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The Fair Captives

OR

THE SECRET CABINET

CHAPTER XLVII.

It is hopeless to attempt to withdraw the arm that is close clasping Griselda's waist, the maddest folly to dream of dropping the little hand so confidently clasped in Peyton's broad palm. To all intents and purposes Griselda stands revealed in the warm embrace of the new gardener!

As though turned to stone the two culprits wait, staring blankly at the inexorable face before them. This, too, looks carved, so emotionless, so altogether destitute of life it seems, not so much as a flicker of the eyelids betraying the fact that he yet breathes. Only the terrible eyes sparkle and gleam, and presently there grows within them a vile expression that might be termed triumph.

At last, when the strain has become well-nigh unbearable, he rises and advances a step or two towards the stricken pair. This movement breaks the spell so far as Peyton is concerned, and seeing that Griselda is on the point of fainting, he tightens his arm round her, and gives her a sharp and vicious little shake that startles her into life once more.

"So!" says Mr. Dysart. The triumph is gaining ground steadily: he now looks positively radiant in a satanic sort of fashion. "I congratulate you," addressing Griselda. "After all, I see the severity of the command that forbid your wandering in the woods yonder cost you but little. With you, a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush; you have learned wisdom early. You take, indeed, the good the gods provide, without any foolish cavilling at the quality of it. But so soon," with an odious touch of banter in his tone, "to abandon one swain for the other! What a cruel fair one you portray yourself. Consider the feelings of your first young man. They must be poignant in the extreme. Truly you are one of those troubled with 'thick-coming fancies.' Yesterday the woodman, to-day the gardener, to-morrow who?"

"Tom!" said Griselda in a suffocated tone, but by a pressure of her hand he compels her to silence. Let the old man get it all out first.

"After all," goes on Mr. Dysart pleasantly, "I almost regret that I objected to your daily rendezvous with the woodman. There is something romantic about the feller of 'the oak and the ash and the bonny elm tree,' and it may be that the young man looks clean; sawdust in itself is a cleansing material. As for my gardener," turning an abominable smile on Peyton, "I fear I cannot congratulate him upon his outward graces, though, doubtless, this second choice of yours is unapproachable when the inner virtues are called into question. He seems affectionate, too," with a pensive glance at the attitude in which Peyton still stands, his arm about the trembling form of Griselda.

"Have you done?" says Peyton in a murderous tone.

"No, not quite, yet. There is just one question that has suggested itself to me, a mere matter of curiosity, I assure you, but I should like it satisfied, if you will kindly allow my niece to answer me. Why, my dear Griselda, if your taste lies with the eminently respectable, if, perhaps, rather trying, lower classes, why did you not decide in favor of the tailor's son, who lives in the village? I hear he is a great admirer of female beauty, so that you would have stood a good chance with him. Nay, no blushes, my dear; it is your poor old uncle alone who thus renders a tribute to your perfections, not any of the bucolic youths around. This Saunders is, I am told, a remarkably steady person, and has one hundred and twenty pounds laid aside as a nest-egg towards furnishing a dear little rustic cottage for his bride. Beside these substantial allurements, I should say the charms of the woodman and the—er—astonishing plain young man before me would sink into significance. After all, I feel I have scarcely done my duty by you; I gave you no chance of cultivating the tailor's son."

"Sir," says Peyton, taking off the damnatory cap, that hides rather more than half his face, and flinging it violently from him, "cease these unmanly insults, these contemptible gibes! In me you see the woodman and gardener combined, and," haughtily, "Tom Peyton, of Gritonmore, besides."

There is no mistaking the breeding that accompanies his glance and words. For, perhaps, the first time in his life Gregory Dysart is completely taken aback, a circumstance that does not tend to sweeten his humor.

"Peyton!" repeats he slowly, ill-suppressed fury in his evil eyes; "so it was to your sister's place, to Lady Riversdale, that my nieces went? It was you, I suppose, they had to thank for the invitation? Pray, is she aware of the honorable part you are enacting here? Does she admire it?"

"She knows," says Peyton brusquely; "I cannot say that she admires it. You, however, put it out of my power to pay my addresses to your niece in an open manner."

"Strange," says Dysart with a low, insolent laugh. "And so it is for you," with an exhaustive and impertinent survey of the heated, angry, honest, but certainly unbeauteous countenance of the young man before him, "for you that my niece has defied me and risked her position here? You will, of course, understand," spreading his white hands abroad with an assumption of an apologetic air, intensely irritating, "that I am, unhappily, entirely ignorant of your social qualities, which," with a second even more eloquent glance, "must be enormous. So that you will pardon me for saying that as I look at you I am filled with amazement."

Tom Peyton laughs scornfully. He is quite aware that his present habiliments do not add to the meagre stock of good looks with which a niggardly nature has supplied him.

"'Handsome is as handsome does,'" says he, quoting that vulgar, homely old proverb with a valiant air. If Griselda sees good in his face, who shall dare decry it? He makes his speech with a meaning glance that implies that his beloved's uncle has signally failed in behaving handsomely towards her.

"She has been complaining, no doubt," says Mr. Dysart, catching the other's tone and casting a withering glance at Griselda; "but you—have you behaved handsomely towards her, do you think? She is young; was it nothing to imperil her reputation, to induce her to give up her self-respect?"

He speaks with slow, malignant emphasis; a dry sob breaks from Griselda. Peyton makes a step forward.

"Stop that," he says very low, but in a tone so strange that Mr. Dysart, who, to do him jurtice, is devoid of fear, instinctively looks up at him. "I would to Heaven" says the younger man, in a voice that quivers with rage, "that I could take forty years off your shoulders."

"That you might reduce me to powder?" suggests Dysart with a laugh. "Let me tell you, my quondam gardener, that if you did so you would not find me the feeble foe you imagine. I should, in all probability, be the one to do the pulverizing. It seems a pity, however, to waste time over such trivial thoughts as these. The day is fast deserting us, and but a short hour or two of light remains. I fear this will scarcely suffice Griselda to pack up her things."

"You mean——" says Peyton starting.

"That she leaves this house at daybreak to-morrow. Nay, not a word; she has had fair warning, she cannot complain. Twice she was told what would be the end of all this. To-morrow morning she leaves my house, she and her sister."

"Oh, poor Vera!" says Griselda in an agonized tone, but beneath her breath; Peyton presses her arm tenderly, warningly.

"You have got her into this scrape; you will, of course, feel it your duty to get her out of it," says the old man to Peyton, with a cold smile full of bitter revenge. "I hope you are prepared to support her and her sister for the rest of their lives."

"It has been my desire for a long time to rescue her from her present miserable life. For this at least I have to thank you, that you have driven her to accept the home I can offer her. I would, for her sake," with a most earnest glance at Griselda, "that it was better than it is, but though her life with me will, I fear, be but a poor one, in so far as money is concerned, it will, at all events, enable her to have a soul of her own."

The extreme contempt of Peyton's manner maddens the other.

"You have a proud spirit, sir," he says, his voice trembling with rage, "yet I think I have heard it said that the last Peyton of Gritonmore is little better than a pauper."

"Then you heard wrongly," says Tom Peyton with dignity. "I acknowledge myself a poor man, but I never yet heard of a pauper with seven hundred a year. A mere pittance in the eyes of the fashionable world I allow, a beggarly income when compared with the rent-rolls of my ancestors, a very insufficient sum to keep up Gritonmore or any home such as I would gladly give her, but," with a swift fond glance at Griselda, "'twill serve, I think."

A dark scowl covers the face of the old man; there is a touch of angry bafflement in it. He had not thought the elder Peyton had left his son even half the sum mentioned out of the wreck of as handsome a property as was in all Derby. "And to-morrow," he says, making his last contemptible move with a base longing to wound, no matter by what scurvy means, "to-morrow, when I turn her adrift, will you marry her then, or take her under your protection till you tire?"

Peyton starts as if shot; his first thought is for Griselda; he turns a colorless face to hers, but even if she had heard the abominable words she certainly had not understood them. There is only the same sad frightened look upon her charming face.

"For shame, old man!" says Peyton, with such terrible scorn in eyes and voice that involuntarily Mr. Dysart shrinks from him. The latter would have spoken again, but Peyton checks him by an imperious gesture. "Silence, sir!" he says haughtily, and, stepping past him, leads Griselda away, ever farther and farther through the gardens till they come to the old ruin that lies half a mile or so from the house.

(To be Continued.)

A gold telegraph company is to be organized at Ottawa.

LEADING MARKETS

BREADSTUFFS.

Toronto, June 13.—Wheat—Ontario 97c to 98c for No. 2 red and white, east and west. Goose is nominal at 85c to 86c. Manitoba higher; No. 1 nor., $1.03½; No. 2 northern, $1.00½; No. 3 northern, 91c to 93c, lake ports, 6c more grinding in transit.

Flour—Ontario 90 per cent. patents are firmer at $4.40 to $4.45, buyers' sacks, east and west; 15c to 20c higher for choice. Manitoba, $5.40 to $5.50 for first patents, $5.10 to $5.20 for seconds, and $5 to $5.10 for bakers'.

Millfeed—Bran is offering at $13.75 to $14.25, shorts held at $17.50 to $18. Manitoba, $18 for bran, $20 for shorts.

Barley—45c for No. 2, 43c for No. 3 extra, and 41c for No. 1 malting outside, Toronto freights.

Rye—62c to 63c and 60c bid.

Corn—American is higher; No. 2 yellow is quoted at 61½ to 62c and No. 3 yellow, 60½c to 61c, lake or rail freights.

Oats—42c to 43c outside.

Rolled Oats—Firm at $4.35 for cars of bags and $4.60 for barrels on track here; 25c more for broken lots here and 40c outside.

Peas—In demand at 70c for No. 2 west and east.

Buckwheat—50c to 60c east or west.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Butter—Dairy rolls are coming forward in large quantities.

Creamery, prints	18c to 20c
do solids	18c to 19c
Dairy lb. rolls, good to choice	15c to 16c
do large rolls	14c to 15c
do medium	13c to 14c
do tubs, good to choice	14½c to 15½c
do inferior	12c to 13c

Cheese—Is fairly steady at 9¾c to 10¼c per lb. for job lots here.

Eggs—Quotations are firmer at 16c to 16½c.

Potatoes—Ontario, 60c on track and 65c to 75c out of store; eastern, 65c on track and 70c to 75c out of store.

Baled Hay—$8 per ton for No. 1 timothy and $6.50 to $7 for mixed and clover on the track here.

Baled Straw—Is offering freely and is unchanged at $5.75 to $6 per ton for car lots on track here.

MONTREAL MARKETS.

Montreal, June 13.—The tone of the local market for oats remains very firm under a fair demand for car lots, and sales of No. 2 white were made at 46½c, No. 3 do, at 45½c, and No. 4 do, at 45c per bushel, ex-store.

Flour—Manitoba spring wheat patents, $5.40 to $6; strong bakers', $5.10 to $5.20; winter wheat patents $5.50; straight rollers, $5 to $5.15, and in bags, $2.40 to $2.50.

Millfeed—Manitoba bran, in bags, $18; shorts, $20 per ton; Ontario winter wheat bran, in bulk, $17.50 to $18; shorts, $19 to $20; mouille, $24 to $28 per ton, as to quality.

Oats—A steady feeling prevails in the market for rolled oats, but the demand is somewhat limited at $2.-22½ per bag. Cornmeal is quiet and steady at $1.35 to $1.45 per bag.

Hay—No. 1, $9 to $9.25; No. 2, $7.50 to $8.25; clover, mixed, $6.75 to $7.25, and pure clover, $6.50 to $6.75 per ton in car lots.

Beans—Choice primes, $1.70 to $1.-75 per bushel; $1.50 to $1.60 in car lots.

Honey—White clover, in combs, 12½c to 13½c per section in 1-lb. sections; extract, in 10-lb. tins, 7c to 7½c; in 60-lb. tins, 6c to 6½c; buckwheat, 6c to 6½c, as to quality.

Provisions—Heavy Canadian short cut, $16.50 to $17; American cut clear fat back, $20; compound lard, 6½c to 7c; Canadian lard, 6¾c to 7½c; kettle rendered, 8½c to 9½c, according to quality; hams, 12c to 14c; bacon, 13c to 14c; fresh killed abattoir hogs, $9.75 to $10; mixed, $7; select, $7.50 off cars.

Eggs—Straight stock, 16c to 16½c; selects, 17c; No. 1, 18½c.

Butter—Choice creamery, 19c to 19½c; under-grades, 18¾c to 19c; dairy, 16c to 16½c; rolls, 15¾c to 16½c.

Cheese—Ontario, 9½c; Quebec, 9½c to 9¾c.

BUFFALO MARKETS.

Buffalo, N. Y., June 13.—Flour—Strong. Wheat—Spring in light supply; No. 1 Northern, $1.11½. Corn—Firm; No. 2 yellow, 58¾c; No. 2 corn, 57¾c. Oats—Firm for track; easy for store; No. 2 white, 35½c; No. 2 mixed, 34c. Canal freights—Unchanged.

CATTLE MARKET.

Toronto, June 13.—Operators showed some indifference towards doing business on a large scale, and the general demand from the city and outside points was slack. The following is the range of prices:

Export cattle, choice	$5.50	$5.50
Do., medium	5.00	5.25
Do., bulls	3.75	4.50
Do., light	3.00	3.75
Do., cows	3.00	3.75
Butchers', picked	5.10	5.30
Do., choice	4.75	5.10
Do., medium	4.25	4.75
Do., common	3.75	4.25
Do., cows, choice	3.50	4.50
Do., bulls	2.50	3.50
Feeders, short-keeps	5.00	5.25
Do., medium	4.00	4.50
Do., light	3.50	4.00
Do., bulls	2.50	3.00
Stockers	3.50	3.75
Do., bulls	2.00	3.00
Milch cows, choice	35.00	55.00
Do., common	25.00	35.00
Export ewes	4.00	4.25
Do., bucks	3.00	3.50
Spring lambs, each	3.00	5.25
Cull sheep, each	3.00	3.50
Calves	3.50	5.50
Do., each	2.00	10.00
Hogs, select, 160 to 200 lbs.		6.65
Do., fats and lights		6.40

DOMINION PARLIAMENT

NOTES OF PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

NAVIGABLE WATER.

Mr. Ames was informed by Sir Wilfrid that the Government had no official information as to the number of miles of navigable water suitable for light-draught steamers within the northern part of the proposed new Province of Alberta. If there was any information at all it would be found in the reports of surveyors and if it could be found, the Government would present it to the House.

POSTAL MATTER.

Dr. Barr was informed by Mr. Fisher on behalf of the Postmaster-General that an order had been sent to postmasters not to distribute postal matter sent to them in bulk. It was considered that in distributing such matter they were interfering with the revenue of the department, and if it were allowed the postmasters would have to use their discretion, thus rendering them liable to create trouble.

CANADA IS CAREFUL.

Before the Commons Agriculture Department, W. D. Scott, Superintendent of Immigration, and Dr. P. H. Bryce, medical inspector of the same department, both declared that the medical tests to keep out disease and prevent diseased immigrants landing in Canada are more strictly applied than they are at United States ports. The latter declared also, from personal observation, that we are getting a more desirable class of settlers from Europe than find their way to the United States. One-half of the total immigration in this country now comes from Great Britain.

The official records showed Canada is far more particular in the class of people she admits as settlers. The Canadian officials last year turned back one in 290, while the United States officials claimed that over 2,000 immigrants were stopped at the border, yet the fact was, Dr. Bryce said, that only 117 were actually shut out.

TRADING STAMPS.

Mr. Monk was told by Mr. Fitzpatrick that he had not yet finally settled upon the terms of the proposed bill in regard to trading stamps, as he had not had access to the judgment of the Court of Appeal upon a recent case affecting legislation of this kind.

LEGAL ADVISER.

Mr. Thompson was informed by Sir Wilfrid Laurier that Mr. F. T. Congdon had been appointed legal adviser to the Yukon Territorial Council. He was not a member of the Council, and would not be allowed to practise his legal profession privately.

ADOPTED CHILDREN

Homes Brightened by Their Presence—A Foster Mother's Letter.

Some of the world's brightest and cleverest men and women have been adopted children taken in infancy by childless people and reared with all the care and tenderness that love and regard for child life can suggest. Mr. J. J. Kelso, who is the general superintendent of work for homeless children in Ontario, states that almost every mail brings in enthusiastic letters from foster parents who have found new joy in life since they adopted a little one. The following is a sample letter recently received:—

"I dare not trust myself to commence to write of little K. You would at once conclude I was a foolish person. We think there never was or ever can be again such a beautiful little creature. She is a joy and delight all the days and weeks and makes sunshine and brightness wherever she goes, and often and often we wonder if it is possible she is really and truly ours. In form and figure she is a model, with a face and hair artists rave over. Her hair hangs in long loose curls to the waist; her soft brown eyes are very expressive; her velvety white hands and arms are most beautiful; and the whole contour of her face and figure is of good birth and aristocratic bearing. She is perfectly healthy—weighs 38 lbs. is three years old this month. I could fill a book with her bright sayings and baby prattle, showing great intelligence. We intend having her portrait painted. We know the photographer here would not do her justice and have been waiting to take her to the City for her photo. My little son is at a private school for boys and we often say God sent this sweet girlie to help us bear the parting with him. It will be a pleasure for me from time to time to acquaint you with H.'s growth and development and I can never never begin to thank you for your kindness and interest in us."

BIG RAILWAY DEAL.

C. P. R. Acquires a Railway On Vancouver Island.

A despatch from Victoria, B. C., says: The Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway and a land grant of a million and a half acres on Vancouver Island were finally transferred by agreement to the C. P. R. on Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Dunsmuir retains the coal rights. The consideration is not known. The old board of directors resigned, and a new board of C. P. R. officials was elected, with Wm. Whyte president, and J. S. Dennis vice-president. The C. P. R. takes immediate control, without a change on the staff of officials for the present. It is understood the new directors contemplate an active policy in the development of the land grant, and will place men in the field to explore and prospect the land, timber and minerals. People are pleased at the prospect of developments.

FEELING THEIR OATS.

Canadian Soldiers Kick Up a Row in Halifax.

A Halifax despatch says:—Soldiers of the Royal Canadian Regiment in garrison here do not take kindly to discipline. Thirteen privates who were imprisoned in the main guard room at Glacis Barracks on Friday kicked up a lively time. They started to break their way out and smashed everything in sight. The guard was called out and attempted to enter the room, but the Canadians had it barricaded firmly. Then a squad of twenty-one military police were hurried to the scene, and they battered down the door and overpowered the unruly Canadians, who were removed to a stronger guard room at the Citadel. All had been imprisoned for petty offences, such as absence without leave, beyond bounds, etc.

LIFE FOR HER CHILD.

Mrs. Buzzle Killed at Cherry River, Quebec.

A despatch from Sherbrooke, Que., says: News has reached here of a terrible accident that accurred at Cherry River on Monday. Mrs. Lucius Buzzle sent two of her children out to play, and a few minutes later the younger, a mere tot, was in the middle of the roadway in peril of being run over by a team and carriage that were being driven at a high speed. The woman ran out, and in an effort to reach the child was struck on the head by the carriage tongue with such force that she expired on the roadway almost immediately. The child was uninjured.

WHEAT A FOOT HIGH.

Canadian Pacific Railway Crop Report.

A despatch from Winnipeg says: Thursday's crop report of the Canadian Pacific Railway notes rapid growth during the week, some points stating that the grain has risen three inches in about as many days. A liberal supply of moisture and favorable weather continue to contribute to the vigorous maturing of the crop. In only scattered instances are untoward conditions reported. Yorkton branch shows the most advancement, the wheat being reported as eight, ten and twelve inches high at Birtle, Russell and Yorkton.

REMAINS OF ABIGALL BECKER

Removed From Walsingham Centre to Simcoe.

A despatch from St. Thomas says:—The remains of Abigail Becker, the heroine of Long Point, were removed from the cemetery at Walsingham Centre on Thursday and placed in Oakwood Cemetery at Simcoe, the directors having donated one of the finest lots for this purpose. It is now proposed to raise a subscription throughout Norfolk to place a suitable monument in the cemetery to this brave Canadian woman.

LEAVING THE FAR EAST.

British Battleships Coming Home From China Station.

A London despatch says:—The British battleships in the Far East are all coming home. Only cruisers will be kept on the China station hereafter. This is attributed to the complete change in the naval situation owing to the recent battle between the Russian and Japanese fleets. The rearrangement adds five battleships to the British home fleets.

MAY WAS RECORD BREAKER.

Tonnage Through "Soo" Canals Was the Largest.

A despatch from Detroit says: Reports from the Soo indicate that the tonnage through the canals during May is the largest for a single month in their history, the total freight movement being 5,775,787 tons, of which 4,686,827 tons passed on the American side and 1,088,960 tons on the Canadian side. On May 2nd a total of 295,534 tons were moved, the record for a day.

SHUT OUT OF BURMAH.

Standard Oil Co. Will Not Be Allowed a Foothold.

A despatch to the London Daily Mail from Simla says that the Government of Burmah, with the view of protecting the British Burmah oil industry, has refused the Standard Oil Co. a license to establish a petroleum store on the Rangoon River.

BRITISH TRADE.

Large Increase for May in Imports and Exports.

A despatch from London says: The Board of Trade returns for the United Kingdom during the month of May, as compared with the same month last year, show that imports increased £2,052,869, and exports increased £4,140,351.

DOMINION.

Lightning struck the tower of the Toronto City Hall and inflicted considerable damage.

A new Bell telephone office, costing $40,000, will be erected in Brantford.

The Canadian Shipbuilding Company has acquired control of the Bertram Engine Works, Toronto.

The four-year-old daughter of Jas. Quinlan of Peterboro' was drowned by falling through a bridge into deep water, on Friday.

On Thursday, Louis Bradley of Red Deer was sentenced to five years' imprisonment, and C. Burkhardt, Edmonton, to five years for horse-stealing.

Nearly two hundred thousand dollars have been raised by the churches of the Congregational Union of Ontario and Quebec to pay off church debts.

RUSSIA SEEKS JAPAN'S TERMS

The Bear Wants to Know the Conditions of Peace.

CZAR ASKED JAPAN'S TERMS.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says: As a result of the meeting of the Council of Ministers held at Tsarskoe-Selo on Tuesday, instructions were telegraphed on Wednesday afternoon to the Russian Ambassadors at Washington and Paris to the effect that Russia is desirous of learning Japan's peace conditions.

A DIFFERENT STORY.

A despatch from Paris says: The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Temps says that as a result of the conference at Tsarskoe-Selo the partisans of peace are considerably discomfited. A war to the bitter end is foreseen.

The British and American Ambassadors deny that they have been charged to take any steps toward opening any negotiations for peace.

DOUBTED IT IN LONDON.

A despatch from London says: The statement from St. Petersburg that Russia is anxious to learn Japan's conditions of peace is not supported from any source in Paris or elsewhere in Europe. On the contrary, Russia's determination to continue fighting at all costs is reasserted, coupled with a report that the whole western frontier of Russia will be denuded of troops to reinforce Gen. Linevitch.

ROJESTVENSKY'S REPORT.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says: An official report of the battle in Tsushima Straits has been received from Admiral Rojestvensky. In it he states that he was unconscious owing to his wounds, when he was removed from his flagship, the Kniaz Suvaroff.

KUROKI'S MOVE.

Moscow, June 7.—It is reported that Gen. Kuroki, who commands the right wing of Marshal Oyama's army, is making a wide turning movement.

RUSSIANS REPULSED.

A despatch from Tokio says: A despatch from the headquarters of the Japanese armies in the field, made public on Wednesday afternoon, says: "The enemy's infantry, strength not mentioned, attacked Machatun, two miles north of Weiyuampao, early in the morning of Monday, but were repulsed.

"The same day our force, which had advanced to Shabotse, nine miles east of Chiatu, dislodged the enemy heading for that vicinity, and occupied a neighboring eminence. A portion of our cavalry drove the enemy northward toward Chichiatzu, 15 miles north of Kwangping, and Machatun, seven miles east of Chipatun, and our troops occupied their vicinities."

BATTLESHIP RIDDLED.

A despatch from Tokio says: A correspondent has been permitted to inspect the Russian battleship Orel, now lying at Maizuru. The Orel received a terrible battering. Her hull shows forty gaping holes, pierced by large shells, and many smaller, while she had been hit, while the superstructure, her upper works and upper decks were riddled by shells, steel fragments and splinters. The starboard forward 12-inch gun was smashed ten feet from the muzzle, either by shell or by explosion. A fragment of the gun went over the bridge, smashing the rail, and after carrying away the breech of a 12-pounder, buried itself in the signal locker. From the main deck upward the condition of the vessel was terrible to behold. Steel partitions were smashed, the gangway was broken, and stanchions wrecked. Gear of various kinds covered the decks, and the state of the alleyways shows that the ship was afire several times. The mark of the flames increased the scene of desolation. The main armor belt is intact. The turret armor generally withstood the battering from shells, although two of the 6-inch turrets were rendered unserviceable by shots which struck close to their base. Several smaller guns were dismounted and smashed. A gruesome sight was a bulkhead bespattered with blood, fragments of flesh and hair.

The Orel is sound structurally, although it will be necessary to practically reconstruct her from the waterline up. The condition of the ship shows that the crew underwent a terrible ordeal before they surrendered.

MUST NEGOTIATE DIRECT.

A despatch from London says: Viscount Hayashi, the Japanese Minister, in an interview on Friday, declared that Japan's attitude is unchanged. She is willing to negotiate for peace as soon as Russia makes an official request. When the negotiations are begun, and not earlier, the terms can be outlined and discussed. No Japanese representative abroad, so far as Viscount Hayashi is aware, is empowered to outline Japan's terms either directly or indirectly. He added that it would be natural for Russia to ask France to intimate that it was her wish to negotiate, or she might ask President Roosevelt, but the intermediary in either case could do no more than express Russia's desire to negotiate direct with Japan. All rumors implying a discussion of terms through third parties are untrustworthy, and more likely to do harm than good.

CZAR EXPECTS LONG WAR.

A despatch from St. Petersburg says: Members of the Imperial Court of Tsarskoe-Selo who are visiting friends here circulate an account of the Czar's reception of President Roosevelt's communication, which is accepted as accurate by military society. In effect it is that the Czar thanked the President for his consideration, adding that when the time to consider peace arrived, which is not at present, he would remember the opportunity afforded by the offer of the President's services. These officers also said that the Czar has unshaken faith in the might of his army. He expects a long war, but as shown by his reception of Ambassador Meyer, he does not refuse to recognize the attitude of the powers, who are desirous of early peace.

UNIVERSAL STRIKE.

According to the Moscow correspondent of the London Standard, Russia is threatened by a general strike of doctors, lawyers, teachers, engineers, pharmacists, railway men, clerks, and many others, to emphasize the universal demand for internal reforms. The movement has been organized by a so-called union of unions, embracing all classes and professions, from peasants upward.

The delegates at a meeting at their headquarters in Moscow have drawn up a manifesto that is similar, but more emphatic in tone than that of the Zemstvoists, but, believing it is hopeless to wait longer for the voice of the people to reach the throne, they resolved to act. They accordingly propose a universal strike, to refuse to testify in cases involving political charges and to organize a demonstration, in which they will accept aid from the revolutionists.

A despatch from St. Petersburg states that severe rioting is reported at Minsk. Nearly a hundred persons have been shot. It is reported that there was a renewed massacre of Armenians at Erivan on June 7.

MARKET FOR OUR CIDER.

Large Export Trade With Britain Is Possible.

A despatch from Ottawa says: From reports received at the Trade and Commerce Department from Mr. Ball, commercial agent at Birmingham, it is evident that Canadian cider makers have a good chance for a large export trade with England. The agent states that British cider manufacturers are anxious to have such a trade. Canadian apples, it appears, produce almost one-half more juice than English apples, and are, as a consequence, in great demand. Several large exportations of cider were made last year to England from Canada and they turned out very satisfactory.

There will be a general shortage of small fruits in Great Britain this year and it will pay Canadians to give more attention to the trade in this respect.

Mr. Alexander Maclean, Canadian commercial agent in Japan, writing to the Trade and Commerce Department, states that there is an abundant rice crop there this year. The value of the crop in 1904 was estimated at $275,150,000. Wheat and barley also did well and large crops are reported. The cotton spinning industry, which is yet in its infancy in Japan, is prospering well, and is giving employment to thousands of men and women.

ONTARIO ORPHANAGES.

The preventive work carried on by the Children's Aid Societies, under the direction of Mr. J. J. Kelso, is nowhere more clearly shown than in the statistics for the orphanages of the Province. Notwithstanding the natural growth of the country and the tendency of charitable institutions to expand there has been a falling off both in the number of children cared for in these institutions and in the expense, as the following figures will show:— In 1894 the number of children cared for in the orphanages was 4,406, while in 1904 the number was 4,116, a reduction of 290. In 1894 the total Government grant to the orphanages of the Province was $14,771.80, while in 1904 the grant was only $14,689.05, or $88.75 less than ten years ago. It is no longer necessary to keep children in orphanages because of lack of good foster homes, as there are hundreds of homes available if the managers of these institutions desired to take advantage of them.

MAY WEAR THE HOOD.

J. W. Lowther Chosen Speaker of the British Commons.

A despatch from London says: James William Lowther, Conservative Deputy Speaker and chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, was unanimously elected speaker of the House of Commons on Thursday afternoon, in succession to William Court Gully, who recently resigned. This is the first time since 1833 that the Conservatives have been able to put one of their own party in the chair. After the election the House adjourned until June [illegible]

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