

Meredith Nicholson

COPYRIGHT 1903 THE BOBBS-MERRILL COMPANY

CHAPTER V .- (Continued.)

A few days after Evelyn Porter came home. Wheaton followed Raridan to his room one evening after dinner. Raridar 'had set The Bachelors' an example of white flannels for the warm weather, and Wheaton also had abolished his evening clothes. Raridan's rooms had not yet lost their novelty for him. The pictures the statuettes, the books, the broad couch with its heap of vari-colored pillows, the table with its candelabra, by which Raridan always read certain of the poetsthese still had their mystery for Whea-

"Going out to-night?" he asked with a show of indifference.

"Hadn't thought of it." answered Raridan, who was cutting the pages of a magazine.

"Don't let me interrupt if you're reading," said Wheaton, "But I thought some of dropping in at Mr. Porter's. Miss Porter's home now, I believe."

"That's a good idea," said Raridan, who saw what was wanted. He threw his magazine at the cat and got up and yawned. "Suppose we do go?"

The call had been successfully managed. Miss Porter was very pretty, and not so young as Wheaton expected to find her. Raridan left him talking to her and went across to the library, where Mr. Porter was reading his evening paper. Raridan had a way of wandering about in other people's houses, which Wheaton envied him. Miss Porter seemed to take his call as a matter of course. and when her father came out presently and greeted him casually as if he were a familiar of the house he left relieved and

CHAPTER VI.

Raridan was at the station to meet some guests of Evelyn's, as he had promised. He had established a claim upon their notice on the occasion of one of his visits to Evelyn at college, and he greeted them with an air of possession which would have been intolerable in another man. He pressed Miss Warren for news of the Connecticut nutmeg crop, and hoped that Miss Marshall had not lost her accent in crossing the Missouri

Annie Warren was as reserved and quiet as Evelyn could be in her soberest moments; Belle Marshall was as frank and friendly as Evelyn became in her lightest moods. Evelyn had been the beauty of her class; her two friends were what is called, by people that wish to be kind, nice looking. Annie Warren had been the best scholar in her class; Belle Marshall had been amongst the poorest; and Evelyn had maintained a happy medium between the two. And so it fortunately happened that the trio

mitigated one another's imperfections. Evelyn had discussed with her father ways and means of entertaining her guests. He preferred large functions. He wished Evelyn to give a lawn party before the blight of fall came upon his flowers and shrubbery; but she persuaded him to wait until after a pending carnival. The ball of the carnival was near at hand and she proposed that they give a small dinner in the interval.

"I'll ask Warry anl Mr. Saxton. People were already coupling Saxton's name with Raridan's.

"Oh, yes, that's all right."

"I don't want very many: I'd like to ask the Whipples;" she went on, with the anxious, far-away look that comes into the eyes of a woman who is weigh ing dinner guests or matching fabrics.

"If you say so," Evelyn assented. "He isn't exciting, but Belle Marshall can get on with anybody. I'm out of practice and won't try too many. -rs. Whipple will help over the hard places."

Finally, however, her party numbered ten, but it seemed to Wheaton a large assemblage. He had never taken a lady in to dinner before, but he had studied book of etiquette, and the chapter on "Dining Out" had given atm a hint of what was expected. It had not, however, he was glad to find, when he reached the table, that the company was so small that talk could be general, and he was thankful for the shelter made for him by the light banter which followed the settling of chairs. Saxton went in with Evelya, who wished to make amends for his clamsy reception on the occasion of down the slope toward the street. his first appearance in the house,

General Whipple persuaded Miss Marshall to tell a negro story, which she did delightfully, while the table listened. Southerners are, after all, the most natural talkers we have and the only ones who can talk freely of themselves without offense. Her speech was musical. and she told her story with a nice sense of its dramatic quality.

They had their coffee on the veranda where the lights from within made a pleasant dusk about them. Porter's heart was warm with the joy of Evelyn's home-coming. She had been away from gently out of the window. The shock him so much that he was realizing for the first time the common experience of fathers, who find that their daughters | ter. have escaped suddenly and inexplicably from girlhood into womanhood; and yet the girl heart in her had not lost its freshness nor its thirst for pleasure. She had carried off her little company charmingly; Porter had enjoyed it himself, and | ing his hands on his handkerchief. "I'm

youth. General Whipple had attached himself to one of the couples of young people that were strolling here and there in the grounds. Porter and Mrs. Whipple held church, as Wheaton reached his room he the veranda alone; both were uncon- found an envelope lying on his table. sciously watching Ewelyn and Saxton as much soiled, and addressed, in an un- ers.

smiled at the eagerness and quickness of contrasted oddly with the girl's light step. Such a girl must marry a man worthy of her; there could be no question of that; and for the first time the thought of losing her rose in his heart and numb-

> ed it. Evelyn and Saxton had met the others, who were coming up from the walks, and there was a redistribution at the house; it was too beautiful to go in, they said, and the strolling abroad continued. A great flood of moonlight poured over the grounds. A breeze stole up from the valley and made a soothing rustle in

Evelyn and Wheaton heard the sound of the piano through the open windows. and a girl's voice broke gaily into song. "It's Belle. She does sing those coon songs wonderfully. Let us wait here until she finishes this one." The sun-porch opened from the dining room. They could see beyond it, into the drawingroom; the singer was in plain view, sitting at the piano; Raridan stood facing her, keeping time with an imaginary

A man came unobserved to the glass door of the porch and stood unsteadily peering in. He was very dirty and bal anced himself in that abandon with which intoxicated men belie Newton's discovery. He had gained the top step with difficulty; the light from the window blinded him and for a moment he stood within the inclosure blinking. An ugly grin spread over his face as he made out the two figures by the window, and he began a laborious journey toward them.



RARIDAN STOOD FACING HER, KEEPING TIME.

He tried to tiptoe, and this added further to his embarrassments; but the figures by the window were intent on the song and did not hear him. He drew slowly nearer; one more step and he would have concluded his journey. He poised on his toes before taking it, but the law of gravitation now asserted itself. He langed forward heavily, casting nimself upon Wheaton, and nearly knocking him from his feet.

"Jimmy." he blurted in a drunker voice. "Jim-my!"

Evelyn turned quickly and shrank back with a cry. Wheaton was slowly rallying from the shock of his surprise. He grab bed the man by the arms and began pushing him toward the door.

"Don't be alarmed," he said over his shoulder to Evelyn, who had shrunk back

against the wall. "I'll manage him." This, however, was not so easily done The tramp, as Evelyn supposed him to be had been sobered by Wheaton's attack. He clasped his fingers about Wheaton's throat and planted his feet firmly. He clearly intended to stand his ground, and he dug his fingers into Wheaton's neck with the intention of hurring.

"Father!" cried Evelyn once, but the song was growing noisier toward its end and the circle about the piano did no hear. She was about to call again when a heavy step sounded outside on the walk "Can't you ask Wheaton?" ventured and Bishop Delafield came swiftly into Mr. Porter cautiously, from behind his the porch. He had entered the grounds from the rear and was walking around

the house to the front door. "Quick! that man there—I'll call the others!" cried Evelyn, still shrinking against the wall. Wheaton had been forced to his knees and his assailant was choking him. But there was no need of other help. The bishop had already seized the tramp about the body with his great hands, tearing him from Wheaton's neck. He strode, with the squirming figure in his grasp, toward an open window at the back of the glass inclosure, and pushed supplied him with a fund of talk, but | the man out. There was a great snorting and threshing below. The hill dipped see that he is not as happy as I would June 1, 1909 .- Mr. J. E. Chilberg, abruptly away from the side of the nouse and the man had fallen several feet, into a flower bed.

"Get away from here," the bishop said, in his deep voice, "and be quick about it." The man rose and ran swiftly

sponse to Evelyn's peremptory calls, and she was telling of the tramp's visit, while Wheaton received their condolences, and readjusted his tie. His collar and shortfront showed signs of contact with dirt. "It was a tramp," said Evelyn, as the others plied her with questions, "and he

attacked Mr. Wheaton." "Where's he gone?" demanded Porter. excitedly.

"There he goes," said the bishop, pointing toward the window. "I dropped him seems to have inspired his legs." "I'll have the police-" began Por-

"Oh, he's gone now, Mr. Porter," said Wheaton, coolly, as he restored his tie. "Bishop Delafield disposed of him so vigorousily that he'll hardly come back." "Yes, let him go," said the bishop, wiphe felt young again in the presence of only afraid. Porter, that I've spoiled your

best canna bed." CHAPTER VII.

the house, talking gaily; and Porter dirty scrap of paper bearing these words: "Jim: I'll be at the Occidental Hotel her movements. Saxton's deliberateness to-night at 8 o'clock. Don't fail to come.

"BILLY." Wheaton tore up the note with irritation and threw it into the waste paper basket. He called the Chinese servant. who explained that a boy had left it in the course of the morning and had said

nothing about an answer. The Bachelors' did not usually muster a full table at Sunday dinner. All Clarkson dined at noon on Sunday, and most of the bachelors were fortunate enough to be asked out. Wheaton was not frequently a diner out by reason of his more siender acquaintance; and to-day al pere present, including Raridan, the most fickle of all in his attendance. It had pleased Wheaton to find that the others had been setting him apart more and more with Raridan for the daily discipline they dealt one another. They liked to poke fun at Raridan on the score of what they called his mad social whirl; there was no resentment about it; they were themselves of sterner stuff and had no patience with Raridan's frivolities; and they were within the fact when they Wheaton's vanity to find himself a joint target with Raridan for the arrows which the other bachelors fired at folly.

Whenton after dinner went to his room and made himself comfortable. He reread the Sunday papers through all their them all references to himself. He resolved to open a kind of social scrap book in which to preserve a record of his social doings. He remembered a complaint often heard in Clarkson that there were no eligible men there; he was not sure just what constituted eligibility, but as he reviewed the men that went about he could not see that they possessed any advantages over himself. It occurred to him for the first time that he was the only unmarried bank cashier in town; from the United States army and navy, and this in itself conferred a distinction. from the Japanese cruisers Aso and He was not so secure in his place as he should like to be; if Thompson died there would undoubtedly be a reorganization of the bank and the few shares that Porter had sold to him would not hold the cashiership for him. It might be that Porter's plan was to keep him in the place until Grant grew up. Again, he reflected, the man who married Evelyn and Uriel Sebree. Porter would become an element to reckon with; and yet if he were to be that in a vast natural amphitheater sloping man--

He slept and dreamed that he was king of a gream realm and that Evelyn Porter reigned with him as queen; then he awoke with a start to find that it was been left for him during the morning; it was already 6 o'clock. Before going out he changed his clothes to a rough business suit and took a car that bore him rapidly through the business district and beyond, into the older part of Clarkson. he left the car presently it was to conover board walks which yielded a precarious footing. The Occidental Hotel was in the old part of town, and had ong ago ceased to be what it had once been, the first hostelry of Clarkson. It boarding house, little patronized except country's greatness. by the rougher element of cattlemen and ight blinked, and this, it was understood n the neighborhood, meant not merely an invitation to bed and board, but also to the Occidental bar, which was accessible was open through all the spasms of vir- al life. tue with which the city administration with a cat.

"Is William Snyder stopping here?" he

asked. The boy looked up lazily from his play. "Are you the gent he's expecting?" "Very likely. Is he in?"

"Yes, he's number eighteen." He dropped the cat and led Wheaton down a dark hall which was stale with the odors of cooked vegetables, up a steep flight of stairs to a landing from which he pointed to an oblong of light above a door,

"There you are," said the boy. He kicked the door and retreated down the stairs, leaving Wheaton to obey the summons to enter which was bawled from within. William Snyder unfolded his long figure and rose to greet his visitor,

(To be continued.)

How It Sounded.

wife-at least I hope I am not. But was as follows: when he looks depressed, or when I "The White House, Washington, like him to be, I am conscious of an President Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposiuncomfortable doubt. I have tried to tion, Seattle, Wash. he did this three times in one evening. At last my resentment and appreciasweetly:

"In heaven, dear! Won't I do?" funny to me when I heard the story; tors. but when I utfered the unseemly and unrefined speech I was overcome with shame, my anger fled, and, bursting into tears. I begged my husband's par- Finds "Fortune" Worthless; Insane.

don, and I told him so. that the memory of my poor girl, ot ago in a field while plowing, was that my thought of her, distressed you worthless, William Murphy, a farmer, Since it does, I shall be more careful living three miles east of Snyder, in the future, my dear wife, and try Okla., lost his mind. Murphy guarded

Lordon has 300.000 one-room dwell

## TAFT OPENS BIG FAIR WITH ALASKA GOLD KEY

President Sends Sparks Across Continent Starting Pacific Exposition.

JAMES J. HILL WARNS NATION

Magnate Sees Danger and Pleads for Law Enforcement Instead of Law Making.

President Taft, in the White House, at 3:15 o'clock Tuesday afternoon, assumed that, if they wished, they could pressed a telegraphy key of Alaska go anywhere that he did. It touched gold and sent a spark across the continent that put in motion the wheels of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition in Seattle, loosed the waters of its fountains, unfurled its banners, started its bands playing, released supplements, dwelling again on the events | showers of daylight fireworks, called of the carnival. He had saved all the upon the saluting guns of the Ameriother papers that contained society news, can and Japanese fleets, set all the and now brought them out and cut from steamers in the harbor and all the locomotives in the railroad yards whistling and brought forth universal rejoicing from all Seattle.

Big Fair Is Complete. The exercises at the world's fair grounds preceding the President's signal were carried out with military precision. The exposition gates were opened at 8:30 o'clock. At 9:30 troops Soya and the State militia paraded through the grounds, under the command of Colonel T. C. Woodbury, U. S. A., and the column was reviewed from a stand at the head of the court of honor by exposition officials, visiting governors and Admirals H. Ijichi

The ceremonial exercises were held to Lake Washington. The program consisted of music, invocation by Catholic Bishop Onward J. O'Day, brief address by Director General I. A. Nalate. He sat up on the couch and gath- deau and President J. F. Chilberg, the ered together the newspaper cuttings long address by James J. Hill, chairwhich had fallen about him. He remem- man of the Great Northern board, and bered the imperative summons which had a benediction by Episcopal Bishop Frederick W. Keator.

Mr. Hill said: "There are four great words that should be written upon the four corner stones of every public building in this land, with the sacred-The locality was very shabby, and when ness of a religious rite. These watch words of the republic are equality, simtinue his journey in an ill-lighted street | plicity, economy and justice. They are interwoven with every fiber of the national fabric. To forget or deny them will lead to every misfortune and every possibility of destruction that rises ad descended to the level of a cheap now threateningly in the path of our

"Frequent use of the phrase, 'our by railroad crews that found it conveni- complex civilization,' creates a vague ent to the yards. Over the door a dim impression that simplicity has been banished necessarily from the modern world by a kind of natural evolution. Whereas it remains now, as always, at all hours of the day and night, and the normal rule of a wholesome nation-

"We have complicated our lawmakwas seized from time to time. The door ing until, despite the high standards, stood open and Wheaton stepped up to the unimpaired traditions and the conthe counter on which a boy sat playing tinual labors of the courts, the administration of justice is difficult and sometimes uncertain. The greatest service to the nation, to every State and city to-day, would be the substitution for a term of years of law en-

forcement for law-making." Taft Sends Message.

The ceremony of pressing the gold key in the east room of the White House in Washington by which President Taft to-day formally opened the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition was simple. There was a delay of fifteen minutes at Seattle in completing the arrangements, and it was 3:15 p. m. (Washington time) when President Taft touched the golden telegraph instrument. Practically the entire diplo-Since this is a confession, it may as matic corps was present. The message well be a frank and truthful one. I which followed quickly after the curam not jealous of my husband's first rent that put everything in motion

bring my sense of humor to bear upon "I congratulate you and your assothis pain, too, and sometimes have suc- ciates on this auspicious opening of ceeded fairly well-sometimes I have the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, failed dismally. A trying trick that and I congratulate the people of the The bishop walked back to the window. my dear husband has is that of sink- great Northwest on the courage and ing into an absent-minded reverie or enterprise they have shown in bringabstraction; and he sometimes so far ing it forth. The exposition, designed forgets himself to call me "Mary" in- as it is to exploit the natural resources stead of "Sarah." Once when he had and marvelous wealth of Alaska and been particularly forgetful and dreamy the development of trade and commerce on the Pacific slope, should anpeal not only to the people of the tion of the ridiculous sprang to arms. West but to the people of the country With the fourth "Mary" I answered at large. I trust it will fully meet the expectations of those to whose untiring energies it owes its birth and that I had heard of another wife wht it will prove a source of instruction had done this, and it had sounded and education to its thousands of visi-WILLIAM H. TAFT."

> President Taft and Senator Piles then made brief addresses.

When he learned that \$22,000 in pa-"I am hurt," he said: "I had no idea per money, which he dug up two weeks The following Sunday morning after not to talk of her." -- Success Magazine, his find carefully for a week before he learned that the bills were issued by the Confederate States of Amarica during the Civil War



A recent executive order was found to be the first step in the policy of economy and retrenchment contemplated by the administration. Its purpose is to systematize the purchase of supplies needed in common by two or more departments, to procure such supplies at lower and more uniform prices and to create a General Supply Committee. This committee is to be made up of one representative from each department and independent bureau, and its duty will be to prepare a schelule of all supplies needed by the various departments and bureaus before the and of each fiscal year. A uniform method of advertisement, inspection and testing is prescribed.

Desiring to find out independently of the revisionists in Congress what the "ultimate consumer" may expect to get from a revised tariff law, President Taft has directed the Treasury Department experts to compile for him the approximate amount of duties on articles in common use as fixed under the existing Dingley law and as proposed in the Payne and Aldrich bills. Considering such articles as clothing, furniture, tinware, foods, coal, etc., the President asked that the duty be computed on the average retail price of the article. For example, how much duty does a \$2 pair of shoes pay in each of the systems of tariff referred

The appropriations committee of the Senate and House have now published the figures of the money bills passed at the last session of the Sixtieth Congress, the number of new offices created and other information. The total of appropriations is \$1,044,401,857, an increase of \$36,000,000. The new offices and employments created were 10,120 in number, involving an expenditure of \$11,176,899.

Government ownership, of an ice plant in the city of Washington, is contemplated in a plan which President Taft has under consideration for centralizing the purchase of all supplies for all of the government departments. The purpose is to stop the practice of charging the departments excessive prices.

William S. Washburn, until recent ly chairman of the Philippine Civil Service Commission and a former employe of the United States Civil Service Commission, has been appointed a member of the latter body by President Taft in place of James T. Williams, Jr., resigned.

President Taft has named William Williams as immigration commissioner of the Port of New Work, the man who was forced out by the Roosevelt administration. This appointment was made without regard to the wishes of the local Republican organization.

-:--:-

-:--:-The United States army is to have an aeronautic field near Washington which will rival the aerodrome at Berlin and that at Issy-Les Moulineaux, near Paris, where many famous aviators have startled the world with their performances.

-:--:-Walter E. Clark, Washington correspondent of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer and also a member of the New York Sun Washington bureau, has been named by the President to be Governor of Alaska in place of Hoggatt, resigned.

Thomas H. Netherland, an expert penman, formerly employed at the White House, but lately in the postoffice department, broke down as the result of overwork and committed suicide.

James J. Hill called on the President the other day. He declared that if Congress would only get through with the tariff, business would be good.

TRADE AND INDUSTRY. Fruit promises to be a good crop in Minnesota this year.

Near Fergus Falls, Minn., prairie fires have done a lot of damage. Agriculture is to be taught in the

public schools of Warren, Minn. icies cannot be operated in Minnesota This is the opinion of State Insurance Commissioner Hartigan.

About one hundred officers of the National Retail Grocers' Association. left St. Louis in a special car en route to the Alaskan-Yukon exposi-

gulf canal scheme and pledged the leased from a local hospital following support of the organization and the individual influence of the members when told of the affair and is still unof the club to its agitation.

The Alfalfa Food Mill at South Omaha for the preparation of stockfood, belonging to the M. C. Peters Mill Company, of Omaha, has burned.

The loss is estimated at \$125,000. With the closing of the National Tube Works at McKeesport, Pa., last Sunday, the United States Steel Corporation took the first step toward what is understood to be the disconlater throughout the country.

# TEXAS AND OKLAHOMA SWEPT BY TORNADOES /

Village of Zephyr, Texas, Is Struck in Night by a Terrific Windstorm.

FLOODS ADD TO THE PERIL.

Series of Twisters in Oklahoma Leave Two Towns Heaps of Ruins.

A tornado of great fury struck the little village of Zephyr, in the eastern portion of Brown County, Texas, at 1 o'clock Sunday morning and left a path of death and destruction seldom paralleled. The death list has reached a total of thirty-two, and the number of seriously and fatally wounded will reach fifty.

The storm formed half a mile southwest of Zephyr and swept down upon the village, cutting a path directly through the residence and business district. Nearly fifty houses were demolished. Lightning struck a lumber yard and started a conflagration which destroyed one business block. No effort was made to fight the fire, as the care of the dead and wounded victims demanded all attention. A section hand rode a hand car to Brownwood and spread the alarm. In two hours the Santa Fe Railroad was speeding a special train to the scene of the storm with nine surgeons and a score of Brownwood citizens. Hundreds of persons directly in the storm's path saved themselves by taking refuge in storm cellars. More than a dozen bodies were horribly mutilated. County Clerk Thad Cabler and wife and two children, who had gone to Zephyr to spend the night, were killed. The big stone school building and two churches were swept from the face of the

#### Destruction in Oklahoma.

Fifteen and perhaps more persons were killed Saturday night in a series of tornadoes that devastated the Oklahoma towns of Key West and Depew. Forty or more are injured. At least ten were killed in Key West. Five are dead at Depew. The tornado swept over a wide stretch of farming country. Following the wind came a deluge of rain. Floods then added their terrors to the situation. The wreckage of Key West soon was overwhelmed by the rising waters. Practically nothing was left of the town of 200 inhabitants. Rescuers hastened to the place, but could not cross Salt Creek, which had become a raging torrent. A few inhabitants of Key West crossed the streat before the rise made it impassable.

Depew was destroyed by a double twister that was formed from that striking Key West and traveled in a northeasterly direction and another coming from the east. The tornado wiped out Depew, then pushed northeast, spending its force presumably a few miles forther on. Small tornadoes followed in rapid succession in an atmosphere that was very humid. They rose high into the air, circled about and dipped. As many as five were observed during the display. The little tornadoes had spent their force when the big one came at 5 o'clock. Preceding and following it were terrific rain and hail storms. The streets of Stroud and Sapulpa were veritable rivers.

### Seven Die in North Dakota.

Seven persons are known to be dead, many are dying and over a score are seriously injured as a result of a tornado which swept over northwestern North Dakota. The storm was especially severe at Langdon, where the residence section of the city was practically wiped out, four people killed and twenty injured. The tornado demolished all of the buildings of the Jamestown Fair Association, the loss being \$50,000, and several other large buildings.

MOBBED BY WOMEN; IS DYING.

Man Accused of Standering Them Is Briven from Town by Victims. George Englert, an English coal miner, died in Washington, Pa., from Slot machine accident insurance pol- wounds inflicted by a mob of 250 women who drove him from the town of Manifold, three miles north. Englert, it is charged, had slandered women and girls, had refused to heed warnings to desist, and, it is alleged, dared the residents to stop him. He was saved from death on the spot by town officials who rescued him from the infuriated mob, and placed him on a The Superior, Wis., Commercial street car with orders not to return. Club has indersed the lakes to the Englert's wife, who had just been rerecovery from an operation, fainted conscious, with little hope of recovery,

### KILLED IN QUARREL.

Wealthy New York Farmer Slain by His Neighbor.

Morris Donovan, a wealthy farmer of Clyde, N. Y., was killed by his neighbor, Beckwith Tremper. The killing occurred at the home of Tremper. He, Donovan and Fred Hart, an emtinuance of all Sunday work in its ploye of Donovan's, spent the night mills in the Pittsburg district and in the Tremper barn drinking cider. A quarrel was started and the killing for lowed.