

# HERR STEINHARDT'S NEMESIS

BY J. MACLAREN COBBAN.

## CHAPTER IX—Continued.

"Oh," said she in a terrified voice, "Mr. Steinhardt looked terrible! He asked me if I had been telling some one to ask such questions. I answered at once, 'No; but Mr. Uwin has.' I wish I had not said that; for he has at once, 'Oh, Uwin! You must have short work of him.' So, please, do be careful! I could see in his eyes how cruel he might be. I said, 'Surely there is no harm in trying to find out what has become of my poor father?' 'Oh,' said he, 'no harm at all—none at all, and went away.'"

I could not but regret this very much. It was, therefore, with some anxiety that I received and accepted an invitation to an interview—I had almost said, a colloquy—with Steinhardt that evening at seven o'clock in the laboratory of the Chemical Works, which had never yet been within the mysterious, tainted precincts, and it was with some thing of a shudder that I asked myself why he should have invited me to call upon him there, and at an hour when probably there would be no one else there except himself and the watchman. I went, however, with the sternest courage I could summon.

I cannot describe the laboratory, for I clearly saw only Steinhardt, red as a Mephistopheles; all else was a jumble of retorts, flasks, tubes of rare color and what not. He was very civil.

"I asked you to come and see me here, Mr. Uwin," he began, "because I am watching an experiment which I cannot leave, and I wanted to see you at once. You have not taken my word for it that Miss Lacroix is not for you; you have been seeing her at the house, and when you should have been here, you have not been here. I am waiting for you, and I am waiting for you, and I am waiting for you."

"I am sorry, Mr. Steinhardt," said I, "I cannot go away tomorrow, and I cannot promise to leave the neighborhood."

"Oh," he said, "you cannot. Think again: if you do not go, I must send away my family."

"My mind is quite made up," said I. "It is very well," he rose, as if to end the interview, and I rose, also. You had better take the cheque," said he, pushing it toward me; "it is all most due, and I shall not want to see you again."

I took it, and was going. Involuntarily I glanced about for any vat or vessel which I could think of as that which had figured in Dick's confession. He seemed to notice my curious glances.

"You have never been in here before," said he, "that is the most interesting place—pointing to a small door—"would you like to look in? I call it the Experiment Bath."

I said I would; and my heart beat wildly.

"You must let me tie up your mouth and nose then," he said, taking some kind of muffer from a drawer.

I wondered whether this were the place, and whether he was going to show it me out of bravado, or whether he was quite unconscious of my suspicion. I determined to go through with it. I was muffled, and he muffled himself. He opened the door; and I saw a small chamber, filled with purplish vapor, in which a gas jet burned dully, and with an unguessed tint.

"Enter," said he.

I entered, and he followed.

"This," said he, raising a lid by some arrangement, "is my experiment."

Vapor rose more densely from the vessel, whose outlines I could not discern. I felt stifled; I gasped for breath. I tugged at the muffer; I felt it could not help it. I freed it; I felt his hand on my shoulder to snatch or to punish me. I could not move.

I thought then the former; with a violent effort I recovered myself and turned at once to look at him, and saw—great heavens!—the very counterpart of the wall behind him that shadow, with head and hands outstretched, which Dick's delicious figure had cast, only vaguer, because of the vapor!

"What! Again!" I involuntarily cried, and dashed from the chamber.

I had to get down to recover myself. I trembled violently. I thought, when he undid his muffer, he looked paler, and more open-eyed. Did he suspect now my suspicion?

"It is very risky, you see," he said, calmly enough, but with a very keen look, that looked, no doubt, to read me, "very risky to enter my bath!"

I said not a word, but after a moment or two rose with a "Good-night," and went out into the air.

Had he intended to suffocate me? Thinking calmly of the adventure now I do not think so. I think the danger I escaped was altogether owing to my own rashness and folly.

## CHAPTER X.

I was scarcely surprised when next day I received a hurried note from Louise. They were all going away at once, she said—all except Mr. Steinhardt. He had some business, she told me, and must pack that night, to be ready to get off in the morning—to the seaside somewhere—where she did not know yet, but she would write to me as soon as she had an address to give, so that I might send her my news. How I treasured that little note! It was the first bit of writing I had had from her; and I read it again and again that day, and for many days, and tried to conjure a hidden meaning, a lurking touch of tenderness or concern out of its ordinary words. A strange feeling of being alone, and forsaken, seized me—a foolish feeling, which I could not shake off for some days.

I looked up on old Jacques, as usual. He had been recovering himself since I had seen him first; at least, regaining a consciousness of his own existence, and of the existence of things about him. I thought that day I would see a somewhat more private in the twinkling of his mouth, which told that he missed the presence of his niece. He gazed at me long and keenly, till I felt rather disconcerted, looked down at his hands (the fingers of the right hand trembled a little), and ut-

tered some guttural sounds, as if in an effort to articulate. I talked to him a little, though I was not sure he could hear me; or, hearing, could understand. I told him his niece had gone away to the seaside; I hoped it would do her good, for she had been in a very anxious state of mind since her father's loss. He gave himself some relief to speak these things. When I rose to go away, he looked me shrewdly up and down, and watched me to the door. A week or two passed before I saw him again.

My time was taken up with attempts to provide a spot for myself against the day when I should leave that Timperley. Under ordinary circumstances I would have taken the opportunity of the season of the year, and such a juncture in my affairs, to spend a holiday among my friends; but I was now convinced the mystery I was pledged to clear up was in Timperley, and I was resolved to sit down and besiege it there—the more obstinately resolved, since I knew Steinhardt so heartily wished me away.

I wrote letters; I made journeys to the vicar and the rector in the neighborhood, who then needed, or soon would need, a curate, with the same result in all cases. I would not do; I was not just the kind of man they wanted; they were not sure that my opinions were quite as they wished with the opinions of their curate to be. It became plain to me that I was to be "boycotted"; the word had been passed round, apparently—and by whom, I did not know.

Little and again I tried, though with little hope now, to find a curate even in the neighboring large town; but nothing came of my efforts except disappointment and weariness, and disgust. My time was up in Timperley, but I still retained my lodgings there (they were cheap and comfortable); I held them as an outlook advanced against the enemy's position. The situation was, indeed, becoming like a duel between Steinhardt and me, in which, for the time, he certainly had the best of it.

My anxiety was not lessened by the fact that in the three weeks which had passed I had not heard a word from Louise, and did not know what had happened to her, or even where she was. I finally went to the girl whom I had seen Frank with, and from her I found out that she had written from an address (which she gave me) in Douglas in the Isle of Man. At the end of another week, not having received any reply to a note I had written to Louise, I confess I was tempted with weak thoughts of surrendering the whole matter to the authorities in position to Steinhardt, and going away. I was earning no money, and my quarter's stipend of 22 pounds 10 shillings was rapidly disappearing. What could I do, when it was all gone, but surrender? I was ashamed to confess that, often than once, I was betrayed into an unmanly prostration of disappointment—of despair, I may even say—and grief. But remember that I was desperately in love (I suppose a clergyman may be a dyspeptic, but I am not another man) with a young lady, who might be dead, or dying, or married, for aught I knew; that I was sojourning, so to say, in a strange land, whose chief was bitterly hostile to me; that the affair upon which I had staked my success in love had not advanced an inch during those long and lonely weeks.

I do not believe that, in spite of the conviction which usually sustained me of the final revelation of the truth in the end, of the oblivion of my nature, and the high reward of success which I had hoped to gain, I would, indeed, have soon beat a retreat, if I had not been for a visit I had from my old friend Birley, and the results that immediately followed upon that.

One evening I heard a loud, cheery voice from the next room, which I knew to be that of my old friend, Birley. "Well," said he, "you haven't come to see me since I've come back" (he had been ill, and absent from home for some weeks). "So I've looked you up."

I said I was very pleased indeed to see him (he looked much older and grayer than when I had seen him last, poor old gentleman).

"Now I've come," he continued, "to have a bit of serious talk with you, my friend. You know I wish you well, and that I'd do all for you that a broken old chap can do; but there's no sticking the knife, and no policy in senility here; I'm not to do—do not even court you. You love a lass, and of course, naturally, hang about her; but, to get to the bottom of the matter, you are painting her stirring picture, 'Scotland Forever,' she one day expressed a regret that she could not see a body of cavalry in the act of charging, with the result that a general in whose hearing she had spoken, arranged that a charge should take place for her special benefit."

Archaeological and historical societies all over Spain have been urging the repair of the famous convent of La Rabida, associated with Columbus. The buildings are fast becoming a ruin. Thus far the societies' appeal has met with no response. The recent loss of that colonial empire of which Columbus planned the foundation, La Rabida, seems to have rendered the Spanish nation indifferent to the memory of the great discoverer of the new world.

For Her Special Benefit.

Lady Birley is probably the only English artist for whose sole benefit a cavalry charge was ordered. When she was painting her stirring picture, "Scotland Forever," she one day expressed a regret that she could not see a body of cavalry in the act of charging, with the result that a general in whose hearing she had spoken, arranged that a charge should take place for her special benefit.—Cassell's Magazine.

Religions of the World.

Of equal interest with the population of the world is its division into religious beliefs. The estimate of M. De Flax, a noted French statistician, puts the Christians at 777,000,000, the Mohammedans at 147,000,000, Confucians at 25,000,000, Hindus at 90,000,000, Buddhists at 47,000,000, Taoists at 45,000,000, Shintoists at 14,000,000, Judaism at 7,180,000 and Polytheism at 118,000,000.

Hobbies.

Men who love hobbies would not be nearly so objectionable if they did not want all the world to know of them. Country. Canada has a group of young sculptors of whom much is expected. One of them, Hamilton Carey, of Ottawa, is making the bronze statue which the government of Nova Scotia will erect in Halifax to commemorate the services of Nova Scotians in the South African war.

Chickens' Tails Two Feet Long.

A new breed of chickens just received in New York from China have tails 12 feet long. They are kept in cages, and when they are taken out for exercise an attendant goes along to hold up the feathers. The hens lay 30 eggs a year, which are hatched by other hens.

Senator Kerns Outdoors Dewey.

Until Senator Kerns of Utah arrived Senator Dewey's watch was the closest watch in the senate. Now Mr. Dewey asks Senator Kerns what time it is.

I then related my story, point by point, not even omitting mention of Louise's repeated dream, or of my own recent adventure in the chemical works. The effect my story had on him caused me great anxiety. Being, by nature, more of a talker than a listener, he could not refrain, at first, from breaking in now and then with a "To be sure," "Just so," or an "Ah, yes—there you are," but as the point of the story took hold of him, his talking instinct took vent in occasional grunts, while he became paler and paler, and more and more moved. He did not for a moment doubt that my suspicions pointed to the truth; he adopted them at once, and was enraptured that he had not formed them for himself before.

"Stupid old idiot," he exclaimed, "that I was, not to have guessed after that 'Manuel would stick at nothing to get Paul eaten completely up! And Paul was a hot temper, and if he had words with 'Manuel, there would be the devil to settle! And, of course, Paul was likely to come home unexpected, to catch 'Manuel on the hop, so to say, which that confounded patent again! Lord, Lord! If I had only thought of all that a year ago, I might have been easier to clean it up! Well, now, what can we do—what can we do?"

I answered that I had been striving for weeks to discover what next to do—but I had not yet discovered it. I was anxious, too, now, I said, about Louise.

"Oh," said he, "I expect she's all right with my sister, in the Isle of Man."

"I think," said I, "it's rash ever to expect that anything is altogether right that Steinhardt is concerned in."

"True for you, lad," said he.

"Besides," I continued, "he promised to write to me, and she has not written; a week or more ago, when I found out the Douglas address, I wrote and asked her to send me only a line to allay my anxiety—but I have had none."

He looked very grave.

(To be continued.)

## THE CAPITOL'S FLAGS.

Regulated by Strict Rules When Flying at Half-Mast.

The flying of flags over the capitol at half-mast, says the Washington Star, is regulated by the strictest rules. Whenever these flags are seen floating half way down the mast, it is a sure indication that a vice president, senator or representative is lying dead, or that the action is taken in response to a presidential proclamation ordering the flags on public buildings at half-mast in respect to the memory of some person in official of the government who has passed away. When the sergeant-at-arms of the senate or house of representatives learns of the death of a member of either of those bodies, he at once orders the flag to be lowered to the top of the pole, and the senate chamber or hall of representatives is half-masted. This is often done before the houses of congress themselves are officially notified of the death. A good deal of discretion is exercised in the manner of placing the news of a death of this kind officially before the senate or the house. Upon such announcement it is customary for the houses to adjourn in respect to the deceased senator or representative, and in order that current business may not be stopped out of the way, the announcement is generally made just before the houses are ready to conclude their day's work. Officers of the senate and house, when they fly the flag at half-mast in response to a proclamation by the president, regard their action as one of courtesy, as they do not recognize the power of the president to order congress to do anything except to assemble in extraordinary session.

## OUR GOVERNMENT'S FOUNDATION.

By Hon. Chauncey M. Dewey.

The foundation of our government—the constitution of the United States, that great charter of rights and liberties, that sacred instrument which has preserved the republic, and which has changed every other government since it was adopted.

At no time has there been brought to the attention of the people a more important question than that of the foundation of our government. It is a question of the most vital importance to the people of this country, and it is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

## A PROLIFIC WRITER.

Frank R. Stockton the Author of Many Popular Tales of Fiction.

Frank R. Stockton is a resident in Washington, D.C., and is one of the best known of American writers. He is also one of the most prolific. For more than forty years he has been writing, and his works are read by millions of people. He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality. He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality.

He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality. He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality.

He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality. He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality.

He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality. He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality.

He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality. He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality.

He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality. He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality.

He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality. He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality.

He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality. He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality.

He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality. He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality.

He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality. He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality.

He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality. He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality.

He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality. He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality.

He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality. He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality.

He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality. He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality.

He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality. He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality.

He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality. He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality.

He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality. He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality.

He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality. He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality.

He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality. He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality.

He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality. He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality.

He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality. He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality.

He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality. He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality.

He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality. He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality.

He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality. He is a man of many talents, and his works are of high quality.

## PLACE OF PRAYER IN POLITICS.

By Rev. J. P. Bushington, D. D.

It is a gratifying assurance that the Almighty does not answer all prayer in the form in which it is offered.

Two opposing armies meet in conflict, either at the front or on the battlefield. Sincerely prayerful hearts upon both sides ask for victory. Even omnipotence cannot answer all these prayers—except in the reflex power for good which all prayer has upon honest politicians to the throne of heaven.

The real object and length of prayer is not to change the mind of God toward the world, so much as to change the mind of the world toward God. The prayer of the righteous man availeth much, but the righteous man must be careful lest he offer a selfish prayer for his side to the loss of devotion to the cause of God's side.

The only legitimate prayer in politics is this: "Thy will be done," or, "May heaven bless the nation and guide those who are in authority." To pray for the election of one prominent candidate and the defeat of another, both of whom are confessedly upright men, is a place of selfishness. Napoleon may say that there is just about as much sense in such suggestions of "prayer in politics" as there was in Prof. Tyndal's suggestion that the world should be a hospital, and let prayer be offered for one ward, while the other ward is outcast from the hospital.

What a difference in the recovery of the patients in either ward! All such tests are but perversions of prayer from its proper use.

It has been said often: "Vote as you pray." Why not reverse the prayer: "Pray as you vote." In other words, both pray and vote your best convictions, and let the result be what it may.

The spirit of the Lord's prayer: "Thy kingdom come." I would not be understood as advocating an agnostic position upon prayer, but I do believe that the prayer of God favored the strongest battalions and heaviest artillery in war, yet who will not say that the Boer patriots have not been inspired by the prayer of God?

To be sure, political contests are definitely decided by vote and not by prayer. Yet when men have faith enough and love enough for a cause they will vote the more earnestly for its triumph.

OUR GOVERNMENT'S FOUNDATION.

By Hon. Chauncey M. Dewey.

The foundation of our government—the constitution of the United States, that great charter of rights and liberties, that sacred instrument which has preserved the republic, and which has changed every other government since it was adopted.

At no time has there been brought to the attention of the people a more important question than that of the foundation of our government. It is a question of the most vital importance to the people of this country, and it is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration. It is a question which should be the subject of the most careful study and consideration.

## WOMAN OUGHT TO BE A TRUE HELPER.

By Rev. J. P. Bushington, D. D.

It is a gratifying assurance that the Almighty does not answer all prayer in the form in which it is offered.

Two opposing armies meet in conflict, either at the front or on the battlefield. Sincerely prayerful hearts upon both sides ask for victory. Even omnipotence cannot answer all these prayers—except in the reflex power for good which all prayer has upon honest politicians to the throne of heaven.

The real object and length of prayer is not to change the mind of God toward the world, so much as to change the mind of the world toward God. The prayer of the righteous man availeth much, but the righteous man must be careful lest he offer a selfish prayer for his side to the loss of devotion to the cause of God's side.

The only legitimate prayer in politics is this: "Thy will be done," or, "May heaven bless the nation and guide those who are in authority." To pray for the election of one prominent candidate and the defeat of another, both of whom are confessedly upright men, is a place of selfishness. Napoleon may say that there is just about as much sense in such suggestions of "prayer in politics" as there was in Prof. Tyndal's suggestion that the world should be a hospital, and let prayer be offered for one ward, while the other ward is outcast from the hospital.

What a difference in the recovery of the patients in either ward! All such tests are but perversions of prayer from its proper use.

It has been said often: "Vote as you pray." Why not reverse the prayer: "Pray as you vote." In other words, both pray and vote your best convictions, and let the result be what it may.

The spirit of the Lord's prayer: "Thy kingdom come." I would not be understood as advocating an agnostic position upon prayer, but I do believe that the prayer of God favored the strongest battalions and heaviest artillery in war, yet who will not say that the Boer patriots have not been inspired by the prayer of God?

To be sure, political contests are definitely decided by vote and not by prayer. Yet when men have faith enough and love enough for a cause they will vote the more earnestly for its triumph.

OUR GOVERNMENT'S FOUNDATION.

By Hon. Chauncey M.