The Redemption of David Corson

By CHARLES FREDERIC GOSS

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CHAPTER XIII.

After wandering aimlessly about the city for a while the half-crazed gambler turned his footsteps toward home. He entered, both hoping and fearing that Pepeeta would be asleep. He had a vague presentiment that he was on the verge of some great event. The guilty secret so long hidden in the depths of his soul seemed to have festered its way dangerously near to the surface, and he felt that if anything more should happen to irritate him he might do something desperate.

So quiet had been his movements that he stood at Pepeeta's door before she knew that he had entered the house, and when he saw her kneeling by her bedside he stamped his foot in rage. The worshiper, startled by the interruption, although she was momentarily expecting it, hastily arose.

She smiled him a welcome which revealed her love, but did not conceal her sadness nor her suffering, and, approaching him, extended her hands for an embrace. He pushed her aside and flung himself heavily into a chair.

"You are tired," she said soothingly, and stroked his hair.

He did not answer, and her caress both tranquilized and frenzied him. She placed before him the little lunch which she always prepared with her own hands and kept in readiness for his returned.

"Take it away. How often have I told you never to let me find you on your knees when I come home?" he asked, brutally.

"Oh! my beloved," she exclaimed, "you will at least permit me to kneel to you! See! I am here in an attitude of supplication! Listen to me? Answer me! What is the matter? Do you not love me any more? Tell me! Will you never love me again?"

With a violent and convulsive effort he pushed her away and exclaimed fiercely, "Leave me! Do not touch me! I hate you!"

"Hate me?" she cried, "hate me? Oh, David. You cannot mean it. You cannot mean that you hate me?"

"But I do!" he exclaimed, bitterly. "I hate you. You have ruined me, and now you confess it. From the time that I first saw you I have never had a moment's peace. Why did you ever cross my path? Could you not have left me alone in my happiness and innocence? Look at me now. See what you have brought me to. I am ruined! But I am not alone. You have pulled yourself down with me. What will you say when I tell you that you are involved in a crime that must drag us both down?"

"A crime?" she cried, clasping her hands in terror.

"Yes, a crime. You need not look so innocent. You are as guilty as I, or at least you are as deeply involved. We are bound together in misery. We are doomed."

"Doomed! Doomed! What do you mean? Tell me, I implore you—do not speak in riddles!"

"Tell you? Do you wish to know? Are you in earnest? Then I will! You are not my wife! There! It is out at last!"

Pepeeta sprang to her feet and stood staring at him in horror.

"I deceived you. You were married to your beast of a husband lawfully enough; but as you would not leave him willingly, I determined that you should leave him any way. And so I bribed the justice to deceive you."

"You-bribed-the-justice-to-deceive-me?"

"Yes, bribed him. Do you understand? You see now what your beauty has brought you to?"

She stood before him white and silent. He had risen, and they were confronting each other with their sins and sorrows between them.

"This, then," she said, "is the clue to all this mystery. The tangled thread has begun to unravel. Many times this suspicion has forced itself upon my mind; but it was too terrible to believe! And yet I, who could not endure the suspicion, must now support the reality."

"Well," he said, "what are you going to do about it?"

"Do?" she said, do? Must I do something? Yes, you are right. We cannot go on as we are. Something must be done. But what? Is it possible that I must return to my husband? How can I do that—I who cannot think of him without loathing! What is the matter? Why do you tremble so? Is it then as terrible to you as to me? I see from your emotion that I am right. And yet I cannot see what good it will do! How can it undo the wrong? It will be a certain sort of reparation, but it cannot bring him happiness, for I cannot give him back my heart. Oh! David, why have you done this? And yet I see my duty! If he is my husband, I must go back to him. A wife's place is by her husband's side. I do not see how I can do it, but I must. How hard it is! I cannot realize it. The very thought of seeing him again makes me shudder! And yet I must go!"

"It is impossible," gasped the trembling creature to whom she looked for confirmation.

"Why impossible?"

"Because, because—he—is—dead," he whispered, through his dry lips.

"Dead? Did you say dead?" Pepeeta cried. "When did he die? How did he die?"

"I killed him," he shouted, springing to his feet and waving his hands wildly. "There! It has told itself. I knew it would. It has been eating its way out of my heart for months. I should have died if I had kept it secret for another moment. I feel relieved already. You do not know what it means to guard a secret night and day for years, do you? Oh, how sweet it is to tell it at last. I killed him! I killed him! I struck him with a stone. I crushed his skull and turned him face downward in the road and left him there so that when they found him they would think that he had fallen from his horse. It was well done, for one who had had no training in crime! No one has suspected it. I am in no danger. And yet I could not keep the secret any longer. And now that I have told it, I feel so much happier. I am like myself again. I feel as if I should never be unkind or irritable any more. The load has fallen from my heart. Come, now, and kiss me."

Extending his hands, he approached her. As he did so, the look of horror with which she had regarded him intensified and she retreated before him until she reached the wall, looking like a seabird hurled against a precipice by a storm. Such dread was on her face that he dared not touch her.

"What is the matter?" he said. "Are you afraid of me?"

"Forgive me," she said, "for seeming even for a moment to despise and abhor you. It was all so sudden. I do not mean to condemn you. I do not mean to act or feel as if I were any less guilty than you are in all this wrong. But when one has to face something awful without preparation, it is very hard. No wonder that we do not know what to do. We are both guilty, David. I think that it is because I have had so large a share in all the rest that has been wrong that i cannot now feel towards you as I think I ought. It is true that you have injured me terribly and irretrievably. It is true that your hands are stained with blood, and yet I love you! My heart yearns for you this moment as never before since we have known each other. But there is a voice within my soul that tells me that we must part. We could not respect and therefore we could not truly love each other. Into every moment of our lives this guilty secret would intrude. No, it is impossible. I see it clearly. Every passing moment only makes it more plain."

"We shall not part!" he cried, springing towards her and seizing her by the wrist. "We are as firmly linked by vice as by virtue. This secret will draw us together! We cannot keep away from each other. Let the dead past bury its dead! Let us be happy."

"No," she answered, calmly, "it is impossible. You need not argue. You cannot change my mind. I see it all too clearly. We must part."

"Oh! pity me," he cried, falling on his knees. "What shall I do? I cannot bear this burden alone. It will crush me. Have mercy, Pepeeta. Do not drive me away. I cannot endure to go forth with this brand of Cain upon my forehead and realize that I shall never hear from your lips another word of love or comfort. Pity me."

"But, my beloved, I am not acting for myself. It is not my mind or heart that speaks. It is God speaking through me. I feel myself to be acting under an influence apart from myself. We have resisted these voices and this influence too long. Now we must obey them."

"But, Pepeeta," he continued, "you do not really think that you have the power to suppress the love you feel for me?"

"I shall not try," she answered.

She smiled on him with unutterable tenderness, and with her eyes still fixed upon his haggard face began to move slowly toward the door. He did not stir; he could not move, but remained upon his knees with his hands extended towards her in supplication.

Like some exalted figure in a dream he saw her vanish from his sight; the world became empty and dark; his powers of endurance had been overtaxed; he lost all consciousness, and fell forward on the floor.

CHAPTER XIV.

A month of dangerous and almost fatal sickness followed. When at last, through the care of a faithful negro "mammy," the much-enduring man crept out from the valley of the shadow of death, he learned that Pepeeta had secured a little room in a tenement house and was supporting herself with her needle, in the use of which she had become an expert in those glad hours when she made her baby's clothes, and those sad ones when she sat far into the night awaiting David's return. On the morning of the first day in which he was permitted to leave the house he made his way to Pepeeta's new quarters.

"And so this is to be her home," he said with a shudder as he looked up to the attic window. Every day this pale young man was seen, by the curious neighbors, hovering about the place. As for the object of his love and solicitude, she began at once to be a bread-winner. The delicate girl who never in her life until now had experienced a care about the necessities of existence began to struggle for bread in company with the thousands of poor and needy creatures by whom she found herself surrounded. The only hunger she experienced was that of the heart. She soon became conscious of David's presence, and derived from it a pleasure which only added to her pain. She avoided him as best she could, and her determination and her sanctity prevented him from approaching her.

He wrote her a letter in which, after passionately pleading for her love, he asked her to give him a sign of willingness to take him once more back into her life. "If I may cherish hope of your ultimate relenting," he wrote, "place your candle on the window sill. I will wait until midnight, and if you extinguish it then, I shall accept your decision as final, and you will be responsible for what follows. I am a desperate man, and life without you has become intolerable."

Having thrust the letter under the door, David fled hastily down the stairway and into the street, where he began to pace back and forth like a sentry on his beat. Never did a condemned felon in a cell watch for the coming of a messenger of pardon with more wildly beating heart than his as he gazed at that window up in the wall of the gloomy tenement house. Never did a mariner on a storm-tossed vessel keep his eye more resolutely fixed on beams from a distant lighthouse.

Finally, and after what seem uncounted ages, the great cock struck the hour of midnight. One, two, three—he stood like a man rooted to the ground—four, five, six—his heart beat louder than the bell—seven, eight, nine—the blood seemed bursting through his temples—ten, eleven, twelve!—the light went out! The universe seemed to have been instantaneously swallowed up in darkness. He could not see the figure that crept to the window and gazed down upon him from behind the drapery of the curtains. He did not know that Pepeeta had fallen on her knees in an agony deeper than his own, and was gazing down at him through streaming tears. In those few succeeding moments the sense of his personal loss was displaced by a sudden and overpowering sense of his personal guilt. The full consciousness of his sin burst upon him. He saw the selfishness of his love and his wickedness in a light brighter than day.

"What next?" he said aloud, as if speaking to some one else. Receiving no answer, he turned instinctively toward his gambling house, and went stumbling along through the deserted streets. What is a man, after all, but a stumbling machine? Progress is made by falling forward over obstacles! The poor stumbler tottered across his own threshold into that brilliant room where he had always received an enthusiastic welcome, but which he had not visited since his sickness. If ever a man needed kindness and encouragement it was he; but his sensitive spirit instantly discovered that all was changed.

His superstitious companions had not forgotten the broken glass, and had heard of his subsequent calamities. With them the lucky alone were the adorable! The gods of the temples of fortunes are easily and quickly dethroned and the worshipers had already prostrated themselves before other shrines.

The coldness of his greeting sent a chill to his already benumbed heart and increased his desperation. He was nervous, excited, depressed, and feeling the need of something to distract his thought from his troubles, he sat down and began to play; but from the first deal he lost—lost steadily and heavily. Within a few short hours he had staked his entire fortune and lost it. It had gone as easily and as quickly as it had come.

"I guess that is about all," he said, pushing himself wearily back from the table at which he had just parted with the title to his desolated home.

The sun was just rising. The first faint stir of life was perceptible in the city streets; the green-grocers were coming in with their fresh vegetables; the office boys were opening the doors and putting away the shutters; there was a bright, morning look on the faces which peered into the haggard countenance of the gambler as he crept aimlessly along, but the fresh, sweet light gave him neither brightness nor joy. His heart was cold and dead; he had not even formed a purpose.

And so he drifted aimlessly until the current that was setting toward the levee caught him and bore him on with it. The sight of a vessel just putting out to sea communicated to his spirit its first definite impulse and he ascended the gang-plank without even inquiring its destination.

In a few moments the boat swung loose and turned its prow down the river. The bustle of the embarkation distracted him. He watched the hurrying sailors, gazed at the piles of merchandise, walked up and down the deck, listened to the fresh breeze that began to play upon the great, sonorous harp of the shrouds and the masts, and when at last the vessel glided out into the waters of the gulf he lay down in a hammock and fell into a long and dreamless sleep.

(To be continued.)

Mandarin.

Mandarin is not, as is generally supposed, a Chinese word, but one given by the Portuguese colonists at Macao to the officials of the Flowery Kingdom. It is from the verb "mandar" (to command). There are nine ranks of the mandarins, distinguished by the buttons in their caps—first, ruby; second, coral; third, sapphire; fourth, an opaque blue stone; fifth, crystal; sixth, an opaque white shell; seventh, wrought gold; eighth, plain gold; ninth, silver.

Bees.

Bees were unknown to the Indians, but they were brought over from England only a few years after the landing of the Pilgrim fathers. It was more than two centuries after the first white invasion of New England, however, before modern beekeeping began. The industry of the present day dates from the invention of the movable frame hive by Langstreth in 1852.

Storks of Egypt.

Were it not for the multitude of storks that throng Egypt every winter there would be no living in some parts of the country, for after every inundation frogs appear in devastating swarms.

Took Him at His Word.

Blobbs—What's the matter with Henpecke? He seems quite depressed.

Slobbs—Oh, I made the mistake of telling him to make himself feel quite at home.—Philadelphia Record.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS IN BRIEF

Tuesday, December 21.

Washington, Dec. 21.—Representatives Hamer, Mondell and Martin today held a conference and agreed to unite in pressing for consideration the bill relieving homesteaders in the northwest from the necessity of residing on their lands through the winter.

Reports indicate that the weather is unusually severe and many requests for this relief are being received.

It is asserted that new settlers are finding it impossible to remain on their lands.

The senate today confirmed the nomination of Robert Bacon of New York to be ambassador to France.

President Taft sent to the senate the nominations of General George Stone of California to be naval officer of customs at San Francisco, and Howard C. Shober of South Dakota to be auditor for the interior department in this city.

The Mann "white slave traffic" bill was favorably reported to the house today by Chairman Mann of that committee. The report accompanying the presentation of the measure distinctly disclaims any purpose to usurp in any way the police powers of the states.

Recommendations for changes in the present law regulating transportation companies are contained in the twenty-third annual report of the interstate commerce commission transmitted today to congress.

The report, however, is notable rather for recommendations it does not contain.

Five of the suggestions made by the special committee selected by President Taft to draft changes in the existing interstate commerce act are offered in the report.

Congress adjourned early this afternoon to Thursday, January 4.

Monday, December 20.

Washington, Dec. 20.—Both senate and house concluded their labors by 2 o'clock today. Tomorrow a holiday adjournment for two weeks will be taken.

Aside from the confirmation of the nomination of Horace H. Lurton, of Tennessee, to be an associate justice of the supreme court, the principal feature of the senate proceedings was a speech laden with optimism and good cheer for the Christmas season by Senator Depew. The address of the New Yorker was called forth by what he characterized as the pessimistic predictions in Senator La Follette's magazine and in many newspapers as to the effect of the tariff upon prices and as to the waste of natural resources.

Washington, Dec. 20.—"We will report a general river and harbor bill about February 1," said Chairman Alexander, of the house committee on rivers and harbors, today. Mr. Alexander said his bill would carry much more than $30,000,000.

Think Frauds Reach Pacific.

New York, Dec. 25—Collector of the Port Loeb has declared the arrests here in the "sleeper trunk" smuggling cases were but the beginning of a series of arrests that would extend to the Pacific Ocean. "It has been discovered that the importation of costly goods through this port without payment of duty," Mr. Loeb said, "was the result of a far-reaching plot, the head of which was a former United States customs official, who made his headquarters in Paris, and who has since died." Several dressmakers have been arrested here.

Labor Leaders Confer With Nagel.

Washington, Dec. 24.—A committee representing the American Federation of Labor called upon Secretary of Commerce and Labor Nagel and urged upon him the advisability of his department making a thorough investigation into the various phases of industrial education. The committee, which was appointed for the purpose by the recent Toronto convention of the federation, consisted of President Samuel Gompers, James O'Connell, John Mitchell and Frank Morrison.

Senate Confirms Many Diplomats.

Washington, Dec. 24.—The senate confirmed the nomination of Robert Bacon, of New York, as ambassador to France, as submitted by President Taft. Twenty-six other diplomatic nominations, including those of Richard C. Kerens, of Missouri, ambassador to Austria-Hungary; Henry Lane Wilson, of Washington, ambassador to Mexico; William James Calhoun, of Illinois, minister to China; and Henry T. Gage, of California, minister to Portugal, were also confirmed by the senate.

Postmasters Will Get More.

Washington, Dec. 22—On January 1 the following fourth-class postoffices will be advanced to the presidential grade, and the salaries of the postmasters fixed as indicated: Oregon: Hermiston, $1,100; Sherwood, $1,100; Wallowa, $1,200. Washington: Almira and Woodland, $1,000; Granite Falls, Kettle Falls and Oroville, $1,100. Idaho: Gooding, $700; Jerome, $1,600; Burley, $1,300; Rigby, $1,200; Cambridge, Cottonwood, Meridian, $1,100.

Appeal's Advance Is Asked.

Washington, Dec. 21—Application is to be made to the Supreme court early in January by the department of justice to advance for hearing the appeal of the government from the decision of Judge Holt at New York, practically exempting from prosecution certain officials of the sugar trust because their acts are barred by the statutes of limitations.

Assistant Weigher Indicted.

New York, Dec. 25.—Another Federal grand jury indictment in connection with the sugar underweighing frauds was found today against Thomas Doyle, assistant superintendent of the Arbuckle Sugar Refinery in Brooklyn.

CONGRESS HAS BEEN ACTIVE.

Prophecies of Lazy Session Not Fulfilled By House.

WashingHton, Dec. 23—Far better progress is being made with liegislation in the house than was anticipated. Before congress convened, little or no activity prior to the holiday adjournment was expected and that the disposition to do but a smalll amount of business woud probably characterize the entire session was asserted openly

Since the house convened, December 6, many very important bills and resolutions have been introduced; two important measures have passed, while others have been reported and many are under consideration in the house.

In all a total of 1,606 house bills, 188 house resolutions, 95 house joint resolutions and 26 concurrent resolutions have been introduced. Two measures for railroad regulation bearing the name of Representative Esch, of Wisconsin, have passed the house. Two omnibus pension bills, carrying a total of 467 claims, also have passed.

Two important pieces of legislation are now pending, the District of Columbia appropriation bill and the Panama government reorganization measure. The army appropriation, carrying upwards of one hundred million dollars is out of the military committee, while the immigration committee is preparing to report its bill regulating the white slave traffic.

FOOD LAW MORE DRASTIC

Department to Add Laboratories for Stricter Enforcement

Washington, Dec. 21.—A comprehensive enlargement of the activities of the department of agriculture in administering the pure food act is contemplated in orders issued today. The object is to inaugurate for ports where the department has no chemical laboratory a systematic inspection of foods, as is done at ports where such facilities exist.

A complete chain of laboratory districts has been established, with headquarters at the principal ports, to which will be sent samples of imported goods when found necessary. All imports, regarding the right to enter which under the pure food law any doubt may exist in the minds of the customs inspectors at the smaller places will be referred to these chemists.

Officials say that the method will tend to do away with any tendency to import goods in violation of law at the smaller ports, where there are no laboratories, instead of at the larger ports, although their ultimate destination is the same. Headquarters are to be located, among other places, at Galveston, Denver, San Francisco and Seattle.

Harmony Between Mexico and U. S.

Washington, Dec. 23. — Temporarily, at least, the relations between Mexico and the United States growing out of the former's friendly offer of her friendl offices in the affairs with Nicaragua have been forced to the front. Whatever the purpose of Mexico may have been at the beginning, however, she may have desired to rescue Zelaya, give him a safe conduct and assist the United States in restoring peace, it is quite evident from a statement issued this afternoon by Senor Creel, special envoy of President Diaz, that Mexico is prepared now to give at least a passive acquiescence to allof the plans of the administration with regard to Zelaya and his fallen government.

M'Veagh Favors Postoffice.

Washington, Dec. 21—The secretary of the treasury has reported favorably upon Bourne's bill for a new postoffice building in Portland. The report recites that an adequate postoffice building will require an expenditure of $1,500,000. The report has gone to the senate public buildings committee and Bourne will try to secure an early report from the committee, and the passage of his bill through the senate, making it eligible for inclusion in the omnibus public building bill, if one is passed this season.

Oregon's Claim Is Pressed.

Washington, Dec. 23. — Oregon's claim against the Federal government on account of its expenditures incurred in raising and equipping troops during the Civil war, amounting to $193,000, will be pressed before the house next month. Representative Hawley today discussed this claim with Chairman Tawney, of the appropriations committee, showing him a finding of the court of claims in which this claim is certified as correct and worthy of payment.

Loeb Waits for Automatics.

Washington, Dec. 24. — Collector William Loeb, Jr., of New York, said here today he was looking for the arrival of the first automatic scales which it is proposed to place on the docks in New York for sugar weighing purposes. If found satisfactory 20 of the scales will be installed.

Bootleggers Stand Convicted.

Washington, Dec. 24.—The United States supreme court yesterday reversed the decision of the circuit court of Washington in the cases of Harvey Sutton and Robert Miller, charged with taking liquor to the Yakima Indian reservation. The contention of the government was upheld.

AIRSHIP APPEARS AT NIGHT.

Mysterious Craft, Carrying Powerful Searchlight, Is Seen.

Worcester, Mass., Dec. 24.—Flying at 30 to 40 miles an hour, a mysterious airship tonight appeared over Worcester, hovered over the city a few minutes, disappeared for about two hours, and then returned to cut four circles about the city, using a searchlight of tremendous power. Thousands of persons thronged the streets to watch the mysterious visitor.

The airship remained over the city for 15 minutes, all the time at a height that most observers set at about 2000 feet, too great to enable even its precise shape to be seen. The glaring rays of its great searchlight, however, were sharply defined. The dark mass of the ship could be seen dimly.

At the time of the airship visit, Wallace E. Tillinghast, a Worcester man, who recently asserted he had invented a marvelous aeroplane, in which he said he had journeyed to New York and returned by way of Boston, was absent from his home and could not be found.

The visitor from the clouds was first sighted over Marlborough at 5:20 o'clock. The 16 miles between this city and Marlborough were covered in 30 minutes.

Two hours later an eager shout from the waiting crowds announced its return. Slowly its light swept the heavens. It circled four times above the city and then disappeared, finally heading first to the south and then to the east.

Marlboro Sights Airship.

Marlboro, Mass., Dec. 24.—An airship was sighted over Marlboro early tonight, going northwest at 50 or more miles an hour. Persons in all sections of the city reported having seen it. Its general course, they say, was in the direction of Clinton.

SIGHTS ABANDONED WRECK.

Japanese Steamer Reports Disaster Off Cape Flattery.

Seattle, Dec. 24.—Another probable marine disaster off the coast of Washington was recorded today, when the Japanese steamer Kaga Maru reported to the wireless station at Cape Beal that the American schooner Susie M. Plummer was in distress and had been abandoned 100 miles west and south of Cape Flattery.

No news regarding the extent of the schooner's trouble or the fate of the crew was contained in the brief message from the Japanese vessel, which is on her way to the Orient.

The United States lifesaving tug Snohomish left her station at Neah Bay at 4 o'clock this afternoon to go to the aid of the schooner's crew.

The Susie M. Plummer, a vessel of 920 tons, gross, sailed from Everett, Wash., December 5, with a cargo of lumber for San Pedro, Cal. She is owned by W. G. Tibbits, of San Francisco, and was built in 1890 at Thomaston, Me. She was commanded by Captain Hansen and carried a small crew.

EXPORTS DROP ONE MILLION.

French Tariff Seriously Affects American Oil Products.

Washington, Dec. 24.—Alarmed by a drop from $1,000,000 to $26,363 in mineral oil exports to France in a month, American oil exporters have begun a movement to induce congress to renew with the French government the reciprocity treaty that expired on October 31. Exporters also hope for the renewal of the treaty with Spain, a large importer of American oil, which will expire on August 31, 1910.

Exports to Canada under the operation of the new tariff law have not been compiled by the bureau of statistics of the department of commerce and labor, but indications are that they will show relatively as great a falling off in oil exports as those to France.

Notwithstanding the abrogation of the reciprocity treaty with France, reports to the bureau for November, the first month under the new order of things, show larger totals in both imports and exports than in the corresponding month of last year. Raw cotton, which is imported into France free of duty, and hence is not affected by the tariff changes, is largely responsible for the increase in exports, while art works 20 years old and over, admitted free under the new law, and diamonds and hides were responsible for the increased imports.

The falling off in imports of champagne from France, due to the increased tariff, was most marked, declining from $584,674 in November, 1908, to $58,062 in November, 1909.

Miners Drive Out Switchmen.

Butte, Mont., Dec. 24.—A committee representing the Butte miners' union today drove switchmen who had returned to work in Butte yards of the Great Northern and Northern Pacific railroads from their work and told them that if they returned 2000 miners would wait upon them tomorrow and see that they stopped work while their brother switchmen were on strike. Every switchman on the two roads quit, and tonight switching operations in Butte are completely tied up. All the Boston & Montana mines and the Colusa mine closed today.

English Steamer Missing.

London, Dec. 24.—Gales in Great Britain have done much damage to shipping. The railway company's steamer Rostrevor, which left Greenore, a headland of Ireland, at 11 o'clock Tuesday night, and which was due at Holyhead, Wales, 75 miles across St. George's channel, at 5 o'clock Wednesday morning, had not been reported, and it is feared she has foundered. She carried a crew of 24 and a few passengers.

Zelaya's Loss Is Immense.

Panama, Dec. 24.—A wireless dispatch from Bluefields, addressed to General Chamorro's father here, reports 600 men killed and 1800 prisoners and 1,000,000 cartridges captured by the provisional government forces at Rama.