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THE MESSAGE

By LOUIS TRACY

Author of "The Wings of the Morning," "The Whistler of Foghorn," "The Captain of the Kestrel," etc.

(Continued.)

He was about to climb down again when his glance fell on the displaced stone. As a tribute to poor Garcia's memory, he put it back in its bed, and even took the trouble to pour a few handfuls of dust and loose mortar into the joints, so that none might know it had ever been removed. While thus occupied, his attention was momentarily drawn to a pair of storks circling lazily above the tower. He wondered if they were the same placid couple that had watched him earlier. No bird is more wide-awake than the stork, despite its habitual air of sleepy indifference, and Warden fancied that the noise he made must have disturbed the two sentinels on the top of the building.

The hillside was absolutely deserted. Far below nestled the white mass of the tower, its long, low white-washed walls broken only by clumps of trees and an occasional dome or minaret. Near the quay lay the Water Witch. Her cranes were busy, two strings of coolies were rushing back and forth across a broad gangway, and the first mate was directing operations from the bridge. Warden smiled. He had heard the flow of language at the Chief's command when some incident on ship-board demanded the reading of the Riot Act, and he could well imagine the way in which those scamping Arabs were being incited to strenuous efforts.

It was peaceful up here in the tower—so cool and remote from the noisy life of the port that he was tempted to linger. But if he would regain the shelter of some cafe in the town ere the sun became unbearably hot, he must be on the move. So, with a sigh for the unhappy Garcia's fate, and a farewell glance at the vaulted room which had witnessed that bygone tragedy, and perhaps many another, he began the descent. Thanks to the precautions taken during the climb, he found no great difficulty in placing his toe in the right niches. He was already below the level of the window, and was halting with both feet wedged into a broader crevice when something, whether mere intuition or a slight sound, he never afterward knew, caused him to look straight up.

Leaning over the top of the ruin, and in a direct line above his head, was a Moor of fantastic appearance. A blue coat of garment of vivid hue seemed to have lent its dye to the man's face and hair. Had he been soured in a bath of indigo he could not have been colored more completely. Though this extraordinary apparition was fully one hundred and thirty feet above Warden's head, there was no mistaking the malice that gleamed from the dark eyes gazing down on the Nazarene. Under such conditions thought is quick, and Warden was sure that he had unwittingly invaded the sanctuary of a Moham-medan fanatic. He was minded to whip out the revolver and fire a shot that would at least scare this strange being back into his eyrie. But a British sense of fair-play stopped him. The blue man, however wild-looking, had not interfered with or molested him in any way. He himself was the intruder. The fact that he was undeniably startled did not justify the use of a bullet even for scaring purposes. The best thing to do was to reach the ground as speedily as might be, risking a jump when he was low enough to select a particular stone on which to alight. His dominant feeling at the moment was one of pique that he had failed to interpret correctly the flight of the storks. If the spots on top of the tower meant mischief it would have been far better to have met him in one of the upper rooms than to be at his mercy while clinging like a fly to the face of the wall.

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS

ALL KIDNEY DISEASES

GRAVEL RHEUMATISM BRIGHT'S DISEASE DIABETES BACKACHE

23 THE PR...

but when daylight brought no tidings of the missing Englishman, the British Vice-Consul had most unfeelingly of a visit by the West Coast Squadron. A worried and anxious Bey, well aware that Morocco had troubles in plenty, without Rabat adding to the store, protested that the Nazarene must have been spirited away without human agency. The Bey was not listened to, so he tried honestly to find out what had become of Warden. The only ascertainable facts were that the Giauour had bought a chisel, and was seen going to the tower of Hassan, the way to which was shown to him by one of his own countrymen. The hour was early, soon after sunrise. Since then he had seemingly vanished off the face of the earth. The Bey's myrmidons told how they had searched the Tower, and found that the Giauour had climbed into its interior. He had used the chisel and displaced a stone, apparently without object. But the place was now quite empty, though some one had ground corn and millet recently in an upper chamber.

Now, the Bey knew quite well that the Blue Man of El Hamra made the Tower his headquarters when he visited Rabat periodically to collect subscriptions for the Jihad that was to drive every foreigner out of the sacred land of the Moors. But he kept silent on that matter, for he feared the Blue Man even more than the British Fleet. Nevertheless, he caused inquiries to be made, though no one had met the tinted prophet of late.

In a country where there are no roads, nor any actual government beyond the sphere of each chief town, official zeal does not travel far. The Water Witch sailed to Cape Coast Castle, and reported the disappearance of Mr. Alfred Williams to an officer who came out to meet her in the Governor's own sloop. A cruiser hastened to Rabat, and trained a gun on the principal palace, whereupon the Bey went aboard in person to explain that none could have made more genuine effort than he to find the lost Nazarene, either dead or alive. And perforce he was believed. Even the British Vice-Consul could not charge him with negligence, though not one word had he said to any of El Hamra.

The cruiser fitted back to Cape Coast Castle and thence to Lagos and there was much wonderment in the small circle that knew the truth. Yet no man is indiscreet, whether in West Africa or London, and another Deputy Commissioner was gazetted for the special duty of dealing with native unrest in the Benue River district. The facts were communicated to Whitehall, and an official from the Colonial Office called on an Under Secretary in the Foreign Office to explain why Captain Forbes was acting in the capacity for which Captain Arthur Warden seemed to be so peculiarly fitted.

"It is a queer business," said the Under Secretary. "What do you make of it?" "I believe he was worried about a woman," began the other.

"What? In Rabat?"

"No, no, in London. Only this morning I received a letter from a Mrs. Laing, who says she is exceedingly anxious to ascertain Captain Warden's address. Now, Lady Hillary wrote two days ago with the same object, and, of course, I returned a polite message to the effect that he was engaged on Government service."

"Mrs. Laing?" mused the Under Secretary. He unlocked a diary, and ran back through its pages. "I thought I remembered the name," he continued. "She was staying with the Baumgartners at Lochmeier before they went to Hamburg in their yacht."

He was silent for a few seconds. His nails seemed to need just an examination. Apparently satisfied by the scrutiny, he went on:

"I rather liked that youngster. He struck me as the sort of man who would go far. Have you replied to Mrs. Laing?"

"No."

"The please ask her to come here next Tuesday about three o'clock. Just quote her letter, and allow it to be assumed that her inquiry concerning Captain Warden may be answered. I hope you don't mind my stepping in in a matter affecting your department?"

The Colonial man laughed.

"My dear fellow," he said, "I have a whole regiment of lady visitors and correspondents whom I shall gladly hand over to you." (To be Continued.)

GOOD FEEDING HIS THEORY

London, Aug. 17.—Novelists hitherto have relied a good deal on the hero's firm set, determined jaw. Now Dr. Cole Newton, a London surgeon, says that square jaws and a determined mind in men are no casual gifts of nature, but simply the result of proper feeding, and a consequently healthy set of teeth.

In support of Dr. Newton's theory, it may be remarked that ill-fed boys who are taken off London streets and sent to a training ship to prepare them for the navy, usually emerge with a well developed jaw; a change that may very well have been brought about by the hard beef that constitutes the chief item of their bill of fare abroad.

The small boy is apt to lose faith in his mother's veracity when she says it hurts her more to whip him than it hurts him.

FIERCE BEER WAR IN LONDON BARS

Tied and Free Houses Cutting Prices—Outcome of the Budget.

London, Aug. 18.—Remarkable scenes have taken place in a poor quarter of the East-end of London in consequence of the rivalry of house sellers. A beer-war is being waged between the "tied" houses and the "free" houses owing to the refusal of the latter to agree to the demand of the brewers to raise the price of beer.

The "tied" houses are owned by and under the control of the brewers, while a "free" house is the property of a private individual. Owing to the extra tax on beer, and the increased license duties specified in the budget proposals, the "tied" publicans, at the instance of the brewers, decided to raise the price of beer from eight cents to ten cents a quart. The "free" houses refused to follow suit, and retained their old price of eight cents.

In spite of boycottings and refusals on the part of certain brewers to supply orders, the "free" house tenants obtained their supply of beer from the private brewers, whose interests are not only not identical with those of the big brewing companies, but in many respects directly opposed to them. The next move on the part of the brewers was to order their "tied" tenants to come down four cents a quart in the hope of cutting out the free tenants. The result of peculiar and suggestive. The district is invaded by thirsty men and women from all the neighboring boroughs, drawn together by the possibility of having a cheap drink.

The tenants of the "free" houses are determined to stand firm and fight to a finish. Meanwhile the "tied" house tenants, by selling his beer at six cents a quart, is losing 24 cents on a barrel, but the brewers, it is said, have agreed to make the loss good while the fight lasts. Popular sentiment seems entirely with the "free" houses.

FORMER COUNTESS SUES IN VAIN FOR HARRY THAW.

Big Island, Maine, Aug. 17.—A visit by Harry K. Thaw's sister to Justice Mills at Megantic, just across the border from here in Quebec, was without the result for which she had hoped when she sued the former Countess of Yarmouth.

The former Countess of Yarmouth came to Megantic last night and today she walked nearly ten miles through the woods in her anxiety to reach Justice Mills at the earliest possible moment. She had an interview with the justice, but he told her that it would be impossible for him to grant her petition.

White Plains, N. Y., Aug. 17.—The Thaw family, it was learned today, will make an attempt now to have Thaw released from Matteawan and committed to the custody of his relatives. They will agree never to let him out unless accompanied by a member of the family or a special attendant.



A HONEYMOON SIEGE

The story of an elderly couple's romance in which the path of love ran anything but smoothly was unfolded at a petty sessions court near Newry, Ireland, recently.

Patrick Doran, a widower of sixty-nine with nine children, and his wife, who was the mother of eleven. When the two arrived home after the honeymoon they found the place barricaded. Doran forced his way in, and the house was then bombarded with stones. There was a brief respite, but the onslaught was renewed as Doran and his wife were retiring for the night, and a shot was fired into the bedroom as the couple were saying their prayers. Two sons and a daughter of Doran were charged with riotous and tumultuous assembling and the discharging of firearms with intent to do bodily harm. The magistrates dismissed the case.

WILL SEND £22,000 TO CANADA

London, Aug. 17.—Of the Pan-Atlantic bank offerings £22,000 goes to Canada, allocated to the west and northwest, including £5,000 each for the theological colleges at Vancouver and Saskatchewan and £2,000 to Winnipeg, which is regarded as a right step, as the provinces best able to produce clergy adapted to their needs.

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COCOA

Sold by Grocers and Storekeepers in 1/2-lb. and 1-lb. Tins.

Fashion Hint for Times Readers



ALLOVER EMBROIDERED BLOUSE.

This attractive all-over embroidered design in blouses is made with small tucks running from the shoulder to the bust. The comfortable Dutch neck is in evidence. The sleeves are devoid of much fulness, and are long and pointed over the hands. Instead of the much-worn jabot, a fluffy bow tie to match the skirt is worn with this blouse. Belt is also to match skirt, and made of the same material. A noticeable increase in the fulness of the shirtwaist is shown in this model. It is buttoned down the front with crocheted buttons.

HUNDRED MILLIONS GRAFT A YEAR, SAYS BINGHAM.

Former Police Head of New York Writes Up Conditions in Gotham—Riches Offered to Him—Declares Tammany, Largely at Fault, Could Be Undone in 10 Years.

"A crooked, supine or incompetent Judiciary," is what is the matter with New York, according to Theodore A. Bingham, former Police Commissioner.

In an article written for the forthcoming September number of Hampton's Magazine, General Bingham makes that assertion very frankly, and gives instances to support his assertion.

Another strong sentence declares that each year \$100,000,000 in graft and blackmail changes hands in this city, and that he could have made \$1,000,000 in a year of his term. Tammany, he declares, is responsible for this, and Tammany could be destroyed in ten years, he adds.

Here are some extracts from the Bingham article:

"Eighty per cent. of criminal cases in New York are first heard in the lower courts, and between seventy and eighty per cent. of the arrests made for pocket-picking, housebreaking and blackmailing are drawn from the alien classes, so-called.

"The ignorant foreigners, packed into the tenements of the crowded East Side are easily handled by the politicians. They are poor, they need work, and often charitable aid. The politician helps them to jobs.

Accuses Lawyers.

"A prominent Tammany leader and member of the Board of Aldermen, never accused of being morally fastidious, recently admitted frankly to me that he was the friend of thieves. 'Sure I am,' he emphasized. 'An' why shouldn't I be? Poor devils, they have no friends.' Sure, I'll hail them out and send them to a lawyer."

"When such a man sends word to a police judge, a man on whom that judge depends for political preferment, to be easy on So-and-So, it is not hard to see why the magistrate brow-beats and abuses the police, gives every advantage to the shyster lawyer in defense, and finally shouts that the evidence is insufficient, discharges the prisoner and arraigns the police for arresting honest citizens on such evidence."

"I have reason to believe that one attorney, who shadow frequently falls around Tammany Hall, comes pretty near representing all the good pickpockets in New York. Another, who is a prominent member of the Bar Association, and his

record for pulling gambling house chestnuts out of the fire, while two or three others have boasted of their ability to secure immunity for violators of the excise law, though these cases are rarely easily disposed of."

"The power of Tammany Hall rests and has rested for forty years upon its ability to control the police by fair means or foul," the former Commissioner says. "A strong, honest, fearless magistrate, supported by police magistrates of integrity and a mayor big enough to conduct his office without fear or favor, can sap and utterly destroy the influence of Tammany Hall in ten years or even less, provided he is empowered to dismiss and transfer his subordinates for cause, without recourse to the courts for cause, without recourse to the courts for cause, without recourse to the courts for cause."

Grants \$100,000,000 Yearly

"I do not believe I am unfair in estimating that from 1,500 to 2,000 members of the force are unscrupulous grafters whose hands are always out for easy money."

"I am asked to estimate the money value of graft and blackmail in New York each year. Of course, no one could make such an estimate with anything like complete accuracy, but my belief is that that total is not less than \$100,000,000 a year."

"During my first year at the head of the Police Department it would have been an easy matter for me to have made \$500,000 in bribe money, and \$1,000,000 would not have been an excessive figure at all."

"One day, shortly after my arrival at Police Headquarters, an acquaintance dropped into my office."

"Commissioner," he said, "there is a house at No. 1 West Thirty-third street run very quietly. It will be worth \$100,000 a month to you"—But the sentence was never finished to my knowledge.

"As a matter of fact, the place had never been opened, and the man had been used as an agent to feel out the department."

"A few months later, I was offered \$5,000 in cash and \$500 a month merely to be seen shaking hands with the proprietor of an upper Broadway cafe."

COST OF TARIFF REVISION

It is estimated that the cost of holding the special session of the U. S. Congress to pass the tariff bill was at least \$500,000. This does not include the increased expenses of the government printing office in printing the hearings before the ways and means committee, the various reports and documents, the congressional record, the tariff bill in its various stages and the Payne law as finally enacted. Accurate information as to the additional expense incurred by the Government Printing office is not available, but it is estimated to be as much as \$300,000 or \$400,000. The principal item of expense of the session was mileage. The mileage account of representatives was \$154,000, and of senators, \$47,000. Extra pay for employees of congress involved an expenditure of nearly \$100,000. For miscellaneous expenses of the session an appropriation of \$25,000 was provided in the urgent deficiency bill.

Receipts from customs Wednesday amounted in the aggregate to \$1,241,538, as against \$1,039,703 for the corresponding day last year. The excess is attributed to larger importations of articles on which rates were decreased by the new tariff law. Importers had been awaiting the lower rates, and shipments had been timed in order to reach the United States after the new law became operative. The receipts Wednesday from New York were \$92,043; Boston, \$131,705; Philadelphia, \$65,341; San Francisco, \$32,056; Chicago, \$15,571; Baltimore, \$12,653; St. Louis, \$9,722, and other ports about \$50,000.

HON. MR. MORRISSY IN MONTREAL.

Montreal, Aug. 17.—Hon. John Morrissey, commissioner of the board of works in the New Brunswick government, is in Montreal. Mr. Morrissey has been suffering from an affection of his eyes for some time, and has come to the city to consult

LUMBERMEN'S INTERVIEW WITH THE AMBASSADOR

Right Hon. James Bryce, Lieutenant-Governor Tweedie and Premier Hazen held an informal conference last night in Hon. Mr. Hazen's residence with a delegation composed of three prominent lumbermen of the city respecting conditions on the St. John river. The members of the delegation were J. Fraser Gregory, president of the St. John River Log Driving Company; Henry Hilyard and Alexander Wilson, of A. Cushing & Co., representing the American and Canadian mill owners of St. John.

Mr. Wilson, speaking of the conference after it was over, described it as a very pleasant one. His excellency did not commit himself in any way but seemed impressed with the manner in which the delegates assisted by Lieutenant-Governor Tweedie and Premier Hazen presented the Canadian case under the Ashburton treaty. He assured them that his previous knowledge of the matters in dispute had been largely supplemented by the information they were able to present.

The delegates arrived at Mr. Hazen's home about 8.30. Mr. Gregory opened the discussion, presenting the facts of the case. He contended that in consequence of the works of the St. John Lumber Company at Van Buren the cost of log driving to Fredericton had increased 100 per cent. He had a large map of the St. John River with the aid of which he explained the situation to his excellency. The alleged unfairness of the company holding up 140,000,000 feet of logs destined for points further down the river in order to sort out 40,000,000 feet of their own lumber was what Mr. Gregory principally complained of.

Mr. Bryce at this point asked what course if any Mr. Gregory could suggest as a means to settle the difficulty having respect to the rights of all parties.

Mr. Gregory suggested that a thoroughly independent man be appointed to sort

the logs at Van Buren, which he contended should no longer be left in the hands of the St. John Lumber Company.

The other delegates, however, with Premier Hazen and Lieutenant-Governor Tweedie opposed this expedient. They pointed out that the interests were too unequal and insisted that the provisions of the Ashburton treaty be carried out in their entirety. Under that agreement the St. John river was to remain free and unobstructed forever. It was, they thought, simply a case of vested rights against legal rights and they held the Canadian government should uphold the rights of the St. John mill owners and the lumbermen along the river. The St. John Lumber Company, they continued, could not justly complain of what might be done because they ought to have made full investigation before building. Even on the basis of vested rights, they contended, the interests of the mill owners in St. John were more valuable than those at Van Buren. In this city \$1,250,000 had been invested in mill plants and there is a yearly payroll of \$50,000. The great hardship that would be inflicted if any part of this were rendered useless was self-evident.

The ambassador rose about 10 o'clock, the conference having lasted about an hour and fifteen minutes.

Mr. Wilson said his excellency asked many questions and showed a comprehensive grasp of the matters under discussion. While he was careful not to commit himself, he thought he was impressed with the idea that the legal rights in the dispute were entirely with the Canadians. Speaking of the personnel of the international commission now inquiring into conditions on the river, he expressed his surprise that a fifth member had not been appointed who would be independent of either interest and avert a deadlock.

Before the conference the delegates were introduced to Mrs. Bryce.

AUSTRALIA'S PORTION IN NAVAL DEFENCE SCHEME

Montreal, Aug. 17.—A Canadian Associated Press London cable says:

The scheme of naval defence agreed to by the Australian representatives and admiralty is described as completely satisfactory to Australian national sentiment. The Australian fleet does not pass automatically under the control of the admiralty during a possible war, but will be placed at its disposal, if, when the necessity arises, it is recognized in war time that the navy must be under a central control. Ample provision will be made for the interchange of officers, though for some time the Imperial navy must supply officers and men. No Dreadnoughts will be given, the money being spent on cruisers.

The despatch sent through American agencies and published broadcast throughout Canada, and referred to in today's Times, in a special despatch from Ottawa, as representing Canada and Australia as combining for the use of local fleets in the Pacific in order to "meet the Japanese peril" causes the Canadian delegates to the Imperial defence conference to wonder who is the authority for such "boast." The Canadian Associated Press has the highest authority for stating that the story is "absolutely a fake." Japan has not been mentioned or discussed in any way by the Imperial defence conference.

HARRIMAN MAY HAVE BIG DEAL ON

Paris, Aug. 17.—E. H. Harriman arrived here today by automobile and proceeded immediately to the home of James Stillman. According to his friends, Mr. Harriman's health has greatly improved during his sojourn in Europe. It is reported that he may sail from Cherbourg tomorrow on the North German Lloyd steamer Kaiser Wilhelm II.

New York, Aug. 17.—E. H. Harriman's home-coming at a time when the rumor had been obtained an option on a controlling interest in New York Central cropped out strongest, is interpreted by Wall street to mean that he will exercise the option, upon his arrival here, covering about \$50,000,000 worth of stock, former-ly controlled for the most part by the Vanderbilts.

The so-called Harriman stocks fluctuated wildly and the market generally was unsettled, Union Pacific broke from 215 1/8 to 210 3/4, but late in the afternoon when the report of his home-coming was confirmed, Union Pacific rallied and there was a general recovery in sympathy.

New York Central remained steady throughout.

NEWSPAPER F.R.E.

Hamilton, Aug. 17.—(Special)—The offices of the Hamilton Herald were badly damaged by fire this morning. Flames were noticed issuing from the window of the stereotyping department. The paper was printed as usual today from the office.

FIVE KILLED IN EXPLOSION

Vancouver, B. C., Aug. 17.—Five lives were lost in an explosion that wrecked the dynamite house of the Western Explosive Company at Lunstall Bay, Bowen Island (B. C.), Monday afternoon. The dead are one American, William Sellers, aged thirty, and four Chinese. No one knows how the accident happened.

RIOTERS HELD FOR TRIAL.

Port William, Ont., Aug. 17.—Fifteen strikers arrested Saturday night for disorderly conduct and rioting appeared before the magistrate today and fourteen were committed for trial.

The Times Daily Puzzle Picture

ARITHMETICAL PUZZLE

Substitute the words and letters indicated by this puzzle, adding and subtracting as marked plus and minus, and the result will be found to be one of man's comforts.

ANSWER TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE.

(Upside down—nose at chin.)