

# THE MASTER KEY

CHAPTER XXVI.

Wilkerson Again on the Trail.  
It had not been difficult for Harry Wilkerson and Mrs. Darnell to trace Faversham and his party from the time they landed to their arrival in Bhalis. But the idol itself, the object of their quest, still concealed its whereabouts in spite of the most minute inquiries.

"We'll simply have to watch Dorr," Wilkerson said at last. "We know he



Jean Darnell Bullenly Agreed.

is on the trail, and we'll just follow him. Sooner or later we'll catch him." Jean Darnell bullenly agreed, but privately confided to Drake that she thought Wilkerson had lost his nerve. The climate did not suit her, nor the food, nor the primitive modes of travel, and her temper grew worse and worse. Drake promised to do some investigating on his own hook. He was once more completely under the woman's domination, and he dreamed of finding the precious papers himself and so putting Wilkerson out of the running.

Strangely enough, the man, weakly vicious as he was, was possessed by an honest and whole souled love for Jean. She knew this, and at times her tawny eyes rested on him with unmistakable affection, but she knew perfectly well that she would choose Wilkerson provided he made good by gaining the master key and uncovering the wealth of the great mother lode.



"The idol isn't there any longer," Drake continued. but a white man who lives with the natives hinted that they had taken it up the river into the hills." With this slight clue both Drake and Wilkerson toiled unwearyingly until they had established the fact that the idol had indeed been sent into another part of the country for safe keeping.

Then they prepared to follow, having found out that Dorr and Faver-

sham had vanished and were supposed also to have gone hillward. Mrs. Darnell most unwillingly consented to stay behind, but yielded when Drake set before her the difficulties and perils of the road they must take.

Both men promised to be gone only so long as would be needful to recover the idol, and to both separately she made it plain that she had gone as far as she would in helping them.

The two men found a couple of half-bloods to their liking and by judicious expenditure of money managed to get together a small band to accompany them into the hills.

It was impressed upon them that the trip was dangerous and that the hill-men frequently dropped what small pretense they offered of peaceableness and warred on friend and foe alike. It was through these also that they learned more specifically the route taken by the priests in charge of the idol.

Equipped at last, they started forth and for two days kept pretty closely to the river, which wound about through the hills, mounting slowly to its source in the mountains.

Several times they heard of Faversham and Dorr, but Wilkerson refused to turn aside or delay once on the trail of the idol. And at last they came within view of the little cascade which was escorting the god to a place of safety.

Vile as were the men he had hired, Wilkerson dared not trust them too far. He knew that they were superstitious, and he feared that when it came to a battle between avarice and insouciant terror of the supernatural he would be left in the lurch.

So he warned Drake not to appear too anxious and by no means to let their followers know that they intended to seize the image and take it away with them.

"But if the papers are in that idol," Drake protested, "we ought to be able to get them and replace the old image, with nobody a jot the worse." "That may be possible," was the response. "On the other hand, the plans may be concealed so that it will take time to find them."

They discussed a dozen plans and finally decided that the next night the two of them, accompanied only by their guide, should make the trial.

him, a couple of more shots and then took to his heels in good earnest as he heard rapid footsteps. A moment later Wilkerson had caught up to him, panting and dragging the sack, which he had refused to surrender.

Between them they carried it on further and then rested in a slight hollow till their guide came up. "If the idol isn't in this sack," Wilkerson said with a snarl, "I'll go back and shoot up the whole outfit and get it."

When the things were out and the great bag opened the first object that met their eyes was the image they sought, glimmering in the half light. The moment he saw it and knew that his quest was ended Wilkerson flung the rest of the stuff away and boldly got to his feet.

"Now for our own camp. We'll just see where those plans are," he growled. Drake and the guide both protested in vain. Safely away from pursuit, they lit a light and examined their find.

"It's the same one," Wilkerson said triumphantly. "Made of metal, too," said Drake slowly. "Now, where are the plans?" "Inside of it!" announced his companion, beating on the idol with his knuckles. "Now to find out the opening."

It did not take long for him to discover the movable eye, and when he had pulled that out he thrust his finger in and withdrew it with a folded paper. "Safe and sound," he exulted, dropping the image to the ground, where it lay staring grotesquely at the stars through its single eye.

Drake and Wilkerson carefully examined their find, and Wilkerson laughed almost hysterically. "The gold isn't a thousand feet from the main tunnel of the 'Master Key' mine!" he said triumphantly and thrust the plans into his bosom before Drake could say more.

"If those plans are lost or anything happens to you," Drake said, with an ugly note in his voice, "all our troubles go for nothing. I am entitled to a copy of those plans!" Wilkerson laughed in his face, and the expression on his saturnine visage made even the brutal guide cringe backward.

"Give you a copy?" he snarled. "When I've hunted for them all these years and suffered the agonies of hell on account of them? They're mine! All that gold is mine! Mine! Mine, I tell you!" This last he almost shouted into the still air, and Drake drew back.

"At least let them have their idol," he muttered, picking it up. Wilkerson snatched it away from him with a gesture at once childish and murderous. "I think I'll keep this for a memento," he cried, careless of who might hear him.

### 11 INDICTMENTS ARE RETURNED BY THE GRAND JURY

SPECIAL SESSION OF INVESTIGATORS IS COMPLETED WEDNESDAY MORNING.

#### ANGUS M'KINNON WILL FACE TRIAL ON A LIQUOR CHARGE

Jury Refuses to Release Beaver Creek Man—One Woodchopper, Martin Parsich, Is Included in List.

### CAPTAIN TELLS OF CAPTURE BY GERMAN RAIDER

AUXILIARY CRUISER ENTERS AMERICAN PORT AFTER SINKING SHIP.

#### BARK WILLIAM P. FRYE IS SUNK BY PRINZ EITEL FREDRICH

Protest of Ship's Master Is Ignored and Grain Is Held to be Contraband—Charge of Dynamite Used.

NEWPORT NEWS, Va., March 10.—The German auxiliary cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich, after a commerce-destrorying cruise over the Pacific and in the south Atlantic, January 25, Atlantic Oceana, which culminated in the sinking of an American vessel made this port today and anchored for supplies and repairs.

The sinking of the American ship the William P. Frye, a sailing vessel bound from Seattle to Queenstown with 5200 tons of wheat, most concerned American port officials here.

H. H. Kiehne, of Baltimore, master of the American ship, after leaving the Prinz Eitel Friedrich with Customs Collector Hamilton today, told a dramatic story of his experiences. With him were his wife and two children.

"Despite my protestation that I was the American master of an American ship, the German cruiser Prinz Eitel Friedrich sank the William P. Frye on the morning of January 28, blowing a big hole through her vitals with a charge of dynamite," said Captain Kiehne.

"I was almost becalmed when the German ship appeared about 2 o'clock on the afternoon of January 27. My ship was barely moving and I paid no attention to the first order from the German ship to lay to. However, she bore down on me and I brought my craft to a standstill. After learning that I carried a cargo of wheat the German captain told me that it was contraband and that he intended to destroy it. I protested, but no attention was paid to my statements.

### ROADS PROSPEROUS ASSERT ENGINEERS

CHICAGO, March 10.—A compilation asserting that the railroads have been prosperous in the last few years, that the prospect for them and for other industries in 1915 is good, and noting a change of sentiment in favor of the railroads, was introduced today at the arbitration of the wage demands of the engineers of western railroads. It was the last of the many statistical exhibits analyzed by W. J. Lauck, who was excused from the witness stand, and was the final word of the Brotherhoods on the ability of the railroads to pay the increases requested.

### WINNER ACKNOWLEDGES REWARD.

Oregon City, Ore., Mar. 9 '15. Mr. E. E. Brodie, Editor Oregon City Enterprise, Oregon City, Oregon.

### REDLAND PARTNERS ARE NOW IN COURT

Hans Seydel and Carl Mohaupt, former partners on a farm belonging to W. M. Stone in the Redland district, are the plaintiff and defendant in a suit filed in the circuit court Wednesday asking that the partnership be dissolved and a receiver appointed.

### C. S. NOBLE RECEIVES GERMAN IRON CROSS

C. S. Noble has received an iron cross, awarded by the Kaiser to soldiers showing valor in the field, from his son, George Bernard Noble, who is connected with Belgian Relief work in Europe.

### LOCAL BRIEFS

C. P. Leonard sold the "Canby Herald" Tuesday to B. O. Brookings, of Hubbard. Mr. Leonard is going to South Dakota, his former home, the end of March where he will take charge of a large leather establishment which he owns.

William Stone, a farmer living two miles past Cherryville, was in Oregon City this week. He came to receive a bounty on several wildcats which he had killed, the hides of which he had with him.

Mr. and Mrs. John C. Holcomb who live at the old fish hatchery at Stone on the Clackamas, were in Oregon City Wednesday.

N. S. Oldham, who is running the farm of Gordon E. Hayes, at Stafford, was in the city Wednesday.

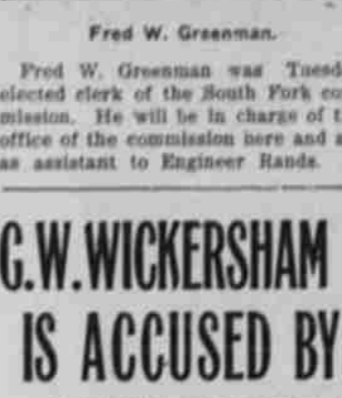
Contracts for expending \$600,000 on Teal irrigation tracts in Umatilla county have been let to Porter Bros.

### OFFICERS PICKED BY BUILDERS OF SOUTH FORK LINE

FRED GREENMAN IS CLERK; M. D. LATOUILLE, SECRETARY; PHILLIPS, TREASURER.

BIDS FOR \$375,000 BOND ISSUE WILL BE OPENED HERE MARCH 22

Two More Engineering Parties Take to the Field—Engineer H. A. Rands Names Assistants For Two Districts.



Fred W. Greenman was Tuesday elected clerk of the South Fork commission. He will be in charge of the office of the commission here and act as assistant to Engineer Rands.

### G.W. WICKERSHAM IS ACCUSED BY J. KRUTTSCHNITT

SOUTHERN PACIFIC CHARGES COERCION AGAINST FORMER FEDERAL OFFICIAL.

#### FORCED SALE THREATENED IS ASSERTION OF RAIL MAGNATE

Testimony Is Given at Suit to Unravel Two Concerns—Agreement of Sale Is Introduced as Evidence.

SAN FRANCISCO, March 10.—Testifying today in the suit of the federal government to unmerge the Central and Southern Pacific railroads, Julius Kruttschnitt, chairman of the executive board of the Southern Pacific company, charged that George W. Wickersham, ex-United States attorney general, coerced and compelled the Southern Pacific into an agreement to sell the Central Pacific to the Union Pacific railroad for \$104,000,000.

"The Southern Pacific company signed the agreement with the Union Pacific to sell the latter the Central Pacific at a price of \$104,000,000 under the compulsion and coercion of the attorney general of the United States, who threatened me with a forced sale of the line if it were not sold to the Union Pacific," said Mr. Kruttschnitt.

"I went to the attorney general personally," continued the witness, "and protested vehemently against his action, telling him that it would destroy the Southern Pacific."

"His only reply was, 'I am going to apply equal compulsion to the Union Pacific.'" In the record of the hearing was introduced the agreement of sale which was entered into between the Union and Southern Pacific at the command of Mr. Wickersham after the United States supreme court ordered the dissolution of the Union and Southern Pacific railroads in 1913.

### FRECKLES

February and March Worst Months for This Trouble—How to Remove Easily.

There's a reason why nearly everybody freckles in February and March, but happily there is also a remedy for these ugly blemishes, and no one need stay freckled.

### MARRIAGE KNOT FOUND DIFFICULT TO UNTIE

J. A. LOCKE, WITH PENITENTIARY SENTENCE NEAR, TRIES TO DIVORCE WIFE.

The attempt of J. A. Locke, who has a sentence in the state penitentiary now hanging over him, to secure a divorce from Jessie Locke ended in a failure Wednesday when Judge Campbell dismissed a hearing in the circuit court stating that the case with out of his jurisdiction.

Mr. and Mrs. Locke were married at Economy, Ind., November 7, 1897, and moved to Oregon in 1907. They lived in Portland and Locke was employed on the United Railways and the Oregon Electric during their life in that city. March 12, 1914, Locke filed a suit for a divorce on the general grounds of cruel and inhuman treatment and the decree was signed May 11, 1914, by Judge Campbell. Many charges were made by Locke including the assertion that his wife several times threatened to take his life.

Last fall Locke was arrested, tried and convicted in Eugene on a charge of polygamy, but before the case was completed, Mrs. Locke brought an action to set aside the decree, alleging that she had not been properly served with the notice of the original divorce suit, and was successful. Locke took an appeal in the criminal action to the supreme court and the case is still pending.

### RIGHT-OF-WAY VALUED AT \$500.

A judgment for \$500 was secured by Irvine Wheeler against the Molalla Electric company in the suit of the company to condemn a right-of-way for a power canal across the Wheeler farm near Canby. The canal crosses a 12-acre tract from corner to corner. Hammond & Hammond represented Irvine Wheeler and Clark Skulason & Clark the electric company.

Two new engineering parties were put into the field Tuesday by Engineer Rands, making a total of three. Wilfred A. White, once engineer for the city and for several years connected with the Hill lines, is in charge of the work in the upper 10 miles from Estacada to the intake and W. L. Sharp, who took part in the location survey and assisted H. A. Rands when he was with the Portland Railway, Light & Power company, is in charge of the other 15 miles from Estacada to the reservoir at Mountain View.

Both Engineers White and Sharp are preparing the right-of-way for the clearing gangs that are expected to go to work before the end of this month. A third party under S. A. Cobb, a local engineer with offices in the Beaver building, is at work in the Abernathy canyon, making a revision of the line which will shorten the total distance several hundred feet. This cut-off is made possible by a change from wood to steel as the steel line is able to stand a much higher pressure. A similar change will be made in the Clear creek canyon and near Estacada. The party under Engineer Cobb will complete their work in about two weeks.

Among those with the parties now in the field are Wilbur Andrews, Ben Harding and Ellis Frink, of this city.

The Woman's Social Service club of Oak Grove and vicinity will meet with Mrs. A. B. Brown on March 11. The program consists of "The Recall" by Mrs. Dunham and "Boycott—Laidler," by Mrs. Paget, followed by music.

Rheumatism Yields Quickly to Sloan's. You can't prevent an attack of Rheumatism from coming on, but you can stop it almost immediately. Sloan's Liniment gently applied to the sore joint or muscle penetrates in a few minutes to the inflamed spot that causes the pain. It soothes the hot, tender, swollen feeling, and in a very short time brings a relief that is almost unbelievable until you experience it. Get a bottle of Sloan's Liniment for 25c. of any Druggist and have it in the house—against Colds, Sore and Swollen Joints, Lumbago, Sciatica and like ailments. Your money back if not satisfied. But it does give almost instant relief. (Adv.)

No. 209 REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF

### Farmers Bank of Wilsonville

at Wilsonville, in the State of Oregon, at the close of business March 4th, 1915.

Resources	
Loans and discounts	\$ 38,354.96
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured	10.13
Bonds and warrants	12,030.25
Banking house	1,026.11
Furniture and fixtures	2,281.71
Due from approved reserve banks	29,233.79
Cash on hand	3,353.76
Total	\$ 86,290.74
Liabilities	
Capital stock paid in	\$ 15,000.00
Surplus fund	3,000.00
Undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid	8,519.73
Individual deposits subject to check	43,149.83
Certified checks	525.00
Time certificates of deposit	16,096.10
Total	\$ 86,290.74

STATE OF OREGON, County of Clackamas.—s.

I, Joe J. Thornton, Cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

JOE J. THORNTON, Cashier.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 8th day of March, 1915.

KATE WOLBERT, Notary Public for Oregon.

CORRECT—Attest:

J. W. THORNTON,  
K. C. THORNTON,  
Directors.