

CAPTER IV.

Two days later the widow's funeral was over, and Philip having found the key in a secret drawer of his mother's cabinet, was standing in the room that had been locked up for so many years.

The room was about twelve or fourteen feet square, with but one window; opposite to the door stood the chimney and fire-place, with a high buffet of dark wood on each side. On a table near by was a bunch of keys. With one of these he opened the wooden doors of the buffet, revealing an iron safe.

A second key on the bunch opened the iron doors; and Philip found himself in possession of a considerable sum of money, amounting, as near as he could reckon, to ten thousand guilders, in little yellow sacks. Philip replaced the sacks, and locked up the cupboards, after having taken out of one, already half emptied, a few pieces for his immediate wants. Then turning and gazing at the table again he beheld partly concealed under some embroidery, the sealed letter which his mother had declared had been left there by his father seventeen years ago. He dashed forward, seized the letter, and burst out of the fatal room.

"I cannot, dare not, read it here," exclaimed he; "no, no, it must be under the valut of high and offended Heaven that the message must be received." Philip took his hat, and went out of the house; in calm despair he locked the door, took out the key, and walked he knew not whither.

Philip looked about him for some spot where he might be concealed from observation-where he might break the seal, and read this mission from a world of spirits. A small copse of brushwood, in advance of a grove of trees, was not far from where he stood. "He walked to it and sat down, so as to be concealed from any passers-by.

perfectly understood that she is to be my property." "Yes, if you choose to purchase her,

there is no objection," replied a third. "Agreed; how much will you in conscience sake ask for a puling girl?" "I say five hundred guilders," replied

another. "Well, be it so, but on this condition, that if my share of the booty does not amount to so much. I am to have her for my share, whatever it may be."

"That's very fair," replied the other; "but I'm much mistaken if we don't turn more than two thousand guilders out of the old man's chest."

"What do you say-is it agreedshall Baetans have her?"

"Oh, yes," replied the others. "Well, then," replied the one who had stipulated for Mynheer Poots' daughter, "now I am with you, heart and soul. I loved that girl, and tried to get her-I positively offered to marry her, but the old hunks refused me, an ensign, an officer; but now I'll have revenge. We must not spare him."

"No, no," replied the others.

"Shall we go now or wait till it is later? In an hour or more the moon will be up-we may he seen."

"Who is to see us? unless, indeed, some one is sent for him. The later the better, I say."

"How long will it take us to get there? Not half an hour if we walk. Suppose we start in half an hour hence, we shall just have the moon to count the guilders by."

"That's all right. In the meantime I'll put a new flint in my lock, and have my carbine loaded. I can work in the dark."

"You are used to it, Jan."

"Yes, I am-and I intend this ball to go through the old rascal's head." "Well, I'd rather you should kill him

than I," replied one of the others, "for he saved my life at Middleburgh, when every one made sure I'd die." Philip did not want to hear any more; he crawled behind the bushes until he gained the grove of trees, and passing through them, made a detour, so as not to be seen by these miscreants. That they were disbanded soldiers, many of whom were infesting the country, he knew well. All his thoughts were now to save the old doctor and his daughter from the danger which threatened them; and for a time he forgot his father, and the exciting revelations of the day. Although Philip had not been aware in what direction he had walked when he set off from the cottage, he knew the country well; and now that it was necessary to act, have a son-but, no, no, let him not he remembered the direction in which he should find the lonely house of Mynheer Poots; with the utmost speed he made his way for it, and in less than twenty minutes he arrived there out of breath. As usual, all was silent, and the door fastened. Philip knocked, but there was no reply. Again and again he knocked, and became impatient. Myn-"Yes, my father!" exclaimed Philip, heer Poots must have been summoned, aloud, falling on his knees, "you have | and was not in the house; Philip therenot written these lines in vain. Let fore called out, so as to be heard within, "Maiden, if you father is out, as I presume he must be, listen to what I have to say-I am Philip Vanderdecken. But now I overheard four wretches, who have planned to murder your father, and rob him of his gold. In one hour, or less, they will be here, and I have hastened to warn and protect you, if I may. I swear upon the relic that you delivered to me this morning that what I state is true."

alone? I ought not-cannot-yet do I MARINE LEGISLATURE believe you. You surely never could be so base as to invent this tale."

"No-upon my hopes of future bliss could not, maiden! You must not trifle with your life and honor, but let me in."

"And if I did, what could you do against such numbers? They are four to one-would soon overpower you, and one more life would be lost."

"Not if you have arms; and I think your father would not be left without them. I fear them not-you know that am resolute."

"I do indeed-and now you'd risk your life for those you did assail. 1 thank you, thank you kindly, sir-but dare not open the door."

"Then, maiden, if you'll not admit me, here will I now remain, without arms, and but ill able to contend with four armed villains; but still, here will I remain and prove my truth to one I will protect 'gainst odds-yes, even here!"

"Then shall I be thy murderer! But that must not be. Oh! sir-swear, swear by all that's holy, and by all that's pure, that you do not deceive me."

"I swear by thyself maiden, than all to me more sacred!"

The casement closed, and in a short time a light appeared above. In a minute or two more the door was opened to Philip by the fair daughter of Mynheer Poots. She stood with the candle in her right hand, the color in her cheeks varying-now flushing red, and again deathly pale. Her left hand was down by her side, and in it she held a pistol half concealed. Philip perceived this precaution on her part, but took no notice of it; he wished to reassure her.

"Maiden," said he, not entering, "if you still have doubts-if you think you have been ill advised in giving me admission-there is yet time to close the door against me; but for your own sake I entreat you not. Before the moon is up, the robbers will be here. With my life I will protect you, if you will but trust me. Who indeed could injure one like you?"

CHAPTER V.

She was indeed (as she stood irresolute and perplexed from the peculiarity of her situation, yet nor wanting in courage when it was to be called forth) an object well worthy of gaze and admiration. Her features thrown into broad light and shade by the candle,

DIVISION OF OPINION AS TO

An Intelligent Understanding of the Question on the Part of Senators and Representatives is the Need of the Hour.

PRECISE METHODS.

The shipping question is commanding a large part of the attention of members of both houses of congress. The hearings before the commerce committees of the two houses on the Hanna-Payne subsidy and free ship bill brought to Washington a number of leading advocates of the subsidy plan for benefiting American commerce, and among the leaders in the movement who appeared were the presidents of some of the foremost ocean steamship companies and of leading American railway enterprises. The consideration of the subject up to this time has brought out only the most general testimony on the necessity for upbuilding our merchant marine, about which there is no difference of opinion among men of all parties. It is noteworthy, also, that much of the testimony given before the committees up to this time related to generalities, and nebody seemed able to make what would be termed accurate and trustworthy estimates of the probable cost to the United States of the proposed subsidy plan.

In this connection it is worth noting that there is great lack of information among senators and representatives generally on the shipping question. Notwithstanding all that has been published, and the expressions by the political platforms, it seems difficult to interest the statesmen in the subject to an extent to induce them to post themselves upon this all important subject. That there is necessity for action all admit. That American merchant marine interests demand immediate attention on the best possible lines is conceded upon all hands. But the differences of opinion are marked when it comes to the consideration of detailed plans. It is apparent that when the subject comes to be seriously considered by the commerce and marine committees, there must be some careful figuring done by the advocates of the different plans or there will be some blundering which the people will resent when the time comes for them to pass upon the work

trade increases. Some day it will dawn upon the legislators what might be accomplished if we had better shipping

facilities. The preliminary figures of the treasury department on our exports of breadstuffs and provisions for. the calendar year of 1898 show marvelous advances over the results in preceding years. Of breadstuffs we exported last year more than \$308,000,-000 worth, an increase of about \$60,-000,000 over our exports of like commodities last year, and \$80,000,000 over 1895. Our exports of provisions aggregated more than \$163,000,000 worth last year, an increase of \$26,000,000 over 1897, and \$36,000,000 over 1895. Our the supply. cotton exports increased more than 2,000,000 bales in 1898 over those of the previous year, and 3,000,000 bales over

1895. Thus are the agriculturists of the country reaping the benefits of our increased export trade, although the low tariff and free trade shouters asserted it would be ruined by a return to protection, which they said closed the markets abroad to American products. It will be noticed that it is not all increases on wheat to feed famished foreigners. The provision producers, the cotton producers and the manufacturers shared in the increase in common with others.

What would that increase have been in these various lines if American ships, flying the American flag, had stood ready to carry the products of this country to every port over the and sold on the streets of Cadillac and # seas?

Protect Our Commerce.

Said Franklin, "It is easier to build two chimneys than to maintain one." And it is far easier to build two steamships than to maintain one. We can build steamships cheaper than any other nation, but the cost of sailing ested in the lumbering industry. More them is considerably more because hardwood lands have been bought and wages are higher in America than elsewhere.

What we need in America is not cheaper vessels but sufficient protection to enable our merchant marine to compete with foreign firms in the carrying trade.

We pay \$300,000,000 to foreign steamship companies to carry our merchandise over the sea.

Great Britain protects her merchant marine to an extent that makes her the mistress of the seas in the carrying trade as well as in war.

Let America protect our merchant marine equal to the protection afforded by Great Britain, and what a vast

ican commercial interests, our export DINGLEY LAW AND LUMBER.

How Michigan's Interests Have Been Promoted by Protection.

Wages have been increased in the lumber districts of Michigan for all grades of labor, and the men in the mills and on the yards and in the woods are all receiving higher wages than before the passage of the Dingley bill. Two years ago men were working in the woods in this section of the state for \$14 per month and board, and work was not plentiful at such wages. For the same work men are now receiving from \$18 to \$26 per month, and the demand for men is greater than

No act of legislation ever passed by the congress of the United States has bettered the condition of so many of the inhabitants of Michigan as did that section of the Dingley bill relating to lumber. Before the passage of this bill manufactured hardwood lumber was being delivered in Boston and the eastern markets at less than it was worth to the farmers of Northern Michigan to cut it on their lands and haul it to the mills. There was little or no sale for either the lands or the hardwood, and millions of feet of it were burned on the clearings rather than to cut and deliver it at the mills or along the railroads for the price then being paid. Some of the best maple and beech ever cut in Northern Michigan was cut into stove lengths other Northern Michigan cities .nd villages for eighty and ninety cents per cord.

With a passage of the tariff bill providing for a duty on all manufactured lumber came a speedy and happy change for the twenty or more counties of Northern Michigan directly intersold since the passage of this tariff bill than during the previous twenty years. The mills and factories are being built, the building of one of the most complete flooring factories in the United States here in Cadillac being one of the many direct benefits which have come to our county and city through the home demand for Michigan maple flooring created by the Dingley bill.

Higher wages are being paid by the lumber producers than before the passage of this act, higher prices are being paid for timber, higher prices are being paid for provisions for their camps, higher prices for horses and

Then he broke the seal, which bore the initials of his father's name, and read as follows:

"To Catherine:

"One of those pitying spirits whose eyes rain tears for mortal crimes has been permitted to inform me by what means alone my dreadful doom may be averted.

"Could I but receive on the deck of my own ship the holy relic upon which I swore the fatal oath, kiss it in all humility, and shed one tear of deep contrition on the sacred wood, I then might rest in peace.

"How this may be effected, or by whom so fatal a task will be undertaken, I know not. Oh, Catherine, we hear of me. Pray for me, and now, farewell.

"I. VANDERDECKEN."

"Then it is true, most horribly true," thought Philip; "and my father is even now in living judgment. And he points to me-to whom else should he? Am I not his son, and is it not my duty?"

me peruse them once more."

Philip raised up his hand; but, although it appeared to him that he had still hold of the letter, it was not there -he grasped nothing. He looked on the grass to see if it had fallen-but, no, there was no letter; it had disappeared. Was it a vision? No. no: he had read every word. "Then it must be to me, and me alone, that the mission was intended. I accept the sign."

"Hear me, dear father-if thou art so permitted-and deign to hear me, gracious Heaven-hear the son who, by this sacred relic, swears that he will avert your doom or perish. To that will he devote his days; and having done his duty, he will die in hope and peace. Heaven, that recorded my rash father's oath, now register his son's upon the same sacred cross, and may you." perjury on my part be visited with punishment more dire than his! Receive it, Heaven, as at the last I trust that in Thy mercy Thou wilt receive the father and the son; and if too bold, oh, pardon my presumption!"

Philip threw himself forward on his bol. The sun went down and the twi-

Abroad."-Collier's Weekly. lowed upon the workings of the tariff of some men, who sat down upon the might defend her. efforts to build up our merchant ma-"Think, fair maiden, of what I have turf but a few yards from where he law of 1897 is Nelson Dingley's monurine by discriminating duties on the ment.-American Economist, Jan. 20, was concealed. The conversation he told you. You have been sold to one ground that European nations will A Poor Showing. little heeded; but it had roused him, of those reprobates, whose name I 1899. meet us on a level, as they put it, in "No," declared Horace Hardrocks, "I and his first feeling was to return to think they mentioned was Baetens. that policy, or whether damage is to cannot consent to let you marry my the cottage, that he might reflect over | The gold, I know, you value not; but result, as is suggested, from such dis-Two Courses. daughter. A man who confesses bankcriminating policy by its effects upon his plans; but, although the men think of thine own dear self-suffer me ruptcy as you did shall never become spoke in a low tone, his attention was to enter the house, and think not for the export price of American breada member of my family if I can help soon arrested by the subject of their one moment that my story is feigned. stuffs and provisions. it." "But," Albert Allingham protestconversation when he heard the name I swear to thee by the soul of my poor, These are the question which the ed, "many another man has gone into statesmen must consider before any bankruptcy and still come out all right. of Mynheer Poots mentioned. He lisdear mother, now, I trust, in Heaven, tened attentively, and discovered that that every word is true." Some of our ablest financiers have had "Baetons, did you say, sir?" that experience." "Very true, but that they were four disbanded soldiers, who intended that night to attack the house will never happen in your case. You "If I mistook them not, such was the high circles upon these matters, which have no financial ability whatever. of the little doctor, who had they knew, name; he said he loved you once." really lie at the root of the entire sub-Your assets were only \$8,000 less than much money in his possession. "That name I have in memory-I ject of shipping legislation. Gazette. know not what to do, or what to say: "What I have proposed is the best," your liabilities." In the meanwhile, and notwithsaid one of them; "he has no one with my father has been summoned to a year. standing the effectiveness of the prohim but his daughter. "I value her birth, and may be yet away for many Falsehood is often rocked by truth. If the history ov humanity had awl more than his money," replied an- hours. Yet how can I open the door the blud washt outer it, the lines wud tective policy, and the want of Amerbut she soon outgrows her cradle and ican ships for the promotion of Amer- discards her nurse Colton. other; "so recollect before we go it is to you-at night-he not at home-I be too dim un pale to foller. gray when the is about 35

Philip waited a short time, but received no answer.

"Maiden," resumed he, "answer me, to you than even your father's gold to is no longer in financial straits. It is him. Open the casement above, and listen to what I have to say. In so doing there is no risk; and even if it were not dark, already have I seen

A short time after this second address, the casement of the upper window was unbarred, and the slight form of the fair daughter of Mynheer Poots was to be distinguished by Philip through the gloom.

"What wouldst thou, young sir, at minute at the door?"

that he had overheard, and concluded by begging her to admit him, that he

of their statesmen. which at times was half extinguished

by the wind-her symmetry of form and the gracefulness and singularity of her attire-were matters of astonishment to Philip. Her head was without covering, and her long hair fell in plaits behind her shoulders; her stature was rather under the middle size, but her form perfect; her dress was simple but becoming, and very different from that usually worn by the young women of the district. Not only her features but her dress would at once have indicated to a traveler that she was of Arab blood, as was

the fact. She looked in Philip's face as he spoke-earnestly, as if she would have penetrated into his most inmost thoughts; but there was a frankness and honesty in his bearing, and a sincerity in his manly countenance, which reassured her. After a moment's hesitation she replied:

"Come in, sir; I feel that I can trust you.'

Philip entered. The door was then closed and made secure.

"We have no time to lose, maiden," said Philip; "but tell me your name, that I may address you as I ought." "My name is Amine," replied she, retreating a little.

"I thank you for that little confidence, but I must not dally. What arms have you in the house, and have you ammunition?"

"Both. I wish that my father would come home."

(To be continued.)

Happy Mark Twain,

Few items of news from the other side of the Atlantic are more likely to please American readers than the if you value that which is more dear | tidings that Mr. Clemens (Mark Twain) well known that some years ago the failure of a publishing house in which he was a partner left him saddled with heavy obligations. He undertook to pay his debts and regain a competence by work more speedily lucrative than the production of books. He signed a contract to lecture, and, notwithstanding occasional attacks of illhealth, he has fulfilled his agreement, in the course of which he has made a tour around a large part of the globe. We

The present indications are that the

committees of the two houses will settle down to serious consideration of the Hanna-Payne subsidy bill within the next two weeks. The house committee will begin work earlier, and the entire committee on merchant marine will go to work on the bill, instead of submitting the question to a subcomimport. mittee for consideration.

Another point has been brought out by the preliminary examination of the subject, and that is the necessity for an overhauling of the proposed subsidy bill if that measure is to have the serious consideration of congress. Already there is a revolt against the too generous free ship provisions of the bill. It appears to have been drawn upon the assumption that the country has suddenly learned of the necessity for a revival of the merchant marine; that it is a new question, and that the demands for American ships are so

pressing that it is advisable to rush across the water and if possible impress into the merchant marine of the United States every foreign ship that can be induced at any price to take an American register. All this in contemplation of an extended American trade as a result of the conditions following our new relations since the war with Spain. There is a noticeable want of consideration of American ship building interests, which all must see are more important in consequence of these changed conditions than ever before. It appears not to have occurred to some of the recent converts to the policy of merchant marine upbuilding that the nation having through many years worried along with little attention from congress, there is no necessity at this time for entering upon a course intended to open the treasury of the United States to an unlimited expenditure in the hope that our merchant marine, to be made up of foreign built ships to an inordinate extent, shall command the commerce of

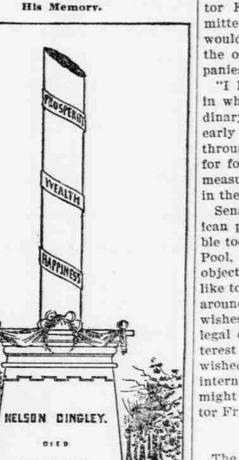
the world in a single season. The apponents of the policy of discriminating duties as a means of upbuilding the merchant marine are engaged in a talking match over the question whether the policy should be opposed on the ground that the treaties with foreign countries are in the way, or whether fear of retaliatory action by the commercial nations of Europe shall

amount of employment it would afford our wage earners in both building and sailing vessels!

And let us never lose sight of the only true standard of prosperity; work for everybody and everybody at work. By protection, through the grand and glorious Dingley tariff, our foreign commerce has not only become immense, but we export double what we

Let us heed the great lesson and protect our merchant marine.

The old prehistoric free trade slogan that protection would diminish our commerce is too absurd to deceive the practical business man of 1898, for experience proves that protection and her handmaid, reciprocity, enlarge our foreign commerce and give employment to tens of thousands more wage earners and are rapidly transforming us al Steam Navigation company, as to from the debtor to the creditor nation | the propriety of taxing British ships of the world .- Alex. S. Arnold in Provi- in our harbors at the same rate paid dence News.



for everything which directly or indirectly enters as a factor of expense into lumber production. Notwithstanding this increase in the value of raw material and operating expenses the actual addition to lumber prices has only been about 10 per cent, and we very much doubt if there is a practical business man in our entire state who will not promptly admit that this increase in price is being splendidly distributed .- Cadillac (Mich.) News and Express.

Will Senator Frye Name Him?

In the course of a hearing before the senate committee on commerce on Friday, Jan. 13, on the Hanna-Payne subsidy bill, Senator Elkins asked Mr. Griscom, president of the Internationby American ships in British harbors. In the discussion that followed Senator Frye, the chairman of the committee, stated that such legislation would have been secured "except for the opposition of the steamship companies."

"I know," he said, "of one instance in which a man who never, under ordinary circumstances, attended the early sessions of the Senate sat through the morning hour every day for four months in order to prevent a measure of this kind from coming up in the morning hour."

Senator Frye should give the American people the name of this serviceable tool of the North Atlantic Shipping Pool, that no Populist or free-trader objects to. His constituents would like to know it. Every man who fusses around to get a stamp to lick when he wishes to draw a check or execute a legal document has a great deal of interest in this early attendant who wished to load the people down with internal taxes that foreign capital might make larger gains. Will Senator Frye oblige us with his name?



The tariff question was settled by the people in 1892, and it was settled by the people the other way in 1896. It is quite possible that in 1900 there will be still another settlement,-Schenectady (N. Y.) Star.

deter us from returning to the policy Such is the confident prediction of a this unseemly hour? and what is it are now told that his lectures have face, with his lips to the sacred symunder which the merchant marine of DINGLEY TARIFF JULY 24 1897. free-trade writer who expresses the thou wouldst impart, but imperfectly come to an end, for the reason that this republic flourished in the old days. prediction that "the Democratic party The survey of the second second the profits already acquired will enheard by me, when thou spokest this light gradually disappeared; night had It is apparent that the opponents of will make tariff reform a very promiable him to restrict himself hencefor some time shrouded all in darkdiscriminating duties must get tonent issue in 1900 instead of a merely Philip then entered into detail of all forth to writing. This means that we The wonderful increase of the prosness, and Philip yet remained in algether upon some common ground. perfunctory declaration of traditional may soon look for a new book from ternate prayer and meditation! perity and happiness of seventy-five They cannot decide up to this time principles, as it actually was in 1896." the pen of the author of "Innocents millions of people which so swiftly fol-But he was disturbed by the voices whether we are to be retarded in our Every day strengthens this prediction among Democrats. They do not regard the tariff question as settled for any period beyond President McKinley's official tenure. People have short memories, they argue. It was so in 1892, when by the popular vote a con-There are two courses before con- dition of substantial prosperity was gress. One is to act upon the lines of converted into prolonged disaster and the fathers, and restore protection to distress. In the face of the extraorshipowning. The other is to adopt the dinary showing for 1898, when all British suggestion of stripping protec- previous records of prosperity were progress worth mentioning is made tion from shipbuilding. In 1815 we surpassed, the free-trade press is fightupon the shipping question. At present stripped shipowning by treaty and got ing protection as vigorously as ever. there is a division of opinion in very cheated. Will we still be found "plac- There is no notion of giving up the able and mild," thoughtless and in struggle. All signs point to the insearch of a guardian ?- Trenton (N. J.) tention of the Democratic party to make the tariff a leading issue nex! Woman's hair usually begins to grow

JANUARY 13 1899. the to