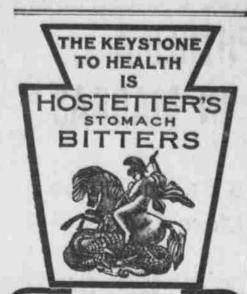
I asked the menagerie proprietor. "We avail ourselves of an experienced baggage man," he replied. "An experienced baggage man?" I

repeated with wonderment. "Yes," he explained patiently, although it was evident that he was nettled by my stupidity, "we get a man who knows how to smash trunks."



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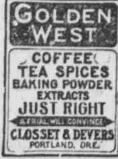
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## THE QUICKENING

## FRANCIS LYNDE

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CHAPTER V. On rare occasions the Major, riding to or from the cross-roads post-office in Hargis' store, would rein in his horse at the Gordon gate and ask for a drink of water from the Gordon well. such times Thomas Jefferson remarked that his mother always hastened to serve the Major with her own hands; this notwithstanding her own and Uncle Silas' oft-repeated asseveration touching the Major's unenviable preeminence as a Man of Sin. Also, he remarked that the Major's manner at such moments was a thing to dazzle the eye, like the reflection of the summer sun on the surface of burnished metal. But beneath the polished exterior, the groping perceptions of the boy would touch a thing repellant; a thing to stir a slow current of resent-

It was Thomas Jefferson's first collision with the law of caste; a law Draconian in the Old South. Before the war, when Deer Trace Manor had been a seigniory with its six score black thralls, there had been no visiting between the great house on the inner knoll and the overgrown log homestead at the Iron furnace. Quarrel there was none, nor any shadow of enmity; but the Dabneys were lords of the soil, and the Gordons were crafts-

ment in his blood.

Even in war the distinction was maintained. The Dabneys, father and son, were officers, having their commissions at the enrollment; while Caleb Gordon, whose name headed the list of the Paradise volunteers, began and ended a private in the ranks.

In the years of heart-hardenings which followed, a breach was opened, narrow at first, and hever very deep, but wide enough to serve. Caleb Gordon had accepted defeat openly and honestly, and for this the unreconstructed Major had never fully forgiven him. It was an added proof that there was no redeeming drop in the Gordon veins-and Major Caspar was as scrupulously polite to Caleb Gordon't wife as he would have been, and was, to the helpmate of Tike Bryerson, mountaineer and distiller of illicit

Thomas Jefferson was vaguely indignant when Pettigrass came to ask his father to go forthwith to the manorhouse. In the mouth of the foreman he invitation took on something of the flavor of a command. None the less, he was eager for news when his father came back, and though he got it only from overhearing the answer to his mother's question, it was satisfyingly

"It's mighty near as we talked, Martha. The Major lumps the railroad in with all the other improvements, calls 'em Yankees, and h'ists his battle-flag. The engineer, that smart young fellow with the peaked whiskers and the eyeglasses, went to see him this evenin' about the right of way down the valley, and got himself slung off the porch of the great house into a posy bed."

"There is going to be trouble, Caleb; now you mark my words. You mustn't

mix up in it." "I don't allow to, if I can he'p it.

The railroad's goin' to be a mighty good thing for us if I can get Mr. Downing to put in a side-track for the

Following this there were other conferences, the Major unbending sufficiently to come and sit on the Gordon porch in the cool of the evening. The iron-master, as one still in touch with the moving world, gave good advice, Falling to buy, the railroad company might possibly seek to bully a right of way through the valley. But in that case, there would certainly be redress in the courts for the property owners. In the meantime, nothing would be gained by making the contest a personal fight on individuals.

So counseled Caleb Gordon, sure, always, of his own standing-ground in any conflict. But from the last of the conferences the Major had ridden home through the fields; and Thomas Jefferson, with an alert eye for windstraws of conduct, had seen him dismount now and then to pull up and fling away the locating stakes driven by the railroad engineers.

Giving the Major a second and third chance to refuse to grant an easement, the railroad company pushed its grading and track-laying around the mountain and up to the stone wall marking the Dabney boundary, quietly accumulated the necessary material, and on a summer Sunday morning-Sunday by preference because no restraining writ could be served for at least twenty-four hours-a construction train, black with laborers, whisked around the nose of the mountain and dropped gently down the grade to the temporary, end of track,

It was Thomas Jefferson who gave the alarm. Little Zoar, unable to support a settled pastor, was closed for the summer, but Martha Gordon kept the fire spiritual alight by teaching her son at home. One of the boy's Sunday privileges, earned by a faultless recitation of a prescribed number of Bible verses, was forest freedom for the remainder of the forenoon. He heard the low rumble of the coming train, and it was only by resolutely ignoring the sense of hearing that he was enabled to get through, letter-perfect.

" 'Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you and persecute you," he chanted monotonously, with roving eyes bent on finding his cap with the loss of the fewest possible seconds-"and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake'-and that's all." And he was off like a shot.

"Mind, now, Thomas Jefferson; you are not to go near that railroad!" his mother called to him as he raced down the path to the gate.

Oh, no; he would not go near the railroad! He would only run up the pike and out across through the Dab- me a punk match will ye?"

ney pasture to see if the train were

really there. It was there, as he could tell by the noise of hissing steam when the crosscut was reached. But the parked wooding of the pasture still screened How near could he go without being "near" in the transgressing sense of the word? There was only one way of finding out-to keep on going until his conscience pricked sharply enough to stop him. It was a great convenience, Thomas Jefferson's conscience. As long as it kept quiet he could be reasonably sure there was no sin in sight. Yet he had to confess that it was not always above playing mean tricks; as that of sleeping like a log till after the fact, and then rising up to stab him till the blood ran.

He was half-way across the pasture when the crash of a falling tree stopped him in mid-rush. And in the vista opened by the felled tree he saw a sight to make him turn and race homeward faster than he had come. The invaders, hundreds strong, had torn down the boundary wall and the earth for the advancing embankment was flying from uncounted shovels.

Caleb Gordon was at work in the blacksmith shop, Sunday-repairing while the furnace was cool, when Thomas Jefferson came flying with his news. The iron-master dropped his hammer and cast aside the leather

apron. "You hear that, Buck?" he said. frowning across the anvil at his helper. a white man and the foreman of the pouring floor.

The helder nodded, being a mai of as few words as the master.

"Well, I reckon we-all hain't got any call to stand by and see them highflyers ride it roughshod over Major Dabney thataway," said Gordon, briefly. "Go down to the shanties and hustle out the day shift. Get Turk and Hardaway and every white man you can lay hands on, and all the guns you can find. And send one o' the black boys up the hill to tell the Major. Like as not, he ain't up yet."

Helgerson hastened away to obey his orders, and Caleb Gordon went out to the foundry scrap yard. In the heap of broken metal lay an old castiron field-piece, a relic of the battle which had one day raged hotly on the hillside across the creek. A hundred times the ironmaster had been on the point of breaking it up for remelting, and as often the old artilleryman in him had stayed his hand.

Now it was quickly hoisted in the crane shackle - Thomas Jefferson sweating manfully at the crab crankclamped on the axle of a pair of wagon wheels, cleaned, swabbed, loaded with quarry blasting powder and pieces of broken iron to serve for grape, and trundled out on the pike at the heels of the ore team.

By this time Helgerson had come up with the furnace men, a motley crew in all stages of Sunday-morning dishevelment, and armed only as a mob may arm itself at a moment's notice. Caleb, the veteran, looked the squad over with a slow smile gathering the wrinkles at the corners of his eyes.

"You boys'll have to make up in flerceness what-all you're lacking in soldier-looks," he observed, mildly, Then he gave the word of command to Helgerson. "Take the gun and put out for the Major's hawss-lot. I'll be along as soon as I can saddle the mare."

Thomas Jefferson went with his father to the stable and helped sliently with the saddling. Afterward he held the mare, gentling her in suppressed excitement while his father

went into the house for his rifle. "That'll do, Buddy," he said, when he came back. "Run along in to your

mammy, now." But Thomas Jefferson caught again

at the bridle and held on, choking. "O pappy!-take me with you! I-I'll

die if you don't take me with you!" Who can tell what Caleb Gordon saw in his son's eyes when he bent to loosen the grip of the small brown hand on the rein? Was it some sympathetic reincarnation of his own militant soul striving to break its bonds? Without a word he bent lower and swung the boy up to a seat behind him. "Hold on tight, Buddy," he cautioned. have to run the mare some to catch up with the boys."

When the one-plece battery dashed at a clumsy gallop through the open gate of the Dabney pasture and swung with a sharp turn into the vista of felled trees, Thomas Jefferson beheld a thing to set his heritage of soldier blood dancing through his veins. Standing fair in the midst of the axand-shovel havoc and clearing a wide circle to right and left with the sweep of his old service cavalry saber, was the Major, coatless, hatless, and crying them to come on, the unnumbered host of them against one man.

Opposed to him the men of the construction force, generaled by the young engineer in brown duck and buttoned leggings, were deploying cautiously to surround him. Gordon spoke to his mare; and when he drew rein and wheeled to shout to the gun crew, Thomas Jefferson heard the engineer's low-toned order to the shovelers: "Be careful and don't hurt him, boys. He's the old maniac who threw me off the veranda of his house. Two of you take him behind, and-

The break came on the uprush of the unanticipated reinforcements. With the battle readiness of a disciplined soldier, Caleb Gordon whipped from the saddle and ran to help the gun crew slue the makeshift fieldpiece into

position. "Fall back, Major!" he shouted; "fall back on your front line and give the artillery a chanst at 'em. I reckon a dose o' broken pot-iron'll carry fu'ther than that saber o' yourn. Buddy, hunt

Thomas Jefferson ran to the nearest GOT HINT FROM THE retting log, but one of the negroes was before him with a blazing pitch-pine There was a respectful recoil in the opposing ranks which presently became a somewhat paniciky surge to the rear. The shovelers, more than half of whom were negroes, had not come out to be blown from a cannon's was so palpably at home with the tools of his trade.

"That's right; keep right on goin'! yelled the tronmaster, waving his blazng slow-match dangerously near to the priming. "Keep it up."

The panic had spread by its contagion, and the invaders were fighting among themselves for place on the flat-cars. And while yet the rear guard was swarming upon the engine, hanging by toe- and hand-holds where it could, the train was backed rapidly out of range. Caleb Gordon kept his pine splint alight until the echoes of the engine's exhaust came faintly from the overhanging cliffs of the mountain. "They've gone back to town, and I

reckon the fire's plum' out for to-day, Major," he drawled. "Buck and a few o' the boys'll stay by the gun, against as well go home to your breakfast. Didn't bring your hawss, did ye? Take the mare, and welcome. Buddy and me'll walk.

But the Major would not mount, and so the two men walked together as far as the manor-house gates, with Thomas Jefferson a pace in the rear, leading

It was no matter of wonder to him that his father and the Major marched in solemn silence to the gate of part- carpet and placed it out on the back But the wonder came tumultu- porch. The dog went out and content- to stop him?" ously when the Major wheeled abruptly at the moment of leave-taking and wrung his father's hand.

"Suh, you are a right true-hearted gentleman, and my very good friend, Mistuh Gordon!" he said, with the manner of one who has been carefully weighing the words beforehand. suh, you'd have come home from F" ginia wearin' youh shouldeh-straps. pause to come between: "Suh; an own brotheh couldn't have done mo'! I've been misjudgin' you, Caleb, all these yeahs, and now I'm proud to shake you by the hand and call you my friend. Yes, suh, I am that!"

It was, in a manner not to be understood by the Northern alien, the accolade of knighthood, and Caleb Gordon's toil-rounded shoulders straighted visibly when he returned the hearty hand-And as for Thomas Jefferson: in his heart gratified pride flapped its wings and crowed lustily. (To be continued.)

LYONS MAIL STORY REVIVED.

Descendant of Lesurques Petitions Government for Annuity.

Mme. Behagne, an impoverished widow past middle age, who earns a siender living by manual labor, has, by a somewhat naive petition to the French government, reinvested the old story of "The Lyons Mail" with an interest something like that of actuality, the Berlin correspondent of the New York Times says.

The most popular compendiums of history relate how a man named Joseph Lesurques was guillotined in 1797 as one of the several highwaymen who killed the post courier traveling between Lyons and Paris and robbed him of letters and packages containing some millions of francs. It was afterward proved, at least in popuiar estimation, that Lesurques was innocent. This fact was made the basis of one of the most successful melodramas ever played.

Mme. Behagne, who claims to be a lineal descendant of Lesurques, declares that a perpetual pension was established about 1863 by Napoleon III. for each successive eldest female member of the Lesurques' family, and that it now ought rightfully to come and was last received by her greataunt, who died in an almshouse.

Yet she also asserts that it was granted as consolation to the descendgovernment in 1797.

Apparently Mmc. Behagne believes her own story, but officers of the government whose duty it is to investigate have stated that there is not the slightest documentary proof of any such pension ever being granted.

No one knows the exact spot in the cemetery at Pere la Chaise where Lesurques, the victim of errant justice in the Courier de Lyons affair, was buried after his decapitation, but a menument was erected to his memory in the cemetery by his widow and children on a site acquired by them in perpetuity.

Besides its permanent inscriptions, the monument has borne from time to time many bitter anathemas against human justice. The government, feeling itself outraged at these legends, has repeatedly caused their removal.

The revival of interest in the story of Lesurques, since the publication of the claim of his great-great-grandchild, has led to a renewal of the pilgrimages to the monument which were popular in the early part of the last century.

Why Nott "My constituents want some read-

ing matter. Claim to be tired of the patent office reports I've been sending out." "Well, prepare a speech incorporat-

ing some good, popular novel and leave to print."-Louisville Courier-Journal

Work.

Boggs-I was surprised to hear that Smith had failed. He always seemed to be very busy in his office?

Woggs-Yes; he spent more time tacking up those inspiring wall mottoes than any other man I ever saw .-Puck.

Do not accustom yourself to consiger debt as an inconvenience; you will find it a calamity.-Johnson

Valuable Pointer That New Business Man Acquired by Accident.

There is a man of large wealth who has a generous suite of offices in one mouth by a grim-faced veteran who of the most modern of the downtown buildings, says a New York exchange. His main apartments there are furnished handsomely, even luxuriously, with soft leather-upholstered lounges and armchairs, but his private office would pass for a cell in a monastery, It contains nothing but his desk, his chair, and an extra chair, very plain, with a hard seat.

"I hit on this after years of sad experience in time wasted for me by my friends," he said. "When I kept my private office luxuriously furnished. friends who were on intimate enough terms with me to drop in without a knock scarcely would come in, aprawl themselves out in an easy chair, light a cigar, and make themselves as comfortable as though in their club. Like their rallyin' later on, and you might as not, one of them would start in spinning an interminable yarn. course I couldn't order them out; so had to stand it and lose countless

> hours of valuable time. "Last month, when I was down on a farm for the children's vacation, I noticed an old dog that always lay on a piece of carpet right in the way of the farmer's wife. One day she stumbled over him; then she took up the

edly reposed himself there.

my front offices,' I said to myself. one of the papers." When I returned I did so. It worked like a charm. My friends dropped into my office, gazed around with a startled to look-and dropped out again, never to you had been given youh just dues, return in there during business hours. And now I can work in the peaceful assurance that nobody whose business And then, with a little throat-clearing isn't of sufficient importance to make that hard-bottomed chair feel comfortable will unduly linger around me when I'm busy."

> Curlouity of Man. Weather threatening, crowd scurry-

ing, congestion of humans in Broadway, near Fulton street; hour, 12;30 p. m. "What is it?" inquired excitedly a big blonde man in a shaggy al-"Anyone hurt?" "Naw!" responded a seedy individual; "a guy's lost sumpin' trou' a subway gratin', go into court and testify as wi an' he's fishin' for it." A passer-by fought his way through a struggling mass of men and women, and found the "guy" leaning over a subway grating industriously fishing with a long pole (on the end of which was presumably some sticky substance) for a bright and scintillating object. "What did he lose?" he asked. "O diamond ring, I guess," answered one in an awed whisper. "Ah, he's got it! No, it's slipped off! He's got it again! Steady, now, and you'll fetch it. Good! He's got it! Let's see it?" The last request was shouted by a man near the outer edge of the mob. "Aw, you mugs make me sick," remarked the fisherman. "Can't a guy pick up a cent he's dropped widout a crowd collectin'?" And, amid derisive cries of "Cheap skate!" he held up a bright Lincoln penny. That's how little it takes to collect a crowd in busy New York .- New York Tribune.

At Last, the Blue Rose.

The long sought-for novelty, the blue rose, has been developed at last, and to the intense interest of the gardeners and flower lovers who visited the spring flower show of the Pennsylvania Horticultural society and the Estate Contracts. No Collecties No.
National Association of Gardeners at Worcester Bidg., Perties, or National Association of Gardeners at to her. She says it is only \$50 a year, Horticultural hall recently. Three plants have been put on display. The color obtained is the best blue that has ever been produced. It is on the violet shade and the rose is a Rambler ants of Lesurques for the confiscation type. The tiny buds in heavy clusters of property said to have yielded an are of bright red hue and show the income of \$2,400 a year by the French | blue only on blooming.-Philadelphia Record.

An Exploded Theory.

"Children," said the Sunday school teacher, "there is one thing that I wish to especially impress upon you)r minds. Always be kind to your parents. Make it as pleasant for them as you can. Remember that none of you can ever have another mother after the one you possess is gone. You can never-

"Oh, yes, we can," interrupted a little boy who had lost most of his buttons. "I lost mine last week, and pa brought me a new one home the find it out for themselves. same day he got back from the courthouse,"

A Grateful Defendant. "Why didn't you protest when they charged you with violating the speed regulations?"

"I was too thankful to kick," replied Mr. Chuggins. "I've been trying to sell that automobile, and it takes a good deal of strain off my conscience to have somebody testify that she can go faster than a mile in ten minutes." -Washington Star.

Stupid People .. Traveler-Haven't you a time ta-

Station Agent-We used to have one until the people began to think the trains were supposed to keep to

it.-Fliegende Blaetter.

Ultimate Consumers. "Rubber is going up." "Yes, and I've got to buy overshoes."

"Overshoes? Shucks! I've got to buy tires."-Louisville Courier-Jour-

DOG MAN ALWAYS GIVING

is Effectually Squelched by Ta Hobo In Most Characterie

Manner. The man who is always great vice sauntered up the street w the tattered hobe sitting on the "My good man," began the

why are you idling away for like this? Don't you know he owes you a living?" "That so?" responded the nonchalantly. "Well, I guest li

call up a collection agency u dem to collect it for me." "But this is serious, my my deserve something in this wor

"Sure, boss, the last judge !" against said I deserved six to "Tut! Tut! Don't be fecetion you could rise up in the and wear broadcloth. "Thanks, but I am wearn

now, bons. Dis suit is so ber three sizes too big for man "Well, what in the dickens is sitting on the curb for anyways "To curb my temper, best h my temper when such sman sy

rou ask from.

Mothers will find Mrs. Window, as Syrup the best remedy to use to the a turing the teething period.

Taking the Usual Corne "I see your next door neight sprinkling his lawn during for bours. Are you going to do my

"Yes; I'm going to write a "Til just move my carpet out in dignant protest and have it print

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The Better Way. Maude - Formerly when Screecher was asked to sing at a say "Oh, I can't." Clara-But she doesn't do the Maude-No; she lets the

Where is

In your comb? Why so? not the head a much better? for it? Better keep whatil where it belongs! Ayer's Vigor, new improved for There is not a particle of about it. We speak very tively about this, for well

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