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Race for a Wife

BY HAWLEY SMART

CHAPTER XX.

Sam Pearson had received the writ of service of this heriot claim with apparent equanimity. It must be borne in mind that practiced speculators on the turf, as elsewhere, are accustomed to take their reverses with much outward nonchalance. But, nevertheless, when his visitors had departed he commenced packing the room after the manner of a caged tiger. It was not likely Denison, whom he had deemed so entirely in his power, would have ventured upon such a bold stroke as this except under very high legal opinion, and whatever it might suit him at the time to say in disparagement of Rumford, he was quite aware that no counsel's opinion in London stood in higher repute. He foresaw, at one sweep, the upset of all his forthcoming schemes. His father had told him how Harold Denison had first taken his pretensions to Maude's hand. He knew, none better, how, under the pressure brought to bear upon him, the squire of Glinn's self-interest had been enlisted in his behalf. He was far too keen a judge to think that he had any hold upon Maude's affections; his idea was that she just liked him sufficiently to marry him if her parents made a point of it. He was entirely ignorant of there being a favored lover in the field. He felt little doubt that if Denison could extricate himself from his power—and should he establish his claim he would go near to do so—his marriage would be postponed to the Greek Kalends.

Now for the other point. If he disputes this "right of heriot," could they prevent his running Coriander for the Two Thousand? That became a question of great importance. He had backed the horse heavily—yes, taking last Monday's work into consideration, very heavily—for the race; and if he was not to run, there at once was a loss of some thousands, to say nothing of the big stake he had hoped to win over that event.

"Ah!" he exclaimed, "that's it! There is some inkling of this in the turf market, and that's the reason the horse has been so much laid against lately. This is the course for Flynnt's determined attack, and his betting me a hundred even that he will start. I'm off to town by the three train."

Pearson drove straight to his solicitor's, from Waterloo Station. Office hours were over, but he contrived to catch one of the firm—as shrewd an attorney as one would often meet with. He took his head over the case more especially when he heard of Rumford's adverse opinion.

"I don't like it, Mr. Pearson, at all, but I will look over the Mannersley title deeds the first thing to-morrow morning, and then go over to Hawk, Sparrowbill and Co. and ask them if they will let me see Rumford's opinion. But these unfranchised heretics are the very deuce to deal with if the right, as in your case, is of great value, and the opposite side are aware of it."

"Well, you must make out all you can for me. What time shall I be at your office to-morrow—earlier the better, mind. Time in this case is worth something like half a sovereign a minute to me."

"Certainly, sir. Say ten; and you mustn't mind if you have to wait for me; I shall be conferring with the enemy, but I'll be back at the office as near that as I can."

"That'll just do. I must catch the eleven train from Waterloo, if possible. Good-night."

Sam Pearson strolled into his club. He was, as one may naturally suppose in no great humor for conversation. It is one of the drawbacks of these pleasant caravansaries that the old adage of "Save me from my friends" is unattainable therein. You always run the chance of some garrulous acquaintance discoursing upon that annoying case in the divorce court, utterly unconscious that you are one of the parties implicated. You are tired, perhaps, after your wife, by some old friend of bygone years who is entirely ignorant that you have either buried or separated from her. Our tactful British reserve has its advantages. Why should there not be a small coffee room instituted for sulky members, where attempts at conversation should be penalized with expulsion? There are times when we have even ourselves—much more our fellow creatures.

Pearson was imbued with a considerable amount of this latter feeling as he strolled into the Theatre and ordered dinner. His Nemesis was awaiting him. Ere he had finished his soup, a blue-haired, vacuous member had him, and asked him what the matter with Coriander?

"The horse is well enough."

"But you seen the evening paper, only just got to town."

"Saying all sorts of prices. He is quoted at fifteen to one."

"That's the real business of the piece is about to begin. I've told him you are my representative in this matter, and that I am entirely in your hands."

"Thanks, uncle."

And Rose went off to encounter Pearson. He found that gentleman restlessly

"Thanks," drawled the other, and walked away to disseminate what he had gathered from Coriander's owner.

His solicitor the next morning gave Pearson little satisfaction. Messrs. Hawk, and Sparrowbill had been most courteous; they had allowed him to see the deed, and also Sergeant Rumford's opinion thereon. In his humble opinion, the case was very strong; the writ of seizure they had issued would hold perfectly good; they might take Coriander when they liked. "And I am afraid, sir," he concluded, "that we should only get cast if we tried to upset."

"Then they can prevent my running the horse next week, if I contest this claim legally at once?"

"I should be afraid so, really; but in negotiation you had better insist upon your right to, of course, do what you like with the horse till their claim to him is established."

"Very good. Now I am off."

On arrival at Xminster, Pearson proceeded direct to Glinn, and inquired for Mr. Denison. He was shown into the library, and speedily joined by that gentleman.

"I have come over, Mr. Denison, to have some conversation with you about the somewhat preposterous claim of yours as to 'right of heriot' over Mannersley."

"I am advised," replied the squire, "that the claim is a perfectly valid one, and of course, just now valuable."

"My dear sir, I am not alluding to the right or wrong of the case; but, situated as we are to each other, it seems rather absurd our going to law with each other."

"Better, Mr. Pearson, say, situated as we were. Moreover, the nearer and dearer the relationship, the more acrimonious the law suit; for a bitter quarrel commends me to brothers, from Cain and Abel downwards."

"Then I am to understand that my engagement with Miss Denison is at an end? May I ask upon what grounds it is broken off?"

"If you wish to know upon what terms you stand with Miss Denison, see her, and don't trouble me."

"You said 'situated as we were.'"

"Of course I did. I owed you £10,000, and hadn't got it. Now, it seems, you also owe me £10,000, which, of course, makes my not being able to pay you of very little consequence."

"But you consented to my engagement with your daughter."

"And would now, if I thought you'd ever want it."

"I don't understand you."

"Then it's no use continuing this conversation."

"Will you answer me a straightforward question? May I ask you if my engagement with your daughter is still to hold good? I care little about this other affair, if that remains as it was."

"And don't I keep telling you that that being an arrangement between Maude and yourself if you have any doubts upon the subject, you had better see her?"

"I will ask leave to do so presently. In the mean time, Mr. Denison, to return to his claim of heriot—"

"Excuse me, Mr. Pearson; that can't touch upon. I have put myself completely in my nephew's hands regarding that subject; but I will send him to you at once, and merely remark that any arrangement you may make with him has my cordial assent."

CHAPTER XXI.

Grenville Rose, meanwhile, had early cognizance of Pearson's arrival, and prepared at once for the encounter. He first ordered a horse to be saddled, and a groom to be in readiness to take a message to Xminster. Next he summoned his cousin to come to him in his uncle's sanctum.

"Maude, dearest," he said, as she entered "the crisis of our fate is at hand."

"What is it, Gren?" And the grey eyes opened wide as she saw the grave, earnest look upon her lover's face.

"Pearson is here, and your father is gone to see him. But in a few minutes I shall be sent for. I'm playing for a great stake this morning. Maude; to wit, the freeing your father from his difficulties, and to win your own sweet self for mine own love. Listen. James has got a horse all ready to go for me to Xminster. You see these telegram sheets: I shall come here for one minute, and fill one up with a message. Mind James has it, and is off with it at once. You see he does not linger. It is of the utmost consequence to us."

"I understand, Gren. Anything more?"

"Yes; you may as well write Pearson a polite dismissal, unless you would rather see him."

"Oh, no! I'd rather write."

"Well, then do so at once; and I think there will be no necessity for your seeing him. But if you must—and he looked a little anxiously towards her.

"I shall know what to say—don't be afraid of that—though I would much rather not."

Here Harold Denison entered the room, jubilant and triumphant.

"The overture is played out, Grenville, and the real business of the piece is about to begin. I've told him you are my representative in this matter, and that I am entirely in your hands."

"Thanks, uncle."

And Rose went off to encounter Pearson. He found that gentleman restlessly

peering the library. A court greeting passed between them.

"Now, Mr. Rose, we had better proceed to business at once. Time is valuable to me upon this occasion."

"The sooner the better," rejoined Grenville.

"Since I last saw you I have been to town in connection with this affair, and am prepared to admit that you have a better case than I at first thought you possessed. Under these circumstances, and standing as I do with regard to Miss Denison—"

"Hah! we better confine ourselves solely to the business in hand, and not advert to contingencies that may never happen!" interrupted Grenville, quietly.

"That's it, then," said Pearson coolly. "Miss Denison intends cancelling her engagement, as part of the program? I thought as much."

"Excuse me if I suggest the propriety of keeping Miss Denison's name entirely out of our conversation. That is a matter upon which I have nothing to say. The question lies in a nutshell. Do you intend to ransom your horse, or is that writ of service, of which you received notice yesterday, to be carried into effect?"

"I shall dispute the whole thing, and place the affair in the hands of my solicitors."

"Very good. Under these circumstances it is only right to tell you that I have already applied for an injunction to prevent your running Coriander for any race till the case is decided."

"Ridiculous! Upon what grounds, pray?"

"Upon the grounds of possible injury, and probable deterioration of value."

"What do you mean?"

"What I say. He might be injured, or he might be beat; in either case, he would not be so valuable a horse as he is now."

Pearson said nothing for a minute or two; at last he exclaimed abruptly, "Do you ever bet, Mr. Rose?"

"Certainly not!" was the Jesuitical reply; for, though Grenville Rose never did meddle with turf matters, though he had not made a single bet on the forthcoming "Two Thousand," he was yet aware that Dallison was betting for him; albeit he neither knew nor cared to know, so far, the particulars of the transaction.

"You can hardly suppose I shall pay such a sum as £10,000. Perhaps you will state what compromise you really intend to offer me?"

"I have none other to propose, than that you sign Mr. Denison a release of the mortgage you hold to that amount upon Glinn."

"Ah, well! I am afraid you price the horse a little too high."

"Not at all! We value the horse at £5,000, and the stakes of the 'Two Thousand' at £5,000 more."

"And who tells you he is going to win that race?"

"Well, you see," rejoined Grenville, smiling, "we are guided there entirely by your own opinion. You are credibly informed that you have thought it worth while to invest a large sum of money on his chance, and we have a high opinion of your judgment in such matters."

(To be continued.)

Having Fun with the Pastor.

The Rev. Charles E. McCormick, D. D., pastor of the Farmington Avenue Methodist Church of Hartford, Conn., and one of the best known Methodist clergymen in the State, is a student of human nature. He likes to frequent public places in a layman's garb and study his fellow men. One warm day this spring, while on a visit to New York, he was sitting in Madison Square when a neatly dressed stranger accosted him from a bench across the walk. Soon the two were engaged in conversation.

"Are you interested in horse-racing?" asked the stranger.

"I like a good horse," was the non-committal reply of the clergyman, whose business suit, crush hat and negligee shirt belied his profession.

"Say, I'm a telegrapher and get some dandy tips every day. Maybe you could use some. They're regular 'sure things.'"

Needless to say, the offer was politely declined, but as the stranger began to press the matter, Dr. McCormick, with a twinkle in his eye, told the fellow who he was. The stranger's countenance was as pitiful as his departure was awkward and ludicrous.

A day or two later the parson sat in the same seat, and another stranger, an old gentleman with a long grey beard and kindly face, sat down beside him. One remark led to another until the clergyman in a burst of confidence related his previous experience. It tickled the old man mightily. Chuckling in great glee and slapping the parson on the leg, he exclaimed:

"He-he-he! That's a corker, old sport! And he believed it!"—From Success Magazine.

Taking No Chance.

Borely—I got rather a cool reception when I called at the Smiths' last night, but they warmed up finally. Why, when I was leaving the whole family came to the door with me! Griggs—That was because some one took three umbrellas out of their hall rack a few evenings ago.—Puck.

Mnemonics.

"I suppose there is a great deal of mental strain involved in the conduct of immense interests like yours?"

"I should say so," answered Dustin Stax. "It's mighty hard to go on the witness stand and remember the list of things your lawyer told you to forget."

—Washington Star.

ADVICE TO CONGRESS

Taft Favors Corporation Tax and Income Tax.

AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION

Urges Senate to Adopt Provision as House Has Already Done in Tariff Bill.

Washington, June 17.—President Taft yesterday sent the following message to congress:

"To the Senate and House of Representatives—It is the constitutional duty of the president, from time to time, to present to the consideration of congress such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient.

"In my inaugural address, immediately preceding this present extraordinary session of congress, I invited attention to the necessity for a revision of the tariff at this session, and stated the principles upon which I thought the revision should be effected. I referred to the then rapidly increasing deficit, and pointed out the obligation on the part of the framers of the tariff bill to arrange duties so as to secure an adequate income, and suggested that if it was not possible to do so by import duties, new kinds of taxation must be adopted, and among them I recommended a graduated inheritance tax as correct in principle, and as certain and easy of collection.

"The house of representatives has adopted the suggestion and has provided in the bill it passed for the collection of such a tax. In the senate, the action of its finance committee and the course of the debate indicate that it may not agree to this provision, and it is now proposed to make up the deficit by the imposition of a general income tax, in form and substance almost exactly the same character as that which, in the case of Pollock vs. Farmers' Loan & Trust company, 157 U. S. 429, was held by the Supreme court to be in the power of the Federal government to impose unless apportioned among the states according to population.

"This new proposal, which I did not discuss in my inaugural address or my message at the opening of the present session, makes it appropriate for me to submit to congress certain additional recommendations.

"The decision of the Supreme court in the income tax cases deprives the national government of a power which, by reason of previous decisions of the court, it was generally supposed the government had. It is undoubtedly a power the national government ought to have. It might be indispensable to the nation's life in great crises.

"Although I have not considered a constitutional amendment as necessary to the exercise of certain phases of this power, a mature consideration has satisfied me that an amendment is the only proper course for its establishment to its full extent. I therefore recommend to the congress that both houses, by a two-thirds vote, shall propose an amendment to the constitution conferring the power to levy an income tax upon the national government without apportionment among the states in proportion to population.

"This course is much to be preferred to the one proposed, of re-enacting a law one judicially declared to be unconstitutional. For congress to assume that the court will reverse itself and to enact legislation on such assumption will not strengthen popular confidence in the stability of the judicial construction of the constitution. It is much wiser policy to accept the constitution and remedy the defect in due and regular course.

"Again, it is clear that by the enactment of the proposed law, the congress will not be bringing money into the treasury to meet the present deficiency, but by putting on the statute book a law already there and never repealed will simply be suggesting to the executive officers of the government their possible duty to invoke litigation.

"If the court should maintain its former view, no tax would be collected at all. If it should ultimately reverse itself, still no taxes would have been collected until after protracted delay.

"It is said the difficulty and delay in securing the approval of three-fourths of the states will destroy all chance of adopting the amendment. Of course,

no one can speak with certainty upon this point, but I have become convinced that a great majority of the people of this country are in favor of vesting the national government with power to levy an income tax.

"Second, the decision in the Pollock case left power in the national government to levy an excise tax which accomplishes the same purpose as a corporation income tax, and is free from certain objections urged to the proposed income tax measure.

"I therefore recommend an amendment to the tariff bill imposing upon all corporations and joint stock companies for profit, except national banks, otherwise taxed, savings banks and building and loan societies, an income tax measured by 2 per cent of the net income of such corporations. This is an excise tax upon the privilege of doing business as an artificial entity and of freedom from a general partnership liability enjoyed by those who own the stock.

"I am informed that a 2 per cent tax of this character would bring into the treasury of the United States not less than \$25,000,000.

"The decision of the Supreme court in the case of the Spreckles Sugar Refining company against McClain seems clearly to establish the fact that such a tax as this is an excise tax upon privilege, and not a direct tax upon property, and is within the Federal power without apportionment according to population.

"The tax on net income is preferable to one proportionate to a percentage of the gross receipts, because it is a tax upon success and not failure. It imposes a burden at the source of the income at a time when the employer is well able to pay and when collection is easy.

"Another merit of this tax is the Federal supervision which must be exercised in order to make the law effective over the annual accounts and business transactions of all corporations. While the faculty of assuming a corporate form has been of the utmost utility in the business world, it is also true that substantially all of the abuses and all of the evils which have aroused the public to the necessity of reform will be made possible by the use of this very faculty.

"If now, by a perfectly legitimate and effective system of taxation, we are incidentally able to possess the government and the stockholders and the public of the knowledge of the real business transactions and the gains and profits of every corporation in the country, we have made a long step toward that supervisory control of corporations which may prevent a further abuse of power.

"I recommend, then, first, the adoption of a joint resolution by two-thirds of both houses, proposing to the states an amendment to the constitution granting to the Federal government the right to levy and collect an income tax, without apportionment among the states, according to population; and second, the enactment as part of the pending revenue measure, either as a substitute for or an addition to, the inheritance tax, of an excise tax upon all corporations, measured by 2 per cent of their net income."

OFFERED HUMAN SACRIFICE.

Russian Police Probe Sect That Worships Blood-Stained Idol.

St. Petersburg, June 16.—Dispatches from Perm, European Russia, say the local police have begun an investigation into the sect of the Crimson God, the members of which are accused of human sacrifices and other horrible practices.

Repeated disappearances of persons in the district where the sect dwells throw suspicion on the organization, which worships a red wooden idol, colored, it is said, with human blood.

The police have located a secret grave containing the mutilated body of a man supposed to have been sacrificed, and they expect to find others.

The rural region, of which Perm is the center, is a breeding ground for many fanatical cults. It is a meeting place for the pagan tribes of Asia, as well as of persons who flee from Russia on account of religious persecution. Refugees of this type have lived for centuries in the dense forests of the district, and their beliefs have developed along the most fanatical lines.

Alaska Teacher Accused.

Seattle, June 16.—A special cable to the Post-Intelligencer from Valdez, Alaska, says that a complaint has been filed with the United States commissioner at Copper Center against Frank Russell, government teacher there. Several serious charges are included in the complaint, among them being embezzlement, defrauding the natives, inhumanity to the natives and complicity to defraud the government. Russell is now on board a steamer en route to Seattle. The complaint is in the hands of the district attorney.

Hadley Turns Down Fair.

Kansas City, June 17.—Governor Hadley today vetoed the bill providing for an expenditure of \$20,000 for a Missouri exhibit at the Seattle fair. The governor said the state needed the money more for educating its citizens and for the poor.

EVENTS OF THE DAY

Newsy Items Gathered from All Parts of the World.

PREPARED FOR THE BUSY READER

Less Important but Not Less Interesting Happenings from Points Outside the State.

The second trial of Calhoun will start Monday, June 28.

Ex-Governor McCord, of Arizona, is accused of bigamy.

Roosevelt has sent two baby antelopes to his daughter, Mrs. Nicholas Longworth.

In the hope of checking wholesale smuggling at New York, 100 additional watchmen will be put on July 1.

A paymaster in the Russian army has fled after drawing \$80,000 of government money with which to pay troops.

There is talk of President Woodrow Wilson, of Princeton university, being the next Democratic candidate for governor of New Jersey.

The steamship Mauretania has established a new record from New York to Queenstown, her time being 4 days, 17 hours and 21 minutes.

A landslide struck the westbound Oriental Limited passenger train on the Great Northern near Ural, Mont. Three persons were injured.

Mrs. Bellamy Storer has started a new society, the aim of which is to obtain from steamship and railroad officials permission to allow pet dogs to travel first class with their mistresses.

Five men and 68 horses were burned to death in a Duluth fire.

The millionaire son of Cyrus Field is clerk in a lodging house.

Harriman is ill and has gone to Vienna to consult a physician.

New York is experiencing a record breaking cold wave for June.

President Reyes, of Colombia, has resigned rather than face a revolution.

Taft may visit President Diaz this fall. The two presidents plan to meet at the border.

A burglar in Prussia has secured damages because he broke a leg while robbing a house.

One of the trials of Indian railway men is set forth in a report telling of a train striking a wild elephant.

Cuba refuses to assume a share of the Spanish debt incurred when the islands gained their independence.

A new dirigible balloon built in France has made two successful flights, each time carrying nine passengers.

The French budget for 1910 shows a deficit of \$21,800,000.

A prospector has been shot in the mountains of Arizona by Mexicans.

The government is investigating the charges that meat inspectors are lax in their duties.

In his closing address to the jury in the Calhoun case Henry talked 12 hours and was still not tired.

A steamer has just arrived at Seattle from Alaska with six and a half tons of gold, valued at \$3,200,000.

Japanese, who claim to be agents for the Tokio government, are endeavoring to secure oil lands in California.

Hawaiian Japanese have preferred charges against the sheriff who made the recent raids, alleging burglary.

Chicago surgeons have successfully grafted a section of bone from the leg of a lamb into the right leg of a man.

By a traffic agreement between the Milwaukee and Harriman roads the former can enter Portland on the O. R. & N. lines.

The largest amphitheater in the world is to be erected at Chicago. The huge structure will have seats for 45,000 and with the site will cost \$9,000,000.

Morse, the convicted bank wrecker, says he will repay every dollar he owes.

Cardinal Gibbons warns women to be careful about taking up woman suffrage.

An amendment to the Illinois primary law may restore Harrison power in Chicago.

The Japanese government blames on agitators.

A British steamer was Russian warship for ap near the czar's yacht.

Los Angeles police thousands of young girls shanghai'd from Pa and taken to China slavery.