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## Rorie and Vixen;



OR, A HAPPY MARRIAGE.

CHAPTER XXIII.—(Continued.)

She found the most curious rooms, or rather rooms that had once been state and handsome, now applied to the most curious purposes: a dining-hall with curved stone chimney-piece and painted ceiling, used as a store-house for apples; another fine apartment in which a heap of potatoes reposed snugly in a corner, packed in straw; there was a spacious kitchen, with a fire-place as large as a moderate-sized room—a kitchen that had been abandoned altogether to spiders, beetles, rats, and mice. A whole army of four-footed vermin scampered off as Vixen crossed the threshold. She could see them scuttling and leaping about the walls, with a whisking of slender tails as they vanished into their holes. The beetles were depositing themselves on the desolate hearth, the spiders had woven draperies for the dim, dirty windows. The rustling leaves of a fig-tree, that had grown close to the side of the house, flapped against the window-panes with a noise of exceeding gloominess.

From the kitchen Vixen wandered to the out-houses, and found Argus howling dismally in a grass-grown courtyard, evidently believing himself abandoned by the world. His rapture at beholding his mistress was boundless. "You darling, I would give the world to let you loose," cried Vixen, after she had been nearly knocked down by the dog's affectionate greeting; "but I mustn't just yet. I'll come by and by and take you for a walk. Yes, dear old boy, we'll have a long ramble together, just as we used to do."

Home, now she had left it, seemed so sweet a word that her lips trembled a little as she pronounced it. Everything without the house was as dreary as it was within. Poverty had left its mark on all things like a blight. Poverty was visible everywhere—in the weeds, in the stones, in the hinges and handles, thresholds and linoleums, ceilings and plastered walls. It would have cost a thousand pounds to put the manor house in decent habitable order. To have restored it to its original dignity and comeliness would have cost at least five thousand. Miss Skipton could afford to spend nothing upon the house she lived in; indeed, she could barely afford the necessaries of life. So for the last thirty years Les Tourelles had been gradually decaying, until the good old house had arrived at a stage in which decay could hardly go further without lapsing into destruction.

A door opened out of the courtyard into the weedy garden. This was not without a kind of beauty that had survived long neglect. The spreading fig-trees, the bushes of bright red fuchsia, and the unpruned roses made a fertile wilderness of flowers and foliage. There was a terrace in front of the drawing-room windows, and from this a flight of crumbling moss-grown stone steps led down to the garden, which was on the slope of the hill, and lay considerably below the level of the house.

While Vixen was preambulating the garden, a bell rang in a cupboard on the roof, and as this sounded like the summons to a meal, she felt that politeness, if not appetite, demanded her return to the house.

"Three o'clock," she said, looking at her watch. "What a late hour for luncheon!" She made her way back to the small side door at which she had entered with Captain Carmichael, and went into the parlour, where she found the captain and his aunt. The table was laid, but they had not seated themselves.

"I hope I have not kept you waiting," Vixen said apologetically. "My aunt has been waiting five minutes or so; but I'm sure she will forgive you, as you don't yet know the ways of the house," replied the captain, amiably.

Captain Carmichael and his aunt, Vixen sat and listened wonderingly, save at odd times, when her thoughts strayed to the old life which she had done with forever.

"You still continue your literary labors, I suppose, aunt?" said the captain.

"They are the chief object of my existence. When I abandon them I shall have done with life," replied Miss Skipton, gravely.

"But you have not yet published your book?"

"No; I hope when I do that even you will hear of it."

"I have no doubt it will make a sensation."

"It does not, I have lived and labored in vain. But my book may make a sensation, and yet fall short of the result which I have toiled and hoped for."

"And that is?"

"The establishment of a universal religion."

"That is a large idea."

"Would a small idea be worth the devotion of a life? For thirty years I have devoted myself to this one scheme. I have striven to focus all the creeds of mankind in one brilliant centre, eliminating all that is base and superstitious in each several religion, crystallizing all that is good and true. The Buddhist, the Brahmin, the Mohammedan, the sun-worshipper, the Manist, the Calvinist, the Lutheran, the Wesleyan, the Swedenborgian, and all will find the best and noblest characteristics of their faith resolved and concentrated in my universal religion. Here all creeds will meet. Gentler and wiser than the theology of Buddha, more humanitarian than the laws of Brahmin, more temperate than the Moslem's code of morality; with wider grasp of power than the Romanist's authoritative church; severely self-denying as Calvin's ascetic rule, simple and pious as Wesley's scheme of man's redemption; spiritual as Swedenborg's vast idea of heaven, my faith will open its arms wide enough to embrace all. There need be no more dissent. The mighty circle of my free Church will inclose all creeds and all divisions of man, and spread from the northern hemisphere to the southern seas. Hereafter shall perish before it the limited view of Christianity which missionaries have hitherto offered to the heathen may fall, but my universal Church will open its doors to all the world, and mark my words, Conrad—all the world will enter it. I may not live to see the day; my span of life has not long to run; but that day will come."

"No doubt," replied Captain Carmichael, gravely. "There is slovenliness, so to speak, about the present arrangement of things, and a great deal of useless expense; every small town with its half dozen churches and chapels of different denominations—Episcopalians, Wesleyans, Baptists, Roman Catholics, Primitive Methodists. Now, on your plan, one large building would do for all, like the town-hall, or the general post-office. There would be a wonderful economy."

"I fear you contemplate the question from an entirely temporal point of view," said Miss Skipton, flattered, but not reproached. "It is its spiritual aspect that is grandest."

"Naturally. But a man of the world is apt to consider the practicality of a scheme. And yours seems to me eminently practical. If you can only get the Mohammedans and Brahmins to come in. The Roman Catholics might of course be easily won, though it would involve doing away with the Pope. There was a prophecy, by the way, that after the ninth Pope, there would only be eleven more popes. No doubt that prophecy pointed at your universal religion. But I fear you may have some difficulty about the Buddhists. I fancy they are rather a bigoted sect."

"The greatest bigots have but to be convinced," said Miss Skipton. "St. Paul was a bigot."

"True. Is your book nearly finished?"

"No. There are still some years of labor before me. I am now working at the Swedenborgian portion, striving to demonstrate how that great man's scheme of religion, though commonly supposed to be a new and original emanation of one mind, is in reality a reproduction of spiritual views involved in other and older religions. The Buddhists were Swedenborgians without knowing it, just as Swedenborg unconsciously was a Buddhist."

"I begin to understand. The process which you are engaged in is a kind of spiritual chemistry, in which you resolve each particular faith into its primary elements, with a view to prove that those elements are actually the same in all creeds, and that the differences which hereofore have kept mankind apart are mere divergences of detail."

"That, crudely and imperfectly stated, is my aim," replied Miss Skipton, gravely.

This kind of conversation continued all through dinner. Miss Skipton talked of Buddha, and Confucius, and Mohammed, and Zoroaster, and Calvin, and Luther as familiarly as if they had been her most intimate friends; and the captain let her on and played her as he would have played a trout in one of the winding Hampshire streams. His gravity was imperturbable. Vixen sat and wondered whether she was to hear this kind of thing every day of her life, and whether she would be expected to ask Miss Skipton leading questions, as the captain was doing. It was all very well for him, who was to spend only one day at Les-Tourelles; but Vixen made up her mind that she would boldly avow her indifference to all creeds

and theologians, from Confucius to Swedenborg. She might consent to live for a time amidst the dullness and desolation of Les-Tourelles, but she would not be weighed down and crushed by Miss Skipton's appalling hobby. The mere idea of the horror of having every day to discuss a subject that was in its very nature inexhaustible, filled her with terror.

"I would sooner take my meals in that abandoned kitchen, in the company of the rats and beetles, than have to listen every day to this kind of thing," she thought.

## THE WORLD'S MARKETS

REPORTS FROM THE LEADING TRADE CENTRES.

Prices of Cattle, Grain, Cheese and Other Dairy Produce at Home and Abroad.

Toronto, Sept. 3. — Flour — Ontario wheat 90 per cent. patents are firmer at \$3.40 in buyers' sacks outside for export. First patents, \$5 to \$5.20; second patents, \$4.40, \$4.80, and strong bakers, \$4.20 to \$4.30. Wheat—No. 1 Manitoba hard quoted at \$1.01; No. 1 northern, \$1. lake ports; No. 2 northern, 97c lake ports. Ontario No. 2 white and red quoted in car lots at 87c to 87c; white, 84c to 85c; No. 1, 86c to 87c. Rye—Nominal; quoted at 65c. Oats—No. 2 white Ontario are quoted at 43c to 44c outside. New oats are quoted at 40 to 41c outside. September shipments, Manitoba No. 1 white oats, 40c to 42c; lake ports, No. 2 white, 45c to 46c; No. 3 white, 43c to 45c. Peas—Market dull; No. 2, 75c. Corn—American yellow is quoted at 70 to 71c Toronto freights and mixed at 65 to 66c. Canadian corn 65c Chatham freights. Barley—No. 2 nominal, at 52 to 53c outside. Shorts are quoted at \$21.50 to \$22 outside.

COUNTRY PRODUCE. Potatoes—New quoted at 65 to 80c per bushel, and new American at \$3.25 to \$3.50 per bushel. Butter—Turkeys, alive, 13 to 14c; chickens, spring, 16 to 18c; dressed, 14c; fowl, 10 to 14c. Beans—Hand-picked quiet at \$1.70 to \$1.75, and primes at \$1.50 to \$1.60. Hops—New quoted at \$11 to \$12 a ton. Straw—Unchanged at \$7.50 a ton on track here.

## THE DAIRY MARKETS.

Butter—Pound prints, 20 to 22c, and large rolls, 18 to 20c. Creamery rules at 23 to 24c, and 21 to 22c. Eggs—Choice stock selling at 19c per dozen in case lots. Cheese—New, large, 12c; twins, 12½c.

## BUSINESS AT MONTREAL.

Montreal, Sept. 3. — Wheat — The demand for Manitoba spring wheat from foreign buyers was much quieter today. There was a decided improvement in the demand for oats from local and outside buyers. Flour—Choice spring wheat patents, \$5.10 to \$5.20; seconds, \$4.50 to \$4.60; winter wheat patents, \$4.65 to \$4.75; straight rollers, \$4.25 to \$4.30; do. in bags, \$4.15 to \$4.20; extras, \$1.65 to \$1.75. Feed—Manitoba bran, in bags, \$2.10 to \$2.15; shorts, \$2.00 to \$2.10; do. in bags, \$1.90 to \$1.95. Ontario bran, in bags, \$1.90 to \$1.95; shorts, \$2.20 to \$2.30; mill moulins, \$2.10 to \$2.20 per ton; and straight grain, \$30 to \$32. Provisions—Barrels short cut mess, \$22 to \$23.50; half-bbls, \$11.25 to \$11.75; clear fat back, \$22.50 to \$24.50; long cut, \$24 to \$26; do. in barrels, \$24 to \$26; half-bbls do, \$10.75 to \$11.50; dry salt long clear bacon, 10 to 11½c; barrels plate beef, 10½ to 11½c; do. in barrels, 10½ to 10¾c; pure lard, 11½ to 12½c; kettle rendered, 13 to 13½c; hams, 12½ to 13½c; breakfast bacon 15 to 15½c; Windsor bacon 15 to 15½c; fresh killed abattoir dressed hogs, \$9.25 to \$9.75; alive, \$6.90 to \$7.25. Eggs—No. 1 candled, 18 to 19c. Butter—Townships, 22 to 22½c. Cheese—Western, 11½ to 12c; Townships, 11½ to 12c; Eastern, 11½ to 12c.

## CATTLE MARKET.

Toronto, Sept. 3. — Export business showed no improvement, and will not until the right cattle are offered. Choice, \$7.75 to \$8.10, medium to good \$6.50 to \$7.75. Butcher cattle were offered freely. Choice lots sold from \$4.60 to \$4.75 and were in demand. Medium grades ranged from \$3.75 to \$4.25, and ordinary between \$2.75 and \$3.25. Choice cows sold from \$2.60 to \$2.80, and common cows at \$1.50 to \$2.50. Canners anywhere around \$1.50. Stocker trade was quiet. Choice \$2.60 to \$2.80, common, \$2.20 to \$2.75. Milch cows were not wanted and but few were offered. Choice \$35 to \$30, common \$20 to \$30. Veal calves were slow at 3c to 6c per pound. Ewes sold from \$1.25 to \$1.40, a slight decline. Bucks and culls ranged from \$3 to \$3.50. Offerings of lambs were a little too much for the demand and prices were a bit lower at \$5 to \$6.25. Hogs were steady. Selects were quoted at \$6.35.

## SALVATION ARMY PLANS.

May Send 20,000 to Canada Next Year.

A despatch from Ottawa says: Brigadier Howell of the Salvation Army, who has just returned from England, met the Premier on Wednesday. Brigadier Howell says that the army has 5,000 applications from parties desirous of coming to Canada. Next year the army expect to send to this country from 20,000 to 25,000 immigrants.

## HAIL IN SASKATCHEWAN.

Long List of Claims from Suffering Farmers.

A despatch from Regina, Sask., says: From the list of claims in respect to hail-damages filed with the Provincial Treasurer, it appears that agriculture has suffered unusually in this way during the year. The proportion of policy-holders in excess of the total number in 1906 is fifty per cent., and a considerable number have preferred claims.

## FUR ANIMALS MIGRATING.

A Lean Year for Furs Around Edmonton District.

A despatch from Edmonton says: "There have been ups and downs in the fur trade for the past 200 years, and we are not at all surprised that this season will be a lean one for furs," said Mr. Liver, the veteran chief trader of the Hudson's Bay Company on Wednesday. "The supply of fur in this district is not decreasing. Our returns are as good as usual in the lean years heretofore, and, moreover, we have the consolation of knowing that when the lynx or marten, or any other animal, is particularly scarce in our district, they have simply moved east, or west to British Columbia or Prince Albert districts. The scarcity this year is not due to the severity of the past winter, but, rather, to animals migrating."

## TUG SWAMPED; THREE DROWNED.

A Triple Fatality on Lake Superior Near Cutler.

A despatch from Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., says: According to advices received in the Soo on Wednesday morning from Cutler, a drowning accident, resulting in three fatalities, occurred at that place at a late hour on Tuesday afternoon. It appears that the tug Seymour was towing another small tug, the Alert, behind which was attached a raft of logs. The lines slackened for a moment, and when they tightened, the small tug was unable to stand the strain and was swamped. Of the five men who were on her, three were drowned. Their names are Capt. Kenneth, of Thessalon, Engineer Joseph Smith, of Sudbury, and a man named Beyer, a resident of Cutler. The bodies were all recovered next morning and will be taken to their respective places for burial.

## WAS HANGED TWICE.

The Rope Broke at Execution of Carmine Renzo.

A despatch from Indiana, Pa., says: The first hanging in this county for more than twenty years took place here on Wednesday. The victim was Carmine Renzo, aged 45 years and weighing 175 pounds. The weight of the man and the drop of five feet proved too much for the strength of the rope, which snapped when the trap was sprung, precipitating Renzo to the ground. The jail attendant hurriedly loosened the rope around his neck, which was fastened to a new rope to the scaffold, and the man, already half dead, was carried to the platform and the lever again sprung. This time the execution was successful. Renzo killed his sweetheart, Marian Berno, aged fifteen, two years ago.

## A DEBILITATED END.

Former Valet of King Dies in Milwaukee Prison.

A despatch from Milwaukee says: Walter Donisthorpe, alias Wilson, said to have been a former valet of King Edward VII., died on Tuesday at the House of Correction. He was 60 years of age. On June 18 Wilson appeared in the Police Court on a charge of having stolen a coat. He admitted the charge, told the court he was a physical wreck, and asked for a year's sentence, so that he might be straightened out. The court gave him six months. After he went to prison his record became known. He told fellow-prisoners that he was a son of the Rev. Fred Donisthorpe, of Lysion, Leicester, England.

## THE IMMIGRANT ARMY.

The Total to Ontario This Year Will be 70,000.

A despatch from Toronto says: Based on his calculations on the number dealt with by the Provincial officials, and the number going direct to the Dominion Government's employment agents, Mr. Thomas Southworth, Director of the Bureau of Colonization, thinks that the immigrants to Ontario this year will total about 70,000. About 80 per cent. of these are from the United Kingdom and the remainder from European countries. In 1906 the total immigration into the Province was 57,774, and in 1905 53,358. If this year's total approximates to Mr. Southworth's estimates it will bring the aggregate of immigrants since the Bureau of Colonization entered upon its present systematic plan of work in 1900 up to about 200,000.

## A VETERAN KILLED.

David Taylor Loses His Life in a Runaway Accident.

A despatch from Breslauer, Sask., says: David Taylor was killed in a runaway here on Wednesday. Deceased passed through the two Northwest rebellions, having been taken a prisoner by Riel along with Thomas Scott, who was shot by the rebels at Fort Garry in 1880. In 1885 he was a member of the Battalions of Home Guard and lost all his property at the hands of the rebels. Deceased was a well-known figure all over the West.

## WAS PHYSICIAN AND BURGLAR.

Pennsylvania Man Led Double Life—Given Five Years in Prison.

A despatch from Westchester, Pa., says: Judge Butler on Wednesday sentenced Dr. Benjamin Holbrook to five years in prison for robbing schoolhouses and railway stations to five years' imprisonment. Dr. Holbrook by day was a well-known courteous physician and by night an audacious burglar, looting railway stations for miles around Coatsville, where he made his home.

## NEW YORK CITY'S BUDGET.

Estimates for Year 1908 Are Hundred and Forty Millions.

A despatch from New York says: It will cost one hundred and forty million dollars to keep New York City going during the year 1908, according to estimates submitted to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment by all department officials. This is an increase of \$10,000,000 over the estimates made for the current year.

# EIGHTY MEN DROWNED

## End of New Quebec Bridge Collapsed.

## Locomotive and Three Cars of Iron on Structure at Time of the Catastrophe.

A despatch from Quebec says: The immense new \$10,000,000 steel bridge which was in course of construction across the St. Lawrence River at Lewis two miles above the City of Quebec, collapsed late on Thursday afternoon, carrying down 55 workmen, mostly steel workers and riveters. The collapse of the immense structure, with the great loss of life it entailed, has caused the greatest excitement here and at Lewis, and it is difficult to get correct details. It is thought that the loss of life will exceed 70. Ten bodies have been recovered, 10 badly wounded men were picked up in the river, and there are 70 missing, all of whom are, no doubt, drowned. The bridge, which is being constructed by the Phoenixville Bridge Company of Philadelphia, was begun about seven years ago, and was expected to be finished in 1909. The estimated cost of the bridge was \$10,000,000, most of which was subscribed by the Federal Government, Provincial Government and City of Quebec.

Only a few of the big staff of workmen who were engaged in various duties escaped. The collapse, thought to have been due to the overloading of the superstructure with materials, occurred at an hour when the workmen were all in their places, preliminary to finishing the work for the day. When the fall of the giant structure came, the big structural work with which it was being built prevented many of the workmen from drowning in the St. Lawrence. Those who were not stunned by the great tumble seized the big steel girders which were carried to the river bottom, and were thus saved from drowning.

## CONDENSED NEWS ITEMS

HAPPENINGS FROM ALL OVER THE GLOBE. Telegraph Briefs From Our Own and Other Countries of Recent Events. CANADA. A three-fourths grain crop is predicted for Saskatchewan. Nine Hamilton bakers were fined for selling short-weight bread. Frost has damaged wheat in the Balcarres district in Saskatchewan. A big scheme to help exporters, cattle trade at Montreal is being considered. London hotelkeepers are charged by secret service men with violating the license act. Alex. Groulx, a Frenchman, was killed at Goball by a small piece of rock from a blast. The Railway Commission has decided to let the Bell Telephone rates stand till November 13. Vice-President Smithers will inspect the Grand Trunk this year instead of Sir Rivers Wilson. The C.P.R. may reinforce their Pacific fleet by two boats, because of increase in trade with the far east. On account of the advance in the price of flour Toronto bakers are likely to reduce the size of their loaves. The Goball Miners' Union will proceed against the mine-owners, claiming that the mine's has been broken. Public meetings on the streets are to be prohibited in Goball unless sanctioned by the Town Council. The rumor that the C. P. R. will build through the Yellowhead Pass has been denied by D. McNichol. The third-class armored German cruiser Bremen is at present in Montreal and will remain for two weeks.

The Quebec Bank has asked for another receiver to be appointed in the case of the Imperial Paper Company. Information has been laid by the license department against a Burlington hotelkeeper for selling to Indians. The G. T. R.'s plans for a new central depot at Ottawa and a new hotel have been approved by the Government.

A statement by the Japanese Consul-General furnished the Department of Trade and Commerce shows the net Japanese immigration since January to be 641.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

The Cunard Steamship Company has made a reduction in its second cabin and steerage rates across the Atlantic. The Earl of Dunmore, the most prominent Christian Scientist in England, is dead at Trimley Manor, near Canterbury. Forty Nationalists were committed for trial at Longford, Ireland, charged with taking part in an unlawful assembly likely to cause a riot. In reply to a question in the British House of Commons Mr. Haldane declined to confine his purchases of war stores to British firms. Mr. McKenna, Nationalist candidate for Hon. Edward Blake's old seat of South Longford, was arrested, with seventeen of his followers, on a charge of taking part in an unlawful assembly likely to cause a riot.

## UNITED STATES.

Since June 18 there have been seven deaths from the bubonic plague at San Francisco. A court-martial at Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., has acquitted Private Gillette, who accidentally shot and killed Miss Cadenhead of Fergus, Ont., in July.

# SPEIGHT FOUND A NEW LAKE

## It Is In the Algoma District and Is Three Miles Wide.

A despatch from Toronto says: A letter received at the Lands, Forests and Mines Department from T. B. Speight, O.L.S., throws more light on the agricultural possibilities of the great clay belt, as well as on its natural beauty. At the head of a party twenty-five strong, Mr. Speight, who writes from Kabinagami, in the Algoma district, is outlining a base line eastward to the boundary line of the Thunder Bay and Algoma districts. The last named line is being continued north from the C. P. R. by Mr. Alex. Niven, O. L. S., and it is hoped will reach the Albany River, the northern boundary of the Province, before the close of the season. "You will be pleased to know that we have not yet reached the westerly limit of the 'Clay Belt.' As a matter of fact, the character of the country and the quality of the soil are superior to those met with on last season's survey—it is more undulating and rolling and the average of arable land will not be less than seventy-five per cent., as far as our present survey has extended. Than last I have passed through this week I have seen nothing better west of Abitibi Lake. I trust it may come at least as far as the 'District Line.' We have met with one large lake not shown on official maps. We crossed it first on the base line at the middle of the seventeenth mile, and it extends westerly as far as the middle of the thirtieth. Its greatest width will be about three miles and it is dotted throughout with numerous islands. I spent most of five days making a fairly accurate sketch of it. It will have a shore line of at least fifty miles."