

THE RED TRAIL

BY GUSTAVE AIMARD

CHAPTER XXVII.

The Spanish custom—a custom which has been kept up in all the old colonies of that power—of placing persons condemned to death in a chapel, requires explanation, in order that it may be thoroughly understood and appreciated, as it deserves to be.

Frenchemen, over whom the great revolution of '93 passed like a hurricane, and carried off most of their belief in its sanguinary cloak, may smile with pity and regard as a fanatic remainder of another age this custom of placing the condemned in chapel. Among us, it is true, matters are managed much more simply; a man, when condemned by the law, eats, drinks and remains alone in his cell. If he desire it he is visited by the chaplain, whom he is at liberty to converse with, if he likes; if not, he remains perfectly quiet, and nobody pays any attention to him, during a period more or less long, and determined by the rejection of his appeal. Then, one fine morning, when he is least thinking of it, the governor of the prison announces to him, when he wakes, as the most simple thing in the world, that he is to be executed that same day, and only an hour is granted him to recommend his soul to the divine clemency. The fatal toiler is made by the executioner and his assistant, the condemned man is placed in a close carriage, conveyed to the place of execution, and in a twinkling launched into eternity, before he has had a moment to look round him.

When a man is condemned to death from that moment he is, de facto, cut off from that society to which he no longer belongs, through the sentence passed on him; he is consequently separated from his fellow men.

He is shut up in a room, at one end of which is an altar; the walls are hung in black drapery, studded with silver tears, and here and there mourning inscriptions, drawn from Holy Writ. Near his bed is placed the coffin in which his body is to be deposited after execution, while two priests, who relieve each other, but of whom one constantly remains in the room, say mass in turn, and exhort the criminal to repent of his crimes, and implore Divine clemency. This custom, which, if carried to an extreme, would appear in our country before all, barbarous and cruel, perfectly agrees with Spanish manners, and the thoroughly believing spirit of this impressionable nation; it is intended to draw the culprit back to pious thought, and rarely fails to produce the desired effect upon him.

The general was, therefore, placed in capilla, and two monks belonging to the order of St. Francis, the most respected, and, in fact, respectable in Mexico, entered it with him.

The first hours he passed there were terrible: this proud mind, this powerful organization, revolted against adversity, and would not accept defeat. Gloomy and silent, with frowning brows, and fists clenched on his bosom, the general sought shelter like a wild beast in a corner of the room, recalling his whole life, and seeing with starts of terror the bloody victims scattered along his path, and sacrificed in turn to his devouring ambition, saddy defile before him.

Then he reverted to his early years. When residing at the Palmar, his magnificent family hacienda, his life passed away calm, pure, gentle and tranquil, without regrets, and without desires, among his faithful servants. Then he was so glad to be nothing, and to wish to be nothing.

By degrees his thoughts followed the bias of his recollections; the present was effaced; his contracted features grew softer, and two burning tears, the first perhaps this man of iron had ever shed, coursed slowly down his cheeks, which grief had hollowed. He fell into the arms open to receive him, exclaiming, with an expression of desperate grief, impossible to render:

"Have mercy, heaven! have mercy!"
 The struggle had been short but terrible; faith had conquered doubt, and humanity had regained its rights.

The general then had with the monks a conversation, protracted far into the night, in which he confessed all his crimes and sins, and humbly asked pardon of God whom he had outraged, and before whom he was about to appear.

The next day, a little after sunrise, one of the monks, who had been absent about an hour, returned, bringing with him the general's capataz. It had only been with extreme reluctance that Carnero had consented to come, for he justly dreaded his old master's reproaches. His surprise was therefore extreme at being received with a smile, and kindly, and on finding that the general did not make the slightest allusion to his treachery, which the evidence before the court-martial had fully revealed.

he had entered the capilla, and hastened off to Valentine, who was waiting for him and he dismissed him.

Curumilla was at once sent off to M. Rallier's quinta with a letter, and during his absence Valentine had a long conversation with Belthamer and Black Elk. At about 5 in the evening a carriage entered the courtyard of Valentine's house at a gallop; it contained M. Rallier, Dona Anita and Don Martial.

"Thanks!" he said on seeing them. "You ordered me to come, so I obeyed as usual," the Tigero answered.

"You were right, my friend."

"And now what do you want of us?"

"That you should accompany me to the place whither I am going at this moment."

"Would it be indiscreet to ask you—?"

"Where?" the hunter interrupted him with a laugh. "Not at all; I am going to lead you, Dona Anita, and the persons here present to the capataz in which General Guerrero is confined."

"The capilla?" the Tigero exclaimed in amazement, "for what purpose?"

"What does that concern you? The general has requested to see you, and you cannot refuse the request of a man who has but a few hours left to live."

The Tigero hung his head without answering.

"Oh! I will go," Dona Anita exclaimed impulsively, as she wiped away the tears that ran down her cheeks.

"Since you insist, Don Valentine, I will go," said the Tigero.

"I do not insist, my friend; I only ask, that is all."

CHAPTER XXVIII.

Valentine, Dona Anita, M. Rallier and Don Martial got into the carriage. The two Canadians and the chief followed them on horseback, and they proceeded at a gallop to the chapel where the condemned man was confined.

All along the road they found marks of the obstinate struggle which had deluged the city with blood a few days previously; the barricades had not been entirely removed, and though the distance was in reality very short, they did not reach the prison until midnight, owing to the detours they were forced to make.

Valentine begged his friends to remain outside, and only entered with Dona Anita and the Tigero. The general was impatiently expecting them, and testified a great joy on perceiving them.

The young lady could not restrain her emotion, and threw herself into her uncle's arms with an outburst of passionate grief. The general pressed her tenderly to his bosom and kissed her on the forehead.

"I am the more affected by these marks of affection, my child," he said, with much emotion, "because I have been very harsh to you. Can you ever forgive me the sufferings I have caused you?"

"Oh, uncle, speak not so. Are you not, alas! the only relation I have remaining?"

"For a short time," he said, with a sad smile, "that is the reason why I ought, without further delay, to provide for your future."

"Do not talk about that at such a moment, uncle," she continued, bursting into tears.

"On the contrary, my child, it is at this moment, when I am going to leave you, that I am bound to insure you a protector. Don Martial, I have done you great wrong; here is my hand, accept it as that of a man who has completely recognized his faults, and sincerely repents the evil he has done."

The Tigero, more affected than he liked to display, took a step forward and cordially pressed the hand offered him.

"General," he said, in a voice which he tried in vain to render firm, "this moment, which I never dared hope to see, fills me with joy, but at the same time with grief."

"Well, you can do something for me by proving to me that you have really forgiven me."

"Speak, general, and no matter, if it is in my power—," he exclaimed, warmly.

"I believe you, Don Martial," Don Sebastian answered, with his sad smile. "Consent to accept my niece from my hand and marry her at once in this chapel."

One of the monks had prepared everything beforehand.

gent and noble heart. Now let death come, and I shall accept it gladly, for I feel convinced that heaven will have pity on me on account of my sincere repentance. Be happy, niece, with the husband of your choice. Senores, all accept my thanks. Don Valentine, once more I thank you. And now leave me, all, for I no longer belong to the world, so let me think of my salvation."

"But one word," Valentine said. "General, I have forgiven you, and it is now my turn to ask your pardon."

"What can you mean?"

"I have deceived you?"

"Deceived me?"

"Yes; take this paper. The President of the Republic, employing his sovereign right of mercy, has, on my pressing entreaty, revoked the sentence passed on you. You are free."

His hearers burst into a cry of admiration. The general turned pale, he tottered, and for a moment it was fancied that he was about to fall. A cold perspiration stood on his temples.

"Fathers," he said, turning to the monks, "lead me to your monastery. General Guerrero is dead, and henceforth I shall be a monk of your order."

Two days after the scene we have described Valentine and his companions left Mexico and returned to Sonora. On reaching the frontier the hunter, in spite of the pressing entreaties of his friends, separated from them and returned to the desert.

Don Martial and Dona Anita settled in Mexico near the Ralliers. A month after Valentine's departure Dona Helena returned to the convent, and at the end of a year, in spite of the entreaties of her family, who were surprised at so strange a resolution, which nothing apparently explained, the young lady took the vows.

When I met Valentine Guillois on the banks of the Rio Jonquin some time after the events recorded in this long story, he was going with Curumilla to attempt a hazardous expedition across the Rocky Mountains, from which he said to me, with the soft, melancholy smile which he generally assumed when speaking to me, he hoped never to return.

I accompanied him for several days, and then we were compelled to separate. He pressed my hand, and followed by his dumb friend, he entered the mountains. For a long time I looked after him, for I involuntarily felt my heart contracted by a sad foreboding. He turned round for the last time, waved his hand in farewell and disappeared under a bend of the track. I was fated never to see him again.

Since then nothing has been heard of him nor of Curumilla. All my endeavors to join them or even obtain news of them were vain.

Are they still living? No one can say. Darkness has settled down over these two magnificent men, and time itself will, in all probability, never remove the veil that conceals their fate. For all, unhappily, leads me to suppose that they perished in that gloomy expedition from which Valentine hoped, alas! never to return.

(The End.)

SOME JOKES ON ROYALTY.

Even the German Kaiser Cannot Overcome the Funny Man.

Rulers do not always escape the practical joker, although royalty, as a rule, is impatient of trifling and sensitive to ridicule. Even the Kaiser is ruffled, now and then, by an irreverent jest at his expense.

What makes these jokes the funnier to the world in general is the fact that the joker has to beware the diverse and dreadful penalties for lese majeste. The monarch himself may not notice them, but there are always obsequious officials who think to recover the royal dignity by pursuing the humorist.

A couple of years ago a German paper, presumably for a joke, published a paragraph to the effect that the favorite flower of the Kaiser was a red carnation. The paragraph was copied in almost every paper in the country, and when, a few days later, the emperor visited Aix-la-Chapelle, all those deputes to receive him wore red carnations in their buttonholes.

The Kaiser frowned angrily, but no one knew until next day, when some one, a little wiser than the rest, informed them that the flower was the emblem of his pet abominations, the Social Democrats.

One of the most extraordinary boxes on record is said to have been played upon the Dewan Lalla Moolraj, a native potentate of the Punjab, during the second Sikh War. In the winter of 1848-1849. The British army, commanded by Sir Hugh Gough, had shut up the Dewan and his forces in the fortified city of Mooltan. One day the besiegers were amazed by the thunderous sound of a most extraordinary cannonade followed, not by shot or shell, but by an assortment of miscellaneous provisions in a very fragmentary condition raining into the British lines.

The Sikh chieftain, it was afterward discovered, had found in the city a large store of canned meats, of the nature of which he was completely ignorant. A native spy in British pay gravely informed him that they were powerful explosives, and, hence, for some days the British camp was greeted with showers of Strasburg paties and other more or less mangled but perfectly edible tinned food.

Stolidity of Writing.

"From my pile of autographs I take one of a statesman well known and lay it side by side with the autograph of a great author and a great ecclesiastic," writes a British publicist. "All three are very small, exquisitely neat, very little slanted, absolutely legible. Well as I knew the three writers, I doubt if I could tell which wrote which. They were Cardinal Manning, Mr. Froude and Lord Rosebery. Will the experts tell me if in this case similarity of writing betrays forth similarity of gifts or qualities?"

Only one couple in over 11,000 Russians celebrate their diamond wedding.

MONEY FLOWS BACK

Eastera Financial Situation Now Almost Normal.

AN INCOMING STREAM OF GOLD

Lusitania Rails for New York With \$10,000,000—Each City Husbands Its Own Supply.

New York, Nov. 2.—The financial situation is gradually clearing without showing any striking features. Runs on the banks and trust companies are practically over; money, which was temporarily withdrawn from banks subject to runs, is flowing to the stronger banks, and currency is being provided in most cases where the demand for it is considered legitimate.

Further engagements of gold by Boston and other points have brought up the total engagements abroad under the recent movement to \$26,550,000. The Lusitania, which sailed from Liverpool yesterday, has on board about \$10,000,000 in gold, one of the largest single shipments ever made. Prices of exchange were firm during the early part of yesterday and did not yield seriously at any time. The fact that the stock exchanges of London and Paris were closed on account of All Saints day prevented any comparison of quotations on arbitrage operations.

Balances with the clearing house have settled down to a normal condition, but there is still something of a blockade in domestic exchange through the unwillingness of New York banks to pay currency on drafts from other cities and the unwillingness of other cities to pay out their currency upon drafts from New York. The condition of affairs indicates a continued pressure for currency rather than a breakdown of credits, but reasonable demands are being met for regular customers of the banks.

The possibility of hastening the export movement of wheat and cotton still engages the attention of foreign exchange dealers and also of those who endeavor to keep in touch with the general situation.

DELIVERY AT JOLIET.

Supreme Court Decision Turns Loose 100 Chicago Criminals.

Chicago, Ill., Nov. 2.—The doors of the Joliet penitentiary swing open today and the first batch of nearly 100 murderers, highwaymen, burglars and other criminals will be turned loose as a result of a recent decision of the Supreme court, which held that the municipal courts of Chicago could not legally try cases in which the indictments were returned by a Cook county grand jury.

The situation is one of the most serious that ever confronted Chicago. If the decision of the highest court is to stand, it means that on the eve of winter footpads, murderers, and criminals of all classes are to be turned loose on the streets of the city.

State's Attorney John J. Healy, however, has decided to take drastic steps to prevent the wholesale liberation of criminals. He construes the decision to mean that the Supreme court never intended that convicted criminals should be given liberty, but that each and every man must stand trial again—this time in the Criminal court.

LIFTS THE EMBARGO.

Northern Pacific Decides to Receive Lumber Shipments.

Bellingham, Wash., Nov. 2.—The order of the Northern Pacific railroad refusing to bill out any carloads of lumber from the Northwest, was in force just one day. Last night just before the office of the company closed, the order was rescinded. The Northern Pacific will now accept lumber shipments at the new rate, but will not be able to collect the 50-cent tariff pending the decision of the Interstate Commerce commission. The injunction issued by the Federal court in Seattle forbids the collecting of more than the old 40-cent rate.

Ford Case Postponed.

San Francisco, Nov. 2.—Owing to the fact that yesterday was a public holiday, caused by the proclamation of the governor, the courts in the Temple Israel adjourned. In Judge Lawler's court all the graft cases before him were continued for one day. When the Ford case came up Judge Lawler asked for suggestions from the attorneys for both sides in regard to the advisability of going ahead with the trial under the present circumstances. Both sides deemed an adjournment necessary and the judge acted accordingly.

Japs to be Deported.

Helena, Mont., Nov. 2.—A Japanese and three women, who are being held in the county jail at Butte on the authority of the United States government, will soon be returned to Seattle for deportation to Japan. The man, Hyama Matsunura, is accused of bringing three of his countrywomen to America for immoral purposes. It is stated that the four Japanese arrived in Seattle from Japan on the steamer Minneapolis June 7 last.

Army of Chinamen Coming.

Mexico City, Nov. 2.—Chinese bound for the United States have been arriving at Salina Cruz since January 1, 4,765 having landed there en route to the Northern republic.

ROADS HIT BACK

Refuse Lumber Shipments Until Further Notice.

Bellingham, Wash., Nov. 1.—No more lumber shipments will be received by the Northern Pacific railroad in the Northwest until further notice. This is the order sent out to all agents of the company last night.

This move of the Northern Pacific is expected to be followed by all the railroads affected by the injunction issued by the Federal court in Seattle Thursday night, making it compulsory on the part of the railroads to charge the old rate of 40 cents on lumber from terminal points on the Pacific Coast. The railroads had issued a new schedule of rates that were to be effective today. This new schedule was fought by the lumbermen and resulted in the issuance of the temporary injunction.

The railroads have evidently found another method of combating the lumbermen. The latest move is the refusal to accept any shipments of lumber at any rate. The roads figure they would be taking too great a risk to allow the excess freight to accumulate until a final decision on the rate is made, as they say that litigation will ensue before the matter is settled, and many of the lumber firms may have gone out of business.

COURT SIGNS ORDER.

Grants Injunction Asked by the Oregon Lumbermen.

Portland, Nov. 1.—Following the decision rendered by the United States Circuit Court at Seattle Wednesday, Judge Wolverton, of the Federal court, granted an injunction yesterday restraining the railroads from putting in the advanced lumber rates to the East until the merits of the case can be set before the Interstate Commerce commission and a hearing be held. The restraining order was asked by the Oregon & Washington Lumber Manufacturers' association, and upon his return from Seattle yesterday morning Judge Wolverton announced that the prayer of the lumbermen was granted.

Judge Wolverton ordered the association to put up a bond for \$250,000 that will be called for in the event the railroads finally win. This money will be used to pay the difference between the present rates and the proposed tariffs, should the railroads finally win.

Lumber companies in the state not members of the association are advised to file suits in intervention as soon as possible, in order that the railroads will not be enabled to enforce the proposed freight rates on firms not parties to the suit brought by the association.

The advanced rates, as announced by the railroads on all lumber shipments to the Missouri and Mississippi rivers, were to have gone into effect today, but the injunction will postpone them indefinitely. The increase was published some time ago and tariffs issued by the railroads. Appeals were made direct to the Interstate Commerce commission to postpone the enforcement of the rate, but as no complaint was before the commission, it could not act upon the appeal.

MONEY IS EASIER.

Acute Stage of Financial Crisis Over in East.

New York, Nov. 1.—Indications that the available supply of cash would be materially increased within a short time with imports of gold and the increase of the bank note circulation, and that the movement of cotton and grain crops would be facilitated in every way possible, with the result of increasing our credits abroad, were the salient features of today's financial situation. It seemed to be recognized everywhere that the acute stage of the crisis was over and that all that remained was to obtain sufficient currency to resume currency payments upon a broad scale and thus to restore conditions prevailing before the crisis.

The engagements of gold made in New York, Chicago and elsewhere brought up the total import movement within the past week to \$23,750,000. As the amount of gold will afford a basis of credit to four times the amount, or about \$95,000,000, it will in itself afford much relief to the existing pressure.

Galls Rivers Congress.

Cincinnati, O., Nov. 1.—The National Rivers and Harbors congress has issued a call to its members and supporters, as well as an invitation to all friends of river and harbor improvements, to assemble in convention in Washington, D. C., December 4, 5, 6 next. This in accordance with the convention assembled at Washington last year when the board of directors was authorized to call the next convention at such a time and place as deemed advisable. No special project will be advocated or considered.

Rumors of Annexation.

Seattle, Wash., Nov. 1.—Failure on the part of the Dominion government to give relief to British Columbia from the incoming hordes of Orientals may one day lead to that part of the British domain being joined to the United States. Of all the questions before the people of British Columbia, the immigration issue is by far the most important. All foreigners coming into Canada by way of the Pacific must enter through Victoria or Vancouver.

Chinese Come in Via Mexico.

Mexico City, Nov. 1.—According to a dispatch to the Record, since the first of the year there have arrived at the port of Salina Cruz 4,763 Chinese. Of this total, two-thirds have for their destination the United States. A great many of these foreigners seem to have at one time lived in the United States and are laboring under the impression that they can get in again.

GRANTS INJUNCTION

Railroads Must Not Advance Lumber Rates 10 Cents.

ROADS GET BOND OF \$250,000

Action by Judge Hanford in Washington Concurred in by Judge Wolverton, of Oregon.

Seattle, Wash., Oct. 31.—Federal Judge Hanford yesterday at a special session of court, granted the injunction prayed for by the Washington & Oregon Lumbermen's associations to prevent the roads of the Harriman system, the Burlington, Northern Pacific and Great Northern railroads, from placing in effect the new rate on lumber which was to have become effective November 1.

This rate was 50 cents, as against the present rate of 40 cents from the Sound and Western Oregon points to St. Paul, and the lumbermen feel that they have gained one of the greatest victories of the long fight against the railroads.

In concurring, Federal Judge Wolverton, of Oregon, practically decided the Oregon case of like nature, which comes up today in that state.

Judge Hanford dealt with the various objections interposed by the railroad attorneys and held that some of them were matters for grave consideration.

He directed that the order be presented to him for signature this morning at 8 o'clock, and fixed the bond at \$250,000 to protect the railroads in case the Interstate Commerce commission takes action in their favor.

When Judge Hanford concluded, F. C. Dillare, special interstate commission lawyer for the Harriman roads, asked if the roads would be punished if they enforced the rate on lumber concerns not parties to the defendant to the action. The reply was in effect that they would not, and the lumbermen are telegraphing every lumber company not a party to the action advising that they order their lawyers to file suit in intervention.

MEAD PROCLAIMS HOLIDAYS.

Bankers Have Two Days Set Aside in Washington.

Olympia, Wash., Oct. 31.—Governor Mead yesterday at 10 o'clock issued a proclamation declaring yesterday and today legal holidays. The issuance of the proclamation came as a decided surprise to the state officers, as the governor had refused positively to take such action. By telegram and long distance calls lasting until after midnight requests were made that the holiday be declared.

These requests were made on behalf of the banks at Spokane, Davenport, Pullman, Dayton, Ellensburg, Colfax, Walla Walla, Vancouver, Chehalis, Centralia, Aberdeen and Hoquiam. The statement was made that the banks which have balances deposited in Portland and other cities were unable to have the specie shipped and feared the consequences of a run. The holiday was asked to give time to secure the actual coin.

CONFIDENCE IN BANKS.

Portland Depositors Make no Attempt to Withdraw Funds.

Portland, Oct. 31.—Portland showed confidence in its banks yesterday to a remarkable degree. There was no indication of a run at any of the institutions when they opened for business at the usual hour after the holiday. All resumed business as usual with the exception of the Title Guarantee & Trust company, which preferred to take advantage of the five-day bank holiday in order that there might be no doubt as to the legality of the business transacted. As real estate transactions come up very largely in this bank, it was thought best by President Ross to avoid possible legal entanglements.

There was no uneasiness apparent about the city yesterday, and the banks were not pressed for money. In fact,

Town Is Destroyed.

Tashkent, Russian Turkestan, Oct. 31.—The little town of Karatagh, in the Hussar district of Kokhara, has been overwhelmed and completely destroyed by a landslide that followed the earthquake of October 21. According to the latest reports of the disaster, a majority of the inhabitants of Karatagh lost their lives. The first reports of the casualties were exaggerated, the death list being placed as high as 15,000. Karatagh has about 2,500 dwellers, and there is reason to believe that about 1,500 were buried alive.

Legal Holiday in California.

Sacramento, Cal., Oct. 31.—After late hour yesterday afternoon a message was received that the capital from Governor Gillette, who is at Eureka, announcing that today will be declared a legal holiday by proclamation and that a like proclamation will follow each day indefinitely until confidence in the financial situation in this state has been restored to normal. The proclamation will be formally issued in the morning before banking hours.

Say No Discrimination.

San Francisco, Oct. 31.—The management of the Southern Pacific denied emphatically today that Oregon shippers were being favored in the matter of car supplies as against California shippers because of recent reciprocal demurrage legislation in Oregon.