

# The RING and the MAN

WITH SOME INCIDENTAL RELATION TO THE WOMAN

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## SYNOPSIS.

A foolish young tenderfoot becomes fascinated with the bold, artful wife of a drunken prospector in a western mining town. They prepare to elope in a blinding blizzard but are confronted by the maudlin husband. He is shot by the wife, but the chivalrous boy pins a note to the door, taking the blame upon himself. In their flight to the railroad station the woman's horse falls exhausted; the youth puts her on his own and follows hanging to the stirrup strap. Seeing he is an impediment, the woman thrusts her escort into a snow drift and rises on her feet. She stumbles into the railroad station just as the train bears the woman away. Twenty-five years later, this man, George Gormly, is a multi-millionaire in New York. He meets Eleanor Haldane, a beautiful and wealthy settlement worker, and co-operates with her in her work. Gormly becomes owner of a steamship line and finds himself frustrated in pier and track extension plans by grafting politicians, backed by the Gotham Traction Company. An automobile accident brings the Haldanes to his country home. Gormly announces that he will be mayor of New York and redeem the city from corruption. Mr. Haldane in a long desired interview with Gormly, makes an indirect proposition to compromise the fight which the latter has been waging in the newspapers against the Gotham Traction company, and which Haldane is suspected of being the head. Gormly boldly announces his plan of campaign to Haldane.

## BOOK II—THE BATTLE FOR FREEDOM. CHAPTER VII.

The Outs Would Fain Take a Hand. The political declaration of Gormly was the sensation of the hour; the sensation of many hours, in fact. It came at exactly the right time. The non-church going section of New York, from which the larger part of politics was unfortunately recruited—the truly good Christian being a man who leaves the doing of such duties to his ungodly neighbor as a rule—had abundant leisure to read the papers on Christmas morning, and every paper in the city contained that same announcement which Miss Haldane and the party at the cottage had read in The Planet.

Every paper contained also editorial comment then and thereafter. The administration papers ridiculed the proposition, endeavored to laugh it out of court. Other men possibly as high in character had announced themselves from time to time with similar platforms. Their announcements had created mild sensations, their campaigns had sometimes created more sensations; but the results had invariably been defeat.

So the administration papers sought to whittle the new candidate down the wind of their disdain. Nevertheless, since George Gormly's money was as good as anybody else's in New York, they kept on printing his communications, in which his advertisements were alternated with his political manifestos.

The anti-administration papers, and those which strove so far as newspapers could to take a dispassionate view of the situation, were unanimous in their approval of Gormly's candidacy. They declared that his election would be the best thing that could happen for New York; they were also practically unanimous in their hopelessness of his success.

Gormly had carefully studied the situation. He was not disappointed in the least degree—and he realized that while such a proclamation as he had made would inevitably cause a tremendous discussion, it would have to be followed up by work, if it was to be more effective than a flash in the pan. He had learned that organization was the keynote of success, as overorganization was its death knell. He knew that the arrangement which secured all general principles, leaving the utmost liberty in details, was the one which was in the end bound to succeed, provided the factors upon whom dependence was to be placed were in any degree worthy of their responsibilities.

He was also aware that the native intelligence of the community, even allowing for the vast number of ignorant foreigners who were allowed without let or hindrance to fill the city, was very high. The first requisite for successful campaigning, therefore, he decided to be education. Knowledge, as of old, is still power.

The ideal method of enlightening the people to the seriousness of the situation and of convincing them of their ability to amend it was by word of mouth. Gormly had never been a public speaker. Fortunately he had plenty of self confidence, and he was quite capable of presenting a situation in a simple, businesslike way, so clearly that even the ignorant could comprehend it. A few months only would elapse before the spring elections that would determine the issue. No matter how assiduously he campaigned, he could reach only a portion of the vast conglomeration that made up political New York. It would be necessary for him, therefore, to keep telling the same story in the different papers of the city to reach those who did not hear his voice, and to drive home in the minds of those who had heard what they had listened to.

He was prepared to spend his money as well as himself for this end. Watson, one of the assistant general managers of his great institu-

"It's easy to see, Mr. Gormly," said Benson half pityingly, "that you don't know anything about practical politics. The committee of a hundred will carry out the will of the party because the will of the party will be the will of the committee of a hundred; and the committee of a hundred will carry out the will of this committee visiting you, because the will of this committee is the will of the committee of a hundred. If I say—I mean if we say—that our party wants you for mayor, you can bet your last dollar that you're the man it wants. See?"

"I see," said Gormly. "In that case why have any convention at all? Why have any committee of a hundred? Why have anybody but you, Mr. Benson," he stopped long enough to make the pause appreciable, "and your coadjutors? Why have any people, as a matter of fact? Why don't you and Mr. Liffey, who I believe holds a somewhat analogous position to yours in the other party, get together with two able coadjutors like those you have brought and settle the question what the people are going to have?"

"Well, Mr. Gormly, since you put it that way," said Benson coolly, "if I was a little stronger than I am, if this city wasn't so hopelessly in Charles Liffey's grasp, that's about what we'd do. Now, we think that you've got certain elements of strength with the people that'll sort of balance things. I don't know whether you can be elected or not, I'm speakin' frankly now, gentlemen, and as a practical politician; but I believe you're more apt to be elected than anybody else, if we can get a fair count, or count the ballots ourselves, which is more or less doubtful with Liffey in power, and therefore we want you for our candidate, because we think we can win.

"Liffey has been in power so long that he ain't even decent. He ain't willing to take a fair, respectable graft; he wants everything. But when it comes down to talkin' business with the candidate in his private office, the best thing is the whole truth. Certainly it's important from one point of view that we should win this year. It may give us more power in the national convention next year, if we can deliver the goods in New

York city, why, our voice is goin' to mean something, our influence is goin' to be worth something, and that accounts for Mr. Poole's presence here. As for Mr. Fitchett, he's one of the brightest young lawyers we've got. He knows which side his bread's buttered on. He wants to be district attorney and run with you, and you couldn't get a better campaigner to stand by your side. As for me, all the power we've got, which I admit ain't as much as we'd ought to have, I control. I put it at your disposal. Now what do you say?"

"I protest," began Poole angrily, while Fitchett bit his lip, but managed to control himself better than the banker.

"Gentlemen," said Gormly, "it will hardly be necessary for you to continue the interview further on these lines."

"What do you mean?" exclaimed Benson.

"I mean that while I am, of course deeply touched by your hearty and spontaneous promises of support in this coming campaign, and while I appreciate highly the honor that you propose to me of making me your candidate, I regret to say that I must decline your proposition."

"What!" roared Benson. "You ain't goin' to run then?"

"I haven't said anything to that effect, have I?"

"But," interposed Poole, "you can't expect to succeed without any organiza-

tion back of you. Why, man, the ring that's against you, the influences that are opposed to you, both financial and political, is something that you can't imagine!"

"It requires much more than a candidate and a majority of votes to win an election."

"The ballots have got to be counted," said Benson, "and the money's got to be spent. In common with all the rest of us, I read those accounts you're publishing from week to week, and it makes me sick to see so much good money goin' to waste. Not but what it's doin' some good; but a practical man like myself could administer it so much better. You could buy a voting precinct with what you spend on a single ad. Wastin' good money on the press! It's men you want to buy, not newspapers. That's the reason Liffey always gets the best of me. He's got more money than I can get, consequently he's got the men. But with your own contributions and the chances for success that you'll give us, there's lots of other rich men that'd be willing to take on our gettin' in power."

"I am not one of these men, Mr. Benson. I'll take no chances whatever on your getting in power."

"Well, it's got to be Liffey's crowd or ours, and your fightin' Liffey's crowd from beginning to end. Therefore logically you belong to us."

"I cannot see the force of your reasoning," said Gormly, "and I tell you here and now that while I shall be very glad to have the votes of any or every man in New York, yet I will be beholden to no political party in the city. I have entered this campaign as an independent. If the people wish to elect me, they can do so; if not, not."

"Why, I told you," said Denson pityingly, "that you might get elected; but you've got to be counted in."

"If I am elected," said Gormly, "you need not fear that I shall be counted out."

"You have to be a regular nominee," said Poole.

"I shall be nominated by petition, gentlemen," said Gormly coolly. He pointed to his desk. "Look at that pile yonder. They are coming in every day."

"Signed by women and children and cranks, I suppose!" sneered Benson.

"I have a corps of young men," answered Gormly, "who personally visit every petitioner, find out if he is a voter and if he really means what he says when he asks me to run. Every name is verified and registered."

"Well, I'll be damned!" cried Benson in great amazement.

"I am afraid if you continue in politics with your present views that you will be," said Gormly coolly. "As for organization, I have an organization of my own. We are discussing the issues and preparing to hold meetings and send out speakers all over the city."

"Who's managing the game?"

"One of my assistant managers in the store, Mr. Watson."

"What's he know about politics?"

"His experience compared with your own has been little, but on different lines. He is learning rapidly, however, and I think before you get through, you will find him worthy of oven your own steel, Mr. Benson."

## HARRIET BEECHER STOWE

Famous Woman Who Wrote "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Was Born One Hundred Years Ago.

Litchfield, Conn.—The one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Harriet Beecher Stowe, one of the famous children of Dr. Lyman Beecher and author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," was celebrated at her birthplace here.

While the author of many books, Harriet Beecher Stowe is remembered chiefly by her great work, "Uncle Tom's Cabin." She was forty years of age when the story began to run as a serial in the National Era, an Abolition paper published in Washington. It was translated into every language of Europe, had a sale of over



500,000 copies in the first two years after its publication, a fourth of which were in England, and it is still called for in many of the public libraries of the country. As a "best seller" it far surpassed all the work of recent days and has been exceeded in circulation by the Bible only. At one time more than a dozen theatrical companies were traveling through the country presenting this drama.

## HANOVER'S FIRST BUILDING

Old Presbyterian Church Which Was the Earliest College Structure is to Be Remodeled.

Hanover, Ind.—The old Presbyterian church at Hanover, which was the first building of Hanover college, will be remodeled. The building was erected in what was then South Hanover, in 1828. Hanover college had had its inception in a little log cabin two years before.

The first real college classes in the state were held in the building that is to be remodeled. A seminary was also started in the building in 1837. This was removed to Chicago later and is now the largest seminary of its kind in the west—the McCormick seminary. A tornado took the top story off the building in 1837 and the college was moved to a new structure about a mile east, overlooking the Ohio river, and the building was made into a church. Every commencement exercise since 1830 has been held in this church, and a large number who have



become prominent in affairs have gone out of the building as college graduates.

It is believed here that the first diploma given to any woman from an educational institution of any kind was given here in this building to Margaret Minter of Nantucket, R. I. More than fifty people who have been members of this church have gone in to the foreign mission field, and ten college presidents were once members of the congregation.

## WOMEN TO CARE FOR TREES

Aldermen of Middletown, N. Y. Let Contract to Society Leaders—Big Victory for Former.

Middletown, N. Y.—The women of Middletown won a great victory the other day when the board of aldermen turned over to them the care of the shade trees of the city and the bids of other contractors were thrown aside. Last year the Federation of Women's Clubs took up the matter of saving the shade trees of the city and succeeded in getting the taxpayers to vote \$1,200 for that purpose. The aldermen let the contract and at the end of the season the women claimed the work had not been done properly. This year the women asked the aldermen to award them the contract.

## IN HARD LUCK.



First Tramp—So Weary Willie is suffering from brain fog, is he?  
Second tramp—Sure t'ing. He hasn't ask fer work no more cause he hain't got brains enough fer think up some excuse fer not takin' it if he gets it.

Well Described.  
Tommy—Pop, what is a theorist?  
Tommy's Pop—A theorist, my son, is a man who thinks he is learning to swim by sitting on the bank and watching a frog.

Cole's Carbolisalve quickly relieves and cures burning, itching and torturing skin diseases. It instantly stops the pain of burns. Cures without scars. 25c and 50c by druggists. For free sample write to J. W. Cole & Co., Black River Falls, Wis.

Refreshing Sight.  
"Feeling blue today?"  
"Yes."  
"Let's go down to a bank and look at some money."

## SAVED FROM AN OPERATION

By Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

Peoria, Ill.—"I wish to let every one know what Lydia E. Pinkham's remedies have done for me. For two years I suffered. The doctors said I had tumors, and the only remedy was the surgeon's knife. My mother bought me Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and today I am a healthy woman. For months I suffered from inflammation, and your Sarsaparilla Wash relieved me. Your Liver Pills have no equal as a cathartic. Any one wishing proof of what your medicines have done for me can get it from any druggist or by writing to me. You can use my testimonial in any way you wish, and I will be glad to answer letters."—Mrs. CHRISTINA REED, 105 Mount St., Peoria, Ill.

Another Operation Avoided.  
New Orleans, La.—"For years I suffered from severe female troubles. Finally I was confined to my bed and the doctor said an operation was necessary. I gave Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound a trial first, and was saved from an operation."—Mrs. LILY PEYRON, 1111 Kerlerec St., New Orleans, La.

The great volume of unsolicited testimony constantly pouring in proves conclusively that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is a remarkable remedy for those distressing feminine ills from which so many women suffer.

## 50,000 Men Wanted in Western Canada

200 Million Bushels Wheat to be Harvested

Harvest Help in Great Demand  
Reports from the Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta (Western Canada) indicate one of the best crops ever raised on the continent. To harvest this crop will require at least 50,000 harvesters.

Low Rates Will be Given on All Canadian Reads  
Excursions are run daily and full particulars will be given on application to the following authorized Canadian Government Agent. The rates are made to apply to all who wish to take advantage of them for the purpose of inspecting the grain fields of Western Canada, and the wonderful opportunities there offered for those who wish to invest, and also those who wish to take up actual farm life.

Apply at once to  
W. V. BENNETT  
Room 4, Bee Bldg., Omaha, Neb.

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Can quickly be overcome by CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS. Purely vegetable—act surely and gently on the liver. Cure Biliousness, Headache, Distress, and Indigestion. They do their duty. SMALL PILL, SMALL DOSE, SMALL PRICE. Genuine must bear Signature

Bentley's PATENTS



Poole Was the Natural Spokesman.