

HERR STEINHARDT'S NEMESIS

BY J. MACLAREN COBBAN.

CHAPTER II.—Continued.

I went in the morning and discovered how the strange tints of the water were produced. The pond was fed by a runnel, which flowed at the bottom of the bank on one side of the lane called by the name of Lacroix. This lane, I had already learned, had been in other days the private carriage drive of the first Lacroix (before a Steinhardt had been heard of) from his fine mansion to his dye works and his model farm. The mansion, with its noble rookery, had long ago become the prey of the omnivorous speculative builder; the model farm had disappeared, all but the farm house which, squeezed into a sort of corner of the spreading village, was now let out in tenements; a Steinhardt now reigned in the Lacroix dye works and in his score of the past, was in the habit of "tipping" his aniline refuse down among the tree roots of the cherished avenue, narrowing more and more the already constricted channel of the little stream, and poisoning and discoloring the once clear flow of water in the whole neighborhood. This it was which washed color into the pond and gave it its varying tints.

I stood thus in some doubt and great indignation—doubt whether Miss Lacroix's dream might not after all be capable of as simple an explanation as I had found for the tints of the pond, and indignation at what I saw around me. I had never before ventured into Lacroix lane; I now passed under its wretched dying trees, along the brink of its slender mud, ploughed a foot deep into rut by lumbering coal carts and wagons, and fancied it metamorphosed back into the private, shady, well-kept avenue of the first Lacroix. I had walked almost the whole length of the lane when I met Mr. Birley, Mrs. Steinhardt's brother "Jim."

"Ah, there you are," he called cheerily, when he espied me, "I was just coming to look you up and take you round a bit; there's not much 'bids' doing, and so I've taken a holiday."

After greeting I gave vent to the indignation of which I was full. We returned along the lane.

"Well," said he, laying his hand on my shoulder, "it's not nice of course, standing and surveying the lane. But it's not for you or me to mend it; though I'm joint guardian with 'Manuel of Paul's girl' (he meant Miss Lacroix), 'I've nothing to do with the property, and 'Manuel, you see, can't bear to spend the brass, and doesn't care as well, a button—for Paul's family history. Poor Paul! he was a good chap. I suppose the name Lacroix is done for, and it has been what you learned fellows would call historical."

I asked what he meant. He stopped and pointed up the lane, away from Timperley.

"You mightn't believe it," said he, "but if you follow this lane right out to the end you'll get to the Bastille. (The dear old gentleman called it 'Bastille'.")

I looked at him: I failed to comprehend. "You don't mean," I said, "the famous French Bastille—the fortress prison of Paris?"

"That's it," said he. "You've read, I suppose, in your history books of the taking of the Bastille, and the man that was governor at that time, De Lacroix;—that's the family. The poor old fellow was killed in the streets, I believe."

Thus he went on, with much fulsome of irrelevant details; I gathered these facts of consequence which I here set down:—At the time of the great emigration of French nobility to this country, a member of the De Lacroix family found his way to Lancashire and with one or two dependents, a packet of jewels, and some scientific learning, and without his aristocratic prefix "de." He prospered after a little, and at length invested the money he got for his jewels in the Turkey red and Indigo dye works of Timperley. He prospered. He was one of the first to apply chemical science to the manufacture of dyes. He made a large fortune, and became the wealthiest man of the neighborhood. He had, however, a family of four sons who gave him great trouble. They almost ruined their father and their brother's heart before their several courses of extravagance and debauchery came to an end. The eldest, Paul's father, drew up just in time, married and settled down to the business; another broke his neck in a steeple chase; the third died of delirium tremens, or worse and the fourth still existed, for he could scarcely be said to live; he was the tongue and limb-tied paralytic, known as old Jacques, who inhabited the little octagonal house near the pond, which had been the lodge of his father's model farm. Paul had wished him to make his house his home, but he insisted on settling down there.

This sad and fateful story lay heavy on my mind and heart for the rest of the day. In the evening I took down the first volume of Carlyle's French Revolution, and read with new interest the wonderful passages in which he describes the taking of the Bastille by the mob, and the part which the old officer of the fortress played in its hopeless defence.

After that I sat down and wrote to a pair of London friends, asking them to make certain inquiries concerning Mr. Lacroix.

CHAPTER III.

I had in all this abundant food for rumination during the next two or

three weeks. But I had little time for rumination and no time at all for visits to Timperley Hall until Whitsuntide was past. Whitsuntide is the great festival in the Lancashire calendar. Then mills and pits are idle for a week, and the work people have a spell of serious enjoyment, and wearing of new summer clothing, for which money has been saved from Christmas tide or earlier. Some go on jaunts to the seaside for the week or for a day or two; but the recreations and dissipations of the multitude are those connected with the Sunday schools, which are gigantic and popular institutions; the time and attention (often to little purpose) that clergymen are expected to give to them can hardly be conceived by those who hold cures in the south. One day there is a grand procession round the parish of scholars and their friends arrayed in their new finery, accompanied by flouting banners and a blaring brass band, and headed by their clergyman. The procession halts at fixed points, forms into mass and sings hymns, led by the brass band, while the banners take up positions to display their hideous devices and pictures. For another day a short excursion in wagons, with tea or milk and buns, and games are arranged for the benefit especially of the younger scholars; and for a third day a long railway excursion for the others. All these arrangements I had to undertake (some of them much against the grain, I confess; for I prefer to go through the parish as through life, unaccompanied by instruments of brass)—to undertake alone, along with all the duties more properly parochial and clerical; for the rector was still too ill to attend to anything.

For three weeks or so, therefore, I had no time to ruminate upon extraneous matters, and no time to spend at Timperley Hall. But I then made an acquaintance that considerably influenced the later events of my story—Mr. Freeman, the minister of a quaint little Dissenting Chapel in the village. We encountered first on the day of the procession in the Lacroix lane. He was marching along from the opposite direction to us at the head of his modest and silent troop; the lane was narrow; he halted, took off his hat, and smiled (while I could do no less in return), and he and his people (some of them with reluctance, I have no doubt) stood aside to let our noisier and more imposing procession pass. That was our introduction. When the Whitsuntide matters were all disposed of, he called on me one evening to ask me to be chairman at a lecture he was about to deliver in the little public hall of the village on some point of the land question. I was somewhat taken aback by his request, and I suppose I showed that I was.

"You are surprised, I daresay, Mr. Unwin," said he, with a little constrained laugh (he was a bright, genial little man, with a big, red beard). "I will explain why I ask you?—because, I understand, you, like myself, come from the south, where pure streams, and clear skies, and healthy trees may be seen, especially because I believe you are the only man in the neighborhood who holds something like the same opinions as I do; my friend, Mr. Birley, has told me of the talks he has had with you about the way our Lancashire friends treat nature."

"Your friend, Mr. Birley," I exclaimed. "Yes," said he, with a comical twinkle in his eye, "Mr. Birley and I meet not on theological, but on simply human common ground, and he is the friend of everyone who knows his good heart."

I began to like my visitor. I agreed to act as his chairman, and we then settled down to talk. On the evening of the lecture I took my place on the platform in a considerable flutter of nervousness. There was a large attendance of work folk, with a fair sprinkling of well-to-do people from the neighborhood, brought together, I suppose, as much by curiosity to see two persons of conflicting creeds together as by interest in the subject of the lecture. I observed on a back seat Mrs. Steinhardt and Frank, Miss Lacroix and her friend, Mr. Birley. Steinhardt himself was not there. On rising I was astonished to find myself greeted with rounds of applause, and on explaining in a few words how I came to be where I was, I was cheered with such hearty vociferation, that I concluded I had become, without knowing it, a popular personage. I accepted the explanation Mr. Freeman gave me afterward:—"It was a brave and risky thing to do, you know, to appear with me; these Lancashire folk above all things admire a bit of pluck against odds."

CHAPTER IV.

This adventure with Mr. Freeman had resulted in had not foreseen; but that I might have guessed had I considered sufficiently the situation in which I had placed myself—results which at the time caused me some anxiety, yet which, in the end, proved much to my advantage. Mr. Steinhardt, of course, heard of it, and took an early opportunity of calling me to task with characteristic German—I may perhaps say, Bismarckian—brusquerie. I had been asked to dine at Timperley Hall. He said little during dinner, but I found his eyes on me several times. When the ladies withdrew from the table, he sent Frank after them. Then he opened upon me at once.

"What the deuce, Mr. Unwin, is this you've been doing with that ass, Freeman?"

I stared a speechless surprise—less at the actual question than at its dictatorial tone. His complexion was usually very ruddy; it now became a curious purplish red, even to his eyes and his bald crown, as if he had been dipped in a vat of his choicest dye. "You mustn't do that kind of thing, you know, you'll spoil your chances in the church; and, more than that, I can't have you and him disturbing my workpeople, and setting them against me. I can't say anything to him, but I must tell you I can't have it; it won't do at all."

"I don't know," I answered, "what right you have, Mr. Steinhardt, to talk to me in this fashion."

I was angry. He moved about the glasses and decanters near him. "What right? Your salary comes out of my pocket; your rector can't pay it."

"That," said I, "is a matter between you and the rector, sir."

"Perhaps it is. But I want to tell you that I must be master in this village; and if you are bent upon interfering with me, or between me and the people, you shall go away—that's all. You keep to your preachings, and your visitings, and your tea meetings," he continued, in a tone, doubtless, meant to be placatory, "and you will do very well."

"I take it to be my duty, Mr. Steinhardt," I replied, "to concern myself with whatever affects the welfare of the people; and, to my mind, the dreadful condition of the valley, and—"

"Oh,—d—d sentimental nonsense!" he exclaimed. "The valley is here for us to make money out of the best way we can."

"It is, of course, of no consequence that I don't agree with you," said I; "but as to what I shall think or say on these or any other matters, I can certainly take no orders from you, sir. You must excuse me saying it."

"Very well," he sat a moment in silence, fingering his glass; he seemed not to have expected this conclusion. Then he rose and said, as if he were quite unconscious of having treated me with rudeness. "We had better join the ladies."

"If you will excuse me," said I, "I think I must say good night."

"Eh?" He looked at me in some surprise. "Oh, you should talk to the women a little while at any rate. But just as you please."

The invitation was exasperatingly unceremonious, but, thinking this was but his habitually childish Teutonic way, and that if I did not appear in the drawing room the ladies might be distressed, I accompanied him. Both of the ladies glanced at me rather curiously; probably I showed signs of discomfort. So Mr. Steinhardt withdrew to his study and his pipe.

"You've been having words with Emmanuel, Mr. Unwin," said Mrs. Steinhardt, almost as soon as her husband was gone. "It's all about that dreadful lecture affair, I suppose. He thinks you've gone against him in it, and Emmanuel can't bear to be gone against." (The good lady always pronounced her husband's name with a lofty sense of its scriptural prestige.)

"I do not see," said I, still rather sore, "that Mr. Steinhardt should expect to have his own way everywhere and in everything, any more than another man."

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 revolutionary movement in Belgium appears to be spreading. Wade Hampton, the famous Southern general, is dead. He was 84 years of age.

Sir Hiram Maxim, an English capitalist, offers \$250,000 for a successful airship that is not a balloon.

The Spanish commission which is to value artillery remaining in the West Indies, has sailed for its destination.

Colombian rebels continue to harass the government troops. They are receiving arms from the United States.

The Boers have not yet accepted the British terms of peace. Conferences between the leaders are still in progress.

John D. Rockefeller has given a Brooklyn school \$125,000 provided that friends of the institution raise an equal amount within one year.

Unconfirmed statements are in circulation in London to the effect that the Boer leaders have accepted the British terms of peace.

The body of Cecil Rhodes has been placed in its last resting place.

Fire at Columbus, Ga., destroyed property valued at \$250,000.

Rear Admiral Norman S. Farguhar has retired. His retirement promotes Captain Joseph B. Coghlan and James H. Sands to be rear admirals.

While at the Charleston exposition the president declared his intention of visiting the Northwest at an early date.

Dr. Talmage is much worse. He is now troubled with congestion of the brain.

Socialists mobbed King Leopold, of Belgium, and he had a difficult time in escaping.

The Danish landething, or upper house, voted in favor of selling the West Indies to the United States. The treaty will now go to the lower house.

Cholera is increasing in the Philippines.

The Manchurian treaty has been signed at Peking.

Fire in New York destroyed a six-story building. Loss, \$150,000.

Fighting between Christians and Turks is reported in Northern Turkey.

President Roosevelt received a hearty welcome at the Charleston exposition.

The house's first vote on Cuban reciprocity showed both parties to be divided.

Major General W. R. Shafter, United States army (retired), is a candidate for governor of California.

Rioting students at Moscow, Russia, set fire to a prison where a number of their comrades were confined. The leaders were severely beaten by the police.

Colonel John McKee, of Philadelphia, who is thought to be the wealthiest colored man in the country, is dead. His estate is estimated at about \$1,500,000.

The Shah of Persia will visit Emperor William.

The house has passed the Chinese exclusion bill.

Venezuela rebels are gaining ground and the government is in a bad way.

Striking miners in Pennsylvania have rejected the offer of the mineowners.

A third attempt has been made to assassinate the Moscow prefect of police.

The war revenue repeal bill has been passed by the house and gone to the president.

A new verse to "God Save the King" has been written for the coronation ceremonies of King Edward.

Although the administration regards the Chinese exclusion bill as too drastic, it will place no opposition in its way.

The St. Louis fair may be postponed until 1904.

Cecil Rhodes' fortune amounts to 5,000,000 pounds.

President Diaz, of Mexico, is planning a visit to the United States this summer.

Three men were killed and seven wounded in an attempt to arrest an Alabama negro.

The battleship Wisconsin is at San Francisco after a visit to Samoa, Honolulu and a number of South American ports.

Of the 20 tobacco factories in France 3 are in Paris.

South Africa has ostrich farms containing over 300,000 birds.

In New York city alone there are now about 400,000 Germans.

The governor of Finland has ordered the prosecution of the Lutheran pastors who refuse to read the new Russian army regulations in their churches.

MISTAKES IN LUZON.

Harsh Treatment of Natives in Some Provinces Has Bad Effect.

Washington, April 12.—When the senate committee on Philippines met today Senator Lodge, the chairman, laid before the committee the report of Major Cornelius Gardner, civil governor of the Philippine province of Tayabas, to which reference was made by General Miles in his correspondence with Secretary Root. This report ad been withheld, and this caused the adoption of a resolution at the last meeting of the committee requesting the secretary of war to send the report to the committee. The report is dated December 16, 1901, and is largely a review of conditions in the province. In the course of the report the governor says:

"A vigorous campaign was at once organized against insurgents in arms, with the troops acting under positive orders to shoot no unarmed natives and to burn no houses except barracks. Looting was prohibited under the strictest penalties. Company and other commanders were ordered to pay for everything taken for necessity or bought from natives."

The governor in detail tells about what has been done, and then recommends that the operations against the insurgents should be by a force of natives. He has traveled all over the province, with no other escort than natives. In another recommendation he says:

"As civil governor, I feel it my duty to say that it is my firm conviction that the United States troops should at the earliest opportunity be concentrated in one or two garrisons, if it is thought desirable that the good sentiment and loyalty that formerly existed towards the United States among the people of this province should be conserved and encouraged. Being in close touch with the people, having visited all the pueblos one or more times, having lived with them in their homes, I know that such sentiment once existed."

"Of late, by reason of the conduct of the troops, such as the extensive burning of the barrios in trying to lay waste the country so that the insurgents can not occupy it, the torturing of natives by the so-called water cure, and other methods, in order to obtain information, the harsh treatment of the natives generally, and the failure of inexperienced, lately appointed lieutenants commanding posts to distinguish between those who are friendly and those who are hostile, and to treat even natives as if they were rebels, an increased feeling of hatred towards us engendered. If these things need be done, they had best be done by native troops, so that the people of the United States will not be credited therewith."

OREGON DEMOCRATS.

Full State Ticket Placed in the Field, with Chamberlain for Governor.

Portland, April 11.—The Democratic state convention met yesterday in Catholic Foresters' hall, nominated George E. Chamberlain for governor, named a central committee, with Sam White, of Baker county, as chairman; made district legislative nominations, adopted a platform and adjourned for the day.

The Second Day.

Portland, April 12.—The adjourned meeting of the Democratic state convention was called to order at 10 o'clock yesterday morning and the state ticket completed as follows:

Supreme judge, B. F. Bonham, Marion county.

Secretary of state, D. W. Sears, Polk county.

State treasurer, Henry Blackman, Morrow county.

Attorney general, J. H. Raley, Umatilla county.

State printer, J. E. Godfrey, Marion county.

Superintendent of public instruction, W. A. Waun, Lane county.

Congressman First district, J. K. Weatherford, Linn county.

Congressman Second district, W. F. Butcher, Baker county.

C. E. B. Wood, Multnomah county, was endorsed for United States senator.

The Platform.

The platform adopted condemns the present state government as extravagant, and promises an economical administration; favors expansion of public ownership of public utilities; demands that valuable franchises shall not be granted except upon the basis of a fair payment therefor; favors placing state officers on salaries alone, allowing no fees or perquisites; opposes leasing public domains for any purpose whatever; advocates preparation, by the natives of the Philippines for self government, and when prepared to grant them their independence; favors the speedy construction of the Nicaragua canal, the pending Chinese exclusion bill, the election of United States senators by direct vote, the enactment of an eight hour day law for all public work, the irrigation of arid lands by the government, and the improvement of the Columbia and Willamette rivers.

Transport Hancock Runs Aground.

Manila, April 12.—The United States army transport Hancock has run aground in the mud near Iba, Zamboanga province, about 100 miles north of here. She is not believed to be in danger. Tugs have been sent to her assistance.

Transval Gold Output.

Johannesburg, April 14.—The output of fine gold for March was 104,127 ounces.

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.

Polk county is now practically out of debt.

The postoffice at Mabul, Lane county, has been moved one-half mile to the south.

The postoffice at Ridge, Umatilla county has been moved half a mile to the southwest.

A postoffice has been established at Drew, Douglas county. The office will be supplied with special service from Perdue.

Fruitmen of Polk county predict an immense crop this year. The continued cold, backward spring weather has retarded the development of buds which are not affected by the present severe cold and chilling rains.

Considerable anxiety has been expressed by fruitgrowers in the Hood river valley concerning the probable damage to fruit by the severe frosts in January and February. From present indications, however, the yield will be average, unless some further damage occurs.

The Polk county Mohair Association has sold its pool of 36,000 pounds at 25 cents per pound.

Mrs. Eliza Jane Wrinley, an Oregon pioneer of 1852, has passed away at her home in Medford. Deceased was born in 1826.

City elections were held in many towns throughout the state this week. Party lines were observed in but a very few cases.

A railroad is to be built in Southern Oregon from Grants Pass to Crescent City. It will be known as the Oregon & Pacific Railway.

Superintendent of Public Instruction Ackerman states that after six months of use the new Oregon text books have proven satisfactory.

The fishing season on the Columbia river opens April 15. The prospect is very favorable for a large catch at this time last year.

March customs receipts at Portland were \$77,212.99. The larger part of these receipts were from duties paid on inward cargoes from the Orient.

The Columbia River Fishermen's Protective Union, at a meeting in Astoria, fixed the price of salmon for the coming season as follows: Six cents per pound for fish weighing 26 pounds or over, and 5½ cents for smaller fish. No price for steelheads or blackbacks was mentioned.

The Willamette Pulp & Paper Company, which employs over 500 men in Oregon City, has made a voluntary advance in the wages of about 300 of its employees. All the men who have been receiving \$1.50 per day will in future get \$1.75, and all of the \$1.75 per day men get an advance of 10 per cent.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 64@64½c; bloestem, 65@65½c; Valley, 64@65c.

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

Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.15@1.22½; gray, \$1.10@1.20.

Flour—Best grades, \$2.55@3.40 per barrel; graham, \$2.50@2.80.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$18 per ton; middlings, \$20; shorts, \$20; chop, \$16.50.

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

Potatoes—Best Burbanks, \$1.10@1.25 per cental; ordinary, 70¢@80¢ per cental; Early Rose, \$1.25@1.50 per cental; growers' prices; sweet, \$2.25@2.50 per cental.

Butter—Creamery, 22½@25c; dairy, 18@20c; store, 13@15c.

Eggs—12@14c for Oregon.

Cheese—Full cream, twins, 13@13½c; Young America, 14@15c; factory prices, 10@11c less.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$3.50@4.50; hens, \$4.50@5.50 per dozen, 11@11½c per pound; springs, 11@11½c per pound, \$3@4 per dozen; ducks, \$5@7 per dozen; turkeys, live, 12@13c, dressed, 14@16c per pound; geese, \$6@7 per dozen.

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

Hogs—Gross, 5½c; dressed, 6½@7c per pound.

Veal—7½@8 for small; 6½@7 for large.

Beef—Gross, cows, 3½@4c; steers, 4@4½c; dressed, 6½@7½c per pound.

Hops—12@13c per pound.

Wool—Valley, 13@15c; Eastern Oregon, 8@12½c; mohair, 21@21½c per pound.

A silk thread is three times as strong as a flaxen one of the same thickness.

Booksellers who supply English schools report that there has been in recent years a very great increase in the demand for German school books.

Since the announcement of the war in South Africa, Scotland has sent to the front 15,500 non-commissioned officers and men and 330 officers; total, 15,830.

FOR CELILO CANAL.

Senate Makes \$614,000 Available for Carrying on the Improvements.

Washington, April 12.—The senate commerce committee has dealt very liberally with the Upper Columbia river. Senator Turner has secured the adoption of the Harts canal project for overcoming the obstruction at The Dalles and Celilo, and, aside from the transfer for immediate use of the remaining \$214,000, the bill authorizes the secretary of war to enter into a contract for prosecuting the work to the extent of \$400,000 additional, making an expenditure of about \$614,000.

The senate committee on the canal project, was readily convinced that Captain Harts' estimate is not too high, and says that the improvement is one of such importance that it should no longer be delayed. The amount carried by the senate bill is sufficient to continue the work until the next river and harbor bill is passed, and if it is not possible at this time to have the work placed under the continuing contract system, it is probable this can be done two years hence, when the work has got well under way. There is reason to believe that the senate amendment will be retained in the bill, although it may be necessary to make a slight reduction in the expenditure authorized.

Senator Turner has secured an increase in the appropriation for the Snake river to \$40,000, of which \$25,000 is to be expended above Lewiston. For Fond d'Oreille and the Okanogan he secured an increase from \$10,000 to \$25,000. The Tacoma harbor appropriation was increased from \$75,000 to \$100,000. New Whatcom gets \$40,000 instead of \$25,000 allowed by the house. The appropriation for Puget Sound is increased from \$15,000 to \$20,000, with \$15,000 additional for the removal of a log jam in the Nook-sack. The appropriation for the mouth of the Columbia remains the same as in the house bill.

MISS STONE IN NEW YORK.

Says the Brigands were Not Fierce, but were Insulting.

New York, April 12.—Miss Ellen M. Stone, the missionary, arrived today on