

HERR STEINHARDT'S NEMESIS

BY J. MACLAREN COBBAN.

CHAPTER IV.—Continued.

I cannot but confess that the interest Miss Lacroix thus manifested in what I may even say vague hopes, of a very pleasant and consoling kind. I dreamed bright dreams that night, which hung about me during the next day, but in the evening they were dispelled somewhat rudely by a note from the bishop requesting me to call upon him, and by a message from the rector desiring me to call on him.

I went first to the bishop. My interview with him was more agreeable than I had anticipated and I went with a tolerably light heart to the rector. He was still in bed. My short interview with him was not pleasant. The words we exchanged were warm; but they do not concern this story except in their result. He wished, he urged, he almost ordered me to cease all recognition in any way of the existence of the man Freeman; I refused to give any pledge to that effect—and so I was given to understand that I would not be wanted in the parish after the six months for which I had been at first engaged.

It was only then when my departure from Timperley seemed imminent (I had already been almost four months in the place) that I began to suspect how very much my hopes and affections had entangled themselves with the haunting sadness, the unconscious grace and beauty of Miss Lacroix. What likelihood was there now, if there ever had been any of a poor curate who had already done something to discount his chances of preferment—of my being more than an agreeable and tolerably sympathetic acquaintance of a month or two, of my hearing her say more than "so very sorry, indeed, that you are going," and of this finding the episode closed? No likelihood at all there seemed. And yet so much may happen in two short months. I have to admit that, even in the midst of serious work (of writing a sermon, for instance), vain, wild thoughts would arise in me of commending myself to the young lady by some great service—by, perchance, discovering her father, or at least finding out for certain what had become of him (although I had yet had no word from the two friends whom I had asked to make inquiries in London). But these foolish, fruitless longings were soon crowded aside by the excitement of events.

A strange thing happened which was a direct result of my hitherto luckless adventure with Mr. Freeman. I found that affair had commended me to the favorable attention of all types of dissenters in the village; one mark of this favor I especially appreciated, as all clergymen would—the increased congregations I had at church, on Sunday evenings particularly.

"Almost regret, for my own sake, you know," Freeman said to me one day, with a laugh, "that I asked you to be my chairman at that direful lecture. I find you are making many of my vague thinned vapors, through which loomed the figures of two quarrelling men, whom I tremulously watched in imagination by the side of this dyed demon of the vat. The man grew so excited, and we were so engrossed, with his revelation, that he had risen to his knees in bed before we could prevent him. He continued his fierce, disjointed utterances.

"We must have no more of it!" says he. He leans lower! Ah, Lord! he wants to spill it! A—h—h—h!"

With a wild leap he was standing up in bed, and fiercely imitating the action of a man stooping, and tipping or throwing some heavy body. We were so transfixed with surprise and horror, that we could not stir a hand to restrain him. He looked from the dead to a suddenly raised face, the dead to a grotesque, galvanic life. What chiefly seized my attention was the black shadow on the wall of this delicious figure thus stooping with his head and hands outstretched. The incident lasted but a moment, and then the poor man fell back on his pillow with distracted cries.

"Murder! Oh, my God! murder! An I couldn't speak! Nay, I couldn't! But I'd ought to do it!—nought!"

Again he lay exhausted, and his relatives and neighbors came back hurriedly to his bedside to wait over him. He looked sadly but calmly on them, gasping in the last faint struggle of nature against dissolution. And so he died, and the walling broke out redoubled.

Before Freeman and I left the house together to go out into the cool summer morning air, the old man said quietly to us—"I've seen for long he had summat on his mind, but what he means, I canna tell; so we'd best ho'd our tongues, I think."

CHAPTER V.

I left Freeman at his own door, and wandered away in search of some spot, in which distraction and calm might come. But the search was vain, and I returned to the village to my lodgings. The tall chimneys had begun to pour forth their volumes of black smoke to be foul and bespoken the air, which had cleared itself somewhat in the night. When I entered the village its pavements resounded with the clatter of clogs; the daily contingent of toil, which almost emptied the village of men and women, young and old, was drowsily marching out to its various stations. The men and lads on their way to Lacroix and Steinhardt's Chemical Works attracted most of my attention. They were of fearful and wonderful aspect; they were of brilliant

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.

Most of the Moscow rioters may be exiled to Siberia.

China has protested against the extension of the exclusion law.

The house passed the Cuban bill removing the differential on sugar.

When I reached my lodgings, I went to bed, and slept for some hours. I awoke more myself, disposed to take a clearer and soberer view of things. Over my late breakfast I resolved what I would do. I, for my part, would say nothing of the confession heard in the night, until I could be sure it had some foundation in fact. This I would that morning try to discover in the village.

I knew that any of the shopkeepers would be only too ready to welcome a gossip; for except at meal times, and in the evening, the village is nearly empty of customers.

I found the draper, a little middle-aged man, who bore the evidences of hard work in the mill from his earliest youth. He was the very man I would have chosen for my purpose; he had a feminine fondness for gossip, and he knew the affairs of every one in the village, and all that had happened for a generation or two. I had no difficulty in arriving quickly at the end I had in view. He already knew that I had been called up in the night to visit the dying victim of applied chemistry, and that Freeman and I had been with him till he died.

"Very delicious," said the draper, "I hear say he was jabbered and rambled away about a 'kinda o' stuff, and then slumbered (slumbered) off again, I suppose? Yes; that's the way they do. Eh, dear! It's a bad business for the wife and the family."

"Are diseases like his," I asked, "often got at the chemical works?"

"Nay," said he, "I think not; the smells seem to agree wi' most folk pretty well."

"But the work is very dangerous, is it not? Don't accidents often happen?"

"Yes; it is risky. When they work over the vats, and the retorts, and things, they mun tie up their mouths and noses wi' a clout, and even wi' that they may sometimes get choked and overcome dwalmlike all at woen wi' th' smell, or sommat, and then they're a goner."

"Accidents often happen, then?"

"Weel, mon, they do and they don't. Mates, you see, are aye at hand. The lads often get an eye burnt, but they don't reckon much to that. See; there's a lad over there by th' beer shop door."

I looked and saw a sturdy fellow all red, with a white handkerchief tied round his head under his cap.

"He's been two or three times like that—wi' his eye burnt. Oh, yea; it's risky; but we don't often ha' a grit accident. The worst I remember was a lad on th' night shift that fell in and was smothered; he was found in thing next morning. That was a bad business; a th' hair was off, an' th' skin and flesh was—but it mak's you feel queer; yea, can see it do. It was a bad business."

"Very horrible," said I, while my heart thumped almost audibly. "How long was that ago?"

"Let me see. It's a matter, I do believe, o' 15 year ago."

"I hope," said I, "a death of that sort don't often occur."

"Nay; or our folk, quiet as they are, mightn't pull the whole menagerie down."

I was surprised to see the vindictive glitter that passed from the little man's eyes.

"Has there really," I asked with some constraint, "been any other death like that since the one you mention?"

"Nay; I canna remember one."

(To be continued.)

Solving it.

Patrick, a thrifty tradesman in the neighborhood of the Dublin docks, was the story goes in Tit-Bits, a man who never spent a penny more than he needed to spend; but he was, nevertheless, as good a man at the making of an Irish bull as any who lived between Bantry and Ballycastle.

Having one day occasion to send a letter to a place at some distance, Patrick called a messenger and asked him his price for going such a distance.

"It'll be a shillin'!" said the man.

"Twice too much!" said Patrick.

"Niver," answered the messenger. "The way is that lonely that I'd niver go it under a shillin'."

"Lonely, is it?" said Patrick, scratching his head. "Faith, an' ye're right. Now, man, I'll tell ye what we'll do; make it sixpence, and I'll go wid ye to kape ye company!"

Organized Agnosticism.

According to the plans of the trustees of "the Church of this World" of Kansas City, J. F. Roberts, its pastor, is to be at its head and to assume the mantle of Colonel Robert G. Ingersoll. The local church is to be expanded, and Mr. Roberts is to be sent all over the United States to organize agnostic churches.

Oh, Soph!

Mrs. Browne—I didn't know your son was at college.

Mrs. Malapropose—Oh, yea; he's been there two years. He's in the evensome class now.

FIGHT ON DALLAS CANAL.

House Conferees Want Matter Delayed Until New Survey is Made.

Washington, April 21.—There are renewed indications that a strong fight will be made in the conference committee against the amendment to the river and harbor bill authorizing the construction of a canal at The Dalles and Celilo, provided the senate accepts the amendment made by the committee. The house conferees, and in fact practically the whole house committee, entertain the belief that this canal can be built for much less than the estimate of Captain Hart, and they assert that they do not want to undertake the work until they know what it is going to cost. At the same time, there is a feeling among the friends of the canal

AGAINST REVISION

BELGIAN DEPUTIES REJECT THE SOCIALIST PROPOSAL.

No Specific Promises Are Made, But Partial Reforms May Be Granted—Serious Riots Occur Throughout the Country in Which Many are Killed and Wounded—Agriculture Depresses Trade.

Brussels, April 21.—The chamber of representatives by 84 to 64 votes, rejected the proposal to revise the Belgian constitution so as to provide for universal suffrage.

Mr. Smeets, Socialist, accused the government of being anxious to loosen 60,000 soldiers against their brethren. But they would be unable to exterminate Socialism, he added, and enough Socialists would remain to continue the struggle. As the government was not willing to counsel the king to do his duty, nothing was left but for the Socialists to address his majesty directly and plead for his intervention. If he but said the word, peace would be re-established.

M. Woeste, leader of the Right party in the chamber, when summing up the debate for the government, pointed out that a vote hostile to revision did not imply absolute hostility to reform, if this was discussed in peaceful times. "The government supporters are prepared," said M. Woeste, "to consider proposals for reform in plural voting, although they could not go as far as universal suffrage pure and simple."

This speech is regarded as showing the willingness of the government to grant partial reforms in the future.

Great excitement followed the vote in the chamber. The Socialists held a meeting in the Maison du Peuple, at which M. Vanderveld, the leader of the Socialists in Belgium, urged his hearers to be calm and said he hoped King Leopold would still intervene.

The meeting passed a resolution to continue to strike and dispersed without disorder.

The people of this city are generally impatient with the agitation, which greatly impedes trade and business.

It is rumored here that King Leopold has decided to take the initiative and dissolve parliament.

A serious riot has occurred at Louvain, near Brussels. The Socialists held a demonstration in front of the residence of M. Schollaert, president of the chamber of deputies. The police, in attempting to disperse them, were received with a shower of stones. The civic guard then fired on the mob. A similar riot occurred in another part of Louvain and altogether five persons were killed and 12 wounded. Another riot is reported to have occurred at



ATTORNEY GENERAL W. B. STRATTON

Of the state of Washington, who has entered a motion before the United States supreme court for leave to file a bill of complaint against the Northern Securities Company on behalf of the state of Washington. The briefs were accepted by the supreme court.

Diplomatic relations have been resumed between France and Venezuela.

More time has been given the Boers in the peace negotiations in South Africa.

Colombia is massing troops to put down the insurrection of the Isthmus of Panama.

Queen Wilhelmina, of Holland, has typhoid fever, but her condition is not alarming.

Cattle and hogs are selling in Chicago at the highest rate in years, and the receipts are the smallest.

The cholera epidemic at Manila is unabated. There have been 332 cases and 253 deaths in that city alone.

The crisis in Queen Wilhelmina's case is passed.

The entire business portion of Bartons, Ala., has been destroyed by fire.

Chinese rebels are said to be armed with Mauser rifles smuggled from French territory.

The Pacific coast representatives will accept the Platt substitute for the exclusion bill.

Canada has modified the Treadgold concession to the satisfaction of the Yukon delegates.

Miss Ellen M. Stone will use the profits from her lectures to reimburse those who have named her.

General Miles may be detached for duty on a tour of foreign countries and another soldier placed in command of the United States army.

The Boers are reported to have accepted the main feature of the British peace proposals, but some time will be consumed in arranging the details.

General Chaffee fears trouble with the Datto of Mindanao. They refuse to surrender natives who murdered an American soldier and a large force has been sent to the island.

The Russian minister of the interior has been assassinated.

Strikers in Brussels are using dynamite to blow up buildings.

A serious hitch has occurred in the Anglo-Boer peace negotiations.

The Chinese government is unable to suppress the rebellion in the south.

It has been definitely decided that the St. Louis fair cannot be held in 1903.

Going to Thunder Mountain.

The Northern Pacific Railroad has published a map of the Thunder Mountain country in Idaho, with a good description of that great mining camp, also complete information about reaching Thunder Mountain by railroad and stage routes. Also the cost of getting there. This map will be mailed on application to A. D. Charlton, Portland, Oregon, or Chas. S. Fee, St. Paul, Minn., or to any agent of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company.

Enrique Santibanez, second secretary of the Mexican embassy in Washington, dropped dead on the street.

A New York girl knocked down by the fender of a street car escaped death, but had her hair cut off by the car wheels.

Commodore Howell, of the navy, has perfected a method of transforming soft coal into a smokeless product. The coal is reduced to powder and made into bricks.

Is Not Mrs. Luetgert.

Chicago, April 19.—The demented woman who was at first thought to be Mrs. Louise Luetgert, for whose murder Adolph Luetgert, a wealthy sausage-maker, was convicted, is not she, according to W. A. Vincent, who was Luetgert's attorney. He sent two men who had known Mrs. Luetgert to see the demented woman and they reported she was not Mrs. Luetgert.

Boers Granted More Time.

London, April 21.—After two conferences between Lord Milner, the British high commissioner in South Africa, and Lord Kitchener, and the Boer delegates at Pretoria, Lord Kitchener, while refusing to grant an armistice on military grounds, has agreed to give facilities for the election and maintaining of representatives of the various Boer commands to consider the position. The Boer leaders, have, therefore, left Pretoria to carry out this plan.



OREGON ODD FELLOWS HOME, AT PORTLAND.
To be dedicated April 26, the eighty-third anniversary of the founding of the order.

ization of \$400,000. They say they are working for a principle, and not to save the amount of money immediately involved. The friends of the proposition have not given up, but are endeavoring to show their conferees that the authorization of the full amount of Captain Hart's estimate; that if the work can be done for less, as they believe, a less amount will be expended.

Bruges, in Flanders. Here the police charged the Socialists with drawn swords, and 10 of the latter were wounded.

The German Socialists have subscribed 10,000 marks for the Socialist movement in Belgium.

Shot by Major Glenn's Orders.

Manila, April 21.—Lieutenant John H. A. Day, of the Marine corps, testified at his trial by court martial on the charge of executing natives of Samar without trial, that the president of Basay, Samar, and his fellow plotters were shot, as he believed, by the orders of Major Glenn.

Hamilton's Round-up.

Klerksdorp, Transvaal, April 21.—General Ian Hamilton in a further drive has captured 64 Boers.

Three Daring Burglaries.

Pecora, Ill., April 19.—Professional burglars accomplished three of the most daring robberies ever known in Illinois when three residences were entered and upwards of \$2,000 in money and jewelry was taken. Two of the burglaries were committed after the police had been notified of the first and were in the vicinity. While going through the houses the burglars were discovered, but kept their victims at bay with revolvers.

Duty on Dumont's Airship.

Washington, April 19.—The treasury department has declined to admit M. Santos-Dumont's airship machinery free under bond as scientific apparatus, but will consider any further proof he may offer that the apparatus is entitled to such admission.

Ex-King of Spain Dead.

Epinal, Department of the Seine, France, April 19.—Don Francisco d'Assis, ex-king of Spain, died here at the age of 80 years. He was exiled from Spain in 1868. Don Francisco d'Assis, Duke of Cadiz, was born in Aranjuez, Spain, in 1828, and October 10, 1846, was married at Madrid to his cousin, Queen Isabella II of Spain, and was the same day proclaimed king of Spain.

IRISH CRIMES ACT.

Redmond Appeals for a Change of Policy in the Emerald Isle.

London, April 19.—In the house of commons John Redmond, the Irish Nationalist leader, speaking of the crimes act proclamation issued by the lord lieutenant of Ireland, Earl Cadogan, declared that an infamous conspiracy was on foot in England to foment crime in Ireland where none existed. The stories of outrage and violence in Ireland were infamous calumnies. The Nationalists in Ireland were only governed by a contemptible nationality. A hundred men, continued Mr. Redmond, stood ready to replace every man sent to prison in this struggle.

The Irish entreated Mr. Wyndham, the chief secretary for Ireland, to change his policy; but if he continued it, they would meet him face to face and give him blow for blow. Their answer to his coercion of Ireland would be to harden their hearts, strengthen their organization and compel redress.

Mr. Wyndham replied that while it was true that while there was a comparative absence of crime against the person, the lives of people were made miserable by intimidation and boycotting. The government was not acting from political motives, but as the result of information laboriously collected and carefully examined.

ROOT GOES TO CUBA.

Will Oversee Withdrawal of American Troops From the Island.

New York, April 19.—Secretary Root has gone to Cuba. Regarding his trip, he said:

"I am going down to look over the field and lay plans for the withdrawal of our troops from the island. There is no great significance in my trip. I want to be on the ground and see for myself just what the situation needs."

The secretary would not discuss the prospects of the new government.

"My function," he said, "ends with carrying out the orders of the government to withdraw our troops, and leave everything in as good a condition as possible for the new Cuban government to take control."

A Disastrous Collision.

San Francisco, April 21.—The steamers San Pedro and Noyo collided a short distance off port during the night, through the misunderstanding of signals, and both vessels were badly damaged. The San Pedro, which sailed from Eureka April 17 with a cargo of lumber and shingles, had her stem carried away, and was cut below the water line. The vessel started to leak, and 12,000,000 shingles had to be jettisoned to save the vessel from sinking. The Noyo had her stem carried away, and was badly stove in on the starboard bow.

For Wireless Telegraphy in Alaska.

Berlin, April 21.—Professor Slaby and Count Arco, of the wireless telegraphy system which bears their names, will send in a telegraphic bid to Brigadier General Greely, chief signal officer of the United States army, an estimate on the system which he proposes to install in Alaska. This bid must necessarily be sent by cable, as the tenders open in Washington on April 22. Slaby and Arco will forward a detailed proposition by mail. General Greely has informed Slaby and Arco, through Frank H. Mason, United States consul general here, that their cable tender will be considered.

Cannot Repudiate Its Debt.

Topeka, Kan., April 21.—The federal court has decided in favor of the Eastern bond holders against Kearney county. Years ago a county seat war existed between Lakin and Hartland, and \$450,000 in bonds was voted to secure money to employ men to work on the roads and become residents long enough to vote for one or the other of the towns. The county afterwards attempted to repudiate the debt.

Evidence Against Colonel Lynch.

London, April 9.—Although there is no indication that Colonel Arthur Lynch, who fought on the Boer side in the South African war, and who was elected to represent Galway City in parliament in November last, has any intention of placing himself within reach of the British courts, the government is bringing witnesses from South Africa to testify in support of charges of high treason brought against him.

Bank Notes Burned.

Miles City, Mont., April 17.—About \$13,000 belonging to the First National Bank of this city were destroyed in the mail burning of the east bound Northern Pacific passenger train, which was wrecked between Terry and Fallon stations, east of this place. The burning of a bridge caused the disaster.

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