

# LAFFITTE of LOUISIANA

BY MARY DEVEREUX  
WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY DON C. WILSON  
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## CHAPTER XXX.

Lafitte, while waiting for Baptistine to return with implements for making a grave, left Shapira to look after the prisoner, and drew Barbe aside in order to question her more closely.

He was, after hearing what she had to say, convinced that she was not mistaken in her statement, although there were no papers—nothing in the way of further identification—found upon the dead man.

Barbe acquiesced readily in Lafitte's decision that Rose de Cazeneau should never be told the truth.

Great was the disgust of Shapira and the two men who returned with Baptistine when they found that it was Lafitte's wish to bury the Englishman, as well as Zeney. Even Baptistine's black brows went up in a surprised disapproval which he wisely refrained from putting into words.

The dead were soon laid in the hastily prepared graves; the earth was shoveled over them, and some pieces of fallen trees placed above, to guard against any disturbance from denizens of the woods.

In the sunset-bathed clearing, Baptistine stood near Lafitte as the latter gave Shapira some parting orders. He was to take the English sailor to the neighborhood of La Tete des Eaux, and let him find his way from that point to his comrades.

It was comparatively early when Lafitte's party, weary from the excitement of the day and the fatigue of their long march through the woods, betook themselves gratefully to such accommodations as Baptistine's small craft afforded for rest and sleep.

The night had closed in darkly as the boat slipped away beneath the starlight, made dimmer by the walling forest lining either bank of the bayou.

It was some time after this that

The girl sat with bended head, her eyes fixed on the open fan she could see but indistinctly.

"Can you read it?" he whispered, lowering his face to look into hers and again possessing himself of her hand.

At the sound of his voice, with his lips so close that his breath stirred her hair—at the thrill of his touch—at the mere realization of their being alone together, a strange exultation possessed the girl, lifting her spirit from its bodily enthrallment; and, half-swooning, yet acutely sensible, she read, as surely as though he had uttered them, "No words may say how I love you!"

It was as if an angel voice spoke to her inner senses; and dropping the fan into her lap, she covered her face with her hands.

"Can you read it?" he whispered once more, feeling that she was quivering, as from a nervous chill.

"No," she murmured faintly; but adding, woman-like, and in a stronger tone, "Tell me!"

He laughed, and rose to his feet. The laugh came from his exulting heart; and extending his hands to her, he said, with a new decision of manner, "Come, little Rose, this is very delightful, but not at all good for you. What would Madame Riefet say to me if she knew where you were at this moment? I will take you below; and then you must go to sleep, like a good child."

He took her hand, and she permitted him to lead her down the narrow stairway to the cabin below.

"Some day—and soon," he said, as he left her at the door of her little stateroom, "I will tell you, if indeed you know not already, what the fan said."

There was a smile in his voice; and something else, as well, that made

to let him put the various dainties upon her plate.

"Jes' yo' please try dese bit ob foesh, lil' Missy, wid a bit ob dese hominy; an' after dat, a nice slice ob ven'son," he said coaxingly, evidently wishing to air his English, or else supposing that she did not understand French. "La Capitaine Lafitte, he say ole Scipio done know bes' in dey worl' how cook eem."

She smiled up into his face, but offered no objection to his helping her, and Lafitte, who was watching the two, did not appear to have heard Madame Riefet's remark, which was now repeated rather sharply, as if that lady were bent upon acquiring the information she sought.

"I beg your pardon, madame," he said, starting slightly, and turning to her.

"I wish you to tell us how you happened to entertain the opinion which has resulted in such benefit to us—I mean in regard to what the English were going to do?"

Her tone was quite caustic, and her sharp dark eyes regarded him speculatively over the rim of her sherry glass.

"I had, for some time, felt a misgiving that something of the sort was likely to occur, and I therefore prepared for it; that was all, madame."

He spoke hurriedly, and as if the matter held little interest—while his eyes went back to the violet ones now looking at him.

"But, if you thought this, why was it that others—my brother, for instance—did not?" Madame persisted, putting down her glass, and taking up her fork with a vigor suggestive of an inclination to enforce an answer by sticking the silver prongs into Lafitte, rather than into the juicy venison steak upon her plate.

"That, madame, is a matter I can no more explain than can you yourself," he replied smilingly, but scarcely glancing at her.

"But you warned Gen. La Roche, by telling him what you thought," declared Lazalie, "for he told us so, himself."

"Yes, senorita; I informed him of it several weeks since."

"And what did he say?" asked Lazalie; and Madame Riefet answered with:

"You remember, Lazalie, that he, like others, declared such a thing to be impossible."

"Gen. La Roche smiled at the idea," answered Lafitte, with a careless shrug of his shoulders.

"Well, I, for one, am thankful for your forethought, which has saved us from a meeting with those hateful Englishmen," said Lazalie, with a flash of her eyes that bespoke the inheritance of her uncle's hatred of that nation.

"Indeed, yes, Capt. Lafitte; all of us have cause to feel most grateful to you," Madame now admitted, in a more amiable tone. "But to think," she added, "of that cave being on the plantation, and none of us knowing anything about it?"

"Its secret was given to me some years since by an Indian chief," said Lafitte, and then, as if wishing to drop the matter, asked Madame Riefet if she wished any message taken to her brother, as that night must find him returning to New Orleans, in order to report to Gen. Jackson.

"If you can go why may not we?" she inquired with alacrity. "Surely, Capt. Lafitte, you do not intend to go off and leave us alone in this desolate place?"

"Here is surely the safest place for you at present, madame." He smiled encouragingly at Rose de Cazeneau, who was looking perturbed, while Lazalie shot a scornful glance at Madame, as if impatient at her show of fear.

Madame, with a sigh, sought relief in a silence that was acquiescing; and she could not but admit to herself that, in the present annoying predicament, the mysterious life of Barataria had proved to possess certain advantages.

(To be continued.)



"Can you read it?" he whispered.

Lafitte, while picking his way along the deck, a lighted lantern swinging from his hand, came upon a cloaked female figure sitting well astern upon a coil of rope, and his foot struck sharply against a small object, sending it swiftly toward her.

Holding his lantern lower to see what this might be, the rays struck across the white hand and wrist of Rose de Cazeneau as she reached forward and picked up an exquisite ivory fan, whose jeweled sticks caught the light glimmeringly.

"Oh, it is Madame Riefet's pet fan—one Monsieur Laussat gave her in place of one he broke, when she danced with him at the governor's ball."

Her voice sank lower, and a fluttering, like that made by the wings of a startled wild bird, sounded in it.

Lafitte's hand had stolen over one of hers, and now held it close.

"Why are you here, little Rose, and not asleep, like the others, as you ought to be? You must be very tired."

"I was; but I could not sleep, and came up here for some air."

She stopped abruptly, and he felt the shiver that ran through her shoulder when it touched his own.

The suppression made his voice tremulous as he asked, forcing a laugh, and taking the fan from her hand, "Do you understand the language of the fan?"

"Somewhat," she answered, wondering at his apparent change of mood. "Lazalie has told me of it."

"Ah," said Lafitte, with a touch of what might have been either playfulness or sarcasm, "then you have had an excellent teacher. Yet I doubt if she ever evolved for you a sentence I should like you to read."

"What is it?—let me try," she replied, her thoughts—as he intended they should be—diverted.

"I wonder if there are enough sticks in this small bauble," he continued, not seeming to have heard her; and bending his face closer, he counted them.

"One, two, three, four—yes, here are the eight, and five to spare, for all the fan is such a tiny one."

Then, having placed it in her hand, he added, speaking more softly, "There are the eight sticks, little Rose. Can you read what they say to you from me?"

her lashes droop to touch the flushed cheeks.

Madame Riefet found little to cavil at in the neat and comfortable, if somewhat primitive arrangements at Shell Island, which Lafitte and his party reached the afternoon following their departure from La Tete des Eaux.

Madame and the two girls were quartered in his own cabin, the prevailing atmosphere of which was—owing to the jumble of foreign furnishings that filled it—teak-wood and lacquer.

Rose de Cazeneau was beside Lazalie, on one of the settees, with the Spanish girl's arm around her; and the two were watching the flames, before which sat Madame Riefet.

After the excitement of the previous day, and not yet having recovered from their fatigue, the ladies were disposed to be more silent than usual; but presently Lazalie remarked, glancing around her, "How cheerful and pleasant it seems here! It is almost as if Captain Jean had known we were to come, and had prepared for our reception."

"If so, then I wish he might have known still more, so that my brother would have prepared for our protection at La Tete des Eaux, and thus saved us from this wild flight," said Madame Riefet, as though determined to be dissatisfied.

"For my own part, I am so thankful to have escaped them that I cannot muster up the slightest regret over anything else," declared Lazalie, who had been thinking of that other flight, when she left the Barra de Hierro, and escaped to New Orleans.

Mademoiselle de Cazeneau had, so far as appearances went, nothing to say upon the subject, which was now dropped.

"I cannot understand, Capt. Lafitte," said Madame Riefet, with the air of being somewhat annoyed at the fact, "how you came to have such a correct opinion in regard to the possible movements of the English—so much clearer ideas than those of anyone else—even my brother."

They were at the table, upon which Scipio and his coadjutors had placed the preliminary courses of a most appetizing meal; and the old negro was devoting much of his attention to Mademoiselle de Cazeneau, urging her

GERMAN TARIFF AGREEMENT ENDS IN 1906.

FORMAL NOTICE FROM BERLIN

New Treaties Negotiated with Other Countries Cause of the Action.—Contention Raised that the Benefits Are Not Now Reciprocal.

BERLIN—The imperial government preparatory to excluding the United States from the privileges of the new reciprocity treaties signed recently with seven European states has formally notified the American government that the tariff agreement between Germany and the United States of July 10, 1900, will terminate March 1, 1906, the day the new treaties go into effect, but that Germany stands ready to negotiate a reciprocity treaty with the United States.

This notification, made by Foreign Secretary von Richthofen March 14, after the decision of the cabinet said that the treaties concluded with Russia, Italy, Belgium, Switzerland, Austria-Hungary, Roumania and Serbia "form a new basis," so reads the text, "for the commercial relations of Germany and the imperial government holds itself prepared to enter into negotiations for the conclusion of a new commercial treaty with the United States."

The German view as held at the foreign office and at the ministry of the interior is that the United States cannot reasonably expect to share in special benefits given by Germany to certain European states in exchange for other specific tariff reductions. Should the United States have the same advantages without giving anything in return the treaty countries could justly complain that they were in effect discriminated against because from them certain things were exacted by bargain which were freely given to the United States. But if the United States desires to take up the general tariff question and arrange a reciprocal against the German government will be very glad to do so. Otherwise Germany's new general tariff, which also goes into effect March 1, 1906, will be applied to imports from the United States.

The government in terminating the present modus vivendi has done what agrarians have steadily asked for since the new commercial treaties were concluded. Public opinion in Germany has also been fully prepared for the government's act by publications of the Commercial Treaty association and the Central European Industrial league and articles in the principal financial periodicals written by persons in affiliation with the ministry of the interior, although the news is not yet published here.

Washington has not yet replied to Germany's proposal.

WASHINGTON—It is admitted at the State department that negotiations have been in progress for the last three months between the American embassy at Berlin and the German foreign office respecting the effect upon the existing reciprocity agreement America and Germany of the operation of the new trade treaties concluded between Germany on the one side and Belgium, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Roumania, Russia, Switzerland and Serbia on the other, but so far Ambassador Tower has not notified the department that the German government has decided to terminate the existing agreement. The effect of a formal declaration of that kind would be very serious it is feared.

Trouble Also at Medina.

CONSTANTINOPLE—Advices received here from Hodeida say the revolutionists have surrounded the town of Manakha, an important strategic position between Hodeida and Sanaa. Disturbances have broken out among the Turkish troops at Medina because the only food the men received consisted of biscuits. A caravan of Egyptian pilgrims returning from Mecca was attacked recently by numerous bands of Arabs near Yambo, Arabia, 125 miles from Medina. Seventeen Egyptian soldiers escorting the pilgrims were killed.

Union Pacific Line Open.

RAWLINS, Wyo.—After forty-eight hours of herculean work, the Union Pacific completed the construction of three bridges and a track around Edison mountain, where the big rock slide occurred last Sunday, and two passenger trains which had been held at Rawlins and Laramie were sent on their way.

Agreements Are Made.

WASHINGTON—The Canadian government has practically concluded negotiations which have been pending for a time looking to a reciprocal exemption of vessels for inspection by both the United States and the Canadian governments. A similar arrangement has been made with Great Britain and the formal acceptance of the terms by the British board of trade is expected in a few days.

President Kills Big Game.

GLENWOOD SPRINGS, Colo.—President Roosevelt's hunting trip has been crowned with success, far beyond his expectations or those of the most sanguine of his guides. Three bears were killed by the party Tuesday and two Monday, one by the president and one by Dr. Lambert. P. B. Stewart of Colorado Springs, one of the president's hunting companions, arrived here, accompanied by Courier Chapman. They brought the story of the hunt. The killing of the three bears was telephoned to them

## TREATY OF TRADE

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## A BANK DEFAULTER.

President of the Institution Goes Wrong.

MILWAUKEE—Frank G. Bigelow, until now president of the First National bank of Milwaukee, was arrested charged with the embezzlement of over \$100,000 of the bank's funds. The arrest of Mr. Bigelow followed his confession to the board of directors of the bank that he was a defaulter to the extent of \$1,450,000. Following Mr. Bigelow's confession he was removed from the presidency of the bank and the facts in the case were laid before the federal authorities.

The complaint was sworn to by United States District Attorney H. K. Butterfield. It charges that Bigelow, as president of the First National bank, embezzled a sum exceeding \$100,000. A complaint and warrant identical with those in Bigelow's case were made out to Henry G. Goll, assistant cashier of the bank, but Goll could not be found up to 7 o'clock last night. President Bigelow was taken before United States Commissioner Bloodgood. He waived hearing and was held to the federal grand jury under \$25,000 bond. Dr. Horace N. Brown and Arthur N. McGeech certified as sureties and Mr. Bigelow was released. The next federal grand jury has not yet been summoned, but it is expected it will meet some time next month.

President Bigelow's confession was made at a special meeting of the board of directors, held Saturday evening and continued Monday. In addressing his fellow directors President Bigelow said he had a painful statement to make—a confession that he had misdirected the funds of the bank and that an examination of his books and a comparison of figures would show that he was indebted to the bank to the amount of over \$1,450,000. This money, he said, had been lost in speculation in wheat and stocks. Not a dollar of it could be recovered and the only sum he could offer toward recompensing the bank were personal securities valued at approximately \$300,000.

The confession of President Bigelow astounded the directors of the bank. Mr. Bigelow had been recognized as one of the foremost financiers of the northwest. He has been associated with the bank in various capacities for more than fifteen years and his business connections—trust companies, manufacturing concerns, real estate deals and other similar ventures—number scores. He was honored a year ago by election to the presidency of the American Bankers' association and by its members was looked upon as a leader in financial matters.

In making his statement to the directors of the bank, Mr. Bigelow said he had become involved in speculation several months ago. This was on Wall street. More recently he had been a persistent bull in the wheat market, and recent loss there had added to heavy reverses on Wall street.

ROJESTVENSKY WILL WAIT.

Evident That He Will Not Proceed Until Reinforced.

TOKIO—The movements of the squadron commanded by Admiral Rojestvensky and the intentions of the Russian commander continue to be the subject of general interest and speculation.

The last Japanese reports are conflicting and confusing. They do not indicate definitely the purposes of Rojestvensky, but it is evidently the intention of the Russian admiral to await a junction with the division commanded by Admiral Nebogatoff, which increases the probability of his intention of giving Admiral Togo a decisive battle.

It is assumed that Rojestvensky will bring all the ships and guns possible into action if he intends to fight decisively, or that he will detach and abandon his slow, cumbersome and useless ships if he intends to run the gauntlet to Vladivostok. It is believed that the location and date of the engagement will depend entirely on Rojestvensky.

JAPS WIN A BATTLE

Russian Force Attacks Advanced Cavalry Position Near Kaiyuan.

TOKIO—The following announcement was made today:

On April 24, a Russian force consisting of five battalions of infantry, sixteen squadrons of cavalry and one battery of artillery, in pressing our advanced cavalry attacked them in the vicinity of Kaiyuan. Our Kaiyuan force attacked the Russians in return, defeated and pursued them north to Meinhauchieh. Our casualties were 38. The enemy left about 200 dead on the field.

Two other Russian forces, one consisting of six battalions of infantry and sixteen squadrons of cavalry, the other of twelve squadrons of cavalry and one battery of artillery attacked Changtu and Siaotatzu, respectively, but retreated north when the other Russian force was defeated at Kaiyuan.

Merger Bill Is Vetoed.

DENVER—Governor McDonald on Friday vetoed the railroad merger expansion bill passed at the late session of the legislature, the purpose of which, as represented, was to enable the Colorado & Southern Railway company to extend its lines to the Gulf of Mexico and in other directions. There has been a bitter fight over this measure between two factions of the republican party and it was an important factor in the gubernatorial contest between Peabody and Adams last fall.

Find Rich Placer Diggings.

RAWLINS, Wyo.—Miners arriving from Baggs, near the Wyoming-Colorado line, state that rich placer ground has been found near Iron Springs, in Colorado. Work has been going on in a small way there for more than a year, but recently the dirt became very rich. L. Calvert, one of the men reporting the find, recently panned out sufficient gold to make a nugget as large as a walnut in fifteen minutes' sluicing. Dredges will be placed at work and the owners think they have a bonanza.

## STRIKE GROWING.

Great Industrial Upheaval in Chicago.

CHICAGO—With 3,100 teamsters on strike with constant accessions being made to their number and with the express determination of the employers' association to take a firm stand for "the open shop and a fight the teamsters' union to a finish," Chicago to all appearances stands on the eve of one of the greatest industrial upheavals in her history.

There was rioting in various parts of the city Thursday, despite the strong guards of police and the number of private detectives hired by the employers' association to protect its wagons. During the troubles three persons were seriously injured, two of whom will probably die. The injured are:

Richard Cumming, police sergeant, run over by an omnibus driven by John Ceresa, a union driver. Cumming will probably die. Ceresa has been arrested.

Samuel Jackson, a colored teamster employed by the J. V. Farwell company, attacked by a mob numbering 200. He was badly beaten and his head cut by a blow with a shovel.

Mark Moran, a district messenger boy, struck on the head by a board thrown at non-union teamsters from a building at Van Buren and La Salle streets. His condition is critical.

The declaration made Thursday night by the members of the employers' association that they would promptly discharge any teamsters who refused to deliver goods or call for them at the establishment of Montgomery Ward & Co., brought out the teamsters in many downtown mercantile houses during the day and the number, it is said, will be increased largely by Friday morning.

Strikes have been declared against twelve leading firms and 2,100 teamsters have gone out. In addition to these firms the teamsters employed by a number of smaller firms were called out late in the evening. The business agents of the teamsters' union declared Thursday night that by Friday they will call on strike 1,000 truck drivers and thereby cripple to a large extent the entire transportation business in Chicago. It was declared also that drivers for grocery houses which delivered goods to any firm where a strike exists will be ordered to join in the lockout.

While the labor leaders were in conference delegates of the Chicago Employers' association, the Commercial Exchange and representatives of outside industrial organizations met at the Union League club and declared that they would fight to a finish for the "open shop" in Chicago.

Subscriptions were taken up during the day to strengthen the Employers' Teaming company, the weapon with which the teamsters' union is to be actively fought, and Thursday night President Mark Morton of the company, who is a brother of Paul Morton, secretary of the navy, had over \$1,000,000 at his disposal and had ample assurances from business men that he could have as many times that amount as was necessary.

Federal Government Has No Authority on Land Under Reclamation Act.

WASHINGTON—Assistant Attorney General Campbell handed down a decision in which he holds that the interior department is without power and cannot interfere in the traffic in alcoholic beverages on lands under government irrigation projects throughout the country. The decision was handed down at the request of the reclamation service which insists that land under irrigation projects is being entered upon by bootleggers for the sole purpose of selling spirituous liquors to men engaged in reclamation work. The service claims that its force is greatly diminished by this traffic. Secretary Hitchcock promises to call the attention of the state authorities to the matter. This decision immediately affects the Mindakah project in Idaho, where liquor men have already established themselves.

TRANSPORTATION IS REDUCED

E. S. Benson Appointed Auditor on the Isthmus.

WASHINGTON—The executive committee of the Panama Railway company has decided to reduce the rate charged for the transportation of the employes of the isthmian canal between New York and Colon, from \$25 to \$20.

Chairman Shonts has appointed T. S. Benson, general auditor of the isthmian canal affairs and of the Panama Railroad company. Mr. Benson is a native of Massachusetts and commenced his railroad career on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, in 1871. He was for ten years auditor of the Oregon Railway and Navigation company, but more recently has been stationed at Houston, Tex., as auditor in general charge of the accounts of the Southern Pacific lines in Texas.

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