

THE WORLD OVER

LATEST NEWS FROM EVERY LAND.

TO CALL THE BLUFF

GREAT BRITAIN CALLS OUT 25,000 RESERVES.

Parliament Has Been Summoned to Meet Oct. 17—Successful Movement of Gen. Schwan's Forces in Luzon—Two Towns Occupied.

Britain Calls Out Reserves.

London: Most important news came from the Transvaal Saturday night, which, if true, probably indicates that the South African republic is about to yield, or in any case that the Boers have abandoned all idea of invading Natal. The news is comprised in a cablegram from Newcastle, Natal, which says that farmers who arrived there during the day from the Buffalo River state that the Boers are returning to their homes, leaving patrols along the river. The commanders still remain on the Free State border. The dispatch also says that the feeling at Newcastle now is that the Boers do not intend to attack that place, and that the evacuation of the town was premature.

This retirement of the Boers is what the British war authorities have expected, as their defective commissariat would prevent them from long remaining massed along the border.

The dispatch from Newcastle looks as though they had done as they threatened and had abandoned the idea of fighting.

Meanwhile further transports from India with two field hospitals and Hussars have arrived at Durban and the men and materials were forwarded to Ladismith immediately. Gen. Sir Stewart White, V. C., who will command the British forces in Natal, has also arrived and landed. He was greeted by a large crowd. Gen. Sir William Simons, his second in command, came from Gleneco to meet him, showing that he does not fear a Boer incursion into north Natal. A number of other officers were present and the whole party left for Pietermaritzburg amid great cries of "Remember Mafuba."

A royal proclamation, summoning parliament to meet Oct. 17 and authorizing the calling out of the reserves, was signed Saturday morning. The war office announces that under the proclamation calling out the reserves 25,000 men will be summoned.

THIRD ATTEMPT A FAILURE.

Columbia and Shamrock Fail to Finish in Time Limit.

New York: Old Bores again Saturday played battledore and shuttlecock with the great single stickers, and the third attempt to sail the first race of the Columbia-Shamrock series for the international trophy ended in failure. The race was declared off fifteen minutes before the time limit expired, with the yachts five miles from the finish. In the end the disappointment of the patriots was sharpened perhaps by the fact that when the race was abandoned the Columbia was in the lead and improving her position, and had it been finished Saturday the American champion might have had one race to her credit. After three trials the experts are about as much mystified as they were at the beginning concerning the merits of the two boats. Nothing but a spanking whalesail breeze will furnish a true test.

OCCUPIED TWO TOWNS.

Successful Movement of Schwan's Forces in Luzon.

Noveleta, Luzon: Gen. Schwan's column, consisting of the Thirtieth Infantry, a battalion of the Fourteenth, two troops of cavalry, Capt. Reilly's battery of the Fifth Artillery and Lowe's scouts, advanced from Bacoor Sunday morning and occupied Cavite Nieve and Noveleta. The American loss was three officers and nine privates wounded, one of the officers being fatally hurt. The loss of the enemy is unknown, but the bodies of three Filipinos were seen. There were two sharp fights near Noveleta. Lowe's scouts first encountered the enemy near Cavite Viejo, and soon put them to flight. The whole column then advanced to Noveleta, which they found deserted.

MAY BRING PEACE.

Outlook Good for Ending of the Venezuelan Revolt.

Washington: Capt. Hemphill of the cruiser Detroit cables from La Guayra, Venezuela:

"By request of the United States minister I brought the government peace commissioner from Puerto Babello to expedite the pending negotiations for peace. Castro has accepted the conditions proffered, and if the Venezuelan president holds to them a settlement will be arranged Oct. 9 at Victoria. The terms have not been ascertained."

Queensland Cannerymen Are Angry.

Brisbane, Queensland: Great surprise and dissatisfaction are expressed in commercial and political circles here at the news that the British war office has placed large orders for canned meats in the United States. As a matter of fact, the Queensland cannerymen, anticipating a large demand, had prepared increased stocks, which will now possibly be a drug on their hands.

He Tells a Very Hard Story.

New York: Army Secretary Peyton of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew, who has just returned from a stay of six months in the Philippines, declares that the United States has 45,000 "drunkards, rakes and gamblers" in and around Manila, and that religious progress is out of the question while American soldiers are there.

Montpelier to Dewey.

Montpelier, Vt.: An elaborate program has been arranged for the reception of Admiral Dewey here Oct. 13.

THE WEEK IN TRADE.

The Business World as Seen by R. G. Dun & Co.

New York: R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says: Demonstrations in honor of Admiral Dewey effectually stopped business of most kinds for two days at the chief city of the country and yet the remaining transactions would have excited wonder a year ago. At New York, where the interruption was greatest, payments through the clearing house exceeded \$1,050,000,000 for four business days, a record never before approached, and outside of New York the gain reflects a great expansion in the volume of that kind of business which does not depend on exchanges. It has been a week of remarkable monetary changes here and elsewhere. With such business as the great steel companies are doing, it is not strange that their stocks are firmly held. The wool market is strong, with sales of 10,682,152 pounds at the three chief markets, prices being maintained, although the advance at London has been checked. The cotton mills, after the general advance in price last week, have had a large business, being helped by the rise in material. After advancing 2 cents, wheat declined sharply, uncertainty in the Transvaal being used by speculators as an excuse for the fluctuation. The merchandise exports from New York have been in four weeks \$91,202,622 in value, against \$32,748,491 last year, which with the increase in manufactured exports and in cotton exports from other points incurs an enormous outgo for September, while the increase in imports at New York has been about \$9,900,000 in value, apparently not enough to reduce the excess of exports for the month below \$30,000,000.

COOKED BODY WITH SHEEP.

Horrible Tale of Cannibalism from the New Hebrides.

Vancouver, B. C.: A remarkable story of cannibalism was brought to Sydney, Australia, a few days before the sailing of the steamer Aorangi to this port, by the French steamer Jeannette. The victim of the display of savagery was a native of Hawaii, named Amaru, who acted as orderly to the immigration department at Noumea, in the New Hebrides.

About six months ago Amaru married a native woman of Aoba, in the New Hebrides group, and on passing the island on the second voyage of the Jeannette, expressed a desire to visit his wife's tribe. Accordingly the couple was put off in a small boat and it was only a few weeks ago that the steamer made a second call and learned their fate.

By mistake they had landed on an unfriendly shore and were taken prisoners. The man was tied to a stake and his torture began. This consisted first in allowing vicious jungle snakes, from which the poison fangs had been removed, to attack the man's legs. Then a fire was made at his feet and his legs were horribly burned, though the injury was superficial, so that the victim would not die under the treatment. Then he was made a target for the spears of the tribesmen who finally killed him. He was torn to pieces and placed over a fire with two sheep. In fact, according to the story, he was eaten with the sheep.

In the meantime Amaru's wife had been provided with a second husband. The matter was reported to a British man-of-war, but it is thought no action has been taken.

DEWEY TO TAKE HOME.

Wishes It Modest So There Will Be Enough Left to Furnish It.

Washington: The committee in charge of the Dewey home fund had a conference with the admiral touching his wishes in the matter. He said as the fund had come from the people in small sums, and not through large contributions by a few wealthy men, he would accept it. It was his desire to get settled at once, which would preclude the building of a house for him. He wished the house modest enough in cost so that there would be enough left of the fund to furnish it. The committee will get options on a number of houses in the quarter of the city he prefers, and will submit them for his selection when he returns from Vermont.

TEDDY'S WESTERN TRIP.

May Extend His Tour in South Dakota and Nebraska.

Sioux City: Gov. Roosevelt has consented to spend at least two days in Nebraska before the end of this month, and if proper arrangements can be made he will run over into South Dakota and return eastward via Sioux City. The details of the governor's trip have not yet been perfected, but his visit to Nebraska is assured.

Officers Hold Mob at Bay.

Maysville, Ky.: Mrs. James Lashbrook, the wife of a well-to-do farmer and a member of one of the oldest families in this county, was ravished and murdered at her home at Clark's Station, six miles from this city. The officers brought in Richard Coleman, a young negro, who has confessed to the crime. They were able to get him into the jail through a mob of 500 people only by telling the crowd they were not sure of Coleman's guilt. At 2 o'clock Friday morning the mob broke down the jail door. The first man to enter was thrown out by the guards inside, who then stood off the crowd with drawn guns.

Filipino Soldiers Must Farm.

Manila: Aguinaldo, according to a report brought to Manila by a Dominican friar from the north, has issued orders to the Filipino soldiers in the northern provinces to return to their towns and to resume farming. This story lacks confirmation, but the rumor may be in accordance with Aguinaldo's policy of keeping the country as productive as possible by using his men in alternate shifts on the farms or under arms.

Longshoremen's Strike Serious.

West Superior, Wis.: The strike of longshoremen here is assuming an aspect of much seriousness. A conference was held at Duluth and the men there decided to refuse to handle freight that comes to either Superior or Duluth on Great Northern boats. Men from Milwaukee are expected to take the strikers' places.

BIG FIRE AT CLARION.

Over \$30,000 Worth of Property Is Destroyed.

Clarion, Iowa: A disastrous fire in which four of the principal buildings of the city were burned, occurred Oct. 5. The fire originated about 4 o'clock and was supposed to have started in front of Johnson's oil house. There were no stoves or lamps in any of the buildings. Before the fire was brought under control the buildings and stocks of McCoy & Nagle, general store; Harrington & Rogers, hardware; A. M. Johnson, groceries, and a tailoring stock were destroyed. The loss of McCoy & Nagle was \$11,000 to \$12,000, insurance \$6,000; Harrington & Rogers' loss \$3,500, fully insured; A. M. Johnson's loss \$3,500, insurance \$1,700. The loss to the buildings, which were owned by outside parties, was \$7,500. The buildings were partially insured. The brick buildings, belonging to Young Bros., on the opposite side of the street, were damaged to the amount of \$800. The total loss will probably amount to about \$35,000.

DRUM TO BE ABANDONED.

Volunteers of America Will Have Some Other Instrument.

New York: At the opening session of the grand field council of the Volunteers of America, convened at Blue Point, L. I., and composed of the officers of the highest rank from all parts of the country. The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That in view of the conflict with the civil authorities on the part of other organizations, and in view of our strong desire to respect and uphold the municipal laws, we authorize that the use of the drum be abandoned both outdoors and in, in connection with the whole movement, except with a brass band, a file and drum corps, or at the head of a parade officially authorized by the sectional officer. It is recommended, however, that in place of the drum a cornet, small organ, concertina, guitar or other stringed instrument be used.

IS AGAIN NO RACE.

Shamrock and Columbia Unable to Cover Course on Time.

Highlands: The Shamrock-Columbia race is off, the boats being unable to finish within the time limit. At 4 the entire excursion fleet was heading for New York. Both yachts had taken in their sails and were being towed to anchorage.

Famous Bank Robber Dead.

Philadelphia: Jimmy Logue, the notorious bank robber, is dead at the county almshouse, aged 62 years. He had spent twenty years in prison in several states. He was connected with three big bank robberies in this city, and also operated extensively in other cities. One of the largest robberies he made was in Washington, where he played his fifth game of sneaking through a roof trap. His victim in this case was Naval Constructor Isiah Hanscombe, and his booty was \$75,000. At one time Logue had \$300,000.

Syndicate to Kill People.

London: According to the Montevideo correspondent of the Times the discovery has been made here that a syndicate exists there that has been insuring the lives of poor people and murdering them and collecting the insurance money. Three cases of the sort have occurred, from which the promoters of the scheme netted \$10,000. The syndicate has other policies amounting to \$50,000.

Steamer Burned at Her Wharf.

New York: The Mallory line steamer Leona was burned and sunk at her wharf in East River. The cargo, consisting of tobacco and 8,000 bales of cotton and valued at \$250,000 to \$300,000, is a total loss. The loss to the boat is \$50,000. The cause of the fire is a mystery. The boat left Galveston on Wednesday, Sept. 27, and made her eight days' run without special incident.

Norwegians Are Elated.

Chicago: A cable to the Record from Stockholm says: The resignations of Count Douglas, minister of foreign affairs for Sweden and Norway is in the hands of King Oscar. The Norwegians are highly elated at the Douglas' fall.

A Consul Appointed.

Washington: The president has appointed S. G. Wilson, of Illinois, consul at Magdeburg, Germany, to succeed H. W. Dietrich, promoted to consul at Mainz.

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

Chicago—Cattle, common to prime, \$3.00 to \$7.25; hogs, shipping grades, \$3.00 to \$4.75; sheep, fair to choice, \$3.00 to \$4.50; wheat, No. 2 red, 73c to 74c; corn, No. 2, 30c to 31c; oats, No. 2, 22c to 24c; rye, No. 2, 57c to 59c; butter, choice creamery, 22c to 24c; eggs, fresh, 16c to 17c; potatoes, choice, 25c to 35c per bushel.

Indianapolis—Cattle, shipping, \$3.00 to \$6.50; hogs, choice light, \$2.75 to \$5.00; sheep, common to prime, \$3.25 to \$4.50; wheat, No. 2 red, 69c to 71c; corn, No. 2 white, 32c to 33c; oats, No. 2 white, 24c to 26c.

St. Louis—Cattle, \$3.25 to \$6.75; hogs, \$3.00 to \$4.75; sheep, \$3.00 to \$4.25; wheat, No. 2, 72c to 74c; corn, No. 2 yellow, 31c to 33c; oats, No. 2, 23c to 25c; rye, No. 2, 59c to 60c.

Cincinnati—Cattle, \$2.50 to \$6.25; hogs, \$3.00 to \$5.00; sheep, \$2.50 to \$4.25; wheat, No. 2, 72c to 73c; corn, No. 2 mixed, 33c to 35c; oats, No. 2 mixed, 24c to 26c; rye, No. 2, 62c to 64c.

Detroit—Cattle, \$2.50 to \$6.25; hogs, \$3.00 to \$5.00; sheep, \$2.50 to \$4.00; wheat, No. 2, 73c to 75c; corn, No. 2 yellow, 34c to 36c; oats, No. 2 white, 26c to 28c; rye, 60c to 62c.

Toledo—Wheat, No. 2 mixed, 71c to 72c; corn, No. 2 mixed, 33c to 34c; oats, No. 2 mixed, 23c to 24c; rye, No. 2, 58c to 60c; clover seed, \$1.90 to \$5.00.

Milwaukee—Wheat, No. 2 Northern, 63c to 71c; corn, No. 3, 32c to 33c; oats, No. 2 white, 24c to 27c; rye, No. 1, 58c to 60c; barley, No. 2, 45c to 47c; pork, mess, \$8.00 to \$8.50.

Buffalo—Cattle, good shipping steers, \$3.00 to \$5.00; hogs, common to choice, \$3.25 to \$5.00; sheep, fair to choice wethers, \$3.00 to \$4.50; lambs, common to extra, \$4.50 to \$5.75.

New York—Cattle, \$3.25 to \$6.75; hogs, \$3.00 to \$5.25; sheep, \$3.00 to \$4.50; wheat, No. 2 red, 77c to 78c; corn, No. 2, 40c to 41c; oats, No. 2 white, 30c to 32c; butter, creamery, 37c to 25c; eggs, western, 14c to 19c.



CHAPTER XII.—(Continued.)

"The indorsement on the back of this instrument," said the lawyer, "is this: 'Last Will and Testament of Alvin DeRosette.'"

He carefully unfolded the paper, readjusted his glasses and raised the document before him.

"Wilmington, North Carolina, New Hanover County, March third, eighteen hundred and fifty-seven.

"This is to certify that I, Alvin DeRosette, being of sound mind and vigorous, but uncertain as to when death may overtake me, do hereby, on this, the day and date above mentioned, namely, the third day of March, eighteen hundred and fifty-seven, pen this instrument, and I do further declare it to be my last will and testament, subject, however, to such, if any, codicils as I may hereafter see proper to devise.

"I do hereby declare my beloved daughter, Harriet M. DeRosette, my only living child, to be my sole heir and legatee, and to her I do give and bequeath my entire estate, both real and personal, lands, houses, money, bonds, stocks, chattels and slaves. In fact, all property of whatever nature of which I may be possessed. With the exception, however, of the following bequests and manumissions, which I desire my beloved daughter and administrator to see fulfilled immediately, or as soon as may be after my demise.

"First—I desire that Duke, my trusted servant for many years, be manumitted, and I bequeath him the sum of two thousand dollars with which to provide for his necessities in his declining years.

"God bless my ole master," groaned Uncle Duke; "but I can leave the bank—I can leave my Miss Hattie!"

"Nor shall you, Uncle Duke," sobbed Hattie.

"Second," read the lawyer, "to Hannah, who has ever been true and faithful, I devise her freedom from servitude and direct that the sum of one thousand dollars be paid."

"De good Lord!" sobbed Hannah, sinking on her knees.

"Third—To Millie and Adam I devise five hundred dollars each, and leave with my dear daughter the matter of their manumission, requesting her, however, to at an early date draw a written instrument devising them their freedom in case of her death.

"God bless Mars Alvin!" exclaimed Adam, while Millie could only sink on her knees at the side of her mistress and sob, "I isn gwine, Miss Hattie! I isn gwine!"

"I further," read the attorney, "desire my daughter to see that above sums of money to be paid my negroes, be not squandered, and I direct her to personally look after the management of their monetary affairs.

"To my old friend, Jerry Dobbs, the trusted attorney of 'The Cape Fear Bank,' as a slight testimonial of my regard, I bequeath the sum of five thousand dollars, should he survive me; otherwise I direct that the aforesaid sum be paid to his son Arthur by my administrator."

Here the old attorney nearly broke down. His voice and manner showed great agitation.

"To Herman Craven, my nephew, and at this time the cashier of my bank, I give and bequeath the sum of—"

The attorney hesitated, removed his glasses, carefully ran his silk handkerchief over them, and with a seemingly nervous hand replaced them.

"To Herman Craven, my nephew, at this time cashier of my bank, I do give and bequeath the sum of—"

The attorney's eyes left the written instrument and rested on the features of the cashier.

There were the eyes of one other in the room fixed on Herman Craven also—the eyes of the great Southern detective.

Herman sat as though wondering at the delay.

"The sum of fifty-five thousand dollars," read the lawyer.

The bank directors certainly looked surprised, and a slight exclamation fell from the lips of some of them.

Herman Craven raised his handkerchief to his eyes and moaned: "My dear, dear uncle! I had no dream that you would remember me to that extent."

"Which sum," continued the lawyer, as he resumed reading the will, "is sufficient to form the nucleus of a fortune, and will enable him to engage in almost any vocation."

"I should think it would," thought Sellars. "That sum is a fortune itself—not the nucleus of one. I wonder—I do wonder," he thought, "if Hannah was not mistaken on the night of the murder, and if it was not the hand of other than Herman Craven that pulled the wire—some one who had gained admission to the house and—but no, she stated that the form she saw was clad only in a night-shirt. That argues nothing. Beneath that night-shirt there might have been all of the garments of a man—a single moment would have sufficed to don a night-shirt. Wait."

"I leave my daughter and my administrator to decide as to whether my vast interests shall be withdrawn from 'The Cape Fear Bank' and the funds invested in other securities. As I founded the bank, I should prefer that my interests be continued in the same. However, after my daughter shall have attained her twentieth year, it will be for her alone to determine, as my administrator's duties shall cease at that time.

This time there were unmistakable expressions of surprise.

"In whom," resumed the lawyer, "I have implicit confidence, and I direct that he be required to give no bond for the faithful performance of the duties entailed."

To say that there was consternation on the faces of the directors would be to draw it mildly. Unquestionably, the banker's daughter was not less surprised, and Sellars? What shall we say of him? He was dumbfounded.

"Hannah was clearly mistaken," he thought.

"I do also appoint my aforesaid administrator as guardian of my beloved daughter, and by reason of my estate's being large and my interests many, I direct that his duties as such guardian shall not cease until my daughter shall reach her twentieth birthday. This provision, however, to be void in case of the marriage of my aforesaid daughter before she shall reach the age of twenty, and in which event her husband shall supplant her guardian."

A cry of pain and anguish escaped the white lips of Miss DeRosette, and her head fell forward upon the shoulder of her companion.

All eyes were directed to her moaning form.

The directors—the friends of the dead banker of fifty years' standing—sat pale, silent, mute.

Sellars, overcome though he was with astonishment, yet had his keen eyes fixed on the features of the cashier. But caught but a placid countenance did he see—no evidence of surprise there—no twitching of the muscles of the face—neither a look of exultation, merely a dead calm face, slightly flushed, and a pair of inquiring eyes looking up at the lawyer.

"De Lord God!" was the exclamation that fell from the lips of old Uncle Duke. Herman Craven did not cast a glance in his direction.

"In witness whereof," continued the lawyer, "I have hereunto set my hand and seal in this, the city of Wilmington, State of North Carolina, this, the third day of March, eighteen hundred and fifty-seven.

"Witnesses—John D. Lloyd, Freeman Elliott."

"This ends the reading of the instrument," said the attorney, sinking into a chair.

"The conclusion comes as a surprise," observed Director Hammond. "That is—understand me, Mr. Craven—of course death came so suddenly to our friend that none of us, I think, had given the matter a thought. But, excuse me, there are so many old and tried friends—men of greater experience than myself—that it seems strange that he should have designated you as the administrator of his estate and guardian of his daughter."

"Very, very strange!" echoed the other directors.

"I am not surprised at that, gentlemen," Herman said blandly. "It was because of my age that my uncle did not name some one of you. Remember, a week ago he bade fair to live as long as any of you. He would have named Mr. Dobbs but for his age."

"Strange the will does not read 'my nephew, Herman Craven,' instead of 'my friend, Herman Craven,'" remarked Director Chadbourn.

"It would seem so," said Herman; "but my uncle often used to term me 'friend Herman.' Yes, more often than he did 'nephew' in our private conversations. He had notified me that he had named me as administrator of his will, but he had not informed me how liberally he had remembered me in the same. It quite overpowers me," and Herman raised his handkerchief to his eyes.

"The witnesses to this will?" he asked the detective.

"Went down with the ill-fated Gosmore, and within sight of the British coast," said the attorney.

"Then," remarked Sellars, "there are no living witnesses?"

"None," the attorney said; "but their signatures are here, and there is no question but what they are genuine. You all know them, gentlemen."

"Yes," observed Director Hammond, "and I was aware they had witnessed our old friend's signature to his will. After their death I think he intended getting other signatures, but he deferred it too long."

Sellars had advanced, and the attorney handed him the will, which he closely scrutinized.

"Yes," he said presently, "the signatures are genuine beyond a doubt, but—"

"But what, Mr. Sellars?" asked Lawyer Dobbs.

"I was about to say that the signatures are genuine, but the witnesses themselves are somewhere rocking to and fro, deep down in the bosom of the ocean," answered Sellars.

"And the sea," thought Herman Craven, "will not give up its dead."

"What step is first necessary?" he asked.

CHAPTER XIII.

The day following the reading of the will the instrument was admitted to probate, and Herman Craven had the handling of a vast estate in his hands.

He held also in those same white hands, or thought he did, the destiny of a charming young heiress.

"Ere two years roll by," he thought, "as he sat in his private office at the bank, 'the husband must supplant the guardian—I shall have become that husband. It will not be difficult after Robert is in a felon's grave to win the heart of my ward, at least to make her my wife. She clearly does not believe that Robert Campbell murdered her father. Jennie's presence in the house so much I do not like. It must be checked. Clearly, I must talk to this ward of mine. It is not seemly for the daughter of a murdered man to be on terms of intimacy with the sister of the wretch who—who lies in jail under the charge of having murdered him. Under the charge of having murdered him? Ha! ha! Was he not caught red-handed in the act? As for the funds in the bank, I must leave everything as it is until Hattie shall have become my wife. I must win the confidence of the bank directors. But above all I must become the president of 'The Cape Fear Bank.' There is nothing easier, now that I represent a majority of the stock, as my cousin's guardian, and am the administrator of my uncle's estate. The directors meet this evening to choose a successor to the late president, and in the interest of the late president's daughter, I, Herman Craven, must be that president. What is it, Duke?"

"Admit him, Uncle Duke, you have been a faithful man for a negro. Tomorrow you will be free. You will have no master and will have two thousand dollars to your credit in the bank."

"I will have a young mistress, Mars Herman," said the old man, "who I'd die to serve. As for freedom, I's too old for dat; I belongs to Mars Alvin's bank and Miss Hattie, and always will, but God bless old master jus' de same for strikin' off de shackles. Not de body—for dar wan't none dar—but from de soul. I ken die a free man. Glory to God!"

"You will be right here just the same, Duke. Now admit the attorney."

"I was in hopes you would call in this morning, Mr. Dobbs," he said, arising from his seat and extending his hand as the attorney approached him, "as there is a matter I wished to see you about. Pray be seated."

"In that event I am glad I called," observed the lawyer, seating himself, "but I think I can guess the subject. It is of the directory meeting to-night, at which a successor to Alvin DeRosette, is it not?"

"The same, Mr. Dobbs. The same."

"I had a conference with Directors Chadbourn, Hammond and Hoyt this morning," said the attorney, "and the latter favor Mr. Chadbourn for the presidency. You see, he is a man who has always been identified with the bank and has had a vast experience in monetary affairs. The public have full confidence in him, and I think you may safely cast the vote you represent as your uncle's administrator for him. In fact, the matter lays entirely with you. Your action decides the presidency and largely the future of the bank. Of course, you will remain cashier."

"Such is not my intention, Mr. Dobbs," said Herman.

"What, you will sever your connection with the bank?"

"Oh, no, Mr. Dobbs, not that! Now, understand me. I have the most implicit confidence in Director Chadbourn. As the second largest stockholder, he is the bank's vice-president, and as such I am content that he remain. As the representative of the stock that made my uncle the president, and as his administrator and the guardian of his daughter, I conceive it to be my duty to take his place as nearly as I can in all that pertains to his business affairs. I feel, indeed, that he would have it so or he would not have named me his administrator. Yes, I feel in duty bound to make Herman Craven the president of the bank, and I ask your co-operation and aid."

The old attorney's face paled, and for a moment he sat speechless.

"I beg you," he said, when he had mastered his emotion, "think well of this matter. You have had but two years' experience in banking affairs. Director Chadbourn has had that of half a lifetime. His name would inspire confidence and the bank would not lose a customer. With you as its president I fear the result would not be the same. You are young and can wait. You have every confidence in Mr. Chadbourn and would be here just as you have been in the past. Public confidence must not be shaken by an unwise move at this time."