

# The IRON TRAIL

BY REX BEACH

Copyright, 1913, by Harper & Brothers.

### CHAPTER III.

Murray O'Neil's Day.

"YOU'LL turn my head with such flattery if you aren't careful," she said, with a slight flush. "Please talk of something sensible now for an antidote—your plans, for instance."

"My plans are never sensible, and what few I have are as empty as my pockets. To tell the truth, I have neither plans nor pockets," she laughed, "since this is a borrowed gown."

"Pockets in gowns are entirely matters of hearsay anyhow; I doubt if they exist. You are going back to Seattle?"

"No. Mother would never allow it. In fact, when she learns that I'm out here she'll probably send me back to New York as fast as I can go."

"Doesn't she know where you are?"

"Indeed, no! She thinks I'm safely and tamely at home. Uncle Curtis wouldn't object to my visit, I fancy; at any rate, I've been counting on his good offices with mother, but it's too late now."

"I'm like you," he said; "I can't brook disappointment. I'm going on."

In answer to her questioning look he explained his plan of intercepting the freight steamer that night, whereupon her face brightened with sudden hope.

"Can't I go, too?" she implored eagerly. She was no longer the haughty young lady he had met upon entering the room, but a very wistful child.

"I'm afraid that's hardly."

"Please! Please! Be a real prince and grant me this boon. Won't you? My heart is set upon it!"

It was hard to resist her imploring eyes—eyes which showed they had never been denied. It was hard for O'Neil to refuse anything to a woman.

"If your uncle is willing," he began hesitatingly.

"He isn't my really uncle. I just call him that."

"Well, if Mr. Gordon wouldn't object, perhaps I can manage it, provided, of course, you promise to explain to your mother."

Miss Gerard's frank delight showed that she was indeed no more than a child. Her changed demeanor awakened a doubt in the man's mind.

"It will mean that you'll have to sit up all night in an open launch," he cautioned her.

"I'll sit up for a week."

"With the creepy water all about and big black mountains frowning at you?"

"Oh, fiddle!" she exclaimed. "You'll be there if I get frightened." Rising impulsively, she laid her hand on his arm and thanked him with an odd mingling of frankness and shyness, as if there could be no further doubt of his acquiescence. He saw that her eyes were the color of shaded woodland springs and that her hair was not black, but of a deep, rich brown where the sun played upon it, the hue of very old mahogany, with the same blood red flame running through it. He allowed himself to admire her in silence until suddenly she drew back with a startled exclamation.

"What is it?"

"I forgot—I have no clothes." Her words came with a doleful cadence.

"The universal complaint of your sex," he said, smiling. "Allow me to talk with your hostess. I'm sure she will let you walk out with your borrowed finery just like Cinderella. You will need a nick thick coat too."

"But this is her very, very best dress."

"She shall receive on the next ship a big box all lined with tissue paper, with the imprint of the most fashionable dressmaker in Seattle. I'll arrange all that by cable."

"You don't know how she loves it," the girl said doubtfully.

"Come! Call her in. If I'm to be a prince you mustn't doubt my power."

Nor did the event prove him overconfident. Before he had fairly made known his request the good lady of the house was ready to surrender not only her best Sunday gown, but her fluttering heart as well. Murray O'Neil had a way of making people do what he wanted, and women invariably yielded to him.

To Natalie Gerard the trip down the bay and into the sound that night was a wonderful adventure. She remembered it far more vividly than the shipwreck, which became blurred in retrospect, so that she soon began to think of it as of some half forgotten nightmare. To begin with, the personality of Murray O'Neil intrigued her more and more. The man was so strong, so sympathetic and he had such a resistless way of doing things. The stories she had heard of him were romantic, and the superintendent's wife had not allowed them to suffer in the telling.

When midnight came she found that she was ravenously hungry, and she was greatly surprised when O'Neil produced an elaborate lunch. There

were even patent bottles filled with steaming hot coffee, more delicious, she thought, than anything she had ever before tasted. He called the meal their after theater party, pretending that they had just come from a Broadway melodrama of shipwreck and peril. The subject led them naturally, to talk of New York, and she found he was more familiar with the city than she.

"I usually spend my winters there," he explained.

"Then you have an office in the city?"

"Oh, yes. I've maintained a place of business there for years."

"Where is it? On Wall street?"

"No," he smiled. "On upper Fifth avenue. It's situated in the extreme southwest corner of the men's cafe at the Flint House. It consists of a round mahogany table and a leather settee."

"Really?"

"That's where I'm to be found at least four months out of every twelve."

"I do—when I'm lucky enough to underbid my competitors. But that isn't always, and railroads aren't built every day."

"Mr. Gordon is building one."

"So I'm told." O'Neil marveled at the trick of fortune which had entangled this girl and her mother in the web of that brilliant and unscrupulous adventurer.

"Perhaps it will be a great success like your famous North Pass and Yukon railway."

"Let us hope so." He was tempted to inquire what use Gordon had made

of that widely advertised enterprise in floating his own undertaking, but instead he asked:

"Your mother has invested heavily, has she not?"

"Not in the railroad. Her fortune, and mine, too, is all in the coal mines."

O'Neil smothered an exclamation.

"What is it?" she demanded.

"Nothing, only—are you sure?"

"Oh, quite sure! The mines are rich, aren't they?"

"There are no mines," he informed her, "thanks to our misguided lawmakers at Washington. There are vast deposits of the coal which would make mines if we were allowed to work them, but we are not allowed."

"We? Are you a coal person, like us?"

"Yes. I was one of the first men in the Kyak fields, and I invested heavily. I know Mr. Gordon's group of claims well. I have spent more than a hundred thousand dollars trying to perfect my titles, and I'm no nearer patent now than I was to begin with—not so near, in fact. I fancy Gordon has spent as much and is in the same fix. It is a coal matter which brings me to Alaska now."

"I hardly understand."

"Of course not, and you probably won't after I explain. You see, the government gave us—gave everybody who owns coal locations in Alaska—three years in which to do certain things; then it extended that time another three years. But recently a new secretary of the interior has come into office and he has just rescinded that later ruling without warning, which gives us barely time to comply with



He Called the Meal Their After Theater Party.

the law as it first stood. For my part, I'll have to hustle or lose everything I have put in. You see? That's why I hated to see those horses drown, for I intended to use them in reaching the coal fields. Now I'll have to hire men to carry their loads. No doubt Mr. Gordon has arranged to protect your holdings, but there are hundreds of claimants who will be ruined."

"I suppose the government protected its subjects," said the girl vaguely.

"One of the illusions taught in the elementary schools," laughed O'Neil. "We Alaskans have found that it does exactly the opposite. We have found it a harsh and unreasonable landlord. But I'm afraid I'm boring you." He wrapped her more snugly in her coverings, for a chill had descended with the darkness, then strove to enliven her with stories garnered from his rich experience—stories which gave her fascinating glimpses of great undertakings and made her feel personally acquainted with people of unfamiliar type, whose words and deeds, misanthropic or pathetic, were always refreshingly original. Of certain individuals he spoke repeatedly until their names became familiar to his hearer. He called them his "boys," and his voice was tender as he told of their doings.

"These men are your staff?" she ventured.

"Yes. Every one who succeeds in big work must have loyal hands to help him."

"Where are they now?"

"Oh, scattered from Canada to Mexico, each one doing his own particular work! There's Melien, for instance; he's in Chihuahua building a cantilever bridge. He's the best steel man in the country. McKay, my superintendent, is running a railroad job in California. Happy Tom Slater—"

"The funny man with the blues?"

"Exactly! He was at work on a hydraulic project near Dawson the last I heard of him. Dr. Gray is practicing in Seattle, and Parker, the chief engineer, has a position of great responsibility in Boston. He is the brains of our outfit, you understand. It was really he who made the North Pass and Yukon possible. The others are scattered out in the same way, but they'd all come if I called them." The first note of pride she had detected crept into his voice when he said: "My boys are never idle. They don't like to be after working with me."

"And what is your part of the work?" asked the girl.

"I? Oh, I'm like the clown at the circus—always pretending to help, but forever keeping undertoot. When it becomes necessary I raise the money to keep the performance going."

"Do you really mean that all those men would give up their positions and come to you if you sent for them?"

"By the first train or afoot, if there were no other way. They'd follow me to the Philippines or Timbaktu, regardless of their homes and their families."

"That is splendid! You must feel very proud of inspiring such loyalty," said Natalie. "But why are you idle now? Surely there are railroads to be built somewhere?"

"Yes, I was asked to figure on a contract in Manchuria the other day. I could have had it easily and it would have meant my everlasting fortune, but—"

"But what?"

"I found it isn't a white man's country. It's sickly and unsafe. Some of my boys would die before we finished it, and the game isn't worth that price. No, I'll wait. Something better will turn up. It always does."

As Natalie looked upon that kindly, square hewn face with its tracery of lines above the eyes, its fine, strong jaw and its indefinable expression of power, she began to understand more fully why those with whom she had talked had spoken of Murray O'Neil with an almost worshipful respect. She felt very insignificant and purposeless as she huddled there beside him, and her complacency at his attentions deepened into a vivid sense of satisfaction. Thus far he had spoken entirely of men. She wondered if he ever thought of women and thrilled a bit at the intimacy that had sprung up between them so quickly and naturally.

(Continued Tomorrow.)

## MRS. PEARL RENSHAW MARRIED TO MR. OTTO HERRICK IN MISSOURI

From Friday's Daily.

The many friends of Miss Pearl Renshaw who for some time made her home here with her sister, Mrs. Luther Pickett, will be very much surprised to learn of her marriage on Wednesday, June 28, at Marysville, Mo., to Mr. Otto Herrick of Schuyler, Neb. The friends here were aware of the fact that the young people were intending to wed, but the exact date had been kept a secret from before going on to their home at the closest friends and relatives. Mr. and Mrs. Herrick accompanied by Mrs. Pickett and children who have been at Hamburg, Ia., visiting, are expected here tomorrow, driving in by auto and the newly weds will probably remain here for a short visit before returning to the home at Schuyler. The best wishes of the friends will be extended to the new married couple for many years of happiness and success.

Read the want ads in the Journal.

## Local News

From Friday's Daily.

C. E. Butler of Weeping Water was attending to some business matters in this city today.

Fred Spangler and family residing south of the city were in last evening to take in the band concert at the park.

Glen Boedeker motored up yesterday from his home at Murray to join the rooters at the Elks-Eagle base ball game.

Oscar Gagen and family motored in last evening from their country home to enjoy the band concert at Garfield park.

John Burley and wife of Denver arrived in the city this morning to enjoy a short visit here with their relatives and friends.

Peter Halmes and wife and little daughter were in the city for a few hours today motoring in from their home west of the city.

Elmer W. Frans departed this afternoon for Bridgeport, Neb., where he will visit for a short time there with his father, C. R. Frans who is employed near that place.

Father M. A. Shine returned this afternoon from York, Neb., where he has been for the past week attending the annual retreat of the priests of the Nebraska diocese of the Catholic church.

Mrs. W. A. Taylor came in this morning from her home south of the city and departed on the early Burlington train for Omaha to visit for a time in that city with relatives and friends.

John F. Gorder and Joseph Hackery departed this morning for Lincoln where Mr. Hackery will secure a new Dodge car from the wholesale house in that city and hereafter enjoy its use.

C. E. Butler, cashier of the Nebraska State bank of Weeping Water and E. L. Hunter of the Weeping Water Republican motored over this morning to spend a short time here looking after some matters at the court house.

Edward Stava and bride arrived this afternoon for a visit at the home of Mr. Stava's parents, M. G. Stava and wife. Mr. Stava who was formerly located near Pender, has been out on the coast and while there was married.

County Commissioner C. E. Heebner, who has been out in the county measuring up bridges came in yesterday afternoon to spend a few hours here and departed on the early Burlington train this morning for Omaha to look after some matters for the county.

Victor H. Grossberg of Chicago who has been visiting at the universities of Oregon and Washington, installing the association of college players, stopped off in this city for a short visit at the James Robertson home, departing this morning on No. 6 for his home.

From Saturday's Daily.

County Commissioner Henry Snoko came in this morning to spend a few hours here attending to some business matters for the county.

L. A. Meisinger, wife and family were in the city yesterday for a few hours attending to some trading with the merchants for a few hours.

Chris Metzger of Mynard came in this afternoon from Omaha where he has been for a short time visiting with relatives and friends.

Edward McHugh of Falls City, who has been here and at South Bend visiting with relatives and friends, departed this morning for his home.

Richard Todd departed this afternoon for Omaha where he will enjoy a visit there for a few days with his sister, Mrs. W. W. Dickson and family.

Philip Hirz and wife motored in this afternoon from their home in Eight Mile Grove to visit with their friends and look after some trading with the merchants.

Leonard Meisinger, accompanied by his parents, in their fine new Oakland car, motored out to the farm home of their brother and son, P. A. Meisinger and family yesterday evening.

Tim Kahoutek and wife and mother, Mrs. James Kahoutek, departed this afternoon for Denver where they will visit there at the home of their son and brother, Joe Kahoutek and family for a few weeks.

Abe Becker, the live wire, from Union was in the city today and making a visit at the local Ford headquarters, to look over the cars. Mr. Becker is the agent for these cars in Union and vicinity.

Misses Rachel, Jennie and Helen Livingston came in this morning from their home south of this city and departed on the early Burlington train for Omaha to visit for the day looking after some matters of business.

Albert Swartz and wife and son, Albert, departed this afternoon for Rockford, Ill., where they will visit for a short time at the home of Mr.

Swartz's brother, who is quite ill. They will later go to St. Louis and expect to spend ten days on the trip.

Misses Anna Alhusen of Berlin and Mattie Nutzmann of Avoca who have been spending a few days at the home of Miss Elsie Gagen, south of this city, motored in this morning and departed for Omaha to spend a few hours before returning home. They were accompanied to Omaha by Miss Gagen.

Ross Morrow and wife and daughter, of Tekamah, Nebraska, were in the city yesterday for a few hours visiting at the home of their cousin John McMurlin and family, going to Murray from this city for short visit. The party motored from Tekamah to Glenwood where they spent a short time and will enjoy a visit here with their relatives and friends.

From Monday's Daily.

Mrs. E. R. Barstow came down this afternoon from Omaha to visit over the Fourth of July with her friends in this city.

Mrs. A. Rhode, who has been making an extended visit with her son and family at St. Joseph, Mo., has returned to her home in this city.

J. E. Clugy and daughter, Miss Hazel, were among those going to Omaha this afternoon to visit for a few hours with friends in that city for a few hours.

J. R. Jennings and wife, who have been here spending several weeks at the home of Mrs. Jennings' parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Tucey, departed yesterday afternoon for their home at Springfield, Mass.

Jacob Kraeger and family of the vicinity of Mynard motored to this city Saturday and visited friends for a short time and attended to some business matters.

Mr. and Mrs. George Hall came up Saturday evening from Falls City to visit here over the Fourth of July with Mr. Hall's parents; they were accompanied by Miss Gladys Hall, who has been visiting at Falls City.

Mrs. George Beam and daughter, Miss Anna Beam, arrived this afternoon from St. Joseph, Mo., for a short visit here at the home of Mrs. Beam's cousin, Mrs. Fred Patterson and family.

J. W. Peters accompanied by his mother-in-law, Mrs. Joseph Martin, motored over to Glenwood this morning to visit for a few hours there looking after his contracting work there.

Mrs. A. H. Knee, who has been making her home in Omaha for the past few months with her son in that city came in this afternoon to visit over the Fourth here with her old friends in this city.

Charley Graves, the Union attorney, came up yesterday afternoon to attend the base ball game in which his two nephews, Al and Andy Graves appeared as members of the Armour's base ball team.

Miss Marie Kaufmann, Mrs. Justus Lillie and Mrs. R. C. Jahrig and children motored down to Murray Friday where they spent the day at the Frank Lillie home picking cherries and having a pleasant time.

C. M. Chriswiser and family of Nehawka are in the city visiting with the parents of Mr. Chriswiser and this morning C. M. Chriswiser and his father, Bennett Chriswiser departed for Omaha to spend the day in that city.

W. J. Lorenz of Odell, Neb., arrived in the city last evening and will remain here for several days, visiting at the home of his brothers, L. W. and E. A. Lorenz. This is the first visit of Mr. Lorenz here for two years and his friends are all well pleased to meet him.

An automobile party composed of Mrs. J. A. Donelan, Mrs. Anna May Wooley, Mrs. Annie Britt, Misses Dorothy Britt, Dotie Franck and Verne Leonard motored out to Lincoln yesterday afternoon where they visited at Camp Morehead with Dr. Albert Fricke and also spent a short time at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Worley.

### RETURN FROM HONEYMOON

Joe Libershal and wife returned home yesterday afternoon from their honeymoon of several weeks in the Pacific northwest, visiting at Everett, Washington, with Anton Libershal and family and also at Edgmont, S. D., with a brother of Mrs. Libershal. The newly weds greatly enjoyed their visit and reports that everything in the sections where they visited was in the best of condition.

### TO DISTRIBUTE PRIZES

There has been received 180 buttons and certificates from the A. N. Palmer company of Cedar Rapids, Ia., the originators of the system of penmanship in use in the Plattsmouth schools and these will be distributed to the pupils who are to receive them on my return from summer school. Miss Marie Kaufmann.

## GOOD AUTO ROADS

—TO—  
**OMAHA**

The cost of Bridge Tolls for Round Trip using our Commutation Books

Auto and Driver, round Trip..... 50c  
Extra Passengers, each,..... 5c  
\$10.00 Book,..... \$5.00  
\$5.00 Book,..... \$2.50

Commutation Books Good any time and Transferable.

## PLATTSMOUTH Auto & Wagon Bridge Co.

A FINE DANCE SATURDAY

The dance at the German Home Saturday evening was one that was quite largely attended and the occasion was one of rare enjoyment to all those who were present and the evening spent in dancing to the delightful music of the Plattsmouth orchestra under the direction of Tom Svoboda.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—A \$3,600 residence for \$2,050. A \$5,000 property for \$2,500. An improved property on North Six St. at \$1,200. A fine property on Pearl St. reduced to \$3,400. Two lots on North Eighth St., \$500, and two on North Ninth St., \$250. All on easy terms if desired. Windham Loan and Investment Co. 7-3-tfw.

## NEBRASKA NEWS

Rev. J. J. Ramsey, charged with violation of the Mann white slave act, was convicted by a jury in the federal court at Hastings and sentenced to fifteen months in Leavenworth. Mrs. May Titel, whom he was charged with having transported from St. Joseph to Hastings, turned state's evidence and accused the former pastor of the Hastings United Brethren church on the witness stand.

Notwithstanding the supreme court had ruled that packages containing prizes are not to be sold within the state, Food Commissioner Harman announces that certain companies outside the state are shipping in for sale packages of popcorn and like stuff containing premiums and he warns dealers they must be careful or they will find themselves in court if found having these confections for sale.

The registration at the state Sunday school convention at Falls City reached 1,684. Miss Brown, the secretary, reported 2,229 Sunday schools in the state, with 1,715 active and affiliating with the state organization. Omaha was given the golden jubilee meeting next year because the Sunday school organization had its birth there forty-one years ago. J. S. Dick of Crete was elected president.

Governor Morehead sent a telegram to President Wilson asking if he could utilize a third regiment of Nebraska troops. The inquiry followed the tender to the governor by John G. Maher, commander of the Spanish-American war veterans of Nebraska, of a possible regiment if they could be used. Maher had told the governor if his offer was accepted most of the men composing the regiment would be made up of men who saw service in the Spanish-American war.

HOTEL KEEN

Omaha, Eighteenth and Harney streets, opposite court house. "Keen—Komfortable—Konvenient." Rates: One person, \$1.00; two persons, double, \$1.50; with private bath, one person, \$1.50; two persons, double, \$2.00 to \$2.50. Use of public baths, tub or shower free. 6-17-1fd

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In County Court, State of Nebraska, Cass County, ss. In the matter of the estate of Charles R. Craig, deceased.

Notice is hereby given to the creditors of said deceased that hearings will be had upon claims filed against said estate, before me, county judge of Cass county, Nebraska, at the county court room in Plattsmouth, in said county, on the 20th day of July, 1916, and on the 21st day of January, 1917, at 10 o'clock a. m., each day, for examination, adjustment and allowance.

All claims must be filed in said court on or before said last hour of hearing. Witness my hand and seal of said county court, at Plattsmouth, Nebraska, this 20th day of June, 1916. (Seal) ALLEN J. BEESON, County Judge. 6-22-4wks

From Tuesday's Daily.

Ed Parriott came up from his home at Peru Sunday and will enjoy a few days' visit here with his son, Glen, and other relatives and friends. Mr. Parriott is looking much better than on his last trip here and it certainly was a pleasure to his many old friends to meet him. While here Ed called at the Journal and his visit was very much enjoyed.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Kruger and son will depart for Tampa, Fla., tomorrow where they will make an extended visit and look after some land interests located near that city.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CASS COUNTY, NEBRASKA.

Frank W. Sivey, Plaintiff, vs. The Plattsmouth Ferry Company, a Corporation, et al. Defendants.

NOTICE

To the Defendants: The Plattsmouth Ferry Company, a Corporation, et al. The unknown heirs, devisees, legatees, personal representatives, and all other persons interested in the estate of Saml H. Moer, also known as S. H. Moer, deceased; Alfred Thomson; Mrs. Alfred Thomson, first real name unknown; the unknown heirs, devisees, legatees, personal representatives and all other persons interested in the estate of Alfred Thomson, deceased; the unknown heirs, devisees, legatees, personal representatives and all other persons interested in the estate of Joseph P. Crosswell, deceased; J. P. Worley, whose first real name is Jesse P. Worley; Mrs. Jesse P. Worley, first real name unknown; the unknown heirs, devisees, legatees, personal representatives and all other persons interested in the estate of Jesse P. Worley, also known as J. P. Worley, deceased; the unknown heirs, devisees, legatees, personal representatives and all other persons interested in the estate of John W. Haines, deceased; Edward J. Weckbach; Gertrude H. Weckbach; Eugene H. Weckbach; Louis G. Weckbach; Grace Weckbach; Joseph V. Weckbach; Frances Weckbach; Mathilda L. Costelloe; Martin F. P. Costelloe; Katie F. Weckbach; and the unknown owners and unknown claimants of that part of lots 7, 8, 9 and 10, in block 169, Plattsmouth, Nebraska, lying north of Lincoln avenue, in Cass county, Nebraska.

You will take notice that on the 21st day of June, 1916, the plaintiff, Frank W. Sivey, filed his petition in the district court of Cass county, Nebraska, against you and each of you, the object and prayer of which petition is to obtain a decree from said court, removing liens and clouds from and quieting the record title to all that part of lots seven (7), eight (8), nine (9) and ten (10), in block one hundred and sixty-nine (169), in the city of Plattsmouth, lying north of Lincoln avenue in Cass county, Nebraska, and all claims against you and to exclude and enjoin you and each of you from ever asserting or claiming any right, title, interest, lien or interest therein adverse to plaintiff, by reason of plaintiff's adverse possession of said premises by himself and his grantors for more than ten years prior to the commencement of said suit, and to grant other and further relief as equity may require.

This notice is given pursuant to the order of the court.

You are required to answer said petition on or before Monday, August 7th, 1916, or default will be taken against you therein.

FRANK W. SIVEY, Plaintiff.

JOHN M. LEYDA, Attorney.

NOTICE

In the county court of the County of Cass, Nebraska. In the matter of the estate of Sarah E. Van Doren, deceased.

All persons interested in the above entitled estate will take notice that on the 11th day of July, 1916, at 10 o'clock a. m., in the office of the county judge in Plattsmouth, Cass county, Nebraska, a hearing will be had upon the petition of Ray A. Van Doren, that administration of the estate of Sarah E. Van Doren be granted to Frank H. Van Doren, and that the court enter its order fixing who are the heirs of said deceased.

All objections to said petition must be on file on or before said date or the prayer of said petition will be granted.

Dated this 15th day of June, A. D. 1916. By the Court,

ALLEN J. BEESON, County Judge. 6-19-3w

ED PARRIOTT VISITS PLATTSMOUTH FRIENDS

From Tuesday's Daily.

Ed Parriott came up from his home at Peru Sunday and will enjoy a few days' visit here with his son, Glen, and other relatives and friends. Mr. Parriott is looking much better than on his last trip here and it certainly was a pleasure to his many old friends to meet him. While here Ed called at the Journal and his visit was very much enjoyed.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Kruger and son will depart for Tampa, Fla., tomorrow where they will make an extended visit and look after some land interests located near that city.