

#### PROLOGUE.

A young man and a beautiful young woman, lost and alone in a wilderness for months, half starved and in daily peril of death from wild beasts and still more savage Indians-this is the central theme of the most fascinating romance that has come from Emerson Hough's pen. Read and you will learn how love came to them; how they conducted themselves in this trying, unconventional situation; how the man's chivalry and the woman's purity held them steadfast to the ideals of civilization, and how the strange episode brought tragedies, estrangements to do so. He has been out with the and happiness.

#### CHAPTER XVIII. The Yoke.

HEN we started to the south on the following morning I all the world would talk. And, like a rode far at the rear under guard. I recall little of our journey toward Laramie save that after a day or two we swung out from the foothills into a short grass country and so finally struck the steady upward sweep of a valley along which lay the great transcontinental trail. I do not know whether we traveled two days or three or four, since all the days seemed night to me and all the nights were uniform in torture. Finally we drove down into a dusty plain and so came to the old frontier fort. Here, then, was civilization-the stagecoach. the new telegraph wire, men and women, weekly or daily touch with the world, that prying curiosity regarding the affairs of others which we call news. To me it seemed tawdry, sordid, worthless, after that which I had left. The noise seemed insupportable, the food distasteful. I could tolerate no roof and in my own ragged robes slept on the ground within the old stockade. I was still guarded as a prisoner. I was approached by none and had con- for swift changes in the army. What versation with none until evening of the day after my arrival. When I ate it was at no gentleman's table, but in the barracks. I resented judgment, sentence and punishment, thus executed in one. Evening gun had sounded, and the flag had been furled on my second day at Laramie, when finally Colonel Meriwether sent for me to come to his office quarters. "Mr. Cowles," said he, "it is time now that you and I had a talk. Presently you will be leaving Laramie. I cannot try you by court martial, for you are a civilian. In short, all I can say to you is to go, with the hope that you may never again cross our fives." I looked at him a time silently, hating not him personally as much as I hated all the world. But presently I needs praise or blame for that." asked him, "Have you no word for me from her?"

soan to the gate."

It was at last borne in upon me that must leave without any word from She was hedged about by all the stern and cold machinery of an me when thes wrote, Jack, what alls army post, out of whose calculations I was left as much as though I belonged "Thee is changed. Thee is older. to a different world. I cannot express | What has come to thee, my son?" what this meant for me. For weeks been together each hour of the day, church, which she was absent. I had come to all of life. accept myself with her as fit part of an appointed and happy scheme. Now, my son," she said. "It is only so that

verted.

having lived, now dead; I, late free, rooms. I have made them very clean, now bound again, turned away sullenly and began my journey back to the my own-a few, not many." life I had known before I met her.

As I passed east by the Denver stage For a time 1 sat staring stupidly at I met hurrying throngs always coming population now even denser than it do that. You see, I know each rosecame on, a vast, continuous stream of did not like to leave them. hope, confidence and youth. I, who "Besides, as to the Sheratons, Jack." "I am telling you the truth," he said. "My daughter, Miss Meriwether, is en-

like it in all ways. One thing only quickened my laggard heart, and that was the all prevalent talk of war.

At last, after weeks of travel across a disturbed country, I finally reached "If I killed him," said I finally, "how the angry hive of political dissension would it better her case? Moreover, at Washington. Here I was near home. before I could take any more risk I but did not tarry, and passed thence must go back to Virginia. My mother by stage to Leesburg, in Virginia, and so finally came back into our little val-"Yes, and Miss Grace Sheraton needs ley and the quiet town of Wallingford. you there sadly as well," he retorted. I had gone away the victim of misfor-"Go back, then, and mend your prom- tune; 1 returned home with a broken ises and do some of those duties which word and an unfinished promise and a you now begin to remember. You shaken heart. That was my return.

I got me a horse at Wallingford barns and rode out to Cowles' Farms, At the gate I halted and looked in "You speak freely to your prisoner, over the wide lawns. It seemed to me Colonel Meriwether," I said slowly at I noted a change in them as in myself. length. "There is time yet for many The grass was unkempt, the flower risks-chances for many things. But beds showed little attention. I opened now I think you owe it to me to tell the gate for myself, rode up to the old stoop and dismounted for the first time in my life there without a boy to take my horse. I walked slowly up the steps to the great front door of the old house. No servant came to meet me grinning. I, grandson of the man who built that house, my father's home and mine, lifted the brazen knocker of the door and heard no footstep anticipate my knock. The place sounded empty. Finally there came a shuffling footfall and the door was opened, but there stood before me no one that I recoghized. It was a smallish, oldish, grayish man who opened the door and smiled in query at me.

"I am John Cowles, str." I said, hest "And she agreed? Ellen Meriwether tating. "Yourself I do not seem to know"-

"It is arranged." said he, not an-"My name is Halliday, Mr. Cowles." swering me directly, "and it removes he replied. A flush of humiliation at once all necessity for any other arrangement. As for you, you disappear. | came to my face. It will be announced all through the "I should know you. You were my

army that she and Lieutenant Belknap father's creditor.' were married at Leavenworth before "Yes, sir, my firm was the holder of

that it was

beard, took in each line of my face. "Thee has a button from thy coat,"

she said reprovingly. "And what is this scar on thy neck; thee did not tell thee?" She looked at me closely.

"Come," I said to her at length and now, for months, indeed, we two had led her toward the steps of the little Begin Confest on lowa Fair for

I had come to expect her greeting in Then I broke out bitterly and railed the morning, to turn to her a thousand against our ill fortune and cursed at times in the day with some query or the man who would allow her to live answer. I had made no plan from in servants' quarters-indeed, railed at

"Thee must learn to subdue thyself, in a twinkling, all that had been sub- strength comes to us, when we bend the back to the furrow God sets for It was thus that I, dulled, bereft; I, us. I am quite content in my little

and I have with a me a few things of

"But your neighbors, mother, the Sheratons".

"Oh, certainly, they asked me to live westward, a wavelike migration of with them. But I was not moved to had been the preceding spring. They bush and apple tree on our old place. I

stemmed that current, alone was un- she began again-"I do not wish to say



one word to hurt thy feelings, but Miss

"What about Miss Grace?"

met him everywhere there. Now meet him here." "He returned last summer and for

### MC'REA IS FINAL WITNESS

Railroad President Asks Arbitrators to Prepare Full Statement.

New York, July 27 .- James McCrea, president of the Pennsylvania railroad, was called as a final witness before the board of arbitration at Manhattan Beach by the counsel for the fifty-two railroads east of Chicago, which are opposing the demands of their locomotive engineers for an advance of 17 per cent in wages.

Mr. McCrea made a strong plea for OVER BUILDING OF BLEACHERS a carefully prepared opinion by members of the board, setting forth their reasons for whatever award they Bill to Increase Power of Cities to make. He said the entire country is expecting the commission to treat Deal With Social Evil to Be Urged very fully the situation as a whole,



# Soldiers of Blue Army Charged With Insulting Women. mittee got no satisfaction from the

# ACCUSED OF ATTACKING GIRL.

Officials of War Department in Chicago Order an Investigation of Charge That Drunken Orgy Occurred at Camp Douglas, Wis.

Chicago, July 27 .- Moved by charges that United States regular troops and other state troops encamped at Camp Douglas, Wis., for army maneuvers had insulted and attacked women and

A bill to increase the power of cit- had indulged in a drunken orgy, offiies in dealing with the social evil will clais of the war department in Chibe presented to the legislature next cago ordered an investigation at Camp winter. It is being framed now by Douglas and other Wisconsin points the inter-church council. Secretary where the soldiers have been mobil-Graves called at the municipal build- ized. One girl is said to have been at ing to confer with councilmen on the tacked by a dozen soldiers.

General Potts, commander of the central division, telegraphed Major Reichman, chief umpire in charge of the maneuvers, to inquire into the Fort Dodge Workingmen Incorporate charges and the extent to which the regular troops were involved.

Investigation is also said to be planned to ascertain the conduct of Wisconsin and Illinois militiamen who, with regular troops from Leavenworth, Kan., and Fort Sheridan, formed the "Blue" army, against which

Camp Donglas, Wis., July 27 .- The red army changed its tactics from offensive to defensive, forced into the The proximity of the two forces now indicates that unless the reds retreat more rapidly than the blues advance many skirmishes will occur, ro sulting in losses and captures on both sides. United States umpires are busy on all work, closely watching the maneuvers and seeing that all rules are complied with by the forces.

**TO FIGHT COAL BARONS** 

to Operate Mine. Des Moines, July 27 .--- Laboring men

Boy Loses Both Feet,

mother also passed away.

obstacle were futile.

Reinert Chokes to Death.

ing supper. Efforts to dislodge the

Niles Will Run for Congress.

Cedar Rapids, Ia., July 27 .- Fred A.

Niles, a local business man, announced

his candidacy for congress from the

Fifth district on the Roosevelt ticket.

Indian Finds Perfect Pearl.

dealer paid to Little Big Bear, an In-

grains. The Indian found the pearl

Marshalltown, Ia., July 27 .- A local

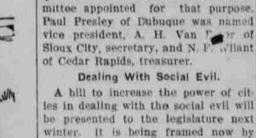
of Fort Dodge are the incorporators and directors of a new Iowa corporation formed to fight the recent edict of the coal barons, that the price of coal must go up. Articles of incorporthe charges were made. ation were filed here. The workingmen are banding together to furnish **RED ARMY IS ON DEFENSIVE** coal to themselves at cost of production. The capital stock is only \$5,000 Change of Tactics Forced by Rapid and the shares are only \$5 each. The Advance of Blues. plan is to go into the coal mining business on a co-operative basis and the articles also provide for the establishment of a company store to be operated in connection with the co-opera change by the steady advance of the tive mine. This is the first time la blues. In order to protect its retreat boring men of Iowa have joined in a and make the advance of the blue most of his time has been living at the cooperative scheme to fight the state more difficult the reds destroyed three Sheratons'. He and Colonel Sheraton organization of mine owners. Organ towns and a railroad, thereby cut izers of the incorporation, which is off the enemy's rail communication to Grace-I do not like to say these things known as the Fort Dodge Laboring ward the west, where the reds are on to thee, my son, but they also seem to Men's association, are well known la erating. bor leaders there. Fort Dodge Dam Project. Webster City, Ia., July 27 .- The lowest bidders on the proposed big \$80,000 dam projected by the city of Fr Dodge are the firm of Sullivan & terell of this city. The matter of construction of this immense mun pal project will be submitted to the

proposed taxleab ordinance.

my son?"

Grace"-

"Mr. Orme, the gentleman who once topped with us a few days"-"Oh, Orme! Is he here again? He was all through the west with me.



fair officials.

CARPENTERS

START FIGHT

Failure to Hire Union Men.

ers Meet Next at Sioux City.

ent of the grounds employed a number

of men on the building of additional

bleachers and it was discovered they

do not belong to the union." A com-

Painters to Sloux City.

ed president of the Iowa State Master

House Painters' and Decorators' asso.

ciation. Sloux City was chosen as the

place for holding the third annual con-

vention in 1913, and all legislative

questions will be referred to a com

Wilant

T. M. Buck of Des Moines was elect-

"Miss Meriwether has no word for you," he answered sternly, "nor ever will have. You are no longer necessary in her plans."

"Ah, then," said I, "you have chauged your own mind mightily."

He set his lips together in his grim fashion. "Yes," said he. "I have changed my mind absolutely. I have just come from a very trying interview. It is not necessary for me to explain to you the full nature of it"-

"Then she has sent for me?" "She will never send for you, I have said."

"But listen. At least I have brought her back to you safe and sound. Setting aside all my own acts in other matters, why can you not remember at least so much as that? Yet you treat me like a dog. I tell you I shall not leave without word from her, and when I leave I shall make no promises as to when I shall or shall not come back. So long as one chance remains"-

"I tell you that there is no longer any chance, no longer the ghost of a chance. It is my duty to inform you, sir, that a proper suitor long ago applied for my daughter's hand, that he has renewed his suit and that now she has accented him."

hey starte two and not you and my daughter who were lost."

this?" I mused. "He would do this after Ellen told him that she loved me.

OF

Company

needs me there most sadly."

coward."

have proved yourself a man of no

honor. I stigmatize you now as a

me how this matter was arranged "

ago-before I came west to Larrest

assigned him to bring her the

"Very well, then. Belknap asked a

for permission to try his chan e to

me. He was distracted at his found

all the summer searching for you not

and has not been back at Lavaid

more than ten days. Oh, we all know

why you did not come back to the set

tlements. When we came in he guess

ed all that you know. He knew that

man, he asked the right to silence all

accepted him on such terms?"

that talk forever."

"Stop!" thundered Colonel Meriweth | wished. She waived all her rights and "I have told you all that is never sary. I will add that he said to me. like the gentleman he is, that in case my daughter asked it he would marry

her and leave her at once, until she of her own free will asked him to re-

turn. There is abundant opportunity seems to you absurd will work out in perfectly practical fashion." "Yes," said I, "in fashion perfectly

practical for the ruin of her life. You may leave mine out of the question." "I do, sir," was his icy reply. "She told you to your face, and in my hearing, that you had deceived her, that you must go."

"Yes," I said, dully, "I did deceive her, and there is no punishment on earth great enough to give me for that -except to have no word from her!" "You are to go at once. I put it beyond you to understand Belknap's conduct in this matter."

"He is a gentleman." I said, "and fit to love her. I think none of

He choked up. "She's my girl," he said. "Yes, all my boys in the army love her-there isn't one of them that wouldn't be proud to marry her on any terms she would lay down. And there isn't a man in the army, married or single, that wouldn't challenge you if you breathed a word of what has gone between you and her."

It seemed to me so unspeakably sad, so incredible, that one should be so unbelievably underestimated.

"Now, finally," resumed Colonel Meriwether, after a time, ceasing his walking up and down, "I must close up what remains between you and me. My daughter said to me that you wanted to see me on some business matter. Of course you had some reason for coming out here."

"That was my only reason for comupon an important business matter. I was sent here by the last message my father gave any one-by the last words he spoke in his life. He told me I should come to you."

"Well, well, if you have any favor to ask of me out with it, and let us end it all at one sitting."

"Sir," I said, "I would see you damned forever before I would ask a crust or a cup of water of you, though I were starving and burning. I have heard enough."

"Orderly" he called out, "Show this

certain obligations at the time your father's death. You have been gone very long without word to us. "And Belknap was content to da Meantime, pending any action"-

"You have moved in." "I have ventured to take possession.

Mr. Cowles. That was as your mother

surrendered everything, said all the debts must be paid"-

"Of course"-

"And all we could prevail upon her to do was to take up her quarters there

in one of the little houses." He pointed with this euphemism toward our old servants' quarters. So there was my mother, a woman gently Dess. reared, tenderly cared for all her life. living in a cabin where once slaves had lived. And I had come back to her, to tell a story such as mine!

"I hope," said he, besitating, "that all these matters may presently be adjusted. But first I ask you to influence your mother to come back into the place and take up her residence." I smiled slowly. "You hardly understand her." I said. "I doubt if my influence will suffice for that. But I shall meet you again." I was turning away.

"Your mother, I belive, is not hereshe went over to Wallingford. I think it is the day when she goes to the little church".

"Yes, I know. If you will excuse me I shall ride over to see if I can find her." He bowed. I was hurrying down the road again. It seemed to me that I could never tolerate the sight of a stranger as master at Cowles' Farms.

I found her at the churchyard of the old meeting house. She was just turning toward the gate in the low sandstone wall which surrounded the burying ground and separated it from the space immediately about the little stone church. I knew what it was that she looked upon as she turned back toward that spot-it was one more low mound, simple, unpretentious, added to the many which had been placed last will do what is right, what thy there this last century and a half; one more little gray sandstone headmark,

cut simply with the name and dates of him who rested there, last in a long ing," I rejoined. "I wanted to see you | roll of our others. The slight figure in the dove colored gown looked back lingeringly. It gave a new ache to my heart to see her there.

She did not notice me as I slipped down from my saddle and fastened my horse at the long rack. But when I called she turned and came to me with open arms.

"Jack!" she cried. "My son, how I have missed thee! Now thee has come back to thy mother." She put her forehead on my shoulder, but presently took up a mother's scrutiny. Her the stock line. hand stroked my hair, my unshaven

agree very well. And he and Miss agree."

"Go on," I demanded bitterly.

"Whether Miss Grace's fancy has changed I do not know, but thy mother ought to tell thee this, so that if she should filt thee-why, then"-

"Yes." I said slowly, "it would be hard for me to speak the first word as to a release" "But if she does not love thee surely

voters of Fort Dodge, July 31, at which she will speak that word. So then say time the proposition to levy \$80,000 goodby to her and set about thy busiin bonds will be voted upon.

We rose and walked down to the street of the little town, and at the Clinton, Ia., July 27 .- Herbert Carle tavern bar I secured a conveyance ton, sixteen-year-old son of Mr. and which took us both back to what had Mrs. H. Carleton of Wheatland, had once been our home. It was my mother's hands which at a blackened old a Northwestern train near his home. fireplace in a former slave's cabin prepared what we ate that evening. Then as the sun sank in a warm glow beyond the old Blue Ridge and our little valley moving train. He may recover, lay there warm and peaceful as of old Family Stricken With Typhoid. I drew her to the rude porch of the whitewashed cabin, and we looked out Grinnell, Ia, July 27 .- Mr. and Mrs.

and talked of things which must be William McDowell and ten children mentioned. I told her-told her all my compose the family at Oak Grove, five sad and bitter story from end to end. miles south of this city, where ty-"This, then," I concluded, more than phoid fever has already stricken seven an hour after I had begun, "is what I members. A daughter, aged about sixhave brought back to you-failure, failteen years, died and before noon the

ure, nothing but fallure. We sat in silence, looking out into the starry night, how long I do not know. Then I heard her pray, openly. as was not the custom of her people "Lord, this is not my will. Is this

Thy will?" on a piece of beefsteak. The meat After a time she put her hand upon lodged in his throat while he was eat mine. "My son, now let us reason what is the law. From the law no man may escape. Let us see who is the criminal. And if that be thee, then let my son have his punishment. "But one thing I know," she concluded, "thee is John Cowles, the son of my husband, John; and thee at the

THE

Live Stock Dealer grains. The Indian found the in the Iowa river near Iowa City.

Carpenter Fatally Hurt. Nehawka, Nebraska

Sheffield, Ia., July 27 .- Lou Riggin, a is ready to make you the most liberal carpenter, was fatally injured when he offer on anything you have for sale in fell eighteen feet from the roof of a barn he was working on and alighted on a pile of lumber. Dizziness caused uv the heat made him fall.

DUN FINDS TRADE NORMAL

Weekly Review Most Optimistic of Any Report Received in Many Months.

New York, July 27 .- R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says: Statistics of trade movements tell of a volume of business quite up to norboth his fet cut off when he fell under mal. That industrial lines are well employed is indicated by the advances He was trying to climb onto a refrig- in products of iron and steel and by erator car with ice tongs in his hands. the better demand and higher prices They caught and threw him under that this week for copper.

Generally excellent crop prospect promise a large traffic over the railroads and increased purchasing equipment is noted as a result. During the past week orders for about 10,000 cars and 300 locomotives were placed, while the buying movement is expect ed to gain momentum at an early date.

## STEALING A RAILROAD.

Not In a Financial Way, but by Carrying It Off Bodily.

No stranger theft was ever committed than the "lifting" of an entire railroad, twelve and one-half miles in length, which once connected Birr and Portumna, in Ireland.

The line had cost \$450,000, and for years it did service for the Great Southern and Western Railway company until the year 1876, when the company, which had been running it at a loss, washed its hands of it. The line was derelict. Nobody wanted it. For a few years it stretched its useless length through north Tipperary. Then its neighbors began to turn covetous eyes on it.

Bolts and screws and other portable trifles began to vanish. A few prose instituted, but the cutions were withdrawn. Nobody charges were seemed to care. The thieves, thus encouraged, grew bolder. Farmers brought their carts and horses and loaded them with spoils of ralls, sleep ers, switches and semaphores. One goodly station vanished, to its last brick and door, in a single night.

They were great times for Tipper ary. Boatloads of booty, hundreds of tons of rails, were sent away from Portumna by unlicensed "contractors," and the work of spollation went on until not as much as a turntable was left.-Argonaut.

Get His Prices Before Selling

(To Be Continued.)

The announcement is "subject to a heart says to thee is right." statement by Representative Good of his attitude on the new progressive movement."

. CHRISWISSER dian of the Moskwaki reservation, near Tama, \$660 for a pink pear shaped perfect pearl, weighing 33%

Diagonal, Ia., July 27.-H. H. Rein ert, local druggist and one of the best known business men of Ringgold county, choked to death at this home here