

A Race for a Wife

—BY—
HAWLEY SMART

CHAPTER XVI.—(Continued.)
"I can't see that that the least improves your position. You don't mean to tell me that you've had the audacity to come down here to upset an existing arrangement? By the way, do you suppose Maude approves of this? Have you any reason to suppose that she would prefer half of your garret in the Temple to being mistress of Mannersley?"

Grenville Rose's face flushed, but he answered steadily.
"All that must be an after-consideration. Uncle, answer me two questions—fairly, honestly, and as shortly as you please—and then wait to hear what I may have to say to-morrow morning."

"If I am to listen, then, you'll be good enough to talk rather more rationally than you are doing to-night. What are your questions?"

"Believe me, uncle, I am speaking in your interests. Do you owe Pearman money?—Pshaw! I know you do. I want to know how much?"

"Really I had no idea you were keeping so watchful an eye over my interests. Prying into the affairs of one's relations was hardly deemed good taste in my day. I think I may safely leave that answer to your own natural acuteness. It seems to have stood you in good stead so far."

"Why?" cried Grenville, passionately, "you can't think so meanly of me? You won't let me help you? That you owe Pearman money requires no espionage to find out. I do know it—never mind how."

"Probably your philanthropy and increasing practice, then, led you to run down with a view to rescuing your uncle from his difficulties?" said Denison, bitterly.

"Yes, and no," said Rose, starting to his feet. "I have come for two reasons: Firstly, to win Maude for my wife, if I can; secondly, to release you from all obligation to Pearman, if possible. If I knew what the amount was, it would make it easier for me. You don't choose to tell me. I can only let you know to-morrow, then, what sum you can raise to meet such claims. Will you answer my other question? Do you honestly wish to see your daughter, a Denison of Glinn, married to Pearman?"

It was a home-thrust, this. The blood rushed to Harold Denison's temples, and his eyes had an angry light in them as he rejoined:

"This, I presume, sir, is a specimen of the easy manner of the young men of the present day. A piece of such impertinence I don't remember ever encountering. May I trouble you to hand me that bedroom candle? I would suggest that the earlier you can make it convenient to depart to-morrow morning the less risk I run of being insulted, and for the present will wish you good-night."

"Stop; you must hear me," cried Grenville. "If to-morrow morning I can show you a way to clear all Pearman's claims against you, will you listen to me then, and acquit me of any intention of insulting you? Will you still persevere, uncle, in making your daughter to the son of a bill-discounting solicitor? No, you won't. I know you better than you think. You are too far in Pearman's hands, or you think so, to give yourself fair play in the matter. There breathes no prodder man than you are. Trust me. Recollect the mouse once saved the lion. As you hope for peace in future, trust me now."

CHAPTER XVII.
Harold Denison passed. He had never seen his nephew break through his conventional, cool, easy manner in this wise before. He felt that he had been terribly in earnest all through their interview. Had he really some clue that might save him? These, perhaps, as far as it was in his selfish nature to care for anyone, he loved that child of his dead sister, who had just poured forth this torrent of frantic entreaty. The cynic mask dropped from his face as he extended his hand.

"I've had a deal to try me lately. Gren; difficulties have thickened and complicated above my head. You mustn't think anything of what I say. Show me, boy, how to raise ten thousand to-morrow morning, and we'll talk over other things afterwards. At all events, Maude shan't marry Pearman."

"Good-night, uncle," said Grenville, as he clasped Denison's extended hand. "You can't think how happy you've made me. Leave me to work now, and if I'm not in a position to forbid the banquets by breakfast to-morrow, may I never have another brief?"

Long and anxiously did Grenville wade through those villainous musty old parchments that night. It was a big box, and contained some two or three hundred such old leases, agreements, mortgage deeds since cancelled, deeds of trust, and marriage settlements of bygone Denisons now sleeping their long sleep in the quiet old churchyard. The clock had struck three ere, with a chill feeling of defeat, he took out the last musty paper. Could this be it? No; it was but some old parchment connected with a right of water power in the last century. Sadly Grenville tumbled the mass of papers back into the box, and gloomily sought his pillow. Had he dreamt of the deed he had looked for? "No," he muttered, as he undressed; "I saw it once in that room. What can have become of it? Maude, my dearest, have I told you to hope, and have I hoped only to

in more matured rebellion against her governors. Here Grenville had teased, patted, laughed at her, and embarked in various studies, genealogical or otherwise. No wonder they paused on the threshold; it was classic ground to them, at all events.

Grenville Rose, however, though he may pause for a moment, is far too much in earnest and immersed in the present to give much thought to old memories. Maude smiles softly as he throws open the windows, and she recalls those long pleasant afternoons they two have passed there. She has been so miserable of late—she is so quietly happy now. It is true this paper must be found; but she believes in Gren, as only a young girl can in a lover. It is the first time he has been with her in that character. It is so sweet to be told you are loved at eighteen, when that confession is made by the right person. No wonder the girl's face looked bright. "Now, Maude, quick—which is the drawer? This, sh!"

"Hurry! the drawer is the drawer—dragged out; but alas! though all sorts of odds and ends, a book or two on heraldry, or a French dictionary, are discovered, no sign of law papers meets the eye."

"Mistaken the drawer, pet, I suppose!" exclaimed Grenville, with a look of disappointment he struggled hard to conceal; and then continued his search. But, no; every drawer and cupboard of the school room is ransacked in vain. Many a relic of their merry old days there comes to light, but nothing in the shape of a deed or parchment. Maude stood aloof towards the conclusion of the search, half leaning, half sitting on the table. Her face was serious enough now, and the well-marked eyebrows rather knit. She felt that the promised smooth water of the morning was as yet by no means realized. Since Grenville had kissed her, and personally told his love, she felt endowed with infinite powers of opposition to the Pearman alliance.

"It's no use, Maude; the paper I want is not here," said Grenville at length. "I must search elsewhere."

"So you shall, Gren. Ring the bell. I have an idea."

Her cousin did as he was bid, and when a stray housemaid, in considerable bewilderment, eventually made her way to the disused room, Miss Denison said, sharply, "Tell Mrs. Upcroft she's wanted here directly—directly, mind—and don't let her be as long about getting here as you have been."

"Now, look here, Gren," continued Maude, "those papers were there. Nobody but Mrs. Upcroft would have dared move them. But, you see, she has known me as a child, and I am always hard put to it to hold my own with her. If she don't happen quite to recollect what she's done with them, she'll give me any answer, and won't even try to take the trouble to remember. If I can make nothing of her, then you must chime in and frighten her. Of course she don't want to conceal them; but she will know she ought not to have meddled with them, and don't like what she terms being put out."

There was a tap at the door as Maude finished her speech, and her cousin had but just time to give a nod of intelligence as the housekeeper entered.

"Sorry to disturb you, Mrs. Upcroft," said Miss Denison, blandly. "but I want to know what you have done with the papers that used to inhabit that drawer?"

"I'm sure I don't know nothing about no papers. You might have been sure of that, I think, Miss Maude, before you sent for me, and the butcher just here for orders 'n' all; and the housekeeper looked as sulky as she rightly dared. She had for years done as she pleased with Mrs. Denison, and was bitterly jealous of any interference of Miss Maude."

"Excuse me, Mrs. Upcroft, if you don't know anything about the removal of such papers, you should do so. Things ought not to be moved from one room to another without the knowledge and license of yourself. Will you be kind enough to recollect what became of those papers? They happen just now to be of great importance."

"That's so like you, Miss Maude. You were just the same as a child. Whatever you wanted must be done right off at once. I forget about those old papers now, and must run away to the butcher; but I'll perhaps think what became of them in a little. I'm afraid, though, they went to light fires with 'em; and with a malicious smile the housekeeper turned to go.

(To be continued.)

Claims Record Trip.
Clara A. Grace, an employe of a London business firm, claims to have made a record trip from London to New York and return. She was pledged to be back in the English city on a certain day to release her colleagues for vacation. She made the round trip in fifteen days. She transacted some important business in New York, remaining in the city only twenty-five minutes.

Originality Needed.
To revive an old style of building, no matter how well it may be done, does nothing to advance the art of building. It would at the best be but a copy of an old work. Painters copy old masters for the purpose of study, but copying pictures will never make a painter's reputation. Something new must be achieved, some original work executed, before any advance in art is possible. So it is with architecture.—From the Country House.

Natural Vagrants All of Us.
There has never been a time when men did not wander from a desire for change, a desire to flee from the monotony of mere existence. There is a fever in the blood which drives men to wander, affecting rich and poor alike, and this is a factor which no legislation can ever entirely eliminate in dealing with the true vagrant class.

SOME EXTRAORDINARY SESSIONS OF CONGRESS

THE third section of the second article of the highest law of the land confers upon the chief executive the power to convene both houses of Congress on extraordinary occasions. He may even, if they disagree with respect to the time of adjournment, adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper. Beyond this he cannot go. The occasions regarded as extraordinary have varied somewhat. War, present or potential, financial depression necessitating special revenue measures, stubbornness on the part of Congress at its regular session calling forth a retributive extra session, internal negotiations requiring earlier attention than that supplied by the first Monday in December, these have supplied the necessary reasons to the Presidents of the past.

President Jefferson called to special sessions during his administration of eight years. The first, that which consummated the Louisiana purchase, did what it could to facilitate the biggest real estate deal on record and cheerfully aided the President to bend the constitution to the breaking point. For a consideration of \$15,000,000 a territory now embracing thirteen States passed from France to the United States. A bargain which gave to this country some of its choicest and most productive land at an average cost of 2 cents an acre must be regarded as advantageous. Posterity in decent gratitude can find no fault with methods of reasoning by which the far-sighted statesman, Jefferson, reconciled his abstract views concerning constitutional government and his practical wisdom in carrying through an important extra constitutional measure which time and the people have completely justified.

During Jefferson's second term the Napoleonic wars led to a special session which was convened Oct. 26, 1807. Both England and France had for many weary months been assailing American commerce. The new Western world, poor as it was, had no desire to engage in war with either of the European powers, though, as events afterward proved, the evil day was merely being held back by either conciliatory or mildly retaliatory measures, so far as England was concerned. When the English warship Leopard fired upon the American frigate Chesapeake, just outside Hampton Roads, in June, 1807, killing and wounding several Americans, men were crissé in honor of the dead and cried for war. The President was, himself, deeply incensed, and at once dispatched a vessel to England to demand reparation and summoned Congress to meet in special session Oct. 26, at which time he hoped to have an answer from England. This reply did not come until the second week in December. As it was not satisfactory, the brief but momentous presidential message sent to Congress concerning the affair carried the famous embargo policy prohibiting American vessels from leaving for a foreign port under any condition. American sailors were to be protected by being kept safely in American harbors, while France and England were to be punished by being deprived of American goods. Ten years before this special session called to consider England's treatment of American sailors, John Adams had in the first year of his administration called a special session of Congress to meet May 15, 1797, for the purpose of supporting his policy toward France. Madison inherited the foreign troubles which had exasperated the people during the time of Adams and Jefferson. His first special session of Congress, convened May 22, 1809, was called to consider foreign policies. The second, which convened May 24, 1813, and lasted until Aug. 2, had to provide additional ways and means for financing the war with England.

Van Buren had as his legacy from the Jackson administration almost as fearsome a load as foreign war—a financial panic. At first Van Buren was determined to face the storm without the presence of Congress, but on May 15 he issued a proclamation calling for an extra session to meet on the first Monday of September, 1837, to consider "great and weighty matters." The stress of the times was shown in the tokens used as exchange. There were no cashiers' checks such as were used in the fall of 1907, but bits of paper were used instead of money.

March 17, 1841, William Henry Harrison issued a call for a special session of Congress to meet May 31. When it convened John Tyler, through Harrison's death, had succeeded to the presidency. In 1856 the regular session of Congress closed Aug. 18. The Republican House had refused to pass an appropriation bill for the army stationed in Kansas without a stipulation that the soldiers would not be used to enforce decrees of the pro-slavery Legislature of the Territory. President Pierce at once issued a call for a special session to meet Aug. 21. It was in session one week, during which the House gave way and passed the bill without stipulation.

When President Lincoln set July 4, 1861, as the day on which the extra session of the Thirty-seventh Congress should convene many criticized his judgment in selecting a date so distant from the time of his inauguration. It was called to provide ways and means for carrying on the war. In thirty-three days it passed sixty-one public and seven private bills and five joint resolutions. Its measures called out 500,000 volunteers, appropriated \$500,000,000, provided for a navy, closed the ports of seceding States, defined conspiracy against the government and provided the punishment, confiscated property used against the government and increased duties under the Morrill tariff which Buchanan had signed shortly before the close of his term. No session of Congress ever settled more momentous issues and no Congress has contained more noteworthy names.

During the Hayes administration two extra sessions were called, both for the purpose of passing appropriation bills which should have been enacted at the regular session. President Cleveland, confronted by a financial depression in 1893, as was President Van Buren in 1837, was as reluctantly forced to call an extra session to consider ways and means of relieving the prevailing conditions. Convened Aug. 7, 1893, this special session adjourned Nov. 3, after repealing the purchase clause of the silver act of 1890. The extra session of 1903 called by President Roosevelt helped to set in vogue the phrase reconstructive recess.

Starting an Endless Chain.
Both father and mother struggled valiantly to teach little Effie to repeat the letter 'A.' The child emphatically refused to pronounce the first letter of the alphabet and after many vain efforts the father retired from the fight discouraged. The mother took the little girl on her lap and pleaded with her affectionately.

"Dearie, why won't you learn to say 'A'?" she asked.

"Because, mamma," explained Effie, "des as soon as I say 'A' you 'n' papa will want me to say 'B.'"—Harper's Weekly.

No Such People.
The automobile industry has enriched the English language by a variety of terms which cannot be found in dictionaries published only a few years ago, but which are to-day household words. With one of the most common, however, a certain Massachusetts postmaster is apparently unfamiliar.

An enthusiastic automobilist who lives in Philadelphia had it in mind to tour through southern New England, and wished to make a stay of several days in one of the most interesting of the old towns along the Massachusetts coast. He was not certain that the town contained accommodations for storing his car, and accordingly he wrote the postmaster to ask whether there were any garages there. In a few days he received this reply:

"Dear Sir: Your favor of the 12th inst. is at hand, and in reply I have to say that no person of that name gets any mail at this office. The nearest to it is a family of Gammages who live out on the Neck Road. Respectfully yours,
POSTMASTER."

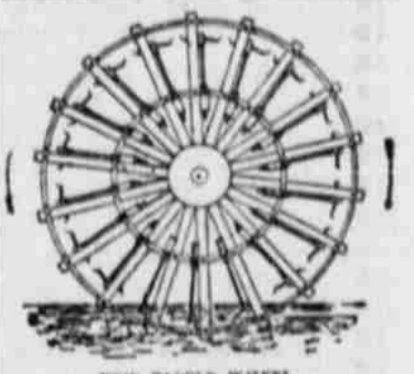
Something That Survived.
"It is my ambition," said the earnest young man, "to write something that will be handed down to posterity."

"Well," answered Farmer Corntassel, "all I have to say is to be careful how you go about it. My grandfather wrote his name to a mortgage on this farm and it looks as if my grandchildren will have to go ahead struggling with it."—Washington Star.

A woman will keep out her best knives and forks longer for her own visiting kin than for her husband's visiting kin.

REMARKABLE PADDLE WHEEL.

New Device Features the Water Like an Oarsman's Blade.
An automatic feathering wheel for a paddle-driven steambout has been invented and perfected by W. N. Crutchon of Seattle, who has patented the invention. The new wheel has an automatic tilting contrivance, so that the buckets enter and leave the water without depressing or lifting it in the operation. The new buckets are shaped corresponding to a spoon out, which enables them to exert a greater force in propelling the vessel. By means of lateral wings on the outer edge they are able to enter the water with the least resistance, and held by a stop pin while the pressure is exert-



NEW PADDLE WHEEL.

ed, when an automatic spring releases them and they assume their former Inoperative position.

The concave form of the bucket creates greater pressure against the water. The position of the buckets while out of the water and moving concentric with the wheel shaft edgewise through the air diminishes air resistance. The manner in which the buckets enter the water edgewise avoids the loss of power involved in the downward pressure of the water. The automatic tilting of the buckets leaving the water throws off the back wash and eliminates dead weight. All jar or concussion from the buckets entering and leaving the water is avoided. In starting the wheel without a load the buckets are only thrown into working position by its movement either forward or back.—Seattle Times.



Don't permit quarrels at the Dinner Table.

There are families who reserve all their unpleasantness for meal hours; they think it a convenient occasion to discuss things that have gone awry, to thrash out grievances, to dwell on disagreeable or gloomy subjects. If they but knew if they are courting dyspepsia more surely than if they indulged in mince pie or terrapin. Haven't you gone to the table ravenous with hunger to find your appetite leave you in the face of a family quarrel? Who has not felt their food heavy after a meal hour of ructions? Yet how few blame it on its real cause, which is the interruption of digestion by mental agitation. The meal hour should be the pleasantest hour in the day. It should be looked forward to rather than dreaded; and it will be if parents insist on each one being agreeable. Contribute to the family good cheer and dyspepsia will vanish.

Cheer during meals will do away with the need of digestive tablets. Make it a rule to come to the table smiling, and continue to smile, though the food does not suit you and every one else down on her luck. Your smile will prove contagious.

Good manners are desirable, but not so desirable as good health. If your child can only learn to eat well through constant nagging at meal time, better let it slip up in its table manners. Many children refuse to eat at table because their hunger is driven away by reproof. A mother once complained to her doctor that her small son had no appetite; no matter how tempting the food, he could not eat it, though he seemed hungry between meals. The physician asked to be invited to lunch, which the child ate with the family.

At the close of the meal he said: "It is not your boy's digestion that is at fault, but his mother. Let that boy's manners alone. Stop your incessant 'Willie, your elbows!' 'Do not smack your lips!' If you think he will not shine as a gentleman without such coaching take fifteen minutes midway between meals for lessons in table breeding, but stop your nagging while he eats if you would not have a chronic dyspeptic."

Watch your table talk, keep it pleasant at any cost, learn to digest your food with laughter and fight dyspepsia with cheerfulness, and not only will your home life be happier, but you will forget that weak stomach.

A woman forgets all her troubles when she is wearing a new hat for the first time.