, but he had not a single man to spare.

At 10 o'clock the next morning he staggered into his quarters more dead than alive. In his heart was a great thankfulness that Big George had not found him wanting. The last defective machine was mended the last weakness strengthened, and the plant had reached its fullest stride. The fish might come now in any quantity; the rest was but a matter of coal and iron and human endurance. Meanwhile he would sleep.

He met "Fingerless" Fraser emerging, decked royally in all the splendor of new clothes and spotless linen. "Where are you going?" Boyd asked

him. "I'm going out into society."

"Clyde is taking you to the yacht. eb?

"No. He's afraid of my work, so I'm going out on my own. He told me all about the swell quilts at Marsh's place, so I thought I'd lam up there and look them over. I may cop an heiress." He winked wisely. "If I see one that looks gentle I'm liable to grab me some bride. He says there ain't one that's got less than a couple of millions in her kick."

Boyd was too weary to do more than wish him success, but it seemed that fortune favored Fraser, for before he had gone far he saw a young woman seated in a patch of wild flowers, plucking the blooms with careless hand while she drank in the beauty of the bright arctic morning. She was simply dressed, yet looked so prosperous that Fraser instantly decided:

"That's her! I'll spread my checks with this one. Good morning!" he be

The girl gave him an indifferent glance from two fearless eyes and nodded slightly.

still rests with me and my friends." friends if it takes my fortune." harmed you. -----

acted of her own free

know who she is."

"1 do."

the camps."

Wayland.

apologize."

her sort."

to Hilliard?"

"How do you know?"

every woman in Alaska."

"Do you? Then tell me."

cards. She even dealt faro in some of

"I looked up her history in Seattle.

"People talk like that about nearly

"I didn't come here to argue about

"You have said enough now, so that

"If you want proof, take your own

relation with her. It's notorious

"I can explain to her in a word."

"Perhaps you can also explain that

It. They have a name for men like

you who take money from women of

Emerson uttered a terrible cry, and

to spend a fortune to protect my girl

from a man like you? I'm going to

Even Mildred has heard of it."

you will either prove your words or

that woman's character," broke in Mr.

dreamed she put up that \$

do you intend to do now that

ter." The old man was quivering.

"Your associates! And who are

taken over these holdings?"

to catch him."

"Ob, you can make book that she threatened Willis Marsh's murder, and didn't start no lovemaking. She ain't a loose woman from the dance halls." the kind to curl up in a man's ear and whisper. She don't have to. All she sharp voice. needs to do is look natural. The men will fall like ripe persimmons."

"They have been together a great deal, I suppose."

"Every hour of the day, and the days are long," said Fraser cheerfully, "But Wayne Wayland turned his back in he ain't crippled. He could have walk- disgust. "Do you really wish to ed away if he'd wanted to. It's a good know?" Marsh's smooth voice questhing he didn't, though, because she's tioned. done more to win this bet for us than

we've done ourselves." "She's unusually pretty," the girl re-

marked coldly. "Yes, and she's just as bright as she

is good looking. But I don't care for blonds." Fraser gazed admiringly at the brown hair before him and rolled his eyes eloquently. "I'm strong for brunettes, I am. It's the creole blood in me."

She gathered up her wild flowers and She is very-well, notorious." rose, saving:

"I must be going."

"I'll go with you." He jumped to his feet with alacrity.

"Thank you. I prefer to walk alone." "Declined with thanks!" he murmur-

ed. "I'd need ear muffs and mittens to handle her. I think I'll build me some bonfire and thaw out. She must own the mint."

At the upper cannery Mildred found Alton Clyde with the younger Berry girl. She called him aside and talked earnestly with him for several minutes

"All right," he said at length. "I'm glad to get out, of course. The rest is up to you."

Mildred's lips were white and her voice hard as she cried:

"I am thoroughly sick of it all! I have played the fool long enough!"

"Now, look here," Clyde objected weakly, "you may be mistaken, and it doesn't look like quite the square thing to do." But she silenced him with an angry gesture.

"Leave that to me. I'm through with him."

"All right. Let's hunt up the governor." Together they went to the of-

fice in search of Wayne Wayland. A half hour later when Clyde re-Miss Berry she noticed that he seemed ill at ease, gazing down the bay with a worried, speculative look in his coloriess eyes. Boyd Emerson roused from his deathlike slumber late in the afternoon, still worn from his long strain and aching in every muscle. He was in wretched plight physically, but his heart was aglow with gladness. Big George was still at the trap, and the unceasing rumble from across the way told him that the fish were still coming in. As he was finishing his breakfast a watchman appeared in the doorway. "There's a launch at the dock with some people from above." he announced. "I stopped them, according to orders, but they want to see you." "Show them to the office." Boyd rose and went into the other building, where a moment later he was confronted by Wayne Wayland and Willis Marsh The old man nodded to him shortly Marsh began: "We heard about your good fortune Mr. Waykand has come to look over

"Tell me, why did he turn against you so suddenly? What made Miss Wayland angry with you?" "I-1 would rather not." "What do you think? I would spend "Why? I'm your partner, and 1

ten times the money to save my daugh ought to be told. You and George and t will have to work together closer "You are only a minority stockthan ever now Don't let's begin by holder The control of this enterprise concealing anything."

"Well, perhaps you had better know "Your friends," eried Mr. Wayland the whole thing," said Boyd slowly. That's what brings me here-you and "Mildred does not like you. Her fayour friends! I'll break you and your ther's mind has been poisoned by Marsh. It seems they resent our "I can understand your dislike of friendship. They believe all sorts of me, but my associates have never things."

> "So I am the cause of your trouble after all."

"They blame me equally-more than you. It seems that Marsh made an inthey? A lawless rufflan, who openly quiry into your-well, your life history -and he babbled all the gossip he heard to them. Of course they belleved it, not knowing you as I do, and "Take care!" cried Emerson in a they misunderstood our friendship But I can explain, and I shall, to Mil-The old man waved his bands as if dred. Then 1 shall prove Marsh a at a loss for words. "Look here! You Har. Perhaps I can show Mr. Waycan't be an utter idiot. You must land that he was in the wrong. It's our only hope."

"What did Marsh say about me?" asked the girl.

She was pale to the lips. "He said a lot of things that at any other time 1 would have made him swallow on the spot. But it's only a

"She is a very common sort," said pleasure deferred. With your help I'll Willis Marsh. "I am surprised that do it in their presence. I don't like to you never heard of her while you were in the 'upper country.' She followed tell you this, but the truth is vital to us all, and I want to arm myself" the mining camps and lived as such Cherry was slient. women do. She is an expert with

"You may leave it to me," he said gently. "I will see that Marsh sets you right "

"There is nothing to set right." said the girl wearily. "Marsh told the truth. I dare say."

"The truth! My God! You don't know what you're saying" "Yes, 1 do," She returned his look of shocked horror with half hearted defiance. "You must have known who I am. Fraser knew, and he must have

told you. You knew I had followed the mining camps. You knew I had lived by my wits. You must have known what people thought of me. I cast my lot in with the people of this country, and I had to match my wits with those of every man 1 met. Sometimes I won, sometimes I did not. You

affair with Hilliard. If so you had better do it. I suppose you didn't know the north." "I didn't know," he said slowly, "I know anything about that either. 1 suppose you don't know why he aduever thought-1 wouldn't allow my vanced that loan after once refusing seif to think"-

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

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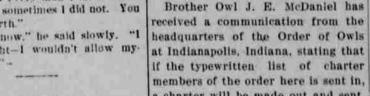
Buys Farm Near Plattsmouth.

Mr. C. E. Babbitt and wife, of at Indianapolis, Indiana, stating that Omaha, came down this morning and if the typewritten list of charter were taken in tow by the hustling members of the order here is sent in, real estate man, Harry Smith, and a charter will be made out and sent, shown a nice little farm three miles. and full instructions for the organi- west of the city, which suited them so well that a deal was closed where-Mr. McDaniel is also requested to by Mr. Babbitt becomes the owner of

have some member who has paid his the Schultz farm across the road money to E. L. Mantor, to go to the from the county farm, and will occu-

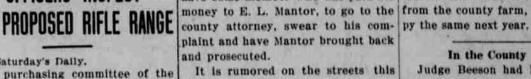
In the County Court.

Judge Beeson had his time occuout if it takes a million. I'll kick you army from Ft. Omaha arrived this afternoon that Mantor had been pied this afternoon hearing the claim back into the gutter where you be morning on No. 4 to inspect the lands placed under arrest at Kansas City. of Lee Allison on his claim of about



his face blanched to a gray pallor. "Do you mean to say-1 sent-her-"Hilliard as good as told me so himself. Do you wonder that I am willing

break you. I've got a foothold in this From Saturday's Daily. The purchasing committee of the



zation in this city.

"If you don't mind. I'll rest a minute. I'm out for my morning walk. It's a nice day, isn't it?" As she did not answer he ran on glibly: "My name is De Benville. I'm one of the New Orleans branch. That's my can nery down yonder." He pointed in the direction from which he had just come "I thought that was Mr. Emerson's

cannery," she said. "Oh, the idea! He only runs it for

me. 1 put up the money. You know him, eh?"

The girl nodded. "Yes. I know Mr Clyde also."

"Who-Alton?" he queried with reassuring warmth. "Why, you and I have got mutual friends Alton and me is pals." He shook his head solemply. "Ain't he a scourge?" "I beg your pardon."

"I say, ain't he an awful thing? He ain't anything like Emerson. There's a ring tailed swallow all right, all right! 1 like him."

"Are you very intimate with him?" "Am 1? I'm closer to him than a porous plaster. When Boyd ain't

around I'm him, that's all. Is that your yacht?" "No. My father and I are merely

passengers." "So you trailed the old skeezicks

along with you? Well, that's right Make the most of your father while you've got him. If I'd paid more at tention to mine I'd have been better off now. But I was wild." Fraset winked in a manner to inform his listener that all worldly wisdom was his "I wanted to be a jockey, and the old party cut me off. What I've got now I made all by myself, but if I'd stayed in Bloomington I might have been president of the bank by this time " "Bloomington! 1 understood you t

say New Orleans."

"My old man had a whole string of banks," Fraser averred hastily.

"Tell me-is Mr. Emerson ill?" asked the girl.

"Ill enough to lick a den of wildcats."

"He intended coming out to the yacht last night, but he disappointed us."

"He's as busy as an ant hill. I met him turning in just as I came out for my constitutional."

"Where had he been all night?" Her voice betrayed an interest that Fraser was quick to detect. He answered cannily:

"You can search me! I don't keep cases on him. As long as he does his work I don't care where he goes at quitting time." He resolved that this girl should learn nothing from him.

"There seem to be very few white women in this place," she said after a pause.

"Only one, till you people came Maybe you've crossed her trail?" "Mr. Emerson told me about her

He seems quite fond of her." "I've always said they'd make

swell looking pair."

your plant." "It is not for sale."

"How many fish are you getting?" "That is my business." He turned to Mr. Wayland. "I hardly expected to see you here Haven't you insulted me enough ?"

"Just a moment before you order me out. I'm a stockholder in this compauy, and I am within my rights." stock do you own? Where did you get it?"

"I own 35,000 shares outright." Mr Wayland tossed a packet of certifientes upon the table. "And I have options on all the stock you placed in Chicago: I said you would hear from me when the time came."

"So you think the time has come to crush me. ch?" said Emerson. "Well, you've been swindled. Only one-third of the capital stock has been sold, and a dog." Alton Clyde bohls 35,000 shares of that."

The old man smiled grimly. "I have not been swindled." "Then Clyde sold out." exploded

Boyd. "Yes. 1 paid him back the \$10,000 he put in, and I took over the 25,000 shares you got Mildred to take."

"Mildred!" Emerson started as if he had been struck. "Are you insane? Mildred doesn't own- Why, Aiton the room without another word. never told me who put up that mon-

ey!" "Don't tell me you didn't know!" cried Wayne Wayland. "You knew all the time. You worked your friends out and then sent that whipper snapper to my daughter when you saw you were about to fail. You managed well. You knew she couldn't refuse." the stock?"

"She told me, of course"

"Don't ask me to believe that. If pany?" she inquired anxiously. she hadn't told you before she wouldn't "I haven't a doubt of it. He can tell von now All I can say is that shall work very serious harm at least."

ong' Boyd stood appalled at the violence of this onthurst. The man seemed insane. He could not find words to answer him.

"You did not come down here to tell me that," he said at last.

"No. 1 came here with a message miss you once and for all."

"I shall take my dismissal from no one but her. I can explain everything."

"I expected you to say that. If you want her own words read this." With shaking fingers he thrust a letter before Emerson's eyes. "Read it!" The young man opened the envelope and read in a handwriting he knew only too well:

Dear Boyd - The conviction has been growing on me for some time that you and 1 have made a serious mistake is not necessary to go into details. Let us spare each other that unpleasantness. I am familiar with all that father will say to you, and his feelings are mine; hence there is no necessity for further explanations. Believe me, this is much the simplest way. MILDRED.

Boyd crushed the note in his palm and tossed it away carelessly. "You dictate well," he said quietly,

"but I shall tell her the truth, and she w111"-"Oh, no, you won't. You won't see

her again. I have seen to that. Mildred is engaged to Willis Marsh. It's "You a stockholder? How much all settled. I warn you to keep away. Her engagement has been announced to all our friends on the yacht."

"I tell you I won't take my dismissal from any one but her. I shall come aboard the Grande Dame tonight." "Mr. Marsh and I may have something to say to that."

Boyd wheeled upon Marsh with a look that made him recoil.

"If you try to cross me I'll strip your back and lash you till you how! like

Marsh's florid face went pale. His tongue became suddenly too dry for speech. But Wayne Wayland was not

to be cowed. "I warn you again to keep away from my daughter!", he cried furiously. "And I warn you that I shall come

abound the yacht tonight alone." The president of the trust turned and, followed by his lieutenant, left

. Cherry Mulotte, coming down to the cannery on her daily visit, saw Willis Marsh and Mr. Wayland leaving it. Wondering, she hurried into the main building in search of Boyd. The place was as busy as when she had left it

Boyd was standing in the door of "How did you find out that she held the office. In a few words he told her of Mr. Wayland's threat.

"Do you think he can injure the com-

proposed by the Plattsmouth Com- The rumor has not been verified. mercial club as a site for the target

I. C. Lyle Promoted.

Here Is Where We Get On.

range and a drill ground for the troops of the Department of the Missourf, stationed at Omaha and the ad- cashier for Agent Clement, has been for the minors, W. C. Ramsey for the jacent forts. Major William T. Burn- notified from headquarters of his pro- claimant, and Clark and Robertson ham, president of the board; Major motion to station agent at Green- for the estate. from Mildred. She has told me to dis- Dowell Devore and Captain Carl A. wood. It is not yet determined who Martin were the soldiers selected to will take Mr. Lyle's vacant place here. locate the range at the most practical The matter will be open until the point, having other cities in view 28th inst. for bids from parties eligi- who died in Lincoln last Saturday. which are trying to land the range ble, and the place will be assigned to were taken to the home of her father,

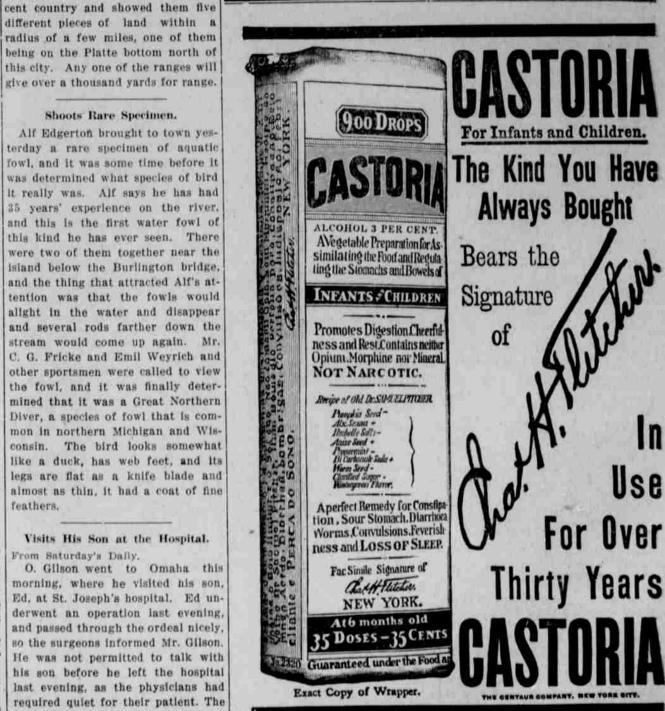
> as well as Plattsmouth. A committee from the Commercial company.

Pollock, H. A. Schneider, A. L. Tidd, and respect of the traveling public terment will be in the Elmwood ceme-Dr. Cummins and others, with auto- by his genial and accommodating tery. Mrs. Carr was the wife of Oilie mobiles met the gentlemen from manner, and the Journal wishes him F. Carr, of Weeping Water.

\$900.00, alleged to be due nim from the estate of Robert Kendall, deceased, on an open account. D. O. Mr. I. C. Lyle, the accommodating Dwyer appeared as guardian ad litem

Died at Lincoln.

The remains of Mrs. Blanche Carr. the man oldest in the service of the George Swackle, in Alvo, yesterday, The funeral services will be held in club composed of J. P. Falter, Bert Mr. Lyle has won the confidence Elmwood Sunday afternoon, and in-



5 0 1.44

Alf Edgerton brought to town yesterday a rare specimen of aquatic. fowl, and it was some time before it was determined what species of bird it really was. Alf says he has had 35 years' experience on the river. and this is the first water fowl of this kind he has ever seen. There were two of them together near the island below the Burlington bridge, and the thing that attracted Alf's attention was that the fowls would alight in the water and disappear and several rods farther down the stream would come up again. Mr. C. G. Fricke and Emil Weyrich and other sportsmen were called to view the fowl, and it was finally determined that it was a Great Northern Diver, a species of fowl that is common in northern Michigan and Wisconsin. The bird looks somewhat like a duck, has web feet, and its legs are flat as a knife blade and

Visits His Son at the Hospital. From Saturday's Dally.

feathers.

O. Gilson went to Omaha this morning, where he visited his son, Ed, at St. Joseph's hospital. Ed underwent an operation last evening, and passed through the ordeal nicely, so the surgeons informed Mr. Gilson. He was not permitted to talk with his son before he left the hospital last evening, as the physicians had required quiet for their patient. The young man's wife and mother remained with him last night.

Shoots Rare Specimen.

Omaha and took them over the adja-