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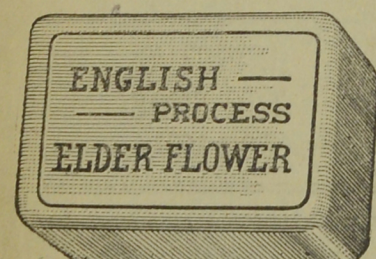
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## The Riverman

By  
**Stewart  
Edward White**

When a rough, sturdy, man-  
mastering lumber driver, boss of  
the lawless "river jacks," starts  
out to win the heart and hand of  
an aristocratic young woman of  
eastern wealth and fashion, in-  
teresting things are apt to hap-  
pen. They do happen, as read-  
ers of this story will agree. Jack  
Orde is the type of man who has  
gone into the American wilder-  
nesses and reclaimed them from  
themselves, from lawbreaking  
and debauchery. The brilliant au-  
thor's descriptions of the battles  
between man and nature and  
between man and man in the lum-  
ber fastnesses of the great north-  
west set one's blood a-tingle.  
They show that man is superman  
when courage swells his heart.  
And the wooing and winning of  
Carroll Bishop by Jack Orde  
supply captivating romance that  
cannot fail to charm.

His journey to New York was at  
that time very long and disagreeable,  
but Orde bore it with his accustomed  
stoicism. He had visited the metropoli-  
s before, so it was not unfamiliar to  
him. He made his way to a small hotel  
just off Broadway.

Orde ate, dressed and set out afoot  
in search of Miss Bishop's address. He  
arrived in front of the house a little  
past 8 o'clock and after a moment's  
hesitation mounted the steps and rang  
the bell.

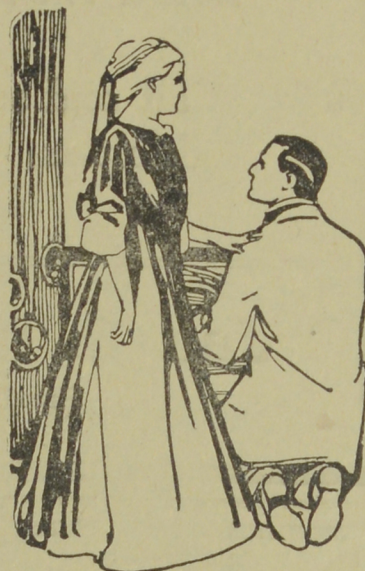
The door swung silently back to  
frame an impressive manservant dressed  
in livery. To Orde's inquiry he  
stated that Miss Bishop had gone out  
to the theater. The young man left  
his name and a message of regret. At  
this the footman, with an irony so sub-  
tle as to be quite lost on Orde, demand-  
ed a card. Orde scribbled a line in  
his notebook, tore it out, folded it and  
left it.

He retired early and arose early, as  
had become his habit. At the office  
the clerk handed him a note:

My Dear Mr. Orde—I was so sorry to  
miss you that evening because of a stupid  
play. Come around as early as you  
can tomorrow morning. I shall expect  
you. Sincerely yours,

CARROLL BISHOP.

Orde glanced at the clock, which  
pointed to 7. He breakfasted and start-  
ed leisurely in the direction of West  
Ninth street. He walked slowly. At  
University place he was seized with a  
panic and hurried rapidly to his desti-  
nation. The door was answered by  
the same man who had opened it the  
night before. To Orde's inquiry he



"Speak to her, Jack. She cares for you,"  
stated, with great brevity, that Miss  
Bishop was not yet visible and pre-  
pared to close the door.

"You are mistaken," said Orde. "I  
have an engagement with Miss Bishop.  
Tell her Mr. Orde is here."

The man departed, leaving Orde  
standing in the gloomy hall. That  
young man, however, parted the cur-  
tains leading into a parlor and sat  
down in a spindle legged chair.

For quite three quarters of an hour  
he waited without hearing any other  
indications of life than muffled sounds.  
Occasionally he shifted his position,  
but cautiously, as though he feared to  
awaken some one. Three oil portraits  
stared at him with all the reserved  
aloofness of their painted eyes. He  
began to doubt whether the man had  
announced him at all.

Then, breaking the stillness with al-  
most startling abruptness, he heard a  
clear, high voice saying something at  
the top of the stairs outside. A rhyth-  
mic swish of skirts, punctuated by  
the light pat-pat of a girl tripping  
downstairs, brought him to his feet.  
A moment later the curtains parted,  
and she entered, holding out her hand.

He stood holding her hand, sudden-  
ly unable to say a word, looking at her  
happily. A flood of emotion, of which  
he had had no prevision, swelled up  
within him to fill his throat.

"It was good of you to come so  
promptly," said she. "I'm so anxious  
to hear all about the dear people at  
Redding."

The sounds in the next room increas-  
ed in volume, as though several people  
must have entered that apartment. In  
a moment or so the curtains to the hall  
parted to frame the servant.

"Mrs. Bishop wishes to know, miss,"  
said that functionary, "if you're not  
coming to breakfast."

Orde sprang to his feet.  
"Haven't you had your breakfast  
yet?" he cried, conscience stricken.

"Didn't you gather the fact that I'm  
just up?" she mocked him. "I assure  
you it doesn't matter. The family has  
just come down."

"But," cried Orde, "I wasn't here un-  
til 9 o'clock. I thought, of course,  
you'd be around. I'm mighty sorry!"

"Oh, la, la!" she cried, cutting him  
short.

Orde was for taking his leave, but  
this she would not have.

"You must meet my family," she  
negotiated, "for if you're here for so  
short a time we want to see something  
of you. Come right out now."

Orde thereupon followed her down  
a narrow, dark hall to a door that  
opened slantwise into the dining room.  
With her back to the bow window sat  
a woman well beyond middle age, but  
with evidently some pretensions to  
youth. She was tall, quick in move-  
ment. Dark rings below her eyes at-  
tested either a nervous disease, a he-  
terical temperament or both. Immedi-  
ately at her left sat a boy of about  
fourteen years of age, his face a cu-  
rious contradiction between a naturally  
frank and open expression and a  
growing sullenness. Next him stood a  
vacant chair, evidently for Miss Bish-  
op. Opposite lolled a young man,

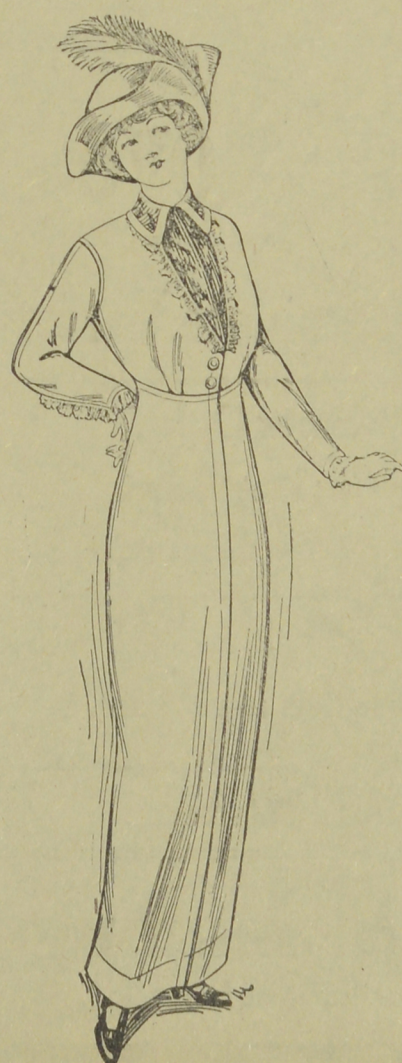


holding a news-  
paper in one  
hand and a cof-  
fee cup in the  
other. He was  
very handsome,  
with a drooping  
black mustache,  
dark eyes, un-  
derlashes almost  
too luxuriant and  
a long, oval face,  
dark in complex-  
ion and a trifle  
sardonic in ex-  
pression. The  
vis-a-vis to Mrs.  
Bishop was the  
gray haired Gen-  
eral Bishop, Carroll's father. Miss  
Bishop performed the necessary intro-  
ductions. General Bishop arose and  
grasped his hand.

Gerald Bishop cast an ironically  
amused glance across at Orde, and the  
mother would barely notice the sun-  
burned, ungainly looking riverman.

To be Continued

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