

# IN THE NATIONAL HALLS OF CONGRESS

Tuesday, May 15.

Washington, May 15.—With the exception of the anti-pass amendment, the senate concluded its discussion of the railroad rate bill in committee of the whole and, as soon as that provision shall be disposed of, will take it up in the senate. The general expectation is that the passage question will be disposed of early tomorrow, and the general hope is that the bill may be passed before the close of tomorrow's session. The greater part of the day was spent in discussing the eighth section of the bill, relating to the personnel of the Interstate Commerce commission, resulting in the elimination of the entire section and the restoration of the present law, which provides for five commissioners at salaries of \$7,500.

Washington, May 15.—The House by a decided vote today reaffirmed its faith in the Navy department, defeating an amendment of Tawney, chairman of the appropriations committee, to limit the expenditures on a ship to 10 per cent of the cost, a vote of confidence coming after two hours' hot debate. Having reached the section of the naval bill dealing with increase in the Navy and, realizing that considerable debate must ensue, the house adjourned until noon tomorrow.

Tawney was emphatic in declaring that it was both bad policy and bad administration to give to the Navy department the right of spending \$11,000,000 for repairs of vessels without so much as being compelled to give an account to any one for the money expended.

The vote on the first amendment, providing that no more than 10 per cent shall be applied to the repair of any ship unless details be submitted to congress, was defeated, yeas 36, nays 55. Tawney then withdrew his second amendment.

Monday, May 14.

Washington, May 14.—The session of the senate today passed without an exciting incident and without the adoption of a single amendment to the railroad rate bill, notwithstanding that measure was under consideration practically all the time from the hour of convening, 11 o'clock, until adjournment at 5:15 p.m. The most characteristic feature of the day was the rejection of amendments. This was accomplished either by direct vote or by the process of laying on the table and one followed another in rapid succession.

Among the provisions thus adversely disposed of were several intended to fix the liability of railroad companies for injury to employees. The presentation of provisions intended to accomplish this purpose had the effect of bringing out a practically authoritative statement that the committee on interstate commerce will report the independent house bill on that subject which is now pending before it.

When the senate adjourned, the eighth section, regulating the personnel of the Interstate Commerce commission, was under consideration and adjournment was secured at a somewhat earlier hour than usual in the hope that there could be prepared a more acceptable provision covering that subject than has heretofore been presented.

Washington, May 14.—The house had under consideration today bills relating to the government of the District of Columbia. It completed the bills reorganizing the Washington public school system, then adjourning in the absence of a quorum, postponing action on the bills under consideration. These bills will be taken up tomorrow.

Saturday, May 12.

Washington, May 12.—The senate proceedings today were devoted exclusively to the consideration of the railroad rate bill, and they included many interesting and some sensational features. The actual accomplishments of the day consisted in the completion of the consideration of the Allison amendments, covering the question of review by courts of the orders of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

There were several of these provisions and all were accepted as presented or suggested by the Iowa senator, showing an almost perfect agreement among Republican senators. Indeed, one of the noteworthy features of the day was the practical unanimity of the Republicans. They not only voted almost

Will Double Alaska Cables.

Washington, May 15.—Orders have been issued by General Allen, the chief signal officer of the army, for the installation of the duplex system on the Alaska cables. The commercial business of the cables has become so heavy that even by working night and day the operators are not able to handle all the dispatches. With the new system the capacity of the cables will be increased about 75 per cent. The supreme court of the United States has denied the petition for a rehearing in the Chicago traction cases.

Inquiry Into Coal Monopoly.

Philadelphia, May 15.—The Interstate Commerce Commission will tomorrow resume its inquiry into the alleged close relations between railroads and big coal corporations. Nearly the entire time, it is expected, will be devoted to efforts to prove the ownership of stock in coal companies by officials of the Pennsylvania railroad and discrimination in car distribution. The Baltimore and Ohio will also be put under microscopic examination.

solidly for the Allison amendments, but were just as nearly united against opposing propositions. When an adjournment was reached, there was still prospect of the continuance of the debate for next week.

Friday, May 11.

Washington, May 11.—After passing 320 pension bills, the house today devoted much time to considering a point of order made by Tawney against an appropriation for a new steel floating drydock, provided in the naval appropriation bill. The chair held the point of order well taken, in a carefully prepared opinion.

Hepburn, of Iowa, made a vigorous attack on the court martial system of the navy, especially criticizing the officers responsible for the accidents that have happened to ships of the navy.

A point of order against the appropriation for the naval training station at Lake Bluff, Illinois, was pending when the house adjourned until Monday.

Washington, May 11.—Bailey's non-suspension amendment, applying to orders of the Interstate Commerce commission as covered by the railroad rate bill, which has occupied so much of the attention of the senate in connection with that bill, was today adversely disposed of by the decisive vote of 23 to 54, practically a party vote.

An amendment by Rayner confining the court review to constitutional questions was also voted down. A number of other amendments were rejected.

An amendment limiting to two years the life of the commission's orders was adopted.

Thursday, May 10.

Washington, May 10.—In connection with the consideration of the railroad rate bill by the senate, La Follette today attempted to secure the imposition of imprisonment for violations of the provisions of the Interstate Commerce law. He proposed terms from one to five years, in addition to fines from \$1,000 to \$20,000 for unjust discrimination, for false representation to secure business at less than the established rate.

After much discussion an amendment was adopted restoring the penalties of the old law.

Washington, May 10.—Shells and projectiles for the Navy department will, after June 30, 1906, be purchased by the bureau of Ordnance in the open market, instead of, as now the practice, in secret markets from firms engaged in the manufacture of these articles. This change in existing conditions was brought about through the efforts of the chairman of the appropriations committee, Tawney, of Minnesota, who offered an amendment to the naval appropriation bills which the house had under consideration today.

Wednesday, May 9.

Washington, May 9.—The senate spent the greater part of the day again in the consideration of the question of divorcing the production of coal and other commodities from their transportation, and closed that branch of its work by adopting a modified provision formally offered by Elkins, but originally suggested by McLaurin. There was again much sparring over parliamentary points, but there was at no time as much confusion as on Tuesday, and when the coal question was finally closed, the progress was so rapid that the first section was entirely disposed of before the senate adjourned. Other amendments were also adopted, but a long and short-hand provision suggested by La Follette was voted down by practically a party vote, all but two Republicans voting against the amendment.

Washington, May 9.—Nearly the entire time of the house was today taken up by two propositions—first, whether the navy department should go into the open market and purchase anchors, chains and cordage, or continue to manufacture these articles in the government navy yards, as is now done; and second, whether the cost of transporting coal from Atlantic and Gulf ports to the Philippines in American bottoms should be limited to \$5 or \$6 per ton.

On the first proposition a substitute was adopted, giving the secretary of the navy the right to purchase these articles in open market if a saving could be made. The second proposition did not carry.

Jimenez Plans Revolution.

Washington, May 15.—Reports have reached the State department of the organization of another revolutionary movement directed against the government of President Caceres, of Santo Domingo. It is understood that the island of Porto Rico is the base of operations, and it is supposed that ex-President Morales and Jimenez are the leaders of the movement. Instructions have been sent to the insular governor of Porto Rico to take steps to carry out the neutrality laws, which would prevent departure of hostile expedition.

California Needs Another Judge.

Washington, May 15.—The members of the California delegation in congress today met in conference with Secretary McCall and discussed the question of an additional circuit judge for California, as well as the urgent need of liberal appropriations both for the construction of new federal buildings in San Francisco and the proper repairing of others. Insurance litigation will, it is believed, make an additional judge imperative.

## PARLIAMENT MEETS.

Elect or Russian People Assemble in Open Session.

St. Petersburg, May 11.—Without a single hitch and with only a minor incident to mar the memorable day, the Russian parliament was inaugurated yesterday. The emperor's message in reality was less a throne speech than a greeting, and required only three minutes for its delivery. Emperor Nicholas read slowly. The admirable and even cordial tone of the sovereign in renewing his pledges and asking the cooperation of parliament for the regeneration of the country was only negatively satisfactory.

Couriers and spectators other than members of the national parliament led the cheering, but the members were ominously silent. What rankled most was the failure of the emperor to mention amnesty, and later, when the members assembled in the Tauride palace, away from the spell of the throne room, many of them were with difficulty restrained from precipitating matters by offering resolutions on the subject. The Constitutional Democratic leaders, however, who dominated everything, were anxious not to weaken the reply which the lower house will prepare to the speech from the throne, in which issues with the crown will be joined, and succeeded in staving off premature action.

By the irony of fate, Ivan Petrunkevitch, whose first mention of the word constitution 12 years ago was dismissed by Emperor Nicholas II as "a foolish dream," today stood in the front rank of the members of the representative chamber, while Emperor Nicholas put his official seal upon the Russian parliament.

## GIVES MANY BRIBES

Inner Workings of Standard Oil Made Public by Former Employee.

Chicago, May 11.—Corruption of railroad employees and agents of independent oil companies, dishonest methods of procuring land leases, the giving of short measure, the selling of three different kinds of oil out of the same tank and misrepresentations as to the quality of oil sold, were charged against the Standard Oil company at today's hearing before the Interstate Commerce commission. Incidentally, it was charged that the Frisco road gives a rate of 2 cents a hundred pounds to the Standard Oil company when it charges competitors of that corporation 10 times as much for the same haul.

The inquiry was held under an order of congress and this session held here today was along the same lines as that held some time ago in Kansas City. The principal witnesses today were E. M. Wilhoit, of Springfield, Mo., formerly for ten years agent of the Standard Oil company at Topeka, but now an independent operator; H. C. Deran, of Fremont, O.; E. P. Ripley, president of the Aetehison, Topeka, and Santa Fe road, and M. Maxon, a former agent of the Standard Oil in Illinois.

## PUT OVER HEAD OF HART.

China Appoints New Officials to Manage Customs Service.

Pekin, May 11.—An imperial edict which may radically affect the status of Sir Robert Hart, director general of the Chinese customs and the customs establishment, was published today, as follows:

"Tieh Liang, president of the board of revenue, is hereby appointed superintendent of customs affairs. Tong Shao, junior vice president of the Foreign board, is appointed associate minister of Customs affairs. All Chinese and foreigners employed in the various customs are placed under their control."

Both these offices are new creations in the customs service. Hitherto the customs have been nominally under the direction of the Foreign board, but practically Sir Robert Hart has exercised absolute control.

The diplomats here are unwilling to comment on the edict until its intentions and full force are apparent. If it means a step toward active Chinese management of the customs, the foreign government are expected to resist it.

## Advance Rates in West.

Chicago, May 11.—The Tribune today says: Fire insurance rates in Chicago on less desirable risks will be advanced 25 per cent or more to reimburse companies that have suffered loss in the San Francisco fire. This action practically was decided yesterday at a meeting of 20 Western managers in the rooms of the Western Union in the American Trust & Savings bank building. At the same time there will be a large reduction in brokers' commissions. The advance in rates will be confined to the congested district.

## Give \$900,000 to California.

Washington, May 11.—The house committee on public lands today authorized a favorable report on a bill which will result in placing about \$900,000 in the state treasury of California from the Federal treasury, if it becomes a law. The bill grants the state five per cent of the proceeds of the sale of the public lands of the state from the beginning of the state government, and in that respect puts California on the same basis as other states.

## Will Make Jefferson Status.

Washington, May 11.—Secretary Root announced today that Augustus St. Gaudens had been secured as sculptor for the proposed Thomas Jefferson monument to be erected in Washington.

# For The Term of His Natural Life

By MARCUS CLARKE

CHAPTER XV.—(Continued.)  
Sylvia uttered a little cry. She had become fond of her dumb companion. "Kill Nanny! Oh, Mr. Dawes! What for?"

"I am going to make a boat for you," he said, "and I want hides and thread and tallow."

A few weeks back Maurice Frere would have laughed at such a sentence; but he had begun now to comprehend that this escaped convict was not a man to be laughed at, and though he detested him for his superiority, he could not but admit that he was superior.

"You can't get more than one hide off a goat, can you?" he said, with an inquiring tone in his voice—as though it were just possible that such a marvelous being as Dawes could get a second hide by virtue of some secret process known only to himself.

"I am going to catch other goats at the pilot station."

"But how are you going to get there?" "Float across. Come, there is no time for questioning. Go and cut down some saplings, and let us begin."

The lieutenant master looked at the convict prisoner with astonishment, and then gave way to the power of knowledge, and did as he was ordered. Before sundown that evening, the carcass of poor Nanny, broken into various most unbutchery fragments, was hanging on the nearest tree; and Frere, returning with as many young saplings as he could drag together, found Rufus Dawes engaged in a curious occupation. He had killed the goat, and having cut off its head close under the jaws, and its legs at the knee joint, had extracted the carcass through a slit, which slit he had now sewed together with strings. This proceeding gave him a rough bag, and he was busily engaged in filling this bag with such coarse grass as he could collect. Frere observed, also, that the fat of the animal was carefully preserved, and the intestines had been placed in a pool of water to soak.

The convict, however, declined to give information as to what he intended to do. "It's my own notion," he said. "Let me alone. I may make a failure of it." Frere, on being pressed by Sylvia, affected to know all about the scheme. He was galled to think that a convict brain should contain a mystery which he could not share.

On the next day, by Rufus Dawes' directions, Frere cut down some rushes that grew about a mile from the camping ground, and brought them in on his back. This took him nearly half a day to accomplish. Short rations were beginning to tell upon his physical powers. The convict, on the other hand, trained by a wolf experience in the boats to endurance of hardship, was slowly recovering his original strength.

"What are they for?" asked Frere, as he swung the bundles down.

"To make a boat. You are very dull, Mr. Frere. I am going to swim over to the pilot station and catch some of those goats. I can get across on the stuffed skins, but I must float them back on the reeds."

Frere saw that his companion was cleaning the intestines of the goat. The outer membrane having been peeled off, Rufus Dawes was turning them inside out. This he did by turning up a short piece of it, as though it were a coat sleeve, and dipping the turned-up cuff into a pool of water. The weight of the water, pressing between the cuff and the rest of it, bore down a further portion; and so, by repeated dippings, the whole length was turned inside out. The inner membrane having been scraped away, there remained a fine transparent tube, which was tightly twisted and set to dry in the sun.

"There is the catgut for the noose," said Dawes. "I learned that trick at the settlement. Now, come here."

Frere, following, saw that a fire had been made between two stones, and that the kettle was partly sunk in the ground near it. On approaching the kettle, he found it full of smooth pebbles.

"Take out those stones," said Dawes. Frere obeyed, and saw at the bottom of the kettle a quantity of sparkling white powder, and the sides of the vessel crusted with the same material.

"What's that?" he asked.

"Salt. How did you get it?"

"I filled the kettle with sea water, and then heating those pebbles red hot in the fire, dropped them into it. We could have caught the steam in a cloth and wrung out fresh water, had we wished to do so."

Frere burst out in a sudden, fretful admiration: "What a fellow you are, Dawes! What are you—I mean, what have you been?"

"A triumphant light came into the other's face, and for the instant he seemed about to reply by some startling revelation. But the light faded, and he checked himself with a gesture of pain.

"I am a convict. Never mind what I have been. A sailor, shipbuilder, prodigal, vagabond—what does it matter? It won't alter my fate, will it?"

"If we get safely back," says Frere, "I'll ask for a free pardon for you. You deserve it."

"I don't want favor at your hands. Let us get to work. Bring up the rushes here, and tie them with a fishing line."

At this instant Sylvia came up. "Good afternoon, Mr. Dawes. Hard at work? Oh! what's this in the kettle?"

The voice of the child acted like a charm upon Rufus Dawes. He smiled quite cheerfully.

"Salt, miss. I am going to catch the goats with that."

"Goats are fond of salt, and when I get over to the pilot station, I shall set traps for them baited with this salt. When they come to lick it, I shall have a noose of catgut ready to catch them; do you understand?"

"But how will you get across?"

"You will see to-morrow."

## CHAPTER XVI.

Frere, coming to the pier next morning, saw Dawes strip himself, and pulling his clothes upon the stuffed goatkin, stretched himself upon the reed bundles,

and, paddling with his hands, pushed off from the shore. The clothes floated high and dry, but the reeds, depressed by the weight of the body, sunk so that the head of the convict alone appeared above water. In this fashion he gained the middle of the current, and the outgoing tide swept him down toward the mouth of the harbor.

Rufus Dawes, drifting with the current, had allowed himself to coast along the eastern side of the harbor until the pilot station appeared in view on the opposite shore. By this time it was nearly 7 o'clock. He landed at a sandy cove, and, drawing up his raft, proceeded to unpack from among his garments a piece of damper. Having eaten sparingly, and dried himself in the sun, he replaced the remains of his breakfast, and pushed his floats again into the water.

Arrived at his destination about midday, he set to work to lay his snares. The goats, with whose hides he hoped to cover the carcass, were sufficiently numerous and tame to encourage him to use every exertion. He carefully examined the tracks of the animals, and found that they converged to one point—the track to the nearest water. With much labor he cut down bushes, so as to mask the approach to the water hole on all sides, save where these tracks immediately conjoined. Close to the water, and at unequal distances along the various tracks, he scattered the salt he had obtained by his rude distillation of sea water. Between this scattered salt and the points where he judged the animals would be likely to approach, he set his traps, and retired to watch the effect of his labors.

About two hours after he had gone, the goats came to drink. There were five goats and two kids, and they trotted calmly along the path to the water. The watcher soon saw that his precautions had been in a manner wasted. The leading goat marched gravely into the springs, which, catching him round the neck, released the bent rod, and sprang him off his legs into the air. He uttered a comical bleat, and then hung kicking. The other goats bounded off at this sudden elevation of their leader, and three more were entrapped at a little distance. Rufus Dawes now thought it time to secure his prize, though three of the springs were as yet un sprung. He ran down to the old goat, knife in hand, but before he could reach him the barely dried catgut gave way, and the old fellow, shaking his head with grotesque dismay, made off at full speed. The others, however, were secured and killed. The loss of the springs was not a serious one, for three traps remained un sprung, and before sundown Rufus Dawes had caught four more goats. Removing with care the catgut that had done such good service, he dragged the carcasses to the shore, and proceeded to pack them upon his floats. He discovered, however, that the weight was too great, and that the water, entering through the loops of the stitching in the side, had so soaked the rush grass as to render the floats no longer buoyant. He was compelled, therefore, to spend two hours in restuffing the skin with such material as he could find. Some light and flock-like seaweed, which the action of the water had swayed after the fashion of haybands along the shore, formed an excellent substitute for grass, and having bound his bundle of rushes lengthwise, with the goatkin as a centerpiece, he succeeded in forming a sort of rude canoe, upon which the carcasses floated securely.

The tide was now running in, and he knew it was imperative that he should regain the further shore while the current was in his favor. He touched the chilled water and drew back. For an instant he determined to wait until the morning should illumine that beautiful but treacherous sea, and then the thought of the helpless child, who was, without doubt, waiting and watching for him on the shore, gave new strength to his wearied frame; and fixing his eyes on the glow that, hovering above the dark tree-line, marked her presence, he pushed the raft before him into the sea.

Paddling and pushing, he gradually edged it toward the freight; and at last, just when his stiffened limbs refused to obey the impulse of his will, and he began to drift onward with the onward tide, he felt his feet strike firm ground. Dragging the carcasses above high-water mark, he rounded the little promontory and made for the fire. He gained the fire before the solitary watcher there heard his footsteps, and spread his hands to the blaze in silence.

Frere, starting, cried, "It is you! Have you succeeded?"

"There are six carcasses down by the rocks. You can have meat for breakfast to-morrow."

The child, at the sound of the voice, came running down from the hut. "Oh, Mr. Dawes! I am so glad! We were beginning to despair—mamma and I."

Dawes snatched her from the ground, and, bursting into a joyous laugh, swung her into the air. "Tell me," he cried, holding up the child with two dripping beams above him, "what you will do for me if I bring you and mamma safe home again?"

"Give you a free pardon," said Sylvia; "and papa shall make you his servant!" Frere burst out laughing at this reply; and Dawes, with a choking sensation in his throat, put the child upon the ground, and walked away.

In the morning, however, Rufus Dawes was first at work, and made no allusion to the scene of the previous evening. By dint of hard work they got the four goats skinned, and the entrails cleaned ready for twisting, by breakfast time; and having broiled some of the flesh, made a hearty meal. Mrs. Vickers being no better, Dawes went to see her, and seemed to have made friends again with Sylvia, for he came out of the hut with the child's hand in his.

Frere, who was cutting the meat in long strips to dry in the sun, saw this, and it added fresh fuel to the fire of his unreasonable envy and jealousy.

Rufus Dawes took two of the straightest and most taper of some celery-top pines which Frere had cut on the previous day, and lashed them tightly to-

gether, with the butts outward. He thus produced a splined stick about twelve feet long. About two feet from either end he notched the young tree until he could bend the extremities upward; and having so bent them, he secured the bent portions in their places by means of lashing of rawhide. The splined truss now presented the rude outline of the section of a boat, having the stem, keel and stern all in one piece. This having been placed lengthwise between the stakes, four other poles, notched in two places, were lashed from stake to stake, running crosswise to the keel, and forming the knees. Four saplings were now bent from end to end of the upturned portions of the keel that represented stem and stern. Two of these four were placed above, as gunwales; two below, as bottom rails. At each intersection the sticks were lashed firmly with fishing line. The whole framework being complete, the stakes were drawn out, and there lay upon the ground the skeleton of a boat eight feet long by three broad.

Frere, whose hands were blistered and sore, would fain have rested; but the convict would not hear of it. "Let us finish," he said, regardless of his own fatigue; "the skins will be dry if we stop."

"I can work no more," said Frere, sulkily; "I can't stand. You've got muscles of iron, I suppose. I haven't."

"They made me work when I couldn't stand, Maurice Frere. It is wonderful what spirit the cat gives a man. There's nothing like work to get rid of aching muscles—so they used to tell me."

"Well, what's to be done now?"

"Cover the boat. There, you can get the fat to melt, and sew these hides together, two and two, do you see? and then sew the pair at the necks. There is plenty of catgut ponder."

"Don't talk to me as if I were a dog," says Frere, suddenly. "Be civil, can't you?"

But the other, busily trimming and cutting at the projecting pieces of sapling, made no reply. It is possible that he thought the fatigued lieutenant beneath his notice. About an hour before sundown the hides were ready, and Rufus Dawes, having in the meantime interlarded the ribs of the skeleton with wattles, stretched the skins over it, with the hairy side inward. Along the edges of this covering he bored holes at intervals, and passing through these holes thongs of twisted skin, he drew the whole to the top of the boat. One last precaution remained. Dipping the pannikin into the melted tallow, he plentifully anointed the seams of the sewed skins. The boat thus turned tippy-turvy, looked like a huge walnut shell covered with red and reeking hide, or the skull of some Titan who had been scalped. "There," cried Rufus Dawes, triumphant. "Two hours in the sun to tighten the hides, and she'll swim like a duck."

The next day was spent in minor preparations. The jerked goat-meat was packed securely into as small a compass as possible. Water bags were improvised out of portions of the intestines of the goats. Rufus Dawes, having filled these with water, ran a wooden skewer through their mouths, and twisted it tight, tourniquet fashion. He also stripped cylindrical pieces of bark, and having sewed each cylinder at the side, fitted it to a bottom of the same material, and calked the seams with gum and pine tree resin. Thus four tolerable buckets were obtained. One goat skin yet remained, and out of this it was determined to make a sail. "The current was strong," said Rufus Dawes, "and we shall not be able to row far with such oars as we have got. If we get a breeze it may save our lives." It was impossible to "step" a mast in the frail basket structure, but this difficulty was overcome by a simple contrivance. From thwart to thwart two poles were bound, and the mast, lashed between these poles with thongs of rawhide, was secured by shrouds of twisted fishing line running fore and aft. Sheets of bark were placed at the bottom of the craft, and made a safe flooring. It was late in the afternoon of the fourth day that these preparations were completed, and it was decided that on the morrow they should adventure the journey. "We will coast down to the bar," said Rufus Dawes, "and wait for the slack of the tide. I can do no more now."

(To be continued.)

## SENSIBLY ARRANGED.

Among the traditions of old-time courtship in New England the risks, rivalries, schemings and elopements to be expected of youthful impetuosity are not absent; but surely no other region preserves so many anecdotes of tranquil, unhurried and unfurried lovers.

One recently related of a trio of natives of old Norley a century ago is certainly an instance rather of sense than of sensibility.

Abiel came, courting to Amanda; neither was young. Amanda listened politely when Abiel proposed, looked him up and down, considered, and announced, with considerate regret:

"I'll have to be no, Abiel; it really will. I'm sorry, but I can't make it my duty to say otherwise, and it certainly ain't my pleasure. I'm satisfied with a single life. But if you'll take it in the spirit it's offered, I'll give you a piece of advice. Try Peter Forney's Abigail. She's better-looking than I be. She's got faculty, and I kind o' think she ain't averse to marriage."

Abiel, gratefully accepting the advice, proceeded at once to Abigail, who justified Amanda's guess at her attitude toward matrimony. She and he were soon married, and in due time Amanda came to call, and expressed during her stay a warmer appreciation of the furnishings of the new home than Abiel deemed in good taste. It struck him as too nearly approaching envy.

"It might have been yours, Amanda," he announced, with reproachful dignity, in the presence of his quite unruffled bride. "It might have been yours, but you wouldn't have it. And if now it's Abigail's, why, nobody's to blame. Abigail had sense."