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A FROWNING CITY.

BY H. RIDER HAGGARD,

Author of "King Solomon's Mines," "She," 'Dawn," etc. Published by the Rose Pub LISHING COMPANY, and for sale by all the Book sellers. Copyrighted.

The man in the boat was of a good but not particularly fine physique, and possessed straight black hair, regular aquiline features, and an intelligent face. He was dressed in a sort of brown cloth garment, something like a flannel shirt without the sleeves, and in an unmistakable kilt of the same material. The legs and feet were bare. Round the right arm and left leg he wore thick rings of yellow metal that I judged to be gold. The woman had a sweet face, wild and shy, with large eyes and curting brown hair. Her dress was made of the same material as the man's, and consisted, as we afterward discovered, first of a linen under-garment that hung down to her knees, and then of a single long strip of cloth, about four feet wide by fifteen long, which was wound round the body in graceful folds and finally flung over the left shoulder, so that the end, which was dyed blue or purple or some other color, according to the social standing of the wearer, hung down in front, the right arm and breast being, however, left quite bare. A more becoming dress, especially when, as in the present case, the wearer was young and pretty, it is quite impossible to conceive. Good (who has an eye for such things) was greatly struck with it, and so indeed was I. It was so simple and yet so effective.

Meanwhile, if we had been astonished at the appearance of the man and woman, it was clear that they were far more astonished at us. As for the man, he appeared to be overcome with fear and wonder, and for awhile hovered round our canoe, but would not approach. At last, however, he came within hailing distance, and called to us in a language that sounded soft and pleasing enough, but of which we could not understand one word. So we haded back in English, Freuch, Latin, Greek, German, Zulu, Dutch, Sisutu, Kukuana, and a few other native dialects that I am acquainted with, but our visitor did not understand any of these tongues; indeed, they appeared to be wilder him. As for the lady, she was busily employed in taking stock of us, and Good was returning the compliment by staring at her hard through his eyeglass, a proceeding that she seemed rather to enjoy than otherwise. At length the man, being unable to make anything out of us, suddenly headed his boat round and began to head off for the shore, his little beat skimming away before the wind lik · a swallow. As she passed across our bow the man turned to attend to the large sail, and Good promptly took the opportunity to kiss his hand to the young lady. was horrified at this proceeding, both on general grounds and because I feared she might take offense; but to my delight she did not, for, first glancing round and seeing that her husband, or brother, or who-

kissed hers back. "Ah!" said I, "it seems that we have at last found a language that the people of this country understand."

ever it was, was engaged, she promptly

"In which case," said Sir Henry, "Good will prove an invaluable interpreter."

I frowned, for I do not approve of Good's frivolities, and he knows it, and turned the conversation to more serious subjects. "It is very clear to me," I said, "that that man will be back before long with a host of his fellows; so we had best make up our minds as to how we are going to receive

"The question is how will they receive us," said Sir Henry.

As for Good he made no remark; but began to extract a small square tin case, that had accompanied us in all our wanderings, from under a pile of things. Now we had often remonstrated with Good about this tin case, inasmuch as it had been an awkward thing to carry, and he had never given any very explicit account as to its contents; but he had insisted on sticking to it, saying mysteriously that it might come in very tracted one day.

"What on earth are you going to do, Good?" asked Sir Henry.

"Do? Why dress, of course! You don't expect me to appear in a new country in these things, do you?" and he pointed to his soiled and worn garments, which were, however, like all Good's things, very tidy, and with every tear neatly mended.

We said no more, but watched his proceedings with breathless interest. His first step was to get Alphonse, who was thoroughly competent in such matters, to trim his hair and beard in the most approved fashion. I think that if he had had some hot water and a cake of soap handy he would have shaved off the latter; out he had not. This done, he suggested that we should lower the sail of the canoe and all take a bath, which we did, greatly to the horror and astonishment of Alphonse, who lifted his hands and ejaculated that these English were indeed a wonderful people. Umslopogaas, who, though he was, like most high-bred Zulus, scrupulously cleanly in his person, did not see the fun of swimming about in a lake, also regarded the proceeding with mild amusement. We got back into the canoe much refreshed by the cold water, and sat to dry in the sun, whilst Good undid his tin box, and produced first a beautiful clea: white shirt, just as it had left a London steam laundry, and then some garments wrapped first in brown, then in white, and finally in silver paper. We watched this undoing with the tenderest interest and much speculation. One by one Good removed the dull husks that hid their splendors, carefully folding and replacing each piece of paper as he did so; and there at last lay, in all the majesty of its gold epaulets, lace, and buttons, a Commander of the Royal Navy's full-dress uniform-dress sword, cocked hat, shiny patent-leather boots, and all. We literally

"What!" we said, "what! Are you going

to put those things on?" "Certainly," he answered, composedly; "you see so much depends upon a first impression, especially," he added, "as observe that there are ladies about. One at least of us ought to be decently dressed."

We said no more; we were simply dunifounded, especially when we considered the artful way in which Good had concealed the contents of that box for all these months. Only one suggestion did we make, namely, that he should wear his mail shirt next his skin. He replied that he feared it would spoil the fit of his coat, now carefully spread in the sun to take the creases out, but finally consented to this precautionary measure. The most amusing part of the affair, however, was to see old Umslopogaas' astonishment and Alphonse's delight at Good's transformation. When at last he stood up in all his glory, even down to the medals on his breast, and contemplated himself in the

still waters of the lake, after the fashion of the young gentleman in ancient history whose name I can't remember, but who feil in love with his own shadow, the old Zulu could no longer restrain his feelings,

"On, Bongwan!" he said. "Oh, Bongwan! I always thought thee an ugly little man, and fat-fat as the cows at calving time, and now thou art like a blue jay when he spreads his tail out. Surely, Bougwan, it hurts my eyes to look at thee."

Good did not much like this allusion to his fat, which, to tell the truth, was not very well deserved, for hard exercise had brought him down four inches; but, on the whole, he was pleased at Umslopogaas' admiration. As for Alphonse, he was quite delighted.

"Ah: but monsieur has the beautiful air -the air of the warrior. It is the ladies who will say so when we come to get ashore. Monsieur is complete; he puts me in mind of my heroic grand-

Here we stopped Alphonse. As we gazed upon these beauties thus revealed by Good, a spirit of emulation filled our breasts; and we set to work to get ourselves up as well as we could. The most, however, that' we were able to do was to array ourselves in our spare suits of shooting-clothes, of which we each had one, keeping on our mail shirts underneath. As for my appearance, all the fine clothes in the world could never make it otherwise than scrubby and insignificant; but Sir Henry looked what he is, a magnificent man, in his nearly new tweed suit, gaiters, and boots. Alphonse also got himself up to kill, giving an extra turn to his enormous mustaches. Even old Umslopogaas, who was not in a general way given to the value adorning of his body, got hold of some oil out of the lantern, and a bit of tow, and polished up his head-ring with it-

till it shone like God's patent-leather

boots. Then he put on the mail shirt Sir

Henry had given him, and his "moocha,"

and, flaving cleaned up Inkosikaasi a little, stood forth complite. All this while we had, having hoisted the sail again as soon as we had bathed, been progressing sicallily for the land, or, rather, for the month of a great river. Presently-in all about an hour and a half after the little boat had left us-we saw emerging from the river, or harbor, a large number of boats, tativing up to ten or twelve tons burden. One of these was propelled by twenty four ours, and most of the rest sailed. Looking through the glass we soon made out that the row-bout was an official vestel, her cow being a lidressed in a sort of uniform, whilst on the halfdeck forward store an old man of venerable appearance, within flow is a white beard, and a sword strapper to his the was was evilous, no seek a der at the crift, The other bods was a special land appear by temperature a out of the total and other rowing of social, forced thens queely as they could.

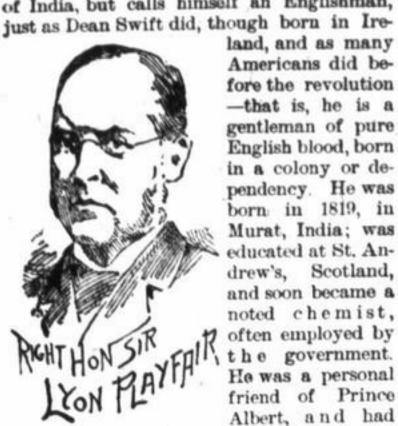
"Now for it," sail i. "What is the b.tting? Are they reing to be triendly or to put an end to as "

Nobody could answer this questions and not liking the warlace appearance of the old gentleman and his sword, we fill a little anxious.

TO BE CONTINUED.

Sir Lyon Playfair.

Sir Lyon Playfair, who made the principal address to President Cleveland on the occasion of the call of the English peace commission, is much more a scientist than a politician, though he has done some good work in the latter capacity. He is, in truth, a native of India, but calls himself an Englishman, just as Dean Swift did, though born in Ireland, and as many



Americans did before the revolution -that is, he is a gentleman of pure English blood, born in a colony or dependency. He was born in 1819, in Murat, India; was educated at St. Andrew's, Scotland, and soon became a noted chemist, often employed by He was a personal friend of Prince

Albert, and had much to do with getting up the Crystal Palace exhibition of 1851. For many years he held positions under government as a chemist, and in 1857 was elected president of the London Chemical society, and in 1858 was made professor of chemistry in the University of Glasgow. In 1868 he was elected to parliament, and for several years represented the Universities of Edinburgh and St. Andrew's, acting always with the Liberals. In 1873 he took office as postmaster general under Gladstone's administration, and went out with the Gladstonian defeat in 1874.

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and \$130. Intermediate - \$30. Return \$60. Steerage at very low rates The Steamships of the Allan Line come direct to the Railway wharves, and passengers are forwarded on by special trains to Montreal and the West, The last train connecting at Quebec with

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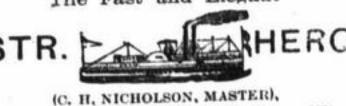
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