

# That Mysterious Major...

...BY...  
ETHEL A. SOUTHAM

CHAPTER XII.—(Continued.)  
But Evelyn did not utter a syllable as she tore open the envelope and read the following hurriedly-penned words, which she instantly passed to her companion—

Dear Evelyn—I have scarcely a moment to write to you, having only just received a telegram from Royston School asking me to go immediately, as Wilfred, poor lad, had a serious fall this afternoon, and is lying in a most critical condition. I am therefore starting off to him at once, and am hoping to catch the 8:30 express. If not, there is a fairly train at 9:10. Anyhow, you will receive this in time for you to catch the latter, as, of course, it is impossible for you to return to the hotel alone; so there is nothing for you to do but follow immediately. If I am in time for the express, I shall leave Parker at the station to wait for you. Your affectionate aunt,  
LYDIA HOWARD.

"Dear me, child!"—it was Mrs. Courtenay who was the first to speak—"how very dreadful! Poor Lady Howard—what a state she must be in!"

"Yes, indeed; but what am I to do?" asked Evelyn, who was only just beginning to grasp the situation and to realize that there was not a moment to lose. If I am to leave on the 9:10 train, I ought to start at once—it must be almost that time now—with a despairing glance round.

"Nearly 9:10? Oh, it cannot be so late already! But surely, somebody can tell us! Ah, yes! Is that you, Mr. Falkland? How fortunate!" broke off Mrs. Courtenay, with a sigh of relief, for Falkland was passing back to his seat after the interval. "You will be able to give up the right time."  
"The right time? Certainly!" Falk-

## CHAPTER XIII.

After all, it seemed that her aunt was right when she so emphatically declared that they would have been utterly at sea without the kindly help of Mr. Falkland; and she began to think that for the future she would not be so ready to venture her opinion when two such unreadable characters as Major Brown and Gilbert Falkland were on tap. Alas, could it be possible that she had been so hopelessly mistaken in the former? To her it was incredible.

There was the usual bustle and excitement consequent upon the departure of a train reigning at the small terminus of Saltcliffe as Evelyn and Falkland stepped out of the cab and made their way quickly through the throng of hurrying porters and trucks of baggage. Falkland made a rush for the ticket office, and then hastened forward to find Evelyn, who had gone on to the platform, looking anxiously around for signs of her aunt and maid.

"Aunt Lydia must have left by the express—she is not to be seen anywhere," she said in some agitation; "but Parker—both Parker and Sambo—they must be here."

"Yes—of course they must; have you not seen them yet? But you get in here, Miss Evelyn, and make sure of a carriage to yourself, and I will go and find Parker at once and bring her to you."

"But if she is not here—if she has mistaken the train?" The girl's tone was thoroughly hopeless.

"Take your seats! Take your seats!" came the voice of the guard. "Are you going, miss? Then take your seat," he said to Evelyn.

What was she to do? She was in despair as she mounted up quickly to

as these? No"—decidedly—"I shall carry out my promise to the letter; and, sooner than any blame should fall upon me, I shall certainly escort you all the way to Royston. Let me see, though. I suppose it is Parker who has made the mistake. What did Lady Howard say in her letter? Are you sure the train she told you to come by was the ten minutes past nine one, and not the nine train?"

"Oh, yes, I am quite sure! But here it—"

"She broke off somewhat abruptly, however, as she glanced down at the paper in her hand, and found that it was only the program of the theater which she had been keeping so securely. "How tiresome! I must have dropped Aunt Lydia's note!"  
(To be continued.)

### CYANIDE'S ATTRACTION.

Those Who Handle the Drug Drawn Almost Irresistibly to Swallow It.

"Just now we are engaged in the making of tons of cyanide of potassium," said a member of a firm of manufacturing chemists, "and of all poisons, this, to my mind, is the most dangerous, because of a singular quality it possesses. It is in appearance so very attractive to those who handle it that they are often seized with an almost overwhelming desire to eat it. To one man it probably suggests sugar, if he have a fondness for saccharine substances, and to another snow newly fallen; but to both it is so alluring that they may only overcome the temptation to put it in their mouths by great force of will power. The very men who make it and who are most familiar with its deadly properties are pursued by an unreasonable desire to eat it; poison, and as long as they remain in its vicinity this extraordinary craving endures. They know that to give way to the craving means death almost instant and horrible, and as a consequence are usually able to resist the strange temptation, but during the last ten years we have been engaged in the manufacture of the drug four of our most intelligent and steady workmen have committed suicide in this way."

"Ever feel like eating it yourself?" asked the reporter. "Yes," the manufacturer replied. "Many times when in contact with the cyanide fumes, and have had to leave work precipitately in consequence. So well is this curious fact known in all works where cyanide of potassium is made that there are always two men at work together, and a jar of ammonia, which is the antidote to the poison, is kept at hand. Potassium is one of the most interesting substances known to chemical workers. The metal itself is scarcely used at all in the arts, but its many salts are of immense practical value, being used largely in the production of gunpowder, fertilizers, medicines and dyeing compounds. Cyanide is a compound of cyanogen with a metallic agent. Cyanogen is a colorless, poisonous, liquefiable gas which has the odor of almonds and burns with a purple flame. Cyanide of potassium is made by burning potassium, an alkali metal, in cyanogen gas, and is really a prussiate of potash. It is produced also in blast furnaces in which ore is smelted, with coke or coal, and is permanent when kept dry, but decomposes readily in moist air. It crystallizes in dry, octagonal blocks, and is extremely soluble in water. It has the odor of prussic acid and kindred bitterness of taste. Cyanide of potassium is also used in electro-metallurgy and photography to a considerable extent. It will remove metallic oxides, the juices of fruits and indelible ink."

#### How It Worked.

Mrs. Newlywed (reading)—Love is a balloon that lifts us up to heaven; marriage is the parachute that brings us slowly back to earth again. Mr. Newlywed (also reading)—Another parachute horror! Man falls 3,000 feet and is dashed to pieces! Same old story! Parachute fails to work.

#### HOME-MADE PHILOSOPHY.

The man hoo soze tyranny must reap regret.

The successful author iz a person hoo kin crystallize his dremzee in paying kwantiteeze.

Preparin this world for our brothers to live in comfortably iz the best preparatshun we kin make for heavin.

"To the victor 'elongs the spoils." Even the burglar kin see no rong in sich dectrin, and the cat lives on sich faith.

The man hoo goes away from home to hunt happiness, iz like the man hoo never looks on his cwn dog's back for fleeze.

A poit hoo never felt pain nor experienced love and hae and rang, haz no other feelin too put in his rimze but vanity.

Man must pay internal revenue to live, and pay his last det too nateyoor too die. The rode too the graveyard iz a hard wun.

A man iz never any better than his religyun. The cannibal iz az strictly religyus az the pope ov Rome, but his religyun iz peecoolyar.

In a land waz free speech iz not allowed, Freedum iz ded, and the giant ov tyranny struts about pretendin to be the anointed ov God.

Oppreshun kin take away from a man everything but his appetite; it takes diseeze to finish up a feller after oppreshun gitz itz wurk in.

Life is like colored glass—we look in upon our nabor and note only the brilliyant tints. He looks out and seeze only the many little flaws.

A cunning statesman haz no other virtytoo but trickery no other power but desepshun, no other motive but gain, and no other hope but politikl sucksees.

Tears never yet wound up a clock or worked a steam engine.

## INDUSTRIAL CENSUS.

RECORD OF THE SECOND YEAR OF PROTECTION.

The Restoration of That Polley Has Resulted in an Increase of 39.56 Per Cent in Wages Paid and 10.49 Per Cent in the Rate of Wages.

The extent to which American labor has gained in employment and in wages in the past four years, by reason of the restoration of industrial activity in place of the dullness, depression and enforced idleness of the desolate period following the free-trade experiment at tariff making in 1894 cannot, for obvious reasons, be accurately stated in figures. It is impossible for any but government agencies to cover the ground with anything like completeness. Employers of labor do not, as a rule, take kindly to inquiries as to facts concerning wages, gross sum of output, etc. Hence an unofficial poll of the industrial situation is certain to be attended with difficulties. The American Tariff Protective league, always exceptionally successful in this field, has just completed its industrial census for the month of March, 1899, using that month as the basis of comparison with March, 1895, the former being nineteen months after the enactment of the Dingley tariff, while the latter was seven months after the enactment of the Wilson tariff of 1894. In the case of the earlier period the country had considerably longer than seven months in which to settle down to an average level of results and conditions, for the reason that the period of well-defined stagnation really began very soon after the election of Grover Cleveland in November, 1892. Counting the time during which domestic producers were engaged in reducing their scale of operations in anticipation of free-trade tariff times, together with the seven months of actual experience under a free-trade tariff, we have a total period of time practically the same as the nineteen months between Aug. 1, 1897, and April 1, 1899.

It is, however, to be borne in mind that our returns for March, 1899, flatter and significant though they be, fall considerably short of adequately expressing the real progress made in nineteen months of practical protection. Everybody knows that a very important advance in the wage rate of the whole country has gone into effect since the close of March, 1899, our census month. Therefore our census fails to present the full facts of increased prosperity among American wage-earners. We show that, compared with March, 1895, there was in the 1,957 establishments reporting a gain of 75,754 in the number of hands employed, or a gain of 39.56 per cent for March, 1899; that there was a gain on the gross sum of wages paid of \$3,461,235.53, this being 54.09 per cent more than in March, 1895; and that while in March, 1895, the average rate of wages per capita for the month was \$33.36, the average rate per capita in March, 1899, had increased to \$36.86, being a gain of 10.49 per cent. Had this census been extended so as to include the months of April and May, 1899, the months in which the heaviest and most general advances in wages occurred, the percentage of increase in the per capita wage rate would undoubtedly have been above 15 per cent.

The figures in condensed form are as follows.

Number of reports received, covering March, 1895, and March, 1899, 1,957.
Number of hands employed:
March, 1895 ..... 191,732½
March, 1899 ..... 267,486½
Gain for March, 1899, 39.56 per cent.
Amount of wages paid:
March, 1895 ..... \$6,398,044.53
March, 1899 ..... 9,859,280.33
Gain for March, 1899, 54.09 per cent.
Average wages per capita:
March, 1895 ..... \$33.36
March, 1899 ..... 36.86
Gain for March, 1899, 10.49 per cent.

Such is the story of protection and prosperity as affecting the American wage-earner. It is a story which should bring joy to the heart of every American citizen.

#### STATING FACTS.

How President McKinley Summarizes Existing Prosperous Conditions.

Among the special gifts of President McKinley that of effective verbal statement in concise form is especially notable. Few men have ever said in so small a number of words more that was important, and that the country wanted to know, than was said by our chief executive in his speech at the banquet of the Commercial club in Chicago, Oct. 10, 1899. The president had something good to say, and this is how he said it:

"I congratulate you, gentlemen, upon the growth and advancement of your city and the evidences of prosperity everywhere observable. Nothing impressed me more in looking into the faces of the great multitude on the streets yesterday than the smiling, happy faces of the people. That was evidence to me of your real and substantial prosperity. It meant the steady employment, good wages, happy homes, and these are always indispensable to good government and to the happiness of the people."

"We have had a wonderful industrial development in the last two years. Our work shops never were so busy; our trade at home was never so large, and our foreign trade exceeds that of any like period in all our history. In the year 1899 we bought abroad upward of \$697,000,000 worth of goods, and in the same year sold abroad \$1,227,000,000, giving a balance of trade in our favor of \$560,000,000. "This means more labor at home,

more money at home, more earnings at home. Our products are carried on every sea and find a market in all the ports of the world. In 1888 the Japanese government took from us 8.86 per cent of its total imports, and in 1898 14.57 per cent. We are the greatest producers of pig iron, and our manufactures of iron and steel exceed those of any other country. We raise three-fourths of the cotton of the world.

"The growth of the railway systems of the United States is phenomenal. From 30 miles in 1830 we have gone to 182,600 in 1897.

"Our internal commerce has even exceeded the growth of our outward commerce. Our railroad transportation lines never were so crowded, while our builders of cars and engines are unable to fill the pressing orders made necessary by the increased traffic.

"We have everything, gentlemen, to congratulate ourselves over as to the present condition of the country. I am told by business men everywhere that the business of the country now rests upon a substantial basis and that you are really only making what there is a market for, and as long as you do that, of course, you are doing a safe business, and our markets are going to increase." (Applause.)

Can any one imagine Grover Cleveland talking that way two years and a half after his second inauguration as president of the United States? His habit of speech, always ponderous and platitudeous, and often very dull, was against him in the first place. Then, too, he never had the help of the splendid facts which inspire the utterances of his more eloquent successor in the presidential office. The facts were facts of depression, gloom, discouragement, disaster; the facts of free-trade tariff times. Now the facts are Republican, protection facts, McKinley facts. There is a mighty big difference between the facts of four years ago and the facts of to-day.



West and East.

More than one would-be prophet has predicted that in the near future there would be an impassable chasm between the interests of the east and those of the west. These prophets of calamity are in a fair way of being quickly and completely discredited. The east and west have stood together in past years on the common ground of their recognition of the necessity of a protective tariff for the advancement of their respective interests. There have been times when it seemed as though the west might drift away from that belief, or at least give it secondary place, but that time has gone by. The east and west will stand together in the future, as they have in the past, on a platform securely based on the policy of protection.

The industrial and political union of the two sections is already being foreshadowed in the statements made by those who are accustomed to watch the trend of affairs. The head of a large trust company in Chicago puts it as follows:

"A feeling has developed in the west beyond what generally is realized that while western railroads are prospering, making earnings beyond all past example, the securities of them are pretty good investments for western people themselves, and I have recently been very greatly surprised by the fashion which seems to have developed in western communities to put surplus moneys into stocks like Northern Pacific, Union Pacific and Southern Pacific. In this new venture of the graniger going into partnership with Wall street there are a good many possibilities which the political economist can afford to give consideration to."

"The west has found prosperity in protection, and this tendency to invest its surplus money in stocks is a pretty good indication that it will stand by the east in maintaining the policy which has brought prosperity to east and west alike."

#### How to Have Permanent Prosperity.

With the vast amount of raw material that our fields, forests and mines produce, there is no reason why this should not soon become the great manufacturing nation of the world, if we could keep meddlers like Bryan and his kind from interfering with our progress. At the present rate of increase in manufacturing it can only be a few years before all our food products will be required at home. The English market will then no longer affect the price of our wheat or corn. We shall send to market the crops of iron, wood and other materials that nature has been piling up here for centuries, in the shape of highly finished products, and all the profit on it will be ours. We shall then have permanent prosperity—unless we weakly give the management of our affairs over to those who wish to make some foolish experiments with them.—Tacoma (Wash.) Ledger.

#### SHOULD SPEAK OUT.

Democrats Urged to Follow the Example of Messrs. Grace and Crimmins.

Following the excellent example of William R. Grace, a life-long Democrat and free-trader, who lately made public avowal of his recantation of Cobdenite doctrines and his full adhesion to the policy of protection, John D. Crimmins, a New York Democrat of marked prominence in his party, and withal a business man of exceptional activity and scope, makes known his conviction that in its blind devotion to Bryanism the Democratic party menaces the best interests of the country. In an interview printed in the New York Sun of Oct. 14, 1899, Mr. Crimmins said, concerning the indorsement of William J. Bryan at the recent meeting of the New York state Democratic committee:

"We hear a lot of talk about the government's willingness to help the money market, but in my judgment the labor, business and financial phases of the political situation are far more important just now.

"The indorsement of Bryan by the Democratic organization is a distinct menace to the labor and manufacturing interests. Let the workmen pause for a moment to consider past embarrassment and present prosperity. They have, during the past few years, been better paid, have worked shorter hours, their wages in many instances have been advanced voluntarily, and this, too, by the very corporations which have been condemned by Croker and Bryan.

"I know whereof I speak when I say that the workmen will repent bitterly if they now listen to the old sophistries and go to the polls and indorse them by voting for Bryan. I feel that when they reason a little they will reject false doctrine. To block the prosperity of the country by striking at its financial and commercial foundation is little short of criminal, and I believe that the workmen of today will not be led into any trap by the politicians. Indifference may be injurious to us, for an indorsement of Bryanism at the polls of New York would be an injury to the best interests of the city and, reflectively, to the state and nation."

The man who utters this impressive warning to workmen and business men is a large employer of labor, a man of wealth and influence. None knows better than he the dire consequences to the country's welfare that would follow the success of William J. Bryan at the polls in the next presidential campaign. Other Democrats of prominence and influence know this equally with Messrs. William R. Grace and John D. Crimmins. Why should they not tell the people of the United States what they know? Business Democrats who are in a position to correctly gauge the effects of Democratic success under the Bryan banner ought to be heard from more generally. They should speak out.

#### More Than Keeping Even.

Despite the predictions of the Democrats a few years ago the government revenue thus far during the present fiscal year has exceeded the government expense. No wonder the opponents of the Republican party and of the policy of protection turn from the question of tariff and begin howling about the trusts. They deceived the people in 1896 with their lies, and now in an effort to divert the public mind from those lies they howl about something else. At the end of the first quarter of the fiscal year a surplus of \$2,000,000 is shown. The government revenue for the three months has been \$17,000,000 more than what it was during the same period of last year, and the expenditures have fallen off \$45,000,000. The customs are yielding from \$600,000 to \$1,000,000 a day, and internal revenue nets \$1,000,000 each day, both showing an aggregate gain over the same period of last year of \$5,000,000. The war department is spending an average of \$12,500,000 each month, while the monthly expense of our navy is \$5,000,000; we are carrying on a war on the other side of the world, where we are taking care of a great army of American soldiers as no nation has ever cared for its soldiers before; we are adding battleships, cruisers and torpedo-boats to the navy in a manner that is attracting the attention of all nations, and yet we show a cash balance and surplus for the past three months, the first quarter of the new fiscal year. More and more each day is the proof furnished that the protective tariff that bears the name of the late Mr. Dingley, one of the greatest and brainiest statesmen America ever produced, is fully capable of providing for all the expenses of our government in times of peace, and more and more each day it is being demonstrated that the finances of this country were never in better hands.—Des Moines (Iowa) State Register.

#### They Voted for Depression.

In a review of the lumber traffic it is shown that Arkansas leads all the southern states both in amount cut and in distribution. When the Wilson-Gorman tariff was in operation no state led in lumber production—all were behind, mills were suspended and employees idle, and it is a fact of record that the entire Arkansas delegation in congress voted for the tariff which closed the mills, bankrupted many of the mill-owners and sent thousands of laboring men out to tramp.—Little Rock (Ark.) Republican.

#### Who Is Benefited.

If, as quoted in Chicago, \$6.90 per hundred is the highest price paid for live steers in September since 1884, it would seem the producer and not the beef trust is getting the benefit of the prevailing high prices.—St. Louis (Mo.) Watchman.



BEHELD FALKLAND'S GAUNT FORM COMING TOWARD HER.

land paused and pulled out his watch. "It is exactly four minutes to nine. But something has happened, I am afraid. Can I be of any assistance to you?"

Mrs. Courtenay rose quickly from her chair.

"Oh, Mr. Falkland, of the very greatest in the world! The fact is, Miss Luttrell has just received a note from her aunt telling her of an accident which has happened to her son; and, as Lady Howard is going straight off to the school, Miss Luttrell has to leave also, and is to catch the 9:10 train."

"Then in that case, Miss Luttrell, you have not a second to lose," returned Falkland, taking a rapid survey of the troubled-looking pretty face, which at the sound of his voice had grown, if possible, a shade paler. "You may just catch the train, but only just; and you will have to drive with the greatest speed imaginable. However, come at once, and I will promise it for you; only—Don't you trouble, pray, Mrs. Courtenay—there is not the slightest occasion; you can trust your charge with perfect confidence to me, and I will give you my word not to leave her until I have delivered her safely into the hands of either Lady Howard or the redoubtable Parker."

And so two minutes later it happened that Evelyn found herself dashing along at breakneck speed through the streets of Saltcliffe, seated side by side with her rejected suitor, Gilbert Falkland.

"It is very kind of you to trouble so," she had tried to tell him above the rattle of the wheels the instant he had given directions to the driver and they had started off at a pace more suggestive of a fire engine than a crawling English "growler;" and perhaps her conscience smote her a little as she remembered with what disdain she had treated him during the past few days.

the first-class compartment, and then paused with her hand upon the open door, gazing anxiously down the platform. The next instant, however, she beheld Falkland's gaunt form coming rapidly toward her.

"Where is Parker? Have you found her?" gasped Evelyn, as, to her horror, she perceived that he was quite alone.

"It is all right, Miss Luttrell—there is no need for alarm;" and to Evelyn's astonishment, Falkland himself jumped into the carriage, pulling the door to with a vigorous slam, as the train immediately steamed out of the station.

"There—we are off at last!" He sank back into the seat opposite her with a sigh of relief.

"Yes—but I do not understand. Where is Parker? What is she doing?"

"What is she doing? You may well ask that!" laughed Falkland. "Did you ever know a maid yet who managed to catch the train she was expected to? The fact is, she made some mistake about the luggage; it was put into a wrong train—one which left ten minutes earlier. At any rate, there was no time to get it out again when the mistake was discovered; so that Parker has gone on with it to the next station, where she was to see it taken out, and then wait for you."

"How very tiresome! I never heard of such a thing in my life!" exclaimed Evelyn, with some annoyance. "Fancy, if nobody had told you, I might have been waiting at Saltcliffe still! I should not have known what to do; and, as it is"—again her conscience gave her one or two undoubted pricks—"what a fearful trouble I am—But really, there was no need for you to have come. I could have managed by myself."

"Nonsense, Miss Luttrell! Did you not hear me promise to deliver you safely into Parker's hands? And surely you do not suppose I should be so remiss as to leave you in such straits