

The Bondman

A....
Continued
Story.

By HALL CAINE.

CHAPTER XI.—(Continued.)

Greeba caught her breath, and answered, "Yes."

"Did you know of it while you were still in the Isle of Man?"

"Yes," she answered again, more faintly.

"Did he tell you?"

"Yes, and he bound me by a promise never to speak of it, but I could not keep it from my own husband."

"That's strange," said Michael Sunlocks, with a look of pain. "To share a secret like that with you was very strange," he added.

Greeba was flurried, and said again, too bewildered to see which way her words were tending. "And he gave me his promise in return to put aside his sinful purpose."

"That's still stranger," said Michael Sunlocks. "Greeba," he added, in another tone, "why should you say you did not know Jason?"

"Because the Langmann was with us."

"But why, my girl? Why?"

"Lest evil rumors might dishonor my husband."

"But where was the dishonor to me in my wife knowing this poor lad, Greeba?"

At that she hesitated a moment, and then in a tone of gentle reproach she said, nestling close to him and caressing his sleeve, "Michael, why do you ask such questions?"

But he did not turn aside for that, but looked searchingly into her face, and said, "He was nothing to you, was he?"

She hesitated again, and then tried to laugh. "Why, what should he be to me?" she said.

He did not flinch, but repeated, "He was nothing to you then?"

"Nobody save my husband has ever been anything to me," she said, with a caress.

"He was nothing to you—no?"

"No," she answered, throwing back her head.

Just then the English maid came to say that the six big Englishmen who had been there before were in the kitchen again, and asking to see her master, not her mistress, this time. In an instant Greeba's little burst of disdain was spent, and she was all humility and entreaty.

"Don't go to them," she cried.

"Don't listen to them."

"Who are they?" he asked.

"My brothers. I have not had time to tell you, but I will tell you now."

She put her arms about his neck as if to hold him.

"What have they come for?"

"To tell you some falsehood, and so revenge themselves on me. I know it, I feel it. Ah, a woman's instinct is sure. But, dear Michael, you will not receive them. Refuse, and I will tell you such a story. And you will laugh."

"Let me go, Greeba," he said, unloosing the grip of her tightening arms, and the next moment he was gone from the room. Then all the spirit of the woman arose in Greeba, and, throwing aside her vague fears, she resolved, as only a woman could, in the cruel hour when a dear heart seemed to be slipping away from her, that come what would, she should hold to her husband at all hazards, and that whatever her brothers might say against her, let it be true or false, if it threatened to separate her from him, she must deny it. What matter about the truth? Her love was before everything. And who was to disprove her word? Jason alone could do so, and his tongue was sealed forever in a silence as deep as the grave's.

Michael Sunlocks went out of the room like a man in a dream: an ugly dream, a dream of darkening terrors undefined. He came back to it like one who was awakened to find that his dream has come true. Within one hour his face seemed to have grown old. He stooped, he stumbled on the floor, his limbs shook under him, he was a broken and sorrowful man. At sight of him Greeba could scarcely restrain an impulse to scream. She ran to him, and cried, "Michael my husband, what have they told you?"

At first he looked stupidly into her quivering face, and then glancing down at a paper he held in one hand he made an effort to conceal it behind him. She was too quick for him, and cried, "What is it? Show it me."

"It's nothing," he said; "nothing, love, nothing."

"What have they told you," she said again, "tell me—tell me."

"They say that you loved Jason," he answered with a great effort.

"It's a lie," she cried stoutly.

"They say that you were to marry him."

She tried to answer as stoutly as before, "And that's a lie, too," but the words stuck to her throat.

"Oh, God," he cried, and turned away from her.

There was a stove in the room, and he stepped up to it, opened the iron door, and thrust the paper into the crackling fire.

"What is that you are burning?" she cried. And in another moment, before he knew what she was doing, she had run to the stove, pulled back with her bare hands the hot door that he was closing with the tongs, thrust her arm into the fire, and brought out the paper. It was in flames, and she rolled it in her palms until little but its charred remains lay in her scorched fingers. But she saw what it had been—her own abandoned letter to Red Jason. Then, slowly looking up, she turned back to her husband, pale, a fearful chill creeping over her, and he had thrown himself down on a chair by the table and hidden his face in his arms.

It was a pitiful and moving sight. To see that man, so full of hope and love and simple happy trust a little hour ago, lie there with bent head and buried eyes, and hands clasped together convulsively, because the idol he

had set up for himself lay broken before him, because the love wherein he lived lay dead; and to see that woman, so beautiful, and in that so true, though dogged by the malice of evil chance, though weak as a true woman may be, stand over him with whitening lips and not a word to utter—see this was to say, "What devil of hell weaves the web of circumstance in this world of God?"

Then, with a cry of love and pain in one, she flung herself on her knees beside him, and enfolded him in her arms. "Michael," she said, "my love, my darling, my dear kind husband, forgive me, and let me confess everything. It is true that I was to have married Jason, but it is not true that I loved him. I esteemed him, for he is of a manly, noble soul, and after the departure of my father and the death of my mother, and amid the cruelties of my brothers and your own long, long silence, I thought to reward him for his great fidelity. But I loved you, you only, only you, dear Michael, and when your letter reached me at last I asked him to release me that I might come to you, and he did so, and I came. This is the truth, dear Michael, as sure as we shall meet before God some day."

Michael Sunlocks lifted his face and said, "Why did you not tell me this long ago, Greeba, and not now when it is dragged from you?"

She did not answer him, for to be met with such a question after a plea so abject, stung her to the quick. "Do you not believe I've told you the truth?" she asked.

"God knows; I know not what to believe," he answered.

"Do you rather trust my brothers, who have deceived you?" she asked.

"So heaven help me! has my wife, whom I have loved so dear?"

At that she grew herself up. "Michael," she said, "what lie have these men told you? Don't keep it from me. What have I done?"

"Married me, while loving him," he answered. "That's enough for me, God pity me!"

"Do you believe that?" she said.

"Your concealments, your deceptions, your subterfuges all prove it," he said. "Oh, it is killing me, for it is the truth."

"So you believe that?" she said.

"If I had not written you would now be Jason's wife," he said. "And by this light I see his imprisonment. It was you who accused him of a design upon my life. Why? Because you knew what he had confessed to you. For your own ends you used his oath against me, knowing he could not deny it. And what was your purpose? To put him away. Why? Because he was pursuing you for deserting him. But you made his vow your excuse, and the brave lad said nothing. No, not a word; and yet he might have dishonored you before them all. And when I wished to sign his pardon you tried to prevent me. Was that for my sake? No, but yours. Was it my life you thought to protect? No, but your own secret."

Thus, in the agony of his tortured heart, the hot hard words came from him in a torrent, but before the flood of them was spent, Greeba stepped up to him with flashing eyes, and all the wrath in her heart that comes of outraged love, and cried,

"It is false. It is false, I say. Send for him and he himself will deny it. I can trust him, for he is of a noble soul. Yes, he is a man indeed. I challenge you to send for him. Let him come here. Bring him before me, and he shall judge between us."

"No," said Michael Sunlocks, "I will not send for him. For what you have done I shall suffer."

Then there was a knock at the door, and after a pause the Langmann entered, with his stoop and uncertain gait. "Excuse me," he said, "will you sign the pardon now, or leave it until the morning?"

"I will not sign it at all," said Michael Sunlocks. But at the next moment he cried: "Wait! after all it is not the man's fault, and he shall not suffer." With that he took the paper out of the law-man's hand and signed it hurriedly. "Here," he said, "see that the man is set free immediately."

The Langmann looked at both of them out of his near-sighted eyes, coughed silently, and left the room without a word more.

(To be continued.)

Ca lyle a Rapid Feeder.

One day at dinner a gentleman—moved, it may be, by the sight of Mr. Gladstone's conscientious mastication of his food, for the great statesman was not one to eat in haste and repent at leisure—remarked what a victim to dyspepsia Carlyle had been. "Yes," said Mr. Gladstone, "he smoked too much. I have been told that he ate quantities of sodden gingerbread and he was a rapid feeder. I lunched with him one day and he tumbled his food into his stomach. It was like posting letters." After a slight pause, Mr. Gladstone added: "Carlyle did not seem to use his jaws, except to talk!"

Building Largest Ship.

The Celtic steamship, to be finished and launched this summer, will be the largest vessel on the oceans. It will have a displacement of 33,000 tons, nearly 5,000 tons greater than the largest steamship now afloat; a half dozen long railway trains can be carried by her, and she will be able to provide for nearly 2,500 passengers, almost an army brigade, and Capt. Ismay expects to see an even greater than the Celtic built within a year or two.

The total receipts from the Philippine customs for February were \$750,000.

WARNING FROM JAPAN

Plainly Intimates That Russia's Present Methods Won't Suit Nikado.

MUST KEEP AWAY FROM KOREA.

Csar's Mysterious Overtures Suspected to Threaten Encroachment—An Official Says Little Island Wouldn't Hesitate to Tackle the Empire.

LONDON, March 23.—The Foreign offices takes a pessimistic view of the immediate situation in the east, in spite of the settlement of the Tien Tsin question, and entertains grave fears that the relations between Japan and Russia may shortly reach the danger point. Judging from information obtained in various official quarters in London, Japan has confided to at least some of the powers her determination to oppose, at all costs, any secret agreements made between Russia and China by which the former could secure territorial or other advantages contiguous to Korea.

The British government has received no official confirmation that the Japanese fleet is mobilizing, but it would not be surprised to learn such were the facts. A highly-placed British official said to a representative of the Associated Press today:

"All Japan wants is a free hand against Russia. This she has got, so far as England and Germany are concerned, and I presume, so far as the United States government is concerned, although I do not imagine for one moment that any of the powers mentioned would be drawn into a fight between Japan and Russia. If Japan sees nothing for it but to fight she would have the moral support of objections committed to paper by at least two other powers against secret treaties with China. That is all; but Japan seems to consider it sufficient to provide against interference."

Confirmation of the foregoing definition of the situation was afforded by the secretary of the Japanese legation, who said, in the course of an interview:

"While rejoicing at the fact that England and Russia have reached a pacific settlement over the minor issue, the main question—the integrity of the Chinese empire—remains unsettled. In response to pressure brought by Japan upon Russia it was announced that Russia's secret treaties with China had been modified, but the terms have been withheld. Until we see the treaties we will not be satisfied that the modification does not consist of words merely, without any alteration in the spirit. In this contention we believe other powers will support us."

It appears that Great Britain would be quite willing to refer the whole Manchurian matter to arbitration on the lines of The Hague conference. The Tien Tsin siding affair is not considered important enough to be disposed of in this way and it will immediately become a matter of diplomatic interchange between St. Petersburg and London.

REJECTS FOUR OF CLAUSES.

Cuban Committee on Relations Opposes Part of Platt Amendment.

HAVANA, March 23.—The committee on relations of the Cuban constitutional convention met today to consider the report drawn up by its secretary, Senor Juan Guabartez.

It is understood the report rejects four clauses—clauses dealing with coaling stations, foreign relations, the right to intervene to preserve peace, and the entering into treaties—covering the points in question. The other clauses are treated on the lines of the previous, the sanitation of the Isle of Pines being virtually agreed to. Three of the five members of the committee objected to the rejection in toto of the four clauses mentioned and urged that some consideration should be given them. No vote was taken, but a majority was opposed to acceptance. The committee adjourned until Tuesday next.

Carnegie Answers Van Wyck.

NEW YORK, March 22.—Mayor Van Wyck received the following cablegram from Andrew Carnegie today in reply to the one sent to the latter yesterday:

"Many thanks, my dear mayor, for your kind telegram. Delighted and grateful for opportunity to serve New York."

Two Regiments Returned.

MANILA, March 22.—The United States army transport Grant sails for San Francisco tomorrow with the Twenty-ninth and Thirty-second regiments of volunteer infantry.

Grant's Leading Man is Dead.

DENVER, March 23.—J. W. Kingsley, leading man of the Jules Graub Opera company, died at St. Joseph's hospital in this city today of pneumonia, after a week's illness.

SAYS HE IS A KIDNAPER.

H. C. Henderson Confesses to Share in Cudaby Crime.

DALLAS, Tex., March 22.—Sheriff Johnson tonight made this statement: "H. C. Henderson this evening confessed to me and County Attorney Summers that he is one of the Cudaby kidnapers. His confession was made voluntarily. He stated that he had squandered and used in fleeing from Omaha most of the money he got as his share in the kidnaping job before I arrested him in this city as a suspect early in February. County Attorney Summers asked Henderson why he had not admitted his identity earlier and he said:

"Heretofore when I have been in trouble I have had a man between me and the court house. But now I see there is no chance for me to get out of thirteen years' sentence on my conviction here in Dallas for theft, and I might as well own up to the Omaha job."

CIVIL GOVERNMENT JUNE 30.

Transfer from Military Control of Philippines.

WASHINGTON, March 22.—The transfer from the military to the civil government in the Philippines is expected to occur about June 30, according to calculations made at the War department upon information received from the Taft commission and General MacArthur. It is known that even where civil governments are being established by the Philippine commission, the military will be necessary for some time, to support the civil authorities. It is the intention to withdraw the military as far as possible, however, from any participation in the governments established and the soldiers will be more of a police than a military force. Wherever possible native police will be organized.

ENCAMPMENT RATE IS FIXED.

Central Passenger Association Men Meet and Definitely Decide.

CLEVELAND, O., March 22.—An important meeting of railway men was held at the Hollenden hotel in this city today, at which the 1-cent a mile rate promised for the Grand Army of the Republic national encampment, to be held in Cleveland next September, was formally promulgated. This fixes the railroad rate absolutely and finally.

In St. Louis January 21 last the government committee of the Grand Army accepted the rate and the encampment was located at Cleveland. The Central Passenger association appointed a committee to fix the rate, formulate ticket conditions and make other arrangements to govern for the thirty-fifth Grand Army encampment.

TO ASK TEN MILLION DOLLARS.

Indians on Yakima Reservation in Washington Make Claim.

SPOKANE, Wash., March 22.—Ten million dollars will be asked from congress at its next session for the fourteen tribes of Indians on the Yakima reservation in this state. So states Rev. Thomas Parene, an Indian Methodist preacher, the representative of the fourteen tribes, who was in Spokane last evening on his way home from an interview with President McKinley and other high officials. Parene says white men have settled upon a million acres of land of his people, worth \$10 an acre.

Nebraska National Bank.

WASHINGTON, March 20.—The report of the condition of the national banks of Nebraska, exclusive of Omaha and Lincoln, at the close of business February 5 was today made public. Compared with the previous statement in December, loans and discounts have increased from \$18,708,783 to \$19,903,356, and individual deposits from \$19,456,685 to \$20,040,666.

Insists on Piece Work.

CEDAR RAPIDS, Ia., March 21.—At a conference between General Manager Williams of the Burlington, Cedar Rapids & Northern and striking shopen this afternoon. Mr. Williams offered the men many things they had not asked for, but insisted that they would inaugurate the piece work system throughout. The machinists, boiler-makers and blacksmiths will not work under this system.

Insurgents Burn Village.

MANILA, March 22.—Insurgents have attacked and burned the ungarisoned village of Uguis in the province of South Ilocos. A detachment of the Twentieth infantry overtook and chastised the marauders.

What Spaniards Couldn't Do.

BOSTON, March 21.—The Olympia, Admiral Dewey's flagship, was placed in the dry dock today to be scraped and painted below the water line. The government is spending about \$500,000 on it for alterations.

Will Prohibit Cigarettes.

ST. PAUL, Minn., March 22.—By a vote of 72 to 30 the house today passed the senate bill prohibiting the manufacture, sale or giving away of cigarettes.

Commoner Comment.

Extracts From W. J. Bryan's Paper.

AN IMPOTENT REMEDY.

President Hadley, of Yale college, in a recent speech at Boston renewed a recommendation which he made some months ago to the effect that there should be a public opinion which would drive the trusts out of existence regardless of statutes. The earlier dispatches quoted him as saying that we would have an empire here within twenty-five years unless something was done to destroy the trusts, but he has since denied making any such prophecy. The mere fact that so prominent an educator recognizes the menace of private monopolies is both significant and encouraging, but the remedy which he suggests is an impotent one. Public opinion is necessary, first, to enact, and second, to enforce law, but public opinion alone will never give the public protection from the trusts.

It would not be safe to keep horses if public opinion was the only protection society had against horse stealing. A man is influenced by the public opinion with which he comes into contact and the horse thief does not associate with those who have conscientious scruples against larceny, neither does the trust magnate associate with those who object to trusts. It will be a long time before the opinion of an ordinary mortal or, for that matter, of all the ordinary mortals, has an influence upon the man who can make a fortune in a year by preying upon those ordinary mortals.

Mr. Rockefeller would be indifferent to a petition signed by ninety-nine percent of the people asking him to lower the price of oil (even at the risk of decreasing his donations to colleges), but he would heed a law made and executed by a majority of the people. All credit to President Hadley for his effort to create a public opinion against trusts, but that public opinion must be crystallized into public statutes before it will check the trust evil.

THE SITUATION IN ST. LOUIS.

In the last number of The Commoner there appeared an editorial entitled "A Sample of Harmony," which called attention to the attempt which is being made in St. Louis to elect Mr. Wells on the democratic ticket, notwithstanding the fact that he opposed the national ticket in 1896 and 1900, and still refuses to accept democratic principles, though willing to accept a democratic office.

The St. Louis Republic in last Saturday's issue seems to admit the facts stated in that editorial, but attempts to avoid the conclusions drawn from them. It says:

"Mr. Bryan naturally does not care much about municipal government in big cities. That is a problem with which he has never been called upon to contend. But St. Louis democrats care a great deal; not only as citizens, but as party men. If they do not take the best course in municipal politics they will dwindle into a small political body in a short time. The comments on St. Louis politics in Mr. Bryan's paper have not the weight of knowledge or of sympathy."

The Republic is in error. Mr. Bryan does care about municipal government in big cities, but he does not expect good municipal government under the administration of a man who believes in making the president an emperor, and who is willing to let the trusts control the national administration. The man who sees no danger in imperialism, a large standing army, wars of conquest, private monopolies and the other policies for which the republican party now stands is not likely to give the people of any city, large or small, a wise, just or economical administration. The mind of an intelligent man is consistent and, as no one doubts the intelligence of Mr. Wells, it is fair to assume that he would be as willing to allow local corporations to control the city administration as he has shown himself willing to allow larger corporations to control the national administration. It is no answer to say that the republican candidate may be as bad as Mr. Wells. The democratic party is not responsible for a republican administration and can make political capital out of the wrong doings of such an administration. But if Mr. Wells is elected the democratic party must assume responsibility for what he does. If, as is probable, he would run the city according to the latest and most approved republican methods, the democrats would be compelled to repudiate his administration or obliterate the distinction between republican methods and democratic methods.

The republican governor of Utah has acted in the interest of the Mormon church as well as in the interest of the gentle population of his state, in vetoing the bill which was intended to prevent the prosecution of persons guilty of polygamy. The practice of polygamy, at one time indorsed by the Mormon church, is now renounced by the church and prohibited by statute. It is not surprising that there are occasional violations of the law, but these will become less and less as the years go by, until polygamy becomes a thing of the past. Any attempt to reopen the question by giving direct or indirect sanction to the practice would bring on a political controversy which could result only in one way, namely, in the continuance of present laws, and then to the enforcement of the law would be added the bitterness and prejudice which such a contest would be sure to arouse.

President Lincoln said that labor deserved much higher consideration than capital. Mr. Carnegie says that labor and capital deserve equal consideration. It is quite a step from the doctrine of Lincoln to the doctrine of Carnegie, but the Hanna doctrine is labor worse for it puts capital first and labor nowhere.

According to the dictionary of the reorganizers, a democrat is a man who votes the republican ticket in national campaigns, but is generous enough to allow democrats to vote for him in a municipal campaign.

AN INSULT TO DEMOCRATS.

It is unfortunate from a party standpoint that Mr. Wells was nominated for mayor by the democrats of St. Louis. It would be a reflection on the democrats of that city to assume that none of them possessed the necessary qualifications for mayor. It would be an insult to the honest, intelligent and faithful democrats of St. Louis to say that none of them could be trusted to give the city a good administration. The main argument, if not the only one, made in favor of Mr. Wells' nomination was that he was a man who could "win." It seems, then, that he was nominated because he was thought available. Why available?

The Republic says that "Jefferson club leaders nearly all opposed the nomination of Wells," and adds that he was nominated by "business men." Are these the same business men who have been giving support to the republican national administration? According to the Republic's logic the democratic party must go to the "business men" whenever they refuse to come to the party. If so, the situation becomes clearer. When they refuse to vote for a democrat the remedy seems to be to nominate a republican. If this is good local politics, it may be applied on a larger scale. In other words, party principles are to be ignored and party success is to be the only thing considered.

The Commoner insists upon its original proposition. If the situation in St. Louis is such that democrats are justified in supporting a republican, the candidate ought not to be called a democrat or placed in a position where he can make the party responsible for the enforcement of republican ideas.

COST OF A WORLD POWER.

Congressman Livingston, the democratic member of the house committee on appropriations, has issued a statement comparing the appropriations of the recent congress with that of the congress that died March 4, 1897. The Fifty-sixth congress appropriated \$1,446,962,545.95. Congressman Cannon for the republicans points out that this is a decrease of \$128,000,000 from the appropriations made by the Fifty-fifth congress, which was the immediate predecessor of the recent one.

But Congressman Livingston maintains that it is better to make the comparison with the Fifty-fourth congress, that being the last to make appropriations for the support of the government prior to the war with Spain.

Mr. Livingston shows that the appropriations made by the Fifty-sixth congress exceed those made by the Fifty-fourth congress in the sum of \$395,482,272.08. He calls attention to the fact that nearly all this increase was due to appropriations for the support of the military establishments. For each of the two years prior to the Spanish-American war, the regular army cost \$23,000,000. Since then, however, it has increased to \$115,000,000 per year. The Fifty-fourth congress appropriated \$30,000,000 for the navy, while the Fifty-sixth congress appropriated for the navy \$143,793,000. During the last two years the pension appropriations have increased \$8,000,000.

GRATES HARSHLY ON AMERICAN EARS.

"Down with the Americans" is the popular cry among the people of the Philippines. "Down with the Americans" is the cry that resounded throughout Porto Rico last week. Even in Cuba they are beginning to whisper, "Down with the Americans." When the Spaniards called us "Yankee pigs" we were not in the least disturbed; on the contrary, we rather enjoyed it. Our conscience was clear. It was natural for a people engaged in upholding a despotism to show their hatred for a people devoted to liberty and a republican form of government. But this cry, "Down with the Americans," has become altogether too popular among people who have shown their devotion to liberty as thoroughly as we ever displayed our love for liberty.

Is it not about time for thoughtful Americans to ask what we have done to provoke this popular cry? Why have we done it, and why do we persist in it to the detriment of our material interests, the disturbance of our conscience and the destruction of our reputation as the foremost champions of liberty?

John Sherman, the greatest financier in the republican party, repudiated the Philippine policy of his party; Benjamin Harrison, the last republican president before McKinley, repudiated the Philippine policy of his party; Thomas B. Reed, the most distinguished republican out of office, has repudiated the Philippine policy of his party. These things might disturb the president, but for the fact that Mr. Hanna is ever near and keeps the finger of destiny pointed toward the Orient.

The trusts generally issue two kinds of stock—preferred and common. The preferred stock is intended for the preferred people and the common stock for the common people. The preferred stock has a fixed dividend, which must be paid before any dividend can be declared on the common stock; the common stock, therefore, is subject to the greater fluctuation. It might with propriety be called lamb's food, because it is most popular with young sheep before they have experienced the first shearing.

After listening to all the praise bestowed upon Senator Carter for his having talked the river and harbor bill to death it is humiliating to learn that he did not do it through patriotic motives, but because the managers of the bill would not include an appropriation for the building of storage reservoirs in Senator Carter's section of the country.

Possibly the transcontinental lines oppose the Nicaragua canal for fear it will require so much water that none will be left for railroad stock.