

THE MATE OF THE HINDU

By Captain RALPH DAVIS.

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In their effort. It was against common sense to suppose they would let us get away to fall in with some craft or reach some coast, to put a man-of-war on their track. If they did not seek to overpower us by a sudden rush while we were busy at the boats, they would afterward run the boats down with the Hindu, and that without risk to themselves. As to setting the craft on fire, their lives were as precious to them as ours were to us, and the threat was simply bluster. When he had finished, all saw the sense of his remarks so plainly that no one had a protest or argument. I had missed Mary while he was speaking. Just as he had finished, she came into the main cabin to say:

"The mutineers have made their way aft to the bulkheads and will try to come at us from that direction. I have been listening and can hear them quite plainly."

"That was proof enough of their treachery in all things. Knowing that we were all in the cabin to discuss the offer of the boats, a number of them had begun work at the bulkheads in hopes to make an opening. But the brave and quick witted Mary, without hint from any one, had given us warning in time. Haskell and I hurried along to the bulkheads, to find at least half a dozen men working on the other side with axes and chisels. We fired two shots apiece through the loopholes. There was a fall and a scream, followed by a rush of feet, and we felt sure they would not try that trick again for some time to come. We returned to the cabin just as York appeared on deck for his answer. In a voice as cool and steady as I ever heard it before or afterward the captain said:

"Go back to the murderous scoundrels and say to them that we will neither take to the boats nor allow them to do so! As for gale or fire or wreck, we will take our chances with you. Don't come aft with any more offers or messages. From this time on we will shoot at every man who comes within range."

York walked off without a word and dropped down the forehatch. A minute later a great roar of yells and curses reached our ears. The news he carried forward was not to their liking. Aside from the shelter of a bullet proof cabin and a liberal supply of arms, we had other advantages in our favor. One person in the cabin and one at the bulkheads could watch them. Our fire had a clean sweep of the decks. We were united, while there was much quarrelling among them.

From the time York disappeared up to nightfall not one of the mutineers appeared on deck, nor was there any change in the general situation, except that the breeze gradually died away and was wholly gone at sunset. Long enough before this the women and children in the cabin had got the better of their fright, though to be sure the wife of Roberts and for that matter all the rest of us were terribly anxious as to what fate might be in store for him and the doctor. It was hard to see how their deaths would advance the interests of the mutineers, and yet the wounded and the friends of the dead would demand vengeance and probably sacrifice the two prisoners. What made the matter worse was in our realizing that we had nothing to offer in exchange for their liberty.

Night came down as quiet and peaceful as any night you ever saw. No lights were placed in the rigging, nor was there a man on deck from end to end of the ship. There was a cheeping and chirping from blocks and yards aloft as the Hindu rose and fell on the heave of the sea, but never the sound of a human voice nor the echo of a foot-fall outside the cabin. Like a specter ship she went drifting slowly to the north, and in the cabin we spoke in whispers and wondered what the night would bring forth. We had plenty to eat and drink, and the lamps gave out a cheerful light, but no one could forget for an instant that nearly a hundred mutinous sailors and hardened criminals were only a few yards away and wickedly plotting the destruction of every one of us. When the sleepy children were put to bed, Mary Williams' old father said he would ask God to be merciful to us in our distress, and while we all knelt down he prayed with tears falling down his wrinkled cheeks.

CHAPTER XIII.

THREE DAYS AND NIGHTS. Whatever our position in the cabin, that of the mutineers was infinitely worse. They had captured the ship and made us prisoners, and yet we actually controlled the craft and they were prisoners to us. No man could take the wheel or touch a rope without being a fair target for our weapons. That the fellows realized the situation was evident from the quarrelling among them. We looked for them to make some move during the night, and about midnight we discovered that they were erecting a barricade across the deck between the fore and the main mast. They were using casks and bales to do this, and, though we could have opened fire and driven them off, Captain Clark decided that a barricade would be no menace to us. They had no ammunition for the muskets and were probably erecting it to cover themselves while getting a breath of fresh air on deck.

"I'll tell you what, Ralph," said the captain to me as we stood alone on watch after midnight while the others slept, "I've got hopes of not only getting the Hindu back into our own hands, but I believe we shall carry our cargo to Botany Bay. They can't sail

the ship nor take to the boats, and what are they to do?" "But if it comes on to blow a gale?" I queried.

"Let us hope it won't. In that event we may all go down together."

At 2 o'clock in the morning a breeze sprang up, but it was nothing to cause anxiety. The mutineers were pretty quiet during the last hours of the night, but when day fairly broke the whole gang of them were suddenly astrid and betraying great excitement. After puzzling over it for a bit, we decided that a sail must be in sight to the eastward. How far off or how near she would pass us we had no means of knowing, as the bark's head was to the south. Over the top of the barricade we could see the heads of the mutineers and make out that the object of interest was on the port bow. It wasn't ten minutes before there was a furious quarrel among them, and from such words as we could catch we knew they were divided on the course of action to be taken. They had no signal of distress to set, even though they wanted to bring the strange vessel down to us, but it was more than probable that she would alter her course to ascertain why we were drifting away with all sail carefully stowed instead of having everything spread to the breeze. In the course of half an hour a flag of truce was displayed above the barricade, and a few seconds later York revealed himself and shouted:

"Captain Clark, will you give us the boats and allow us to leave the bark?" "Aye, that I won't!" replied the captain, whose quick wit divined what was in the wind. "The first one of you on this side of that barricade gets a bullet into him."

It was likely a merchantman bearing down on us, and the fellows wanted the boats to go off and capture her. In another half hour we heard them shouting to somebody to keep off, as we had pestilence aboard. That was in revenge, you know. We knew, however, that the sight of the barricade and of so many men crowded together on the forecastle, even if they got no sight of the stranger by us until she had solved the mystery. While the mutineers were still shouting, she passed astern of us, and we signaled her from the cabin windows. She proved to be the English brig Vixen, London, bound from Port Darwin. The two men in her rigging figured out the situation pretty promptly, and the brig was thrown into the wind and her boat lowered, and presently her captain was pulled under the stern of the Hindu. While the rest of us kept watch on the mutineers and prepared for any move on their part, Captain Clark stated our situation, but did not ask for help. He found that we had drifted more to the north than what we had figured on and that wind and current were setting us in toward the west coast of Australia, but there was nothing to worry over as yet.

The English captain had a crew of 13 men, but not so much as a pistol aboard. He, however, offered to bring all his men aboard to help in an attack and was not a little put out that Captain Clark did not think it the wisest plan. He was simply asked to report our situation to the first man-of-war he met, as also to the first Australian bound craft he should sight. In fact, a brief report was prepared by our captain to be handed to the proper officers. When he was ready to return to his vessel, the captain pulled around to the bow of the Hindu and gave the mutineers a piece of his mind. They tried to shout him down, but it was plainly evident that his declaration that every man would swing at the end of a rope detracted from their enthusiasm.

There was no change up to noon, except that the breeze freshened a little. For three hours after dinner the mutineers were so quiet that we became apprehensive and prepared for a rush. It was well that we did. I may tell you that, aside from Mrs. Roberts, Mary Williams and Miss White, we had no assistance from the women. They were frightened and nervous and could hardly be induced to move about. But for Mary's cool, calm manner we should have had no help at all. She went about cheering up the children and speaking brave words to the women, and seeing that there were only enough men of us to fifty guard the cabin she proposed to keep watch at the bulkhead. It was arranged that the three spoken of should take turn and turn about at watching, and it was well they had their ears open. After dinner that day the fellows rigged up a battering ram between decks to burst open the bulkhead. It was a heavy spar slung to the deck beams, and with 15 or 20 men to give it impetus the planks must have given way before it.

It was Miss White who reported what was going on, and I was sent to investigate. I found that the spar was covered by two loopholes. In one of these I arranged a double barreled fowling piece, heavily charged with swan shot, and when Mary had practiced with an empty gun until she understood the mechanism of it a musket was loaded for her and she was placed at the other loophole. Mrs. Roberts was to discharge the fowling piece, and Miss White was to have a gun in reserve.

We were ready before the mutineers were. It was nearly 4 o'clock when without shout or signal or warning of any kind they came leaping over the barricade, armed with the same weapons as before. Ben Johnson and others of the more desperate convicts took the lead, and almost before we knew it they were chopping and smashing at the cabin. Some of the men carried small bales and boxes to heave on the skylight, none of them knowing of the iron shield bolted underneath. The gang felt how desperate its situation was, and though we began pouring in our fire at once, it seemed as if all were pledged to die rather than retreat. Those on deck were also bargaining for time for those below to get to work at the bulkhead, probably figuring that we were not prepared in that direction. I don't

like to tell you of the results. None of the mutineers below may have been killed, but so many were peppered with the shot that all ran away from the spar, and it was only after a messenger came on deck to report the failure below that a retreat was ordered. When the fight was over, we counted 16 dead men on the decks, of whom 12 were convicts and of whom York was one. There were no wounded, and I tell you plainly we meant there should be none. Not one of us in the cabin had received the slightest injury.

But if there was rejoicing over our victory something else occurred to give us the greatest pleasure. During the fight and consequent confusion Roberts managed to escape from the cage where he was confined and got on deck and leap overboard. As we were shaking hands and congratulating each other we heard his voice through the open windows and found him hanging to the rudder. As soon as he had been drawn in he told us that Dr. Haxton had been unable to escape with him because of the maltreatment he had received from Ben Johnson. The wretched villain, who owed more to the doctor than any other convict, had demanded his life, and when outvoted on that had struck him with an iron bar and broken his right arm. The doctor was ill and suffering, and the escape of his companion might make the situation still worse for him. In reasoning thus we were not out of the way. Just before sundown a white flag was lifted over the barricade and a minute later Ben Johnson hailed us with:

"I say, what's going to be done with the dead men over there?" "You can have them if you want them," replied Captain Clark. "If you won't fire on us, we'll leave 'em overboard."

"Go ahead."

You feel a thrill of horror. Well, the only way to get rid of those bodies was to leave them overboard.

"The time seems to have now come, thanks to the Copeland and Shepard mail system, when the invalid farmer doesn't have to leave home to secure the best medical treatment, and at about one-quarter what he would pay an ordinary country doctor. I was badly ailing for about four years. My stomach had been weakened, poisoned and ruined, as a gradual result of catarrh, till it brought on a for of habitual constipation that almost killed me. Along with my extreme debility my condition was rendered immediately serious by heart disease. But I got a complete cure finally without ever leaving the farm. It all came from my just writing for a Copeland and Shepard symptom blank and taking the mail treatment."

"Well, captain, you know that I'm in command now."

If there had been one loyal man among them, we should have felt sorry to see him handled like a dead dog, but never a man lay there who wouldn't have laughed as he cut the throat of one of the children. Johnson did not cross the barricade himself, but sent four of his gang over to do the work. When the last body had gone over the rail, he stood up in full view, making a great display of the flag, and shouted:

"Well, captain, you know that I'm in command now, and I want to ask what you propose to do?"

"We propose to remain right here in possession of the bark," answered the captain. "We can kill you off as fast as you come, and it's only a question of time when we shall have help to capture every one of you."

"We'll be shot down before we'll be taken," growled the villain. "Howsoever, perhaps we can come to terms. Give us the gal, and the mate, and the boats, and we'll give up the doctor and leave the ship."

"No, sir!"

"Well, give us the boats and we'll pass you over the doctor."

"You can't have the boats!" "Harkee, captain!" said Johnson, while the gang behind him growled and cursed and shifted about. "We are as ready to die as you are. If you won't make fair terms, then we'll all go to the bottom together. If you won't take the doctor and give us the boats, then overboard he goes, and we'll set fire to the ship. Think it over for ten minutes and give me an answer."

Can you realize the position Captain Clark was placed in? That was no idle threat of Johnson's, at least as far as the doctor was concerned, and humanity demanded that his life be saved. But if they were permitted to come aft to take the boats, who could tell what trick they would play on us to get possession of the cabin? It would be like them to set fire to the ship as they shoved off in the boats. They might disappear in the darkness to return and attack us. And, above all, what would the government say if we turned loose a gang of convicts to capture the first ship they came across when we had all the advantages of the situation? After three or four minutes of discussion every man and woman saw matters in the same light as the captain did. Reinforced by Roberts, we were better situated than before. Nothing was more certain than that we could hold that cabin. When Johnson showed himself again and demanded an answer, the captain replied: "You cannot have the boats. If you murder the doctor, it will be a hanging matter for every mother's son of you. If you want to fire the ship, go ahead."

A scream of rage arose from the bow of the ship, and Johnson shook his fist at the cabin before he jumped down from his perch. It is hard for me to tell you that they carried out their threats against Dr. Haxton, but within ten minutes they had him on deck and flung him overboard. You would have thought they would have spared him, as they had seven or eight wounded men to be looked after, but in their desperation they cared for nothing. The poor man made no cry as they sent him to his death, but we who were intently listening plainly heard the splash when

he struck the water. Ten minutes later there was a great flame forward and shouts and cries from the mutineers, but we judged that it was only a bluff, and so it turned out.

ON THE FARM

Get the Benefits of the Mail System Without Leaving Home.

Speaking of the benefits of the mail system to invalid farmers unable to visit the city, John L. Cockrell, an educated farmer of Lyons, Burt county, Nebraska, writes:



J. L. Cockrell, Lyons, Neb.

"The time seems to have now come, thanks to the Copeland and Shepard mail system, when the invalid farmer doesn't have to leave home to secure the best medical treatment, and at about one-quarter what he would pay an ordinary country doctor. I was badly ailing for about four years. My stomach had been weakened, poisoned and ruined, as a gradual result of catarrh, till it brought on a for of habitual constipation that almost killed me. Along with my extreme debility my condition was rendered immediately serious by heart disease. But I got a complete cure finally without ever leaving the farm. It all came from my just writing for a Copeland and Shepard symptom blank and taking the mail treatment."

STOMACH AND BOWELS.

Mr. J. Northrup, 1637 South 29th St., addresses this letter to Drs. Copeland & Shepard under date of October 30, 1896. Mr. Northrup was formerly bookkeeper for McCord, Brady & Co., the wholesale grocers:

"I want to offer very emphatic testimony in praise of your treatment for Catarrh of Stomach and Bowels. 'You will recall that I said to you at the end of the first month's treatment that I felt morally inclined to you in addition to the cash already paid. No man could have convinced me of the effects without a course of treatment. My digestion was so inactive it seemed practically dead, and I suffered the thousand and one discomforts arising therefrom, and after only a short course of treatment I feel a burden has been lifted from my neck and shoulders, as well as spirits. In fact, I enjoy living. I consider the cost of this treatment a mere pittance compared with the changed feelings and conditions, I still feel indebted to you."

\$5 A MONTH to any patient for any curable chronic disease, and all medicines furnished without a cent of additional cost. No other fee. No other expense. Send for symptom-blank.

Dr. B. W. COPELAND & S. SHEPARD, Omaha, Neb.

A Hint to the Public.

Do you eat to live or live to eat. In either case you will find what you want at the Merchant's Dining Hall 11 & P street, Lincoln, Nebraska. It is so cheap you can't afford to go hungry. Try us once and you will always be our guest while in the city. Meals at all hours from 10 cents up.

O. E. Houck, Prop.

It Is Just Wonderful

The time the Union Pacific "Overland" Fast Mail No. 3 makes to Ogden, Salt Lake, Butte, Helena, Portland, Seattle, San Francisco and Los Angeles. This Daily Meteor has the finest equipment consisting of Pullman Palace and Upholstered Tourist Sleepers, Free Reclining Chair Cars, and Diner. For full information call on or address E. B. Slomson, General Agent, 1044 O St., or J. T. Martin, C. T. A.

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Provisions of Hull's Bill.

One of the remarkable developments of the present session is the position taken by the republican legislators in caucus in relation to the amendment providing for an increase in the number of judges of the supreme court. This amendment was purely a republican creation. For years there had been a persistent republican howl and whine that the justices of the supreme court were shamelessly overworked, and that even then they were necessarily several years behind in the transaction of the business of the court. While the republican party was exclusively in control of the affairs of the state this howl was unremitting. Then four years ago the supreme court commission was created as an adjunct and assistant of the supreme court, but even this was not sufficient to satisfy the republicans.

The supreme court commission law was not satisfactory to republicans because it authorized the supreme court to appoint commissioners, and provided that no two of the three appointees should belong to the same political party. The idea of having one democrat and one populist in the supreme court out of a total of six was what worried republicans. Besides that, the commission was originally only created as a temporary measure of relief pending the necessary steps for the adoption of an amendment for an increase of the number of judges. It only provided for the appointment of two commissioners, covering a period of six years, terminating in 1899.

So distasteful was the supreme court commission law to leading republicans that two years ago Hon. John C. Watson of Nebraska City introduced in the senate a joint resolution for an amendment to the state constitution providing for an increase of the number of supreme court justices from three to five. Friends of the measure claim that before Mr. Watson submitted his resolution for an amendment he, in company with E. Rosewater, editor of the Bee, waited upon members of the supreme court and secured from them informal opinions that all that was necessary for the adoption of such an amendment was a majority of the votes cast on the proposition, provided the vote on that proposition was deposited in a separate ballot box at the general election. Mr. Watson is quoted as having said that if it had not been for this opinion from the supreme justices he would never have submitted the amendment.

At the recent election the vote cast in favor of the amendment largely exceeded that cast against it, but the affirmative vote was considerably less than a majority of the total vote cast for and against the state and national tickets. This latter fact would probably have been overlooked by republicans in their charitable ambitions to relieve the overworked supreme court, had it not been for the fact that the two contingent justices nominated by the fusionists snowed under most beautifully the two who were nominated by the republicans. Then it was that the republicans conceived the idea that Watson's amendment was a double-action affair which would have been carried if the republican candidates for the new justices had been elected, but which was of course defeated if the rival candidates prevailed. It was on this theory that the republican members of the state canvassing board declined to declare the amendment carried.

But unfortunately for the republicans the supreme court entertained the question in other cases and had ruled that a majority of the votes cast for senators and representatives was sufficient for the adoption of a constitutional amendment. But the returns of the vote for senators and representatives had not been made to the canvassing board, and the work of ascertaining this has been carried into the legislature. That is the purpose of the bill introduced by Hull of Harlan, which has been passed to the general file, and which will probably come up for final passage or rejection in the house during the week. Against this bill the republicans have solidly arrayed themselves.

The bill provides that county clerks of each county within the state be required to forward to the speaker of the house of representatives on or before January 31, 1897, all the ballots and poll books returned to them by the judges and clerks of election, held November 3, 1896, relating to the constitutional amendment increasing the number of judges of the supreme court and fixing their term of office. Also the clerks of counties having custody of the abstracts of votes cast in the senatorial and representative districts at such election shall enclose them with the poll books and ballots.

The president of the senate shall appoint two senators and the speaker of the house shall appoint three members of the house, who shall jointly constitute a board to inspect, count and compare said ballots, poll books and abstracts and report in writing to the governor their finding thereon and declare the result on or before February 15, 1897.

This board may employ sufficient clerical force, not exceeding three, to assist in such work. If, upon the return of the report of the board, it shall appear that the constitutional amendment was adopted according to law, the governor shall immediately issue his proclamation declaring that amendment to be a part of the constitution of the state. The report shall be recorded in the office of the secretary of state, and thereafter shall be prima facie evidence of the result of the election upon the constitutional amendment.

Immediately upon the completion of the canvass the board shall seal up the ballots, poll books and abstracts, and return them to the speaker of the house, who shall cause them to be forwarded to the several county clerks.

It is made the duty of the speaker of the house to take the necessary precautions to preserve the integrity of ballots, poll books and abstracts from the time received by him until returned by county clerks.

Any county clerk failing to transmit ballots, poll books and abstracts to the speaker of the house, as required by the act, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and be fined not less than \$200 nor more than \$1,000.

There is an emergency clause attached which is the only feature that arouses the least doubt as to its passage; as it requires a two-thirds vote for the adoption of a measure with the emergency clause.

Ripans Tabules cure liver troubles.

BEDRIDDEN,

FIFTEEN YEARS OF SUFFERING.

The Doctors Wanted Seven Hundred Dollars to Attend the Case.

The following is a letter we received a short time ago from Mrs. M. C. Hinkley, 602 North Mississippi St., Indianapolis, Ind.

Gentlemen:—While suffering intensely from piles, I became interested in your advertisement in one of our daily papers and procured a package of your Pyramid Pile Cure from our druggist. Contrary to any expectations, the relief was instantaneous. I used two boxes of the Pile Cure and one of the pills and am convinced that they are the only cure for piles on the market. I have been a sufferer from piles for fifteen years and have been confined to my bed about one-half of the time, expecting and wishing for death for the pain was so great. I went to the college here and the doctors said my case was a new one to them, the great pain having brought on a large rupture, which they wanted seven hundred dollars to cut out. I was very much afraid that death would result from the blood-poisoning which they said would result from the operation. I feel as though I can't praise the Pyramid Pile Cure and the Pyramid pills too highly, as I am convinced that they saved my life. Before using your cure I weighed only ninety pounds and now I weigh one hundred and fifty and feel as well as I ever did in my life. You are at liberty to use this testimonial in any manner you may see fit, as I want all sufferers from this terrible disease to know that there is at last been compounded a remedy that will cure piles.

Mrs. M. C. Hinkley.

There is no need of the danger, pain and expense of a surgical operation from any form of piles. The Pyramid Pile Cure does the work without pain and is the safest and best. Remember also that the Pyramid Pills are a certain cure for constipation, acting without griping and restoring natural action of the bowels. The Pyramid Pile Cure is sold by druggists at 50 cents and \$1.00, and the Pyramid Pills at 25 cents, or by mail from Pyramid Co., Albion, Mich.

Geese and Ducks.

There are two advantages with these two classes of poultry over chickens and turkeys, they are less liable to disease and are less trouble to look after. After the geese and ducks get reasonably well feathered they can be turned out into a good pasture, and if there is plenty of water they will need very little attention at least until cold weather. It takes a good breed of layers for a hen to lay more eggs than a good Pekin duck, and if well sheltered and fed they will commence laying the latter part of January, and will lay all the rest of the winter and the early spring and will usually take a second spell the latter part of the summer. To make the most of both ducks and geese it is necessary to pick their feathers regularly, commencing as soon as they are through laying in the fall. The feathers should be picked regularly all the summer until reasonably cold weather in the fall. A sufficient amount of feathers can readily be secured to pay for their keep, so that the eggs and increase may be considered as profit.

With geese especially, after the number it is desired to keep is secured, nearly or quite all the younger fowls may be marketed as soon as they have made a sufficient growth, as the old fowls may be kept a number of years without change, and will give fully as good if not better results than the younger ones. Ducks can hardly be kept so long, but should be sold when five years old at least. This gives in both cases the young fowls to market, and they will sell better and can be made ready for market at a less cost than the older or more matured ones. With ducks, until the desired number is secured, it is a good plan to sell the early hatched and keep the later.

But it is best to keep good stock in making a start, and it will cost but little more to secure good fowls. The Pekin is one of the best breeds of ducks, while the Embden is one of the best breeds of geese. One advantage with both of them is that the feathers are white and will sell to better advantage. The Toulouse geese are a good breed, but the feathers are dark colored. The Aylesbury is a good breed of ducks, but are not quite as large as the Pekin. Geese will come nearer living on pasture and taking care of themselves than any other class of poultry.

Too much grain is rather a detriment than a benefit, and should only be given heavily when fattened for the market. Bulky food is much more desirable and will give much better results in every way during growth. During the winter they need a shelter, and during what may be termed the laying season it is best to pen at night in order to make sure of the egg, but otherwise the better plan is to give them a good range in a pasture well supplied with water.—Colman's Rural World.

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