

# In the Toils of Circumstance

By THEODORE WATERS

He grasped the oar again and dragged him up the steps to the engine room. Rushing to the oil tank, he caught up two hand oilers, thrust one into the bewildered young Frenchman's hand and with motions and gestures indicated that he must assist in the general greasing. He dabbed at every hole he could find, pointed continually to what he was doing and then drove the youth around to the other side and set him to work. The boy was apt and did as well as his teacher.

Reardon rushed into the fire room again, swore at Private Morley for stopping to wipe the sweat from his forehead, abjured Andy for the love of life not to slacken his gait, opened door after door to look for spots, cursed screaming when he saw one, shoveled coal like a madman and ran back again to the engine room to scan the gauge, to curse the boy, to wipe the joints, to test the high pressure valves, to tighten rivets, to try the steam oiling apparatus, to do a thousand and one necessary—yes, and unnecessary—things in the space of five minutes. When the gauge reached the hundred mark, he ran down and turned on the blowers and, calling to Private Archer to follow, ran up to the bridge, where he expounded all he knew of the steering gear, which was not much, and left Archer with ideas of gong signals which were decidedly at variance with the code.

Back in the engine room Reardon made the boy go down and carry coal to the feeders and then, after a few preliminary taps and tightenings, turned cautiously the wheel of the starting gear. She came over, turned at the first revolution he turned the main valve till he could feel the lurch of the high pressure cylinder as the column of vapor expanded in it. She got down to business splendidly, and he could tell by her voice that she was doing well. He listened to her awhile, and, finding everything all right so far as he knew, he went on deck to see how Archer was doing. The Lotus was racing like a liner and heading due south.

Five miles away in the north amazement was reigning on the war vessel. When smoke belched heavily from the funnel of the Lotus, a lieutenant who had been watching her since daybreak hurriedly told his commander the fact. It made the commander stare. He was in the cabin at the moment, perusing official documents. He picked up one of them and read it intently. Finally he said:

"That is curious. And are you sure no boats left her?"

"Not since the haze cleared. Besides, how could she steam away if the boats had gone?" replied the lieutenant. Then he added suggestively, "There is a schooner off the shore."

"Ah!" said the commander, relieved. "That doubtless is the reason. Well, we must keep her in sight."

And so when Choky Reardon a few minutes later looked anxiously astern and saw smoke trailing after the gray vessel he was sure in his mind that she was increasing her speed in the effort to catch them. This made him rush into the fire room with intimations that the work going forward there, far from being what it ought to be, would have to be increased in the ratio indicated when their present exertions were contrasted with their ordinary idleness. He used his own form of expression, of course, and they understood him perfectly. His tirade of abusive encouragement, born in the cool air above, was totally eclipsed by the black blast of profanity that came like the breath of the furnace hole from below. It stopped his patric and made him think, for in his day he had helped to drag men from a similar black pit to the deck, where they might have a chance to recuperate in much cooler tropical sunlight. It might come to pass where the toilers below would prefer to be captured, for, as the Buckeye said thickly and ominously, "Hades wouldn't be hotter!" Something must be done.

It was plain to Reardon that watches must be arranged and in such manner that the relieved man would have a chance between tricks to be menaced visibly by the Nemesis in the north. Again, trusting the engine to Providence, he (Reardon) must take a trick at the fires himself. He was sure this plan would not set a spark on the sailors, but he was less sure of the Buckeye. He determined to relieve him first. It had then been firing an hour. Morley must be made to last another hour, and in order to impress on him more thoroughly the need of it he took him up to the deck and showed him the pursuing fleet, enlarging greatly on what would happen if that lengthening trail of smoke were allowed to get nearer. Morley went back to work properly impressed. Andy was then allowed to come on deck, where he took the wheel from Archer, who went back to the fires. Andy's knowledge of steering being limited, he was told to keep the wheel as it was until he saw any vessel ahead, when he was to report the fact down the tube at once. Then, after calling the boy up to the engine, which he was made to oil again, Reardon went into the fire room, where his experience was sadly needed.

During that terrible day it seemed to the men on the Lotus that the hours which marked the watches off and on were like successive heavens and hells in an eternity. When darkness came, the pursuing boat was not more than three miles away, and when darkness fell over them they saw the lights along the shore.

Then Reardon prepared to execute the remarkable maneuver which he called "a sneak in the dark." First he extinguished every light on deck. Then he closed all bulkhead doors and ports in the main hold. At a signal from the engine room they got up from the fire room. Finally, after a last look at the engine, he went up and took the wheel himself.

over to starboard when he was shocked by a sudden something which came upon him like a blighting paralysis and stayed his hand. For a moment he could not comprehend it fully. Then he realized. The war vessel was using her search light, and it fell full, glaringly, vividly, convincingly, on the bridge of the Lotus. There was no escaping it. It was not to be shaken off. No cloud could overcast it. It wrote its warning in letters of fire all over the wall of events. It seemed like an accusing finger ready to follow him to the end of time, and it filled Mr. Reardon with wrath—wrath which gathered its force and insane purpose from the resolution that followed the deeds of the day. Although he knew instinctively that the contention could not be granted within the law, somehow he felt that he had proved himself a man among men by the day's work. He who had been a worthless tramp, a very high priest of the unwashed, a constant and constant sinner against the code—he who had been these things and, in spite of them, had shown such generalship, undergone such terrible exertion, displayed such intuitive thought—was he to be denied the fruit of it, his quiet freedom? No, no—not until they had paid for it a thousandfold! As he thought it out quickly his wrath blazed forth in words, and back along that narrow shaft of light he roared vengeance.

Lashing the wheel, he ran below and called his companions from the fire room in such tones that they came up to the deck wondering. They were started at seeing the light bearing on them from a distant vessel, but they were yet more startled at Reardon's manner. Andy especially, to whom his comrade's actions during the day had been a revelation, was puzzled.

"What's the matter, Choky?" he cried. "What's the matter? What you goin' to do?"

"What's the matter? What's the matter? Don't you see, an' the blasted bulseye starin' you in the face? What an I goin' to do? Why, I'm goin' ashore over to them lights. See them? An' I'm goin' to take this bloody boat with me!"

"Goin' to take the boat with you? Why, Choky?"—But Choky was off to the bridge, and by the time they had fully comprehended his meaning he had the wheel unlash.

The Lotus while the wheel was lashed had turned her nose slightly away from the shore, but under the feel of the helm, which Reardon put over, she said:



"Why, I'm goin' ashore over to them lights. See them?"

## PITTSBURG CORDAGE

IT WAS A FACTOR IN PERRY'S GREAT VICTORY ON LAKE ERIE.

The Vessels of the Famous Naval Hero's Fleet Were Equipped With Rope Manufactured by the Then Little More Than Village.

While Pittsburgh and vicinity figured prominently in the early history of the republic, the city has never laid claim to any great share of the victories achieved by Americans in the war of 1812 because most of the engagements of that conflict took place on the water. But, an inland town and almost village, as it was at that time, Pittsburgh contributed materially toward the notable victory of Oliver H. Perry on Lake Erie Sept. 13, 1813. In Pittsburgh were manufactured the ropes that were required in the equipment of Perry's famous fleet.

This was the first instance that has been placed on record of Pittsburgh's having furnished the equipment of a fleet of war for the government, but since that time the Smoky City has always held a prominent place in the building of vessels of war. Those craft of Perry's, of course, were only wooden affairs, and the amount of iron about them was very small. With the evolution in the construction of war vessels came also the development of industries in Pittsburgh, so that now, by the manufacture of armor plate for Uncle Sam's ships, the city still sustains its reputation which was started in such a humble way in 1813 by furnishing a quantity of rope for Perry's fleet on Lake Erie.

The ropemaking industry was begun in Pittsburgh in 1794, and the first one to engage extensively in the business was Colonel John Irwin, a Revolutionary soldier, who was severely wounded in the battle of Paoli. After peace was declared he started in business in Pittsburgh and at the same time established the first ropewalk west of the Allegheny mountains. His place of business was located on the site for so many years since occupied by the famous old hotel, the Monongahela House. Here, where since presidents, kings and princes have been entertained, the rope business was modestly begun.

Colonel Irwin did not long after the establishment of his business in the city, his death having been the result of injuries he sustained in the Revolutionary war. The business was attended to by Mrs. Irwin, who is said to have been a woman of extraordinary energy and ability. Later her son assisted her, and the business was carried on under the firm-name of Mary & John Irwin.

The ropewalk was removed to the square bounded by Liberty avenue, Third and Fourth streets and Redoubt alley. The product turned out by the Irwins was of a good quality and was in great demand. The business grew, and soon it was necessary to remove the walk to a place where more ground was available. Consequently in 1812 the works were removed to a site on the bank of the Allegheny river near the "Boat Dock." Soon after this last removal there came one day to call on Mrs. Irwin a boyish looking fellow who introduced himself as Oliver H. Perry. He said that he was building a fleet of war vessels on the shore of Lake Erie and that he would require a considerable quantity of cordage to equip his fleet.

Mrs. Irwin made a contract with the youthful naval officer, and in due time the cordage was all finished and delivered to Commodore Perry.

The amount of rope in this famous order was not great compared with that which is now used in fitting out our modern sea monsters of ships, but for the day and the place the order was a notable one. When the entire order was completed, Mrs. Irwin, who, though well up in years was still interested in business and was intensely patriotic, gave personal supervision to the inspection and packing of the goods.

They were taken by way of the Allegheny valley, part way by boats and part way overland, to the famous bay on the south shore of Lake Erie where the impatient Perry was busily engaged in getting his little fleet ready for the coming battle which was to mean so much for the American cause. In short time the ropes were all fitted to their places, and the fleet set sail. What happened at Put-In-Bay on that famous day of Sept. 13, 1813, is known to every American. It was from one of his victorious ships, fitted with Irwin's cordage made at Pittsburgh, that the young commodore sent his immortal dispatch: "We have met the enemy, and they are ours."

Perry and his men and his staunch ships won this notable victory, but the stout ropes and good cordage made along Duquesne way in the infant city of Pittsburgh did their share also, for when they were put to the test they proved that they were good stuff.—Pittsburgh Press.

### An Elusive Water Lily.

The water lily of the Indian has very elusive habits. The buds open twice—the first time just a chink at the tip, in the early sunrise hours, a sort of premonitory symptom. On the following evening it spreads its four sepals with such alacrity that you can see them move. But the big white bud among them remains unchanged until 4 o'clock in the morning, when it hurriedly spreads its blossoms wide open, remaining in this condition only half an hour. Within the hour it has nearly closed, and by another hour and a half the entire flower has been drawn under water by the coiling of the stalk.

### An Irish Compliment.

When Earl Spencer was lord lieutenant of Ireland the people of Dublin called the beautiful countess, one of the loveliest women of her time, "Spencer's Faerie Queen."

But when their excellencies were about to return to England Irish galantry was shown in a characteristic way. At the farewell banquet in their honor an Irish gentleman got up and said, with much fervor and many bows: "We all hope soon to see you back again, you and the work of art by your side."

Shrinking modesty is an attractive trait of character, but it seldom gets a taste of salary.—Somerville Journal.

### A Woman's Wish.

Mrs. Housekeeper's husband has been complaining a good deal of late because his dinner has not been served on time.

Mrs. Clubb-Gracious! I wish mine would.

Mrs. Housekeeper—You do?

Mrs. Clubb—Yes; because he'd have to come home earlier to do it.—Philadelphia Press.

## WOMAN AND FASHION

### Short Suits in Drawing Rooms.

It has been whispered that short suits are to invade the drawing room this winter for the informal afternoon teas, and the rumor has created a demand for costumes more dressy than those ordinarily made for walking purposes.



FOR INFORMAL AFTERNOON TEAS.

The model shown is in Russian green over the same color taffeta, the foundation finished by two very narrow accordion platings. The broadcloth skirt is in eight gorges, with the front and back panels box plaited. At the hem of each side is a strap of the cloth following up the seam at each back edge to a height of six inches. These are embroidered in lines and dashes with dull red and black silk and from corners rays woven with dots of the two colors twisted in one. The Eton coat has similar straps on cape borders and lower part, which opens over a panel back, and the cape is open to neck. A high girde of black velvet has the ends embroidered in dull red, green and white and finished with black silk tassels. The vestee fronts and priests' collars are also of embroidered velvet. Bell shaped sleeves with roll back cuffs embroidered in design and trimmed by a silk tassel.

### Belts For the Winter.

Belts are wider than they have been. The new waistband is from two to four inches wide and rather bright in coloring. Suede and doekskin belts have taken the place of the shiny leather ones considered smart in the summer. All the belts fasten with the harness buckle or an antique clasp. A charming suede belt may be made at home with slight expense and trouble. Cut a piece of suede an eighth of an inch wide and the required size of the waist. Bind on each edge with ribbon. Graduate one end to a point and draw the other through the buckle in plait. The belt is finished when a harness-maker has riveted the eyelet loops in place. This belt is one of the new crushed kind.

### Season's Favorite Colors.

Now browns trimmed with white panne are among the smartest shades of color, and dark blue, with grass green, continues in the affection of many. As to gray, the dark shades are returning to favor, and one of the smartest costumes among the Paris models is a dark gray cloth with scarlet velvet trimmings.

Let girls with red hair avoid blue shades of red and pale green. They may wear plenty of cream, gray and dark green.

### A Norfolk Coat.

A dark reversible blue tweed coat has the Norfolk cut without the plaits. It is fitted and belted back and sides and



A COAT OF TWEED.

has a square box front with a fly front fastener. A flat fitted band takes the place of a collar, and the loose bell sleeve is trimmed with flat pointed bands to match the collar.

### Fashions in Furs.

A case of opposite fashions is the popularity of very big fur stoles and quite small ties of fur. The small ties of ermine with a fringe of tails at both ends are very fashionable.

### A Printer's Blunder.

A Paris newspaper on one occasion made a blunder, which excited no small amount of merriment at the expense of a man of real talent. The following paragraphs, intended to have been printed separately, were by some error so arranged that they were read consecutively: "Dr. X. has been appointed head physician to the Hospital de la Charite. Orders have been issued by the authorities for the immediate exhumation of the cemetery of Mont Parnasse. The works are being executed with the utmost dispatch."

## HOW TURKS MAKE COFFEE.

It isn't Easy, but the Product is Delectable in Its Flavor.

To make the perfect cup of Turkish coffee is, like many other things, very easy when the maker knows how to do it, but unless the art has been learned in Turkey it is difficult.

No one can make a perfect cup of coffee unless he has been to Turkey. There is as much difference between the ordinary cup of coffee and the exquisite and alluring beverage with all its subtle aroma as made by the artist as there is between home-flesh and the best English beef. The Turkish method is simple. They have many little pots of various sizes. If they want to make two cups only they use the smaller one, and if three cups a larger one. When the water has boiled they fill the little pot almost to the top with water, then put in three lumps of sugar and put the coffee on the fire to boil. When it is hot they put in two teaspoonfuls of coffee ground very fine and then stir it round until it is thoroughly mixed with the water.

The next step is to place the pot on the fire again and watch it very carefully until the coffee bubbles up to a froth, and before this froth escapes over the side you take the pot from the fire and tap the bottom gently on the stove till the froth goes down. Once again the coffee is allowed to bubble over the fire, and the process of tapping the pot on the stove is repeated three times.

When the froth rises to the surface for the fourth time the pot should be taken from the fire and the coffee should be poured first into one cup and then into another, so that each cup contains a portion of the froth on the top.

The Englishman cannot make coffee at all. He tries hard, but never succeeds either in making a perfect cup of Turkish or French coffee. The Frenchman, on the other hand, is tried hard to make a perfect cup of Turkish coffee, but he meets with little more success than the Englishman.

One thing must never be forgotten—the coffee must be freshly roasted and ground. It must not be roasted too black. A dark brown is the ideal color. Then the flavor is divine.—Boston Globe.

## BLAKE, MOFFITT & TOWNE

...Straw and Binders' Board...  
55-57-59-61 First Street  
Tel. Main 199. 33 SAN FRANCISCO

## DROPSY

### Do Your Ankles or Limbs Swell? Are Your Eyes Puffy? We are the Sole Agents for the Only Thing Known That Cures the Kidney Diseases That Cause Dropsy, viz.: Fulton Compound.

It is now well known that dropsy is not in itself a disease, but is nearly always a symptom of kidney disease that accompanies the chronic stages heretofore incurable. Hence, up to the discovery of the Fulton Compound, Dropsy was incurable. It is now, however, curable in nearly nine tenths of all cases. Here is an interesting recovery, to which we refer by permission.

Mrs. Peter Gorham, of 508 Fillmore street, San Francisco, came nearly forty years ago with dropsy, and had to stay in bed every few days. She was tapped nearly forty times and wore worse from it than she was when she first told her husband that she had bright's disease of the kidneys, that it was in an advanced stage and beyond medical aid. Her heart also gave her much trouble and she was in such a serious condition, the relatives were sent for. They put her on Fulton's Compound. It started her on her feet, and the first thing that had done so for a week. The second week the dropsy declined a little and the improvement was then gradual. Her recovery was complete. This case was examined into by a representative of the Fulton Compound and the case and the recovery were fully attested in their own words.

Mrs. Thomas Christ of 425 Twenty-seventh street, San Francisco, was also swollen with dropsy, and was in bed for several weeks. She had more than seventy-five pounds weight over her normal weight, and was in such a serious condition, the relatives were sent for. They put her on Fulton's Compound. It started her on her feet, and the first thing that had done so for a week. The second week the dropsy declined a little and the improvement was then gradual. Her recovery was complete. This case was examined into by a representative of the Fulton Compound and the case and the recovery were fully attested in their own words.

If you have dropsy don't temporize. There is only one thing known that will cure the chronic kidney disease in a large percentage of cases. Fulton's Compound. The Fulton Compound for Bright's and Kidney Diseases, 411 Washington Street, San Francisco, sole compounders. Send for prospectus. We are the sole agents for this city.

## Save the Baby.

The mortality among babies during the three feeding months is a most startling fact. The census of 1900 shows that about one in every seven succumb.

The cause is so apparent. With baby's bones hardening, the fontanel (opening in the skull) closing up, and the teeth coming in, all these coming at once create a demand for bone material that nearly half the little system are deficient in. The result is rickets, weakness, sweating, fever, diarrhea, brain troubles, convulsions, etc. It is a terrible thing. The child in 1900 under three years were 36,385, to say nothing of the vast number of children who were born and were not reported, and this in the United States alone.

When baby begins to sweat, worry or cry out in sleep don't wait, and the need is neither medicine, nor a large percentage of the little system is crying out for more bone material. Sweetman's Feeding Food supplies it. It has saved the lives of thousands of babies. They begin to improve within forty-eight hours. Here is what physicians think of it.

San Francisco, Cal., September 1, 1902.

Gentlemen—I am prescribing your food in the multitude of baby troubles due to imperfect nutrition. It is a large percentage of infantile illness and fatalities are the result of "not feeding" your baby. I have had deficient nutrition, diarrhea, and I have had surprising success with it. In scores of cases this diet, and your Feeding Food, has not failed to check the infantile distresses. Several of the more serious cases would, I believe, have been saved without it. It can not be too quickly brought to the attention of the mothers of the land. It is an absolute necessity.

L. C. MENDL, M. D.

Petaluma, Cal., September 1, 1902.

Dear Sir—I have just tried the feeding food in two cases and in both it was a success. One was a very serious case, so critical that it was thought to be another city for treatment. Fatal results were feared. In three days the baby ceased worrying and continued eating and is now well. Its activity in this case was remarkable. I would advise you to put it in every drug store in this city.

Yours,  
I. M. FROST, M. D.

Sweetman's Feeding Food will carry baby safely and comfortably through the most dangerous period of child life. It renders the feeding of the gums unnecessary. It is the safest and a blessing to the mother. It is a tonic for symptoms but to commence giving it the fourth or fifth month. Then all the best will come healthfully. What the mother does on nursing. It is an auxiliary to that regular and healthy nursing. It is not necessary (though for six weeks) send postpaid on receipt of price. Pacific Coast Agents, Inland Drug Co., Mills Building, San Francisco.

### Convent Fetters.

Leo Deutsch, a Russian-polit exile who was permitted to return to his home, tells in his book, "Sixteen Years in Siberia," tales not only of suffering, but of lenient treatment by his jailers. In Siberian-prisons often the harshness of the discipline was considerably relaxed. On one occasion, to the vast amusement of the prison authorities, Deutsch appeared before the governor with his fetters tied up with a piece of string, and it appeared he had only assumed them for the moment. But the complainant governor was afraid of a visit from high quarters. "There if an inspection is made you will be wearing your fetters," he asked, laughing. "Of course," replied Deutsch. "You see, I've come to you in full dress," pointing to his tied up chains. On another occasion Deutsch's bag was stolen. It contained, among other articles of a convict's attire, the indispensable fetters, and he had to apply for a new pair. "Take care you don't lose these," said the officer as Deutsch packed them among his luggage.

### Some Very Ancient Laws.

King Amraphel of Babylon, who lived 2250 years B. C., formulated a code of laws. His statutes, which were operative five centuries before the laws of Moses, numbered 282 and contain the following:

"If a woman who sells beverages gives bad value for the money paid her, she shall be thrown into water.

"If a wife be a spendthrift or if she otherwise neglect her duties, her husband may put her away without compensation, but if a man put away his wife for no other reason than that she has no children he shall return her whole dowry.

"If a betrothal be rescinded, the man shall pay the woman compensation.

"A widow with grown up children may not marry again without permission from a judge."—London Express.

### Thackeray as a Critic.

It cannot be contended that Thackeray was a great critic. Indeed, there is not doubt that, as a rule, he preferred second rate books of the first class to the greatest. For instance, while, as a matter of course, he admitted that Milton was a great poet, he added that "he was such a bore that no one could read him." Whatever one may think of the discernment of a man who says that, it is impossible to doubt his honesty. He was often led away by the character of the author whose works he was criticizing. He disapproved of Swift and Sterne, and rather grudgingly admitted their qualities, but he gladly praised Pope, whom he loved because of the love the poet bore his mother. His judgments came from the heart rather than the intellect. It was fortunate when these coincided.—Lewis Melville in Fortnightly.

### Irving once preached quite a terse sermon on appropriate dressing. A clever young woman belonging to his company appeared at rehearsal one morning dressed in a lovely gown and a stunning hat. Irving commented on the unusual splendor of her get-up, whereupon the actress explained that she was going to a swell luncheon that afternoon and had given time by dressing in advance. "Then run away to the luncheon first, my dear young lady," said the star. "Just now your mind, too, is dressed up for the luncheon and not for work. When you come to rehearsal come looking the part." The young woman, who is now a star, never forgot the lesson she learned that morning.

### Misunderstood.

Fergus Hume, who wrote a number of sensational books, was one day in a railway carriage with a friend, says the London M. P. In one carriage was an old lady. Mr. Hume said to his friend that he really did not know how to murder any one in a new way. He had murdered at least twenty people, and now he wanted a new mode. The old lady shivered and looked most apprehensive. At the next station she got up hurriedly. Evidently she took Mr. Hume for a dangerous lunatic traveling with his keeper.

### Some Errors of Speech.

Many make the mistake of saying "I intended to have told you" or "If I had had known" instead of "I intended to tell you" or "If I had known." I have heard the following confused sentence from one who should know better: "I should have thought that you would have gone to have seen her." The correct sentence would be, "I should think that you would have gone to see her."

It is incorrect to say "Those sort of things" instead of "Things of that sort." Do not say "Ain't" for "is not." "He don't" for "He does not" or "Not I know" for "Not that I know" or "I have lit the lamps" for "I have lighted the lamps."—Delineator.