



The Captain Rose and Drew Himself Up to His Full Height.

The Third Degree

By CHARLES KLEIN AND ARTHUR HORNBLow

ILLUSTRATIONS BY RAY WALTERS

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SYNOPSIS.

Howard Jeffries, banker's son, under the evil influence of Robert Underwood, fellow-student at Yale, leads a life of dissipation, marries the daughter of a gambler who died in prison, and is disowned by his father. He is out of work and in desperate straits. Underwood, who had once been engaged to Howard's stepmother, Alicia, is apparently in prosperous circumstances. Taking advantage of his intimacy with Alicia, he becomes a sort of social highman. Discovering his true character, Alicia denounces him to her father. He sends her a note threatening suicide. Art dealers for whom he acted as commissioner, demand an accounting. He cannot make good. Howard calls on his apartments in an intoxicated condition to request a loan of \$2,000 to enable him to take up a business proposition. Howard drinks himself into a maudlin condition, and goes to sleep on a divan. A caller is announced and Underwood draws a screen around the drunken sleeper. Alicia enters. She demands a promise from Underwood that he will not take his life. He refuses. She demands a renewal of her patronage. This she refuses, and takes her leave. Underwood kills himself. The news is reported to Alicia. She finds Underwood dead. Howard is turned over to the police. Capt. Clinton, notorious for his brutal treatment of prisoners, puts Howard through the third degree. Discovering an alleged confession from the harassed man, Annie, Howard's wife, declares her belief in her husband's innocence, and calls on Jeffries, Sr. He refuses to help unless she will consent to a divorce. She signs Howard's consent, but when she finds that the elder Jeffries does not intend to stand by his son, except financially, she scorns his help. Annie appeals to Judge Brewster. He declines to take Howard's case. He declines. It is reported that Annie is going on the stage. The banker and the judge Judge Brewster to find some way to prevent it. Annie again pleads with Brewster to take Howard's case. He consents. Alicia is greatly alarmed when Annie tells her Brewster has consented. She calls on Brewster to see Annie. She confesses to Annie that she called on Underwood the night of his death and threatened suicide, but begs for time before giving out the information. Annie promises Brewster to produce the missing woman at a meeting at his home. Brewster accuses Clinton of forcing a confession from Howard.

CHAPTER XVIII.

As Annie entered the room and caught sight of Mr. Jeffries, she instinctively drew back. Just at that moment the banker was, perhaps, the one man in the world whom she was most anxious to avoid. Capt. Clinton no longer had any terror for her. Now that the missing witness had been found and the precious "suicide letter" was as good as in their possession there was nothing more to fear. It was only a question of time when Howard would be set free. But it was not in this girl's nature to be concerned only with herself. If she possessed a single womanly virtue, it was supreme selfishness. There was some one beside herself to take into consideration—a poor, vacillating, weak, miserable woman who wished to do what was right, and had agreed to do so, but who, in the privacy of her own apartments, had gone down on her knees and begged Annie to protect her from the consequences of her own folly. Her husband must not know. Annie had promised that if there was any way possible the knowledge of that clandestine midnight visit to Underwood's rooms should be kept from her. Yet there stood the banker! She was afraid that if they began questioning her in his presence she might be betrayed into saying something that would instantly arouse his suspicions. Judge Brewster went quickly forward as she came in and led her to a chair. Capt. Clinton and Mr. Jeffries eyed her in stolid silence. Looking around in a nervous kind of way, Annie said quietly to the judge: "May I speak to you alone, judge?" "Certainly," replied the lawyer. He was about to draw her aside when Capt. Clinton interposed. "One moment!" he said gruffly; "if this is all open and above board, as you say it is, judge—I'd like to ask the young lady a few questions." "Certainly, by all means," said the judge quickly. The captain turned and confronted Annie. Addressing her in his customary aggressive manner, he said: "You promised Judge Brewster that you'd produce the woman who called

worry. She has probably forgotten her appointment. Some people are very careless in that respect." Moving toward the door, he added: "Well, if it's all the same to you, I'll wait downstairs. Good-night."

He went out, his hat impudently tilted back on his head, a sneer on his lips. The banker turned to the judge. "I told you how it would be," he said scornfully. "A flash in the pan!"

The lawyer looked askance at Annie. "You are sure she will come?" he asked.

"Yes, I am sure!" With concern she added: "But the disgrace of arrest! It will kill her! Oh, judge, don't let them arrest her!"

"Tell me who she is!" commanded the lawyer sternly.

It was the first time he had spoken to her harshly and Annie, to her dismay, thought she detected a note of doubt in his voice. Looking toward the banker, she replied: "I can't tell you just now—she'll be here soon."

"Tell me now—I insist," said the lawyer with growing impatience. "Please—please don't ask me!" she pleaded.

Mr. Jeffries made an angry gesture. "As I told you, Brewster, her whole story is a fabrication trumped up for some purpose—God knows what object she has in deceiving us! I only know that I warned you what you always may expect from people of her class."

The judge said nothing for a moment. Then quietly he whispered to the banker: "Go into my study for a few moments, will you, Jeffries?"

The banker made a gesture, as if utterly disgusted with the whole business. "I am going home," he said testily. "I've had a most painful evening—most painful. Let me know the result of your investigation as soon as possible. Good night. Don't disturb me to-night, Brewster. To-morrow will do."

He left the room in high dudgeon, banging the door behind him. Annie burst into a laugh. "Don't disturb him!" she mimicked. "He's going to get all that's coming to him."

Shocked at her levity, the lawyer turned on her severely. "Do you want me to lose all faith in you?" he asked sternly.

"No, indeed," she answered contritely. "Then tell me," he demanded, "why do you conceal this woman's name from me?"

"Because I don't want to be the one to expose her. She shall tell you herself."

"That's all very well," he replied, "but meantime you are directing suspicion against yourself. Your father-in-law believes you are the woman; so does Capt. Clinton."

"The captain suspects everybody," she laughed. "It's his business to suspect. As long as you don't believe that I visited Underwood that night—"

The judge shook his head as if puzzled. "Candidly, I don't know what to think." Seriously, he added: "I want to think the very best of you, Annie, but you won't let me."

She hesitated a moment and then, quickly, she said: "I suppose I'd better tell you and have done with it—but I don't like to—"

At that moment a servant entered and handed the lawyer a card. "The lady wants to see you at once, sir."

"To see me," asked the lawyer in surprise: "are you sure she hasn't come for Mr. Jeffries?"

"No, sir," she asked for you. Annie sprang forward. "Is it Mrs. Jeffries?" she asked. "Yes," he replied. "Let me see her, judge," she exclaimed eagerly; "I'll tell her who it is and she can tell you—she's a woman—and I'd rather. Let me speak to her, please!"

Addressing the servant, the lawyer said: "Ask Mrs. Jeffries to come up." Turning to his client, he went on: "I see no objection to your speaking to Mrs. Jeffries. After all, she is your husband's stepmother. But I am free to confess that I don't understand you. I am more than disappointed in your failure to keep your word. You promised definitely that you would bring the witness here to-night. On the strength of that promise I made statements to Capt. Clinton which I have not been able to substantiate. The whole story looks like an invention on your part."

She held out her hands entreatingly. "It's not an invention! Really, judge! Just a little while longer! You've been so kind, so patient!"

There was a trace of anger in the lawyer's voice as he went on: "I believed you implicitly. You were so positive this woman would come forward."

"Good evening, Mrs. Jeffries."

Alicia shook hands with him, at the same time looking inquiringly at Annie, who, by a quick gesture, told her that the judge knew nothing of her secret. The lawyer went on:

"Mrs. Jeffries, Jr., wishes to speak to you. I said I thought there'd be no objection; you don't mind. May she?"

"Yes," murmured Alicia.

"Your husband was here," said the judge.

"My husband!" she cried, startled. Again she glanced inquiringly at Annie, who tried to force a smile.

"Yes," said the lawyer; "he'll be glad to know you're here. I'll tell him." Turning to Annie, he said: "When you're ready, please send and—"

"Very well, judge."

The lawyer went out and Alicia turned round breathlessly.

"My husband was here!" she exclaimed.

"Yes."

"You've told Mr. Brewster nothing?"

Alicia shook her head.

"I couldn't," she said. "I tried to, but I couldn't. It seems so hard, doesn't it?"

Alicia laughed bitterly and Annie went on: "I was afraid you weren't coming!"

"The train was late!" exclaimed Alicia evasively. "I went up to Stamford to say good-by to my mother."

"To say good-by?" echoed her companion in surprise.

"Yes," said the other tearfully. "I have said good-by to everybody—to everything—to myself—I must give them all up—I must give myself up."

"Oh, it isn't as bad as that, surely?"

Alicia shook her head sadly.

"Yes," she said; "I've reckoned it all up. It's a total loss. Nothing will be saved—husband, home, position, good name—all go. You'll see. I shall be torn into little bits of shreds. They won't leave anything unsaid. But it's not that I care for so much. It's the injustice of it all. The injustice of the power of evil. This man Underwood never did a good action in all his life. And now even after he is dead he has the power to go on destroying—destroying—destroying!"

"That's true," said Annie; "he was no good."

The banker's wife drew from her bosom the letter Underwood wrote her before he killed himself.

"When he sent me this letter," she went on, "I tried to think myself into his condition of mind, so that I could decide whether he intended to keep his word and kill himself or not. I tried to reason out just how he felt and how he thought. Now I know. It's hopeless, dull, sodden desperation. I haven't even the ambition to defend myself from Mr. Jeffries."

Annie shrugged her shoulders.

"I wouldn't lose any sleep on his account," she said with a laugh. More seriously she added: "Surely he won't be—"

"He may not believe anything himself," said Alicia. "It's what other people are thinking that will make him suffer. The circumstances were only a little less disgraceful—a suicide's last letter to the woman he loved. They'll say I drove him to it. They won't think of his miserable, dishonest career. They'll only think of my share in his death—"

Annie shook her head sympathetically.

"Yes," she said; "it's tough! The worst of it is they are going to arrest you."

Alicia turned when pale.

"Arrest me!" she cried.

"That's what Capt. Clinton says," she said. "He's here now—with two men waiting for you." Apologetically she went on: "It wasn't my fault, Mrs. Jeffries—I didn't mean to. What could I do? When I told Judge Brewster, he sent for Capt. Clinton. The police are afraid you'll run away or something—"

"And my husband!" gasped Alicia; "he doesn't know, does he?"

"No, I didn't tell them. I said you'd tell them yourself, but they won't trust you when they know who you are. Let's tell the judge—he may think of a plan. Suppose you go away until—"

Puzzled herself to find a way out of the dilemma, Annie paced the floor nervously. "Oh, this is awful!" she exclaimed. "What are we to do?"

She looked toward Alicia, as if expecting some suggestion from her, but her companion was too much overwhelmed to take any initiative.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

A Snake Story.

Carl Hagenbeck describes an adventure with caged pythons: "My son Heinrich had no sooner opened the door of the cage than the four reptiles, as though by prearranged plan, flew at him with wide open jaws. One of them very nearly succeeded in coiling itself round him, but he defended himself vigorously, and I and a keeper ran to his aid, but it was some minutes before we succeeded in freeing him."

"Then the largest of the four fixed himself firmly with his tail on a rafter at the top of the cage and made savage bites at us. When we had thrown a sack over his head we had to secure further assistance to unloosen his tail. No sooner had we with great effort got it loose than the monster twisted itself around Heinrich's right leg and began to twine itself higher up his body."

"It was a life-and-death struggle that then ensued, but by exerting all our might we at last succeeded in

tearing away the reptile and forcing it into a sack."

Recognized a Landmark.

Dick and Tommy had come downstairs late to take part in the family devotions.

"Has paw got through yet?" asked Tommy.

"He's about half through," whispered Dick, who was listening at the door of the sitting room. "He's just got past 'my our sins be as far removed from us as the east is from the west.'"

Money-Making Thoughts.

Harker—"You seem in a deep study. A penny for your thoughts, old man."

Blutwood—"O, I'm a rapid thinker and have 500 thoughts at once. Pass me over a five spot."

The Philosopher of Folly.

"The reason so many of our professional athletes aren't properly trained," says the Philosopher of Folly, "is that they have to spend so much time being photographed."

RIOTING IN BELGIUM.

Brussels—Belgium is in a state of eruption on account of the recent elections and rioting throughout the country has taken on a revolutionary character.

Many persons have been killed or wounded in various cities and a large number of reserves have been called to the colors. Agitation in the industrial centers is increasing. Every hour brings news of fresh protests by the laboring classes against the government's policy. In some cases the civic guard has made common cause with the rioters.

The national disorders are generally attributed to the disappointment of the laboring class by the victory of the clericals in the recent elections. The Socialists allied themselves with the Liberals on the public school question in opposition to the government policy, hoping thereby to win the majority in the chamber. Their failure caused a wave of anger to sweep over the country. Latest reports show that a strike movement has spread over the entire Liege basin and has tied up most of the collieries and the big metal industries.

Liege has the appearance of a besieged city. Two regiments are under arms besides police, the civic guard and gendarmes. Several clashes have occurred between the rioters and the troops.

In Brussels a mob made a rapid tour of the city, wrecking streetcars, smashing windows and doing all manner of damage. They broke in the doors of the Church of St. John and St. Nicholas, demolished the tabernacle and set fire to the doors. Next they tried to force an entry to the monastery of the Artois Fathers, and arriving at the Ander Licht quarter, wrecked a cafe and attempted to storm a convent, but were dispersed by firemen with streams from the hose.

At Cornu a mob wrecked the Catholic club. At Bruges, gendarmes fired on a mob, wounding 50 rioters, several fatally. The gendarmes were assailed with bottles, bricks, and pieces of furniture.

The educational fight which is the principal cause of the present disturbances, is explained as follows: The Belgian schools are either church schools or public schools. The schools are managed and subsidized by the commons alone and in the non clerical communes there is a tendency to subsidize only the public schools. The desire of the clerical government is to place the church schools on the same financial footing as the public schools, the necessary funds being provided by the commons, province and state. The opposition urges that the church schools be paid for by the church, not by the government.

Failure on the part of the laboring classes to gain by the election the abolition of the plural voting system, asserted to be a powerful lever in the aid of the clericals, also caused great dissatisfaction.

WATERS ARE LOSING.

New York Hotelmen Make Concessions, Then Stand Firm.

New York—The indications are that on the culinary battlefield the napkin-drummer boys are soon to roll the signal for retreat. The battle is about done. Here and there may be heard faintly the sounds of distant skirmishes, but the great war of the waiters, omnibuses and cooks against the hotels and restaurants is gradually resolving itself into the hush of time.

Around the camp of the International Hotel Workers' union were few of that gallant army that went forth a week ago to conquer the hosts of hotel-terries. Most of the veterans of the struggle are now slipping back into their uniforms of the dining room and kitchen.

They do not gain recognition of the union, but the waiters won an increase of 20 per cent, giving them \$30 a month instead of \$25, and the omnibuses get \$22 a month instead of \$20. A shorter workday, overtime pay, elimination of fines and better treatment are guaranteed by the offer of the Hotel Men's association made several days ago.

Zapata to Attack Mexico.

Chihuahua, Mexico—General Pascual Orozco, chief of the revolution in Northern Mexico, has formally sanctioned an attack on Mexico City by Emiliano Zapata, rebel leader in the South. An emissary from Zapata was informed by Orozco that he would permit the attack on the Mexican capital provided the Southern leader would not molest foreigners and could dominate the situation. This confirms earlier assertions of the rebels in the North that they are acting in unison with those in the South.

Four Die Failing to Save One.

Cincinnati—Five persons perished from gas fumes in a grain well at the dairy of Jacob Sachs, in Fairmount, this city. Henry Esterman, fireman, who went into the pit to get out the bodies, also was overcome. The dead were: Mrs. Anna Espelarge, Mrs. William Koester, Jacob Sachs, Joseph Niehoff and Robert Atkins. Four of the victims forfeited their lives in efforts to rescue Sachs, the first victim. The pit was used for the storage of wet malt cattle feed, which had fermented and generated gases.

Seattle Founder is Dead.

Seattle, Wash.—Miss Livonia Gertreud Boren, one of the party of 24 persons who founded Seattle November 13, 1851, died at her home in this city aged 61. She was 11 months old when the schooner load of people from Portland landed at Alki Point. Her father, Carson D. Boren, who built the first house in Seattle, is still alive. Nine of the 24 founders survive and will hold a reunion at the State Pioneer meeting this month.

German Officers Feted.

Fortress Monroe, Va.—On the parade grounds inside the wall and most of Fortress Monroe Wednesday, the United States army formally welcomed the officers of the German emperor's visiting cruiser squadron.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRESS OF OUR HOME STATE

GOLD SEEKERS RUSH.

Rich Exposures Near Lakeview Are Reported by Prospectors.

New Pine Creek—Quite a rush was made to the head of Cottonwood recently by reason of rich free gold specimens brought in from that section by John G. Neis.

This district lies immediately between High Grade and Gold Basin and bears all the earmarks of a coming mining camp. It is now evident that the prediction that many new camps will be developed in the Warner range was wisely made.

The ore specimens brought down by Mr. Neis panned over \$20 a ton and were only outcroppings. There are scores of claims staked there. Twenty-four people went out in hacks, buggies and on horseback Wednesday morning, and others went later in the day.

At the breast of the tunnel in the Fairview, one of the Seven Lakes group on Yellow Mountain, J. P. Branley, the local manager, has broken into a body of white and yellow quartz resembling ore from the recent strike in the Big Four, which adjoins this property. The strike has created much interest in the district. A trial shipment of ore from the Fairview will be made soon. A plat has been filed of the new town of Branley, located in the center of the High Grade district and surrounded by the Big Four, Alturas, Josephine, Consolidated, Buckleberry and Seven Lakes groups. It is the midway point between New Pine Creek and Fort Bidwell.

Specimens of mineralized quartz from the east slope of High Grade are heavy in iron sulphides showing evidence of both gold and silver. Mining men who have seen the ore specimens pronounce them first class. It is similar to the ore from the Modoc, Sunshine and Last Dollar mines.

TO SAVE PEACH CROP.

Prof Jackson of O. A. C. Says Almost Total Loss Thus Far.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis—That the peach crop in the Willamette valley has been almost wholly destroyed by a combination of cold weather and fruit pests is the opinion of Prof. H. S. Jackson, of the entomology department of the Oregon Agricultural college. When interviewed recently on the subject he said:

"Peach growers are having trouble from two causes, peach leaf curl and California peach blight. This is an exceptionally bad year for the leaf curl. At the present time nothing can be done for this disease except a cutting back of the branches. Growers should make a regular practice of spraying their peaches in the spring with Bordeaux mixture.

The California peach blight attacks the branches, causing small cankers and copious gumming. For this disease orchardists should spray at once with the mixture known as self-boiled lime of sulphur. This mixture is described in circulars which may be obtained for the asking from the college. The Bordeaux mixture should be used for this pest about November 1 each fall. Both the leaf curl and the California peach blight are microscopic fungus diseases.

PLANT READY SOON.

Farmers About Sutherlin Raising Vegetables for Canning.

Sutherlin—As a result of the construction work now well under way in the World Kneep new plant here, fruit-growers and farmers all through this valley are planting a large acreage to vegetables of nearly every variety, giving preference to peas, beans and sweet corn, all of which the factory will accept at highest cash prices.

The establishment of this plant in Sutherlin has solved the problem which confronted many who own orchard tracts: What can one do to make a living while one's orchard is coming into bearing? There are approximately 8000 acres of young orchards in Sutherlin valley, the oldest of which are not quite four years old. The reason that many owners of orchard lands have not taken up their residence here is due to the fact that there was no local market for the vegetables and berries which could be grown between the rows of apple trees.

Lake Gets Fire Warden.

Klamath Falls—State Forester Elliott has forwarded the appointment of C. C. Chitwood, of Swan Lake valley, as supervising fire warden for Lake and Klamath counties. In a communication to the supervising warden the state forester says that it will be impossible for him to inspect personally all the work done by the supervising wardens over the state and that their success in holding down the fire losses to a minimum will depend very largely on the co-operation given by the people.

Hermiston Potato Crop Large.

Hermiston—The potato crop this year promises to be exceptionally good. A large acreage was planted this season, over six carloads of seed potatoes having been shipped into Hermiston. One of the first farmers to have potatoes on the market was L. H. Pearson. He brought some into town last week which measured nearly 10 inches around. The farmers' exchange is making preparations to ship. The manager states that he has orders for more than will be grown on the project.

Expert Given Right to Save \$2000.

Salem—Holding that the state printing expert has discretionary powers in determining what is appropriate for printing in the various reports from state officials, Attorney General Crawford sanctioned the move of Printer Expert Harris to dissect the secretary of state's report and remove therefrom over 400 pages which will result in a saving of practically \$2000 to the state. This move was also invited by Secretary Olcott.

Thousand in Farm Dividends.

Helix—One thousand dollars in dividend checks was distributed among the stockholders of the Farmers' Mutual Warehouse company during the last week. The company during the year earned 2 1/2 per cent, or \$260 net, on \$10,000 capitalization, but voted \$1860 to the building fund.

WALLOWA RANCH GROWS.

Enterprise Men Add to Holdings for Sheep Range.

Enterprise—By the purchase of 720 acres of Innah river land, Vest & Boswell, of this city, have rounded out their holdings and now have one of the best sheep ranches in Wallowa county. They bought the 720 acres from Frank Kernan for \$12,000. Their lands now extend six and a half miles east and west, and for three and a half miles north and south, and they control many thousand acres of choicest range.

The land just bought consists of the hay and fruit ranch which Vest & Boswell have been renting. It grows enough hay to winter a large band of sheep. It is located so conveniently to range that stock can graze within a few miles of the place much of the winter, and always be near enough to the hay to be brought in on short notice when necessary.

The Enterprise stock men now have all the original Kernan sheep ranch. Part of this was sold by the first holders to Stanley Hayes and J. A. Funk. Vest & Boswell bought out Hayes and Funk recently, taking the latter's holdings the first of the year. These holdings were at the north and west portions of the range and included some fine grain land adjoining the reserve on the Chesnimnus.

Going eastward from the Chesnimnus, the Vest & Boswell ranch includes Huckleberry and Seven Lakes groups. It is the midway point between New Pine Creek and Fort Bidwell.

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GLANDERS CAUSE ACTION.

Oregon Will Declare Quarantine on Several States.

Salem—Complying with a request of Dr. Jules F. Morel, state veterinarian, the governor's office is considering the question of declaring a quarantine against several states prohibiting the importation of horses into Oregon except under severe restrictions.

In a communication to Governor West, Dr. Morel says the veterinarian's office has been notified at different times that shipments of horses from California, Washington, Idaho and Utah have entered Oregon without being properly submitted to the examinations as required by law. An outbreak of glanders exists in Malheur county among horses belonging to subcontractors engaged in railroad work. Another shipment of horses employed in railroad construction has been made from California without being submitted to the test for glanders, the veterinarian says, and while it has been his intention to prosecute these cases, after reading the statutes and giving the matter careful consideration, he declares he could not see any way to bring proceedings.

TO ADVERTISE STATE.

Government Agricultural Expert Foresees State's Future.

Salem—C. H. Lane, the government agricultural expert, who recently visited Oregon to assist in promoting the school industrial movement, has written Superintendent Alderman a long letter expressing satisfaction with the conditions of agricultural pursuits as he found them in this state.

"There is a great future ahead for Oregon," says Mr. Lane in his letter. "The conditions as I found them in your state will be an inspiration I can carry back to Washington with me. Oregon is certainly well to the front in industrial work in the schools, and I shall be delighted to advertise this fact in the future upon all occasions."

Uniform Mileage is Topic.

Salem—The Railroad commission has two important matters which will be taken up in June. One is the question of a uniform mileage system. A conference will be held early in June with the passenger agents of all the railroads in the state, at the state house, and a system of interchangeable mileage books will be discussed. The other matter relates to log rates and is of much importance to the state at large. A hearing is scheduled to be held at Baker on June 19.

Central Oregon Road Improves.

Salem—A shipper in Union county has written to the Railroad commission to say that the Central Oregon railroad is providing better facilities for shippers at this time than at any previous time. The question was referred to the Railroad commission several weeks ago, the complaint being that while the company had plenty of switches and cars, it nevertheless crowded the sidings with full cars and neglected to give the shippers all the empties they required. The shippers are now apparently satisfied.