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The Duchess

CHAPTER III.—(Continued.) Standing upon a mound near her, she places her hands to her pretty mouth, and with a simple eloquence that cannot be too highly commended, cries "Hi!" to him, at the top of her fresh young voice.

CHAPTER IV. "It is really you," cries he, with unaffected delight, coloring warmly. "It is you, too," replies she, reflectively, and as though it is a little unfair to throw all the personalities at her.

"No, I, too, heard of you," she says, "but then I didn't take for granted everything that was told me."

"What did you mean of me?" "The name of my young man 'down from Lunnun town, an' as full o' tricks as an egg's full o' mate,'" replies she, demurely, evidently quoting somebody, and with a glance so 'full o' tricks' on her own account that he laughs in spite of himself.

"Well," says he, "I'm not from Lunnun town, certainly, and I hope I'm not a greater wretch than my fellows. As to my 'tricks,' I don't believe I've one."

"If not from Lunnun, from where?" "Rather close to you. My sister lives just over the border of this county, a matter of twenty miles or so; and I spend most of my time with her."

"It was a very good thing for my sister and me that you came fishing," says Griselda, "or I suppose we should both be now either dead or dying." Here she looks round her. "Have we very much further to go?"

Something out of the goodly past, some vague touch of decency belonging to the days when he was young and happy, and when honor was still a word to which he clung with all his might, renders the coarse epithet, as applied to the pretty orphans committed to his care, insupportable.

"You hardly remember, perhaps, that you are speaking of my nieces," he says with an angry frown. "Holy toils! None of your airs with me," says she, sternly. She advances a step nearer to him. "Remember, Dyrart, that I can either make or mar you. I, and I only."

"I fear nothing," says he, coldly. "What," says she, slowly, regarding him closely; "not even that your son should know?" She pauses, pleased with her work. All at once, as it were, on hearing this question, the old man quails before her like a beaten hound. The life goes out of him, he seems to shrink into himself, and puts out his hands as though to ward off some fatal blow.

"Remember, it was for him I did it," cries he, sharply. "After all my love, my care, my secrecy, to have it now laid bare to him! I tell you—his fingers working convulsively—'rather than that he should know, it seems to me that it would be a sweet and simple thing to murder him who would betray me.'"

"I'm not going to betray you," says she. "And as for saying 'twas for him you did it, why—"

"For him. For his sake only." "Partly, I think," says she, dryly. "Entirely, altogether. What other creature had I to love me—to love? His mother, as you know, hated me; and when she died I was glad, says he, crushing his fingers together.

"Yet the deed was scarcely necessary if done for him," says Grunch, holding her ground. "That old aunt of his—the mother's sister—'twas out of the question for him."

"I knew nothing of her desire to make him her heir—then." "You know it now, anyway," says she, with a nasty sneer. "And it is never too late to mend—to find by accident that paper you have just locked up."

"I have thought of it," says he, with lowered brow and eyes bent upon the ground, "dreamed of it; and all my dreaming has but convinced me that things had better stay as they now are. Into what better hands could they have fallen? Who would have husbanded it all like me? You know the care, the trouble, the sleepless days and nights I have devoted to the management of—of it. You know whether it has ever been a joy to me—rather a grief, a wailing of the flesh, a curse!"

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.

Fire at Goldfield, Colo., caused damage estimated at \$50,000.

Manila banks refuse to accept deposits of Mexican silver.

Colorado union men have demanded the discharge of nonunion men.

A man and his wife have been arrested in San Francisco for counterfeiting.

Eight of the colliers in the Hazleton district, Pa., were closed because of high water.

It is estimated that the loss by the recent fire in Columbus, Ohio, will reach \$500,000.

The wheat crop of the Pacific Northwest for 1901 was, approximately, 44,000,000 bushels.

Governor Taft says 15,000 soldiers will be enough in the Philippines before the close of the year.

Five hundred miners at the West End colliery, at Mocanaga, Pa., went on strike because nonunion workmen were employed.

All formalities for the purchase of the Danish West Indies have been completed and the treaty will be signed in a few days.

A Cincinnati bookkeeper is almost a quarter of a million short in his accounts. He contends that it is the result of errors and has made most of it good.

Governor Taft says the situation in the Philippines is encouraging.

Hon. Franklin Murphy was inaugurated governor of New Jersey.

Prince Ching will represent China at the coronation of King Edward.

Charges have been brought against officials of the Mineworkers' Union.

A Filipino force in Batangas province, Philippine islands, surrendered.

Contract for repairs to the transport Dix to the amount of \$12,000 has been let.

John D. Rockefeller contributes \$20,000 to the Chicago University \$20,000.

United States Senators Dolliver and Allison were re-elected by the Iowa legislature.

All of the convicts who escaped from the federal penitentiary on McNeill's island have been recaptured.

The senate has begun debate on Philippine tariff bill.

More revolutionary movements are reported in China.

The annual convention of the United Mineworkers of America is in session.

Three of the 11 convicts who escaped from McNeill island prison have been captured.

The isthmian canal commission reports in favor of the purchase of the Panama canal.

MINE DUST EXPLODED.

Disaster in Iowa Cost Many Lives—Several Men Seriously Injured.

Oskaloosa, Ia., Jan. 27.—The Lost Creek coal mine was the scene today of a terrible disaster, which cost the lives of 21 miners. Eight others were seriously injured. The bodies of the dead were recovered from the mine, and he tonight in an improvised morgue near the scene of their destruction.

The injured, all of whom are frightfully cut, bruised and burned, are under the care of surgeons in a temporary hospital equipped near the mine.

The Lost Creek mine is 10 miles south of Oskaloosa, and three miles north of Eddieville. The explosion occurred at the noon hour, and was

what is known as a dust explosion. The miners had just fired their usual noon shots, one of which proved to be a fizzle, the powder flame igniting the gas and causing the explosion. Smoke and debris were blown out of the mine in a column 200 feet high. A part of the top works was torn away, and the fans and cages were wrecked.

This made the work of rescue very slow, and it was 3 o'clock before volunteer forces dared to venture into the east entry, where the explosion occurred.

The men of the rescue party fought their way into the mine, where a shocking sight met their gaze. The dead and injured were terribly burned and mutilated, some of them almost beyond recognition. Beyond where the bodies lay the fire was burning fiercely, and for a time it was feared the workings would be wholly destroyed and the bodies incinerated. Finally, however, the flames were subdued. The bodies were then collected and taken to the top of the shaft.

At the time of the explosion more than 100 men were in the mine, but all except those in the east entry escaped with only slight injury. The total property loss will be about \$10,000. Nearly all of the men were married and leave families in poor circumstances.

OBSERVE M'KINLEY'S BIRTHDAY

Move to Mark the Day by Services and Contributions to Memorial Fund.

Cleveland, O., Jan. 24.—The request by Governor Nash, of Ohio, has received hearty response from the governors of all the states and territories invited to join in asking the people to properly observe the 59th anniversary of the birth of William McKinley. Nearly every governor has either issued a proclamation or semi-officially requested that there should be memorial services on the Sunday preceding January 26th in all the churches, that contributions be there received, and that all people testify by their voluntary offerings their love and devotion to the dead president.

In many states, notably Kansas, public schools will hold special exercises and give to the fund.

In any community where there is no local auxiliary of the McKinley Memorial Association, contributions by business, fraternal or labor organizations, schools or churches, may be sent to the treasurer, Myron T. Herrick, Cleveland, Ohio. The funds will be applied to the erection of a fitting memorial to William McKinley, over his last resting place at Canton, Ohio.

Judge William R. Day, ex-secretary of state, is president of the association.

China Repaid.

Washington, Jan. 25.—Secretary Hay today handed to Minister Wu a draft on the United States treasury for \$376,600, being the value of the silver bullion captured by the American marines at Tien Tsin.

Franking Privilege Extended. Washington, Jan. 25.—The president has signed the bill providing for the free transportation of all mail matter sent by Mrs. Ida S. McKinley, widow of the late President McKinley.

Plague in China. Washington, Jan. 25.—Consul McWade, at Canton, has cabled the state department that there have been over 100 deaths from the plague at Shu Ting, about 250 miles south of Canton.

A CINCINNATI SENSATION.

Trusted Bookkeeper Short From \$160,000 to \$400,000 in His Accounts.

Cincinnati, Jan. 24.—Sensational reports were published here today of an alleged shortage in the books of Theodore Braemar, who resigned last Sunday as treasurer of the J. & F. Schroth Packing Company of this city. The story as first published alleged a shortage of from \$160,000 to \$400,000, extending over a period of 20 years, and declared that Mr. Braemar had turned over all of his property and chattels in trust, pending an examination of the books by experts.

Braemar denied that there was any defalcation, but admitted that he had turned over \$72,000 in personal property to Harland Cleveland, his attorney, and Joseph W. O'Hara, attorney for the J. & F. Schroth company. While Braemar talked freely about

the case, the Schroths refused to say anything, and the attorneys were also reticent.

Braemar is about 45 years of age, and has been with the Schroths 27 years, most of the time receiving \$25 per week as bookkeeper, and in recent years about twice that much as secretary and treasurer. The firm did a business of about \$1,000,000 a year, which was collected by Braemar. When John Schroth died, over a year ago, Lieutenant-Governor Carl Wipperfurth became the attorney of his heirs, who instituted an investigation of the company, which finally culminated in a meeting of all interested parties last Sunday, at which Braemar resigned, and from which the sensational reports of today emanated. The experts insist that they cannot complete their work for two or three weeks, and counsel say that no reliable statement can be made until that time.

No reports of similar character ever created such a sensation in this city, as Mr. Braemar always has been regarded as a man of the highest business and social standing. He owns one of the finest residences in the city, and it is furnished with all that art can supply. In all of the sensational reports that have been published no reference is made to him as a fast man or of bad habits, such as are usually coupled with such sensations. The attorneys and other interested persons will give no assurance that the report of the experts on the examination of the books will be made public when completed, as they state that every possible difference has already been adjusted satisfactorily by the property that Braemar has turned over in trust. All the interested parties state that they expected after the meeting last Sunday, at which Braemar resigned, that all differences would be settled without the matter ever becoming public.

Boer Commando Captured.

London, Jan. 24.—Lord Kitchener, in a dispatch from Johannesburg, Transvaal colony, says General Mathuen overtook a Boer commando near Boschpoort, and after a running fight of eight miles, he captured all their wagons and cattle, and 24 Boers, says the dispatch.

General Bruce Hamilton made a night march against General Botha, near Wilbank, but the Boer commander had left the camp when the British reached the spot. The latter, however, captured 27 prisoners.

Spain May Have a Revolution.

London, Jan. 24.—The Daily Mail publishes an alarmist dispatch from Madrid giving the opinions of various prominent politicians concerning the gloomy outlook in Spain and their fears that the coronation of King Alfonso next May may be the signal for a revolution. In addition to the Carlist menacing, "Weyler, the Spanish Boulanger, is troubling the waters and playing for his own hand."

Fire at Kallsipel.

Kallsipel, Mont., Jan. 24.—Fire started this morning in a restaurant and in a very short time had spread almost over a block. An entire row of buildings was destroyed. The loss is figured at \$10,000.

Kaiser's Gift to Harvard.

Berlin, Jan. 24.—The gift of Emperor William to Harvard University will be much larger than was at first supposed. The Emperor's gift consists of casts and bronzes, illustrating every class of the German plastic arts from the Romanesque period to the Renaissance. The entire cost of the collection will be defrayed from the Emperor's private purse, and it is estimated at about 500,000 marks.

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.

Oil has been struck in quite a large quantity near Myrtle Creek.

The telephone line from Union to La Grande has changed hands.

The net valuation of taxable property in Baker county is \$3,523,346.

Hop buyers at Salem are offering 12 1/2 to 13 cents per pound.

The postoffice at Independence has been moved into new quarters.

Extensive tests are being made with silage at the agricultural college.

The mayor of Pendleton has ordered slot machines of all descriptions out.

A franchise has been granted for the erection of an electric light plant at Burns.

Asbestos has been discovered in paying quantities in Josephine county, near the state line.

The Salem school district levied an 8 mill tax for running expenses and 1 mill for a sinking fund.

Preparations have begun for the building of a large saw mill on Fools creek near Grants Pass.

Extensive preparations are being made for a thorough test of the existence of oil near Monmouth.

The expenditures of the agricultural college for 1901 were \$41,507.93. Total receipts, \$63,285.93.

About 400 were in attendance at the annual convention of the Knights of Pythias in Pendleton this week.

Farmers around Ontario are making arrangements to import ferrets to clean out the gophers, which are very numerous.

A new Degree of Honor lodge has been instituted at Milton, in Eastern Oregon.

A new lumber company has been formed at Wasco. It has a capital of \$10,000.

A company has been formed at Huntington, with \$100,000, to enter the oil industry in that section.

The Baker City council is considering the proposition of paving the streets with chemically prepared wood blocks.

A small fire in La Grande a few days ago destroyed some property. The loss was small, but not covered by insurance.

The scaffold and other arrangements are completed for the hanging of Dalton and Wade in Portland on January 31.

Mrs. Henrietta Harrington, an early pioneer, died at her home at Ely, Clackamas county, a few days ago, aged 86 years.

The Oregon Pine Company, with headquarters at Astoria, has filed articles of incorporation. Capitalization, \$50,000.

Woodmen of the World are preparing to have a big time at Pendleton April 21-22, when 1,114 candidates will be initiated.

Portland Markets. Wheat—Walla Walla, 59¢@60¢; blue-stem, 61¢; valley, 59¢@60¢.

A New York syndicate is negotiating for 180,000 acres of Nova Scotia timber land.

Sir Ernest Cassel placed at the disposal of King Edward a fund of \$1,000,000 to be used in the crusade against consumption in England.

Gov. Van Sant, of Minnesota, says the entire northwest is back of him in his fight against the Northern Pacific merger, and that he will begin action in the courts at once.