

# The Ring and the Man

WITH SOME INCIDENTAL RELATION TO THE WOMAN

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Brady

Illustrations by  
Dearborn Meadell

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## CHAPTER III.

Society bursts upon Mr. Gormly. Enter at last, Miss Haldane, accompanied by her father, her mother, her brother, Miss Louise Van Vleck Stewart (one of her intimate friends and a possible sister-in-law), Dr. Warren Deveau (a retired physician, an old bachelor and an old and intimate friend of the family). The newcomers were all dressed in winter automobile garments. It was young Haldane who broke the somewhat awkward pause consequent upon their entrance.

"Mr. Goodrich," he began unbuttoning his coat and slipping it off as he advanced.

"Your pardon, sir," said Gormly, "but Mr. Goodrich is no longer the owner of this place."

"Why, Mr. Gormly," burst out Miss Haldane impetuously, as she turned at his voice and recognized him, "this is a great surprise! We didn't know that you were to be one of our neighbors."

She had been in the background and had not observed their host until she heard him speak. As she spoke, she stepped forward impulsively with outstretched hand.

"Eleanor," exclaimed her father in great surprise, surveying Gormly as he spoke, with a stare as cold as the winter weather, "do you—ah—know this gentleman?"

"Certainly I do," returned the girl. "It is Mr. George Gormly of the Gormly store, you know."

"Ah, indeed," began her father. "I have known him for—" she paused uncertainly.

"Seven months yesterday, Miss Haldane," answered Gormly, who was nothing if not accurate.

"We have—bought things at your shop for a longer time than that, I fancy," here interposed Mrs. Haldane vaguely with an air of great condescension.

"You have been on my books, madam, as one of my most valued customers ever since I moved to Broadway twenty-one years ago," returned Gormly, who was by no means ashamed of his business, else he would not have continued in it.

"Yes," said Haldane at this juncture, "I have been making out checks with monotonous regularity to your firm ever since."

"My good man—" began Mrs. Haldane still somewhat vaguely, and evidently rather at a loss how to place this irreproachably clad and fine appearing gentleman who had soiled his hands with trade and yet did not seem to be at all embarrassed or ashamed of it.

"Mother!" exclaimed the daughter blushing with vexation. "Mr. Gormly forgive me, I forgot that you did not know my family."

"I have seen them often in the store, Miss Haldane, and have ever waited upon some of them in other days myself," replied Gormly, quite as cold and formal in his manner as any one in the room.

"Nevertheless I want the pleasure of presenting you to my mother. Mr. George Gormly, mother, my very good friend."

Mrs. Haldane drew herself up Gormly bowed himself down in a bow most carefully calculated to express a proper degree of appreciation of the honor and nothing more.

"My friend, Miss Stewart; my father, and my brother, Mr. Livingston Haldane; Dr. Deveau."

The persons mentioned bowed coolly, except that Livingstone Haldane infused a little more cordiality in his recognition than the others did, while Dr. Deveau actually stepped forward and extended his hand.

"My dear sir," he said genially, his old face beaming with good nature and genuine admiration, "I am delighted to have the privilege of shaking you by the hand. Anybody who has the courage to attack the Gotham Freight Traction company as you have done in the papers may be regarded as a public benefactor whom it is an honor to know."

"Thank you," said Gormly, grateful for this recognition.

"Sir," began Haldane, "an unfortunate accident to our machine has thrown us upon your hospitality. I do not know that my friend Goodrich has sold this place or—"

"Let that give you no concern, sir," answered Gormly; "I pray that you will consider the place and all in it as your own. I beg you will take of your wraps and make yourselves entirely at home."

"That's very handsome of you, I am sure," continued the elder Haldane slowly removing his coat; "but my own place lies but six miles beyond here, and if you will permit us to telephone my stables, I think we shall have to trouble you but little."

"The telephone is in the library yonder, Mr. Haldane, and is at your service as is everything in the house I regret that my own stables are not yet furnished. The small station

wagon and pair which brought you up are the only horses I have on the place just now."

"And jolly well crowded we were!" said young Haldane.

"Meanwhile," continued Gormly, "may I ask have you had dinner? Can I offer you anything to eat, or—"

"We thank you," answered Mrs. Haldane, "but we dined at the Braddons—a place five or six miles back—before we started."

"A cup of tea or a glass of wine after your cold ride, then?" said Gormly.

"That would be very nice indeed," said Miss Haldane. "Louise, aren't you simply dying for a cup of tea?"

"Perishing for lack of it," answered Louise promptly.

Gormly summoned the butler, gave the necessary directions, showed Haldane where the telephone was, invited the other men into the library also where there was a well stocked buffet and excellent cigars; after which he showed the women into a small reception room on the other side of the hall, and left them to divest themselves of their wraps.

The men refreshed themselves according to their fancy at the buffet lighted their cigars, which, as Chaloner had been careful to send a supply of Gormly's favorite and private brand, they found excellent, while Haldane vainly endeavored to get in communication with his own house. Such was the severity of the storm for a country ill prepared for it, however, that the wires were broken in every direction. Even that to the lodge was found to be out of order at last.

Gormly had not waited in the library to hear the result of the telephoning. As soon as he had the men comfortably provided for, he had gone back to the great hall, which was more of a living room than anything else. The first of the women of the party to present herself was Miss Haldane. She was in full evening dress. Her noble head rose grandly from her exquisite shoulders. In her dark hair she wore a diamond coronet. Her dress, soft, shimmering stuff of white, trailed behind her.

He had never seen her except in the quiet conventionalty of a street dress. He had imagined her in all sorts of guises. When she burst upon him that way however, the slight dazzled him. It was so far beyond any dream he had ever indulged that he could scarcely comprehend it. He stopped and stared at her. For once his iron control deserted him. There was that frank, open admiration in his glance of which no one could mistake the meaning.

"You must pardon my surprise," said Gormly; "I have never seen you in an evening gown, and I confess my imagination unequal to—"

"Do you like it?" said the girl nervously.

"I am scarcely conscious of it, Miss Haldane," he returned directly. "I see only you."

"How singularly unobservant," she said lightly, recovering her equipoise, "for a man whose business it is to buy and sell such things not to notice them."

"In your presence tonight, Miss Haldane, business is as far from me as if it was on the other side of the world," he continued swiftly; "for this is a different world from any in which I have ever moved, and I—"

His speech was broken by the entrance of Mrs. Haldane and Miss Stewart. The latter was a fragile, graceful, charming girl, who would have attracted instant attention and notice anywhere, except beside her regal companion and friend. Mrs. Haldane was a not unworthy complement to the other two. These two also were wearing elaborate dinner gowns.

At this moment Haldane, followed by the two other men, came in from the library.

"Mr. Gormly," began Haldane, senior, "I am unable to get anybody over the telephone."

"I am sorry to hear that. I suppose that the wires are down on account of the storm."

"Exactly. Meanwhile, I scarcely know what to do. Could you send a man on a horse over to my place?"

"I should be glad to do so, did I possess the horse."

"The pair that brought us up from the lodge?"

"Neither is broken to saddle, I believe, and—but I can send a man over on foot. I have no doubt—"

"I hardly think that would be possible," interposed Dr. Deveau. "I should not like to be responsible for any man on foot in such a storm as this."

"I'll go myself," said Gormly quickly.

"You, Mr. Gormly!" exclaimed Mrs. Haldane. "Why, we couldn't think of such a thing. The danger!"

"Madam, I have been afoot in worse storms than this," he answered, "when I was a mere boy in the far west."

It was the first intimation anybody from New York had had as to any period of Gormly's life outside of New York, and one of the company at least pricked up his ears at this remark and listened attentively.

"We couldn't think of allowing you to do so," said Miss Haldane.

"I suppose that pair you have could hardly take us over?" questioned Livingstone Haldane.

"I am afraid not," answered Gormly. "They have been driven rather hard today, and they are a flight pair at best, as you notice."

"Well, we are thrust upon you, then, marooned as it were."

"I hope you won't find my house the typical desert island," answered Gormly, smiling. "Indeed, I scarcely know what the resources of the establishment are, having entered into possession only today; but whatever they are, they are at your service."

"There's no help for it, I suppose."

present doubtless within a half hour with such indispensable articles of attire as might serve to make the woman guests at least comfortable.

"If you were only in communication with your shop, Mr. Gormly," said Mrs. Haldane—and whether she meant to be offensive or not, Gormly could not tell—"we would lack nothing."

"I am sorry for your sake, madam, that I am not. As it is, we shall have to do our best with the limited resources at hand."

Conversation ran on desultorily this way for a short time, when the butler announced the arrival of Mrs. Bullen. As he did so, the tall clock musically chimed out the hour of nine.

"Now that your woman is here, Mr. Gormly," said Mrs. Haldane, rising, "as I am somewhat fatigued from the ride and the experience, I shall retire to my room. I suppose you young people won't think of going to bed at this unearthly hour?"

"No, indeed," answered Miss Stewart. "I think I'll stay awake until Christmas."

"Will you go, Beekman?" said Mrs. Haldane, addressing her husband.

"Why—er—my dear—"

"I was about to propose a table of bridge," said Dr. Deveau?

"An excellent idea," returned Haldane quickly; "but there are six of us here and—"

"I don't play," said Gormly quickly. "I'll stay out also," said Eleanor. "I



There Was Frank, Open Admiration in His Glance.

don't care much for bridge at best."

"Good night," said Mrs. Haldane, moving away, escorted by the butler, and met outside presently by Mrs. Bullen.

"Mr. Gormly and I will watch your game," said Eleanor.

answered Haldane somewhat gloomily. "I guess you will have to keep us until morning."

"Think how happy you make a lonely old bachelor," returned Gormly, "by being his Christmas guests. And if you will accept this situation, as indeed I fear you must, I shall make arrangements so that you can be taken to your own place on Christmas morning. Let me consult my butler, who was Mr. Goodrich's major dome before I bought the place, and see what can be done."

A brief conversation with that functionary threw some little cheer over the situation. Gormly's own wardrobe, which had been sent down, would amply supply the men with whatever they needed, and the butler imparted the cheering news that the lodgekeeper was a married man with two grown daughters, and he had no doubt that such things as the women required might be secured from them.

"Send at once," said Gormly quickly, "and ask Mrs. Bullen to come up to the house and be of what service she can to the ladies. How are we off for bedrooms?"

"Plenty of them, sir, and all ready for guests."

"Well, see that they are prepared, and have Mrs. Bullen here immediately."

As the butler went off to attend to these orders, Gormly re-entered the room and found the whole party comfortably gathered about the fire. He explained that he had found a woman on the place, the lodgekeeper's wife; that he had sent the station wagon for her; and that she would be

### To be continued

### Expresses Gratitude.

A. A. Hertzler, who returned this morning from a visit of three weeks with his daughter at Doneason, Iowa, desires to express to the kind hearted business men of the city who contributed to a fund for his expenses for the trip, his warmest appreciation for their kindness. He had not seen his daughter for fifteen years, and he was very anxious to pay her a visit, and see his only grandson, which was born to his daughter some four months ago.

It was said that the little babe resembled his grandfather and a photo of the child exhibited to a Journal scribe, would bear out the statement. A. A. says he can not use language to suit the occasion in expressing his thanks to the merchants who aided him on this occasion.

Mr. O. Gilson returned from the hospital on No. 23, but did not bring his son, as the hospital physician did not think it best for him to leave yet, as he has not yet been allowed to sit up. It is thought that by Saturday he will be able to come. Mrs. Blunt thought that she could return home tomorrow.

### STUBBS IS RE-ELECTED

His Majority is Estimated at From 12,000 to 20,000.

Topeka, Nov. 9.—Governor W. H. Stubbs was re-elected in Kansas by a majority estimated by Republican campaign managers at from 12,000 to 20,000. Stubbs made his race on a progressive Republican platform and



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was vigorously opposed by George A. Hodges.

The remainder of the Republican state ticket is practically certain of election.

The election of six Republican congressmen is conceded, but the results of two congressional races remain in doubt.

In the Third district, F. P. Campbell, a standpat Republican, and J. D. Bothin are running a close race. Frank Rockefeller, a cousin of John D. Rockefeller, a Democrat, and L. D. Young, a Republican, are having a hard struggle in the Sixth district.

### GOVERNOR HARMON RE-ELECTED IN OHIO

Plurality is Largely Increased, According to Returns.

Cleveland, Nov. 9.—Judson Harmon (Dem.) was re-elected governor of Ohio by a largely increased plurality, according to returns from about 250 precincts of the 4,526 in the state. Even the approximate figures are still in doubt, owing to a considerable



(HARMON, OHIO)

switch in various districts of the state. Two years ago he was elected by 19,372.

In fifteen Cleveland precincts Harmon shows a gain of fourteen votes to a precinct, partly overbalancing the Republican gain of thirty to a precinct in Cincinnati. The complexion of the legislature is still in doubt.

The rural districts are showing large Democratic gains.

### Massachusetts.

Boston, Nov. 9.—The Democrats gained nine of the first forty-seven representatives reported elected. This is a gain of about 20 per cent, and if maintained through the state would give the Democrats between eighty and eighty five seats out of a total of 240 in the house, which would not be enough to affect the election of United States senator.

Governor Eben S. Draper gave out a statement concerning the election of Mr. Foss by a substantial plurality and congratulating him.

### Illinois.

Chicago, Nov. 9.—Returns from more than 10 precincts in Chicago, according to the C. H. Press association, indicate a Democratic landslide. The election of the entire Democratic ticket by a plurality of 40,000 is probable. The returns indicate that the Democrats have carried the city by about 50,000 plurality and that they may gain five or six of the ten congressional districts in the city.

### Pennsylvania.

Philadelphia, Nov. 9.—Republican State Chairman Walton claims the election of Congressman John K. Tener (Rep.) for governor by a large plurality. Berry, his Keystone party opponent, does not appear to have been as strong as his friends had expected, while Grim, the Democratic candidate, is running far behind.

### West Virginia.

Wheeling, Nov. 9.—The election throughout was unusually quiet in every section of the state and the vote was lighter than expected. In Cabell county at the close of the polls the Democrats gain one member of the state legislature. In Clay county the Democrats also claim a gain of one member for the legislature.

### Wyoming.

Cheyenne, Nov. 9.—Carey (Dem.) for governor has a majority of over 3,000 over Mullen (Rep.) in 400 precincts. Mondell (Rep.), for re-election as representative-at-large, is re-elected by over 1,500. Cheyenne also elected a Democratic mayor.

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## THE ELECTION IS OVER AND RESULTS SATISFACTORY TO DEMOCRATS

Some Surprises Throughout the State and the Country in General and a Few in Cass County.

The election returns from the country over are very meagre, but enough can be gleaned from the reports to know that the republicans have secured the worst "blackeye" they have received in a number of years. Congress will undoubtedly be democratic after the 4th of next March. The returns also indicate that there will be several new democratic senators in the next senate, and one of them will be Hon. Gilbert M. Hitchcock, democrat, who will supersede Elmer J. Burkett. Several new congressmen will also enter the lower house of congress from Nebraska.

In the First district it is thought at this writing Hon. John A. Maguire will succeed himself. In the Second district C. O. Lobeck has been elected. In the Third district, John A. Latta succeeds himself. In the Fourth district, indications point to the election of Judge B. F. Good. The other two districts, the Fifth and Sixth, will probably return Norris and Kincaid. Otoe county, the home of Wm. H. Hayward, of the First district, gave him only 102 majority, while Lancaster, the home county of John A. Maguire, was carried by the latter.

In Cass county, the democrats were successful with the legislative ticket, re-electing Hon. W. B. Banning for senator by a large majority, and electing C. E. Metzger and W. H. Puls to the lower house of the legislature. Col. M. A. Bates, candidate for re-election as float representative from Otoe and Cass counties, was defeated by 30 votes.

New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois wheel into the democratic column, notwithstanding the "Great I Am." Teddy Roosevelt, said they must go republican, and said on the eve of the election, that New York would give the republican candidate for governor 100,000 majority. The people of the state of New York have evidently become very weary of the dictations of Teddy, and gave him such a blackeye as he will remember for many years.

Iowa is very doubtful, but indications point to the election of Porter, democrat, for governor, and several democratic congressmen.

Nebraska elects Aldrich, republican, governor, but the legislature will be democratic in both branches. While Aldrich carries the state by 25,000, Hitchcock, democrat, carries it by at least 25,000. The remainder of the state democratic ticket is thought to be elected, also.

Charles R. Jordan is re-elected commissioner from the Third district, having a clear majority over Mincham, republican, and Dettman, independent republican candidate.

It will be impossible to give complete returns of the county today, but we will endeavor to have some ready for tomorrow's issue.

Plattsmouth did well by Dahlman, giving him a good majority. It also gave every candidate on the democratic ticket good majorities. The outside precincts went for Aldrich, and his majority in the county will reach something over 200.

Otoe county elected every man on the democratic ticket, and gave Dahlman a majority of over 300.

**MANY THANKS.**  
I take great pleasure in returning my most sincere thanks to those friends in Plattsmouth, and also in Cass and Otoe counties, for the good work they did on election day in my behalf, and hope the time is not far distant when I can return the great favor they have done me. I fought hard for a re-election because my record in the last legislature was all that could possibly have been desired. I made a straightforward campaign, and did not "carry water on both shoulders," as my opponent did. I was against county option, and I am still against county option. I have a warm spot in my heart for my

friends and no vengeance in my mind against my enemies. The democrats did nobly on election day, and they are to be congratulated upon the result. While defeated by thirty votes, I feel very proud of the support given me by my true friends in the democratic party, as well as those republicans who supported me. Again, I thank you, one and all.

Yours truly,  
M. A. Bates.

John C. Gauer, of Cedar Creek, came in this morning and served the state as a witness in the case of the people against Louis Keezer and Isadore Sitzman.