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HERR STEINHARDT'S NEMESIS

BY J. MACLAREN COBBAN.

CHAPTER I—Continued.

"Ah," he said to me, "so you've come to try and enlighten our Hottentots about a thing or two in this world and the next. Well, you can only do your best, you know; we'll try to make you comfortable and back you up. Come all the way from London today, I suppose;—have you got yourself fixed up yet in the village?—what some author chap—Matthew or Mark Summat or other—calls a 'Lancashire Hell-hole.' Well, we're not quite so bad as that yet here, but we're getting to it. But it can't be helped, you know; we ha' gone forrard and we mun go forrarder, as the rabbit said when he let th' weasel get him into a hole. Yes, 'Hell-hole;' but it should be a useful change for you; it may give you an idea when you want to describe to your congregation the real—"

"Jim, lad," interrupted his sister, "you're forgetting yourself?"

"Eh? Oh?—ah, well I can remember, you know, when all round about here was as sweet and pretty a place—I was born back o' th' White Moss" (indicating that locality over his shoulder), "Toppleton way."

Thus the full, quaint and careless stream of his talk flowed on, meandering about one person and another, this subject and that. He seemed a well of curious and fearsome Lancashire lore—lore of the days when spinning and weaving were done in the cottage homes of remote hamlets and homesteads, when Lancashire energy applied itself to useful work and not to useless toil, when its fabrics were made to be worn and not merely to be sold—the days when the steam engine was not yet with its all-devouring, all-enslaving machinery.

We had talked thus for about an hour—or, rather, listened to Mr. Birley talk—when he paused and looked round (he had been fidgeting in his chair for some time.)

"What's got 'Manule?" he said, addressing his sister. "Is he stuck till midnight in his laboratory again? Doesn't seem as if that smoke was to come off tonight. In Paul's house now it used to be 'Smoke where you please'—drawing room or anywhere. Poor Paul!"

I was astonished and alarmed to see Miss Lacroix rise hurriedly, and glide without a word from the room. Mrs. Steinhardt made as if she would follow her, but she did not. She sank back in her chair with a sigh.

"Jim! Jim!" she exclaimed, reproachfully. "Why will you say things, when you know the poor girl cannot bear allusions to it?"

"Ah," said Birley, humbly. "Poor lass!—Her father," he explained, turning to me, "has never come back from London. Poor Paul!" He was visibly affected.

"He had to go to the law courts there," said Mrs. Steinhardt, "more than a year ago, about some dreadful business of the chemical works—he was my husband's partner."

"Hildersheimer v. Lacroix and Steinhardt"—(Frank turned on the music stool to correct his uncle's pronunciation.) "Well," said he, "that's all right; anyway that was the case. May be"—turning again to me—"you remember it in the papers. It was about the infringement of a chemical patent 'Manuel had put them up to in his eternal laboratory."

"Nay, uncle," interrupted Frank, flushing up. "It wasnt' father's fault more than anyone else's."

"Ay, lad," said Birley, "of course you know all about it. But you're right to stand up for your father. However, Paul, as the chief of the firm, went up to London to fight the case; he fought and lost to the tune of 20,000 pounds damages—which, I suppose, drove him mad, poor fellow, for he's never come back—made away with himself, very likely, or, somehow, got made away with."

"But, surely," interrupted Frank again, "it could hardly be the damages did it, uncle? You remember he went to Paris after the trial about some pattern business for the print works, and then got back to London again."

"Ay, lad—out 20,000 pounds damages can make a man feel very queer all the way to Paris and back. At any rate, poor Paul's gone—lost in the great London wilderness."

"It is a very extraordinary affair," said I. "But I dont' remember seeing anything of it in the papers."

"It got into the papers, though," said Birley, "to some extent—not much. We didn't want a noise about a private, painful thing like that,."

"But," said I, wondering, "I suppose inquiries were made?"

"They made inquiries high and low," said Birley; "they laid detectives on, and everything, but nothing came of it. Did there, Frank?"

"No," said Frank—"nothing at all."

"Did you try to trace him out of London?" I asked. "I suppose they did," said Birley.

"Yes—oh yes," said Frank.

I wondered that Birley should keep using the word "they." Had he borne no share in the investigation himself? I had my thought answered at once.

"I wasn't able to go to London myself," said Birley; "I was laid up with a broken leg; and, when I got better, I didn't think it was any use my going. There was an end of Paul—that was certain; for he wasn't the man to knock under like, and get lost just."

In a little while Miss Lacroix returned, with apology for her withdrawal.

"I had a little of headache," said she.

I now saw more clearly the encroachments which grief, and what I cannot describe by other words than "anxious waiting," had made on a young life which would, unoppressed, I was sure, have been so full of spirit and mirth. I longed there and then with an earnest desire that I might do something to brighten her life, to remove the weight of uncertainty and grief which burdened it, and preyed upon it.

But I had little further opportunity for talk with her that night. In a few minutes Mr. Steinhardt returned. We heard then what were the causalties resulting from the falling of the bell tower. A horse had been killed, as, also, had been a sow with her litter: and two pigs had been so injured that the butcher had to be summoned. We were now invited into the smoking room; but Mr. Birley rose, and said he must be going; he would smoke his pipe on the way home "wi' th' parson."

"Parson smokes, I suppose?" said he, laying his hand on my shoulder.

So he and I departed together. The valley was asleep under a white pall of fog; but the weird tongues of flame still flickered on the slope and ridge behind and beyond us (from coke ovens, my companion explained), and the tall chimneys dreamily and intermittently smoked. The great chimney of the chemical works, however, emitted not so much smoke as a thin pinkish vapor, which stole away imperceptibly over the neighborhood to poison all green things, and to filter through the cracks and crevices of doors and windows, to trouble sleepers with lethargy and headache.

"By George!" exclaimed my companion. "He'll get fined again some day. Paul used to be always at him about it. Poor Paul!"

So ended my first evening in Timperley—a memorable evening for me. I had made the acquaintance of one whom I have reason now to call as dear a friend as I have ever known, and as good a man as fortune has ever neglected, and of another who is now the dearest of all earth's creatures to me.

CHAPTER II.

I frequently looked in upon the ladies at Timperley Hall, and took a four-o'clock cup of tea with them (not, however, to the neglect of other, if less pleasant, parochial visitations). During these visits we talked without that constraint which somehow Mr. Steinhardt's presence imposed upon us. Miss Lacroix and I agreed in our opinions concerning the ruthlessness with which Lancashire pushed on its industrial way: we often astonished poor Mrs. Steinhardt (sometimes even ourselves) by the warmth with which we would discuss the outrage done to man and nature.

One afternoon we talked thus. It was well on in springtime; the stream was running full and all natnre, in spite of drawbacks, was striving to look green. I told them how that morning I had stood by the little plank bridge just below Timperley Hall, looking across at the dreadfully lumbered little peninsula on which the ruined spinning mill stood, when there turned up at my elbow an old man whom I knew by sight as an ex-handloom weaver.

"A fine brook, that, parson," he said.

"Yes," said I, suiting my reply to what I thought his persiflage; "what a pity no trout seem to know of it!"

"Ah, but," said he, sadly, "there were trout in it wonst; though there's been none for mony a day. Trout! Aw defy onything to live in that, bout gettin' cured first, like a red herrin' or a sallymander! There was a lad drowned like as it might be this spring, and he were never found till like as it might be next back end, down theer in that mud; he were not gone at all, but he were cured thro' and thro'; black, mon—black!"

This I told; and then I continued: "Drowning, they say, is an easy death; but to drown in such a stream as that seems horribly repulsive. I fancy no one would care to commit suicide in it."

I perceived my stupid blunder as soon as I had spoken; I had not thought that what I said could be taken as "allusive" to the disappearance of Mr. Lacroix.

"Excuse me," said Miss Lacroix, rising hurriedly, "I do not feel very well. Do not come, Mrs. Steinhardt; I shall get better by myself."

I of course made apology to Mrs. Steinhardt for my stupidity.

"Yes," said she; "you see she can't bear any kind of allusion to her father's end. She told me soon after she came here (she couldn't, you know, go on living in that big house up there all by herself)—she told me a strange dream she had once or twice when her father was missing—the strangest thing, but I scolded her so, she has never said another word to me about it. Still I fancy she thinks a great deal about her father, though she does not say much; they were rare and fond o' one another."

That very evening I unexpectedly learned from Miss Lacroix herself what that strange dream was. I was returning by moonlight from the house of a parishioner along that same road which first brought me upon the valley. Passing the pond on my right (which I before mentioned as reflecting the lighted windows of the many storeyed mill), I observed a figure, cloaked and hooded, standing on the margin of the pond under one of the trees. I paused a minute, while my heart beat with apprehension, and then I passed through a gap in the fence and approached. The figure turned quickly, as if impatient at the intrusion, and in the pale moonlight I recognized the face of Miss Lacroix.

"Miss Lacroix!" I exclaimed. "You here!"

"Oh, Mr. Unwin," she began, in evident tension of feeling, "I could not rest indoors, and so I came down to see Uncle Jaques; I could not remain with him, and so I came out here to look at this, which always fascinates me. 'Look!'"

I stood by her side and looked; this is what I saw: An inverted reflection of the tall chimney of the chemical works which was emitting, as it often did late in the evening, its strange pinkish vapor; this vapor in the reflection looked as if it were slowly rising from the bottom of the pond, and, as its color blended with the tints the water somehow took as the breeze ruffled it this way or that, produced the impression of a slowly simmering cauldron of red, green, and copper-brown flame. This was so wonderfully weird a fancy that I confess I felt my skin creep. I turned my eyes away, and then looked again, and again, but the impression was ever the same.

"It's indeed very strange!" I said.

"Is it not?" said she. "You see it also? Mr. Unwin," she went on, turning suddenly to me, and speaking with a vehemence which increased as the words came, "I have wished to tell you. You are a clergyman, and must hear me make my confession; and you will keep it secret to yourself. You have heard, perhaps, that my father—my dear father!—is thought to be dead, now just a year ago?"

"I have," said I.

"He went to London and to Paris on business, and he never came back. It happened while he was away that I lived all by myself at home. I slept sound that night without dreaming, when suddenly I had a dream. I saw vapor or flame slowly rising just like that—I saw a man plunge into it, and I knew the man was my father—I felt he was. I awoke at once all trembling and did not go to sleep again. That was all my dream."

"Are you sure," I said, "that you had not heard some one—Mrs. Steinhardt, for instance—suggest that he had been drowned, and then you went and dreamt of the peculiar appearance of this pond?"

"No, no, no!" she protested with rapid vehemence. "Did I not say that I dreamed it the very night on which all trace of him was lost from his hotel in London? Nobody thought then that he was not coming home soon. And I do not think I had noticed this pond then. I have dreamed the same dream several times since, but that may be nothing at all. I shall very likely dream it tonight."

I turned away from the pond and she followed me. We walked along in silence for some distance.

"Oh!" she exclaimed, at length, "I do long so very much to know what has really happened to my dear father—my poor father!"

"I wish I could help you to find out," I said; "indeed I do. You may be sure I shall think of all you have told me, and shall try to discover anything more. I have friends in London who may be of use, if I may mention it to them."

"Oh, certainly," she answered. "You are very kind. Bacon's Hotel, Great Queen Street, is where he was last heard of."

At a certain corner where the lane to Timperley Hall diverged from the way through the village, she insisted on parting from me. I let her go with little hesitation, for I knew there was no fear of her being molested.

It may be presumed that while I smoked my post-coenal pipe I thought over the strange scene at the pond, and all that Miss Lacriox had said. It was certainly very mysterious, but all the conclusion I could reach concerning it that night was a resolve to go and look at the pond by day.

(To be continued)

Where the House Acted Hastily.

The house does funny things sometimes. It passed a bill the other day establishing a lighthouse on the coast of North Carolina. The second section of the bill provided that the "act approved March 3, 1901, be, and the same is hereby repealed." The act thus wiped off the statute books at one fell swoop was the sundry civil appropriation bill, which appropriated ions and millions of dollars for t penses of the government. In t ate the bill was amended so as less sweeping in its effect.—Wa ton Post.

Industrial Consumption of Gold

The industrial consumption o in the United States in the ca year is estimated to have been 667,500, and in the world app iately $75,000,000. Althoug United States led the world last the production of gold, our im the metal exceeded our exports sum of $12,866,101. The stock coin in the country, including in the mints, at the close of th year was estimated at $1,124,6 and the stock of silver coin at 477,025.

Worth of a Compliment.

Most compliments sound so like this: "They say he is a th he never stole anything from may be because I have watche closely, but so far I have never missed anything." When you feel that your friend deserves praise, why pay tribute to his enemies in praising him?

So Stupid.

"Who was that you just spoke to?" asked the first Chicago woman; "his face was rather familiar to me."

"I believe," said the other, "his name is Jenks—Henry Jenks."

"Oh! to be sure. How stupid of me! He was my first husband."—Philadelphia Record.

EVENTS OF THE DAY

FROM THE FOUR QUARTERS OF THE WORLD.

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

Cholera is increasing in the Philippines.

The Manchurian treaty has been signed at Pekin.

Fire in New York destroyed a six story building. Loss, $150,000.

Fighting between Christians and Turks is reported in Northern Turkey.

President Roosevelt received a hearty welcome at the Charleston exposition.

The house's first vote on Cuban reciprocity showed both parties to be divided.

Major General W. R. Shafter, United States army (retired), is a candidate for governor of California.

Rioting students at Moscow, Russia, set fire to a prison where a number of their comrades were confined. The leaders were severely beaten by the police.

Colonel John McKee, of Philadelphia, who is thought to be the wealthiest colored man in the co ntry, is dead. His estate is estimated at about $1,500,000.

The shah of Persia will visit Emperor William.

The house has passed the Chinese exclusion bill.

Venezuela rebels are gaining ground and the government is in a bad way.

Striking miners in Pennsylvania have rejected the offer of the mineowners.

A third attempt has been made to assassinate the Moscow prefect of police.

The war revenue repeal bill has been passed by the house and gone to the president.

A new verse to "God Save the King" has been written for the coronation ceremonies of King Edward.

Although the administration regards the Chinese exclusion bill as too drastic, it will place no opposition in its way.

The St. Louis fair may be postponed until 1904.

Cecil Rhodes' fortune amounts to 5,000,000 pounds.

President Diaz, of Mexico, is planning a visit to the United States this summer.

Three men were killed and seven wounded in an attempt to arrest an Alabama negro.

The battleship Wisconsin is at San Francisco after a visit to Samoa, Honolulu and a number of South American ports.

Miss Ellen M. Stone has signed a contract for a series of 100 lectures, to be given in the principal cities of the United States.

The bill providing a form of government for the Philippines will follow the Chinese exclusion bill in the senate. After that the canal measure will be taken up.

The house has begun the consideration of the exclusion bill.

Mitchell made the opening speech in the senate on the Chinese exclusion bill.

The last quarter's imports to the United States from all Germany amounted to $23,786,094, an increase of $1,297,560.

In an all day fight between part of General Kitchener's forces and the forces of Generals Delarey and Kemp, the Boers were repulsed. The loss was heavy on both sides.

The bulk of Cecil Rhodes' property is left for education. It provides two American scholarships at Oxford to

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Of the 20 tobacco factories in France 3 are in Paris.

South Africa has ostrich farms containing over 300,000 birds.

In New York city alone there are now about 400,000 Germans.

The governor of Finland has ordered the prosecution of the Lutheran pastors who refuse to read the new Russian army regulations in their churches.

PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT BILL.

Measure Perfected by the House Committee—New Currency Regulations.

Washington, April 10.—The house bill establishing civil government in the Philippiens was finally perfected today by the Republican members of the insular committee, and in its complete form was re-introduced by Chairman Cooper. There is little doubt that it will be reported to the house by the full committee in a day or two.

The house bill is unlike that of the senate in that it provides a complete form of government for the islands, to go into effect when the war terminates, the provision being as follows:

"Whenever the existing insurrection in the Philippines shall have ceased and a condition of general and complete peace shall have been established therein, and the facts shall have been certified to, the president shall instruct the commission to call a general election, for the choice of delegates to a popular assembly of the people of the Philippine islands, to be known as the Philippine assembly."

It is further provided that all the executive power then shall be vested in two houses—the Philippine commission and the Philippine assembly. Provision is made for taking the census within 30 days after the promulgation of peace. Thereafter the islands are to be divided into election districts and the regular machinery for electing a legislature is provided. Section 12 of the bill provides that all residents of the Philippines shall have the same protection from the United States in their relations to foreign governments as is accorded to citizens of the United States.

For the purchase of the friar lands the bill makes provision for the issuance of insular bonds at 5 per cent, interest payable in gold, the total amount not being specified. The regulation of franchises, timber lands, mineral lands, etc., is provided for. The system of coinage differs from that in the senate bill, as it makes gold the standard, with Philippine token money of silver maintained at a parity with gold. The peso is to be of silver. It will equal our silver dollar in size, and will be worth half as much.

FIGHT WITH MOONSHINERS.

One Was Killed and a Revenue Collector Narrowly Escapes Death.

Louisville, Ky., April 10.—A fight has taken place between moonshiners and revenue officers near Big Meeting Creek postoffice, in Hardin county, during which one man, an alleged moonshiner, was killed and a deputy revenue collector, who was leading the pursuing posse, narrowly escaped death, a rifle ball grazing his head. The revenue officers had information that a still was located in a bottom near Big Meeting creek. They surrounded the still and called on the three men who were operating it to surrender. The moonshiners answered with a volley of shots, and the revenue officers promptly returned the fire. Two of the moonshiners then fled from the still, firing as they ran, and made their escape. When the smoke had cleared one man was lying dead inside the still. It is thought one of the men who escaped was wounded.

Hawaiians Appeal for Exclusion.

Washington, April 10.—Senator Patterson, of Colorado, today presented a memorial signed by over 300 American citizens residing in Hawaii, praying the enactment of legislation completely excluding Chinese and Japanese from any American territory, and providing that all labor of every description preformed for the federal government shall be done only by citizens of the United States. The petitioners say that 75 per cent of the labor in Hawaii is performed by Orientals, to the exclusion of American labor, and they call attention to the fact that 87,000 of the 150,000 population of the islands are from China and Japan.

Accepts Philippine Judgeship.

Santa Fe, N. M., April 10.—William H. Pope, of Atlanta, Ga., for the past eight years a resident of Santa Fe, United States Attorney of the Pueblo Indians and Assistant United States Attorney of the court of private claims, today accepted a judgeship of a court of first instance in the Philippine Islands, tendered him by Governor Taft. He will sail in June. He is a gold Democrat, 31 years of age.

Dix Arrives at Nagasaki.

Washington, April 10.—Quartermaster General Ludington is informed of the arrival of the transport Dix at Nagasaki with freight from Seattle for the army in the Philippines. The vessel was several days overdue.

Boers Do Not Hope for Peace.

New York, April 10.—There is little faith among the Boer sympathizers here that peace is imminent in South Africa, says a Tribune correspondent from The Hague. Hearts are hardened in consequence of the conferences held here and at Utrecht, and the Boer envoys and refugees are asserting in a louder key than ever that the war will last four years longer, and that there can be no peace without independence.

NEWS OF THE STATE

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS OF OREGON.

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

Polk county is now practically out of debt.

The postoffice at Mabel, Lane county, has been moved one-half mile to the south.

The postoffice at Ridge, Umatilla county has been moved half a mile to the southwest.

A postoffice has been established at Drew, Douglas county. The office will be supplied with special service from Perdue.

Fruitmen of Polk county predict an immense crop this year. The continued cold, backward spring weather has retarded the development of buds which are not affected by the present severe cold and chilling rains.

Considerable anxiety has been expressed by fruitgrowers in the Hood river valley concerning the probable damage to fruit by the severe freeze in January and February. From present indications, however, the yield will be average, unless some further damage occurs.

The Polk county Mohair Association has sold its pool of 35,000 pounds at 25 cents per pound.

Mrs. Eliza Jane Wrisley, an Oregon pioneer of 1852, has passed away at her home in Medford. Deceased was born in 1826.

City elections were held in many towns throughout the state this week. Party lines were observed in but a very few cases.

A railroad is to be built in Southern Oregon from Grants Pass to Crescent City. It will be known as the Oregon & Pacific Railway.

Superintendent of Public Instruction Ackerman states that after six months of use the new Oregon text books have proven satisfactory.

The fishing season on the Columbia river opens April 15. The prospects are more favorable for a large pack than at this time last year.

March customs receipts at Portland were $77,212.99. The larger part of these receipts were from duties paid on inward cargoes from the Orient.

The Columbia River Fishermen's Protective Union, at a meeting in Astoria, fixed the price of salmon for the coming season as follows: Six cents per pound for fish weighing 25 pounds or over, and 5½ cents for smaller fish. No price for steelheads or bluebacks was mentioned.

The Willamette Pulp & Paper Company, which employs over 500 men in Oregon City, has made a voluntary advance in the wages of about 300 of its employes. All the men who have been receiving $1.50 per day will in future get $1.75, and all of the $1.75 per day men will get an advance of 10 per cent.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 64@64½c; bluestem, 65@65½c; Valley, 64@65c.

Barley—Feed, $20@21.; brewing, $21@21.50 per ton.

Oats—No. 1 white, $1.15@1.22½; gray, $1.10@1.20.

Flour—Best grades, $2.85@3.40 per barrel; graham, $2.50@2.80.

Millstuffs—Bran, $18 per ton; middlings, $20; shorts, $20; chop, $16.50.

Hay—Timothy, $12@13; clover, $7.50@8; Oregon wild hay, $5@6 per ton.

Potatoes—Best Burbanks, $1.10@1.25 per cental; ordinary, 70@80c per cental; Early Rose, $1.25@150 per cental, growers' prices; sweets, $2.25@2.50 per cental.

Butter—Creamery, 22½@25c; dairy, 18@20c; store, 13@15c.

Eggs—13@14c for Oregon.

Cheese—Full cream, twins, 13@13½c; Young America, 14@15c; factory prices, 1@1½c less.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, $3.50@4.50; hens, $4.50@5.50 per dozen, 11@11½c per pound; springs, 11@11½c per pound $3@4 per dozen; ducks, $5@7 per dozen; turkeys, live, 12@13c, dressed, 14@16c per pound; geese, $6½@7 per dozen.

Mutton—Gross, 4c per pound; dressed, 7@7½c per pound.

Hogs—Gross, 5¾c; dressed, 6½@7c per pound.

Veal—7½@8 for small; 6½@7 for large.

Beef—Gross, cows, 3¾@4c; steers, 4@4½c; dressed, 6½@7½c per pound.

Hops—12@13c per pound.

Wool—Valley, 13@15c; Eastern Oregon, 8@12½c; mohair, 21@21½c per pound.

A silken thread is three times as strong as a flaxen one of the same thickness.

Booksellers who supply English schools report that there has been in recent years a very great increase in the demand for German school books.

Since the announcement of the war in South Africa, Scotland has sent to the front 15,500 non-commissioned officers and men and 330 officers; total, 15,830.

ISTHMIAN CANAL RIGHTS.

Nicaragua and Costa Rica Negotiating with United States.

Washington, April 9.—It is understood that Mr. Corea, the Nicaragua minister here, has forwarded to his government a proposition as to the price the United States would be likely to pay for Nicaragua canal rights, the proposition having been submitted to the minister by Secretary Hay. Secretary Hay's proposition is said to be in the nature of counter proposal to that set out in the canal protocol drafted by United States Minister Merry last year. Mr. Corea, for Nicaragua, and Minister Calvo, for Costa Rica, have decided to do away with the protocol stage in their negotiations regarding a canal, and are preparing drafts of treaties which will embody the terms under which their respective governments will cede the necessary canal rights. These treaty drafts are expected to be complete by the end of the current week. By that time Mr. Corea expects to receive his final instructions from his government, including the decision respecting Secretary Hay's proposal.

The situation as to Colombia is precisely the reverse to that as to Nicaragua, as in the former case the United States government has before it a definite proposal from Colombia and is considering it with some indication of a purpose to suggest desirable amendments.

PASSES THE SENATE.

Mitchell's Land Bill for Repaying Certain Funds.

Washington, April 9.—Senator Mitchell today called up and passed his double minimum land bill. The bill as passed provides that where homestead timber culture, desert land or other entries of public lands are or have been cancelled or relinquished because of conflict, or where the entry has erroneously been allowed and cannot be confirmed, the secretary of the interior shall repay to the entryman all fees, commissions, purchase money and excesses paid upon the same when such entry is duly cancelled by the department.

In cases where parties hvae paid double minimum price for land, which has afterwards been found not to be within the limits of a railroad grant, or within the limits of any portion of a grant which may be forfeited for failure to construct that portion of the railroad in aid of which the grant was made, the excess of $1.25 an acre shall be repaid to entrymen. Claim for repayment to be valid must be filed within three years.

BIG IRRIGATION QUESTION.

May Colorado Take Water That Would Flow Through Kansas?

Washington, April 9.—The United States supreme court, in an opinion delivered by Chief Justice Fuller today, overruled the demurrer of the state of Colorado in the case of the state of Kansas vs. the state of Colorado.

The case involves the right of Colorado to appropriate for purposes of irrigation the waters of the Arkansas river, which Kansas sought by an original action to restrain on the ground that the stream flows through Kansas and the people of the latter state are injured by such an appropriation of the water. The chief justice said that the case is one in which the court can properly assume jurisdiction. He said also that the action of the court in overruling the demurrer was intended to be without prejudice, but was taken because the importance of the case was such that it should not be decided without full proof on the questions set up in the allegations of damage made by the state of Kansas.

COLORADO BANK ROBBED.

Explosions Attract Citizens, But the Robbers Escape—Two Suspects Arrested.

Pueblo, Colo., April 9.—The Bank of Fowler, at Fowler, Colo., 25 miles east of this city, was robbed of $1,100 by safe blowers at 2 o'clock this morning. Several charges of nitro glycerin were exploded to open the safe and the cash box. Citizens were aroused by the explosions and fired several shots at four men who were seen running away, but the robbers succeeded in escaping. News of the robbery was telephoned to neighboring towns. Two men who boarded the Santa Fe train at Nepesta, seven miles west of Fowler, this morning were arrested as suspects. In their possession were found $288 and several coins. Bloodhounds have been sent to Fowler to trail the robbers.

Casualties of the Boers.

London, April 9.—Lord Kitchener reports that the Boer casualties during the engagements of March 31 and April 1 were, at the lowest estimate, 30 men killed and 80 wounded. Commandant Erasmus was killed near Boshof.

Decrease of Trade in Great Britain.

London, April 9.—The board of trade returns for March show the remarkable decrease of 5,528,195 pounds in imports and 2,804,055 pounds in exports.