

# Bound by a Spell

CHAPTER XIII.

It was the day that I was to visit Clara. I woke with the dawn. For the first time in my life, I took pains with my toilet. I carefully brushed my hair in different ways, trying which was the more becoming. But with all my pains, I cut but a very sorry figure.

"Dear me, how spruce you look this morning!" said Martha, as I came down to breakfast. "And quite elated, too!"

Before 10 o'clock I was in the neighborhood of her house. It was too early to go there yet; so I lingered about for a time. How very awkward it was that I had no knowledge of her name! I had quite forgotten to ask it. As the time drew near I began to feel nervous. A church clock struck eleven as I timidly knocked at the door. I was answered by a stout, good tempered looking old lady.

"You have a young lady staying here," I began, in a hesitating tone.

"Oh, you are the young man that Miss Clara expects, I suppose." Saying which, the old lady deliberately drew a pair of spectacles out of her pocket, and adjusting them, carefully scrutinized me. My appearance seemed to satisfy her, for she said, in a more friendly tone, "Walk in, young man; Miss Clara will be with you directly."

She showed me into a neat little parlor. Upon the table were several water-colored drawings, some finished, some unfinished; also some Berlin wool work. Bouquets of flowers were everywhere; upon the table amidst the work, upon the mantelpiece in two vases, upon a little stand facing the window, and upon the cottage piano that stood in a corner. The air was loaded with their perfume. In a few moments the door opened and Clara came into the room.

"You have come, then," she said, with her sweet, melancholy smile.

As if aught but death or imprisonment could have kept me away!

She painted water-color pictures, and did Berlin wool work for the shops, she told me. She sat down at once and began her work, and I waited upon her, washed her brushes, ground her colors, adjusted the blind, and between these little offices I watched her busy fingers; but often my eyes were upon her face, gravely its every lineament upon my memory. Never have I looked upon another face so spiritually beautiful. It was one of those heads that the old Italian painters loved to give to their Angels and Madonnas, so perfectly serene, so utterly free from human passions. The fair wavy hair, untrammelled by art; the oval face, neither full, nor thin, but perfectly smooth; the low forehead; the blue eyes; the straight Grecian nose; the small mouth; the swelling, gracefully arched neck; the skin so delicately white, tinted upon the cheeks with the faintest carnation. Her figure was of about the middle height, exquisitely graceful, yet painfully fragile. She wore a black dress, made high to the neck, with a small, plain white collar.

We talked very little; she was too busy with her work, and silence was more congenial with our mood.

At 3 o'clock Mrs. Wilson called us to dinner, which we took in a breakfast parlor below. The old lady was very chatty and very curious, and asked me a great number of indirect questions; those I did not care to answer I contrived pretty skillfully to evade.

"You must excuse my questions, sir," she said; "but although Miss Clara is no relation of mine, and, indeed, I know nothing about her, still I feel as much interested in her as though she were my own child; she is so innocent, and knows so little about the world, that it's quite necessary that she should have some one to look after her. Now, you are the first visitor that she has ever had, and she has lived with me these two years. But, when she came home last night she told me that she had met an old acquaintance who was coming to see her; that he had come to the city in search of employment, and had no friends nor acquaintances, and was so dreadfully miserable that it made her quite unhappy to see him. At first, I set my face against it, but she soon coaxed me over, and I compromised the matter by saying that you should come this once, but that if I did not approve of you, it was to be the first and the last visit. But I must say you seem a very nice, quiet, modest sort of young gentleman. And what kind of employment might you be seeking?"

I told her I had been usher at a school, but that at present I was doing copying. I did not say of what kind. The old lady remarked that an usher's was a very genteel sort of employment. Altogether she seemed very well satisfied with me.

In the evening Mrs. Wilson brought her sewing up into the parlor, and proposed that I should read to them. And so the evening glided on, oh, so rapidly, until I could no longer see in the darkening twilight, and then we all sat near the window; Mrs. Wilson chatting, I and Clara silent. She gazing into the street, with that absent look so common to her; I watching every motion of her face, as it grew more and more indistinct in the deepening shadows. Lights were brought, and then we went down to supper, and then it was time to go.

"You will come and see me again, won't you?" she said, as she gave me her hand at the gate.

I wanted no pressing, and arranged that I would come again on Monday. She wished me good night, and went in and closed the door, and the day was ended—the day whose blissful memories will never fade from my heart.

That day was the precursor of many like ones, until, in a short time, I could perceive that she looked forward to my coming with expectancy, and that my presence had become a thing almost necessary to her. She looked for me to hand her the painting materials, to grind the colors, to select her skeins of wool, to sit at her feet and read to her some pleasant book; while, between the lights, she would sit at the piano and improvise strange, weird, plaintive melodies.

It was a strange communion, ours. In it we lived only in the present moment. We never spoke of a past or of a future, for we wished to be happy; and, to both, the past was hideous, the fu-

ture ominous. Thus I knew nothing of her past life, nor did I wish to know. Like her, I did not wish the happiness of the present to be marred by one painful image.

She had lived with Mrs. Wilson above two years, yet even she knew nothing of her life for a single day before she came to her. "I have always had good references before I would take any one into my house," said the old lady, "especially young ladies without friends; but she said she could give me none, and she looked so innocent and good that I took a fancy to her upon the spot; and I have never had cause to regret it, for a dearer, purer creature never entered a house, and I feel for her quite as if she was my own child. But I must say that I do feel curious about her, and often think what a mystery she is. She is so strange at times, and so unlike any other young lady I ever met."

With my old reticence, I told Martha no word of Clara. I hugged my secret with selfish tenacity, as something too precious to be shared. She wondered at my unaccountable absence, and I think felt hurt that I did not confide in her. She frequently remarked upon my changed appearance.

"I do declare," she used to say, "that I never saw any one so altered for the best as you are, Master Silas! Why, you've got to look quite handsome lately!"

In the meantime I was not idle. Mr. Montgomery brought me more copying to do, and in order that my visits might not interfere with my work, I frequently sat up all night writing. My expenses were very small, and even with the little I earned, I contrived to cover them. What more could I desire? I was more than happy, for I was living in an ideal world.

CHAPTER XIV.

One day Mr. Montgomery invited me to pay a visit to the Royal Corinthian Theater. There had been a time when no proposition could have been so delightful to me; but since those days I had soared into higher regions of idealism than the theater could represent. Nevertheless, I accepted the invitation, and one evening I accompanied him and Josiah.

While I was standing in the side scenes, looking at the play, some strangers came through a private door that led from the boxes. They were gentlemen, dressed in full evening costume. After a casual glance I again gave my attention to the stage. Presently I heard a voice close behind me, whose tones sounded familiar in my ears. Turning round, I saw one of the gentlemen talking to an actress. In an instant I recognized Mr. Rodwell. It was a shock, in which, for an instant, I forgot the stage and everything about me. I averted my head, and dared not move lest he should recognize me. But I soon began to think how improbable this was that he would do so in such a situation, and with my altered appearance.

I screwed up my courage, and turned round to leave the spot, when, just as I was brushing past the object of my fears, adverse fortune brought Josiah Cook across my path.

"Hello, Silas, old fellow, how are you enjoying yourself?" he cried, as he passed me.

Instinctively I cast a glance upon Mr. Rodwell. I saw him start and look me full in the face. A row of gaslights leaning against the side scene glared full upon us both. His gaze dwelt upon me for an instant, but he gave no sign of recognition, and went on talking as before. I fondly hoped that he did not remember me.

Quick on the heels of Josiah followed Mr. Montgomery. He nodded to me, and was passing on when, observing Mr. Rodwell, he stopped suddenly, stared at him for a moment, then, clapping his hand upon his shoulder, cried in a familiar tone, "How do you do, Mr. Rodwell?"

He was dressed as an old man, wore a wig, and was otherwise disguised. The gentleman whom he addressed honored him with a haughty stare.

"It is some time since we have met, and I suppose you do not remember 'the Professor' in this dress?"

Mr. Rodwell looked disconcerted at this recollection.

"I certainly did not remember you," he said, coldly.

I did not hear more of what passed between them, and should not have heard this had not my passage been blocked for a moment by a change of scene. I was only too glad to get away from the vicinity as soon as I could make my escape.

All enjoyment was over for that evening, and I would have chosen rather to have gone home at once; but as I had accompanied my fellow lodgers to the theater, I thought it would appear strange to leave without them. So, having obtained permission, I went into the pit to witness the rest of the performance. I did not see anything more of Mr. Rodwell that night, but I could not shake off a feeling of depression, and a presentiment that this meeting boded me some ill.

I waited at the stage door until my companions were dressed. But instead of immediately wending their way homeward, they expressed an intention of adjourning to a public house, and insisted upon my accompanying them. I had never been in such a place before, and the noise and smoke quite mazed me.

Mr. Montgomery called for supper, and threw down a coin.

"Hello!" cried Josiah, staring in blank astonishment; "have you been robbing a bank?"

"No; I have only been bleeding a friend," was the answer.

I soon began to very heartily wish that I had gone home by myself. Mr. Montgomery insisted upon drinking; and that, together with the atmosphere I was inhaling, quickly affected my brain.

When we reached Backstraw's buildings they would not permit me to go to my own lodgings. I must go into Mrs. Jennings' and spend half an hour with them.

"You don't smoke, Silas?" he said to

me. "Oh, you should! It soothes the brain, it lulls remorse. Tobacco is the modern Lethargy; at all events, it does not obliterate old memories. It renders you indifferent to them, which is much the same thing. I suppose you have no phantoms to fumigate. You are still wandering in the happy regions of innocence"—this with a sneer. "I had strayed very far wide of them long before I was your age. At twenty I was a gay, dashing spark. At three-and-twenty I was forbidden my father's house, thanks to a woman—a praverful woman, too, that was always reading religious books, and never happy out of a chapel; a woman with a heart of flint. All my sins lie at her door; a wild youth might have been succeeded by a reputable manhood, but for her."

While he spoke his face became convulsed with passion. As the paroxysm increased, the foam bubbled from his mouth, and he launched forth into the most frightful imprecations.

"I say, old fellow, don't go on in this awful manner," said Josiah, who, as well as myself, looked rather alarmed at his time. "Come, tell us of some adventures of your past life that are so jolly amusing. Silas, here, has never heard any of them. You'd like to hear some, wouldn't you?" he added, winking hard at me.

At that moment I should have much preferred to go to bed, but I did not dare to say so; expressing, instead, a great desire to hear anything Mr. Montgomery chose to relate.

"Don't be frightened," he said, wiping the perspiration from his face, and growing calm under this judicious flattery. "I am not likely to harm you, or anybody else except her. But when I think of all she has made me go through, and not only me, but—Well, if I were to think of that long, I should go mad in earnest."

He went on smoking his pipe in silence for a time, seemingly lost in thought.

"I wonder if I were to write my life, if I could get any bookseller to publish it? It would indeed be a marvellous story. But I don't believe that half the people would credit it. I could write half a dozen sensation novels without inventing a single incident; but, then, novel readers would cry, 'They are so far-fetched!' A man who began life as a gentleman, and who, for a matter of twenty years, has passed through every phase of vagabondism, must have some strange stories to tell."

"Of course he must," said Josiah, again winking at me. "I have often wondered that you have not set about publishing your reminiscences, or your autobiography, or something of that sort. But it isn't too late, you know. But come, now, give us one of your regular starters; we are all attention."

(To be continued.)

### EGYPTIANS BEAT HARVEY.

Circulation of the Blood Known to Their Doctors 5,000 Years Ago.

The Harveian oration at the Royal College of Physicians, London, was delivered this year by Dr. Richard Caton, F. R. C. P.—In the course of his remarks he said that Harvey was almost anticipated 5,000 years ago by the priest-doctors of Egypt in his momentous discovery of the circulation of the blood.

As far back as 4000 B. C. Egypt had works on medicine and anatomy, and one brilliant genius—forgotten nowadays and omitted from the cyclopedias—I-em-hotep, priest of the sun god Ra, and physician to King Torsothos, became so eminent that he was revered as a demigod after death, a temple was built over his tomb, and in his honor hospitals were raised in Memphis and other cities. Here the priest-physicians treated the sick and embalmed the bodies of men and sacred animals.

These were probably, Dr. Caton thinks, the first of mankind to acquire a rudimentary knowledge of the movement of the blood. Their papyrus contain intelligent references to the heart, the blood vessels and the pulse. Of the heart in particular they knew much, and their writings refer to its enlargement, fatty degeneration, displacement, palpitation and pericardial effusion. One remarkable passage of these old-world inquirers speaks of distension of the heart and shortness of breath as occurring because the blood has stagnated and does not circulate properly.

Not Greece, therefore, but Egypt, long before Galen and Hippocrates, was the motherland of rational medicine and anatomy. The views of the Greeks on the circulation of the blood were almost exactly those which the Egyptians had taught many centuries earlier.

On one remarkable means of treatment for incipient valvular disease of the heart which these long-forgotten Nile doctors taught Dr. Caton laid great stress. It was the method recommended at least 4,000 years ago to let the heart have as much rest as possible—a wise injunction, said the Harveian orator, which we may yet practice with advantage. I-em-hotep seems to have been an all-round genius—physician, architect, astronomer, alchemist—so illustrious that after death he was reputed the son of the supreme deity, Ptah—all this and yet nearly lost to fame.

Soporific.

"Yes, I picked up his book last night and I never budged out of my chair until 4 o'clock this morning."

"Goodness! Was it that interesting?"

"No, but I didn't wake up until that time."—Philadelphia Press.

Feminine Way.

"Have you read that new novel everybody is talking about?" asked the first dear girl.

"Only the last chapter," replied dear girl the second. "I wonder how it begins."

Emil Manicus, the Nestor of Danish Journalists, is dead at 81. He was expelled from Schleswig in 1864 by the Germans.

## GOES TO HIS DOOM

### Prince Yaslitichkoff Murdered in Warsaw by Terrorists.

## NEXT IN LINE FLEES THE LAND

### Two Other Brutal Officials Have Been Warned—Troops Fire on Workmen, Killing Several.

London, Feb. 25.—The Warsaw correspondent of the London Morning Leader wires that Prince Yaslitichkoff has been murdered. The prince, who has won for himself great hatred because of his active work against the students and strikers of Warsaw in his capacity of head of the military, was labeled No. 2 on the list of assassinations drawn up by the revolutionists, says the correspondent. The dispatch adds:

"Count Friedrietzki, the brutal Hussar officer, who was No. 3 on the list, on receiving his death warrant from the terrorists, bolted the country."

"General Novosilleff, No. 4 on the list, has drawn the death penalty on himself by his recent order for the arrest of the officers who refused to fire on women."

"Baron Nolken, chief of the Warsaw police, is No. 5 on the death list. He received word that in a day or two he would find his proper release in hell."

The correspondent also reports further disorders in Warsaw Friday afternoon. Troops, he says, fired on 400 workmen who were about to resume work at the Vistula railroad workshops. Five of the workmen were killed and 20 wounded.

### PROVISIONS OF CANAL BILL.

#### President to Appoint Governor of the Zone—Commission Not Abolished

Washington, Feb. 25.—The bill for the government of the Panama canal zone, which has passed the senate, is a house bill. It was amended in several important respects by the senate, notably in eliminating the provision abolishing the canal commission. The measure will now go to conference if the amendments are not accepted by the house. The bill is temporary in character, its provisions expiring at the end of the first regular session of the next congress.

It vests in the president authority to appoint a person or persons, to govern the canal zone, and the president is given further authority to direct the manner of such control. Annual or more frequent reports from the governor of the zone and also from those in charge of the canal are provided, for, as are also estimates of expenditures and appropriations for all work on the canal, and it is provided that, after the present fiscal year, no money shall be expended except by direct appropriation. All rentals and other income from the Panama railroad are to be credited to the canal fund and the president is authorized to deposit \$1,500,000 in an American bank having a financial agent on the isthmus of Panama for the purpose of facilitating business.

### WILL MODIFY THE TREATY.

#### Santo Domingo Wants Voice in Appointments and Other Changes.

New York, Feb. 25.—One of the leading members of the house of deputies is authority, according to a Herald dispatch from Puerto Plata, Santo Domingo, for the statement that the Dominican congress will accept the new agreement with the American government with certain modifications. Congress will begin its session February 27.

It is desired, the correspondent states, that article 2 of the treaty shall be so amended as to permit the Dominican government to name the officials who are to collect duties in the ports whose custom houses are in charge of the United States, these officials to be named with the approval of the American government, and to be Americans, if desired.

### Citrus Fruit Pool Unlawful.

Washington, Feb. 25.—The Interstate Commerce commission, in an opinion by Commissioner Clements, today rendered its decision in the California orange cases brought by the Southern California Fruit exchange and the Consolidated Forwarding company against the Southern Pacific and Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad systems, in which it holds that the defendant carriers are unlawfully engaged in pooling the traffic in citrus fruits originating in Southern California.

### Awful Crimes Stain Baku.

Baku, Feb. 25.—The town is now quiet. All the Armenian shops have been closed, but the banks are doing business under military protection. Order has been restored at Balakhany, but at Romany today strikers attacked two factories and as a result 30 persons were killed or wounded. In Baku many terrible murders have been committed. Manager Adamoff, of the Naptha Refining works, his wife and children, were burned to death.

### Inquires About Church Schools.

Washington, Feb. 25.—The house today adopted a resolution calling on the secretary of the interior for information as to whether any appropriations of Indian funds had been expended for the support of any sectarian Indian schools.

### AT LEVEL OF SEA.

#### Panama Canal Commission's Plans for Isthmian Waterway.

Washington, Feb. 28.—The first definite engineering plans for the construction of the Panama canal have just been laid before the Isthmian canal commission by the engineering committee of that body, consisting of Commissioners Burr, Parsons and Davis. The principal recommendations are summed up in this resolution:

"Resolved, That this committee approve and recommend for adoption by the commission a plan for a sea-level canal, with a bottom width of 150 feet and a minimum depth of water of 35 feet, and with twin tidal locks at Miraflores, whose usable dimensions shall be 1,000 feet long and 100 feet wide, at a total estimated cost of \$230,500,000.

"Such estimates include an allowance for administration, engineering, sanitation and contingencies, amounting to \$38,450,000, but without allowance for interest during construction, expense of zone government and material costs and water supply sewers or paving of Panama or Colon, which last items are to be repaid by the inhabitants of those cities."

The committee estimates that a sea-level canal can be completed within 10 or 12 years from the present time.

These recommendations are the conclusion of a report to the committee prepared in the canal zone under date of February 1 last, and based on complete engineering reports on all of the problems involved.

The committee decided that, under no circumstances, should the surface of the canal be more than 60 feet above the sea, and estimates that this level the cost would be \$178,013,06. A 30-foot level is estimated to cost \$19,213,400.

### MINERS LOSE LIVES.

#### Twenty-Three Killed in West Virginia Mine Explosion.

Bluefield, W. Va., Feb. 28.—As a result of an explosion in shaft No. 1 of the United States Coal and Coke company, at Wilcox, today, 23 miners are supposed to have lost their lives, and it is possible that the number will exceed this.

Up to 8 p. m. 15 bodies had been taken from the shaft. A large rescuing party is in the mines tonight. It is barely possible, but not likely, that some of the remaining entombed miners will be rescued alive.

The explosion was of terrific force, and shattered windows a mile distant. Immediately after the shock great numbers of miners, who were off duty, rushed to the shaft to find great clouds of smoke and dust gushing from its mouth. Mothers, children and other relatives soon were weeping and pleading for the rescue of those dear to them entombed in the mine. The officials of the mine were soon on the scene.

The company usually work in this shaft about 75 miners, but today the mine were not all in, and the small loss of life can be attributed only to this fact.

### VICTORY IS BARREN.

#### Russians Were Able to Retire from Position in Good Order.

Tokio, Feb. 28.—The reports that are arriving from the front indicate that the severe engagements of the last few days are the prelude of what now seems will prove one of the bloodiest battles of the war. A large portion of General Kuroki's army has been engaged since Thursday, and the latest reports indicate that the fighting still continues, with the advantage on the side of the Japanese.

The capture of Beresneff by the Japanese, while a brilliant exploit, was practically barren of results, in that the Russians were enabled to retire in good order, and concentrate at Tzenti pass, which is now being attacked.

According to the latest reports from the front that the public is permitted to have access to General Kuroki's column has been heavily reinforced, especially with artillery, and many of the siege guns of heavy caliber which were used by the Russians at Port Arthur, and fell into the hands of General Nogi's men after the fall of the "Gibraltar of the East," are now being trained against General Kuropatkin's forces.

### Troops Moving Slowly.

London, Feb. 28.—The correspondent at St. Petersburg of the Times says that the government is making concessions to the railway men and placing the railways under martial law with a view to expediting the transportation of troops to the Far East. The South rifle brigade, which left Odessa two months ago, is still near Omsk. The latest units ordered for service include some 25,000 men and 48 guns from Caucasian garrisons. They cannot reach General Kuropatkin before April, at the earliest.

### Prince of Wales to Visit India.

London, Feb. 28.—It has been officially arranged that the prince and princess of Wales shall visit India in November, and stay until March, making a tour of the principal cities and native states, receiving the chiefs and princes on behalf of King Edward, who, after consultation with the viceroy, has directed that for this occasion the exchange of ceremonial presents shall be dispensed with. Consequently no presents will be accepted.

### Deacons Await Their Prophet.

Mexico City, Feb. 28.—Prophet Dowie, of Zion City, is expected to arrive here tomorrow from Cuba. His five deacons now here refuse to talk on the Zionist's plans, but it is understood a Zionist colony will be settled in the hot country, and devote itself to raising sugar cane, coffee and other products.

## CASH FOR RIVERS

### Chairman Burton Sure Appropriation Bill Will Pass.

### ITS FATE RESTS WITH SENATE

#### Only Danger is that Load of Amendments May Sink It in the Upper House.

Washington, Feb. 23.—Chairman Burton, of the rivers and harbors committee, expressed the belief today that his bill, consideration of which was begun in the house yesterday, will pass both houses and become law before March 4.

There has been a growing fear that this bill would be sidetracked, not only because of the demands of party leaders for economy, but because of the unprecedented late date in bringing it up for consideration. Only eight days remain to pass it through both houses and through conference, less time than was ever before given any river and harbor bill.

Burton, however, says the shortage of time is a strong factor in favor of the passage of the bill. It will induce the senate to make only slight amendments, for fear of losing what is proposed by the house. He says that unless the senate loads the bill down with large amendments, it will pass without material objection, carrying practically the appropriations agreed to by the house committee.

### HOPE TO BANKRUPT JAPAN

#### Russians Rely on Long Purse for Escape from Defeat.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 23.—Although the party which is advocating peace as the only egress from the present situation continues to gain strength, nothing has actually been decided, and no move has yet been made. It is officially maintained that Russia's attitude is unchanged. At the foreign office not the slightest encouragement is given to the peace talk. On the contrary, it is affirmed as strongly as ever that Japan must propose terms, while at the same time it is admitted that it is inconceivable that Japan can offer conditions acceptable to Russia.

The idea of a complete Russian victory is not harbored, but it is insisted that Russia is not beaten, and will not be beaten until General Kurapatkin is decisively worsted by General Oyama and the fate of Admiral Rojestvensky's squadron is determined. The main consideration entering into the calculations of the uncompromising advocates of a prosecution of the war is that Japan's financial resources must become exhausted long before Russia's.

### HALF THE BODIES ARE FOUND

#### Only Three Were Rescued Alive, and They Soon Died.

Birmingham, Ala., Feb. 23.—At 8 o'clock this evening 75 blackened and disfigured bodies had been recovered from the Virginia mine in which the awful explosion occurred on Monday afternoon, entombing more than 150 miners.

The rescuers are still heroically at work in the mine, and as they advance the bodies further in the mine are found to be worse burned and mutilated than those nearer the exterior. No hope is now held out that any are alive. Three men were found yesterday whose hearts were still beating, but they expired immediately.

The Birmingham district has come promptly forward in relieving the destitute families of the victims, and mass meetings have been held for that purpose. Hundreds of dollars have been subscribed, and the Birmingham Commercial club has raised more than \$3,000. Alabama District No. 20, United Mineworkers of America, today voted \$5,000 to be distributed among the families.

### Russian Raiders Violate Neutrality

Tientsin, Feb. 23.—About 300 Russian raiders slightly damaged the railway between Haicheng and Tatchekia on Monday night and again disregarded the neutrality of the territory west of the Liao river. The presence of Chinese soldiers was not reported. It is evident that the villagers kept the Russians well informed as to the disposition of the Japanese troops. It was expected that the raiders would repeat the attempt to destroy the Japanese stores at Niuchiatun, but they retired without an engagement.

### Oil Refinery for Colorado.

Denver, Feb. 23.—Representative Clifton H. Wilder's bill appropriating \$125,000 for the establishment of a state oil refinery was favorably reported to the house by the finance committee today. The bill also contains provisions to regulate the price of oil. Independent oil producers who are supporting the measure have offered to lease and operate the refinery when constructed, and to advance the money for its construction at low rates.

### Kansas After the Railroads.

Topeka, Feb. 23.—The Kansas senate tonight passed a bill for the regulation of railroads. It provides that a state railroad board shall make changes in freight rates upon due complaint being made. A section giving the board power to change rates of its own initiative was included in the bill as it passed the house.