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Race for a Wife

BY HAWLEY SMART

CHAPTER XXI.—(Continued.)

Pearman paused. He was a shrewd man, and he could not help being struck by the ability with which his opponent had got up his case. "Suppose I let you take the horse?" he said at length.

"Even then he is a valuable horse, and worth just now a fictitious price. There would be people who would give pretty nearly that sum to insure his not starting for that particular race."

"I give you credit, Mr. Rose," replied Pearman at length. "I'll sign a release of the mortgage, with this proviso, that my engagement with Miss Denison remains as it was."

"I have told you already that that question is totally aloof, and must be held entirely distinct from the claim of heriot. It is a point upon which I am not empowered to enter, and have nothing to say."

Grenville Rose is proving himself a master of casuistry. Though not his union or interest to speak on that subject, I think it was one he had a good deal to say to.

"Then there is nothing more to be said," observed Pearman, rising.

"I am afraid not. It would be better on both sides, I fancy, if we had come to terms. We shall probably not make quite so much—that we must take our chance of. You will certainly lose a good deal more."

"You're right! I'll do it."

"Depend upon it, it's your cheapest way out of the scrape, and I hope Corlander will speedily recover upon it."

"Excuse me for one moment, and I'll fetch the release. I had it drawn up in the event of your taking a sensible view of the transaction," and Grenville left the room.

"All right, my pet, so far," he exclaimed, as he entered Denison's private sanctuary where Maude was anxiously waiting him. "I've got the quick and seeing one of the telegram slips, he wrote rapidly:

"To Mrs. Hudson, Paper Buildings, Temple. From Grenville Rose, Xminster. Shall be home to-night; have something for dinner."

"There, fold that up, and send it off directly to the telegram office. No time to be lost, Maude."

"Well, I don't see much in that," retorted Maude. "What a gourmand you must be, Gren?"

"Never mind. Where's that deed?—ah, here. I'll explain it all to you afterwards."

"And my note?" she said shyly, holding it up.

"Neither you nor it will be wanted to-day, I think. But come back here when you have seen James off."

"Perhaps you'd rather I should never send it?" she inquired, half timidly, half coquettishly.

"Maude, be serious now, please. You may tease me as much as you like afterwards."

She said nothing, but flitted from the room on her errand.

Grenville Rose, armed with the deed of a release of the mortgage, and a similar acquittance of the heriot claim, all drawn up in due legal form, quickly returned to Pearman.

"Here," he said, is your acquittance, signed by my uncle. If you will sign the release, I'll have it over to you. Shall I ring for a servant as a second witness to your signature?"

Pearman nodded assent, and upon the appearance of the butler, scrawled his name across the parchment, to which the witnesses signed their attestation. He then placed the acquittance in his pocket, took up his hat, and departed without further demand for an interview with Maude.

Not that the heriot business had for one second put it out of his mind. No; to do him justice, he looked upon the probable rupture of his engagement as a very serious item in the losses the discovery of that mouldy old parchment had entailed upon him. If he did not love her, he admired her extremely, and looked forward to the connection with great eagerness. But he felt quite convinced that to have moved any further than he had already done would be simply to cancel it at once. He did not wish that. It was but a slender hold, he knew. Still, another shuffle of the pack might change all the hands once more. That slight link was better than none at all.

Thus meditating, he drove home, and having ordered his phaeton to wait while he wrote a couple of letters, to save the post, entered the house. In about half an hour he reappeared, stepped into the carriage, and drove to Xminster Station. His wishing to write those letters at Mannersley had caused him to make a considerable detour to the station from Glinn Harold Denison's place lying, though off the direct road, somewhere about half way between Mannersley and the railway. On arrival there he went into the telegraph office, and dispatched a message. The clerk and Pearman were upon rather intimate relations. The late owner of Mannersley had employed the electric wire pretty freely. His son, also, was wont to use it a good deal. The latter, moreover, constantly sent the clerk game in the season—very often told him that he had invested a sovereign for him on one of his horses that he thought was likely to win. It may be conceived that the conductor of the telegraph at Xmin-

ster held Mr. Sam Pearman in high esteem.

"You'll be going up by the six train, I suppose, sir? Only half-past three now, but I expect you're going home again first."

"Just so. I want to have about an hour at the paddocks first."

"One last look at the crack, eh, sir? Win, won't he, though they do take strange liberties with him in the betting?"

"He's very well and I make some of them open their eyes and shut their mouths before many days are over."

"Well, you'll have company up, sir—Mr. Grenville Rose, from Glinn; he's going by that train. Know him, Mr. Pearman, I suppose."

"Yes, I do know him," said Pearman, as he thought over their recent interview. "Beg pardon, sir; didn't know you didn't like him; he's usually reckoned a nice gentleman."

"How do you know he's going to town?"

"Because he sent a message to say so."

"What, a telegram? How long ago?"

"About an hour and a half; it was about two o'clock."

"That was the time I left Glinn, and his telegram left Xminster then. Hum! It must have left Denison's while I was there," thought Pearman. "What the devil could it have been about? I say, what was Mr. Rose's message—exactly?"

"Beg pardon sir, but, you know, we ain't allowed—"

"Yes, of course, I know; there's a sovereign for you—go on."

"Well, it ain't of any consequence, and you won't let out I told you, Mr. Pearman," said the clerk, as his hand closed on the gold coin. "It was only this: To Mrs. Hudson, Paper Buildings, Temple. From Grenville Rose, Xminster. I shall be home to-night; have something for dinner."

"That was all, you're sure?"

"Every word, I'll take my oath."

"Thank you; keep a place for me by the six train; and Pearman drove off to see his horses."

It was a very simple message, but the owner of Corlander had been quite long enough on the turf to know that a telegram may represent anything but what it appears to say. It disquieted him much. He wished that he had driven straight to the station instead of home to Mannersley; he might have written his letters there, and his own telegram would have been off much sooner. In the meanwhile here he was at the paddocks.

"Well, Martin?" he inquired, as his trainer came out to meet him; "how are they all going on?"

"Well as can be, sir. Corlander did two nice canters and a good mile and a quarter gallop, to wind up with, this morning. No horse can be doing better. But they tell me they're laying against him in London, as if something was the matter," and the trainer glanced inquiringly at his master.

"Something has been the matter, Martin—too long a matter to tell you at present; but everything is now satisfactorily arranged. But I want to talk to you about those two-year-olds; so, come inside."

After a lengthened conference with his trainer, Pearman returned to the station. Grenville Rose was a fellow traveler with him and they even occupied the same carriage, but beyond a few words of recognition, no conversation passed between them.

Upon entering the Theatre, the first thing Pearman saw in the hall, on casting his eye at the notice-board containing the latest news, was that Corlander was once more first favorite for the Two Thousand, at seven to two, taken freely.

"Done again," he muttered, "somehow. And I believe that telegram and Rose are at the bottom of it."

CHAPTER XXII.

We must now revert to what Mrs. Hudson did upon receipt of her telegram—as harmless, apparently, as the pork chops and tomato sauce of Pickwick's immortal history. Yet even in that case "great events from trivial causes sprang."

That lady is destined to be as much disturbed in a monetary point of view as Mrs. Harrell; but infinitely more to her own advantage.

Mrs. Hudson was lounging pleasantly enough in an armchair, reading the diurnal literature of her country in that abode of comfort, bliss, and intelligence, yeelpaper Buildings, when that most domestic of telegrams reached her. That she was attired in a morning coat, neat trousers, unimpeachable boots, and had a cigar in her mouth, will scarcely astonish the reader, who has probably already surmised that Silky Dailison represented that lady.

"Ah!" he exclaimed, after reading the message, "what a cross it looks like. But I must be off at once to see Piyart. Twenty minutes to three; just catch him before he goes down to Tattersall's." Mr. Dailison was a man of decision; he was into a hansom and at the door of the Victoria Club in something less than ten minutes.

His conference with the bookmaker was short, and then they separated, both to make their way to the Great Turf Exchange at Knightsbridge.

The remarkable feature of the betting on the Two Thousand that afternoon

was the extraordinary advance of Corlander. From very long odds offered against him, he rose in the course of the day to be once more first favorite, reaching very nearly to his original price of ten days back. From the opening of the rooms Dailison was very eager in his offers to back the horse, while it might have been also noticed that Mr. Piyart accepted the long odds against Corlander. "Just to cover himself," as he said, "having laid rather heavily against him." But it quickly permeates through the Subscription Room that the horse is being backed in earnest, and when, about half-past four, Pearman's accredited agent began also to put money on the horse, the excitement became intense.

The Ring, or stock brokers of the turf, like their brethren of the eastern exchange, with all their acuteness are marvellously like sheep in times of panic. The leaders at both places can increase or depreciate property pretty much at their pleasure. As there is, of course, money to be made by such fluctuations, it can scarcely be wondered at that they do it. But why should the one be deemed virtuous and respectable, and the other the contrary? There is little to choose between the scandals of the two betting rings.

Grenville Rose, upon Pearman's departure, had carried the release in triumph to the squire. Harold Denison was jubilant beyond measure; free from his difficulties, and to use his own expression, "out of the hands of those blood-suckers, the Pearmans." The hopes Grenville had raised had influenced his uncle's influence with Sam Pearman, and if a little sarcastic in his remarks, the bitter cynicism of his nature had toned down rather upon that occasion. Rose now thought it time to do a little work for himself; so without more ado, he reverted to his passion for the cousin, and solicited his uncle's permission for their engagement.

Harold Denison was a good deal taken aback. It must be borne in mind that he had not received the slightest hint of this in any way beforehand, and to say that he was pleased now he did hear it, would be very far from the truth. He liked his nephew, perhaps, as far as it was in his selfish nature to like anybody; but he still thought that Maude, with her personal attractions, ought to marry money or rank, if not both. Still, at the present moment, he was virtually indebted to his nephew for fifteen hundred pounds, and he was not likely to help him in the long run as men of Harold Denison's caliber generally have most heartily those to whom they are deeply beholden. However, he had not come to that yet, and the way his nephew had outwitted Pearman pleased his cynic and vindictive nature much.

(To be continued.)

A Distinguished Sufferer.

The sufferings of dramatic authors at the first-night performances of their plays are said to be so acute that few of them dare to sit in front at the dramatic debut of the children of their brain. Thackeray, in his "Virginians," has George Warrington sitting in a neighboring coffee-house while the first production of his "Carpeaux" is in progress, receiving bulletins of its reception from his friends, and doubtless consoling himself with copious drafts of stimulating liquids as a sort of insulation against unhappiness in case things should go wrong. It is said that W. S. Gilbert, the author of "Pinafore," "Patience" and "The Mikado," has never yet attended a premiere of any of his many successful operas and plays, dreading the nervous strain of the ordeal. Even Henry J. Byron, who was supposed to be a curious sort of person, in so far as caring for the world's verdict was concerned, is said to have been completely wretched at the first production of his play, "Dearer than Life."

It was at this performance that a long delay occurred at the end of the second act, filling the audience with impatience and the distinguished author with dread.

"What in the name of Heaven can they be doing back there?" asked a critic, meeting Byron in the lobby of the theatre trying to calm his troubled spirit by walking nervously about.

"I don't know," muttered the author, with a melancholy gesture of despair.

A moment later the sound of a saw at work behind the curtain was heard, and the critic, returning to the playwright's side, inquired:

"And what do you imagine that to be?"

Byron's sense of humor came to his rescue instantly.

"I think," he said, "they must be cutting out the last act."—Success Magazine.

Harlem Musical Note.

"Oh, papa, papa!" cried the music lesson maid from the adjoining room. "There's a burglar in the parlor! He just jumped against the piano. I heard him strike several keys."

"All right, dearie; I'll go right down."

"Oh, James," sobbed the wife, "don't do anything rash!"

"Sure not. Leave that to me. I'm going to help the poor duffer. You don't suppose he can get that blamed piano out without assistance, do you?"—New York Herald.

A Precautionary Measure.

"Why do you laugh so hurriedly when your husband tells a story?"

"If I don't laugh promptly he tells it all over again."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

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.

Israel W. Durham, a prominent politician of Philadelphia, is dead.

The Pittsburgh streetcar strike was settled satisfactorily to all concerned after a day of rioting.

Li Ching Hsu, nephew of Li Hung Chang, is dead. He was the Chinese charge d'affaires at Mexico City.

The shops and roundhouse of the Tonopah & Goldfield road at Tonopah, Nev., have been destroyed by fire.

A large quantity of smuggled opium has been discovered in San Francisco and two Chinese arrested as the principals.

Chancellor von Buelow, of Germany, will resign as soon as the finance bill is disposed of. His successor has not yet been selected.

Winnipeg will prohibit American circuses from parading unless they display the flag of Great Britain instead of that of the United States.

The Cincinnati city council has passed an ordinance directing that clocks be turned back one hour from May to September, inclusive, thus giving more daylight.

Pittsburg streetcar men have gone on a strike.

Roosevelt is said to be much heavier than when he left the White House.

Castro still remains in Spain, condemning everything and everybody.

Cardinal Satolli is seriously ill and grave doctors are entertained for his recovery.

Hawaiian sugar planters have agreed to make no concessions to the Japanese strikers.

A vigorous campaign has been started in New York against the common house fly.

Hundreds of persons suffering from leprosy are said to wander unrestricted through the island of Cuba.

Ex-Vice President Fairbanks says the Japanese rule in Korea gives good promise for the future of the country.

California Democrats have gone on record as favoring ex-Governor Folk, of Missouri, as candidate for president in 1912.

Friends of F. A. Cook, the Arctic explorer, expect to hear from him at any time now that he has been successful in reaching the pole.

Jap strikers in Hawaii have appealed to Governor Frear.

Reports from Morocco say the revolutionists are winning over the sultan's troops.

Deposits in the Chicago national banks are at the highest point ever reached.

Mrs. Katherine Gould has been granted her divorce and \$36,000 a year alimony.

Secretary Ballinger has started on his Western trip to inspect the various irrigation works.

The Standard Oil has announced a cut of 10 cents per 100 gallons in the price of refined oil.

Excessive heat throughout the Atlantic states continues to cause much suffering and scores have been prostrated.

Miners and operators in the Fernie, B. C., coal district have come to an agreement and the strike has been called off.

The Turkish government is still trying to secure Abdul Hamid's money. He has \$21,500,000 in the Imperial bank of Germany.

A New York street car man is gradually turning black. The change started about a year ago and he is now as black as a negro except the right side of his face.

Voliva, successor of Dowie at Zion City, has been deposed.

William J. Bryan, Jr., is married. Miss Helen Virginia Berger became his wife.

The German reichstag has rejected Von Buelow's inheritance tax and may be dissolved.

A 12-year-old California boy has confessed to the murder of his little brother 6 years old.

Chicago women have said many unkind things of Professor Starr, who holds all women as savages.

Harriman is closing many of his shops temporarily. Work will be resumed again in about 30 days.

DYNAMITE STOPS PHONES.

Heavy Explosion Jars Business Part of Chicago.

Chicago, June 29.—An explosion supposed to have been caused by dynamite did great damage in the business district tonight, injured two or three persons severely, and wrecked stores and windows for a block near Clark and Washington streets.

The exact nature of the explosion is unknown, because of the great amount of debris thrown about the alley where it occurred. The police think it another in the series of gamblers' war bombs that have mystified detectives for more than two years.

The scene of the explosion was in an alley in the rear of the central telephone exchange. The Chicago Telephone company was unable to do any more business during the night. Two restaurants facing on Clark street were blown practically into the streets, food being scattered over the car tracks.

In this alley also was the rear entrance to Powers & Lambert's saloon, headquarters for Martin B. Madden and his associates in the building trades. Madden and his men are figuring largely in labor disputes at present, and have been the subject of grand jury indictments.

Another place opening into the alley which was badly damaged, was the cash register store of Mont Tennes, who is alleged to conduct several gambling places. Tennes' place has been raided frequently by the police. Another bomb was exploded there a year ago.

IMPORTANT RULE MADE.

Canada May Control Roads Starting in United States.

Ottawa, Ont., June 29.—An important judgment has been handed down by the board of railway commissioners for Canada. By this decision, Canada may rule railway systems originating in the United States. The case decided was that of the Dawson road of trade, which complained of excessive rates on the White Pass & Yukon railroad. The company replied as only a part of its system was in Canadian territory the Canadian board had no jurisdiction.

The chairman of the board, ex-Judge Mabey, in a carefully drawn judgment, disposes of this theory altogether.

The conclusion reached is that the board has jurisdiction over the tolls the company or companies may be entitled to charge on through traffic received at Skagway or that district to White Horse or any other intermediate point between the international boundary between Alaska and British Columbia and White Horse upon the railway lines, and upon through traffic received at any point upon the railway line between White Horse and the boundary, destined to Skagway.

ALASKA ROAD OPEN 1910.

Big Rush to Interior Predicted When Travel is Easier.

Seattle, Wash., June 29.—S. W. Eccles, president of the Copper River & Northwestern railroad, arrived here last night, and will sail for Cordova, Alaska, July 1, to look over the railroad construction work and the other property of the Morgan and Guggenheim interests, especially newly discovered copper deposits.

"The Copper River & Northwestern will be opened in 1910 for traffic," said Mr. Eccles. "and I predict there will be a great rush of people to the interior of Alaska, as the hardships of the trail that many have had to face and that have deterred countless numbers from going into the interior, will be removed by the opening of the new road. The same vegetables and agricultural products that can be raised in Norway and Sweden can be raised in Alaska. The country will be fully exploited once the new road is in operation."

Mr. Eccles says that his company will build a 50-mile railroad to open gold fields as soon as title to the land is received from the government.

O'Brien Sails for Home.

Tokio, June 29.—Thomas O'Brien, American ambassador to Japan, sailed for home today on the liner Mongolia, to spend his vacation in the United States and Europe. Mrs. O'Brien is now in Europe and the ambassador will join her there after a short stay in Washington.

The departure of the American diplomat from Tokyo was the occasion of a considerable assembly of government officials and diplomats at the station to bid him farewell. In the absence of Mr. O'Brien, Peter C. Jay, chief secretary, will have charge.

Venezuela Gives Concession.

Caracas, June 29.—The cabinet has approved the draft of the new concession to the Orinoco corporation, recently arranged between Rudolph Dolge, the representative of the corporation, and Senor Arrayar, of the Venezuelan commission. This gives the corporation the right to work large mineral tracts which include the Inatoca iron mines.

HEAT KILLS IN EAST

Mortality is Already Above Last Year's Record.

FIERCE STORM ALSO IS FATAL

Prostrations Reported From Chicago, New York, Philadelphia, Boston and Elsewhere.

Chicago, June 29.—In spite of occasional storms, there was no let-up yesterday in the killing heat that has held the whole Eastern section of the United States in its grip for the past week. Ten deaths were reported in this city, due solely to the heat; in New York there were two deaths from heat and one from a thunder storm that swept over the city late in the day. Prostrations were almost without number, here, in New York, in Philadelphia and Boston.

Here there was some relief afforded late last night, when a cooling breeze swept in from the lake. It was not regarded as a permanent break in the hot wave, however, and emergency orders were issued by the police throwing open the parks and playgrounds to men and boys. Many took advantage of this, and crowds from the poorer sections of the city sought a breathing space for the night in the open.

During the day a man named Carl Summers became demented from the excessive heat, and rushed into the waters of Lake Michigan for relief. Though he was rescued the shock proved too great for him, and he died later in the hospital.

The Salvation Army will take 2,500 poor children on a lake trip today.

TWO DEATHS IN NEW YORK.

Thunder Storm Does Great Damage and Cools Air Somewhat.

New York, June 29.—The second of a series of cooling thunder storms broke over the city late yesterday. There was a sudden drop in temperature. The storm was responsible for the death of one man and injury of several. At the Polo grounds the game between New York and Brooklyn was about to begin when lightning struck the flag pole in center field, smashing the upper portion of the staff into splinters and tearing down the pennant flag which the New York team won in 1905.

Before relief came two deaths were added to the long list of temperature victims. There were a score of prostrations. The maximum temperature was 86, but the humidity was great.

Summing up the results of the heat wave, Health Commissioner Darlington in his weekly mortality report today noted an increase of nearly 200 deaths over the corresponding period last year.

An East Side blacksmith went suddenly insane while at work.

APPLES IN DEMAND.

If Excessive Price is Cut Down, Demand is Unlimited.

Washington, June 29.—W. K. Newell, of Gaston, representing the Oregon Horticultural society, who has been traveling through the East studying the apple situation, both as to production and market, had a conference today with Secretary Wilson and other Agricultural department officials. He was assured on every hand that there is no danger of overproduction of apples in Oregon; that the Eastern market is almost unlimited, but before the trade can assume large proportions means must be devised for getting Oregon apples into the Eastern market at less cost to the consumer.

They are in great demand for their quality, but the price is almost prohibitive. Mr. Newell says after weeks of study that higher prices in the East arise from the fact that apples pass through too many hands before reaching the consumer and therefore pay too many profits. He believes this can be overcome.

Severe Heat Warps Rails.

Denver, June 29.—Eight persons were hurt, none fatally, late yesterday afternoon, when three coaches of the east bound Denver & Rio Grande passenger train, No. 6, known as the San Francisco Limited, went into the ditch at Sedalia, 20 miles from Denver. The wreck was caused by the displacement of rails as the result of the intense heat. A few hours later an engine and two coaches of a Colorado Midland passenger train were derailed at Mississippi avenue, inside the city limits of Denver, presumably on account of heat.

Primary Law is Valid.

San Francisco, June 29.—The direct primary law enacted at the last session of the legislature was held to be constitutional in an opinion rendered today by the State Supreme court. The suit in which the decision was made was brought by the Socialist party against the election board.