

FROM POORHOUSE TO PALACE

BY MARY J. HOLMES

CHAPTER VIII.—(Continued.)

One morning about two weeks after Mary was in the meadow gathering cowslips for dinner when she heard some one calling her name; and looking up, she saw Jenny hurrying toward her, her sunbonnet hanging down her back, as usual, and her cheeks flushed with violent exertion. As soon as she came up she began with "Oh, my, ain't I hot and tired, and I can't stay a minute, either, for I ran away. But I had such good news to tell you, that I would come. You are going to have a great deal better home than this. You know where Rice Corner is, the district over east?"

Mary replied that she did, and Jenny continued: "We all went over there yesterday to see Mrs. Mason. She's a real nice lady, who used to live in Boston, and be intimate with ma, until three or four years ago when Mr. Mason died. We didn't go there any more then, and I asked Rose what the reason was, and she said Mrs. Mason was poor now, and ma had 'cut her.' And when I asked her what she cut her with, she only laughed, and said she believed I didn't know anything. But since then I've learned what it means."

"What does it?" asked Mary and Jenny replied:

"If a person dies and leaves no money, no matter how good his folks are, or how much you like them, you mustn't know them when you meet them in the street, or you must cross over the other side if you see them coming; and then when ladies call and speak about them, you must draw a great, long breath, and wonder how the poor thing did get along, she was so dreadfully extravagant. I positively heard mother say those words about Mrs. Mason; and what is so funny, the washwoman the same day spoke of her, and cried when she told how kind she was, and how she would go without things herself for the sake of giving to the poor."

After a moment's pause Jenny proceeded: "This Mrs. Mason came into the country and bought the prettiest little cottage you ever saw. She has lots of nice fruit, and for all mother pretends in Boston that she does not visit her, just as soon as the fruit is ripe she always goes there. Pa says it's real mean, and he should think Mrs. Mason would see through it."

"Did you go there for fruit yesterday?" asked Mary.

"Oh, no," returned Jenny, "Mother said she was tired to death with staying at home. Besides that, she heard something in Boston about a large estate in England, which possibly would fall to Mrs. Mason, and she thought it would be real kind to go and tell her. Mrs. Mason has poor health, and while we were there she asked mother if she knew of any good little girl she could get to come and live with her; 'one,' she said, 'who could be quiet when her head ached, and who would read to her and wait on her at other times.' Mother said she did not know of any, but when Mrs. Mason went out to get tea, I followed and told her you, and the tears came into her eyes when I said your folks were all dead, and you were alone and sorry. She said right off that she would come round and see you soon, and if she liked you you should live with her."

So saying, she ran off; Mary, having gathered her cowslips, sat down to think of Mrs. Mason, and wonder if she should ever see her. That afternoon, when the dishes were all washed, she, as usual, staid away to her books. She had not been long occupied as she was called by her, saying Mr. Knight was downstairs and wanted to see her, and that there was a lady with him.

Mary readily guessed that the lady must be Mrs. Mason, and carefully brushing her hair and tying on a clean apron, she descended to the kitchen, where she was met by Mr. Knight, who called out "Hallo! my child, how do you do? 'Pears to me you've grown handsome. It agrees with you to live here, I reckon, but I'll venture you'll be glad enough to leave and go and live with her, won't you?" Pointing toward a lady who was just coming from Mrs. Parker's room and toward whom Mary's heart instantly warmed.

"You see," continued Mr. Knight, "one of the Lincoln girls has taken a mighty shine to you, and it's queer, too, for they're dreadful stuck-up folks."

"If you please, sir," said Mary, interrupting him, "Jenny isn't a bit stuck-up." "Tough!" returned Mr. Knight. "She does not belong to the Lincoln race, then, I guess. I know them, root and branch. Lincoln's wife used to work in the factory at Southridge, but she's forgot all about that, and holds her head dreadful high whenever she sees me. But that's neither here nor there. This woman wants you to live with her. Miss Mason, this is Mary, this is Miss Mason." The introduction being thus happily over, Mrs. Mason proceeded to ask Mary a variety of questions, and ended by saying she thought she would take her, although she would rather not have her away for a few days, as she was going to be absent. Miss Grundy was now interrogated concerning her knowledge of work, and with quiet and cheerful answers she replied: "Perhaps, ma'am, it looks like I've had the manage of her mostly, but I must confess that she's lived with me so long, and got my ways so well, that she's as pleasant a mannered, good-tempered child, and will see as bright a knife as you could wish to acquire."

Saturday came at last, and long before the sun peaked over the eastern hills Mrs. Mason was up and dressed. Just as she was ready to leave her room she heard Sally sitting in a low tone, "Oh, there's mourning; mourning—mourning—mourning; Oh, there'll be mourning when Mary's gone away."

About nine o'clock Mr. Knight drove up alone, Mrs. Mason being sick with nervous headache. "I should have been

here sooner, said he, "but the roads is awful rough, and old Charlotte has got what's the matter?"

"What's the matter?" asked Mary and Jenny replied:

Very different this time was Mary's ride with Mr. Knight from what it had been some months before, and after brushing away a few natural tears, and sending back a few heart-sighs to the loved ones left behind, her spirits rallied, and by the time they reached the borders of Rice Corner there was such a look of quiet happiness on her face that even Mr. Knight noticed it. As they rode on Mary fancied that the country looked pleasanter and the houses better than in the region of the poorhouse; and when a sudden turn of the road brought into view a beautiful blue sheet of water, embosomed by bright green hills, her delight knew no bounds. Springing up and pointing toward it, she exclaimed: "Oh, please stop a moment and look. Isn't it lovely? What is it?"

CHAPTER IX.

"That? Oh, that's nothing but 'Jordan Pond,' or as folks most generally call it, 'see,' there's two, North and South Pond."

"How far is the pond from Mrs. Mason's?" asked Mary, casting longing glances toward the distant sandy beach and the graceful trees which drooped over the water's edge.

"It's farther back than 'tis there, 'cause it's uphill the way," said Mr. Knight, "but here we be at Miss Mason's—this house right here," and he pointed to a neat, handsome cottage, almost hidden from view by the dense foliage which surrounded it.

"There was a long lawn in front, and into the carriage road on the right of it Mr. Knight turned, and driving up to a side door, said to Mary, "Come, jump back for my foot is so lame I don't believe I'll get out. But there's your chest. You can't lift that. Hallo! Judith, come here."

In answer to this call a fat, pleasant-looking colored woman appeared in the doorway, and as if fresh from the regions of cooquid wiped the drops of perspiration from her forehead, and said:

"Here, Judith," said Mr. Knight, "help this gal lift her traps out."

Judith complied, and then bidding old Charlotte to "get up," Mr. Knight drove away, leaving Mary standing by the kitchen door.

"Come in and sit down," said Judith, pushing a chair toward Mary with her feet. "It's as hot here as an oven, but I had cranberry sass and ginger snaps, and mussy knives, to make this morning and I got let alone; but set down and make yourself to home."

Mary took the proffered seat, and then Judith left the room for a few moments, saying when she returned that, as Mrs. Mason was still suffering from a headache, she could not see Mary until after dinner. "And," continued Judith, "she told me to entertain you, but I don't know what to say nor do first. Harry died just a week to a day before he was to be buried, and so I never had a little girl to talk to. Can't you think of something to talk about? What have you been used to doing?"

"Washing dishes," was Mary's reply. "Wall," answered Judith, "I guess you won't have that to do here for no night. I heard Miss Mason tell 'em that she got you to read to her and wait on her. And then she said something about your not having an equal chance with your sister. You can't but one, now Father's dead, have you?"

Mary replied in the negative, and Judith continued: "Wall, now you've got over the first 'out,' I reckon you're glad the baby's dead, for she must have been kind of a bother, wasn't she?"

Instantly Mary's thoughts flew back to an empty cradle, and again a little golden head was pillowed upon her breast, as it had in times past it had been, and as it would never be again. Covering her face with her hands, she sobbed, "Oh, Alle! Alle! I wish she hadn't died!"

Judith looked on in amazement, and for want of something better to do placed a fresh stick of wood in the stove, muttering to herself, "Now, I never! I might of knew I'd know what to say. What a pity Harry died. I'll give her that big ginger snap the minute it's baked. See if I don't."

Accordingly, when the snap was done, Judith placed it in Mary's hands, bidding her eat it quick, and then go up and see the nice chamber Mrs. Mason had arranged for her.

"Come," said Judith; and leading the way, she conducted Mary up the staircase, and through a light, airy hall to the door of a small room, which she opened, saying, "Look, ain't it pretty?"

Mary's heart was too full to speak, and for several minutes she stood silent, with the exception of her mother's pleasant parlor in old England, she had never before seen anything which seemed to her so cozy and cheerful as did that little room, with its single bed, snowy counter-

pane, muslin curtains, clean matting, convenient toilet table, and what to her was fairer than all the rest, upon the mantel-piece there stood two small vases, filled with sweet flowers, whose fragrance filled the apartment with delicious perfume. All this was so different from the bare walls, uncovered floors and rickety furniture of the poorhouse that Mary trembled lest it should prove a dream from which ere long she would awake.

When Mary was finally set for by Mrs. Mason she had been so much accustomed to sick persons that she knew intuitively just what to do and when to do it, and her step was so light, her voice so low, and the hand which bathed the aching head so soft and gentle in its touch that Mrs. Mason involuntarily drew her to her bosom, and kissing her lips, called her her child, and said she should never leave her, then, laying back in her easy chair, she remained perfectly still, while Mary alternately fixed her hair and smoothed her forehead, until she felt into a quiet slumber, from which she did not awake until Judgment day.

The Chinese emperor is planning a trip to Europe for next year.

Civil government will be inaugurated in the Philippines July 1.

Eight miners were killed by an explosion in a Michigan coal mine.

The cup defender Constitution was dismantled in a squall during her trial trip.

Chicago machinists demand that the Employers Association shall disband.

Three persons were killed and 15 injured, some fatally, in a train wreck in Georgia.

Construction has begun on a railroad from Grand Forks, B. C., to Republic, Wash.

Carnegie says that England will yet appeal to the United States for military help.

The president and cabinet have decided that an extra session of congress is unnecessary.

A new tobacco trust has been formed to take over the American and Continental companies.

Twenty thousand acres of hay and grain were destroyed by fire near the town of Los Banos, Cal.

Lord Kitchener's reports of the recent battle at Vlakfontein shows the British loss to have been 200.

Russia's casualties during the Chinese campaign were 31 officers and 682 men killed or died of wounds.

The city of Mattoon, Ill., was almost entirely destroyed by fire. The property loss will reach \$75,000.

The rebel general Canlies doubted that Aguinaldo had been captured, and sent a special servant to satisfy himself.

Von Waldersee has started for Berlin.

Physicians give hope of Mrs. McKinley's slow recovery.

The policy of the United States and Russia is identical.

The pruned outlook in Oregon is favorable for a good market.

Senator McLaurin, of South Carolina, withdraws his resignation.

A new newspaper is expected to be started in Seattle about October 1.

Several thousand dollars were found under a sidewalk in Mineral Point, Wis.

A serious encounter occurred between French and British troops in China.

Chicago employers agree not to try to settle machinists' strike until after June 11.

As a result of a collision in West Virginia two are dead and many others injured.

All railroads west of Mississippi to the Pacific coast are to be consolidated.

There is great uneasiness in England on account of scarcity of South African news.

A new explosive, called Maximite, much more powerful than Lyddite, has been adopted by the United States government.

Exports this year from the United States to Spain will be larger than in any preceding year, with a possible single exception.

Intense heat prevails over Europe.

The birth of a royal princess causes much joy in Italy.

General Chaffee's army has arrived at Nagasaki from China.

London has a rumor of a severe British defeat near Pretoria.

The duke of York's visit to Canada has been officially announced.

The Philippine commission has begun its final provincial tour.

Mrs. McKinley's condition causes the doctors much apprehension.

Minister Goggin expects to return to his post in China about July 17.

A \$10,000 fruit packing house will be established at Vancouver, Wash.

The Ohio state board of arbitration prevented a street car strike at Dayton.

American exports to Scandinavia have more than trebled in the past 10 years.

James A. Herne, the well known actor, passed away at his home in New York.

It is understood in Rome that Pope Leo XIII has made a will naming his successor.

Northwestern Iowa has begun shipping choice butter to Porto Rico. The first consignment left Sioux Falls a few days ago.

The Austro Hungarian census just completed shows the total population to be 47,000,000, an increase since 1890 of 9 per cent. The population of Budapest has increased 45 per cent.

EVENTS OF THE DAY

FROM THE FOUR QUARTERS OF THE WORLD.

A Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week Pressed in a Condensed Form Which is Most Likely to Prove of Interest to Our Many Readers.

There are yet many rebels in arms in the island of Cebu.

Jamestown, Cape Colony, has been captured by the Boers.

Judge Taft will be the first governor of the Philippine islands.

The Chinese emperor is planning a trip to Europe for next year.

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TRADE RELATIONS RESTORED.

Our Exports to Spain This Year Promise to Break all Records.

New York, June 5.—A special from Washington says: Commercial relations between Spain and the United States seem to be fully restored and it is not improbable that American exports to that country in the fiscal year 1901 will be greater, with possibly a single exception, than in any preceding year.

Exports from the United States to Spain in the nine months ending with March, 1901, were valued at \$11,879,349, against \$7,091,043 in the corresponding period in the fiscal year 1899. The figures for the year up to this time indicate that the total exports from the United States to Spain in the fiscal year 1901 will be about \$16,000,000.

On the import side the figures of the present fiscal year are largely in excess of those of 1899, though slightly less than those of 1900 which were the largest since 1891. The annual imports from Spain into the United States since 1891 have ranged from \$3,500,000 to \$6,000,000, averaging about \$4,500,000, while for the present fiscal year they seem likely to exceed \$5,000,000.

CHICAGO EMPLOYERS MEET.

Will Not Settle Machinists' Strike Until June 11.

Chicago, June 5.—There will be no settlement of the machinists' strike in Chicago until June 11. This was the decision of the local manufacturers today, when the members of the Chicago Association of Machinery Manufacturers pledged allegiance to the National Metal Trades Association, and agreed not to enter into negotiations until after the great gathering of employers in New York city June 11.

While the manufacturers were discussing their future action, the machinists were not idle, a number of machinists leaving the three plants of the Crane Company to join the strikers. Statements differ as to the number of men who left the Crane plant. Besides these men, 80 workmen struck in three other places, while agreements were signed with five firms whose names would not be given out.

RAILROADS CONSOLIDATE.

All Lines West of the Mississippi to the Pacific to Be United.

New York, June 5.—One tremendous consolidation of the railroads operating between the Mississippi river and the Pacific coast promises to result from a settlement of the differences which caused the Northern Pacific corner. Not only have the differences been settled between the Morgan-Hill faction and the Harriman party, regarding the Burlington deal, and the relations of that road and the Northern Pacific and Great Northern with the Union Pacific, but also that the St. Paul, the Chicago & Northwestern and the Chicago Great Western will be taken care of in the great harmonizing scheme in the trunk lines of the west.

PLANS OF SEATTLE MEN.

Will Try to Get Non-Union Men in About Sixty Days More.

Seattle, June 5.—If the strike of the metal working unions is not settled within 60 days at the outside, an effort will be made by the manufacturers to operate their shops with non-union workmen. A statement practically to this effect was made today by a leading member of the Washington branch of the Metal Trades Association of the Pacific coast. It is said by members of the Manufacturers' Association that there are plenty of non-union machinists in the East, who would readily accept work at the present scale of wages in the Seattle shops.

Philippines Elected to Congress.

Madrid, June 5.—Among those who were recently elected to parliament were three Filipinos, residents in Spain. They propose during the course of the debate on the speech from the throne to bring up the question of the Philippines, alleging that the situation is worse than before the war.

Burglars Burned a Town.

Beaumont, Tex., June 5.—The town of Jasper has been entirely wiped out by fire. Seventeen houses, including every business house in the place, and a number of residences, were destroyed. The town has no fire department. Previous to the fire the postoffice safe and the safe of the county treasurer had been blown open and robbed. The conclusion is that burglars blew open these safes and then set fire to the town to create excitement that would afford them an opportunity to escape.

Postal Orders.

Washington, June 5.—The post-office at St. Louis, Marion county, Or., will be discontinued on June 15, and its mail sent to Gervais. A post-office has been established at Chisna, Alaska, to be supplied by special service from Valdez, 200 miles to the south. A postoffice has been established at Austin, Island county, Wash., to be supplied from Newell.

NEWS OF THE STATE

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM ALL OVER OREGON.

Commercial and Financial Happenings of Importance—A Brief Review of Growth and Improvements of the M. Industries Throughout Our Thriving Commonwealth—Latest Market Report.

Ground has been broken for the new Patterson school building at Eugene. About 100,000 pounds of wool were sold at The Dalles the other day 10 cents.

Placer work in the Westwater by Durkee districts, Eastern Oregon, now in full progress.

Slugs and cutworms are doing small amount of damage to early gardens around Cottage Grove.

The Oregon Telephone Comp. has a large force of men employed Dallas making extensive repairs.

Preparations for the Eastern Oregon Fourth of July celebration, to be held in Baker City, are being pushed with vigor.

The hop yards in Lincoln county are looking fine. The great test is to get a sufficient number of to do necessary work.

John A. Van Gross a student of University of Oregon, has just received notice that he has been awarded a scholarship in Yale University.

Albany college commencement under June 14 to 19 provides an orate program of orations, serenades, receptions and reunions. The college is just closing its 34th year.

A prominent mining engineer in Colorado is making a tour of the central mining districts of Eastern Oregon in the interest of a large syndicate of capitalists of that state.

Four whales in Yaquina bay reported one day last week.

Arrangements are being made for Fourth of July celebration at DuPont.

The O. R. & N. Co. has a new switch engine in the Portland yards.

The movement of cattle from new country for the summer is under way.

A severe frost near Vale a few nights ago is reported to have injured crops considerably.

Two car loads of one and two year old steers were shipped from Yaquina bay last week.

The contract for carrying the mail between Marshfield and North Bend will be let July 1.

Oliver P. Kaubb, aged 78, an old pioneer, died at his home near Colburn the other day.

The new superintendent of the Badger mine in Susanville district has laid off a number of men, pending the making of improvements.

The Lincoln county court will repair the bridge across the Big Elk river at Elk City and will construct a bridge across the Yaquina river at Pioneer.

The machinery for the additional five stamps for the Lucky Boy mill in the Blue River district has arrived at Springfield and will be hauled to the mine as soon as possible.

Portland Markets.
Wheat—Walla Walla, 60c; valley, nominal; bluestem, 61c@62c, per bushel.
Flour—Best grades, \$2.90@3.40 per barrel; graham, \$2.60.

Oats—White, \$1.32 1/2@1.35 per cental; gray, \$1.30@1.32 1/2 per cental. Barley—Feed, \$1.17@1.50; brewing, \$1.70@1.75 per ton.
Millstuffs—Bran, \$17 per ton; middlings, \$21.50; shorts, \$20.00; chop, \$16.

Hay—Timothy, \$12.50@14; clover, \$7@9.50; Oregon wild hay, \$6@7 per ton.
Hops—12@14c. per lb.
Wool—Valley, 11@13c; Eastern Oregon, 7@11c; mohair, 20@21c. per pound.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 15@17 1/2c; dairy, 13@14c; store, 10@12c. per pound.
Eggs—Oregon ranch, 12@12 1/2c. per dozen.
Cheese—Full cream, twins, 12 1/2c; Young America, 13 1/2@14c. per pound.
Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$3.50@4; hens, \$4@5.00; dressed, 11@12c. per pound; springs, \$1.50@3 per dozen; ducks, \$5@7; geese, \$6@7; turkeys, live, 10@12c; dressed, 14@16c. per pound.
Potatoes—Old, 90c@1.10 per sack; new, 2c. per pound.

Mutton—Lamb, 4 1/2@5c. per pound gross; best sheep, wethers, with wool, \$4.25@4.50; dressed, 6@7c. per pound.
Hogs—Gross, heavy, \$5.75@6; light, \$4.75@5; dressed, 7c. per pound.
Veal—Large, 6 3/4@7c. per pound; small, 7 1/2@8c. per pound.
Beef—Gross, top steers, \$5@5.25; cows and heifers, \$4.50@4.75; dressed beef, 7@7 1/2c. per pound.

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