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## White Hand

A Tale of the Early Settlers of Louisiana.

BY AUSTIN C. BURDICK

CHAPTER VII.—(Continued.)  
"Speak to me, Louise," uttered Goupert, now speaking quickly and eagerly, "and tell me if you have forgotten those words I used to speak. Have you forgotten them?"

"No—not one."  
"Then let me speak them again. Let me now speak them as one who knows the ways of life; and to one who can judge for herself of the meaning of the words that have been given to all those emotions that have outlived the destroying wear of time. In the heart where this image was first enshrined, none other has ever come. I have cherished your sweet face, and in humble prayer have I begged that I might see you once more on earth. And, at times, my soul has been wild enough in its flights of hope to picture that one most holy thought of all—life with the dear one I loved. When my feet first touched these shores, I dreamed not that I was near to thee. But I found you, and here I sat me down to pray with more of hope and to hope with more of promise. And now, Louise, let me ask you, as I have asked you a hundred times before, will you be my wife?"

"Goupert, I have a father whose every earthly wish is for the good of his child, and he would not consent to my marriage. I understand," said St. Denis, as the maiden hesitated and stopped. "And he assured that I would not ask, even for life itself at my hands, against my noble father's wish. But suppose I ask him and he bids me take you?"

"Then I am by his permission only what in heart I have been for years."  
"A short time longer those two sat there, and their words had a solemn, prayerful cast, such as marks the holiest gratitude of the human soul; and as they walked towards the house, they spoke not of the subject upon which they were engaged. It was already dark when they reached the hall, and while Louise went to remove her moccasins, St. Denis went to seek Brion St. Julien. He found him in his library."

"How now, Goupert?" cried the old man, as his young friend took a seat. "What has happened? Any more Indians? What on earth makes you look so sober?"

"It is a deep and sober subject which is on my mind," answered the youth.  
"Then out with it, for I am father confessor here."  
St. Denis knew the marquis too well to hesitate, and he spoke boldly and to the point.

"My friend," he said, "that I love every member of your immediate family must be apparent to you; but you will not be jealous if I also inform you that my love for Louise is rather stronger than for any other one."  
St. Julien arose and placed his hand upon the youth's head, and, while big tears gathered in his eyes, he said:

"Goupert, my noble boy, you have made me the happiest of men. O, I have prayed for this moment many a time, and now it has come. Among all my acquaintances, you were the only one to whom my hopes could turn. You shall take my child, and you shall take me. I am growing lazier, if not old, and not much longer will Simon remain with me."  
"Ah," uttered the youth, with a look of relief, "is Simon going?"

"Yes. He isn't just the man for me. I will not have discussion, and so, we keep peace; but yet much of my nephew's conduct makes me nervous. I do not like his plans about the estate, and yet he shows an abrupt, willful spirit if I offer a word of expostulation. He seems bent on realizing all the ready money he can from the place without the least regard to its future worth and improvement. I do not like it. Yes, yes—Simon must seek some other home."  
"Hark!" interrupted Goupert. "What was that noise?"

"I heard nothing," said the old man.  
"Let me look a moment." And thus speaking, the youth went to the door and looked out. But he saw nothing. He stepped out into the entry; but there was no one there. "I must have been mistaken," he said, as he returned to the library and closed the door after him.

"Ah! he did not look in the right place. Had he cast his eyes up to the ceiling, he would have seen a small hole where the host once had a copper pipe lead down to feed a showering bath. And had he but gone up into the small lumber room overhead, he would have found a man there, lying flat, like a serpent, with his eye to that small aperture; and he would have seen at a glance that the watcher could both see and hear all that transpired in the library!"

CHAPTER VIII.  
Days flew on now upon golden wings, and suspicion had ceased to work in even Goupert's mind. Old Tony had watched carefully, but he could find nothing to help the doubts that came up to him. He was certain, and that was a sudden visit of Simon Lobos to New Orleans. He professed to have business there. He said he would see how much corn he could find a market for, there being several hundred bushels now in the granary; but the marquis told him that he need not trouble himself about the corn, as he already had a use for it, meaning to keep a large quantity on hand to serve in case of a falling crop. Yet Simon must go, for he had business of his own; and one fine morning, down the river he went, in company with some men who were called the "Hort Louais."

In a few days the family were again alone. In a few days the two waiting hands would be united. Father Langout sometimes made it his home at St. Julien's place, but he had now been for some months upon a mission among the Yazoos; but he had been heard from, and he would soon be there. It was a bright, moonlight evening, and the young people had been more gay than usual. Goupert, and Louise, and Louis had been playing at childish games, and

as they went out and snuffed up the sweet, incense of the beautiful evening. Louise clapped her hands and proposed a game of "hide and seek." The others shouted acquiescence, and even the old man was bound to join in the sport. Louise and her brother knew all the hiding places within the enclosure, and the former pulled Louise aside, and whispered merrily with him.

"Now, none of that," said Goupert—"none of that! It is not fair for you to conspire against me. If you two put your heads together I'll go and charter old Tony to come and help me. Now what?"

But the only answer he received was a joyous laugh as Louise ran away to dress herself for the outdoor sport.

The moon rode high in the heavens, and her face was but slightly turned away from earth. In the wide courtyard the calm night air, and the glad notes were caught up and flung back by the distant forest.

Away over the brow of a gentle hill, where a copse of beautiful acacia trees were left standing, moved many dark objects. They were crouching in the wood, and listening to the shouts that came from the distant dwelling. And they gathered together and conversed in a strange tongue, and then they moved slowly up the hillside, and crept down towards the corn field. On they moved, like specters in the moonlight, until they reached the high barricade, and then settled lower down and crept on like huge cats approaching their prey. Straight they moved towards the postern, and all there they lay, beneath the wooden wall, and listened to the merry voices from within.

Soon one of them arose to his feet, and he looked over the wall, but yet the many colored paint upon his dark skin could be seen, and the dusky-browed warrior was no more concealed. They were all—a score of them—painted in the same fantastic manner, and the same dusky hue marked the brow of each. He who had arisen to his feet produced something from his pouch, and applied it to the lock of the heavy postern. It was a key! And how came that child of the forest by the key of St. Julien's gate?

The shouts now come from the garden. Hark! Yes—they are all there upon the other side of the house. They have just seen the moon, and a new drugging him forth from his hiding place.

Carefully the Indian turns the key in the lock, but the gate is fastened within. The heavy bolt has been surely thrown back, and yet the gate opens not. But there is no time to be lost. The red men whispered together a moment, and then they stepped upon his knees, and when a second has mounted upon his shoulders, he arises. They are both tall men, but he who stands upon his companion's shoulders cannot quite reach the tops of the stout pickets. Another man stands firmly by the side of the lower one, and with his hands he places one foot upon the second shoulder, thus offering him. Now a third man springs nimbly up, and having mounted upon the shoulders of him who stands thus elevated, he gains the top of the barricade, and in a moment more he drops upon the ground within. The postern is opened, and six men enter, leaving the remaining ones without, and then the gate is almost closed, and thus held, so that it can be opened when need comes.

Away towards the stable these specters glide, and soon they are hidden; for they, too, will play at the game that the pale faces have set on foot.

Many times had Goupert hidden, and as now he had been easily found. And now he and the marquis chose to hide together, and after a deal of shouting, the brother and sister pull them out from behind the thick cluster of vines that grow against the garden fence. Next Louise and Louise scamper away, laughing and clapping their hands, for the utter delight of the father, when they purposely let him find them, has warmed them into almost a frenzy of joy.

"Stop—stop!" cried the marquis, as his children start. "Isn't it becoming too damp for you Louise?"

"No, no! Never fear for me."  
"But the dew is now fairly wet upon the grass, and I fear you'll take cold."  
"No, no, father!" cries the joyous girl. "Don't let the first chill frighten you."  
"Well—go this once, and then we'll go in. I'm growing chill and cold."  
"As you shall have a job before you find us. Now watch for the word."  
"Hark!" they turned towards the barn, and as they went towards the barn, and were thus lost to sight, Goupert remarked:

"It is growing cold."  
"I returned the old man. "This dew is falling fast, for I can feel the dampness on my feet. While we were excited I did not feel it. But I can feel it now. I only feared that Louise might take some cold; and you know that would not be pleasant."  
"No," said Goupert—and the tone of his voice showed that he, too, had entertained some fears. "Hark!" he added. "I think I heard them call. Ah, they've got some deep hiding place this time, for I heard the voice as though it were stifled. But we'll find them. Come!"

And away they ran towards the point from which the voice had proceeded. They searched all around the barn, under the eaves, in the straw, behind the doors; and then they went to the stable, and here, too, they overheard everything they could move, the old man even moving a board that lay against the fence.

"They must have slipped around into the garden," said Goupert.  
"And so back to the garden they turned. They hunted and hunted, but the ladders could not be found. "Hark!" he added. "It's getting too late, I think the marquis, at length, I said 'I must call it.'"  
"I'll give up in welcome," returned Goupert; "for I'm sure I should never find them. Shall I call to them?"

"Yes," Goupert shouted that he gave up the game.  
"I give up," he cried, at the top of his voice. "Come, Louise!"  
He waited a few moments, expecting to be assailed with a burst of joking at his want of success. The smile was already on his face, and the exclamation with which to meet the hidden ones was upon his lips all ready for utterance. But no one came.  
"They could not have heard," suggested St. Julien.  
"Ah," uttered Goupert, "they must have gone into the house."  
"So they have," said the father. "That's

## EVENTS OF THE DAY

GATHERED FROM ALL PARTS OF THE TWO HEMISPHERES.

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week, Presented in Condensed Form, Most Likely to Prove Interesting to Our Many Readers.

Extra session of senate will be called March 5.

The Cuban congress has fixed five national holidays.

Senator Aldrich promises tariff revision at the next session of congress.

Gales off the French coast have caused serious damage to shipping.

The health of the pope is not so good, but alarming rumors are discredited.

Protests continue to pour in against the seating of Reed Smoot, of Utah.

An agreement has been reached between the Santa Fe railroad and the trainmen.

Fire at Halifax, N. S., destroyed \$300,000 worth of property. Three firemen were seriously injured.

Fire at Hastings, Neb., destroyed \$200,000 worth of property and for a time threatened the destruction of the entire town.

John Baker, ex-minister to Venezuela and a member of congress for several terms, is seriously ill at his home at Belleville, Ill.

The Montana legislature has added \$7,000 to its fair appropriation. This makes \$12,000 to be used for St. Louis and Portland expositions.

The foundation for J. Pierpont Morgan's new library building at the rear of his home at Madison avenue and East Thirty-sixth street is nearing completion. It will cost \$300,000.

The senate refuses to consider the Littlefield anti-trust bill.

Fire at Lowell, Mass., cost one life and destroyed \$30,000 worth of property.

Two masked men held up the postmaster at Bisbee, Ariz., and secured \$100.

The president is determined on an extra session of congress unless the Cuban and Panama canal treaties are ratified.

The powder works near Cherokee, Kan., blew up, killing four men and injuring 15, two fatally.

A number of protests are being sent to Washington against the seating of Senator Reed Smoot, of Utah.

Two robbers blew open the safe of Hubbard's private bank at Cedar Springs, Mich., and secured between \$400 and \$500.

To Colonel Cody was presented a handsome tea and coffee service by the whole staff of the Wild West show, in London in celebration of his 57th birthday.

The Chicago grand jury returned 75 indictments against the operators of slot machines as a result of a crusade instigated by the Hyde Park protective association.

Policeman John Ritchey, of Denver, was dangerously wounded while attempting to arrest a lone highbwayman.

A bill to exempt beet sugar factories from taxation for a period of five years was killed in the Wisconsin assembly.

Startling disclosures in St. Louis of a system of traffic in young women, under police protection, are to be made by the grand jury as the result of a raid on resorts.

The Great Falls, Mont., land office has received word from Washington of the return of about 1,000,000 acres of land in Northern Montana to entry under the general land laws.

One man was killed, one fatally injured and four others more or less seriously hurt in a freight wreck on the Pennsylvania road at Kittington Point, seven miles west of Altoona, Pa.

The New York Metropolitan museum of art has received \$500 of a donation which will in time aggregate \$6,000, made by the late Jacob S. Rogers, the millionaire locomotive builder, of Paterson, N. J.

Fire damaged the plant of the J. I. Case plow company, at Racine, Wis., to the extent of \$100,000.

Dr. J. E. Rankin, president of Howard college, at Washington, has resigned owing to advanced age and infirmities. Howard college is one of the leading negro educational institutions of the country.

The Herwind-White coal company, which employs 2,000 men at coal mines at Winbar, Pa., will advance wages 10 per cent on April 1.

Burglars at Atchison, Kan., blew open the safe of the East Atchison postoffice with dynamite, the explosion setting fire in the building.

## FLOODS IN SOUTH.

Cloudbursts in Kentucky and Tennessee Put Whole Towns Under Water.

Louisville, Ky., March 3.—The annual spring freshet, which yearly does damage to railroads and crops, and at times inflicts loss of life, has left this season's impression on many parts of the South after a tremendous two days' rain, with an accompaniment of high winds. Accidents last night and this morning directly attributable to the elements have resulted in the death of nine persons and injury of 29.

Three deaths, together with a long list of injured, were brought about by an accident on the Southern railway early this morning, when a train bound east from Chattanooga ran into a wash-out near Leonore City, Tenn. Six persons were drowned while trying to cross the Ohio near Hickman, Ky., the swift current carrying their boat into some driftwood, and five persons were hurt in a tornado which passed over Hickory Level, Ga., this morning. The damage to railroad property is large, and the inconvenience to the public is considerable.

Cloudbursts are reported in Kentucky and Tennessee, and it is feared there has been some loss of life in the affected regions. In Middletown, Ky., every house in the lower section of the place was flooded and every merchant suffered damage to stock. Near Anderson, Tenn., a cloudburst carried away a quarter of a mile of track on the Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis railroad. High waters carried away three bridges and a trestle on the Tennessee Central, near Crab Orchard, Tenn., and damaged other bridges.

A steamer was blown against the southern railway draw bridge over the Big Bee river, in Alabama, sending part of the structure to the bottom.

Landslides occurred in two tunnels on the Southern railway, near Harrison, Tenn.

All streams are bankful, the Alabama rising 19 feet at Millsted, near Montgomery, during the night. Flood warnings were sent out by the Montgomery weather bureau. The Mississippi has reached the danger point at several places, but the levees are holding. The Ohio is rising.

Reports from Memphis tonight state that the Mississippi river is nearly a foot above the danger line and is slowly rising to the levee top. River men say the situation there is assuming a serious aspect. Government engineers fear that some of the levees may weaken when the full sweep of the rising waters is felt.

## JAILER IS SLAIN.

Prisoner in an Olympia Jail Murders His Keeper and Escapes to the Woods.

Olympia, Wash., March 2.—In a desperate and bloody encounter with a prisoner in the county jail yesterday afternoon Jailer David Morrell was beaten on the head with a lead pipe; shot three times and left lying dead on the floor of the jail. The murderous prisoner was an ignorant Swede named Christ Benson, in jail for grand larceny. Benson escaped, leaving the inner and outer doors of the jail open and the door of the steel tank, containing seven other prisoners, unlocked. Benson is still at large.

Jack Kabla, a trusty in the main corridor of the jail, gave the alarm at the nearby home of Sheriff Mills. Mills was absent, but Mrs. Mills seized a revolver, ran to the jail and held at bay the tank prisoners until help arrived. Benson is still at large.

The county commissioners have decided to offer a reward of \$300 for Benson's capture, and unless this is effected before tomorrow, will ask Governor McBride to offer a like amount.

Killed in Their Sleep.  
Syracuse, N. Y., March 3.—The Southwestern Limited on the New York Central railroad, west bound, was wrecked at the East Syracuse yards tonight in collision with freight cars, and three trainmen lost their lives. Three other trainmen were severely injured. The men were asleep in a caboose in the freight yards. Freight cars being shifted on the same track struck the caboose, which jumped the switch and slid along another track, lodging against the main westbound track. Here the Southwestern at full speed struck it.

Big Seattle Enterprise.  
Seattle, March 3.—The Seattle iron and steel company, just formed, with \$6,000,000 capital and \$1,000,000 bond issue, will build here an iron furnace with 200 tons daily capacity, a 100 ton steel plant, and a rolling mill. The organizers propose to work high grade magnetic ores from the great deposits on Texada Island, B. C. Ultimately they will increase the plant by the addition of a tin plate mill and tube paper works.

Finds Stamp Thieves.  
Chicago, March 3.—State's Attorney Deneen announced today that he had come into possession of proofs showing who robbed the Chicago postoffice on October 20, 1901, of postage stamps valued at \$74,601, and that he and Postoffice Inspector Stuart were at work preparing the evidence for presentation to a federal grand jury.

## SPECIAL MESSAGE

PRESIDENT APPEALS TO CONGRESS ON BEHALF OF PHILIPPINES.

Endorses Governor Taft's Urgent Call for a Reduction of Tariff—Governor Says Famine Will Come if Action is Not Prompt—Filipinos Have Suffered Long Series of Calamities.

Washington, Feb. 28.—The president yesterday sent the following message to the senate:

"I have just received a cable from Governor Taft which runs as follows: 'Necessity for passage house tariff bill most urgent. The conditions of productive industry and business considerable worse than in November, the date of the last report, and growing worse each month. Some revival in sugar and tobacco prices, due to expectation of tariff law. The interests of Filipinos in sugar and tobacco extensive, and failure of bill will be a blow in the face of those interests. Number of tobacco factories will have to close and many sugar haciendas will be put up for sale at a sacrifice if the bill does not pass. Customs receipts have fallen off this month one-third, showing decrease of the purchasing power of the islands. General business stagnant. All political parties, including labor unions, most strenuous in petition for tariff bill. Effect of its failure very discouraging.'"

"Vice Governor Luke E. Wright indorses in the strongest manner all that Governor Taft has said, and states that he has the gravest apprehensions as to the damage that may come to the islands if there is not a substantial reduction in the tariff levied against Philippine goods coming into the United States. I very earnestly ask that this matter receive the immediate attention of congress and that the relief prayed for be granted."

"As congress knows, a series of calamities has befallen the Philippine people. Just as they were emerging from nearly six years of devastating warfare, with the accompanying destruction of property and the breaking of the bonds of social order and the habits of peaceful industry, there occurred an epidemic of rinderpest which destroyed 90 per cent of the caribous, the Philippine cattle, leaving the people without draft animals to till the lands or to aid in the ordinary work of farm and village life. The extent of the disaster can be seen from the fact that the surviving caribous have increased over tenfold in value. At the same time a peculiar oriental horse disease became epidemic, further crippling transportation. The rice crop, already reduced by various causes to but a fourth of its original size, has been damaged by locusts so that the price of rice has nearly doubled."

"Under these circumstances there is imminent danger of a famine in the islands. Congress is in course of generally appropriating \$3,000,000 to meet the immediate needs, but of indispensable and pre-eminent need is the resurrection of productive industry from the prostration into which it has been thrown by the causes above enumerated."

"I ask the action in the tariff matter, not merely from the standpoint of a wise government policy, but as a measure of humanity in response to an appeal to which this great people should not close its ears. We have assumed responsibility toward the Philippines which we are in honor bound to fulfill. We have the specific duty of taking every measure in our power to see to their prosperity. The first and most important step in this direction has been accomplished by the joint action of the military and civil authorities in securing peace and civil government. The wisdom of congress at the present session has provided for them a stable government, but there remains vital need that one thing further shall be done. The calamities which have befallen them as above enumerated could have been avoided by no human wisdom. They cannot be completely repaired, but their sufferings can be greatly alleviated and a permanent basis of future prosperity assured if the economic relations of the islands with the United States are put upon a satisfactory basis."

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT.  
"White House, Washington, D. C., February 27."

Chinese Rebels Victorious.  
Pekin, March 2.—Advices received here today show that 500 imperial troops were caught February 13 in an ambush in the Yang Yung pass by the province of Kwang Si, South China. All the soldiers were killed and the rebels secured large supplies of arms, which the troops were taking to the besieged garrison of Chi Yuen. The official reports admit that the rebellion in Kwang Si is increasing, and has spread over the border into the province of Hunan. The victory of Hunan has sent troops to the boundary to check the rebels' advance.

Must Bid on Equal Terms.  
Washington, March 2.—The Pacific coast shipbuilders who bid on new vessels authorized by the pending naval bill will have to enter the competition on an even basis with builders on the Atlantic coast. While the naval bill was under consideration in the senate no attempt was made by any Pacific coast senator to secure the adoption of a 4 per cent preferential amendment. As neither Louse adopted this provision it cannot be inserted in conference.

## CAN'T EXCEL

Senate Naval Committee Ships of Hope

Washington, Feb. 28.—The naval committee believe that the battleships sent the most perfect afloat today, and according to the house program navy and authorized to four new ships of the rather than the heavier provided for in the house program is smaller by more of them, the house program provided for two large When the bill passes goes to conference, there ability of the senate provided, or at least the at two or more ships of the Senator Hale says the perfect warship in existence the Oregon, and the count better than to add other class to the navy as soon

FIRE EATS UP MILL

Sweeps Through Business Center with Disasterous Cincinnati, Feb. 28.—

o'clock this morning flames covered in the corner of Geor grocery in the Pike building street, between Vine and Washington later there was an supposed to come from liquor age, and the flames soon after up through the roof of the stone front building, and from time on for several hours the beyond control.

The flames destroyed half a center of the business district caused a loss of over \$2,000,000 burning embers were carried for the Kentucky suburbs being with them. The fire department Covington, Newport and other tucky towns came to the assistance the local firemen, but it was no fore their combined efforts had them under control. Crews were at the time on the roofs of the surrounding buildings, and a general conflagration was narrowly averted.

It was perhaps the greatest scar city ever had, and it was though one time that the entire business tion of the city was doomed, and would have been the case if there been brisk winds.

FATAL BLAZE IN NEW YORK.

Eight-Story Building Totally Destroyed and One Fireman Killed.

New York, Feb. 28.—Several firemen were hurt, one fatally, at a fire in eight story building at Broadway a Thirteenth street, early today. The property loss is estimated at \$250,000. Captain John Andreise, of an engineering company, while at work at the fire, fell through an open shaft, striking on his head. He died shortly after being taken to the hospital.

A dozen firemen were at work on the sixth floor, when a part of the fireproof ceiling fell. Battalion Chief Goderson was knocked unconscious by a piece of tile. Fireman Daniel Foley's right leg was broken. Fireman Joseph Kinsch and Thomas Nix fell from a ladder and broke their legs, and a piece of cornice crushed Fireman Joseph Kimmel's foot.

Sparks from the burning building were blown toward the Morton house, at Broadway and Fourteenth street, and the 200 guests of that hotel who had been aroused by the fire engines all went down to the street for safety.

Dr. Gatling is Dead.

New York, Feb. 28.—R. J. Gatling, inventor of the Gatling gun, died here today at the home of his son-in-law, Hugh P. Pentecost. Dr. Gatling died very suddenly in the arms of his daughter, Mrs. Hugh O. Pentecost. At 1:15 o'clock Dr. Gatling returned home from a trip down town. Being 84 years of age and accustomed to resting after any physical effort, he told his daughter he would lie down. Shortly afterward he commenced to breathe heavily. A physician was called and he administered strychnine, but to no purpose.

To Double-Track Union Pacific.

Denver, Feb. 28.—The Union Pacific is to be double tracked all the way from Omaha to Ogden, according to statements of surveyors who left Denver today. The contracts were let a few days ago for double-tracking 100 miles west from Omaha. This morning J. C. Elvens left for Rock Springs and Green River, where he joins other surveyors in laying out out-offs this side of Ogden. He states that plans are now being drawn up for double-tracking the road from Cheyenne to Laramie.

Will Pass at Extra Session.

Washington, Feb. 28.—The fight continues against the Panama canal treaty, and Morgan is determined to defeat it at this session of congress. He is being aided by men who are known to be opposed to the Cuban treaty, and there is a probability that both will go over for a special session of the senate, but they will be ratified then, or at least a vote will be taken upon them, and, from a close canvass of the senate, both will pass.