PRESIDENT WILSON'S MESSAGE TO FINAL SESSION OF 63RD CONGRESS

Washington, D. C.—President Wilson's message, delivered to congress Tuesday, is as follows:

Gentlemen of the Congress: The session upon which you are now entering will be the closing session of the 63d Congress, a Congress, I venture to say, which will long be remembered for the great body of thoughtful and constructive work which it has done, in loyal response to the thought and needs of the country. I should like in this address to review the notable record and try to make adequate assessment of it, but no doubt we stand too near the work that has been done and are ourselves too much part of it to play the part of historians toward it.

Moreover, our thoughts are now more of the future than of the past. While we have worked at our tasks of peace, the circumstances of the whole age have been altered by war.

New Tasks Are Faced.

What we have done for our own land and for our own people we did with the best that was in us, whether of character or of intelligence, with sober enthusiasm and a confidence in the principles upon which we were acting which sustained us at every step of the difficult undertaking, but it is done. It has passed from our hands. It is now an established part of the legislation of the country. Its usefulness, its effects, will disclose themselves in experience.

What chiefly strikes us now, as we look about us during these closing days of a year which will be forever memorable in the history of the world, is that we face new tasks, have been facing them these six months, must face them in the months to come—follow them without partisan feeling, like men who have forgotten everything but a common duty and the fact that we are representatives of a great people whose thought is not of us but of what America owes to herself and to all mankind in such circumstances as these upon which we look amazed and anxious.

Europe Will Need Our Help.

War has interrupted the means of trade not only but also the process of production. In Europe it is destroying men and resources wholesale and upon a scale unprecedented and appalling. There is reason to fear that the time is near, if it be not already at hand, when several of the countries of Europe will find it difficult to do for their people what they have hitherto been always easily able to do—many essential and fundamental things. At any rate, they will need our help and our manifold services as they have never needed them before, and we should be ready, more fit and ready than we have ever been.

It is of equal consequence that the Nations whom Europe has usually supplied with innumerable articles of manufacture and commerce, of which they are in constant need and without which their economic development halts and stands still, can now get only a small part of what they formerly imported and eagerly look to us to supply their all but empty markets.

New Markets Must Be Supplied.

This is particularly true of our own neighbors, the states, great and small, of Central and South America. Their lines of trade have hitherto run chiefly athwart the seas, not to our ports, but to the ports of Great Britain and of the older continent of Europe. I do not stop to inquire why, or to make any comment on probable causes. What interests us just now is not the explanation, but the fact and our duty and opportunity in the presence of it. Here are markets which we must supply and for which we must find the means of action. The United States, this great people for whom we speak and act, should be ready, as never before to serve itself and serve mankind; ready with its resources, its energies, its forces of production, and its means of distribution.

It is a practical matter, a matter of ways and means. We have the resources, but are we fully ready to use them? And if we can make ready what we have, have we the means at hand to distribute it? We are never fully ready; neither have we the means of distribution. We are willing, but we are not fully able. We have the wish to serve and to serve greatly, generously; but we are not prepared as we should be. We are not ready to mobilize our resources at once. We are not prepared to use them immediately and at their best, without delay and without waste.

Errors Must Be Corrected.

To speak plainly, we have grossly erred in the way in which we have stunted and hindered the development of our merchant marine. And now, when we need ships, we have not got them. We have year after year debated, without end or conclusion, the best policy to pursue with regard to the use of the ores and forests and waterpowers of our National domain in the rich states of the West, when we should have acted; and they are still locked up. The key is still turned upon them, the door shut fast at which thousands of vigorous men, full of initiative, knock clamorously for admittance. The waterpower of our navigable streams outside the National domain also, even in the Eastern states, where we have worked and planned for generations, is still not used as it might be, because we will and we won't; because the laws we have made do not intelligently balance encouragement against restraint. We withhold by regulation.

I have come to ask you to remedy and correct these mistakes and omissions, even at this short session of a Congres which would certainly seem to have done all the work that could reasonably be expected of it. The time and the circumstances are extraordinary, and so must our efforts be also.

Unlocking of Resources Urged.

Fortunately, two great measures, finely conceived, the one to unlock, with proper safeguards, the resources of the National domain, the other to encourage the use of the navigable waters outside that domain for generation of power, have already passed the House of Representatives and are ready for immediate consideration and action by the Senate. With the deepest earnestness I urge their prompt passage. In them both we turn our backs upon hesitation and makeshift and formulate a genuine policy of use and conservation, in the best sense of those words. We owe the one measure not only to the people of that great Western country for whose free and systematic development, as it seems to me, our legislation has done so little, but also to the people of the nation as a whole; and we as clearly owe the other in fulfillment of our repeated promises that the waterpower of the country should in fact as well as in name be put at the disposal of great industries which can make economical and profitable use of it, the rights of the public being adequately guarded the while, and monopoly in the use prevented.

To have begun such measures and not completed them would indeed mar the record of this great Congress very seriously. I hope and confidently believe that they will be completed.

And there is another great piece of legislation which awaits and should receive the sanction of the Senate. I mean the bill which gives a larger measure of self-government to the people of the Philippines. How better, in this time of anxious questioning and perplexed policy, could we show our confidence in the principles of liberty, as the source as well as the expression of life? How better could we demonstrate our own self-possession and steadfastness in the courses of justice and disinterestedness than by thus going calmly forward to fulfill our promises to a dependent people, who will now look more anxiously than ever to see whether we have indeed the liberality, the unselfishness, the courage, the faith we have boasted and professed? I cannot believe that the Senate will let this great measure of constructive justice await the action of another Congress. Its passage would nobly crown the record of these two years of memorable labor.

But I think you will agree with me that this does not complete the toll of our duty. How are we to carry our goods to the empty markets of which I have spoken if we have not the ships? How are we to build up a great trade if we have not the certain and constant means of transportation upon which all profitable and useful commerce depends? And how are we to get the ships if we wait for the trade to develop without them?

Flag Must Be Restored to Seas.

To correct the many mistakes by which we have discouraged and all but destroyed the merchant marine of the country, to retrace the steps by which we have, it seems almost deliberately, withdrawn our flag from the seas, except where, here and there, a ship of war is bidden carry it or some wandering yacht displays it, would take a long time and involve many detailed items of legislation, and the trade which we ought immediately to handle would disappear or find other channels while we debated the items.

The case is not unlike that which confronted us when our own continent was to be opened up to settlement and industry and we needed long lines of railway, extended means of transportation prepared beforehand, if development was not to lag intolerably and wait interminably. We lavishly subsidized the building of transcontinental railroads. We look back upon that with regret now, because the subsidies led to many scandals of which we are ashamed; but we know that the railroads had to be built, and if we had it to do over again we should, of course, build them, but in another way. Therefore I propose another way of providing the means of transportation, which must precede, not tardily follow, the development of our trade with our neighbor states of America. It may seem a reversal of the natural order of things, but it is true that the routes of trade must be actually opened—by many ships and regular sailings and moderate charges—before streams of merchandise will flow freely and profitably through them.

Shipping Bill Imperative.

Hence the pending shipping bill, discussed at the last session, but as yet passed by neither house. In my judgment such legislation is imperatively needed and cannot wisely be postponed. The Government must open these gates of trade and open them wide; open them before it is altogether profitable to open them, or altogether reasonable to ask private capital to open them at a venture. It is not a question of the Government monopolizing the field. It should take action to make it certain that transportation at reasonable rates will be promptly provided, even where the carriage is not at first profitable; and then, when the carriage has become sufficiently profitable to attract and engage private capital, and engage it in abundance, the Government ought to withdraw. I earnestly hope that the Congress will be of this opinion, and that both houses will adopt this exceedingly important bill.

Rural Credits Deferred.

The great subject of rural credits still remains to be dealt with, and it is a matter of deep regret that the difficulties of the subject have seemed to render it impossible to complete a bill for passage at this session. But it cannot be perfected yet, and therefore there are no other constructive measures the necessity for which I will at this time call your attention to, but I would be negligent of a manifest duty were I not to call the attention of the Senate to the fact that the proposed convention for safety at sea awaits its confirmation and that the limit fixed in the convention itself for its acceptance is the last day of the present month. The conference in which this convention originated was called by the United States; the representatives of the United States played a very influential part indeed in framing the provisions of the proposed convention, and those provisions are in themselves for the most part admirable.

It would hardly be consistent with the part we have played in the whole matter to let it drop and go by the board as if forgotten and neglected. It was ratified in May last by the German government and in August by the Parliament of Great Britain. It marks a most hopeful and decided advance in international civilization. We should show our earnest good faith in a great matter by adding our own acceptance of it.

Coasts Should Be Charted.

There is another matter of which I must make special mention, if I am to discharge my conscience, lest it should escape your attention. It may seem a small thing. It affects only a single item of appropriation. But many human lives and many great enterprises hang upon it. It is the matter of making adequate provision for the survey and charting of our coasts. It is immediate and exigent in connection with the immense coast line of Alaska, a coast line greater than that of the United States themselves, though it is also important, indeed, with regard to the older coasts of the continent. We cannot use our great Alaskan domain; ships will not ply thither if those coasts and their many hidden dangers are not thoroughly surveyed and charted. The work is incomplete at almost every point. Ships and lives have been lost in threading what were supposed to be well-known main channels. We have not provided adequate vessels or adequate machinery for the survey and charting. We have used old vessels that were not big enough or strong enough and which were so nearly unseaworthy that our inspectors would not have allowed private owners to send them to sea.

This is a matter which, as I have said, seems small, but is in reality very great. Its importance has only to be looked into to be appreciated.

Economy Is Enjoined.

Before I close may I say a few words upon two topics, much discussed out of doors, upon which it is highly important that our judgments should be clear, definite and steadfast?

One of these is economy in Government expenditures. The duty of economy is not debatable. It is manifest and imperative. In the appropriations we pass we are spending the money of the great people whose servants we are—not our own. We are trustees and responsible stewards in the spending. The only thing debatable and upon which we should be careful to make our thought and purpose clear is the kind of economy demanded of us. I assert with the greatest confidence that the people of the United States are not jealous of the amount their Government costs if they are sure that they get what they need and desire for the outlay, that the money is being spent for objects of which they approve and that it is being applied with good business sense and management.

Governments grow, piecemeal, both in their tasks and in the means by which those tasks and in the means by which those tasks are to be performed, and very few governments are organized, I venture to say, as wise and experienced business men would organize them if they had a clean sheet of paper to write upon. Certainly the Government of the United States is not. I think that it is generally agreed that there should be a systematic reorganization and reassembling of its parts so as to secure greater efficiency and effect considerable saving in expense. But the amount of money saved in that way would, I believe, though no doubt considerable in itself, running, it may be, into millions, be relatively small—small, I mean, in proportion to the total necessary outlays of the Government. It would be thoroughly worth effecting, as every saving would, great or small. Our duty is not altered by the scale of the saving.

Necessities Not Curtailed.

My point is that the people of the United States do not wish to curtail the activities of this Government; they wish, rather, to enlarge them; and with every enlargement, with the mere growth, indeed, of the country itself, there must come, of course, the inevitable increase of expense. The sort of economy we ought to practice may be effected, and ought to be effected, by a careful study and assessment of the tasks to be performed; and the money spent ought to be made to yield the best possible returns in efficiency and achievement. And, like good stewards, we should so account for every dollar of our appropriations as to make it perfectly evident what it was spent for and in what way it was spent.

It is not expenditure but extravagance that we should fear being criticised for; not paying for the legitimate enterprises and undertakings of a great government, whose people command what it should do, but adding what will benefit only a few or pouring money out for what need not have been undertaken at all or might have been postponed or better and more economically conceived and carried out. The Nation is not niggardly; it is very generous. It will chide us only if we forget for whom we pay money out and whose money it is we pay. They are large and general standards, but they are not very difficult of application to particular cases.

The other topic I shall take leave to mention goes deeper into the principles of our national life and policy. It is the subject of national defense.

It cannot be discussed without first answering some searching questions. It is said in some quarters that we are not prepared for war. What is meant by being prepared? Is it meant that we are not ready upon brief notice to put a nation in the field, a nation of men trained to arms? Of course, we are not ready to do that; and we shall never be in time of peace so long as we retain our present political principles and institutions. And what is it that it is suggested we should be prepared to do? To defend ourselves against attack? We have always found means to do that, and shall find them whenever it is necessary, without calling our people away from their necessary tasks to render compulsory military service in times of peace.

Allow me to speak with great plainness and directness upon this great matter and to avow my convictions with deep earnestness. I have tried to know what America is; what her people think, what they are, what they most cherish and hold dear. I hope that some of their finer passions are in my own heart—some of the great conceptions and desires which gave birth to this Government and which have made the voice of this people a voice for peace and hope and liberty among the peoples of the world, and that, speaking my own thoughts, I shall, at least in part, speak theirs also, however faintly and inadequately, upon this vital matter.

We are at peace with all the world. No one who speaks counsel based on fact or drawn from a just and candid interpretation of realities can say that there is reason to fear that from any quarter our independence or the integrity of our territory is threatened. Dread of the power of any other nation we are incapable of. We are not jealous of rivalry in the fields of commerce or of any other peaceful achievement. We mean to live our own lives as we will; but we mean also to let live. We are, indeed, a true friend to all the nations of the world, because we threaten none, covet the possessions of none, desire the overthrow of none. Our friendship can be accepted and is accepted without reservation, because it is offered in a spirit and for a purpose which no one need ever question or suspect. Therein lies our greatness. We are the champions of peace and of concord. And we should be jealous of this distinction which we have sought to earn. Just now we should be particularly jealous of it, because it is our dearest present hope that this character and reputation may presently, in God's providence, bring us an opportunity such as has seldom been vouchsafed any nation, the opportunity to counsel and obtain peace in the world and reconciliation and a healing settlement of many a matter that has cooled and interrupted the friendship of nations. This is the time above all others when we should wish and resolve to keep our strength by self-possession, our influence by preserving our ancient principles of action.

From the first we have had a clear and settled policy with regard to military establishments. We never have had, and while we retain our present principles and ideals we never shall have, a large standing army. If asked, are you ready to defend yourselves, de reply, most assuredly, to the utmost; and yet we shall not turn America into a military camp. We will not ask our young men to spend the best years of their lives making soldiers of themselves. There is another sort of energy in us. It will know how to declare itself and make itself effective should occasion arise. And especially when half the world is on fire we shall be careful to make our moral insurance against the spread of the conflagration very definite and certain and adequate indeed.

Let us remind ourselves, therefore, of the only thing we can do or will do. We must depend in every time of national peril, in the future as in the past, not upon a standing army, not yet upon a reserve army, but upon a citizenry trained and accustomed to arms. It will be right enough, right American policy, based upon our accustomed principles and practices, to provide a system by which every citizen who will volunteer for the training may be made familiar with the use of modern arms, the rudiments of drill and maneuver and the maintenance and sanitation of camps. We should encourage such training and make it a meaons of discipline which our young men will learn to value.

A powerful navy we have always regarded as our proper and natural means of defense; and it has always been a defense that we have thought, never of aggression or of conquest. But who shall tell us now what sort of navy to build? We shall take leave to be strong upon the seas, in the future as in the past; and there will be no thought of offense or of provocation in that. Our ships are our natural bulwarks. When will the experts tell us just what kind we should construct—and when will they be right for 10 years together if the relative efficiency of craft of different kinds and uses continues to change as we have seen it change under our very eyes in these last few months?

But I turn away from the subject. It is not new. There is no new need to discuss it. We shall not alter our attitude toward it because some amongst us are nervous and excited. We shall easily and sensibly agree upon a policy of defense. The question has not changed its aspects because the times are not normal. Our policy will not be for an occasion. It will be conceived as a permanent and settled thing, which we will pursue at all seasons, without haste and after a fashion perfectly consistent with the peace of the world, the abiding friendship of states and the unhampered freedom of all with whom we deal. Let there be no misconception. The country has been misinformed. We have not been negligent of National defense. We are not unmindful of the great responsibility resting upon us. We shall learn and profit by the lesson of every experience and every new circumstance, and what is needed will be adequately done.

I close, as I began, by reminding you of the great tasks and duties of peace which challenge our best powers and invite us to build what will last, the tasks to which we can address ourselves now and at all times with free-hearted zest and with all the finest gifts of constructive wisdom we possess. To develop our life and our resources, to supply our own people, and the people of the world as their need arises from the abundant plenty of our fields and our marts of trade; to enrich the commerce of our states and of the world with the products of our mines, our farms and our factories, with the creations of our thought and the fruits of our character—this is what will hold our attention and our enthusiasm steadily, now and in the years to come, as we strive to show in our life as a Nation what liberty and the inspirations of an emancipated spirit may do for men and for societies, for individuals, for states and for mankind.

Turks Forced by U. S. to Keep Own Peace

London — The Chronicle has published a letter from Athens praising the activity of the American ambassador, Henry Morgenthau, in Constantinople on the night of November 1, when the English colony was not allowed to leave the city.

The action of the Turks caused a panic among the British refugees, but the American ambassador assured them he would endeavor to get them away next day. The refugees passed a terrible night of anxiety and besides the police were harsh and brutal.

The sights he saw made Ambassador Morgenthau determine to make the Turks respect his wishes. He formally advised the Turkish government that unless the British colony was allowed to depart he would demand his passports and take them all as his private guests on his special train.

The Turks, the letter says, had no desire to fight the United States as well as the allies, so they gave in, but took revenge by assessing the refugees an arbitrary and illegal tax of from $5 to $100 each. The next day the colony assembled at the station. Ambassador Morgenthau was there and personally supervised all the smallest details of the departure, even distributing candy to the children before the train left.

Words can hardly express the gratitude due him, the letter concludes.

Purchase Loan Floated.

New York—The banking house of Kuhn, Loeb & Co. and the National City bank announced the joint purchase of $5,000,000 worth of two-year six per cent Swedish treasury notes, which will be publicly offered at par and accrued interest. The proceeds of the loan, which is the first to be negotiated in the United States by a neutral European nation since the beginning of the war, will be used to buy "various commodities" in this country. The loan was regarded as the forerunner of other loans.

Denmark Here to Trade.

New York—Denmark's export and import trade with Germany which has been partially destroyed by the war will be turned to the United States, according to Eigel Hallager, a merchant of Copenhagen, who arrived here on the steamship Frederick VIII.

Mr. Hallager said he came to this country for the purpose of making extensive purchases of goods for export and to find a market for gloves, $8,000,000 worth of which Germany annually purchased in Denmark prior to the war.

Loraine Hit by Shrapnel.

London—The following account of the wounds sustained by Robert Loraine, the actor-aviator, recently, while fighting at the front, has been received from a military surgeon:

"One of my latest patients is the aviator-actor Loraine. He was out making a sketch of the enemy's position, when a shrapnel bullet hit him below the shoulder blade, traversed a lung and came out below the collar bone in front. He was in bad condition when he entered the hospital, but is doing well now."

London—"Ostend is reported to be on fire," says the Daily Chronicle, in a dispatch from Dunkirk. "It is believed that the conflagration was caused either by a British bombardment or German incendiaries."

NEWS NOTES OF CURRENT WEEK

Resume of World's Important Events Told in Brief.

The strike in the Colorado coal fields has been called off.

Russians claim defeat of Turks in fierce battle near Batum.

William W. Rockhill, a distinguished American diplomat dies at Honolulu.

Fully 70,000 starving Belgians in Brussels are depending entirely on American aid.

Army and navy officials insist that United States artillery and warships are equal to the best.

General Funston, recently in command at Vera Cruz, is visiting his aged mother at Iola, Kan.

Oil ship's crew of 36 was burned to death when it was necessary to run the vessel ashore off the coast of England.

The chief of the army engineers having the work in charge urges haste in extending the Columbia river jetties.

The Panama government has agreed with the United States the boundary line separating the canal zone and that country.

The German ambassador at Washington charges that dumdum bullets are being used by the allies, and claims he can name the factories making them.

Mayor Albee, of Portland, has established a scholarship in honor of his son who was killed recently, and who was a student of the high school. The fund begins with $1,000.

Brigadier General Christian Frederick Beyers, one of the leaders of the rebellion in the Union of South Africa, has been shot, it is officially announced. He is believed to be dead.

The steamer Rochambeau, of the French line, on which Myron T. Herrick, ex-ambassador to France, is a passenger, reached New York after dark Wednesday and anchored at quarantine for the night. She was a day late, having been delayed by a storm.

A dispatch to the London Daily Mail from Rotterdam says that a bombardment of the Belgian coast between Ostend and Nieuport by ships of the allies began at 3 o'clock Tuesday. The fleet was operating in conjunction with the land forces.

It is announced in London that the government would permit exportation to the United States of Australian Merino wool bought during the present sales or at other times, provided satisfactory guarantees were furnished that the wool would not be forwarded to hostile countries.

A correspondent says: "The German divisional headquarters was removed from Rouliers when shells began to fall in the town after the British had recaptured Passchendaele, 11 miles northeast of Ypres. This indicates a distinct and important advance by the allies.

Arizona liquor men are preparing to make a determined legal fight against prohibition.

The Italian premier advises a policy of armed neutrality, with "just aspirations" in mind.

Zapata soldiers, many poorly clad and barefooted, are keeping perfect order in Mexico City.

Ex-Senator Patterson blames Governor Ammons, of Colorado, for the labor troubles in that state.

German Socialists express regret that their representative in the reichstag voted against the war credit.

Many families in Alsace are divided by the war, brothers fighting against brothers and fathers against their sons.

Servian losses since the beginning of the war are said to amount to 100,000, or one-third her military strength.

Prominent Russian economists advocate an income tax to replace the revenue lost by prohibition in that country.

Arabs reported to be threatening the Suez canal are believed to have retired and the canal seems in no danger from that source.

David Lamar was found guilty of impersonating Congressman Palmer, of Pennsylvania, for the purpose of defrauding J. P. Morgan & Co. and the United States Steel corporation, and was sentenced to two years in the penitentiary.

Official reports from Petrograd confirm previous dispatches to the effect that one and a half German army corps, about 60,000 men, were surrounded by Russians, but succeeded in cutting their way out after enormous losses, many of their trenches being found piled with dead six deep.

Japan annnounces that a very small amount of booty was captured at the fall of Tsing Tau, all ships in the harbor having been destroyed by the Germans.

Statistics compiled by the department of commerce seem to bear out the claim that the Underwood tariff, not the European war, is mainly responsible for the war tax.

An American who was recently in Berlin says the German people are inclined to expect ultimate defeat, but have not the slightest thought of anything but a fight to the finish.

So many reservists have returned from the United States to aid Austria that commands in many armies of that country are given in English.

German forces attempted to cross the flooded districts along the Yser river on huge rafts, but were discovered at daylight and repulsed by a terrific artillery fire from the allies.

When the Germans invaded the wine districts of France they spared the grape crop, thinking to harvest it themselves, but now that they have been driven out, the French are harvesting the best crop in years.

The Governor's Lady

A Novelization of Alice Bradley's Play

By GERTRUDE STEVENSON

Illustrations from Photographs of the Stage Production

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SYNOPSIS.

Daniel Slade, suddenly advances from a penniless miner to a millionaire. He is ambitious to become governor of the state. His simple, home-loving wife fails to rise to the new conditions. Slade meets Katherine, daughter of Senator Strickland, and sees in her all that Mary is not. He separates from his wife and takes rooms at his club. Editor Merritt, who has been attacking Slade, is won over to the latter's support because he cannot otherwise supply the money demanded for a European trip for Mrs. Merritt. Katherine agrees to marry Slade when he is free. Bob Hayes, in love with Katherine, has a stormy session with her over her affair with Slade. Mary, anxious to make it up with Slade, appears at Strickland's house during a political conference. Slade informs her that separation is final. Mary declares that she will fight a divorce. She returns to the little cottage where they started out in married life.

CHAPTER IX—Continued.

Conscious of the song, Mary remembered the lamb stew that she had left cooking on the kitchen fire. Dan had always loved lamb stew; that is, her lamb stew. She remembered how heartily he always ate of it, how he never failed to pass his plate for a second "helpinig," and how he used to look up at her and say:

"This is lapping good, Mary. I think I will have a bit more."

Just as if he needed any urging!

Mary found her thoughts growing very tender when she suddenly remembered that tonight she must sit down alone at the table, that instead of two she would only serve one plateful of that stew. Her heart contracted with a pathetic, futile longing for things as "they used to be," and grew bitter as she remembered conditions as they were. She sat with her face pillowed on her arms, so absorbed in her unhappy reflections that she didn't hear the door open, didn't hear a step until someone leaned over and kissed her tenderly on the faded cheek that Dan used to pat so lovingly and declare was lovelier than their garden roses.

"Oh, Rob!" Mary exclaimed, starting up in glad surprise. "I didn't hear you drive up."

"I didn't," Bob laughed, good-naturedly. "My car is stranded two blocks back," and he threw his linen duster on the sofa as Mary hastened in her fond little way to take his hand and hover about him.

"It's strange how near town this place seems to be," Bob rattled on. "When we lived here before it was clear out in the country, but with a motor car it's right next door to town."

"Well, aunty," and he stretched himself out in an easy chair, "I suppose it's like heaven to you to get back here to the old home you lived in so many years?"

"Yes," Mary agreed, rather indifferently.

"Any of the old neighbors left, I'd like to see them—some of 'em."

"I never noticed before how many questions old neighbors could ask, Rob," Mary sighed, as she recounted the curious visits of her old friends, who had inquired anxiously and repeatedly for Mr. Slade, how he was getting on, and when he would be down, and a dozen other questions in the phraseology of people who, as old friends, take the liberty of coming as near as possible to demanding that you unburden your soul to them on the spot. "You'll kind of have to dodge 'em, Bob. I don't know when I've lied so. What do you think of a man who forces a woman to lie?"

Bob Hayes.

"Well," Hayes hated the old subject, hated the thought of Mary dwelling continually on her unhappiness. "Didn't they know about Slade?" and he began to toy with the spools of thread that Mary had been using for the inevitable sewing that had so annoyed her husband.

"Either they don't know or they want to find out more than they already know," Mary answered, wearily. "So I sit here lying and lying."

"You intend to stick it out and stay here?"

"Yes," Mary answered with a quiet determination.

"Well, he can't call this desertion," Hayes went on. "You own this house together. It's your home as well as his."

"Yes," agreed Mary, "but it's awful fighting my husband. What's the matter with you, Bob? You used to tell me a lot about Miss Strickland, and lately you—have you had any trouble?" she asked, kindly, forgetting her own sorrow at the thought of the possible unhappiness of this young man whom she loved as tenderly as if he had been her own son.

"Don't let us talk about her," Bob objected.

"All right, Robert." Mary attempted to be cheery as she saw how abstracted and dejected Bob was. "Dinner will be ready in a minute and you can sit right down."

"I won't give in to him!" she declared as she put on an extra plate and knife and fork. "I'll never give him that divorce."

"Don't you ever think of anything else?" Hayes questioned, soberly.

"No; it's no use, Robert; I get hot and cold hating my husband when I think how he is treating me. I know it's wrong, but I do! Sometimes when I wake up suddenly in the night and see the old room and remember that he's living at his club and enjoying life and me here miserable, I just get sick hating him."

"Now, auntie"—Hayes was anxious to divert her attention—"I wouldn't think of that. You have the best of him. You've got him beaten. I have a good lawyer for you, and he'll be out to see you today. You know I'd take the case myself, but it wouldn't be professional. You've positively made up your mind to fight the divorce to a finish?"

"Tooth and nail!" Mary's answer came through set teeth.

"Then you've got him. He can't fight a woman in the courts in his position, with his nomination before him."

"I've got him, have I?" Mary was all eagerness now.

"You're sure of it? Was he very mad about my coming here? Has my lawyer seen his lawyer?"

Hayes answered the last of her many questions first. "They met today."

"Did you get me two lawyers, Rob?"

"Yes, I got two. I got a whole firm."

"Do you think I need another—so's to be sure?"

Hayes laughed.

"You have all you need, auntie."

"Thank God, I got the telephone in so they can call me up." Mary was almost feverish in her excitement. "I couldn't go on the witness stand. He doesn't know that, though. Any signs of Dan going back to the house, now I'm out of it?"

The bell that never hesitates to interrupt at any moment rang insistently. Mary jumped about in her excitement and finally took down the receiver. She dropped it as hastily and backed away.

"You'd better answer it, Rob."

"It's Slade," Bob declared, holding his hand over the transmitter. "He wants to talk to you."

"No, siree!" Mary was vehement. "Cut him off! I ain't going to talk to him. I've got two lawyers. Tell him to have his lawyer talk to mine. My heart's so hard against him—I couldn't listen to the sound of my own voice," and she sank weakly into a chair as Hayes continued to converse with Slade. "No, she says not," he was saying. "No, I am not out here winding her up or advising her," and he banged up the receiver.

"What'd he say?" Mary was wringing her hands in her uncontrollable excitement.

"Oh, he just called me a skunk and cut off," answered Hayes, as he nonchalantly lighted a cigarette. He paced up and down the room for a moment and then turned on her:

"God! I'd like to haul him through every court in the country. The scoundrel!"

"I don't like to hear you talk like that about him, Rob," Mary remonstrated. "He's been a pretty good friend to you."

"Well, perhaps." Hayes tried to calm herself for her sake. "He's all right, I suppose."

"I dunno that he is." Mary's mood was variable. "When I think of that divorce—"

"Slade's coming down here today, aunty. He declares you're here under his very eyes, and he's determined that you shall go away, and desert him and give him the opportunity to divorce you. He says the whole country will know of the trouble unless you go away. That's what he said over the phone."

"Well, I'll stay right here. I can't get over it, Rob," and her voice quivered in spite of herself. "I can't get over the suddenness of it; his wanting that divorce happened just like that," and she snapped her fingers to illustrate her meaning. "Before that he never thought of it. It's curious," she paused, thoughtfully; "do you know that sometimes when I get to thinking about it—I—something comes over me, an idea that—shut that outside door, Rob," she commanded before she would continue. "I wonder if there isn't—I declare I'm ashamed to say it—but I wonder if it could be possible that there's—some woman," she finally managed to get the word out.

"Auntie!" It was not necessary for Hayes to feign surprise, for, although he knew the situation, he had been confident that such a thought had never entered Mary Slade's pure-minded thoughts.

The pent-up emotion of days broke, and Mary sank sobbing into a chair, burying her face in her hands. With the expression of the thought that heretofore she had never admitted even to herself, her self-control vanished and she cried out desperately:

"Well, what do you think he wanted that divorce for so suddenly?"

"People usually do get divorced when they can't get on, don't they?" Hayes was willing to lie to shield her from the knowledge that he knew would be the bitterest part of all the wormwood that she had already tasted.

"Sometimes I wonder," Mary continued, reflectively, "sometimes I'm almost positive that—No! Slade isn't that sort of a man. My husband isn't that sort of a man, Rob."

"No, of course he isn't."

"You didn't know what I was going to say," she objected.

"Yes, I did. About women."

"He never noticed any other woman," she told herself positively.

"No," Hayes agreed.

"You haven't heard of anything like that, have you?" she questioned.

"No, no, I haven't." Hayes was finding the cross-examination extremely trying, convinced as he was that Mary must be saved from the knowledge of Katherine at any cost. "If there were anything, you'd hear it. Don't worry."

"Robert," and she looked at him intently. "Would you tell me if—"

"No. I would not!" asserted Hayes vigorously. "Haven't you got enough trouble now?"

"But, Robert, you are my friend, aren't you? You ought to—"

He was saved from any further questions along that unwelcome line

"You Are Going to Oppose the Divorce?"

by the sound of the doorbell and a moment later Merritt opened the door without ceremony.

"Well!" Hayes was far from cordial.

"I beg your pardon for entering so abruptly." Merritt was the same old talkative, suave, good-fellow, I'm-your-friend-Merritt, "but I was bound to see Mrs. Slade. I'm for the Slade family—but I'm for all the Slade family, so I hope you won't make a stranger of me."

Mary was politely indifferent and Hayes, with back turned, was tapping his foot uneasily on the floor. Altogether not the warmest welcome a man ever received.

"This man is likely to publish anything you may say, auntie," Hayes warned over his shoulder.

"Oh, come now, Hayes," objected Merritt. "I'm here on a perfectly friendly visit. I well remember this little place," and he looked about. "I stopped here some years ago and Mr. Slade brought us a drink of water. Slade was in his shirtsleeves, I remember. Big man, Slade!" and he eyed Mrs. Slade inquiringly. "Big man!" he exclaimed again as Mary remained silent, her features giving no clew to her feelings.

"Well, my wife has gone off to Europe on a long-extended tour." Merritt was determined to make conversation if he had to do it alone. "I'm quite alone. In fact, we're in the same boat—alone."

"I'm not," Hayes burst forth. "Thank God, I've got my troubles, but I'm not married, so I'm not quite alone."

Merritt laughed good-naturedly, glad at any kind of response.

"Pardon me, Hayes," he cleared his throat nervously. "I'd like to talk with Mrs. Slade."

"Oh, all right," and with his hands thrust into his pockets, Hayes strolled leisurely into the kitchen.

"My dear little woman," Merritt began in his most engaging manner, as soon as Hayes had left the room. "You have my deepest sympathy and most profound respect. Your position is touching, if you'll excuse me for saying it. I can see your side of it, too. Now the point is this: A week ago when you called at the senator's house, Slade had just said you were going East to live permanently. I must say very few women—very few—would do as much for a man. For instance, Mrs. Merritt, I know, wouldn't. I needn't tell you that the whole community will admire you for your reserved dignity—if you go, Mrs. Slade."

"I'm not going," Mary's voice was ominously quiet.

"You're going to oppose the divorce?"

"Yes," came the soft answer.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Our National Capitals.

The capital of the United States has been located at different times at the following places: At Philadelphia, from September 5, 1774, to December, 1776; at Baltimore, December 20, 1776, to March, 1777; Philadelphia, March 4, 1777, to September, 1777; Lancaster, Pa., September 27, 1777, to September 30, 1777; York Pa., September 30, 1777, to July, 1778; Philadelphia, July 2, 1778, to June 30, 1783; Princeton, N. J., June 30, 1783, to November 20, 1783; Annapolis, Md., November 26, 1783, to November 30, 1784; Trenton, N. J., from November 23, 1784, to January, 1785; New York, January 11, 1785, to 1790.

Then the seat of government was removed to Philadelphia, where it remained until 1800, since which time it has been in Washington.