DAYTON HERALD.

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DAYTON .....OREGON.

WEEK'S DOINGS

General Review of Important Happenings Presented in a Brief and Condensed Form.

Russia is finding it very difficult to secure ships to carry coal to Vladivostok.

The Russians have frustrated several attempts of the enemy to break through their lines.

The International Peace congress has made an earnest appeal to all nations to take steps to avert more wars.

The Japanese are feeling out the Russian positions around Mukden and a general advance is expected next week.

It is said that Secretary Hitchcock's report on land frauds was largely intended to cover up his own shortcomings.

Hops have made another advance in the Willamette valley, several sales being reported at Independence at 31 cents.

The Chinese government says that if foreign capital is needed for proposed railway construction, it will first turn to America.

Chinese refugees from Southern Manchuria say the Japanese are administering affairs with a high hand. There is a great scarcity of provisions among the native population.

Lieutenant Granville Fortescue, American attache, who has been with the besieging forces at Port Arthur, is returning home. He is pledged to secrecy as to the conditions around the fortress.

Four persons were killed and fifty injured in an English railway accident.

Tokio is advised that the army is making steady progress at Port Arthur.

Fire wiped out an entire village in Southern Russia. Five hundred families are homeless.

The Norwegian bark Sir John Lawrence, from London, struck on rocks off the coast of Norway and went down with all on board.

The Santa Fe has large gangs of men at work in Colorado repairing the work of the flood. It will take a week to make the road passable.

Detectives are unable to find any clew to the persons who have attempted to destroy the battleship Connecticut. There is little danger that any further attempt will be made. Marines are stationed all around the boat and others on it.

According to dispatches from Oklahoma the South Canadian river is higher than in 40 years. It is feared that the loss to cotton and corn crops and bridges, with other properties along the river, throughout the territory, will be enormous. No loss of life has been reported.

Sir William Harcourt, a noted British politician, is dead.

A third attempt has been made to wreck the battleship Connecticut.

Trinidad, Colo., reports that it can relieve all distress caused by the flood.

The September receipts of the St. Louis fair amounted to about $2,500,000.

The Russians have temporarily checked the Japanese advance east of Mukden.

The czar may block the plan for the immediate reorganization of the Russian army.

Postmaster General Payne continues in a dangerous condition. His life hangs in the balance.

Russians made a raid on junks carrying supplies to Oyama and destroyed a number of them.

It is reported that General Basilio Munos, leader of the Uruguayan revolutionists, has been shot by his former followers.

Considerable loss of life and property was occasioned by fire in the artillery and ammunition magazines at Sebastopol, Russia.

The Japanese have begun a general advance on Mukden.

Mobile, Alabama, is having the warmest weather in its history for the time of year.

The condition of Postmaster General Payne is very serious.

The Japanese have adopted tactics intended to prevent the return of the main Russian force to Mukden.

The Russian squadron at Port Arthur has made another attempt to escape, but were driven back. Another sally is expected.

Kuropatkin now realizes that he cannot go on to Harbin and the problem of wintering his troops is a serious one. The hope of the Russians is to defeat the Japanese at Mukden.

Souvenir Lewis and Clark dollars have been sent to President Roosevelt and member of congress who were instrumental in securing the appropriation to the Portland exposition.

A mail car from Paris to Havre, containing about 100 pouches of American mail, was broken into and 91 pouches opened and rifled of such valuables as they may have contained. There is no record of their contents or of the valuables abstracted.

W. J. Bryan is a grandfather.

Disease is claiming many Japanese soldiers.

The battleship Connecticut has been successfully launched.

The Russian cruiser Orel broke a cylinder on her trial trip and will be dlayd six months.

The main Russian army has retreated from Mukden, leaving only a small force to guard the rear.

The Japanese army has captured Da pass. Practically no resistance was offered by the Russians.

PAYNE IS NO MORE.

Heart Disease Causes the Death of Postmaster General.

Washington, Oct 6.—Henry C. Payne, postmaster general of the United States, a member of the national Republican committee, a stalwart of his party, with the history of which, in his home state and nationally, he had been identified for many years, died at his apartments at the Arlington hotel at 6:10 last night, aged 60 years. Death was due to disease of the mitral valve and dilation of the heart.

Mr. Payne has been in poor health for at least two years, but his last illness covered only seven days, an attack of heart trouble last week precipitating the end, at a time when, after a rest, he appeared to have recovered a small measure of the vitality impaired by years of arduous labor. Death came after nearly six hours of unconsciousness. The last official caller to inquire as to Mr. Payne's condition was President Roosevelt, and he had been gone only about ten minutes when the stricken member of the cabinet expired.

The death of the postmaster general came as the result really of a succession of sinking spells due to a weak heart that enfeebled the sick man until finally the heart literally gave out. Never in recent years robust, Mr. Payne was unable to withstand the shock of the sinking spells, and last Friday, when he had two sinking spells, it was believed he was rapidly approaching the end. While moderate doses of heart remedies sufficed at first, it became necessary by Sunday to give much more powerful stimulants, and the doses were given in greater quantities than on any previous day.

SOVEREIGNTY IS RECOGNIZED.

Diplomats on Isthmus of Panama Will Be Accredited to America.

Washington, Oct. 6. — Chile has formally recognized the absolute sovereignty of the United States over the Panama canal zone. Other nations which have been holding back to await the outcome of the diplomatic test case will do the same. The result will be that practically all the foreign diplomats on the isthmus will be accredited to this country instead of Panama.

Chile some time ago applied for an equatum for Greonimo Osso, who was appointed consul at Panama. The request was withheld, owing to the unsettled condition of affairs. Though this country exercises full control over the canal zone, the land belongs to Panama. Today the secretary of state disposed of the question by issuing the exequatur, but instead of being in the regular form it is a notification to General Davis, governor general of the canal zone, that Mr. Ossa is authorized to represent Chile in all diplomatic matters involving the canal strip. This will probably involve further differences between this government and the republic of Panama.

CORTELYOU WILL SUCCEED HIM.

He Is Expected to Enter the Office About December 1.

Washington, Oct. 6.—In succession to Mr. Payne, George Bruce Cortelyou, ex-secretary of the department of commerce and labor, and now chairman of the Republican national committee, will become postmaster general.

Mr. Cortelyou's appointment as head of the postoffice department was determined on several months ago by President Roosevelt, when Mr. Payne indicated to the president his desire to retire from the department on account of the precarious state of his health. Mr. Payne would have resigned the portfolio long ago had it not been for the then pending investigation of the affairs of the department. He felt, however, and said many times to his friends, that he could not relinquish the duties of the office while the investigation was pending, and expressed his determination to carry this work to a conclusion.

Togs for Moody.

Worcester, Mass., Oct. 6.—The Telegram tomorrow morning will say: "Governor John L. Bates will, in all probability, at the next meeting of the governor's council, announce the appointment of Attorney General William H. Moody, of Haverhill, to succeed Senator Hoar. Shortly before his death, Senator Hoar communicated to Governor Bates his wish that the present attorney general might succeed him as senator from Massachusetts, and it is understood here Mr. Moody will accept."

Perish in Flood.

Santa Fe, N. M., Oct. 6.—Reports received here from different points in the flooded territory show that the loss of life occurred in the past week is greater than heretofore believed. At least 20 persons perished, and all sections have not been definitely heard from. Ten Santa Fe passenger trains are tied up at Santa Fe tonight, but pasengers are being sent east and west over the Rock Island and Southern Pacific roads, connection being effected through the Santa Fe Central, which resumed operations today.

Believes Confession Not True.

Topeka, Kan., Oct. 6.—Robert Romaine, who confessed to complicity in the Independence and Vindicator outrages in Colorado, was taken to the Kansas penitentiary from here today. He will serve a sentence for robbery. The Colorado officials have decided to drop for the present all notion of prosecuting Romaine for his alleged part in the explosions, as they believe his confession is not true, and made with the sole purpose of evading punishment.

Japan Does Not Fear Cruisers.

Tokio, Oct. 6.—The navy department discredits the report that the Russian cruisers Rossia, Gromoboi and Bogatyr have been repaired at Vladivostok and are about to descend for another raid on the Japanese coast. The navy department further expresses the belief that the Bogatyr is completely disabled.

DEATH IS SURE

Payne Only Kept Alive by Use of Stimulants.

STRENGTH IS FAST FAILING

Family Has Been Summoned to the Bedside of United States Postmaster General.

Washington, Oct. 4.—Postmaster General Payne is still alive, but only as the result of the injection of the most powerful drugs known to the medical profession. Frequent sinking spells marked the day yesterday, and his condition is decidedy worse this morning than it was 24 hours ago. The physicians express not the slightest hope for his recovery, and during the night possessed so little confidence that their distinguished patient could live through until morning that at midnight bulletins were issued predicting dissolution within a few minutes, and at 2 o'clock this morning they placed the limit at two hours at the outside, with the probability that every moment would be the last.

General Payne, after spending the forepart of the night in a quiet sleep, was seized at midnight with a sinking spell worse than any that had preceded it. Powerful restoratives administered in larger quantities than theretofore given produced not the slightest apparent effect, and the members of the family were hastily summoned to the bedside.

Two hours later a message was received from the bedside that the general was still alive, but all hope had been abandoned. The physicians refused to state how long their patient could survive, but stated that while he might live for two hours, on the other hand, the end might come at the next moment. After administering the stimulants at midnight, the physicians discontinued the use of drugs, and thereafter allowed nature to take its course.

Shortly after half past two, the patient showed signs of reviving, and a few seconds later he completely regained consciousness, and exclaimed "Hello" to those about him. Dr. Magruder asked him how he was feeling and received the reply "first rate." Milk was then given him to drink.

Shortly after 4 o'clock, General Payne's private secretary issued a bulletin in effect, that the patient was resting easily. It was added that General Payne's pulse was steadier and his respiration more natural than it had been for days. A consultation will probably be held this morning.

MANY A BRIBE.

Ex-Speaker Kelly Informs on the Missouri Combine.

St. Louis, Oct. 5.—In a written confession today Charles F. Kelly, speaker of the house of delegates during a period in the life of the boodle combine, relates the story of that combine. He declares a prominent politician promised himself and others implicated that the next circuit attorney would be "all right," and promised if they would remain firm he would secure for them either continuances until the next circuit attorney took office or pardons afterwards. He declares the politician said the new circuit attorney, for which office the Democrats today made their nomination, would be "his man."

Kelly declared the politician paid him $15,000 of $50,000 promised to keep away from the grand jury, before which he had been subpoened to appear after John K. Murrell returned from Mexico and turned states' evidence in the city lighting deal. He went to Europe by way of Canada, taking the name of James Logan. It was the intention of the politician, Kelly said, to have him remain away until after the statute of limitations had run out on the lighting deal. By a miscalculation, Kelly said, he came back too soon, and was arrested.

Kelly is under conviction for perjury in connection with "boodle" cases, and his trial on the charge of bribery in connection with the suburban franchise deal will be called Monday. He is now out on bonds.

Honor will Go to Widow.

London, Oct. 5.—The St. James Gazette says the late William Vernon Harcourt, who twice refused a peerage, eventually accepted the honor and would have been gazetted Baron Malwould on the next birthday honor list. "Fate," the paper adds, has rendered the event impossible, but it is deemed probable that a baronetcy following the proceedure on the death of W. H Smith, who was a minister of war in Lord Salisbury's cabinets of 1885 and 1886, will nevertheless be conferred on Lady Harcourt"

Great Damage in Texas.

Fort Worth, Tex., Oct. 5.—A special to the Record from Pecos says: A message was received here from Carlsbad at 3 P. M., saying 80 feet of the McMillan dam and all bridges, the power dam, electric light plant and a cotton gin were washed away today by the big rise in the Pecos river, caused by heavy rains in the mountains north and west of Roswell. All bridges between Carlsbad and Portales are washed out on the Santa Fe. The total damage to the railroad and irrigation company will exceed $400,000.

Day Home from Alaska.

Washington, Oct. 5.—Judge Day, who was sent to Alaska last June to investigate charges brought against Judges Brown and Wickersham and various other officials of the judiciary, has returned to Washington to report to the attorney general and president. On his report, the president will determine whether the judges and various district attorneys and marshals shall be reappointed or whether service demands new men.

Lives of Four Snuffed Out.

Cartersville, Ga., Oct. 5.—By the falling of earth and ore in the Morgan mine, the lives of four men were snuffed out here today. Two others are seriously injured and are expected to die.

CAUGHT BY FLOOD.

Twelve People Drowned at Watrous, New Mexico.

Las Vegas, N. M., Oct. 5 —Half the town of Watrous was destroyed by the flood and at least 12 persons were drowned.

Many persons were rescued from trees and housetops. The greatest damage was around the junction of Mora and Sapello creeks. The rock crusher, the great iron bridge and much track at Watrous were washed away.

The Gallinas river formed a new channel here. In the Gallinas canon, the dams of the Aqua Pura company broke, bringing a terrific flood on the city. The Montezuma-Hot Springs track went out in many places. Half a dozen bridges were destroyed and the Montezuma bath houses were partly carried away. The Santa Fe loss here is $40,000. The Aqua Pura company's loss is $15,000.

For two blocks on Bridge street every business house was flooded. The big Ilfield brick store was ruined and the bridge undermined. Twenty merchants estimates their loss at from $2,000 to $4,000 each.

Gallinas park is under water and the trolley line cannot be repaired for two weeks. The race meet to have been held here next week has been declared off. One hundred thousand dollars will not cover the loss to the town and the railroad loss is equal to that of recent floods in Arizona.

TOWNS WASHED AWAY.

Rio Grande Cuts New Channel and Hundreds are Homeless.

Albuquerque, N. M., Oct. 5.—Reports from the floods in the Rio Grande valley above and below this city are coming in. The towns of Valencia and Los Lentes were practically washed away and several hundred families are homeless. The river swung to the east, cut a new channel, and poured a torrent through the two towns. No lives were lost.

The Barelass suburbs of this city suffered the most in this immediate vicinity, about 50 houses being destroyed.

Ignacio Gutierres, a commissioner of Sandoval county, telephoned that the damage at Los Cordales and Alameda, above the city, will amount to several hundred thousand dollars.

There is one passenger train from Southern California at Gallup and another from San Francisco at Winslow, while the other trains from California are held here. The local officials cannot say when the trains will arrive or depart, and the traffic situation is serious.

Many feet of track is reported gone at Ortiz, at Cerrillos, Waldo, Thornton and Bernalillo, and above and below this city at Rincon, Amarillo, N. M., and Isleta.

DROP INTO CELLAR.

Many People Injured at Church Corner Stone Laying.

Adams, Mass., Oct. 5.—While Right Rev. Thomas D. Beaven, Roman Catholic bishop of Springfield, was laying the corner stone of St. Stanislaus' Polish church, a floor collapsed, precipitating 150 persons into the basement. A dozen persons were injured, several seriously. Bishop Beaven and several of the priests assisting him were slightly hurt.

Some 7,000 persons attended the ceremony and about 200 were seated or standing on the floor which covered the newly made basement. Just as the bishop was about to lay the stone a section of the flooring, about 40 feet square, collapsed, dropping 12 feet, and carrying with it the bishop, the clergy and about 140 others.

In the confusion that followed many were trampled upon and half suffocated. Bishop Beven was caught in the crush but was able to save himself from serious injury. He was bruised about the body and had his hands scratched.

Breastplates Will Not Be Made.

Rome, Oct. 5.—Some time ago the Russian government ordered 100,000 bullet proof breastplates of the type invented by Signor Benedetti. The latter recently started for St. Petersburg to supervise the manufacture of the breastplates, but was stopped at Munich by the Italian firm to which he had sold the rights to manufacture, and which objected to Signor Benedetti's intervention in the matter, and he returned to Italy. The firm had also undertaken to supply the Japanese government with 200,000 breastplates.

Bloodiest of the Siege.

Tokio, Oct. 5.—Reports have been received by the war office to the effect that the death struggle at Port Arthur has been resumed. The Russians have made several valiant attempts to retake the strong positions around and including Fort Kuropatkin, but were repulsed after three hours' fighting. The engagements were among the bloodiest since the siege began, and the losses on both sides number many thousands. Several times during the assault the troops came so near each other, they fought hand-to-hand.

Train of Sick and Wounded.

General Oku's Headquarters in the Field, Oct. 5.—The first southbound train on the railway left this afternoon carrying 490 Japanese wounded, 100 sick and 33 wounded Russian prisoners on the way to Japan. The wounded are practically the last of the Japanese wounded at the battle of Liao Yang. The hospitals are now devoted to those suffering from beri beri and other diseases.

Gunboat Hit by a Mine.

Tokio, Oct. 5.—It is rumored that a Japanese gunboat hit a mine and sunk south of the Liao Ting peninsula. A portion of her crew reached an island and were rescued. The navy department does not deny the report, but says that the department lacks confirmatory information.

Secret of the Plundered Safe

By EMILE GABORIAU

CHAPTER VIII.—(Continued.)

As he spoke M. LeCoq took from his desk and unrolled a large sheet of drawing paper. On this paper was photographed the door of M. Fauvel's safe. The scratch was indicated with great exactness.

"Now," said M. Lecoq, here is our scratch. It runs from top to bottom, starting from the hole in the lock, diagonally, and from left to right; that is to say, it terminates on the side next to the private staircase leading to the banker's apartments. Although very deep at the keyhole, it ends in a scarcely perceptible mark."

"Yes, patron, I see that."

"Naturally you thought that this scratch was made by the person who took the money. Let us see if you were right. I have here a little iron box painted with green varnish like M Fauvel's safe; here it is. Take a key and try to scratch it. The paint is very hard, my friend, and yet that on the safe is still harder and thicker. So you see the scratch you discovered could not have been made by the trembling hand of a thief letting the key slip."

"Whew!" exclaimed Fanferlot, stupefied; "I never should have thought of that. It certainly required great force to make the deep scratch on the safe."

"Yes, but how was that force employed? I have been racking my brain for three days, and only yesterday did I come to a conclusion. Let us examine together and see if our conjectures present enough chances of probability to establish a starting point."

M. Lecoq abandoned the photograph and, walking to the door communicating with his bedroom, took the key from the lock, and, holding it in his hand, said:

"Come here, Fanferlot, and stand by my side; there; very well. Now, suppose that I want to open this door, and you don't want me to open it; when you see me about to insert the key what would be your first impulse?"

"To put my hands on your arm and draw it toward me so as to prevent your introducing the key."

"Precisely so. Now let us try it; go on." Fanferlot obeyed; and the key held by M. Lecoq, pulled aside from the lock, slipped along the door, and traced upon it a diagonal scratch, from top to bottom, the exact reproduction of the one in the photograph.

"Oh, oh, oh!" exclaimed Fanferlot, in three different tones of admiration, as he stood gazing in a reverie at the door. "What a man you are! I see the scene as if I had been present. Two persons were present at the robbery; one wished to take the money, the other wished to prevent its being taken. That is clear, certain, and it proves that I am correct in thinking the cashier innocent."

"How so?"

"Because, at perfect liberty to open the safe whenever he wished to do so, it is not likely that he would have brought a witness when he intended to commit the theft."

"Well reasoned, Fanferlot. But on this supposition the banker would be equally innocent. Look for the real rogue, the one who opened the safe, and stole the notes, and who is still at large, while others are suspected."

"Impossible, patron—impossible! Don't you know that M. Fauvel and his cashier had keys, and they only? And they always kept these keys in their pockets."

"On the evening of the robbery the banker left his key in the secretary."

"Yes; but the key alone was not sufficient to open the safe; the word must also be known. That name was 'Gypsy.'"

"Which is the name of the cashier's cousin. Now keep your eyes open. The day you find a man sufficiently intimate with Bertomy to be aware of all the circumstances connected with this name, and at the same time on a footing with the Fauvel family which would give him the privilege of entering M. Fauvel's chamber, then, and not till then, you will discover the guilty party. On that day the problem will be solved."

"We shall certainly succeed if you interest yourself in the case."

"Yes, I am interested in it, and during the last four days I have discovered many important facts. But listen to me. I have reasons for not appearing in this affair. No matter what happens, I forbid you mentioning my name."

"I will obey your instructions and be discreet."

"I shall rely upon you. Now, to begin, you must carry this photograph to the judge of instruction. Explain to him as if it were your own discovery, what I have just shrown you; repeat for his benefit the scene we have just acted, and I am convinced that this evidence will determine him to release the cashier. Prosper must be at liberty before I can commence my operations."

Fanferlot was joyously picking up his hat to go when M. Lecoq checked him by waving his hand, and said:

"I have not finished. You know how to drive a carriage and manage horses? Very well. As soon as the judge dismisses you return home immediately, make yourself a wig and the complete dress of a valet; and, having dressed yourself, take this letter to the agency on the Rue Delorme. The agent will send you to M. de Clameran, who is looking for a valet, his man having left him yesterday."

"Excuse me if I venture to suggest that you are making a mistake. This Clameran is not the cashier's friend."

"Why do you always interrupt me?" said M. Lecoq, imperiously. "Do what I tell you, and don't disturb your mind about the rest. Clameran is not a friend of Prosper's, I know, but he is the friend and protector of Raoul de Lagors. Why so? Whence the intimacy of these two men of such different ages? That is what I must find out. I must also find out who this ironmaster is, who lives in Paris, and never goes to attend to his furnaces. Through you I will have an eye upon him. He has a carriage; you are to drive it, and you will soon be able to give me an account of his manner of life, and of the sort of people with whom he associates."

"You will be obeyed. Where shall I report to you?"

"I will call on you every day. Until I tell you differently don't step foot in this house; you might be followed. If anything important should happen send a note to your wife, and she will inform me. Go, and be prudent."

The door closed on Fanferlot as M. Lecoq passed into his bedroom. In the twinkling of an eye he had divested himself of the appearance of a police officer. He took off his stiff cravat and gold spectacles, and removed the close wig from his thick black hair. The official Lecoq had disappeared, leaving in his place the genuine Lecoq whom nobody knew—a handsome young man, with a bold, determined manner, and brilliant, piercing eyes.

Meanwhile Fanferlot did not run, but flew, toward the Palais de Justice. At last he was now able to convince some one that he, Fanferlot, was a man of wonderful perspicacity. His hopes were not deceived. If the judge was not absolutely and fully convinced he admired the ingenuity of the whole proceeding.

"This decides me," he said, as he dismissed Fanferlot. "I will make out a favorable report to-day; and it is highly probable that the accused will be released to-morrow."

He began at once to write out one of those terrible decisions of "Not proven," which restores liberty, but not honor, to the accused man; which says that he is not guilty, but does not say he is innocent.

CHAPTER IX.

Prosper had been languishing in his lonely cell for nine days, when on Thursday morning the jailer came to inform him of the judge's decision. He was conducted before the officer who had searched him when he was arrested; and the contents of his pockets, his watch, penknife and several articles of jewelry were restored to him; then he was told to sign a receipt.

He was next led across a dark passage, and almost pushed through a door, which abruptly shut upon him. He found himself on the quay; he was alone; he was free, but only acquittal after due trial would restore him to his former position among men.

Having arrived in front of Gypay's house, he hesitated to cross the threshold. He experienced the timidity of an honest man who is suspected of a crime; he feared to meet a familiar face. However, as he could not remain all day on the pavement, he went in. The janitor uttered a joyful exclamation on seeing him.

"I am delighted to see you again!" he said. "I felt that you would come back as white as snow. When I read in the newspapers that you were accused of robbery I said to every one, 'He is innocent!'"

"Madam has, no doubt, left here?" he said; "do you know where she has gone?"

"No, monsieur. On the day of your arrest she sent for a cab, put all her boxes into it, and drove away without saying where she was going. Since then we have heard nothing of her. When your father left this morning at 8 o'clock he told me that one of his friends remained, whom I was to look upon as the master until your return. You know him, doubtless, a stout man, about your height, with red whiskers."

Prosper was greatly astonished. A friend of his father occupying the house! What did that mean? However, he concealed his surprise.

"Yes, I know him," he said. Then, rapidly ascending the staircase, he rang his own bell.

The cashier did not recollect having seen him before.

"I am delighted to make your acquaintance," said the man, with a bow. "That you are surprised to see me here, you were about to observe. I can easily understand. Your father intended to introduce me to you, but he was obliged to leave for Beaucaire this morning. I am glad to say he went away as convinced as I am that you have not taken a sou belonging to M. Fauvel. This letter," continued the stout gentleman, "will serve as an introduction, I hope."

The cashier took the letter, opened it, and as he read his face brightened and the blood returned to his cheeks. Having finished the letter, he held out his hand to the stout gentleman, who shook it warmly.

"My father tells me," said Prosper, "that you are one of his best friends. He tells me to place implicit confidence in you and to act entirely on your advice."

"Just so. This morning your father said to me, 'Verduret—that is my name—Verduret, my son is in a painful position. You must get him out of it.' I answered, 'All right, I will do my best.' Now the ice is broken, let us discuss the question. What are you going to do?"

"What am I going to do? I am going to find out the wretch who has caused my ruin, and hand him over to justice—to revenge myself."

"Exactly; and have you any clew to the guilty person?"

"None, and yet I shall succeed, for a man who devotes his whole life to the accomplishment of a task cannot fail."

"Well said, M. Prosper; I fully expected such would be your intention, and I have already been looking into the case. I have formed a plan. To begin with, you must disappear."

"Disappear!" cried the cashier, indignantly. "Disappear! that would be a confession of guilt, would authorize the world to say that I am hiding so as to enjoy undisturbed the stolen fortune."

"Well, what then?" said Red Whiskers. "Did you not say just now that the sacrifice of your life was made? You have an enemy? Some petty imprudence will betray him. But while he sees you standing on the watch he will be on his guard. Let us reflect on the course you should pursue. Now listen. You have a friend, M. de Lagors? Who is this fellow?"

"M. de Lagors, monsieur," said Prosper haughtily, "is M. Fauvel's nephew; a wealthy young man, handsome, intelligent, cultivated, and the best friend I have."

"Humph!" said M. Verduret. "I shall be delighted to make the acquaintance of one adorned with so many charming qualities. I must let you know that I wrote him a note in your name asking him to come here, and he sent word that he would be here directly. I must see this young man. Also I have arranged and will submit to you a little plan of conversation——"

A ring at the front door interrupted M. Verduret.

"Adieu to my plan; here he is. Remember, Prosper," said M. Verduret, in a warning tone, "not one word to this man about your plans, or about me. Pretend to be discouraged, helpless and undecided what to do."

And he disappeared behind a curtain as Prosper ran to open the door. Prosper's portrait of M. de Lagors had not been an exaggerated one. So handsome a face and manly a figure could only belong to a noble character. His first impulse was to throw himself into Prosper's arms.

"Your letter, my dear Prosper," said Raoul, "made me almost ill. I was so frightened by it. I asked myself if you could have lost your mind. Then I left everything to fly to your assistance, and here I am."

Prosper did not seem to hear him; he was preoccupied about the letter he had not written.

"You must not feel discouraged," continued M. de Lagors, "you are young enough to commence life anew. Your friends are still left to you. Rely on me. I am rich, half of my fortune is at your disposal."

"Thanks, Raoul," he said, with emotion, "thank you. But unfortunately all the money in the world would be of no use now. I have made no plans yet. My mind is too confused for me to think."

"I will tell you what to do," replied Raoul, quickly; "you must start afresh; until this mysterious robbery is explained you must keep away from Paris. It will never do for you to remain here. I have been talking about you to Clameran. 'If I were in Prosper's place,' he said, 'I would turn everything into money and embark for America; there I would make a fortune and return to crush with my millions those who have suspected me.'"

"I will think it over," Prosper finally forced himself to say. "I will see. I would like to know what M. Fauvel says."

"My uncle? I suppose you know that I have declined the offer he made me to enter his banking house, and we have almost quarreled. I have not set foot in his house for over a month; but I hear of him occasionally. My uncle, they say, is more distressed by this affair than you are. He does not attend to his business, and wanders about as if he had lost every friend on earth."

"And Mme. Fauvel, and——" Prosper hesitated—"and Mlle. Madeleine, how are they?"

"Oh," said Raoul, lightly, "my aunt is as pious as ever. As to my handsome, icy cousin, she cannot bring herself down to common matters, because she is entirely absorbed in preparing for the fancy ball to be given day after to-morrow by the Jandidiers. She has discovered, so one of her friends told me, a wonderful dressmaker, a foreigner who has suddenly appeared from no one knows where, who is making a costume of Catherine de Medici's maids of honor; and it is to be a marvel of beauty."

Excessive suffering brings with it a sort of dull insensibility and stupor; and Prosper thought that there was nothing left to be inflicted upon him.

"I must leave you now, my dear Prosper; on Saturday I will see these ladies at the ball, and will bring you news of them. Now, do have courage, and remember that, whatever happens, you have a friend in me."

(To be continued.)

ARE TREATED LIKE SERFS.

Servants in Russia Cannot Testify in Court Against Their Masters.

Although serfdom was abolished in Russia many years ago by the first Nicholas, the conditions of the working people there have not greatly improved. The lot of the domestic servant is especially hard. He is hired for one year and is told exactly what his particular duty is to be. He then sticks to that one duty. As long as each servant faithfully performs the special duties of his position all is well, but the neglectful butler or cook or coachman is sent by the employer with a written note to the police judge, who, after carefully investigating the complaints, has a right to order bodily punishment or to write a bad mark in the book kept for this purpose.

In great Russian households often from twenty to fifty servants are kept, and even the middle-class families have from two to four. The pay of these servants varies according to the line of work. While the "chiefs" in the kitchens of wealthy families often receive $1,500 a year, a cook in an ordinary citizen's employ gets no more than $60 a year, and a maid of all work never gets more than $25 a year At Easter every servant gets a present, generally a suit or dress.

Every other Sunday the servants in a Russian household are entirely free. Their work stops Saturday night after supper, when the servants leave the house not to return until the next Monday morning. The employers never ask where or how the free time is spent.

Russian servants will pilfer. Since Russian ladies leave everything to the care of the servants, the latter do as they please.

The men servants smoke cigars belonging to their masters and pay frequent visits to the wine cellars of the house, but a gentleman would consider it "demeaning" himself to prosecute a servant for this.

The Russian servants will talk about fellow servants, but never about their employers. Even when they quit one place and take service in another family they would never mention anything about their former masters. This discretion goes so far that even the law considers it. In Russia the law excludes servants as witnesses against their former or present employers, so long, at least, as these servants are not suspected of having taken part in the crime.

TATTOOED WITH SYMBOLS.

Filipino's Cuticle an Incriminating Document.

A man was taken to constabulary headquarters yesterday whose body was an art gallery. His breast, back and arms had been rendered completely antinganting by tattooers, working under the skillful guidance of antinganting priests. He was visiting his querida in Manila when arrested.

He was not an unprepossessing native, but he had too many incriminating documents to roam around in a wild state, so he was arrested as a suspicious character. He gave his name as Sylvester Gomez. His antingantings were above suspicion, as well as above price, and had they been worked on a garment, as is customary, he would have been despoiled of it for a curio.

Over his heart he had worked a conventional figure of an altar, with a cross superimposed. This he said was an antinganting. On his right breast was a human heart, inverted, surmounted by a cross, with three letters above it. When asked what particular brand of anting this was he only grinned the wider. It is believed that this fantastic design is the reminder of some vow that he took during the insurrection. Three more letters and a cross were tattooed in the hollow of his back. He said that these were never known to fail to keep off diseases, and, indeed, it must be confessed that he seemed to be an extraordinarily healthy animal.

Then there were long disarrangements of the alphabet across his breast and all down his arms. They looked as if somebody had attempted to write a lot of seditious newspaper headlines in Tagalog and had run short of copy paper, and so had to use Gomez for a writing tablet. He explained that these would keep off bullets, and they looked as if they would. —Manila Cable News.