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## RALPH HARDELOT'S MEDIATION

BY WILLIAM MINTO.

### CHAPTER IV—CONTINUED.

"My lady hated Clara as much as the girl hated her, and sought to spite her in the matter of marriage. There lived in Sir John's neighborhood in his strong castle at Sturmer a certain middle-aged knight of prowess and renown who had not his eyes and his heart on the wretched Clara and liked the lass none the less for her intractable spirit.

"His name was Richard Rainham. He was not of gentle birth by the mother's side at least, but he had joined a band of free companions in Aquitaine and had received knighthood from the Black Prince on the field of Poitiers. There have been many complaints against him by neighbors and travelers, but he is too sturdy and valuable a knight to be lightly called in question and it is his boast to have grown so fat under the curses of the church that he can hardly turn in his saddle. He has indeed the look and strength of a bull, such a neck and back, such a brawny shoulder and dowlap.

"My pretty Clara loathed the match and the maker of it, but what could the poor damsel do? She was all alone; she had no counsel; she had kept Ralph at a distance and made him fear to speak to her, she was too proud to speak to him. She knew her adversary to be spiteful and unrelenting as only a spiteful woman can be; and seeing that escape was hopeless, she did not wait to be reduced to submission by bread and water, imprisonment and stripes. Pride counseled her not to endure the indignity of a contest with my lady Cavendish. 'Let the brute marry me at his peril,' she said to herself; and fortified by this resolution, to the admiration of all, and not the least of my lady, she agreed sweetly without a murmur.

"But if Sir Richard had seen how her eyes flashed and every limb quivered when she was alone, or if he had heard the oath she took on her brazier and her dagger, even his headstrong folly might have hesitated to take such a viper to his bosom. But not a soul at Cavendish Hall was in her confidence, not a sign betrayed her deadly hatred and secret resolution.

"The wedding day drew near, and Sir John spared no cost, for his ward had riches in abundance. He feasted the bridegroom for three days before the ceremony. The cooks had sweated in the kitchen for weeks before, and the tables were a rare sight, such trees and castles, birds and beasts of sweet stuff, such flagons of wine, such lines of pines and youmen bearing dishes fit for an emperor, the minstrels blowing all the time from the gallery—it was like—"

"The canon's recollections were too much for him. He buried his head in the three-hooped pot.

"There was a hawking party in the morning, and sports in the tilting-yard at midday after dinner, and juggling and dancing in the hall after supper by vagabonds who had gathered from far and near, and had no reason to repent their coming.

"What happened in the tilting-yard did not improve Sir Richard's temper. Either his horse swerved as he ran at the quintain, or he hit the board clumsily, or something went wrong that I cannot explain to you; anyhow, the bag of sand swung round before he was clear, and caught him such a whack on the back that he was almost thrown from the saddle. Ralph Hardelet, who came to his turn, was more fortunate or more skillful.

"Whether by good fortune or by skill, this Ralph struck the board to shivers, and rode lightly and safely on. Sir Richard would fain have had a wrestling bout, but Sir John, seeing the temper he was in, forbade it.

"At supper my willful minx Clara smiled so openly on her young favorite that the bridegroom was beside himself with fury; but he tried to swallow his rage and swallowed much liquor, and laughed loudly, and bragged of his exploits, and, without made a brave show as one who knew how to be master when the time came. But to have seen her cool, provoking face, you would have said the knight had never undertaken a more perilous adventure.

"Wine and anger seemed to have left Sir Richard of his wit, and he did his diligence to make himself despicable and ridiculous. After supper the hall was cleared for the antics of jugglers and hired dancers. A tumbling wench, with large, shapely limbs and a hideous face, so charmed the good knight's fancy that, to the deep disgust of the ladies, he leered at her, and held villainous language to her, calling her up to him to drink her health and give her largesse. Lady Cavendish alone looked on with patience, and she even smiled on his outrageous behavior; whereupon, to please her more, he would even have a turn on the floor himself to show his agility, and on the floor it was, for there, after a few elephantine capers, he presently lay, sprawling with the utmost good humor.

"In this motley world, anger and strife often follow fast on the heels of mirth. While her bridegroom was thus playing the buffoon, Clara had disappeared. But Lady Cavendish, who had been narrowly observing her, had noted where she had withdrawn herself and with whom. She had marked looks of tender sympathy exchanged between Clara and Ralph, and had seen them slide off together into a window recess protected by a curtain. She gave the

two lovers a little time, and then passed the word through the tittering throng, directed all eyes on the recess, and sent one of her maids to suddenly pull aside the curtain, and show the picture. A pretty picture it was, the two figures standing very close together against the light, his left arm grasping a chair behind her, while with his right hand he tenderly and respectfully guided her forefinger in tracing letters on the moistened pane. I conjecture that he had written something there which she professed herself unable to copy. So absorbed were they in their occupation that they were not aware of the tittering crowd of onlookers till the loud oaths of Sir Richard made them turn their astonished faces.

"Sir Richard was the only man of the company that did not laugh. To speak the truth of the young offenders, they bore themselves with easy and seemingly self-possession. Ralph's color heightened a little, but he came forward from the recess with a deftly assumed look of surprise and inquiry as to the meaning of the laughter, as if it were the most natural thing in the world that he should be found giving the young demoiselle a lesson in primitive handwriting. What he would have said by way of explanation I cannot tell you, for before he could utter a word the injured knight rushed on him, shouting, 'Miserable scriver! I will write on the walls with your brains!'

"There was a great outcry and commotion. Sir John Cavendish cried 'Peace! Ho! For shame!' but his voice could hardly be heard above the hubbub. The ladies screamed, and several knights ran to drag Sir Richard away. Ralph at first made no attempt at retaliation, but merely laid hold of his assailant's arms to steady himself and keep his feet, and avoid being dashed against the wall or through the window. But when Sir Richard did not desist, but held on by his throat and twisted and dragged him about, the youth also lost his temper and put forth his strength, laying Sir Richard on the polished floor, flat on his back.

"Ralph was at once hurried off by Sir John Cavendish before Sir Richard recovered his footing. The enraged knight would have hustled after him, but the ladies threw themselves in his way and he dared not thrust them aside. Then he turned to his bride, and shook his great fist at her. She, who had stood all the time in the recess, with pale face and a soft, velvety gleam in her eyes, answered with a disdainful smile.

"I will tame your proud spirit yet, minx," he gasped, his eyes flashing with a look without quailing, the light in her eyes becoming darker with resolute scorn. 'Marry me, if you dare,' she said, in a quiet voice.

"The foolish man did dare; he married her, and carried her to his castle. But their wedded bliss was not of long duration. On the morning after the marriage the bride rose long before prime and walked out to taste the morning air. When it was near midday and she had not returned, and her lord had never stirred from his chamber, they went in and found him lying in a heavy sleep, from which they had much ado in rousing him. The crafty wench had drugged his evening cup, and made her escape in the morning. Sir Richard broke the porter's ribs and flung him into the moat, but that did not recover the fugitive, who was traced at the last to the priory at Dartford, where she had taken shelter, and from which, as far as I know, her husband has not yet succeeded in dragging her. If he ever should lay hands on her he will tame her proud spirit I make no doubt."

"God grant he never do," said the host.

"Amen," said Simon d'Ypres, who had listened with courteous interest to the canon's long-winded tale. "And what became of Ralph Hardelet?"

The canon yawned. "I have heard little of him," he said, "till he reappeared here in the fool's dress of a Wycliffite."

"And you know not what led him to this?"

"The instigation of the fiend, I doubt not," answered the canon, yawning again. "Prithee, pardon me, I am drowsy, which is a sign that nature will have a little rest before vesper."

And, without more ceremony, he stretched himself at length upon the settle.

### CHAPTER V.

Reginald Hardelet found his brother in the place to which the host had directed him. St. Gregory's churchyard, talking with the gaunt and dishevelled old hermit who had built himself a rough shelter among the graves. They parted with anger on the one side, and deep sorrow and agitation but no change of purpose on the other.

Later in the day, when the sun had gone down, and the mists were rising from the valley of the Stour, and the still water gleamed softly in the dim light, as Ralph was walking in the griers meadow with the soothing charm of the scene and hour upon him, he was accosted by Simon d'Ypres. The merchant spoke to him as a traveling stranger; and looking round on the quiet meadow with the priory on one side, encircled by its high garden wall, its roofs overhung and half hidden by shadowy masses of foliage, hardly distinguishable in the twilight, he remarked on the repose of the life of the cloister, and thus led the young man

## EVENTS OF THE DAY

### FROM THE FOUR QUARTERS OF THE WORLD.

**A Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week, Presented in a Condensed Form, Which is Most Likely to Prove of Interest to Our Many Readers.**

The worst of the flood in the East is over.

Boers killed, wounded and captured 632 British in a recent fight.

Pope Leo XIII celebrated the 24th anniversary of his coronation with great pomp.

American horses were praised in a parliament paper on remount service in South Africa.

President Roosevelt will visit the Charleston exposition to show that his sense in the Tillman case had nothing to do with feeling toward the state.

The work of rescuing snowslide victims at Telluride, Col., had to be suspended. Many new slides have occurred and heavy snow fall continues.

As a result of experimenting near Chicago, it has been demonstrated that telegraph wires may be used for telephoning. It makes no difference if a telegraph message is going over the wire at the same time.

The power generated by one advertising campaign imparts a momentum to trades that it must be remembered that such momentum is only temporary. The success of an advertising campaign depends on the care with which it is planned and the vigor with which it is executed. —Profitable Advertising.

The end of the Boer war is again said to be in sight.

A tornado at New Vienna, O., destroyed much property.

Five persons were killed by the falling of a building at Cleveland, O.

The senate has agreed to the conference report on the Philippine tariff bill.

Three men were killed in a wreck on the New York Central near Philmont, N. Y.

Prince Henry is on his Western and Southern tour. He will visit the site of the coming St. Louis exposition.

A rebellion has broken out in Kwang Si province, China. Missionaries and other foreigners have been taken away under military escort.

Officials in the Philippines have cabled Governor Taft that the 25 per cent reduction in the tariff bill is not regarded as sufficient and asking him to use his endeavors to secure a more substantial measure of relief.

During the recent student riots at Moscow, Russia, 763 arrests were made.

Six hundred Boers were killed and captured in two days' fighting in Orange River colony.

Japan is quietly colonizing Corea.

At least 14 miners were killed in snowslides near Telluride, Colo.

The Tillman-McLaurin episode has been ended by the senate censuring the South Carolina senators.

Colombia has interrupted the Panama canal deal. She insists upon being considered in the negotiations.

The National Educational Association, at its recent Chicago convention, condemned the teaching of Latin and Greek in the high schools of the country.

Secretary Root has arranged for a gradual reduction of the army in the Philippines.

The New Jersey legislature has appropriated \$10,000 for the extermination of the mosquito.

Two men were hanged in North Carolina for burglary, in which state that crime is a capital offense.

The house sent the Philippine tariff bill to conference, objecting to all the amendments of the senate.

Lukban, who has been the strength of the rebellion in Samar, Philippine islands, has been captured.

The Columbia Valley Railway asks congress for right of way across the Vancouver, Three Tree Point and Scarborough, Head military reservations.

Blondin, the Boston wire murderer, has been arrested in New York.

Fire at a Mace, Idaho, mine boarding house resulted in the death of four men and the injury of 12.

Tillman and McLaurin have been restored to the senate roll to await definite action by that body.

Two New York Central passenger trains collided near Auburn, N. Y. Five trainmen were killed.

London consumes eleven tons of salt a day.

A Chinese dressed as a woman attempted to enter Ogdensburg, N. Y., from Canada.

## EXTENSIVE BOER VICTORY.

British Lost 632 Men Killed, Wounded and Prisoners—Also Lost Two Guns.

London, March 5.—A dispatch from Pretoria contains details of the disaster to the escort of the convoy of empty wagons at Vondokop, southwest of Klerksdorp, Transvaal Colony. The British casualties in killed, wounded and men made prisoners reach the total of 632. In addition the Boers captured two guns.

Lieutenant Colonel Anderson, who commanded the British force and who has returned to Kraaipan, Cape Colony, with nine officers and 245 men, reports that when his advance guard was within 10 miles of Klerksdorp, during the morning of February 25, the Boers opened a heavy rifle fire on the troops from the shrub. These burghers were driven off, and the convoy resumed its march, when a more determined attack was made on the convoy's left flank, the Boers getting within a hundred yards and stampeding the mules harnessed to a number of wagons.

The attacking forces were again driven off. At about 6:30 in the morning the rear guard was attacked by a strong force of Boers and simultaneously another body of Boers boldly charged the center of the convoy and stampeded the mules in all directions, throwing the escort into confusion, during which the Boers charged and recharged, riding down the British units. The fighting lasted for two hours, during which the two British guns and a pom-pom almost exhausted their ammunition. A detachment of 200 mounted infantry from Klerksdorp attempted to reinforce the British, but were held in check by the Boers.

Lieutenant Colonel Anderson adds that the strength of the Boers was estimated at 1,200 to 1,600. Commandants Delarey, Kemps, Celliers, Lemmer, Wolmarans and Potgieters were all present. Commandant Lemmer is said to have been killed.

Constabulary Routed.

Manila, March 5.—Twenty-five members of the constabulary of Morong, 10 miles from Manila, encountered 80 well armed insurgents during the day. The former fled, after expending all their ammunition. Eleven of the constabulary are unaccounted for, and it is believed they were killed or captured. The same band of insurgents turned back a commissary wagon, but did not molest the escort of three men.

Governor Flores, of the province of Rizal, says the members of the band who recently captured Ampil, the presidente of Cainta, Morong province, were neither ladres nor insurgents. He thinks a private feud was at the bottom of the matter. Word has been received that Ampil is still alive, but under torture and expecting death. Ampil was an enthusiastic American sympathizer.

A force of constabulary and military are scouring the country, and bands of insurgents and ladres are flocking to the island of Leyte. The constabulary officials have been notified of the arrival of a band of malcontents from Bohol and other places. They are well armed, and are serving under Capitan. An extra force of constabulary will endeavor to handle the malcontents.

General Lukban has offered to assist in suppressing the insurgents if given a certificate that he conducted his share of the war according to civilized usages. His offer has not yet been considered favorably.

Explosion Wrecks Office.

A Number of People Hurt by Jumping—Fire Immediately Follows.

New York, March 5.—An explosion wrecked the five story building at 210-12 Canal street occupied by the Aste Press Printing Company. The building was filled with employees, some of whom were hurt by jumping. Half the Canal street front was blown into the street and the interior was almost instantly a roaring mass of flames. The printing house backed up against a row of seven story flat houses, occupied by Italians. The rear wall of the burning building was blown against the tenements, creating panic among the occupants. Many jumped from windows. Consuelo Duranto leaped from a window and alighted on the stone flagging of a court yard. She was taken to a hospital, where she died.

The fire department estimated the loss at \$75,000. Reports were circulated that a number of persons known to have been in the buildings have not been accounted for, but the firemen said they thought all had escaped injury except those who jumped.

Miss Stone to Lecture.

Indianapolis, March 5.—Miss Ellen M. Stone, the missionary, who was captured by brigands and released recently, has contracted to lecture for the Chautauqua societies of the country during the larger part of the summer.

Philadelphia Leaves Panama.

New York, March 5.—The United States cruiser Philadelphia left during the day for Guayaquil, says a Panama dispatch to the Herald. She will return soon.

Riot Among Paris' Unemployed.

Paris, March 5.—Following an excited meeting of the unemployed, held this morning at the Labor Exchange, the agitators attempted to hold an outdoor meeting in the Place de la Republique. A fight with the police ensued, in which 11 policemen were severely injured, and a score more sustained bruises. A number of the rioters were injured, and 20 were placed under arrest.

## NEWS OF THE STATE

### ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS OF OREGON.

Commercial and Financial Happenings of Importance—A Brief Review of the Growth and Improvements of the Many Industries Throughout Our Thriving Commonwealth—Latest Market Report.

Several new oil wells are being bored in Malheur county.

The business men of Harrisburg have formed a board of trade.

The new Catholic church at Hubbard will be dedicated March 9.

Two new one story brick buildings are in course of construction at Athena.

The first 11 days the Clackamas county sheriff collected \$20,610.68 of the 1901 taxes.

Samuel Eagle, a Clackamas county pioneer of 1847, died at his home at Molalla, aged 76 years.

The Milton Creamery Company has declared its second dividend. The stockholders were paid 5 per cent.

The next meeting of the Union County Teachers' Association will be held in Union some time this month.

The county convention of the Union county Democrats will be held April 3 in Union. Primaries will be held March 27.

Secretary of State Dunbar is in receipt of many letters daily from persons in the East, writing for information concerning Oregon.

Prospecting of the vein of coal on Lower Powder river, near Baker City, which was recently discovered, will begin in a short time. Samples taken near the surface show a good value.

Clatsop county delinquent tax sale will be held at Astoria March 3.

Twenty-one bales of hops were sold at Dayton a few days ago at 15 cents per pound.

Last week 500,000 salmon fry, from the Coos river hatchery, were placed in the Coquille river.

A board of trade has been formed at Hillsboro. Its purpose will be to advertise Hillsboro and Washington county.

At the recent Clackamas county examination for teachers' certificates, 22 applicants were successful.

A thief broke into the City hall at Portland and stole the historical society's collection of rare coins.

The members of the various grades of Multnomah county will take steps to secure a building in Portland for a market place.

The Prohibition party will have no place on the Multnomah county ticket, the vote at the last election not reaching 5 per cent.

As the result of a rousing dairy meeting at Dayton the establishment of a creamery there in the near future is made a certainty.

What few hops remain in the Willamette valley are selling for 15 cents. Contracts for next year's crops are being made quite freely at 11 to 11½ cents.

Portland Markets.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 65@65½c; bluestem, 66@66½c; Valley, 64@65c.

Barley—Feed, \$19@19.50; brewing, \$20@20.50 per ton.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.15@1.25; gray, \$1.10@1.20.

Flour—Best grades, \$2.80@3.40 per barrel; graham, \$2.50@2.80.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$19 per ton; middlings, \$21; shorts, \$21.50; chop, \$17.50.

Hay—Timothy, \$12@13; clover, \$7.50@8; Oregon wild hay, \$5@6 per ton.

Potatoes—Best Burbanks, \$1.10@1.35 per cental; ordinary, 75@85c per cental, growers' prices; sweets, \$2@2.50 per cental.

Butter—Creamery, 25@27½c; dairy, 18@20c; store, 13@15c.

Eggs—22½@25c for Oregon.

Cheese—Full cream, twins, 13@13½c; Young America, 14@15c; factory prices, 1@1½c less.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$3.50@4.50; hens, \$4.50@5.50 per dozen, 10@12c per pound; springs, 11c per pound, \$3@4 per dozen; ducks, \$5@6 per dozen; turkeys, live, 12½@13c; dressed, 15@16c per pound; geese, \$6@7 per dozen.

Mutton—Gross, 4c per pound; dressed, 7@7½c per pound.

Hogs—Gross, 5½c; dressed, 6½@7c per pound.

Veal—8@8½ for small; 7@7½ for large.

Beef—Gross, cows, 3½@4c; steers, 4@4½c; dressed, 6½@7c per pound. Hops—11@13c per pound. Wool—Valley, 13@15c; Eastern Oregon, 8@12½c; mohair, 21@21½c per pound.

## RIVERS AND HARBORS.

Oregon and Washington Both Fare Well in the Bill as Reported.

Washington, March 4.—Oregon and Washington both fare well in the rivers and harbors bill as reported to the house. The month of the Columbia secures \$100,000 more cash than last year, and The Dalles and Seattle canals are both granted greater recognition than in the last bill. The following are the appropriations for Oregon and Washington:

Mouth of Columbia, cash for continuing improvement, \$550,000; for authorized contracts, \$1,000,000; Lower Willamette and Columbia below Portland, for continuance, \$50,000; for the construction of a dredge, \$175,000; gauging Columbia river, \$1,000; Tillamook bay and bar, maintenance and completing improvements, \$27,000; Coos bay, maintenance and continuing improvements, \$10,000; Conquille, continuing improvements from Conquille City to the mouth, \$30,000; Coos river, maintenance, \$2,000; Siuslaw, continuing improvements, with re-examination of existing project, \$26,000; Columbia river at the Cascades, completing locks, \$30,000; Upper Columbia and Snake rivers, \$25,250.

To this latter item is added \$12,750 transferred from unexpended funds for the improvement of the Clearwater, making a total of \$37,754.82. Of this \$10,000 is to be expended for the improvement of the Snake river above Lewiston.

The Willamette river above Portland and Yamhill river get \$68,000, of which \$37,500 is to be used in the construction of revetments opposite Corvallis and below Independence.

The appropriations for the Columbia are to be for the continuing improvements according to the present approved plan, with such modifications as may be approved by the secretary of war, the estimated cost of said improvements not to be increased.

Puget Sound and tributaries, \$15,000; Swinomish slough, \$300,00; Cowitz and Lewis rivers, \$9,500; Okanogan and Pend d'Oreille, \$10,000; examinations and surveys, inspection bridges, etc., in Washington, \$250,000; emergency fund, \$200,000; Olympia harbor, \$25,000; Tacoma harbor, \$75,000; Whatcom harbor, \$25,000; Grays harbor and Chenailis river, \$50,000.

The committee allows \$160,000 for the Seattle, Shilshole and Salmon bays, along the route of the proposed Lake Washington waterway, and authorizes a survey to finally determine which route shall be adopted for the canal, and an estimate of the cost of such canal.

Captured by Ladrones.

Mayer of a Morong Town is in the Hands of Hostile Filipinos.

Manila, March 4.—While Governor Flores, of the province of Rizal, was chasing Felizardo and his band of ladres over the hills of Cavite province, Felizardo, at the head of 25 men, entered Cainta, in Morong province, and captured the presidente of the town, Senor Ampil, and a majority of the local police. Senor Ampil has long been known as an enthusiastic American sympathizer, and it is feared that he may be killed by the enraged ladrones.

A strong force of constabulary has been sent to effect his release.

The correspondence captured with General Lukban is of the greatest value. It implicates several Filipinos who have not heretofore been suspected of complicity with the insurgents.

The United States Philippine commission has received a cablegram from the governor of Cebu, saying that a violent assault had been committed by the municipal police of that place upon the Spanish coast there. The governor says the assault was instigated by the presidente of Cebu, Senor Reyes, who has been suspended, pending an investigation, which was at once ordered. The Spanish consul was popular and well liked.

The American, Spanish, British and German merchants of Manila and the local press held a meeting to remonstrate against the prohibitive tariff, which they declared to be crippling the industries and resources of the archipelago.

Storm Damaged Mexican City.

Monterey, Mex., March 4.—The storm which swept over Mexico a few days ago was unprecedented in Monterey and vicinity for severity. For hours the wind blew at a velocity of from 50 to 80 miles an hour, doing damage to the extent of more than \$300,000. A dozen or more persons were injured by falling walls.

Morgan's Gift to a College.

Nashville, Tenn., March 4.—J. Pierpont Morgan has given \$2,000,000 to the University of the South, at Knoxville, Tenn. This is one of the foremost institutions in the South, having an average attendance of 800 students.

Venezuela Repels an Invasion.

Willemstad, March 4.—According to advices from Caracas, the Mochist leader Garbira, with 1,000 Colombians, attempted a new invasion of Venezuela near La Frías, February 24. After a bloody fight at Las Cumbres the insurgents were completely routed and obliged to retire across the frontier, leaving a large number of dead on the field.