

FROM POORHOUSE TO PALACE

BY MARY J. HOLMES

CHAPTER XX.—(Continued.)

Just then Ella came singing into the room, but started when she saw how excited Mrs. Campbell appeared, and how swollen her eyelids were.

"Why, what's the matter?" said she. "I never saw you cry before, excepting that time when I told you I was going to marry Henry," and Ella laughed a little, spiteful laugh.

"Hush—hush," said Mary, softly; and Mrs. Campbell, drawing Ella to her side, told her of the strange discovery she had made; then beckoning Mary to approach, she laid a hand upon each of the young girls' heads, and blessing them, called them "her own dear children."

It would be hard telling what Ella's emotions were. One moment she was glad, and the next she was sorry, for she was so supremely selfish that the fact of Mary's being now in every respect her equal gave her more pain than pleasure.

Of course, Mrs. Campbell would love her best—everybody did who knew her—everybody but Henry. And when Mrs. Campbell asked why she did not speak she replied, "Why, what shall I say? I shall go into ecstasies about it? To be sure I'm glad, but I don't know how my aunt will take it. Will Mary live here now?"

"Yes, always," answered Mrs. Campbell; and "No never," thought Mary.

Mrs. Campbell that evening tried to devise some means by which to atone for neglecting Mary so long. Suddenly a new idea occurred to her, upon which she determined immediately to act, and the next morning Mr. Worthington was sent for to draw up a new will, in which Mary Howard was to share equally with her sister.

"Half of all I own is theirs by right," said she, "and what I want is that by their twenty-first birthday they shall come into possession of the portion which ought to have been their mother's, while at my death the remainder shall be equally divided between them."

The will was accordingly drawn up, signed and sealed, Mr. Worthington keeping a rough draft of it, which was thrown among some loose papers in his office. A few days afterward Henry, coming accidentally upon it, read it without hesitation.

"That settles it at once," said he, "and I can't say I'm sorry, for I was getting horribly sick of her. Now I'd willingly marry Mary without a penny, but Ella, with only one-quarter as much as I expected, and that not until she's twenty, is a different matter entirely. But what am I to do? I wish Moreland was here, for I thought he didn't like me, he wouldn't mind leading me a few thousand. Well, there's no help for it, and the sooner the old man dies the better. I'll help me out of a decent mean scrape, for, of course, I shall be magnanimous and release Ella at once from her engagement with a ruined man."

The news that Mary was Mrs. Campbell's niece spread rapidly, and among those who came to congratulate her none was more sincere than William Bender, Mary was very dear to him, and whatever conducted to her happiness added also to his. Together with her he had heard the rumor of Mr. Lincoln's downfall, and while all this time he had been he could not help hoping that it would bring Jenny nearer to him. Of this he told Mary, who hardly dared trust herself to reply lest she should divulge a darling secret, which she had cherished ever since Mrs. Campbell had told her that in a little more than a year she was to be the rightful owner of a sum of money much larger than she ever dreamed it possible for her to possess.

Wholly unselfish, her thoughts instantly turned toward her adopted brother. A part of that sum should be his, and with that for a stepping stone to future wealth Mrs. Lincoln, when poor and destitute, could not longer refuse him her daughter. Mrs. Campbell, to whom alone she confided her wishes, gave her consent, though she could not understand the denying love which prompted this act of generosity to a stranger.

And now Mary was very happy in thinking how much good she could do. Mrs. Mason, her benefactress, should never again see Sally Furbush, the kind-hearted old crazy woman, who had stood by her so long and so faithfully, should share her home wherever that home might be; while, better than the rest, William Bender, the truest, best friend she ever had, should be repaid for his kindness to her when a little, unknown pauper. And still the world, knowing nothing of the hidden causes which made Mary's laugh so merry and her manner so gay, said that "the prospect of being an heiress had turned her head, just as it was said to do those who were suddenly elevated to wealth."

CHAPTER XXI.

Mr. Lincoln had failed. At the corners of the streets groups of men stood together, talking over the matter, and ascribing it to his carelessness, and to his extreme good nature in indulging for anyone who asked, and others, the knowing ones, winked slyly as they said, "they guessed he knew what he was about—they'd known before of such things as falling rich;" but the mouths of those last were stopped when they heard that the household furniture, everything was given up for the benefit of his creditors, and as it was to be sold at auction during the coming week.

When the day of the auction arrived, it required the persuasion of both Mrs. Campbell and Mary to keep Jenny from going, she knew not whether herself, but anywhere to be near and take one more look at the dear old furniture as it passed into the hands of strangers. At last Mrs. Campbell promised that black Ezra, who had accompanied her from Chicago, should go and report faithfully all the proceedings, and then Jenny consented to remain at home; though all the day she seemed restless and impatient, wondering how long before Uncle Ezra would return, and then weeping as in fancy she saw article after article disposed of to those who would know little how to prize it.

About five o'clock Uncle Ezra came

home, bringing a note from Ida, saying that the carriage would soon be round for Mary and Jenny, both of whom must surely come, as there was a pleasant surprise awaiting them. While Mary was reading this Jenny was eagerly questioning Uncle Ezra with regard to the sale, which he said "went off uncommon well," going chiefly, he reckoned, "to a tall and mighty good-looking chap, who kept bidding up and up, till he got 'em about where they should be. Then he'd stop for someone else to bid."

"Who was he?" asked Mary, coming forward and joining Jenny.

"Dun know, miss; never seen him afore," said Uncle Ezra, "but he's got heaps of money, for when he paid for the pianer he took out a roll of bills near about as big as my two fists."

"Then the piano is gone?" said Jenny, sadly, while Mary asked how much it brought.

"Three hundred dollars was the last bid I heard from that young feller, and somebody who was biddin' agin him said 'twas more'n 'twas wuth.'"

"It wasn't, either," spoke up Jenny, rather spitefully. "It cost five hundred, and it's never been hurt a bit."

"Mr. Bender bought that little fiddle of yours," continued Uncle Ezra, with a peculiar wink, which brought the color to Jenny's cheeks, while Mary exclaimed: "Oh! I'm so glad you can have your guitar again!"

Here the conversation was interrupted by the arrival of the carriage, which came for the young ladies, who were soon on their way to Mr. Selden's, Mary wondering what the surprise was, and Jenny hoping William would call in the evening.

At the door they met Ida, who, as usual, was unusually merry—almost too much so for the occasion, it seemed to Mary, as she glanced at Jenny's pale, dispirited face. Aunt Martha, too, who chanced to cross the hall, shook Mary's hand as warmly as if she had not seen her for a year, and then with her broad, white cap strings flying back, she repaired to the kitchen to give orders concerning the supper.

Mary did not notice it then, but she afterward remembered that Ida seemed quite anxious about her appearance, for, following her to her room, she said, "You look tired, Mary. Sit down and rest you awhile. Here, take my vinaigrette—that will revive you." Then, as Mary was arranging her hair, she said: "Just puff out this side a little more—there, that's right. Now turn round, I want to see how you look."

"Well, how do I?" asked Mary, facing about as Ida directed.

"I guess you'd do," returned Ida. "I believe Henry Lincoln was right when he said that this blue merino and linen collar was the most becoming dress you could wear, but you look well in anything, you have so fine a form."

"Don't believe all her flattery," said Jenny, laughing. "She's only comparing your tall, slender figure with little dumpy me; but I'm growing thin—see, and she lapped her dress two or three inches in front."

"Come, now, let's go down," said Ida. "And I'll introduce you to Jenny's surprise."

With Ida leading the way, they entered the music room, where in one corner stood Rose's piano, open, and apparently inviting Jenny to sit down. With a joyful cry she sprang forward, exclaiming, "Oh, how kind in your father; I most know we can redeem it some time. I'll teach school—anything to get it again."

"Don't thank father too much," answered Ida, "for he has nothing to do with it, except giving it house room, and one quarter's teaching will pay that bill!"

"Who did buy it, then?" asked Jenny.

"Can't tell you just yet. I must have some music first. Come, Mary, you like to play. Give me my favorite, 'Rosa Lee,' with variations."

Mary was passionately fond of music, and, for the time she had taken lessons, played uncommonly well. Seating herself at the piano she became oblivious to all else around her, and when a tall figure for a moment darkened the doorway, while Jenny uttered a suppressed exclamation of surprise, she paid no heed, nor did she become conscious of a third person's presence until the group advanced toward her, Ida and Jenny leaning upon her right, a little in the rear. Thinking, if she thought at all, that it was William Bender, Mary played on until the piece was finished and then observing that her companions had left the room, she turned and met the dark, handsome eyes—not of William Bender, but of one who, with a peculiar smile, offered his hand, saying, "I believe I need no introduction to Miss Howard, except a slight change in the name, which, instead of being Stuart, is Moreland!"

Mary never knew what she said or did. She only remembered a dizzy sensation, in her head, a strong arm passed around her, and a voice, which "fully aroused her, when she was asked if she were faint. Just then Ida entered the room, announcing tea, and asking her if she found "Mr. Stuart" much changed! At the tea table Mary sat opposite George and every time she raised her eyes she met his fixed upon her, with an expression so like that of the picture in the golden locket which she still wore that she wondered she had not before recognized George Moreland in the Mr. Stuart who had so puzzled and mystified her.

During the evening William Bender called, and soon after Henry Lincoln also came in, frowning gloomily when he saw how near to each other were William and his sister, while he jealously watched them, still keeping an eye upon George and Mary. At last, complaining of feeling "blue," he asked Ida to play, at the same time sauntering toward the music room, where stood his sister's piano. "Upon my word," said he, "this looks natural. Who bought it?" and he drummed a few notes of a song.

"Mr. Moreland bought it. Wasn't he kind?" said Jenny, who all the evening

had been trying for a chance to thank George, but now when she attempted to do so he prevented her by saying: "Oh! don't say so—I can imagine all you wish to say and I hate to be thanked. Rose and I are particular friends, and it afforded me a great deal of pleasure to purchase it for her—but," he added, glancing at his watch, "I must be excused now, as I promised to call upon my aunt."

"Who's that?" asked Jenny, and George replied that it was a Miss Herndon, who had accompanied him from New Orleans, to visit her aunt, Mrs. Russell.

"He says she's an heiress, and very beautiful," rejoined Ida, seating herself at the piano.

Instantly catching at the words "heiress" and "beautiful," Henry started up, asking, "if it would be against all the rules of propriety for him to call upon her this evening?"

"I think it would," was George's brief answer, while Mary's eyes flashed scornfully upon the young man, who, rather crestfallen, announced himself ready to listen to Ida, whom he secretly styles "an old maid," because since his first remembrance she had treated him with perfect indifference.

That night before retiring the three girls sat down by the cheerful fire in Mary's room to talk over the events of the day, when Henry suddenly asked Ida the rules of propriety for him to call upon her this evening?

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EVENTS OF THE DAY

FROM THE FOUR QUARTERS OF THE WORLD.

A Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week Presented in a Condensed Form Which is Most Likely to Prove of Interest to Our Many Readers.

Drawing of Oklahoma land has begun.

The Kansas drought is effectually broken.

Negotiations in Pekin will be closed in two weeks.

General Wood has left Havana for the United States.

Shamrock II has sailed from England for New York.

The battleship Maine was launched at Cramp's shipyards.

It is reported in London that Kruger has asked Choate to end the Boer war.

Teamsters from interior are taking the places of strikers in San Francisco.

Transport Meade arrived at San Francisco with soldiers from the Philippines.

The run of fish on the lower Columbia is larger than has been known for several years.

Formal negotiations for a settlement of the great steel strike have been opened.

The Cuban government offers a reward of \$1,000 for the capture of Bandit Lima, dead or alive.

The feeling is growing stronger in England that that government should not oppose the Nicaraguan canal treaty.

The sugar trust will add \$15,000,000 to its capital stock.

The Constitution beat Columbia four minutes in a 25 mile race.

There are rumors in London of peace negotiations to end the Boer war.

Dr. Koch says bovine tuberculosis is not transmissible to the human system.

A lone highwayman held up the Cazadero stage near Mendocino, Cal., but got nothing.

The teamsters' strike in San Francisco is becoming serious. Both sides are standing firm.

A fire in a reduction plant near Florence, Col., destroyed \$250,000 worth of property.

Petroleum on board an American ship at Stockholm, Sweden, exploded, burning 15 persons and the ship.

Rear Admiral Schley will demand an investigation of Maclay's charges, and will sue the author for libel.

An excursion boat on the Saginaw river sank near Saginaw, Mich., with 30 passengers on board. All were saved.

The Boers have given up all hope of intervention and realize that they must fight the war out on their own account.

The Canadian Pacific Railway is considering the question of substituting electricity for steam on its heavy grades.

William H. Hunt, present secretary of Porto Rico has been selected to succeed Charles H. Allen as governor of that island.

The mine firemen's strike has been declared off.

The southwest was again scorched by a hot wave.

The steel trust has made no effort to start up idle plants.

The rivers and harbors committee has returned from Alaska.

The international mining congress has opened at Boise, Idaho.

Whitmarsh has been exonerated of the charges brought against him.

San Francisco teamsters have quit work and the wholesale trade is about tied up.

Colonel Albert Jenks, a well known artist, dropped dead in Los Angeles of heart disease, aged 75 years.

A Pittsburg woman started the fire with kerosene and, with her three children, was burned to death.

The mayor of Santa Paula, Cal., was shot and probably fatally wounded by a tough character of that place.

Corbin and Chaffee have decided on radical changes in the army in the Philippines. The military force will be reduced to 20,000 or 30,000.

A movement has been started by the labor unions of San Francisco to shut out Japanese, placing them on the same footing with the Chinese.

At a Chicago race track four horses became frightened, threw their riders and bolted from the track into the spectators and several persons were severely injured.

President Palmer, of the Rio Grande and Western, has sold his interests in the world, has sold his interests for \$6,000,000.

Prince Bonaparte's philological library of 15,000 volumes, the finest in the world, has been secured for the Newberry library, Chicago.

In selling its interest in the Sioux City & Pacific railroad the government has recovered all the principal and about \$500,000 in addition.

A perfectly formed face is one-third forehead, one-third nose and one-third upper and lower chin.

INSURGENTS SURRENDER.

A Band of 500 Is the First to Give Up in Island of Samar.

Manila, July 29.—General Hughes cables the news of the first surrender of insurgents in the Island of Samar, 500 men, with two field guns, 30 rifles and 70 balos, giving themselves up to the United States authorities.

The opinion prevails among the United States officers that it will take years to accomplish the economic plan of General Corbin. The civil and educational authorities hold that a continuance of the protection of minor posts is necessary, aside from that afforded by the constabulary. It is generally expected that the concentration will be more gradual than is anticipated in Washington.

The first meeting of the Legislative Chamber held today was largely attended. Commissioner Wright, speaking of the charter of Manila, said the same reasons that controlled in making Washington the federal city obtained in Manila, and Washington, he declared, was the best governed city in the world. Representatives of the Spanish Chamber of Commerce vehemently opposed the charter, asserting that it was inconsistent with the principles of the freest government on earth to deny the right of suffrage to the residents of the metropolis, while granting it to those of other localities. They also declared that the proposed system of government for Manila was far less liberal than that offered by the United States authorities, who proposed to make the representatives of the district in Manila elective by the people.

Ex-Major Shields, of the Thirty-third Infantry, U. S. V., has been appointed purchasing agent, vice Lieutenant Massey, deceased.

HEAVY EARTHQUAKE SHOCKS.

Experienced Over a Large Section of the Nevada Desert.

Salt Lake City, July 29.—A section 75 miles wide, through the Nevada Desert from Death as far west as Carlin, experienced a series of heavy earthquake shocks about 2:30 this afternoon. The vibrations generally were from North to South, and at one or two points lasted for fully five seconds. So far as learned no serious damage was done, though the force of the shock was great enough to shake dishes from the shelves. The extent of the earthquake north and south is not known. At Elko, Nev., the shock was unusually severe. The high school building, a new brick edifice, was badly cracked by the violence of the vibration, and other buildings were slightly damaged. The earthquake was preceded and followed by rather remarkable meteorological phenomena. For some time preceding the shock the air was perfectly still, while the heat was extremely oppressive. A few minutes after the shock, however, a violent wind and rain storm, accompanied by heavy thunder and lightning, burst over the city, the rain continuing for several hours.

At Death, Nev., goods were shaken from the shelves in the stores. The shock was not felt 50 miles north of Elko.

AFTER AIRSHIP PRIZE.

Paris Inventor Awaiting An Opportunity to Make Another Trial.

Paris, July 29.—Keen interest is still taken in the steerable balloon of the Brazilian aeronaut, M. Santos Dumont. Each day he visits the grounds of the Aero Club at St. Cloud, where the balloon is kept filled in readiness to make the first opportunity to renew the attempt for the Deutsch prize, the sum of 100,000 francs offered for a dirigible balloon. The motor is working satisfactorily and promises a higher speed than at the last trial, but wind and rain have thus far prevented a thorough test. So confident is he of winning the prize that he offers, with the accumulated interest thereon, another prize of 4000 francs to the first member of the Aero Club performing the round trip from St. Cloud to the Eiffel Tower prior to October 31.

Much Fruit and Produce Ordered.

Philadelphia, July 29.—Large orders for fruit and produce have been received by the local dealers from the sections of the Middle West which have been stricken with drought. This demand has been larger during the past two weeks, veterans in the produce market say, than ever before in the history of the business in Philadelphia.

Fireman and Engineer Killed.

Memphis, Tenn., July 29.—Freight train No. 9 on the Choctaw, Oklahoma & Gulf road, was wrecked near Palestine, Ark., this morning early by running into an open switch. The engineer and fireman were killed and a brakeman injured. It is believed the switch was thrown by men intending to wreck and rob the passenger which was due three minutes later.

Garment Workers' Strike Ended.

New York, July 29.—General Secretary White, of the United Garment Workers of America, announced today that the strike of his fellow craftsmen was officially ended. The strike affected about 70,000 workers.

Strike Makes Tinplate Dearer.

Philadelphia, July 29.—The strike of steelworkers has raised the price of tinplate in this city from 20 to 30 per cent. Before the strike tinplate sold at \$4 per box at the mill, and \$4.17 in Philadelphia. Prices today average \$5 and \$5.25.

Mysterious Explosion.

London, July 29.—"A curious incident took place here," says a dispatch to the Daily Mail from Perth, Western Australia, "during the open-air reception to the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall. Every one was startled by a loud report close to the Duke, who jumped and clutched his chair, saying, nervously: 'Someone must be shooting.' The police are instituting a vigorous search. It seems that the explosion was purely accidental."

NEWS OF THE STATE

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS OF OREGON.

Commercial and Financial Happenings of Importance—A Brief Review of the Growth and Improvements of the Many Industries Throughout Our Thriving Commonwealth—Latest Market Report.

Wallowa county spent \$772 for coyote scalps last month.

Brome grass five feet high flourishes on the arid lands near Bly.

Large quantities of match wood are being shipped to Portland from Coos bay.

Athena has paved its streets and is now working for an electric lighting system.

Thomas Sherwood has been appointed stock inspector for Union county.

The Salem Flouring Mill Company's new buildings are rapidly nearing completion.

A large hay crop in the Willamette valley has made that staple cheap, selling from \$3 to \$5 per ton.

Piles for Mare Island, Cal., are being cut on the Santiam. The sticks are from 42 to 80 feet long and several thousand will be shipped.

A promising coal prospect has been found at Rice Hill, Douglas county, by the steam shovel crew who are excavating there. The find will be developed.

A number of small hold-ups are reported around Athena and Weston.

A stage line has been established across the mountains from Prineville to Foster.

James Hall, a California pioneer of 1852, died recently at Fairview, Wasco county.

Several rich clean upns are reported from the placer mines of Mule Gulch, Grant county.

The Eugene excelsior factory is running night and day, turning out 12 carloads every month.