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HERR STEINHARDT'S NEMESIS

BY I. MACLAREN COBBAN.

CHAPTER XIII.—Continued.

"What is it?" he demanded; his tone was not loud, but his eyes seemed standing out as with suppressed rage—"What is it you two are together for? What can you do? You have nothing—money, influence, nothing!"

"Is it," said he, glaring at me, "that you—you a beggarly creature—want, expect to marry an heiress, the heiress of an old family? I have said before that she is not an heiress—that she has no money, and that she is not for you, sir!"

"I have reason," I said, "to believe that Herr Steinhardt does not always speak the truth."

"Puff! You are insolent as well as reckless!"

"Not tonight! After tonight you will be more completely nothing than you have been yet! I will destroy you both! You shall be beggars both, without hope, without reputation!"

"These are brave words," Manuel, and I know you will carry them out, if you can; I know you can make me a beggar, but I think Unwin is pretty fit to give an account of himself yet, and of you, too, Manuel, if it comes to that. But see, you'd better go home, for it's Sunday morning, and you're frightening the poor girl there."

"This careless dismissal must have been especially exasperating to a man like Steinhardt. He was almost beside himself, yet he still held his fury down."

"You are beggars, sneaks and cowards both!" he exclaimed.

"Say, but," said Birley, now roused, and approaching to urge the necessity of a speedy departure, "if we begin calling names we may have the better of it, but not tonight. Come, Manuel, you must go!"

He was reluctantly withdrawing, when he and we also were startled by Louise exclaiming with outstretched hands—

"Where is my father, you wicked man? What have you done with him? Where have you put him?"

He paused a moment to set his face, and then turned again to look at her.

"The girl is gone mad!" he said.

"Does she think I am her father's keeper? Where have I put him? Have I got him in my pocket, do you think?"

The knowledge of this, which he guessed, did not make me feel any the less bitterly toward Steinhardt.

CHAPTER XIV.

On Monday morning the whole neighborhood was in the excitement of the news that Mr. Birley was to be sold up. An execution had been put into his house under a bill of sale, and an agent or auctioneer person had come of course by invitation, and had struck notices announcing a sale of "furniture and effects" on boards in the front-garden. Steinhardt knew there would be no redemption of the bill, but in his haste to get to the scene with his old friend as possible he had overlooked the fact that by an act which had come in force in the beginning of that year, he had opportunity to pay off the bill. Birley, therefore, plucked up the notice boards and threw them into the lane, and then went and talked to the man in possession.

But that afternoon I had business of my own hand: I had determined to settle to my own satisfaction the exact spot in the garden where Fraulein Haas's remains were interred. In the meantime Steinhardt must be permitted to pursue his vindictive course toward our dear old friend Birley, and his schemes of causing for my annoyance and anxiety to Miss Lacroix. Our helplessness in the matter chafed severely both Freeman and myself.

"Is there no way at all?" I exclaimed, "but the way of evidence to the crime home to him?—to really satisfy ourselves that the crime is his, and to make him feel that we know it?"

"Have you any objection," said he, rising as if anticipating I would have none, "to take my wife into counsel? She sometimes has a clear idea in her head."

I said I certainly would like Mrs. Freeman to consult with us, and in a few moments she was sitting opposite me. I told her the whole matter, and she pointed out the difficulty of the situation.

"So," said she, "you want to get at some way of bringing it home to him, as you say. If now, you could only hit upon something like Hamlet's 'plummet' to catch the King."

"Ah, yes, Hamlet!" we both exclaimed. This was our first formative hint, and I need not describe in detail how that, through a series of coincidences, and wild suggestion of one sort and another, a plan was at length developed. I shall but state the result.

was altogether unlike the rest. Most of the wall was as bare of anything like vegetation as a mill-wall commonly is, but this part was covered with a fine yellowish-green fungus on the bricks, and grass in the mortar of the interstices. This, I was satisfied, was the spot. Under these bricks had lain, for eighteen months, the mutilated remains of the unfortunate Lacroix, probably at no great depth; hence the eagerness of Steinhardt to cover them with so widespread a tomb-slab as this fallen wall, and hence, also, probably, this traitorous growth of green. As I looked, I wondered how much Steinhardt would be able to do to move his Titanic tombstone and remove his dead. The wall was too secure a covering; it was the grand mistake of a strong, resolute and original criminal—the enormous amount of the bold, unassuming villain, entirely confident in his security against every risk of discovery!

I hurriedly withdrew to consider my course of action. I began to find that I was in an awkward dilemma. My promise to Fraulein Haas forbade a public examination of that spot, yet how could my promise to Louise, that her father's remains should be properly interred—how could that be fulfilled without the discovery becoming public? There was another point which gave me pause—suppose this rumour broke into the world, and its contents identified as the remains of Mr. Lacroix, how could I show that Steinhardt had buried them? How then, could I bring the crime home so as to move Louise to despair?

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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.

Senator Elkins has offered a resolution for the annexation of Cuba. The president will start on his Western trip the latter part of September.

A storm which swept over Central Michigan killed six persons and damaged property to the amount of \$100,000.

Chinese rebels bombarded Nan Ning and killed between 300 and 400. They have many modern arms.

The senate has agreed to the irrigation bill, which now goes to the president for his approval and signature.

Unprecedented snow storms are of daily occurrence in Cape Colony. Drifts six and eight feet deep greatly hindered railroad traffic.

A special convention of coal miners will be called to decide whether or not the strike will be extended so as to include all soft coal miners.

Colonel Lynch, an English member of parliament, is on trial for treason against the British in South Africa. He is charged with having fought with the Boers and then returning to England and being elected to parliament.

The house has passed the irrigation bill.

New York is experiencing extremely hot weather. A number of deaths have already been reported.

Congress has been asked for an appropriation of \$600,000 to cover the deficiency of the Buffalo exposition.

Alexander City, Alabama, was almost entirely destroyed by fire, the loss reaching at least \$750,000. There was no fire protection. Appeals for aid have been made.

A Chinese exclusion law, similar to the one in force in the United States, has been enacted in Cuba. Forty-three Chinese coolies have been deported and no more of that class will be allowed to land.

James J. Lynch and J. W. Bramwood have been elected president and secretary-treasurer, respectively, of the International Typographical Union. A vote of 29,000 was cast, about 70 per cent of the membership.

The house has killed the Pacific cable bill by striking out the enacting clause.

In the collapse of a St. Louis building six people were injured, one probably fatally.

King Edward has received White-lane Reid, United States representative at the coronation.

The Cuban military government paid out between \$8,000 and \$9,000 to aid the reciprocity cause.

A dozen lives were lost in a storm that swept through Central Illinois, doing immense damage to property.

The strike situation in the anthracite coal district remains unchanged, with no prospects of either side giving in.

Over 180 Yaqui men, women and children were shot down by Mexican soldiers in the most cold blooded manner.

NOW IN WASHINGTON.

Convicts Tracy and Merrill Cross Columbia Near Vancouver.

Vancouver, Wash., June 16.—Adding the theft of another team to their already long list of crimes, Tracy and Merrill, the desperate outlaws, last night made their way through Clackamas county, across Multnomah from the Clackamas line to a point opposite Fisher's Landing, crossed the Columbia, and now a creek from the time of their escape from the penitentiary at Salem, are in the neighborhood of Fourth Plain, Clark county, Washington, with another posse on their track, another sheriff in charge of it, and three detectives from Portland as reinforcements.

As it was in the beginning, it is now; they will either be captured or killed, or the case will be dropped. Merrill is now on ground with which he is thoroughly familiar, having been born in Clark county and brought up in Cowlitz, and is thus better situated than while in Oregon. The country is much the same, formed of low-lying hills, cut by ravines, and overgrown by underbrush and scrub fir which afford the best kind of cover. As the men are armed with 30 30 rifles and have an abundance of ammunition, it does not seem likely that the desire to capture them will burn any more fiercely in the breasts of their new set of pursuers than it did in those of the posse that laid down its arms and gave up the fight at Barlow Friday afternoon.

Underwood captured. Murderer Taken Near South Bend—Says His Wife Knew About the Affair.

South Bend, Wash., June 16.—Paul Underwood, accused of the murder of his three-week-old baby, was captured after a 6:30 o'clock Saturday morning near here. From the start the officers have been trailing him, Deputy Sheriff Markham, of this county, W. S. Kindred and G. L. Honk, all experienced woodsmen, keeping the trail, while the others sought to head the fugitives off by beating the woods ahead. As usual, they started out at daybreak this morning, and at the hour stated Sheriff Cuddehe saw Underwood come down a hill, and the latter, evidently spying the officer, dropped into the tall grass on the side of the hill, and hid himself. Underwood came up to him. He was apparently making his way to Cedar river, and had about half of his supply of provisions left when captured. He was placed in the custody of Sheriff Roney, of this county, in whose charge he was brought to this city. He was taken to a barber shop for a shave and then to the jail. His first wish was for a glass of beer, which was not granted. He was not fully satisfied with his quarters, and sent word to Sheriff Cuddehe that he would like cleaner quarters.

Underwood seemed greatly surprised when told that his wife protested all connection with the crime. He says she helped him to do away with the baby, but that it was dead before it was thrown into the water.

DEWEY TO GO TO SEA. To Have Big Fleet and Conduct Naval Manoeuvres in the South.

Washington, June 17.—Admiral Dewey is to go to sea again, flying his flag, with the four stars, in command of the greatest fleet in numbers the United States has ever gotten together since the days of the Civil war, and far more powerful in offense and defense even than any of those war fleets.

Secretary Moody has conceived the idea, and after consulting the pleasure of Admiral Dewey it has been arranged that he shall be placed in supreme command of the fleet (comprising the North Atlantic, the European and the South Atlantic squadrons), which is to assemble near Culebra island, in the West Indies, next December for the winter manoeuvres. Secretary Moody himself desires to witness these manoeuvres, and it is even possible that the president may find time to make a voyage to the South to see the big ironclads in war movements. Admiral Dewey goes gladly to his work.

It is settled that Secretary Moody will witness the summer movements of the North Atlantic squadron, involving combined naval and army attack on and defense of the Eastern approaches to New York City. It is expected he will board the Dolphin for the purpose, and he has invited as his guests Senator Hale, chairman of the senate naval committee, and Representative Foss, chairman of the house naval committee. There will be other guests than these, but Secretary Moody has not yet announced their names.

Street-Car Boycott. Franklin, Pa., June 17.—As a result of the street-car boycott, growing out of the trouble between the Vanango Power company and its employees, the street-car employees, both in this city and in Oil City, have been sworn in as deputy sheriffs by Sheriff McCallum. Few people are riding. Up to a late hour last night several hundred men lined the tracks on the principal streets, hooting at the motormen and conductors and endeavoring to dissuade people from patronizing the line.

New Belgian Treaty Ratified. Washington, June 17.—Secretary Hay and Baron Moncheur, the Belgian minister, have exchanged the final ratifications of the new Belgian extradition treaty. This is one of the latest conventions which the department is drawing on modern lines with nearly all the countries with which we already have extradition treaties of rather ancient date. The crimes of larceny, kidnaping and obtaining money under false pretenses are added to the crimes.

There are 2,740 murders yearly in Italy; 2,490 in Russia; 1,600 in Spain. Less than one per cent of the land of Norway is in use for grain fields.

Orders have been issued in India for the return to store of all ammunition containing dum-dum bullets.

As a result of experiments with a new secret explosive, the Italian government has decided to manufacture a new type of cannon for garrison artillery and coast defense.

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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.

Grants Pass, will hold two days' celebration, the 4th and 5th.

Six students graduated this year from the McMinnville college.

Fourteen diplomas were issued this year by the Willamette University at Salem.

A class of seven graduated from the Southern Oregon state normal school, at Ashland this year.

Articles have been filed incorporating the bank at Bourne. The capital stock is placed at \$10,000.

The Yellow Dais group of mining properties, on Spokane Hill, Eastern Oregon, has been sold. The consideration was \$20,000.

A fruitgrowers union has been formed at The Dalles for the purpose of handling and marketing local crops during the present season.

The state teachers' institute meets at Eugene June 25. About 600 are expected to be in attendance and local teachers are busy completing arrangements.

The weather of the past week has added materially to the crop prospects of the year, and the outlook is good for a large yield of wheat and oats, both of the fall and spring sowings.

The Oregon City Lumber Company has just completed an addition to their sawmill on the west side of the Willamette, and after installing new machinery will be started up again.

Considerably more than ordinary interest is being taken in the timber lands of the coast range in Lane county. Several wealthy corporations have cruisers examining and reporting on timber.

The insurance companies carrying insurance on the industrial building at the reform school, which was burned last fall, have compromised with the state, and will pay \$9,032.50 into Oregon's treasury.

The Woodmen of the World will erect a hall at Dusty, Benton county.

A lodge of United Artisans with a membership of 18 has been organized at Fall Creek.

A two story brick building to cost \$15,000 will be erected at Roseburg by the Douglas County Bank.

The prospects are that the fruit crop of Josephine county will be heavy and of exceptionally good quality.

Lower Columbia river cannymen have raised the price of fish weighing over 25 pounds one cent a pound.

Farmers of the Waldo hills have pooled their wool, feeling confident that they will be able to secure better prices thereby.

A company has been formed that will absorb the La Grande sugar factory and two in Utah and hereafter the three will be run as one concern.

The Snow Creek group, consisting of four claims, in the Greenhorn mining district, Eastern Oregon, has been sold to New York capitalists for \$65,000.

TONGUE UPHOLDS IT.

Deivers Able Speech in Support of Irrigation Bill.

Washington, June 14.—In an able speech, Representative Tongue, in answer to Representative Ray, of New York, clearly pointed out the constitutionality of the pending irrigation bill, and forcibly showed the necessity for the legislation. He said in part: "The constitution confers upon congress the full and absolute right to dispose of and make all needful regulations in regard to territory of the United States. In dealing with public lands there is no provision of the constitution limiting the power of congress—it is absolute. This view has been upheld by numerous decisions of state and federal courts. The absolute power of disposal implies the absolute power of disposing of the proceeds of the lands. The pending bill is designed to dispose of public lands. Millions of acres now worthless cannot be disposed of under any existing laws. This law proposes irrigation solely for the purpose of disposing of the lands. The United States having power to dispose of the lands, may take such means as in the judgment of the legislative authority is best adapted for that purpose. This view has been repeatedly upheld by the decisions of the supreme court of the United States."

Mr. Tongue cited a number of cases in state and federal courts, including the supreme court, to show that the United States, with or without the consent of the states or territories, may exercise the right of eminent domain and condemn private property wherever it is necessary to carry out any of the powers conferred upon the general government. If it has a right to dispose of the lands, it has a right to condemn private property and acquire necessary water. The bill, however, provides that this right shall be exercised in conformity with the laws of the several states and territories, all of whose constitutions contain provisions authorizing the condemnation of water rights. These provisions, he says, have been repeatedly upheld in the courts, which also hold irrigation to be a public use. He denied Ray's statement that the government has no constitutional right to apply proceeds of public lands to irrigation. He added that this very principle had been carried out in numerous instances. Congress has authorized the use of such proceeds in the improvement of streams wholly within a state, for the construction of universities, agricultural colleges, normal schools, state penitentiaries, state asylums, mining schools, etc., and in the bill recently passed admitting three new states, re-adopted these identical provisions. His argument was received with loud applause.

POSSE GIVES UP. Barlow, June 14.—Tracy and Merrill were captured yesterday, nor are they likely to be, unless aided by their success in eluding their multitudinous pursuers, they become too bold and present a target for some reward-hunting pot-shooter. Where they are no man can say. Since noon Thursday they have gone their way unseen and unheard, save in the imagination of rumor-mongers. Their pursuers have given up the search. The militia retired earliest, and late yesterday evening, at the end of a wild goose chase that led from their rendezvous at Graves' ranch to Barlow, 10