



CHAPTER XXII.

Night has quite closed in, a night exceptionally wild and violent, when once more the sound of wheels upon the gravel without catches Vera's ear.

Perhaps she had been listening for it—even in a measure prepared for it, but even if so, this does not prevent the sudden agitation that overcame her face as she heard it. Her pulses quicken unpleasantly and she half rises to her feet.

An hour, two hours, pass, and she is in her room dressing for dinner, when a servant brings her a note.

"I have to thank you for the kind invitation which Gracie gave me. Business matters have compelled me to come here again—for the last time—to-night; to trespass, for the last time, upon your hospitality. I beg you will not let my presence disturb you; my stay will be so short that I dare to hope you will not mark the coming or going."

A quick wave of color dyed Vera's face; she lays the letter with studied slowness upon the table near.

"My compliments to Mr. Dyrart, and I hope he will dine with me to-night," she says, calmly, but with an unconscious touch of hauteur. How does he dare to treat her like this, to persist in believing—or rather, to pretend to believe—that his presence is so distasteful to her? What is he to her, one way or the other, that she should care whether he was in her house or out of it?

At dinner, however, she will have an opportunity of widening his knowledge somewhat. It will be the simplest thing to let him see how utterly unimportant an item he is in the scheme of her existence. There is a brilliant light in her eyes as she turns to receive the woman who has now come back with an answer to her message to Dyrart.

There is a timidity in the woman's air that warns her.

"Mr. Dyrart's compliments and thanks, madame, but he has already dined in town."

"Fasten this bracelet," says Vera, holding out her arm. She is aware that the woman is watching her, curiously if nervously, and she so moves that the sudden pelt of her face, the side thing that shows her indignation, shall not betray her. "That will do; you can go," she says after awhile. She sweeps down stairs almost in the servant's footsteps, and into the green drawing room, a smaller apartment than the usual reception room, and seated at a small table, she looks down at the flowers hanging around it.

The wind, the thunder, the lightning, still rage, but the rain has ceased, and the moon is striving to break a way through the dense clouds. Suddenly the door is thrown open by an agitated hand, and the woman who had attended her upstairs comes hurriedly, without ceremony, into the room.

"Oh, madame, I thought you would like to know—that you should be told—she stops, frightened by the expression on Vera's face.

"Well?" says Vera, going a step nearer to her.

"There is a ship in great distress, madame—somewhere out there," pointing vaguely in the direction of the ocean, upon the rocks they say! There is scarcely any hope."

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.

The senate passed the war revenue repeal bill.

The house has passed the rivers and harbors bill.

President Roosevelt will retire Gen. Miles in the near future.

The bill for the protection of the president has passed the senate.

The anthracite coal miners of Pennsylvania have demanded an eight hour day.

Another delay in the ratification of the Danish treaty by the Danish government has been brought about by the opposition.

Large holdings in the Rock Island have been purchased by the Harriman interests and now that road will not be extended to the coast.

An inventory of Collis P. Huntington's estate shows it to be worth about \$29,000,000.

William J. Bryan celebrated his 42d birthday by moving onto his farm near Lincoln, Neb.

Anthracite coal miners of Pennsylvania are on the eve of another strike. The trouble is over the wage scale.

Governor Brady, of Alaska, has asked congress to appropriate \$100,000 with which to represent Alaska at the St. Louis exposition.

A resolution has been introduced in the senate thanking Rear Admiral Kempff for refusing to join the allied forces in the bombardment of the forts at Taku, China.

It is understood that the president is considering the appointment of ex-Senator Wolcott, of Colorado, to succeed Secretary of the Interior Hitchcock, who will retire from the cabinet.

Fire on the Hoboken, N. J., waterfront caused a loss of \$1,000,000.

Ex-President Cleveland celebrated his 65th birthday on the 18th inst.

First Assistant Postmaster General Johnson has resigned on account of poor health.

Joseph H. Manley has been offered the position of first assistant postmaster general.

The senate is working on the measure for the protection of the president against anarchists.

King Edward has made arrangements to feed 500,000 of the poor of London during coronation week.

The state asylum for deaf and dumb at Jackson, Miss., was totally destroyed by fire. Loss, \$40,000.

Prince Henry has landed on German soil.

The senate has passed the ship subsidy bill.

The house is working on the rivers and harbors bill.

In a collision at Milwaukee between a passenger train and street car 10 persons were injured.

A life saving crew and seven men it had rescued from a stranded vessel were drowned at Cape Cod.

Two children were burned to death in a fire at Galena, Kan.

Ten thousand people participated in a students' riot at St. Petersburg.

The blizzard in the Dakotas has spent its fury and the railroads are now opening their lines.

Fire damaged the Trinity Episcopal church at Portland to the extent of \$12,000. Insurance, \$16,000.

Pension Commissioner Evans is to be given a more important office. His successor has not yet been chosen.

The worst blizzard in years is raging in North Dakota.

Japan's foreign trade shows a substantial increase.

When Flour Was a Dollar a Pound.

Only a few years ago flour sold for \$1 a pound in parts of Montana, and other provisions were higher. Butter reached \$1.75 in Virginia City. When provisions were forced too high by speculators, there was a raid and living necessities, especially flour, were taken to a common depot and the "corner" busted. These stories, and many others that afford more pleasant reading, are found in Wonderland for 1902, published by the Northern Pacific Railway. This book carries hundreds of beautiful Western scenes in perfectly printed illustrations that the costliest magazine might be proud of. Send to Charles S. Fox, St. Paul, Minn., for the book. He sends it free, but 6 cents postage is necessary.

Governor Taft, testifying before the house insular committee, denied reports that Filipinos are cowardly.

The Pennsylvania management contemplates a new union station for Chicago, to cost, with terminal facilities, \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000.

William Hoey, for many years general superintendent of the Adams Express Company, committed suicide at New York while temporarily insane from illness.

FAST DYING REVOLT.

Acting Governor Wright Says Ninety-five Per Cent of the Philippines are Pacified.

Washington, March 22.—Judge Wright, acting civil governor of the Philippines, has written a personal letter to General Marcus J. Wright, of this city, which gives an interesting insight into the condition of affairs in the Philippines.

"We are so far removed from the United States," says Governor Wright, "that I fear the people at home get rather an inadequate idea of the situation here. The press reports of the last month or more, which have reached us here, together with the comments thereon, seem to indicate that the general opinion is that the whole islands are either blighting with insurrection or else that outbreaks are prevented only by the use of troops on an extensive scale. This is wholly misleading. The real truth is that in 95 per cent of the territory of the islands there is no insurrection, and Americans go about singly and unarmed, with about as much safety as they would in a large majority of the states at home. There is a fast-dying insurrection in two provinces of the great island of Luzon, and in the remote southern island of Samar. Here and there in more remote sections there are instances of cattle stealing and occasionally murder or robbery. We are dealing very energetically with the lawless element, and the people as a rule are rebuilding their homes where they have been destroyed."

"Of course, telegraphic dispatches generally deal alone in something sensational. I apprehend that if any one of us were in a foreign country and received only news of what was happening in the United States in police circles we would get about the same idea of our own country as many of the people seem to have of this. As to the progress we have made in the last year, it is tremendous and to me very encouraging. While I do not look for the millennium either here or elsewhere speedily, I see no reason to doubt that American authority can now be maintained without more troops than indicated by Governor Taft. Of course, we must utilize the native in policing his own country, just as has been done by England in all her colonies from the beginning."

The Lane county Democratic will hold their county convention April 5.

The Baker City gas plant is to be enlarged and improved to meet the demand for gas, which is steadily increasing.

Primaries for Multnomah county were held March 15. Very few Democrats voted, as there was no fight among their forces. In the Republican ranks the anti Simon forces carried the day.

The Polk county Republican convention was held at Dallas March 15 and delegates to the state and congressional conventions named and county officers nominated. No action was taken in regard to the senatorship.

The Republicans of Morrow county held their convention at Hesperia March 15 and elected delegates to the state and congressional convention. Resolutions were adopted endorsing Williamson as United States representative and pledging its delegates to vote against the return of Senator Simon.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 64¢@65¢; bluestem, 66¢@67¢; Valley, 65¢@66¢.

Barley—Feed, \$20@21; brewing, \$21@21.50 per ton.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.15@1.23; gray, \$1.10@1.20.

Flour—Best grades, \$2.80@3.40 per barrel; Graham, \$2.50@2.80.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$19 per ton; middlings, \$21; shorts, \$21.50; chop, \$17.50.

Hay—Timothy, \$12@13; clover, \$7.50@8; Oregon wild hay, \$5@6 per ton.

Potatoes—Best Burbanks, \$1.10@1.30 per cwt.; ordinary, 70¢@80¢ per cwt. growers' prices; sweet, \$2.25@2.50 per cwt.

Butter—Creamery, 25¢@30¢; dairy, 18¢@22¢; store, 13¢@15¢.

Eggs—14¢ for Oregon.

Cheese—Full cream, twins, 13¢@13½¢; Young America, 14¢@15¢; factory price, 1¢@1½¢ less.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$4.00@5.00; hens, \$5.00@6.50 per dozen, 11¢@12¢ per pound; springs, 11¢@12¢ per pound; \$3@4¢ per dozen; ducks, \$5@6 per dozen; turkeys, live, 12¢@13¢, dressed, 14¢@15¢ per pound; geese, 8¢@7¢ per dozen.

Mutton—Gross, 4¢ per pound; dressed, 7¢@7½¢ per pound.

Hogs—Gross, 5¢; dressed, 6¢@7¢ per pound.

Veal—8¢@8½¢ for small; 7¢@7½¢ for large.

Beef—Gross, cows, 3¢@4¢; steers, 4¢@4½¢; dressed, 6¢@7¢ per pound.

Hops—12¢@13¢ per pound.

Wool—Valley, 13¢@15¢; Eastern Oregon, 8¢@12¢; mohair, 21¢@21½¢ per pound.

Miss Shaw, of St. Louis, is to paint the portrait of Queen Alexandra this summer.

St. Louis fair managers are informed that King Menelik of Abyssinia may accept an invitation to visit the exposition.

Joseph Devlin, now touring the United States in the interest of the United Irish League, has been elected to the British parliament from North Kilkenny.

The Porte Warned.

London, March 22.—In a dispatch from Vienna, the correspondent of the Daily Chronicle says that Great Britain, Austria and Russia have addressed a note to Turkey admonishing the porte to keep order in Macedonia.

In Honor of Miss Roosevelt.

Wilhelmshaven, March 22.—Emperor William has directed that a former torpedo boat, now used as a guard ship here, shall be renamed Alice Roosevelt.

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.

Coca county Prohibitionists have placed a ticket in the field.

The district convention of Christian Endeavor societies of Lane and Douglas counties will meet in Eugene March 24.

Of the 41 delegates sent to the Wheeler county Republican convention, 23 are for Moody and 18 for Williamson.

The Polk county Prohibitionists will hold a convention in Dallas April 5, for the purpose of placing a full county ticket in the field.

The board of directors of the Florence school district have decided to extend the school term one month, making the closing of seven months of school on April 18.

At the meeting of the Columbia county Democratic full county ticket was named and a resolution adopted condemning the action of President Roosevelt in sending envoys to the coronation of King Edward as unpatriotic.

Continued heavy rains in Southern Oregon have kept an abundant supply of water in all the ditches, allowing the hydraulic placer mining operations to continue in full blast throughout the Josephine mining district. It is estimated that the output will be 50 per cent greater this year than in any season past.

The Multnomah county Republican convention met in Portland March 19. A legislative ticket and delegates to the state and congressional conventions were named, after which adjournment was taken until March 27, when the county ticket will be nominated. The independents had full control of the meeting.

The 1900 potato crop in Coos county has been nearly all cleaned out.

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VALIDITY OF CANAL TITLE.

Majority and Minority Reports of the Senate Committee.

Washington, March 21.—Senator Morgan, from the committee on isthmian canals, has presented to the senate the majority and minority reports of that committee on the question of the validity of the title of the new Panama Canal Company and its right to transfer the Panama canal property to the United States for \$40,000,000. The objections of the majority to the title held by that company are based largely on the relations of the canal company to the governments of France and Colombia, but the committee also disposes at length many other phases of the question. Among these is the relation of the shareholders who subscribed \$260,000,000 to the old Panama company, whose interests, the report holds, cannot be lightly regarded. On this point the report says:

"The spectacle of the United States congress authorizing the president, as the agent of our government, to conduct a trade with such a corporation (the new Panama Canal Company) without consulting France as to the claim of independence it (the new Panama Canal Company) asserts, will be entirely new in the history of nations, and its consequences cannot be lightly disregarded."

"Among those who are the serious danger of the United States being drawn into disagreeable relations with a large and influential body of the worthy people of France, whose friendship for us as been cherished during the entire life of our republic, and had its origin in magnanimous sacrifices for our country when this country was in the travail of its birth. Unfortunately, the report of the isthmian canal commission reveals the fact that the men who made this offer are chief among those who defrauded these 600,000 or 800,000 Frenchmen of \$260,000,000."

Speaking further of the obligations of the new company to the old, the majority says:

"If Mr. Eiffel and his associates get \$40,000,000 from the American people, it is well that they are sheltered from the claims of these defrauded and despoiled bondholders and stockholders by the alleged despotism of French courts. They would never escape justice in American courts, and would be compelled to account for every dollar of the money to the bondholders, and to the stocks bearing interest, before applying any of it to the profits of their speculation."

The minority report, which was prepared by Senator Kittredge, completely upholds the title of the new Panama company, as will be seen from the following extract, which constitutes its opening paragraph:

"The title of the new Panama company to its concessions and other property appears from the facts and documents which have been laid before the subcommittee to be clear and free from any complications. For a transfer of its concessions to the United States, the consent of Colombia is requisite, but this consent has been given by the government of that country as fully as it can now be given. In case of purchase of the canal by the United States, different concessions and different rights must be obtained by treaty between this country and Colombia, and such a treaty would necessarily involve the consent of the senate to the transfer by the company of its rights and property on the isthmus to the United States. Such a treaty Colombia has shown and declared its readiness to make. In every other point, the right of the new Panama Canal Company to transfer its property to the United States is perfectly clear. Every link in the chain of its title, and every step in the course by which it became in a position to sell its property, free and clear, is plain and satisfactory."

New Class of War Vessels.

London, March 21.—At the spring session of the institution of naval architects today the president, the Earl of Glasgow, announced that the admiralty had decided to create a new class of war vessels, to be known as the scout class, somewhat after the type of the torpedo boat destroyer, but of greater sea power.

Turkey Refuses to Pay.

London, March 2.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Constantinople says: "The Turkish government has flatly refused the demand of the United States for the payment of the sum of money (\$72,500) paid to the brigands as a ransom for Miss Stone and Mme. Talika."

St. Petersburg Students Sentenced.

St. Petersburg, March 21.—Eighty-seven of the students who were arrested here for rioting have been sentenced to three months' imprisonment. The prosecutions of the ringleaders are still pending.

Rhodes Somewhat Weaker.

Cape Town, March 21.—Cecil Rhodes was slightly weaker this morning. The exceptional coolness of the weather and the free administration of oxygen contributed to the patient passing a quiet night. He no longer reads. Mr. Rhodes was much pleased at the receipt of the message of sympathy sent to him by King Edward and Queen Alexandra.

Santos-Dumont Accepts.

Paris, March 21.—M. Santos-Dumont has accepted an invitation from the officials of the St. Louis exposition to go to St. Louis, assist the authorities in the organization of the proposed balloon contests and select a site on which to erect a balloon shed for himself. The aeronaut will sail for New York on the steamer Deutschland April 4. He will not take a balloon with him.

BIG LOSS IN WHEAT

A HALF MILLION ACRES RUINED BY HARD FROSTS.

Total Damage is Estimated at Two Millions—A Theoretical Shortage of Three Million Bushels in the Pacific Northwest Crop is the Result of the Cold Wave, but Loss is Offset by New Acreage.

Portland, March 24.—Half a million acres of winter wheat have been reown in Oregon, Washington and Idaho, the result of the February frosts which came down with killing effect on a number of unprotected localities in the three states. Umatilla county alone was damaged to the extent of 100,000 acres. Walla Walla county was still harder hit. Eureka Flat, which produces more big crops than any other section in Washington, was practically all reseeded, and there is a big winter wheat district in the Palouse that will this year be planted in spring grain after the fall wheat was wiped out entirely or left in such straggling patches that it was drilled over and reown.

Conflicting reports have been coming in from the wheat districts since the cold weather nearly two months ago, but it was not until the past few days of warmer weather that the full extent of the damage was learned, and some fields which had apparently come through the winter all right are now being reseeded.

In Oregon the greater part of the damage is confined to Umatilla county, but some of the exposed patches in Morrow county were also touched sufficiently to demand re-seeding of the whole or a part of the affected farms. Between Umatilla county and Eureka Flat the damage runs in places as high as 75 per cent. Over toward Payson the damage is lighter, and as there is very little winter wheat in that vicinity, the effect will not be felt. The cold wave swept across Snake river and killed a lot of wheat on the new acreage around Washtucna, then hit the high spots again in the vicinity of Ritzville.

In the heart of the Palouse around Colfax, Garfield and St. John entire fields were wiped out, and the per centage of damage throughout that section was very high. It struck the Idaho line south of Moscow, but the effect was milder, the effect around Genesee being only about 30 per cent. The Big Bend escaped the frost, except in isolated cases, and the damage in that territory from this cause is inconsequential.

The exact effect of this extensive damage cannot be determined until harvest. With a favorable spring wheat season the yield on the reseeded ground may be pulled up to nearly the same figures as would have been returned from the winter crop. Conservative men, however, estimate that under the best circumstances it would not be safe to figure on within five bushels per acre of the yield that would have been secured from winter wheat. If the ratio of loss should hold for the entire tract damaged, there will be a theoretical shortage of 2,500,000 bushels of wheat. To this must be added 500,000 bushels of actual wheat used for reseeded, making a total of 3,000,000 bushels of wheat lost by the severity of the winter in February. At present prices this would represent a loss of approximately \$2,000,000. With conditions similar to those of last season from now on, there will still be as much wheat in the Pacific Northwest as there was last year. This is due to the fact that there is quite a material increase in the acreage, there being more new land under cultivation for both winter and spring wheat than ever before.

From the Big Bend country, which turned off a wonderful crop last year, come reports that there is a decided lack of moisture and there the condition of the crop is by no means so good as it was a year ago, and it is feared that the lack of moisture can be made up in time to do much good in pulling the crop up to the proportions of a year ago. In the Big Bend country there is more new acreage than in any other section, and it is on this new acreage that the railroads are depending for a stand-off for the poor yield which now seems inevitable. The re-seeding in Umatilla and Walla Walla counties has not been done under very favorable circumstances, for immediately after the drills stirred up the ground a dry wind swept over the country and absorbed considerable moisture, leaving the ground so dry that the wheat was very slow in germinating, and will not have a very good start.

Carnegie Library for Denver.

Denver, March 24.—Andrew Carnegie has offered to furnish \$200,000 for the erection of a free public library building in Denver provided the city will pledge itself to provide not less than \$30,000 annually for the support of the library.

Fire in Piano Factory.

New York, March 22.—Hardman, Peck & Co., piano manufacturers, suffered a loss of \$300,000, or possibly more, by the destruction tonight by fire of their plant at West forty-eighth street and the North River. The fire started from some unknown cause in the packing room which is in the three story part of the big factory. There it quickly spread throughout the entire building.