THE PEOPLE OF THE MIST.

> By H. RIDER HAGGARD. [Copyright, 1898, by the Author.] CHAPTER I.

The January afternoon was passing into night; the air was cold and still, so still that not a single twig of the naked beech trees stirred; on the grass of the meadows lay a thin white rime, half frost. half snow; the firs stood out blackly us, turn upon me and rob me of the only the memorandum pocket of its binding a against the steel hued sky, and over the good that was left to me. By putting an lock of auburn hair tied round with silk. tallest of them hung a single star. Past end to a connection that everybody knew "An unlucky gift," said Leonard to these bordering firs there ran a road, on which in this evening of the opening of May the misfortune of my house fall upon was yet warm from Jane's shoulders, he which in this evening of the opening of our story a young man stood irresolute, have to do! Goodby." glancing now to the right and now to the

To his right were two stately gates of iron fantastically wrought, supported by stone pillars on whose summits stood griffins of black marble embracing coats of arms and banners inscribed with the device, "Per ardua ad astra." Beyond these gates ran a broad carriage drive lined on either side by a double row of such oaks as England alone can produce under the most favorable circumstance of soil with the aid of the nurturing hand of man and three or four centuries of time. At the head of this avenue, perhaps half a mile from the roadway, although it looked nearer because of the eminence upon which it was placed, stood a mansion of the sort that in auctioneers' advertisements is usually described as "noble." Its general appearance was Elizabethan, for in those days some forgotten Outram had practically rebuilt it, but the greater part of its fabric was far more ancient than the Tudors, dating back indeed, so said tradition, to the days of King John.

A hundred yards or so down the road was a second gate of much less imposing appearance than that which led to Outram Hall. Leonard passed through it and presently found himself at the door of a square red brick house, built with no other pretensions than to those of comfort. him. This was the rectory, now tenanted by to me the Rev. and Hon. James Beach, to whom the living had been presented many years before by Leonard's father, Mr. Beach's old college friend. Leonard rang the bell, and as its dis-

tant clamor fell upon his ears a new fear struck him. What sort of reception would gaze upon those whom the grave is about he meet with in this house? he wondered. Hitherto it had always been so cordial that until this moment he had never doubted of it, but now circumstances had changed. He was no longer even the second son of Sir Thomas Outram of Outram | will catch cold." Hall. He was a beggar, an outcast, a

rupt and suicide. Now, as it chanced, Leonard, beggared as he was, had still something left which could be taken away from him, and for me there." that something the richest fortune which Providence can give to any man in his youth-the love of a woman whom he also snow always drifts in that path." loved For the Hon, and Rev. James

Beach was blessed with a daughter, Jane by name, who had the reputation, not undeserved, of being the most beautiful and sweetest natured girl that the countryside could show.

Leonard entered. At this moment it oc-curred to him that he did not quite know the path which led to the summer house. why he had come. To be altogether accurate, he knew why he had come well have wished the journey longer. Presentenough. It was to see Jane and arrive at |y they were there, and very gently he set an understanding with her father.

The Rev. James Beach was a stout man lips as he did so, then took off his overof bland and prepossessing appearance. Never had he looked stouter, more pre-

Then at last Leonard broke out: "You do not speak the truth. I did not et, which she gave to him. Then once ask you for your daughter's hand. I ask- more they kissed and clung together, and ed you for the promise of it when I should in another moment she vanished back into have shown myself worthy of her. But the snow and darkness, passing out of his now there is an end of that. I will go, sight and out of his life, though from his but before I go I will tell you the truth. You are a schemer and a hypocrite. You wish to use Jane's beauty to catch this Jew with. Of her happiness you think ears, and to Leonard they seemed fateful nothing, provided only you can get his -a prophecy of utter loss. Sighing heavimoney. She is not a strong character, and ly, he opened the packet and examined its t is quite possible that you will succeed contents by the feeble moonlight. They in your plot, but I tell you that it will not were not large-a prayer book bound in prosper. You, who owe everything to our morocco, her own, with her name inside family, now that misfortune has overtaken it and a short inscription beneath, and in

yours and upon all with whom you may also turned and vanished into the snow And he turned and left the room and the village inn. the rectory.

CHAPTER II.

Arthur Beach, Jane's brother, was standing in the hall, waiting to speak to him, but Leonard pushed past him without a for its wide old fashioned fireplace with word, closing the hall door behind him. wrought iron dogs. There was no lamp Outside the snow was falling, but not fast enough to obscure the light of the moon, which shone through the belt of firs. Leonard walked on down the drive till in a high backed chair gazing into the fire, he neared the gate, when suddenly he heard the muffled sound of feet pursuing Thomas Outram was Leon him through the snow. He turned, with an angry exclamation, believing that the mold. His face was the face of a dream

footsteps were those of Arthur Beach, and er; his brown eyes were large and rehe was in no mood for further conversation with any male member of that family. But, as it chanced, he found himself face to face not with Arthur, but with Jane herself, who perhaps had never looked more beautiful than she did at this moment in the snow and the moonlight. Indeed whenever Leonard thought of her in after years, and that was often, there shortly.

arose in his mind a vision of a tall and lovely girl, her auburn hair slightly powdered over with the falling snowflakes, her breast heaving with emotion and her wide gray eyes gazing piteously toward "Oh. Leonard." she said nervously

'why do you go without saying goodby He looked at her for a moment before he answered, for something in his heart told him that this was the last sight which

he should win of her for many a year, and therefore his eyes dwelt upon her as we sert me." to hide from us forever.

At last he spoke, and his words were practical enough:

"You should not have come out in those thin shoes through the snow, Jane. You "I wish I could," she answered defiant-

wanderer, the son of a fraudulent bank-rupt and suicide. Iy. "I wish that I could catch such a cold as would kill me. Then I should be out of my troubles. Let us go to the summer house. They will never think of looking

"How will you get there?" asked Leonard. "It is 100 yards away, and the "Oh, never mind the snow," she said.

But Leonard did mind it, and presently their own. he hit upon a solution of the difficulty. Having first glanced up the drive to see that nobody was coming, he bent for-

Presently the door was opened, and without explanation or excuse put his arms around Jane, and lifting her She was heavy; but, sooth to say, he could her on her feet again, kissing her upon the

Seven years passed. The brothers had piled in Africa, seeking the cold with

And thrusting her hand into the bosom of her dress she drew from it a little pack-

pair, sat a tall and withered woman.

With an exclamation of surprise Leonard started toward her, followed by the that she neither saw nor heard them. Even when they stood close to her she did not perceive them, for her face was hidden and the night, shaping his path toward en handsome and for a native very light He reached it in due course and passed rather than woolly, and her hands and

into the little parlor that adjoined the bar. It was a comfortable room enough, notwithstanding its adornment of badly stuffed birds and fishes, and chiefly remarkable in the room when Leonard entered, bu

the light of the burning wood was bright. here alone?' and by it he could see his brother seated

Thomas Outram was Leonard's elder by two years and cast in a more fragile flective, and the mouth sensitive as a child's. He was a scholar and a philoso pher, a man of much desultory reading. with refined taste and a really intimate

knowledge of Greek gems. "Is that you, Leonard?" he said, looking up absently. "Where have you been? 'To the rectory," answered his brother

'What have you been doing there?" "Do you want to know?" 'Yes, of course. Did you see Jane?' Then Leonard told him all the story. 'What do you think she will do?'' asked

Tom when his brother had finished. Given the situation and the woman, it is a rather curious problem." "It may be," answered Leonard, "but as I am not an equation in algebra yearn-

ing to be worked out I don't quite see the fun of it. But if you ask me what I think she will do I should say that she will follow the example of everybody else and de-

'You seem to have a poor idea of women, old fellow. I know little of them myself and don't want to know more. But

I have always understood that it is the peculiar glory of their sex to come out strong on these exceptional occasions. Woman in our hours of ease,' etc."

Well, we shall see. But it is my opinion that women think a great deal more of their own hours of ease than of those of anybody else. Thank heaven, here comes our dinner!"

That night the brothers resolved to make a last visit to their ancestral home. Then they swore upon an ancient Bible starve." never to return to it till they could call it 'There is scant fare here," answered

On the morrow they went to London and waited there awhile, but no word came from Jane Beach, and for good or ill the chains of the oath that he had taken riveted themselves around Leonard

Outram's neck. Within three months of this night the brothers were nearing the shores of Africa, the land of the Children of the Mist.

ed. "I do not know," answered Otter, "un- captive, but others of them got away, for they were at work in the fields and had less it be a ghost or the voice of one who seen the slave traders coming. Now, as I

Leonard, and as he spoke once more the low and piercing wall thrilled upon the air. Just then the cloud passed, and the meanlight shore out brilliantle, and the onlight shone out brilliantly, and they mule overtook her, and she turned about saw who it was that cried sloud in this and faced him, setting her back against esolate place, for there, not 20 paces the wall. Then I crouched down and hid from them, on the other side of the ravine, myself among some banana trees and rouched upon a stone and rocking herself watched what passed through a crack in o and fro as though in an agony of de- the wall.

ard started toward her, followed by the dwarf. So absorbed was she in her sorrow that she neither saw nor heard thom in her bony hands. Leonard looked at is Pereira, and he has his place in a secret her curiously. She was past middle age is Pereira, and he has his place in a secret spot down by one of the mouths of the now, but he could see that once she had Zamberi. Here he collects the slores and in color. Her hair was grizzled and crisp their dhows to carry them to market. feet were slender and finely shaped. At as she stood terrified with her back against

ace was covered up, as has been said, and aloud in Portuguese: 'Here we have a her body wrapped in a tattered blanket. pretty prize. This must be that Juanna sutu dialect, "what ails you that you weep your father, my dove? Gone trading up the

The woman withdrew her hands and haps I should not have ventured here. sprang up with a cry of fear. As it chanced, her gaze fell first upon the dwarf Otter, who

Give me food, white man," she added in a piteous tone. "Give me food, for I

Leonard, "but you are welcome to it. Follow me, mother," and he led the way cross the donga to the cave, the woman mping after him painfully. There Otter gave her meat, and she ate

had finished, she looked at Leonard with had befallen my mistress as yet, for she her keen dark eyes and said: Say, white lord, are you also a slave

"Who is your master, then-this black

"We are the only mourners here," said Shepherdess, flying toward the wall behind

"The man on the mule was old and fat his hair was white and his face yellow been the terror of this country for many years. He is named the Yellow Devil by

Zambezi. Here he collects the slaves, and here the traders come twice a year with the moment he could discover no more of the woman's personal appearance, for the

and taking a blanket and a little food I followed upon the track of the slave drivers. For four days I followed, sometimes coming in sight of them, till at length my food was done, and my strength left me. On the morning of the fifth day I could

go no farther, so I crept to the top of a koppie and watched their long line windas one cats who has gone hungry for long, greedily and yet with effort. When she had finished, she looked at the she

still lived.

my last strength. I told its people that I had escaped from the slave drivers, and

another?"

found out something of this nest from my it well. She has torn the paper out and servant. Pereira said that it was eight fixed it on the reed as a sign to any who days' journey from your master's settle- might come after her. ment; therefore your mistress has now been "It looks like it," said Leonard. "That

There is the result of the res there some three or four days, if she ever reached it. Now, from what I know of here, old lady." Then he bent down and

ompact, and one morning looked about im for paper on which to draw an agreement. He could find none. The last had taken it we should have lost our way and been lost when the hut was blown away on the night of his brother's death. Then he bethought him of the prayer book which "Say, Otter." said Leonard, "you es-"Say, Otter," said Leonard, "you es-

"Mother," he said, speaking in the Si-tu dialect, "what ails you that you weep re alone?" Ab. I knew it, or per-tre alo Jane Beach had given him. He would not use the fiy leaf, because her name was on it, so he must write across the title page. "No, baas. The baas knows that I am "No, baas. Th with his mixture of blood and gunpowder straight through the order of common and it is well, for had I been beautiful as

The woman window ber hands and percent with a register of the states are the states as a state of the register states and the register states are the states as a state of the register states are the states as a state of the register states are the states as a state of the register states are the states as a state of the register states are the states as a state of the register states are the states as a state of the register states are the states as a state of the register states are the states are the states as a state of the register states are the states are the states as a state of the register states are the register states ar

layman loves to affect the lawyer. "What do you think of that, Otter?" he self must die to do it and kill him with de

asked when he had finished. these hands." "It is fine, baas, very fine," answered the dwarf. "Wonderful are the ways of screaming, "Kill him, kill him, kill him!"

the white man! But, baas, how can the so loudly that the birds rose in affright old woman promise things on behalf of from the marshes.

Leonard pulled his beard reflectively. "Be quiet, you fool!" said Leonard an-grily. "Do you want to bring the Arabs The dwarf had put his finger upon the on us?"

weak spot in the document, but he was saved the necessity of answering by Soa herself, who said quietly: "Have no fear, while the the source of the source o

white man. That which I promise upon her behalf my mistress will certainly per-form, if so be that you can save her. Give me the pen that I may make my mark Devil. The nest was placed thus: It stood upon the paper, but first do you swear upon an island which may have covered upon the red stone that you will perform in all four or five acres of gro what you promise in this writing?" area, however, only about 21/2 acres were So Leonard laughed, swore and signed, available for a living space. The rest was and Soa made her mark. Then Otter af- a morass hidden by a growth of very tall fixed his as witness to the deed, and the reeds, which, starting from a great lagoon thing was finished. Laughing once more on the northern and eastern sides, ran up at the comicality of the transaction, which to the low inclosure of the buildings that indeed he had carried out more by way of on these faces, were considered to be suffia joke than for any other reason, Leonard ciently defended by the morass and the put the prayer book in his pocket and the wide waters beyond. On the southern and great ruby into a division of his belt. The western aspects, however, matters were old woman watched the stone vanish with very different, for here the place wa an expression of triumph. Then she cried strongly fortified both by art and nature Firstly, a canal ran round these two face exultingly: "Ab, white man, you have taken my not very wide or deep indeed, but impass pay, and now you are my servant to the able, except in boats, owing to the soft end! He who swears upon the blood of mud at its bottom. On the farther side of Aca swears an oath indeed, and woe be to this canal an earthwork had been con structed, having its crest stoutly palisaded him if he should break it!" "Quite so," answered Leonard. "I have and its sides planted with a natural de

## SUMMONS.

In the circuit court of the state of Oregon, in the county of Yamhi Ida May, Plaintiff.

SHERIFF'S SALE.

\*

into his presence

Leonard's sudden advent brought several emotions into active play. There were four people gathered round that comlence. fortable fire-the rector, his wife, his son,

a young man at college, and last, but not least, Jane herself. Mr. Beach dropped the cup sufficiently to allow himself to forbidden me to have any more to do with look at his visitor at length, for all the you." world as though he were covering him with a silver blunderbuss. His wife, an active little woman, turned round as if she moved upon wires, exclaiming, "Good gracious, who'd have thought it?" while the son, a robust young man of about Leonard's own age and his college companion, said: "Hello, old fellow. Well, I never expected to see you here today!' a remark which, however natural it may

have been, scarcely tended to set their visitor at his ease Jane herself, a tall and beautiful girl, with bright auburn hair, who was seated on a footstool nursing her knees and star-

ing at the fire, paying apparently very little heed to her father's lecture upon antram." cient plate, did none of these things. On the contrary, she sprang up with the utmost animation, her lips apart and her lovely face red with blushes or the heat of the fire, and ran toward him, with open arms, exclaiming as she came, "Oh,

Leonard, dear, dear Leonard!" Mr. Beach turned the silver blunderbuss upon his daughter and fired a single but most effective shot.

"Jane!" he said in a voice in which fa- said, beginning to cry. therly admonition and friendly warning going, and what shall I do?" were happily blended.

Jane stopped in full career as though in obedience to some lesson which she had momentarily forgotten. Then Mr. Beach, setting down the flagon, advanced upon I have it in me to see that through. I Leonard, with an ample pitying smile and outstretched hand.

"How are you, my dear boy, how are you?" he said. "We did not expect"-'To see me here under the circum-"To see me here under the circum-stances," put in Leonard bitterly. "Nor than I love you, but I can never make you that I should win it by the help of a womwould you have done so, but Tom and I understood that it was only to be a three

days' sale." Then came another pause, during which everybody present except Mr. Beach him-self rose one by one and quitted the room. sufficiently strong to induce her to re-"Nay, baas, who can tell for sure?" the Jane was the last to go, and Leonard noticed as she passed him that there were tears in her eyes.

"Jane," said her father in a meaning down to receive him."

Jane's only answer to this remark was to pass through the door and slam it be always reach me, and it is scarcely possilas he commanded. Clearly the prospect of the ad- ble for your father or anybody else to pre-

"Well, Leonard," went on Mr. Beach ter to me. If you want my help or to sat together. when they were alone in a tone that was communicate with me in any way, I shall meant to be sympathetic, but which jarred expect to hear from you, and if need be I baas.' horribly on his listener's ears, "this is a will take you away and marry you the sad business, very sad. But why are you moment you come of age. If, on the other a little."

not sitting down?' 'Because no one asked me to," said Leonard as he took a chair. 'Hem!" went on Mr. Beach. "By the

way, I believe that Mr. Cohen is a friend Do you understand of yours, is he not?"

"An acquaintance, not a friend," said Leonard. "Indeed I thought that you were at the

so hardly.

same college. 'Yes, but he is a Jew, and I don't like

Jews.' "Prejudice, my dear boy, prejudice, a minor sin indeed, but one against which from his front doorstep. you should struggle. Besides the family have been Christian for a generation. But there, there, it is natural that you should not feel warmly toward the man who will one day own Outram. Ah! As I said, me all day now. What shall I do?" this is all very sad, but it must be a great consolation to you to remember that when everything is settled there will be enough. so I am told, to repay those whom your unhappy father-um-defrauded. And now is there anything that I can do for

you or your brother? 'This," answered Leonard nervously. "You can show your confidence in me by allowing my engagement to Jane to be out you?

Here Mr. Beach waved his hand once

One morning, it was the day after ment it seemed to her as though she never again. It was Leonard who broke the si-

Otter was a knob nosed Kaffir-that is. "You ask me why I left without saying goodby to you. It was because your father has dismissed me from the house and the country in a state of semistarvation, and he had served them faithfully for

some years. They had given him the name "Oh, why?" said the girl, lifting her of Otter, his native patronymic being quite hands despairingly. inpronounceable, because of his extraordi-

"Can't you guess?" he answered, with nary skill in swimming, which almost a bitter laugh. qualed that of the animal itself. In face "Yes, Leonard," she whispered, taking

his hand in sympathy. not unpleasant, being due chiefly to the 'Perhaps I had better put it plainly,

great development of the tribal featuresaid Leonard again. "It may prevent misunderstandings. Your father has disthe nose-and in body misshapen to the verge of monstrosity. In fact, Otter was missed me because my father embezzled a dwarf, measuring little more than 4 all my money. The sins of the father are visited upon the children, you see; also feet in height. But what he lacked in height he made up in breadth. It almost he has done this with more than usual eemed as though, intended by nature to distinctness and alacrity because he wishes be a man of many inches, he had been

you to marry young Mr. Cohen, the bul-lion broker and the future owner of Ouart. His vast chest and limbs, indicating strength nearly superhuman, his long iron arms and massive head, all gave counte-Jane shivered "I know, I know," she said, "and, oh, nance to this idea. Otter had one redeem-Leonard, I hate him!"

ing feature, however-his eyes, that when "Then perhaps it will be as well not to visible, which at this moment was not the marry him," he answered. case, were large, steady and, like his skin, "I would rather die first," she said, of a brilliant black.

with conviction. When the funeral was over and Thomas 'Unfortunately one can't always die Outram slept his last sleep beneath six when it happens to be convenient, Jane." feet of earth and stones, his brother took "Oh, Leonard, don't be horrid," she out the prayer book that Jane Beach had

"Where are you given him, which in truth formed all his library, and read the burial service over "To the bad, probably," he answered. "At least it all depends upon you. Look the grave, finishing it by the glare of the lightning flashes. Then he and Otter here, Jane, if you stick to me, I will stick went back to the cave and ate, speaking no word. After they had finished Leonard

called to the dwarf, who took his food at love you, and I would work myself to a little distance. "Listen, Otter. The tale is yet to tell. death for you, but at the best it must be a question of time, probably of years." The baas who is dead dreamed before he "Oh, Leonard, indeed I will if I can. I died. He dreamed that I should win the

understand how odious they all are to me an, and he bade me wait here awhile after about you, especially papa." he was dead. Say, now, Otter, you who "Confound him!" said Leonard beneath his breath, and if Jane heard her are the child of a dream doctor, was this

sufficiently strong to induce her to redwarf answered, then pondered awhile,

"Well, Jane, the matter lies thus: Ei- drawing in the dust of the floor with his ther you must put up with their treatment finger, and spoke again: "Yet I say that or you must give me the go by. Look the words of the dead uttered on the edge here: In six months you will be 21. In of death shall come true. He promised voice when her hand was already on the here: In six months you will be 21. In of death shall come true. He promised door, "you will be careful to be dressed in this country all her relations put together that you should win the wealth. You will time for dinner, will you not, love? You can't force a woman to marry a man if win it by this way or that, and once more remember that young Mr. Cohen is com- she does not wish to or prevent her from the great kraal across the water shall be ing, and I should like somebody to be marrying one whom she does wish to yours again, and the children of strangers marry. Now, you know my address at shall wander there no more. Let us obey my club in town. Letters sent there will the words of the dead and bide here awhile

Seven days had passed, and on the night vent of this guest was not agreeable to her. vent you from writing and posting a let- of the seventh Leonard Outram and Otter

> "Baas," said Otter, "you are sick, "No," he answered-"that is, perhaps

hand, I do not hear from you, I shall "Yes, baas, a little. You have said noth-know it is because you do not choose to ing, but I know, I who watch. The fever

write or because that which you have to has touched you with his finger. By and write would be too painful for me to read. by he will grip you with his whole hand, and then, baas"

'Oh, yes, Leonard, but you put things "And then, Otter, good night." Yes, baas, for you, good night, and for Things have been put hardly enough to me, what? Baas, you think too much, me, love, and I must be plain. This is my and you have nothing to do, that is why last chance of speaking to you." At this moment an ominous sound you grow sick. Better that we should go

and dig again. echoed through the night. It was none "What for, Otter? Ant bear holes make other than the distant voice of Mr. Beach good graves.

"Jane! Are you out there, Jane?" "Evil talk, baas. Better that we should go away and wait no more than that you "Oh, heavens," she said. "There is my should talk such talk, which is the begin-

father calling me. I came out by the back ning of death.' door, but mother must have been up to Then there was silence for awhile. my room and found me gone. She watches 'The fact is, Otter,'' said Leonard presently, "we are both fools. It is useless "Go back. Tell them that you have for us to wait here with nothing to eat, been saying goodby to me. It is not a othing to drink, nothing to smoke and They cannot kill you for it." only the fever to look forward to, expect-'Indeed they can, or just as bad," reing we know not what. But what does it plied Jane. Then suddenly she threw her matter? Fools and wise men all come to arms about her lover's neck, and burying one end. Lord, how my head aches and

her beautiful face upon his breast she began to sob bitterly, murmuring, "Oh, my darling, my darling, what shall I do with- rose impatiently and left the cave.

quickly. Over 2,000 private ende Prematureness means impotency in the first stage. It is a symptom of seminal weakness and berrenness. It can be stopped in 20 days by the use of Hudyan. The new discovery was made by the Special-ists of the old famous Hudson Medical Institute. It is the strongest vitalizer made. It is some camp, filled as it was with scores of the Over the brief and distressing scene would go-to his brother's grave. Pres- book, according to her custom, and I went more as though to repel some invisible foe. "Really I cannot listen to such non-"Really I cannot listen to such nonment they were there. mountains, ten days' journey or more, till most wicked desperadoes in Africa? How "It is paper, baas," said Otter in a low was it possible even that they could obtain access to it? Viewed from far off, the we struck the southernmost mouth of the Zambezi, below Luabo. Then I should sense any longer," he broke in angrily. "Leonard, this is nothing less than an imsense any longer, "he broke in angrily. "Leonard, this is nothing less than an im-pertinence. Of course any understanding for the fast on might best, even going so that may have existed between you and jil folly between you indeed, but for my part I never greak to my daughter the matter another thought Leave this house and never speak to my daughter "To be Continued."

possessing or blander than on this partic-plar evening when Leonard was ushered safe in her lover's arms that at this mo-Tom sickened and died.

"Nay, he is but a slave of a slave. I wished to speak or do anything for herself Tom's death, Leonard called his servant have no master, mother. I have a mis-Otter and bade him prepare for the burial. tress, and she is named Fortune." "The worst of mistresses," said the old

a member of the bastard Zulu race. The woman, "or the best, for she laughs ever brothers had found him wandering about behind her frown and mingles stripes with kisses.

> "The stripes I know well, but not the kisses," answered Leonard gloomily, then added in another tone: "What is your errand, mother? How are you named, and what do you seek wandering alone in the mountains?'

"I am named Soa, and I seek succor e was hideous, though his ugliness was for one whom I love and who is in sore distress. Will my lord listen to my tale?" "Speak on," said Leonard

Then the woman crouched down before him and told this story: My lord, I, Soa, am the servant of a

hite man, a trader who lives on the banks of the Zambezi some four days' march om here, having a house there which he built many years ago." compressed to his present dimensions by

"How is the white man named?" asked Leonard

"The black people call him Mavoom but his white name is Rodd. He is a good aster and no common man, but he has this fault-that at times he is drunken. Twenty years ago or more Mavoom, my master, married a white woman, a Portuese whose father dwelt at Delagoa bay, and who was beautiful-ah, beautiful! Then he settled on the banks of the Zamezi and became a trader, building the

house where it is now, or rather where its ruins are. Here his wife died in childbirth. les, she died in my arms, and it was I who reared her daughter Juanna, tending her from the cradle to this day.

"Now, after the death of his wife Maroom became more drunken. Still when he is not in liquor he is very clever and a od trader, and many times he has collected ivory and feathers and gold worth much money and also has bred cattle by Then he would say that he would leave the wilderness and go to another country across the water. I know not where, that country whence Englishmen come. Twice he started to go, and I with him and his daughter, Juanna, my

mistress, who is named the Shepherdess of Heaven by the black people because they think that she has the gift of foretelling rain. But once Maycom stopped in town at Durban, in Natal, and getting drunk gambled away all his money in a month, and once he lost it in a river, the oat being overset by a river horse and the ivory and gold sinking out of sight. Still the last-time he started he left his

daughter, the Shepherdess, at Durban, and there she staid for three years, learning those things that the white women know, for she is very clever, as clever as she is beautiful and good. Now, for two years she has been back at the settlement,

for she came to Delagoa bay in a ship, and with her, and Mayoom with us. 'But one month gone my mistress, the hepherdess, spoke to her father, Mavoom, ing him that she wearled of life in the derness and would sail across the waters to the land which is called home. He istened to her. for Mavoom loves his ughter, and said that it should be so.

But he said this also-first he would go on a trading journey up the river to buy a store of ivory which he knew of. Now, she was against this, saying: 'Let us start at once. We have tempted chance too long, and once again we are rich. Let us

go by land to Natal and pass over the seas.' Still he would not listen, for he is a headstrong man. So on the morrow he started to search for the store of ivory, and luanna, his daughter, wept, for though she is fearless, it was not fitting that she should be left thus alone; also she hated to be apart from her father, for it is when

she is not there to watch that he becomes drunken. Mavoom left, and 12 days went by

while I and my mistress, the Shepherdess, sat at the settlement waiting till he returned. Now, it is the custom of my mistress when she is dressed to read each morning from a certain holy book in how hot it is! I wish that we had some which are written the laws of that great quinine left. I am going out," and he great whom she worships. On the thirteenth morning, therefore, she sat beneath

Otter followed him. He knew where he the veranda of the house, reading in the

they treated me kindly. Here it was also that I learned that some white men from Natal were digging for gold in these mountains, and next day I traveled on in search of them, thinking that perchance they would help me, for I know well that the English hate the slave drivers. And here, my lord, I am come at last with

much toil, and now. I pray you, deliver my nistress, the Shepherdess, from the hands of the Yellow Devil. Oh, my lord, I seem poor and wretched, but I tell you that if you can deliver her you shall win a great eward. Yes, I will reveal to you that which I have kept secret all my life-aye, even from Mavoom my master. I will reveal to you the secret treasures of my people, 'the Children of the Mist.'

Now, when Leonard, who all the while had been listening attentively and in silence to Soa's tale, heard her last words, he raised his head and stared at her, thinking that her sorrows had made her mad There was no look of madness upon the woman's flerce face, however, but only one of the most earnest and indeed passi entreaty. So, letting this matter go by for

the while, he spoke to her. "Are you then mad, mother?" he asked. You see that I am alone here, with one servant, for my three companions, of whom the people in the kraal told you, are dead through fever, and I myself am smitten with it, and yet you ask me, alone as I am, to travel to the slave trader's camp that is you know not where, and there, single handed, to rescue your nistress, if indeed you have a mistress

and your tale is true. Are you then mad, mother "No, lord, I am not mad, and that which I tell you is true, every word of it. know that I ask a great thing, but I know also that you Englishmen can do great things when you are well paid.

Strive to help me, and you shall have your reward. Ay should you fail and live I can still give you a reward-not much erhaps, but more than you ever earned.' 'Never mind the reward now, mother, said Leonard testily, for the veiled sarasm of Soa's speech had stung him, "uness, indeed, you can cure me of the fe-

ver," he added, with a laugh. "I can do that," she answered quietly. Tomorrow morning I will cure you." 'So much the better," he said, with an redulous smile, "and now of your wisdom tell me how am I to look for your

nistress, to say nothing of rescuing her, when I do not know where she has been taken to. Probably this nest of which the Portugee talked is a secret place. How long has she been carried off?" This will be the twelfth day, lord. As or the nest, it is secret. That I have dis-

overed. It is to your wisdom that I look o find it. Leonard mused awhile; then a thought struck him. Turning to the dwarf, who had been sitting by, listening to all that

was said in stolid silence, his great head resting upon his knees, he spoke to him in Dutch: "Otter, were you not once taken as a

slave? "Yes, baas, once, ten years ago." "How was it?"

"Thus, baas. I was hunting on the Zambezi with the soldiers of a tribe there.

It was after my own people had driven me out, because they said that I was too ugly to become their chief, as I was born to be. Then the Yellow Devil, that same man of whom the woman speaks, fell upon us with Arabs and took us to his place, there to await the slave dhows. He was a stout man, horrible to see and elderly. The day the dhows came in I escaped by

swimming. All the others who remained alive were taken off in ships to Zanzibar.' "Could you find your way to that place as the old woman seemed bent upon it he again, Otter?' Yes, baas. It is a hard spot to find, for the path runs through morasses. Moreover, the place is secret and protected by water. All of us slaves were blindfolded

during the last day's march. But I worked up my bandage with my nose-ah, my big nose served me well that day !-- and watched the path from beneath it, and Otter never forgets a road over which his feet have traveled; also I followed that path back. "Could you find the spot from here?"

"Yes, baas. I should go along these

taken your pay, and I mean to earn it, so fense of aloes and prickly pears. So much for the exterior of the spot. Its we need not enter into the matter of the blood of Aca. It seems to me more prob- interior was divided into three principal able that our own blood will be in ques- inclosures. Of these three the easternmo tion before all is said and done. And now | was the site of the nest itself, a long, low thatched building of wood, in front and we had better make ready to start."

We shall not need to follow the footsteps to the west of which there was an ope of Leonard Outram and his companions space, or courtyard, with a hard floor day by day. For a week they traveled on, wherein were but two buildings-a shed, journeying mostly by night, as they had supported on posts and open from the purposed. They climbed mountains; they eaves to the ground, where sales of slaves struggled through swamps and forests; were carried on, and farther to the north they swam rivers. Indeed one of these was in flood, and they never could have nest itself, but separate from it, a small crossed it had it not been for Otter's pow- erection, very strongly built of brick and ers of natation. Six times did the dwarf stone, and having a roof made from the swim the torrent, bearing their goods and tin linings of ammunition and other cases

guns held above the water with one hand. This was a magazine. All round this in-On the seventh journey he was still more closure stood rows of straw huts of a naheavily weighted, for, with some assist- tive build, evidently occupied as a camp ance from Leonard, he must carry the by the Arabs and half breed slave traders woman Soa, who could swim but little. of the baser sort.

But he did it and without any great fa-The second inclosure, which was to the tigue. It was not until Otter was seen stemming a heavy current that his vast west of the nest, comprised the slave strength could be measured. Here indeed camp. It may have covered half an acre of ground. The only buildings in it were tage, for it offered the less surface for the four low sheds similar in every respect to his stunted stature was of positive advanthat where the slaves were sold, only water to act upon.

much longer. Here the captives lay pick On the eighth night of their journey etcd in rows to iron bars which ran the they halted on the crest of a high moun-tain. The moon had set, and it was imlength of the sheds and were fixed into the ground at either end. This camp was possible to go farther. Moreover, they senarated from the nest inclosure by a were weary with long marching. Wrapdeep canal 30 feet in width and spanned ping themselves in their blankets, for here the air was piercing cold, they lay down beneath the shelter of some bushes to sleen the air was piercing cold, they lay down drawbridge that led across the canal to beneath the shelter of some bushes to sleep the gate of the camp; also it was protected the gate of the camp; also it was protected 'Look, baas," he said to Leonard, "we on the nest side by a low wall and on the slave camp side by an earthwork, planted have marched straight. There below us is the big river, and there, far away to the as usual, with prickly pears. On this earthwork near the gate and little guardright, is the son.'

CHAPTER V.

house a six pounder cannon was mounted That night they camped near the slave the muzzle of which frowned down upon road, a Golgotha, covered at intervals with the bones of slaves. It was a gloomy night the slave camp, a visible warning to its occupants of the fate which awaited the for all, but at last the darkness passed, froward. Indeed all the defenses of this part of the island were devised as safethe sun shone out merrily, and the travelers arose, shook the night dew from their guards against a possible emeute of the hair and ate a scanty meal, for they must slaves husband such food as they had with them Beyond the slave camp lay the garden Thus they went on for the most part of

that could only be approached through it. It also was fortified by water and earththat day till toward evening they reached a place where the particular canal that works, but not so strongly. they were following suddenly divided it-self into two, one branch running north Such is a brief description of what was in those days the strongest slavehold in and one in a southerly direction. Africa.

"Which way, Otter?" asked Leonard. "Nay, baas, I know not. The water has

changed. There was no land here. The The road which Leonard and his comcanal went straight on.' panions were following led them to the This was a serious matter, for one false edge of the main and southernmost canal, step in such a labyrinth meant that they debouching exactly opposite the water would be lost utterly. For long they degate that gave access to the nest. But bated which stream to take, and at last Otter did not venture to guide them to decided to try that on the left hand, which this point, for there they would be seen by Otter thought ran more nearly in the true the sentries, and, notwithstanding their direction. They had already started in masquerade dress, awkward questions might be asked which they could not anpursuance of this advice when Soa, who had hitherto remained silent, suggested swer. So when they had arrived within that they should first go a little way down 500 yards of the gate he struck off to the the right hand stream on the chance of left into the thick bush that clothed the finding a clew. Leonard demurred, but hither side of the canal. Through this they crawled as best they might till finally ielded, and turning the canoe they padthey halted near the water's edge, almost dled her some 300 yards in this new direcat the southwest angle of the slave camp tion. As there was nothing to be seen, and under the shadow of a dense clump of however, Otter began to put her about

willows. again "See, baas," said the dwarf in a low voice, "the journey is accomplished, and I have brought you straight. Yonder is the "Stay, white man," said Soa, who had been searching the surface of the water with her keen eyes. "What is that thing house of the Yellow Devil. Now it reyonder?" and she pointed to a clump of mains only to take it, or to rescue the reeds about 40 yards away, among which maiden from it.' Leonard looked at the place in dismay. some small white object was just discern-

How was it possible that they-two mer 'Feathers, I think," Leonard answered, and a woman-could capture this fortified 'but we will go and see." In another mo-

Mustang Liniment

Mexican

er and deeree, interest and costs. Dated at McMinnville, Oregon, January 29th, 95. W. G. HENDERSON, Sheriff of Yamhill County, Oregon.

Caked & Inflamed Udders. Piles. Rheumatic Pains, Bruises and Strains, Running Sores, Inflammations, Stiff joints, Harness & Saddle Sores, Sciatica, Lumbago, Scalds, Blisters. Insect Bites, All Cattle Ailments. All Horse Ailments, All Sheep Ailments,

Burns,

Penetrates Muscle, Membrane and Tissue Quickly to the Very Seat of Pain and Ousts it in a Jiffy.

Mustang Liniment conquers

Makes Man or Beast well

.

the eyes

in vigorates and tones the

Hudyan cures Debility,

Emissions, and developes and restores

weak organs. Pains in the

back, losses

parts.

Rub in Vigorously.

Pain,

again.

This extra

wonderfu

has been en-dorsed by the leading scien-

ific men o

Europe and

America. Hudyan is

purely vege-table.

Hudyan stops

of the dis

charge in 20

LOST

MANHOOD

いたのない

THE GREAT HUDYAN