

I was shivering with the cold, and lost no time shifting into the warm, dry clothing provided, spreading out my own sonked garments over the edge of the lower bunk, but careful first to remove my packet of private papers, which, wrapped securely in olled silk, were not even damp. Fate had played a strange trick, and I knew not how best to turn it to advantage. One thing only was clear: whatever was to be accomplished I would have to do it alone-nowhere could I turn for help. In the first place Richy undoubtedly had the law with him, and besides was among friends—those who would paturally believe him and were loyal to the institution of slavery. The very fact that this was a Memphis boat we were on precluded any possibility that the crew would sympathize with a nigger-stealer. Nor could I anticipate any assistance from without. Steambouts were few and far between on these northern waters, and at this time, if the report of war was true, everything affost would be headed upstream laden with troops and like a job ter help pay yer way?" provisions. That the report was true I had no doubt. The probability of an outbreak was known before I left Fort Armstrong; the crisis had come earlier than expected, that was all.

This, then, was the situationthrough an odd intervention of Providence here we were all together on this steamer, which was steadily churning its, way northward, every turn of the wheel bearing us deeper into the wilderness. The chances were that we should thus be aboard for several days; certainly until we action. encountered some other boat bound downstream, which would accept us as passengers. Meanwhile what should I do? How escape observation? How reach Rene, without encountering Kirby? The answer was not an easy one. The deputy would not know me, for I had never been seen by him. Kirby believed me dead, yet might recognize me in spite of that conviction if we met face to face. Still,

would he? The daring hope that he might not came to me in a flash. Might it not be possible to so disguise myself as to become unnoticeable? I sprang up to stare at my features in the small mirror hanging over the washstand. The face which confronted me in surprise was almost a strange one even to my eyes. Instead of the smart young soldier, smoothly shaven, with closely trimmed hair and rather carefully attired, as I had appeared on board the Warrior, the glass reflected a bearded face, the skin visibly roughened and reddened by exposure, the hair ragged and uncombed. and neglect, had all helped to transform me into a totally differentappearing person from what I had formerly been; the officer and gentleman been changed into the outward semthis all. The new character was em- among the shadows. phasized by the clothes I wore-far too large to fit; also the texture and color, not to mention the dirt and grease, speaking loudly of a rough on deck. Yer hear me?" life and the vicissitudes of poverty. The metamorphosis was complete; so complete that I hughed aloud, assured by that one glance that the gambler, confident that I was dead, would never by any possibility recognize me in this guise, or while habilitated in such nondescript garments.

But the girl-Rene? And so this was how I had appeared to her. No wonder she questioned me; doubted my first explanation. I had approached her confident that my appearance as a gentleman would awaken her trust; I had felt myself to be a most presentable young man, in whom she must instantly repose faith. Yet this had not been true at allinstead I came to her with the outward bearing of a worthless vagabond, a stubble-bearded outcast. And yet she had trusted me; would trust me again. More: she could never be deceived, or fail to recognize my presence aboard if she had the freedom of the deck. Kirby might be deceived, but not Rene. If I could only plan to meet with her first alone, the peril of her recognition would not be extreme.

But I must also figure upon the other woman. Who could she be? Not Eloise Beaucaire surely, for the mate had only mentioned one of the two as being sufficiently white to be noticeable. That one would surely be Rene, and it was scarcely probable that Eloise, with no drop of negro blood in her veins, could appear colored. Perhaps this second woman was Delia, the quadroon mother. But if so how did she chance to fall alone into Kirby's clutches? Was she aboard the keelboat, locked below in the cabin. when it rammed into us? If she had been captured at Shrunk's camp during their murderous raid, what had become of her companion? Where was Eleise Beaucaire? The harder I sought to straighten out this mystery the more involved it became.

With every additional glance at the - pade and by the mirror my sanft. dence strengthened in the ability to encounter Kirby and pass unreces nized. Convinced as he undoubtedly was of my death in the black waters of the river he could not possibly imagine my presence aboard the Adventurer, while my personal appearance was so utterly changed as to suggest to his mind no thought of familiarity. The conditions were all in my favor. I was smiling grimly at this conceit, well pleased at the chance thus afforded me, when the stateroom door was suddenly flung open and the hairy face of the mate thrust within.

"I reckon yer better tote them wet duds down ter the boiler room," he said gruffy, "an' then git sum grub. Likely 'nough yer wouldn't mind eatin' a bit. Be yer a river man?" "I've never worked on a steamboat,

if that is what you mean." "No; well, I reckoned not, but the captain he thought maybe yer had. I tol' him yer didn't talk like no steamer hand. Howsumever, we're almighty

short o' help aboard, an' maybe yer'd

My fingers involuntarily closed on some loose goldpleces in my pocket. but a sudden thought halted me. Why not? In what better way could I escape discovery? As an employee of the boat I would go about the decks unsuspected and unnoticed. Kirby would never give me a second thought or glance, while the opportunity thus afforded of speaking to Rene and being of service to her would be immeasurably increased. I withdrew my hand, swiftly deciding my course of

"I suppose I might as well earn a bit," I admitted, hesitatingly. "Only I had about decided I'd enlist if the war was still going on when we got up

"That'll be all right. We'll keep yer busy till then, enyhow. Go on down below now an' eat, an' when yer git through climb up the ladder an' report ter me. What'll I call yer?" "Steve."

"Steve-hey; sorter handy man. ain't yer?"

"Well, I've done a little of everything in my time. I'm not afraid to work."

During most of the remaining hours of the morning the mate kept me employed below, in company with a number of others of the crew, in sorting over the miscellaneous cargo, which had evidently been very hastily loads ed. The work was hard and dirty, and after a few hours of it I mus; have looked my assumed part to perfection. The overseer gave me a hat which added little to my personal appearance, and by the time we were Even to my view there remained pearance, and by the time we were scarcely a familiar feature—the lack called to knock off for the noon meal of razor and shears, the exposure to I was thoroughly tired and disgusted, sun and water, the days of sickness feeling as much a roustabout as I cer-

tainly looked. The meal was served on an unplaned plank, the ends resting on kegs in front of the boilers. I was still had, by the mystery of environment, busily munching away on the coarse, poorly cooked food when Mapes, blance of a river roustabout. Nor was prowling about, chanced to spy me

> "Hullo; is that you, Steve?" he asked gruffly. "Well, when yer git done eatin' I got another job fer yer

> I signified that I did, and indeed was even then quite rendy to go, my heart throbbing at this opportunity to survey other sections of the boat. I followed him eagerly up the ladder, and ten minutes later was busily employed with scrubbing brush and a bucket of water, in an endeavor to improve the outward appearance of the paint of the upper deck. I was engaged busily scraping at the dingy paint of the pilot house, when a negro, evidently a cook. from his dress, came up from the lower deck, bearing a tray well laden with food in one hand, and disappeared aft. He did not even notice my presence or glance about, but I instantly shrank back out of sight, for I became immediately conscious that someone was closely following him. This second man proved to be one of the fellows in civilian clothing I had previously noticed at the table below, a tall, sallow individual, attired in a suit of brown jeans, his lean, cracker face ornamented by a grizzled bunch of chin whiskers.

"Yer walt a minute thar, Jim," he called out, "till I unlock that thar door. I sin't ther kind thet takes

chances with no nigger." I recognized the peculiar voice instantly, for I had listened to that lazy drawl before while hidden in the darkness beneath the Beaucaire verandathe fellow was 'Tim, the deputy sheriff from St. Louis. The negro rested his tray on the rail, while the white man fumbled through his pockets for a key, finally locating it and inserting the instrument into the lock of the second cabin from the stern. I heard no words exchanged with anyone within, but the negro pushed the tray forward without entering, sliding it along the deck, while Tim, evidently satisfied that his charges were quite safe, promptly reclosed and locked the door. returning the key to the security of his pocket. After staring a momen over the rail at the shore past which we were gliding he disconcared after

the negro down the ladder. Eager as I certainly was to make the poor girl sware of my presence on board, the chance of being seen, and my purpose suspected by others, restrained me. Resides as yet I had no plan of rescue; nothing to suggest.

Even as I hesitated, industriously scrubbing away at the paint, Kirby and the captain appeared suddenly,



Kirby and the Captain Appeared Suddenly, Pausing a Moment at the Head of the Ladder in Friendly Con-

pausing a moment at the head of the ladder in friendly conversation. Parting at last, with a hearty laugh over some joke exchanged between them. the latter ascended the steps to the pilot house, while the gambler turned aft, still smiling, a cigar between his lips. I managed to observe that he paused in front of the second cabin. as though listening for some sound within, but made no attempt to enter. passing on to the door beyond, which was unlocked. He must have come to the upper deck on some special mission, for he was out of my sight scarcely a moment, returning immediately to the deck below. This occurrence merely served to make clearer in my mind the probable situationthe after cabin was undoubtedly occupled by Kirby, perhaps in company with the deputy; while next to them. securely locked away and helpless to escape, were confined the two slave women. In order to reach them I must operate under the cover of darkness, and my only hope of being free to work, even then, lay in the faith that the gambler might become so involved in a card game below as to forget his caution. So far as Tim was concerned I felt perfectly capable of outwitting him; but Kirby was dangerous.

(To Be Continued.)

Wintering Stock-Pasture and feed for winter. Write or phone P. A. Devers & Son, Tumalo, Oregon.

Put it in "THE BULLETIN."

Our Grocery Prices Are Right At All Times----Try Us and be Convinced

> THE A TO Z **GROCERY**

ALWAYS A

Palace Market Bend, Oregon for Eggs, Butter, **Poultry** Beef, Veal, Pork

Sell your products at home

Chas. Boyd



The Toyland Store

If you do not see any toys in our window that please you come in and look over our stock. We cannot show all we have in the window.

A Big Variety of American Dolls, Iron and Steel Toys, Erector and Structo Auto Builders, Double Priction Toys, Gilbert's Chemistry Outfits for Boys, The Great Tinkertoy, Movie Picture Machines, Swinging Horses, Puzzle Parties, Doll Cabs. Children's Desk Sets, Doll Go-Carts. Kiddie Cars, Rubber Balls, Games.

Children's China Tea Sets, also in Aluminum Ware, Pictures, China. Glassware. Don't miss seeing the Children's Books. Holiday Box Papers. In fact, anything you are looking for, come to our store first. It may save you running around. Our prices always the low-

STOCKMON 5c=10c=15c=25c STORE

STATE CHAMBER TO MEET DECEMBER 29

Because of the heavy snow and the severe cold, the dates of the aunual meeting in Portland of the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce are advanced from December 15 and 16 to December 29, 30 and 31, it was announced today in a letter received from headquarters.

Etiquette of Walking.

When in the street, especially in daytime, a lady is not supposed to ake a gentleman's arm, unless she is infirm or elderly, though she may properly do so at night. When walk ing with two ladies a gentleman may walk on the cutside, or the inside, or, rather, the side from which he can best guard his companion or compantons from obstacles or danger. It is oot good form to take a lady's arm unless to assist her in some way.

Gives Permission to Use Name.

Eugene Palmer, Lawrence, Mass. vrites: "Foley's Honey and Tar relieved me of a cough from which I suffered for weeks. You have my full permission to use my name in any advertising." Foley's Honey and Tar checks colds, cuts the phlegm. soothes inflamed membranes, clears breathing passages.—Sold EveryHindu Children Mechanics.

ত্ত্বিবাৰ বিভাগৰ ভাৰত বিভাগৰ বিভাগৰ বিভাগ

Hindu children are remarkable for the alphabet. A boy of seven may be a skillful wood carver, while some of the handsomest rugs are woven by children -ot yet in their teens.

Cut This Out-It Is Worth Money.

Don't miss this. Cut out this their precocity. Many of them are slip enclose with 5c to Foley & Co., skifful workmen at an age when the 2825 Sheffield Ave., Chicago, Ill., children of other nations are learning writting your name and address You will receive in return a trial package containing Foley's Honey and Tar Compound. coughs, colds and croup. Foley's Kidney Pills and Foley's Cathartic Tablets. Sold Everywhere-adv.

BUCKHEC RMY SHOE

For the man who is on his feet all day a more comfortable shoe was never made. Hence the widespread popularity of the BUCKHECHT Army Shoe among business and professional men, sportsmen, outdoor workers, miners, farmers, mechanics, etc. A good, practical Shoe for everyday wear! Built for comfort and service—built for you! Remember the name BUCKHECHTstamped on every shoe for your protection. Get a pair today!

At principal dealers on the Pacific Coast. If your dealer is not supplied, order direct from

BUCKINGHAM & HECHT

BLACK GUNMETAL. MAHOGANY CALF OR INDIAN TAN CALF

