

RALPH HARDELLOT'S MEDIATION

BY WILLIAM MINTO.

CHAPTER VIII.—Continued.

Just as he crossed the threshold, and before he could see anything in the strange light, Ralph leaped on him with the rope, passed the noose over his head, and ran it tight upon his arms, pinioning them to his sides before he had recovered from his surprise.

plexity with grim humor, reckless of his own fate. "It is a hard knot, Sir Clerk," he said, with a mocking laugh. "You are not free yet. I won't pledge my word to let you go, nor if you had all the devils in hell at your beck."

CHAPTER IX.

We mentioned that Simon d'Ypres and his henchman Lawrence rode different ways. We will follow Lawrence, for he was more fortunate than his leader in his search for help.

stolen a novice from the priory, and they arrived here this morning in pursuit. They rested here when they found he was several hours ahead of them, and I know not whether they have stomach to go farther. But I will take you to them. I know something of their leader. I know him in France. If they turn back, it will not be his fault."

The leader of the party of robbers was a man whom circumstances forced into a leading position in the troubles that ensued, but at that time, some nine months before the great rising, he was little known outside the valley of the Darent, and the little towns on the Thames where he practiced the trade of a tiler.

He was engaged with his men on one of the roofs of the priory when Clara Roos was carried off. He had saved her father's life in the battle of Marston, and sometime afterward had received valuable service in return, the aggressor at this time being Sir Richard Rainham. Thus it happened that when he saw the daughter of his comrade and friend carried off by a man he had no cause to remember with good will, he had a double motive for action, and was not a man to easily desist once he had taken a thing in hand.

When Simon d'Ypres' lieutenant Lawrence arrived at Yeldham, they were still resting themselves and their horses, undecided in their plans, but disposed to regard any further attempt as hopeless.

He had seen Rainham and his men ride out, and had come back inwardly fretting over an opportunity missed. But he was a silent, self-contained man; he did not abuse the party for their supineness, but put them to shame with the simple aphorism, uttered with Stoic resignation, "In war it is better always to be on the move: you never know when a chance may come."

He had returned to Yeldham only a few minutes in advance of Lawrence, and when that emissary was introduced, he was seated at the table of the hostelry among the priory retainers, drumming abstractedly with his fingers. He had just told what he had seen, and they looked rather crestfallen.

"More news about Sir Richard," said the smith, introducing Lawrence, who at once proceeded to explain the purpose of his coming, and to beg them to lend their aid in an attack on Sturmer, if he and the smith could raise the neighboring villages.

"You must be green in war," said Tiler, "to dream of taking a castle like Sturmer with a rush of half-armed and untrained countrymen."

"Just what I told him!" cried Barnaby, the smith.

"But," stammered Lawrence, "we have some trained men within call, like Barnaby here, and we counted on your assistance. There are not above a dozen men in Sturmer."

"A dozen women?" Tiler answered lightly, "with such gates and walls would be more than enough to keep us all at bay. But," he added, after musing a little, while Lawrence looked at him in dismay, "we have no time to waste. Can you gather your trained men by the cross-road at Wixoe two hours before midnight? Bring as many of the rabble as you like if you can keep them quiet till the word is given."

"And will you attempt the castle?" cried Lawrence, joyfully.

"Barnaby and I will try to let you in," answered Tiler. But the assembly must be in silence. If any begin to hoot and shout we may as well go back home. Let every man know this and take an oath to be silent. An oath, mark you! and to be as still as a prowling cat, for it is often harder to keep the tongue quiet than to keep the heart firm and true."

Experiment Not Successful. It is related of King Charles IX, of France that, having suspected one of his cooks of stealing two silver spoons, he resolved to try the effect of besoar, which at that time was highly recommended as an antidote to poisons. So, thinking a good opportunity had arrived for testing its properties, his majesty administered to the unfortunate cook first a large dose of corrosive sublimate and then a dose of the reputed antidote; but the unlucky man fell a victim to the experiment and died in great agony in seven hours, in spite of other efforts to save him.

Too Much for the Cobra. Recently (says an Indiana paper) a large crowd, composed chiefly of Kanatis, assembled at Varsapaudy to offer gifts of fruit and pour libations of milk into the hole of a sacred cobra. This is an unusual ceremony, and is called "Nagala Chowty," or the snake-feeding ceremony. Such a quantity of milk was poured down that the cobra, to escape drowning, darted from its hiding place, scattering its devotees, and took refuge in a bush close at hand.

American English. We do not speak the English language in the way in which it is spoken by the people of England. We have greatly changed, enlarged and perhaps improved it in our usual progressive way. The wonder lies in the notion of Englishmen that their way of speaking the language is the only way and that our way is wrong.

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 Shah of Persia will visit Emperor William.

Venezuela rebels are gaining ground and the government is in a bad way.

Striking miners in Pennsylvania have rejected the offer of the mineowners.

A third attempt has been made to assassinate the Moscow prefect of police.

The war revenue repeal bill has been passed by the house and gone to the president.

A new verse to "God Save the King" has been written for the coronation ceremonies of King Edward.

Although the administration regards the Chinese exclusion bill as too drastic, it will place no opposition in its way.

The St. Louis fair may be postponed until 1904.

Cecil Rhodes' fortune amounts to 5,000,000 pounds.

President Diaz, of Mexico, is planning a visit to the United States this summer.

Three men were killed and seven wounded in an attempt to arrest an Alabama negro.

The battleship Wisconsin is at San Francisco after a visit to Samoa, Honolulu and a number of South American ports.

Miss Ellen M. Stone has signed a contract for a series of 100 lectures, to be given in the principal cities of the United States.

The bill providing a form of government for the Philippines will follow the Chinese exclusion bill in the senate. After that the canal measure will be taken up.

The house has begun the consideration of the exclusion bill.

Mitchell made the opening speech in the senate on the Chinese exclusion bill.

The last quarter's imports to the United States from all Germany amounted to \$22,786,094, an increase of \$1,297,560.

In an all day fight between part of General Kitchener's forces and the forces of General Delarey and Kemp, the Boers were repulsed. The loss was heavy on both sides.

The bulk of Cecil Rhodes' property is left for education. It provides two American scholarships at Oxford to each of the present states and territories of the United States.

The senate has passed the oleomargarine bill.

The house has passed the sundry civil appropriation bill.

Secretary of the Interior Hitchcock will soon retire from the cabinet.

Abner McKinley denies that he was connected with the Danish West Indies scandal.

Twelve hotels and many smaller buildings were burned at Atlantic City, N. J. Loss, \$750,000.

It is hardly probable that the bill admitting Oklahoma, Arizona and New Mexico will be passed by the present session of congress.

The president has appointed Brigadier General Hughes a major general and Colonels Burt, De Russy and Sheridan to be brigadier generals.

Six persons were burned to death in a fire at Johnston, Pa.

The senate will vote on the oleomargarine bill in a few days.

The Northern Pacific blockade in North Dakota is being raised.

The senate considered the Danish purchase scandal in secret session.

Sixty thousand Chinese are in rebellion in southern China provinces.

The German emperor's American built yacht Meteor III has sailed for Southampton.

ISTHMIAN CANAL RIGHTS.

Nicaragua and Costa Rica Negotiating with United States.

Washington, April 9.—It is understood that Mr. Coroa, the Nicaragua minister here, has forwarded to his government a proposition as to the price the United States would be likely to pay for Nicaragua canal rights, the proposition having been submitted to the minister by Secretary Hay. Secretary Hay's proposition is said to be in the nature of counter proposal to that set out in the canal protocol drafted by United States Minister Merry last year.

The situation as to Colombia is precisely the reverse to that as to Nicaragua, as in the former case the United States government has before it a definite proposal from Colombia and is considering it with some indication of a purpose to suggest desirable amendments.

PASSES THE SENATE.

Mitchell's Land Bill for Repaying Certain Funds.

Washington, April 9.—Senator Mitchell today called up and passed his double minimum land bill. The bill as passed provides that where homestead timber culture, desert land or other entries of public lands are or have been cancelled or relinquished because of conflict, or where the entry has erroneously been allowed and cannot be confirmed, the secretary of the interior shall repay to the entryman all fees, commissions, purchase money and expenses paid upon the same when such entry is duly cancelled by the department.

In cases where parties have paid double minimum price for land, which has afterwards been found not to be within the limits of a railroad grant, or within the limits of any portion of a grant which may be forfeited for failure to construct that portion of the railroad in aid of which the grant was made, the excess of \$1.25 an acre shall be repaid to entrymen. Claim for repayment to be valid must be filed within three years.

BIG IRRIGATION QUESTION.

May Colorado Take Water That Would Flow Through Kansas?

Washington, April 9.—The United States supreme court, in an opinion delivered by Chief Justice Fuller today, overruled the demurrer of the state of Colorado in the case of the state of Colorado to appropriate for purposes of irrigation the waters of the Arkansas river, which Kansas sought by an original action to restrain on the ground that the stream flows through Kansas and the people of the latter state are injured by such an appropriation of the water. The chief justice said that the case is one in which the court can properly assume jurisdiction. He said also that the action of the court in overruling the demurrer was intended to be without prejudice, but was taken because the importance of the case was such that it should not be decided without full proof on the questions set up in the allegations of damage made by the state of Kansas.

COLORADO BANK ROBBED.

Explosions Attract Citizens, But the Robbers Escape—Two Suspects Arrested.

Pueblo, Colo., April 9.—The Bank of Fowler, at Fowler, Colo., 25 miles east of this city, was robbed of \$1,100 by safe blowers at 2 o'clock this morning. Several charges of nitro glycerin were exploded to open the safe and the cash box. Citizens were aroused by the explosions and fired several shots at four men who were seen running away, but the robbers succeeded in escaping. News of the robbery was telephoned to neighboring towns. Two men who boarded the Santa Fe train at Nepeska, seven miles west of Fowler, this morning were arrested as suspects. In their possession were found \$288 and several coins. Bloodhounds have been sent to Fowler to trail the robbers.

Casualties of the Boers.

London, April 9.—Lord Kitchener reports that the Boer casualties during the engagements of March 31 and April 1 were, at the lowest estimate, 30 men killed and 80 wounded. Commandant Erasmus was killed near Boshof.

Decrease of Trade in Great Britain.

London, April 9.—The board of trade returns for March show the remarkable decrease of 5,528,195 pounds in imports and 2,804,056 pounds in exports.

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.

The Polk county Mohair Association has sold its pool of 35,000 pounds at 25 cents per pound.

Mrs. Eliza Jane Wrisley, an Oregon pioneer of 1852, has passed away at her home in Medford. Deceased was born in 1826.

City elections were held in many towns throughout the state this week. Party lines were observed in but a very few cases.

A railroad is to be built in Southern Oregon from Grants Pass to Crescent City. It will be known as the Oregon & Pacific Railway.

Superintendent of Public Instruction Ackerman states that after six months of use the new Oregon text books have proven satisfactory.

The fishing season on the Columbia river opens April 15. The prospects are more favorable for a large pack than at this time last year.

March customs receipts at Portland were \$77,212.99. The larger part of these receipts were from duties paid on inward cargoes from the Orient.

The Columbia River Fishermen's Protective Union, at a meeting in Astoria, fixed the price of salmon for the coming season as follows: Six cents per pound for fish weighing 25 pounds or over, and 5 1/2 cents for smaller fish. No price for steelheads or bluebacks was mentioned.

The Willamette Pulp & Paper Company, which employs over 500 men in Oregon City, has made a voluntary advance in the wages of about 300 of its employees. All the men who have been receiving \$1.50 per day will in future get \$1.75, and all of the \$1.75 per day men will get an advance of 10 per cent.

Salem has taken the preliminary steps to installation of city light plant.

The farmers' co-operative telephone line from Echo to Pendleton will be completed about May 1.

About half the telephones in Oregon City are out of business as the result of a live electric light wire dropping on them.

The receipts of state land office for March were \$39,885.44, or the largest amount received by the present clerk for any one month.

A contract for 12,000 pounds of the 1902 hop crop is the top record in contracts at Salem. Quite a number are reported at 12 cents.

Marion Cunningham, an Oregon pioneer of 1853, and one of the most prominent citizens of Harrisburg, has passed away, aged 89 years.

The clam cannery at Skipanon has started up for the season and will be kept in operation until late in the fall, packing about 50 cases per day. Indications are that the claims on Clatsop beach are as plentiful as ever before, if not more so.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 64c; bluestem, 65c; Valley, 64c@65c. Barley—Feed, \$20@21; brewing, \$21@21.50 per ton. Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.15@1.22 1/2; gray, \$1.10@1.20. Flour—Best grades, \$2.80@3.40 per barrel; graham, \$2.50@2.80. Millstuffs—Bran, \$18 per ton; middlings, \$20; shorts, \$20; chop, \$16.50. Hay—Timothy, \$12@13; clover, \$7.50@8; Oregon wild hay, \$5@6 per ton. Potatoes—Best Burbanks, \$1.10@1.25 per cwt; ordinary, 70c@80c. per cwt; Early Rose, \$1.25@1.50 per cwt, growers' prices; sweet, \$2.35@2.50 per cwt.

Butter—Creamery, 22 1/2@25c; dairy, 18@20c; store, 13@15c. Eggs—13@14c for Oregon. Cheese—Full cream, twins, 13 1/2@14c; Young America, 14@15c; factory prices, 1@1 1/4c less. Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$3.50@4.50; hens, \$4.50@5.50 per dozen, 11@11 1/2c per pound; springs, 11@11 1/2c per pound \$3@4 per dozen; ducks, \$5@7 per dozen; turkeys, live, 12@13c; dressed, 14@16c per pound; geese, \$6 1/2@7 per dozen. Mutton—Gross, 4c per pound; dressed, 7@7 1/2c per pound. Hogs—Gross, 5 1/2c; dressed, 6 1/2@7c per pound. Veal—8@8 1/2c for small; 7@7 1/2c for large. Beef—Gross, cows, 3 1/2@4c; steers, 4@4 1/2c; dressed, 6 1/2@7 1/2c per pound. Hops—12@13c per pound. Wool—Valley, 13@15c; Eastern Oregon, 8@12 1/2c; mohair, 21@21 1/2c per pound.

A health resort for invalid soldiers of the regular army is to be established at Fort Niobrara, in Nebraska.

Overland limited trains are to be provided with telephone service while standing in depots at Chicago, Omaha and San Francisco.

The owner of a Chicago tenement has been sued for \$25,000 damages by Mrs. John McGinnis, whose two children were killed by sewer gas and her own health impaired.

STANDS GAVE WAY.

Five Spectators Killed and Many Injured at a Football Game at Glasgow.

Glasgow, April 8.—The struggle of the crowds which gathered at Ibrox park today to witness the last international association football contest between teams from England and Scotland caused the collapse of a portion of the spectators' terraces, resulting in the death of five persons and the injury of 135.

When the game began 70,000 spectators were on the ground and an immense crowd had gathered outside. Being unable to gain admittance, this crowd broke down some of the barriers and swarmed upon the field, whereupon the police charged and drove the intruders upon the terraces and seats, with the result that the railings dividing the crowds were broken and the people were thrown over each other. In the frantic struggle toward the exits the pressure toward the upper portion of the westerly terrace was so great that 100 feet of the highest of the structure collapsed under the weight of the crowd driven upon it, precipitating the mass of people to the ground, 60 feet below. The injured were piled in heaps, wedged in with broken wood.

The onlookers hesitated to approach the dangling structure at first, but finally began to utilize portions of the broken barriers as stretchers. A hundred of the most seriously injured were carried to the pavilion and to spaces in the rear of the stands. A majority of the victims are suffering from broken ribs and fractured limbs, while some sustained internal injuries. Those most severely injured were later removed in ambulances to infirmaries, and the lesser sufferers were sent in cabs to surgeries. Six of the injured are not likely to recover. A few persons were trampled upon in trying to escape from the crush when the police charged, but most of the victims sustained their injuries in the fall of the terrace.

THE DANISH TREATY.

Landing Continues the Debate Without Reaching Conclusions.

Copenhagen, April 8.—The landing, or upper house, in secret session today continued the discussion of the Danish West Indies treaty for three hours with no result. The debate was heated, and much excitement prevailed among the members. It is hoped that the meeting of the landing tomorrow will enable the house to report its conclusions.

A meeting of the members of the opposition in the landing was held to-night and an exciting debate occurred. A majority of those present declared themselves in favor of the sale of the islands, but demanded that a plebiscite be taken.

The opposition press is engaged in a violent agitation against the government. The National Tidende today announces that the right party of the landing is now in favor of the cession of the islands to the United States, if the consent of the inhabitants of the islands is obtained.

ANOTHER ROYAL QUEST.

The Prince of Wales May be Next to Visit the United States.

New York, April 8.—High diplomatic circles here are discussing plans, believed to be far advanced, for a visit by the Prince of Wales to the United States, says the London correspondent of the Times. The administration at Washington is officially forwarding the proposal for the visit, which, it is understood, receives the personal sanction of King Edward, some of whose counselors urge the acceptance of the invitation as a matter of astute state policy. Emperor William is considering an invitation to send the crown prince of Germany to America at the same time, and France is expected to send a distinguished representative.

Has Designs on Tripoli.

London, April 8.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Constantinople announces that the porte has fled with the Italian ambassador a complaint, charging that Italian fishermen are extensively engaged in landing guns on the coast of Tripoli and that Italian officers in disguise are employed on board sponge boats in taking soundings and observations.

The Trans-Siberian railway gives the cheapest rates in the world.

It is possible to buy an emigrant's ticket, covering 6,000 miles—nearly three week's journey—for about \$3.

This year's record in the United States of loss from fire will be about \$170,000,000. It is estimated that the loss in 26 years has been \$2,890,000,000, of which \$17,000,000,000 was covered by insurance.

The expenses of the legislative branch of the federal government are \$5,800,000 a year, and of the department of justice \$5,000,000. The expenses of the District of Columbia, paid for by the federal government, are \$7,000,000 a year.

Canadians Volunteer.

Halifax, N. S., April 8.—The Royal Canadian regiment of infantry has volunteered for services in South Africa. The offer was made today by Colonel White, the commander of the regiment, to the acting general, Colonel Blesse, who is in command of the British forces in North America. The regiment is 1,000 strong and is now doing garrison duty in Halifax. The offer was cabled to the British war office.