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## The Fair Captives

### OR THE SECRET CABINET

CHAPTER XIX.

"Your shoe is untied," he says slowly, as if fulfilling an unpleasant duty, and with quite an access of gloom.

"Is it? What a worry these shoes are!" says Griselda, standing still to cast a reproachful glance at the ribbons of this troublesome, if charming shoe. "I never come out. I never indeed have them on for five minutes without being made absolutely wretched in them."

"Oh, don't think it so easy to make you wretched," says he bitterly. "His eyes fixed on the emancipated ribbon that is fluttering in the soft breeze."

"Well, you see you are wrong," sharply. "And then more sharply still. 'Aren't you going to tie it?'"

"I really hardly thought you would allow me," says he, with an extremely ill grace he drops upon his knees before her and proceeds to reduce the fluttering ribbons to order.

Apparently simple as it seems, it takes an enormous time to do this. The tying of an ordinary bow knot, one would imagine, being an act of everyday occurrence, could not occupy the better part of five minutes in the doing of it, yet so it is. All ye who are ignorant of the matter learn now this wondrous fact, that it took Mr. Peyton, who was by no means a dufferhead, quite the twelfth part of an hour to bring the younger Miss Dysart's shoe strings into a proper frame of mind.

It is not carelessness either that has rendered his movements slow. To the most inattentive observer it must be plain that he has thrown his whole soul into his task, yet it seems difficult of completion.

"Don't you think it would be wise to call in assistance?" suggests she sweetly after a bit. "It seems a little too much for you."

"Something in her tone kills within him all animosity. He laughs. "Griselda," says he, still kneeling and looking up at her with imploring eyes, "tell me you didn't mean what you said to me."

"About that string getting the better of you? I'm sorry," with a regretful shake of her head. "But how am I to go back of it? You must see for yourself that it is true. Why, you haven't conquered it yet."

"You know I don't mean that. But—say, Griselda, if you only knew what a kind little lovely face you have got you wouldn't belie it. Do say you didn't mean what you said when we parted the day before yesterday?"

"Good heavens," says Griselda, "you might as well say the day before yesterday was born and be done with it. How am I to remember so far back as that?"

"Yet you do remember," persists he, "and if you don't I'll remind you. It—"

"Oh, no don't!" hastily, with determination.

"Yes, I certainly shall. You said you would absolutely certain that you would never like me very much better than you did then."

"I'm sorry again," says Griselda demurely, "but I'm afraid I can't go back of that either."

"You must," decisively.

"Must is for the king, and shall is for the queen," retorts she saucily, "and I leave you to learn that you are the proud possessor of a crown. Who then shall make me?"

"I shall," declares Mr. Peyton, dread meaning in his eye. "To be king with I shall keep you here until you retract in full. I shall," suiting the action to the word, "hold on to this shoe ribbon until you have gone back of every word you then said."

"If I stayed here until to-morrow's dawn—if I stayed here for ever, I shouldn't do that," returns she hotly.

"All right. I'm perfectly willing to stay here for ever."

"I wouldn't be silly if I were you," says she, trying to move the foot in prison without result, and growing a trifle uneasy. Of course he doesn't mean it. But—"Mr. Peyton," with a sudden touch of hauteur, "let me go at once!"

She stamps rather angrily with the unfettered foot upon the ground and threatens him with a pair of lovely indignant eyes, that flash in that brave above his fellows, returns her glance unmoved and holds on manfully to the other—the captured foot.

It is rather an absurd position, no doubt, but the situation has its compensations; it leaves him at least, as he fondly believes, the field, and he clings to it—the foot with a Spartan fervor not to be shaken.

"I have you now, at all events," he says grimly, giving the ribbon he is holding a little vicious pull just for the satisfaction of showing her how completely she is in his power. How can she run away without her foot? Alas, for his hopes! and oh, for the ingenuity of the feebler, the woman's mind!

"Have you, indeed?" cries she, impatiently in her tone, and then there is a little swift movement on her part, a tiny wriggle of her whole pretty swiftest body, as it were, and lo! in a moment she is many yards away from him, whilst he still kneels wearily in the dust of humiliation, gazing at something in his hand. It is the shoe, the husk, the empty words she shall—

"So now!" cries she triumphantly.

"Surely you exaggerate?" she says. "Why, for one thing, let them make what arrangements they will, there is no law that can carry them out. And as for us, darling, why, we can go away, you and I, and fend for ourselves one way or another, or even if we stay, why, there is no power on earth that can compel anyone to say Yes, at the altar, so long as they have breath left them to shout a good sensible No. So you keep up heart and remember I'm here."

"Oh, Griselda, oh, if you had heard him!" She begins to tremble softly like an aspen leaf, and then suddenly she flings her arms around Griselda's neck and bursts into a passion of tears.

"That's right! That will make you feel better. What an old wretch he is! There now, darling, poor darling! There now, there!" It is plainly part of Griselda's faith that soft rubbings and tender patters of the back, mingled with kisses, are full of healing power, because she administers all these with a liberal mind. By degrees, and through many sobs, Vera—helped out, no doubt, by Griselda's medicinal course—reveals to her all that had taken place in the afternoon.

"Well, I am surprised about Seaton," says Griselda, presently. "But are you sure you are not mistaken? He may have been led into it by that wily old father of his. I would not condemn him altogether, if I were you, until I had heard something more of it."

"I want to hear nothing more. I know. Did I not always tell you there was reason for my strange dislike to him? Whenever I saw him I felt as if I were shrinking into myself. I felt, do you see, that I should suffer indignity at his hands. I was right; such strong presentiments must bear fruit—bitter fruit in this instance."

"Still, Seaton—if it had been any one else," says Griselda, in a puzzled tone. "He seems so unlike that sort of thing."

At this Vera loses patience. "If you are going to defend him," she says, with a touch of asperity, "I had far rather you went away and left me to myself."

"I can't," says Griselda, remembering how she rushed along the corridor to escape notice, and how here in this room is her one chance of safety. Up to this, lost in astonishment and concern for her sister, she had most unselfishly put her own trouble behind her, but now it looks out at her with redoubled strength. "If you are unhappy, so am I. Honestly, Vera, I don't know what on earth I shall do!"

All the consolation she could have offered would not have done Vera as much good as this hint. It rouses her.

"You in trouble, too?" she says, looking up with interest in her eyes, and presently—Griselda, being only too glad to unburden herself—she is in full possession of all the facts of Griselda's latest escapade.

"What will be the end of it?" asks Griselda. "Murder? Suicide? Or shall I make away with myself? I feel that would be the most considerate thing. Oh, when I think of Uncle Gregory's face, I feel as if I should like to have a bad fever that would confine me to my room for six weeks. He is so old that I am sure he is afraid of infection."

"He must have gone out driving shortly after I left him. After all, Griselda, he is so taken up with this precious scheme of his that perhaps he will forget about you."

"Does he ever forget?" Don't try to delude yourself, or me either, my good child. I shall fortify myself with a capital dinner, thanks to Seaton—that abominable Seaton, I mean," warned by her sister's eye, "and wait with as good a grace as I can for the explosion that is sure to come."

(To be Continued.)

## LEADING MARKETS.

The Ruling Prices in Live Stock and Breadstuffs.

BREADSTUFFS.

Toronto, Jan. 17.—Wheat—Ontario—Deliveries continue light, and while millers hesitate over buying at present prices, \$1.03 to \$1.04 is bid and \$1.05 asked for red and white; spring, 95c to 96c; goose, 88c. Manitoba, basic, \$5.40 to \$5.60 for first patents, \$5 to \$5.30 for second patents, and \$5 to \$5.20 for bakers.

Milled—Canada, \$14 for bran in bulk, \$16 to \$16.50 for shorts, cast and west, Manitoba easier, \$19 for shorts, \$18 for bran, exports.

Barley—35c for No. 3, 43c for extra, and 41c for No. 2 malting, outside, Toronto freights.

Oats—76c for No. 2.

Corn—Easier; new Canadian yellow, 41c, mixed, 41c, f.o.b., Chatham freights; new American, No. 3 yellow, 51c; mixed, 51c, on track, Toronto.

Oats—33c to 33½c for No. 1 white, east, low freights; No. 2, 32½c, low freights, and 32c north and west.

Rolls—Oats—\$1 for cars of bags and \$4.25 for barrels on track. To route, 25¢ more for broken lots here and 40¢ for broken lots outside.

Peas—67c for No. 2 west and east. Buckwheat—52c to 53c, east and west.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Butter—Receipts of good stocks are light.

Creamery, prints ..... 22c to 24c do solids ..... 22c to 23c do tubs ..... 19c to 20c Dairy tubs, good to choice ..... 16c to 17c do medium ..... 14c to 15c do inferior grades ..... 12c to 13c Dairy lb. rolls, good to choice ..... 17c to 18c do large rolls ..... 16c to 17c do medium ..... 14c to 15c Cheese—Large are quoted at 11½c and twins at 12c in job lots here.

Eggs—The market for rolled business passing is about a steady 2¢ per dozen for fresh and 20¢ for hatched.

Poultry—Turkeys, 12c to 15c; ducks, 11c to 12c; geese, 10c to 11c; chickens, choice, 12c to 14c; old, 8c to 10c.

Baled Hay—The market retains a firm tone at \$7.50 to \$8 per ton for No. 1 timothy and \$6.25 to \$6.50 for No. 2 and mixed clover, all on track here.

Baled Straw—Receipts continue somewhat light and the market is firm in tone at \$6.25 to \$6.50 per ton for car lots on track here.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, Jan. 17.—Grain—A sale of 6,000 bushels of No. 3 Manitoba white oats made at 83½¢ per bushel. Track and track lots of Ontario rejected, sold at 38¢ ex-store, while 40¢ was bid for sound lots of No. 2 white ex-store and refused, and holders in the west are asking 42c for No. 2 northern.

Flour—Manitoba spring wheat patents, \$5.60; strong bakers, \$5.30; winter wheat bran in bulk, \$17 to \$18; shorts, \$19 to \$20; mouille, \$24 to \$28 per ton as to quality.

Meal—Tone of market for rolled oats remains steady, but volume of business passing is small at \$2.07½, \$2.12 per bag. Cornmeal is unchanged at \$1.35 to \$1.45 per bag.

Hay—No. 1 clover, \$9 to \$9.50; No. 2, \$8.25 to \$8.75; clover mixed, \$7 to \$7.50, and pure clover, \$6.50 to \$6.75 per ton in car lots.

Provisions—Heavy Canadian short cut pork, \$16.50 to \$17.50; light short cut, \$16.50 to \$17. American, 6½c to 7c; Canadian lard, 6½c to 7c; kettle rendered, 8½c to 9c according to quality; hams, 12c to 13c; fresh killed abattoir hogs, \$7.50; heavy fat hogs, \$4.75 to \$5; mixed lots, \$5 to \$5.15; select, \$5.75 to \$6.

Cheese—Ontario fall white, 10½c to 10c; colored, 10½c to 10c; Quebec, 10c to 9½c.

Butter—Finest grades, 21c to 21½c; ordinary finest, at 20c to 21c; medium grades, 19c to 20c; western dairy, 17c to 17½c.

Eggs—Straight cold storage stock, 18c to 20c; No. 2, 16c to 17c; Montreal limed, 19c.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Toronto, Jan. 17.—The run on cattle was heavy, and the demand not so brisk, the result being that in all lines prices showed an easier tendency, without any quotable change.

Export Cattle—There were not many cattle offered, and those on the market were of rather inferior grade. For this reason there was nothing sold at top quotations, and the figures for choice cattle are nominal. Quotations all round are unchanged. Choice are quoted at \$4.50 to \$5, good to medium at \$4.25 to \$4.50, good cows at \$3.25 to \$4.

Butchers' Cattle—A fairly heavy run of common to medium cattle was offered, but the demand not being as brisk as it was on Tuesday, the tone of trading was less active, although prices were about steady. There were few good cattle offered and there was no price over \$4.25. For cattle of better grade than this figure warrants quotations are nominal. All prices are quoted as follows: Good to choice butchers' are quoted at \$4 to \$4.50, fair to good, at \$3.50 to \$4; mixed lots, medium, at \$3 to \$3.50; common at \$1.75 to \$2.50, cows at \$3 to \$3.40, and bulls at \$2 to \$2.75.

Stocks and Feeders—Trade in this line continues steady and very quiet, as few cattle are coming forward and the demand is light. Quotations are unchanged. Feeders are

## COSSACKS MAKE A RAID

Expected to Capture Siege Guns En Route From Port Arthur to Sha River.

RUSSIANS REPULSED.

A despatch from Tokio says—A detachment of Cossacks planned a dash on the railroad for the purpose of intercepting Gen. Nogi's heavy siege guns en route from Port Arthur to the Sha River. They tore up and damaged the line between Anshantien and Haichang, and subsequently attacked New-Chwang and drove the Japanese garrison out. The latter recaptured the place later.

In military circles here it is not anticipated that there will be any further difficulty with the raiders. It is believed that the raiding troops probably were limited to those which attacked New-Chwang and Niuchaitun. There is no evidence to indicate that the Cossacks were strongly supported.

On Wednesday at ten in the morning a Japanese cavalry detachment encountered four companies of Russian cavalry west of Tangmasan, south-west of Liao-Yang and fiercely engaged them. At 2.30 in the afternoon the Russians were repulsed with heavy losses. Subsequently they were reinforced by several companies of cavalry and eight guns. The Japanese drew the Russians to Liuehpaac and engaged and pursued them. On Wednesday night a small detachment of the Russian cavalry reached the railroad line and tore up the tracks between Anshantien and Haichang and Tatchekiao and Yikow. They were immediately repaired and the line was reopened to traffic.

On Wednesday afternoon 2,000 Russian cavalry, with some attached New-Chwang. The Japanese were forced to retire temporarily but were re-enforced, attacked the Russians and are still pursuing them.

The Russians also attacked Niuchaitun but were repulsed.

A report from the Japanese army headquarters on the Liaotung Peninsula received on Friday, says—A body of Russians, evidently from Gen. Mistechno's cavalry brigade, with the Second Infantry Regiment, railroad guards and guns, recently surrounded the Japanese post at Niuchaitun, north of Yinkow on the line of communications, and assaulted it from the direction of Siantziatu. The Russians were repulsed, losing at least 80 men.

CEREMONIAL ENTRY.

A despatch from Tokio says—The ceremonial entry of the Japanese into Port Arthur took place on Friday. A column consisting of a company each of cavalry, infantry, artillery, engineers, medical corps, and commissary corps entered from the north, headed by the colors and a huge band. The column marched through the old and new towns.

REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENT.

A despatch from Tokio says—The Japanese achievement at Port Arthur is more remarkable in the light of further investigations. The original Russian strength is now estimated to have been infantry, 59,000 men. It is announced at the army headquarters that, in addition to the prisoners already reported, about 13,000 wounded combatants will eventually be brought to Japan. Gen. Nogi's headquarters staff at Port Arthur are at present devoting their energies to dispatching the prisoners to Japan, placing the wounded in hospitals and clearing the way for a thorough investigation of the spoils of war.

Confused reports reach Tokio of the condition of the city buildings. It was said on Thursday that Gen. Nogi will return to Tokio at present.

Sixteen survivors of the third detachment of Japanese who attempted to block the entrance of Port Arthur by sinking stone-laden steamers in the channel are expected to arrive at Sasebo on Thursday. The fate of their 70 companions is unknown.

SPOILS OF PORT ARTHUR.

A despatch from London says: Telegrams from Tokio add to the list of spoils taken at Port Arthur, as given out by the Japanese Legation, 2,225,000 rounds of small arm ammunition, 60 torpedoes, 1,588 explosive weapons and carts, 149 sets of telegraph and telephone apparatus, 14 searchlights, and quantities of swords, pistols, and entrenching tools. It is remarked that the captures disprove the idea that a shortage of ammunition contributed to the surrender of the fortress.

PRISONERS REACH JAPAN.

A despatch from Nagasaki, Japan, says: The steamers Kaga and Sunuki have arrived here with 1,600 Russian prisoners of war and fifty officers. All the prisoners have been quartered at Inasa, a village nearby, where has also been prepared a lodging for Gen. Stoessel, who will arrive next Saturday.

The Russian officers are allowed much liberty within the bounds of the town, but they are under police escort.

Gen. Stoessel and staff will sail from here for Europe on a French mail steamer Jan. 16. These Russian prisoners are unfeignedly pleased at the end of the hardships of the siege and the considerate treatment of their victors.

RUSSIA PROTESTS.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says: Russia has sent a circular to the foreign Governments, denouncing a series of alleged Chinese violations of neutrality during the war, the efforts of the powers having failed to prevent them. The circular

## TOLD BY A FINGER PRINT.

Impression Left By a Burglar Convicted Him.

A despatch from Vancouver, B. C., says: The Sydney, New South Wales, courts have just demonstrated the importance of the finger-print system as a means of identifying a criminal. A young man charged with burglary has been found guilty solely upon the evidence of finger-prints. The burglar, in gaining entry to the building, broke the glass of a window and left the impression of his hand in the dust. This was photographed and the exhibit was produced in court. The jury returned a verdict in a few minutes of guilty.

This was the first case of the kind in the Commonwealth. But it was quickly followed by another. The accused, who is charged with breaking and entering, left the impression of his hand on a newly-painted door. This was photographed, and found to correspond with an impress of the hand of the prisoner. In this case also a verdict of guilty was quickly reached.

Sergeant Childs, the officer in charge of the finger-print department at Sydney, says he considers the system almost infallible. The cases were watched with the greatest interest by the police, jail and justice department officials.

DESTROY PAGAN SHRINES.

Two Thousand Skulls Found in One 'Ju-ju' House.

The London Daily Mail published the following:—News has been received from West Africa of the destruction by the British in Southern Nigeria of two Ju-ju houses belonging to the Andoni tribe, in which ghastly atrocities were reported to have taken place.

The first of these pagan temples was found to be a veritable "Golgotha," over 2,000 skulls being counted, neatly arranged and fixed to the walls and posts of the house. After an inspection the place was set on fire.

Some days later a chief, a Ju-ju priest, and a principal man of the town (where, who were found to be connected with a "Ju-ju" were arrested. This second shrine was reached after a canoe journey up a tortuous creek. Finally, the British party arrived at a small hut, completely closed in with vegetation, the interior being so dark that it was necessary to tear down the walls before it was possible to see what the place contained.

Among the objects found was a large metal bell, inscribed "Otto Bakker, Rotterdam, 1757," used at the Ju-ju festivals to call the inhabitants of the neighboring towns together, and also during sacrifice.

DEATH OF LOUISA MICHEL.

She Was a Noted Figure in the French Commune.

A despatch from Marseilles, says: Louisa Michel, the noted communist, is dead. Louisa Michel was born in 1830. She became a teacher in 1853, and ultimately taught in Paris and Montmartre. She took an active part in the revolutionary commune in Paris, and was made a prisoner in 1870. She was sentenced to transportation for life, but was released, and returned to Paris in 1883 and 1886. She wrote many books attacking the social system, and of late years she was classed as an Anarchist.

FELL DOWN MINE SHAFT.

Four Men Killed by Breaking of a Cable.

A despatch from Houghton, Mich., says: Four men have been instantly killed and two others injured at a shaft which is being sunk at Rockland by the Victoria Mining Company for a hydraulic power plant. The dead—William Penrose and two Austrians and one Finlander; names could not be learned. The accident was due to the breaking of a cable while six men were coming to the surface in a skip at the noon hour.

BOILER EXPLODED.

Engineer and Fireman Killed in Station Yard.

A despatch from Cleveland, Ohio, says: The boiler of a locomotive attached to the eastbound fast express train on the Erie road blew up while standing at the Greenon, Ohio, station on Wednesday, killing the engineer and fireman instantly, and badly injuring another man who was riding in the engine cab. The dead—Frederick Keller, engineer, Gallon, O., and Fireman Hallick, Gallon, O. The cause of the explosion is not known. The train carried express cars only. Aside from the engine, which was completely demolished, none of the equipment was damaged. Traffic was blocked for four hours following the accident.

## PRISONERS LOOK WELL FED.

A despatch from Tokio says: All the prisoners from Port Arthur arriving at Nagasaki look well fed and happy. Col. Beljakoff, of the Russian army, said the enemy's welcome was entirely unexpected. It made him feel as though he had returned to his own country. He hoped the war would soon cease and a mutual understanding follow. If this occurred the present plight of the prisoners would be more useful to Russia than continued resistance at Port Arthur.

Twenty-six paroled Russian officers were welcomed by M. Arakawa, Governor of Nagasaki, municipal delegates and leading citizens. Col. Trichadoff thanked them on behalf of his comrades. He said their highest ethical position among the nations. He believed that after the war Russia and Japan would become fast friends.

MANY SUNKEN BOATS.

A despatch from Tokio says: Commander Tanaka, of the Japanese navy, who is investigating the sunken Russian warships at Port Arthur, has discovered that the cruisers Djidit, Rasbocynk, and Zabinka, which had hitherto been unaccounted for, were all sunk, the Rasbocynk apparently by the Russians themselves, and the latter two by Japanese shells. Commander Tanaka has also located five torpedo-boat destroyers and two gunboats that were destroyed.

RECALL OF BALTIC FLEET.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says: The Admiralty has not given the slightest official confirmation of the report of the recall of Vice-Admiral Rojestvensky's squadron. On the contrary, the officials point calmly to the preparations being made to reinforce the squadron, with a division of the third Pacific squadron as sufficient evidence that Rojestvensky will not return to European waters. The Russian ice-breaker Ermak at Libau has been ordered to keep the channel clear for the ships which are being made ready for sea.

WANT INVINCIBLE FLEET.

A despatch from Paris says: Vice-Admiral Doubassoff, the Russian member of the North Sea Commission, is quoted by the Echo de Paris as having stated in an interview that he had submitted to Emperor Nicholas a programme for a re-organization of the fleet, which is absolutely essential to the success of the war. The war will be a naval war, Admiral Doubassoff says, and the Russian fleet must be invincible.

SIGNIFY.

A despatch from London says: Mail from Port Arthur reports that for the first time since the capture of the fortress, the Japanese did not see a Russian soldier.

TRIED.

British officers are reported to have been tried for the capture of the fortress.

Two despatches from Port Arthur report that the Japanese are now working with the Russian prisoners of war. The Russian prisoners have begun to work with the Japanese. The Russian prisoners have begun to work with the Japanese.

DEATH IN EMBERCE.

Condemned Man Kills Hangman on Spanish Scaffold.

A despatch from Madrid says: The perpetuation of an old Spanish custom on Thursday resulting in the death of the hangman during an execution at Belchite, Aragon. This old custom is that the hangman, before placing the black cap over the victim, apologizes to the latter. The condemned man usually forgives him, and in token of his forgiveness, embraces the executioner. This custom was gone through with at the execution of Louis Gomez, at Belchite, on Thursday. The hangman apologized, and Gomez embraced him, but while embracing his hangman, the prisoner strangled the latter. The condemned man immediately shot Gomez.