

# A GIFT OF A SOUL

again, after the unrestraint of so many months, in close fitting waistmany months, in close litting waistcoat and coat, he gave a sigh. It
seemed to him that he ceased to be
the free and active Pierre Laurier
who had worked so joyfully ten hours
a day in the open air, inhaling the invigorating odors of juniper
and fir-tree, and that he became once
more the Pierra Laurier of the past. more the Pierre Laurier of the past cursing his art and despairing of future, spent his hours between the boudoir of a coquette and the gambling saloon of the club. He raised his eyes. Night was fall-

ing, but behind the chestnut groves bathing in its pallid light the frowning rocks, the moon shone, like a silver crescent in the sky. The forest breeze, warm and fragrant, passed over the young man's brow, soft as the cares-sing touch of a wing. He looked at the sea, which rolled, profound and calm, at his feet, and murmured "You may bear me away. I fear neither you nor those from whom you separate me. His transitory discontent passed away, and at this moment, when he was about to take the supreme step that was to decide his fate, he found himself master of his thoughts and of his feelings.

No emotion stirred his heart at the thought of the woman he had so pas-sionately loved. He dared to evoke her image. He saw her with her low brow crowned with its raven tresses; her beautiful eyes with their long lashes, her intoxicating glance,—but he remained indifferent and disdainful. He loved her no longer, all was over; the charm had ceased; the philter was powerless. He had recovered ession of himself, and his heart, freed from its bondage, was once more worthy of a good woman's acceptance. And tears of emotion came to Laurier's eyes. His trembling lips murmured a confession of love, his whole being reached through space toward the adored object. On the following day at nine o'clock

the boat sailed. Pierre again saw the beside which the Saint Laurent lay at anchor, while he was painting its figurehead of carved wood, the mole, the bastion of the Dragon, and, in succession, Cape Corso, Giraglia, and the Italian coast. On board the boat, which sailed rapidly, he re-traced the route taken by the little smuggling vessel.

As they drew nearer the French coast he asked himself with growing uneasiness what could be the cause of Davidoff's hasty summons. A vague disquietude took possession of him, and he began to fear that some misfortune had happened. To whom? The words of the letter written to him at Torrevecchio by the doctor recurred to him: "The report that you had been drowned ,came very near causing the death of one closely connected with Jacques." These words had changed erything in his life. Was this person Juliette, and was she now in danger Should he arrive only in time to see in whom his only hope now lav. expire: But the letter contained these words also: "You passed close to happiness without knowing it, but there time for you to regain it."
his happiness going to eshim anew? Was it not procape him anew? hable that this young girl, who was so beautiful, was loved, and that another, faring his absence, had succeeded in taring the wound her heart had re-

A profound sadness took possession Pierre, at the thought that this last ow upon which he had staked his priness should lose. A feeling of atal lassitude overpowered him, and be longed for some means of cor-

When he found himself dressed responding with Davidoff. He stretch-gain, after the unrestraint of so any months, in close fitting waist-out and coat, he gave a sigh. It batross its swift wings as it sailed in its melancholy flight through the its melancholy flight through the blue air. He walked the deck nervously, as if his impatience could lend added speed to the motion of the ves-

> He could not sleep, and he remained on deck, his gaze fixed on the horizon. They passed in succession Genoa, Monaco, Nice, Antibes, and Toulon; sailing along this enchanting coast, bordered down to the water's edge with gardens on whose sands of gold the waves die languourously away. His heart beat quickly as he saw the Chateau d'If looming darkly in the distance, its lights gleaming through the night like eyes looking into immensity. He had but little baggage and on arriving at Marseilles he gav it to a street porter, and crossing the gangway, hastily took a carriage and drove to the railway station. He passed not an instant; his only thought was to reach his destination as roon as possible. The express was to leave at half-past eleven, and he had still an hour at his disposal. He went to the telegraph office and sent the following despatch to Davidoff: "Arrived in Marseilles; will be in Faris to-morrow evening at six." When he saw the message pass from

> the hands of the clerk to these of the operator he felt a sense of relief, as if ome part of himself had already zone on in advance. He went to the restaurant, where he breakfasted, though without an appetite, to kill time. The gates being at last opened train ready to tsart, he installed himself in a compartment and gave him-self up with a new sense of delight to the pleasure of being rapidly berne through space. Burled in a corner of the carriage, his eyes closed although he was not asleep, he remained me tionless, counting as they passed them the stations which still separated him from the end of his journey, as a prioner counts on the calendar the which still separate him from liberty Toward dawn, however, he grew ex

hausted and fell into a doze. For two days and nights he had not slept. When he awoke he caw with delight that he had gained upon time during his sleep, for it was broad daylight, and the train was approaching Macon. Before him, bathed in sunshine Before him, bathed in sunshine, stretched on either hand the rich and emiling fields of Burgundy. P felt as if he had almost reached Pierre journey's end. He found himself again in the midst of scenery which, for a year, he had not seen. No longer reddish rocks and foaming torrents; no longer shepherds armed with guns watching from some eminence with a proud and serious air their scanty flock or their unruly goats at pasture. Instead he saw peasants, at once stout and active, guiding the plow, drawn by large white oxen, yoked in pairs, along the brown furrows; fields covercd with crops, vines bending under their load of grapes, forests of a vivid green traversed by grassy paths leading into cool, green glades. It was the severy beauty of the central pro-vinces of France, not the soft and radiant beauty of Provence or the wild

grandeur of Corsica.

Space fled before him; the train passed swiftly by hillsides, valleys and rivers, and Pierre gave himself up more and more to his own thoughts. He fell into an uneasy reverie, in which he asked himself with a vain persistence what it was that arn the truth. On board the ie was consumed by impatience in the truth. On board the vestits keel cleaved the blue waters and Melux. Passing the fortifications he stood up preparing already to leave

the train. At last the engine, whistling shrilly, slowed up, the turnplate sounded, and the train stopped at the station.

Pierre, standing on the platform ready to leave the train, leaped to the ground and was caught in the embrace of two strong arms. He raised his eyes, recognized Davidoff, uttered cry of joy, and, pressing in his turn the hand of his faithful friend, drew

him aside.
"Well?" he cried, putting all his engerness into this one question.
"Calm yourself," said the Russian,
who understood Laurier's anxiety.

Juliette is in no present danger." Pierre breathed a profound sigh as if his heart had been relieved from a

heavy weight.
"And Jacques?" he asked. "Ah! Jacques!" responded Day off.
"At is he, more than any one else, who gives me cause for uneasiness. But let is not remain here. We are attracting

He put his arm through the painter's and drew him away through the crowd now hurrying out of the sta-

tion.
"What luggage have you?" he asked.

"This valise and a box which is in

"Come, we will have the trunk taken to the hotel. For you must accompany me. I shall not leave you. Instead of waiting for you as I had said I would in my despatch, I preferred coming to meet you. I feared some in-discretion on your part. Do you know that if Mlle. de Vignes were to see you appear suddenly before her the shock might prove fatal to her in her present condition?'

They drove along the boulevard conversing together, and Laurier was too confused to take in fully all there was to see and hear. The bustle Paris, after leaving the train in wh for twenty hours he had been shaken, succeeding the profound calm and re-tirement of his life at Torrevecchio, fevered his brain, dazzled his eyes and deafened his ears. He was obliged to make an effort in order to listen to and understand Davidoff. He felt weary in body and over-excited in

'My journey has tired me greatly," he said, "and yet I feel that I cannot

You have been living for the past three days on your nerves," returned the doctor. "I am going to set you right again. Trust to me. If I never had patients more difficult to cure than you-

The carriage rolled into the court-yard of the Grand Hotel. They alighted, and followed by a boy carrying Laurier's valise ascended to Davidoff's arartment. Laurier's chamber was separated from the Russian's by a parlor. Left alone they examined each other silently for an instant; then the doctor, pointing out a seat to his friend said:

down; we will dine here and talk at the same time, and if you are reasonable I may do something for

You this very evening."

Pierre's eyes lighted up. "What?"
he asked. "Will you permit me to see

Davidoff laughed.

"You are at least frank," he said.
To see her! It seems, then, she is To see only subject you and I have to about! Well, you are right, and talk about! it was of her I was going to speak. Since the beginning of the week I have been here, and I have gradually accustomed her to the thought of your reappearance. In the depths of her heart she has mourned you as dead for many months past. From the first words spoken by me, casting the shadow of a doubt on your death, she has revived, but in a manner to terrify her mother and myself. A violent fevr has taken possession of her. Her weakness was so great! She has been fading slowly ever since your disappearance, growing paler and paler ev-ery day, like a flower cankered at the heart. As to her brother-but it is

better to speak only of her."
"Is the news you have to give me of Jacques, then, so painful?"

"Heart-breaking, morally and physically. This week, spurred on by an imperious need for money, he put for sale the property belonging jointly to his mother, his sister and himself. The remonstrances of the notary and the entreaties of Mme. de Vignes were alike useless. He desires to realize the money, no matter at what cost, without troubling himself about the loss that must result from this hasty sale. He is insane, and his insanity has taken a dangerous form."

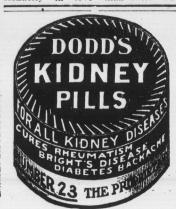
"And who or what has been cause of this insanity?" asked Pierre
"Love. A woman has been the ruin of this unhappy man, whose mor-

al nature was never strong."
"And is this woman so fascinating that he cannot be turned away her; has she so powerful an influence over him that he cannot be torn from

"She is the most fascinating, most dangerous of women. If I were to name her to you-

At these words Pierre turned pale; he looked eagerly at Davidoff, the name upon his lips which he divined the doctor was about to pronounce when the latter, smiling bitterly and looking at the painter as if he would pierce the inmost recesses of his soul

'Ah, you have understood me. Yes it is into the hands of Clemence that Jacques has fallen. She loved him ardently, he loved her in return—well, as men love her. At the end of six months she has grown cold as and he is more in love than ever.





why should I seek to describe the conaition of his mind to you? To under stand it you have only to recall your own feelings."

Laurier remained silent and mo-tionless, his head sunk upon his breast, and the Russian resumed with

"He adores her, do you understand He lives only for her. The painter raised his head and ex-claimed in compassionate accents:

"Unhappy man! For such a woman to have given up everything, to have forgotten every duty! But he is to be ritied rather than blamed; she has

such dangerous power."
At these words Davidoff's counter ance cleared up; his eyes sparkled with joy; he went to his friend, and with affected irony, said: "So, then, there is no feeling in your

heart for Jacques but one of pity."
"And what other feeling should have for him?" answered Pierre. "Ought I to blame nim after showing myself weaker and more culpable than he. No, I can only pity him!"
Davidoff took Pierre's hand in his

and shook it vigorously. "And you feel no thrill of emotion at the recollection of the old love, no

return of your former tenderness, no feeling of anger against your friend?"

"So this is what you feared?" said Laurier, a flush mounting to his pale face. "You doubted that I was completely cured of my insensate passion, and you wished to put me to the proof? Oh, do not be afraid; speak

"Yes," returned Davidoff, with firmness. "I desired to know whether unconsciously-

"Ah!" cried Pierre, "question me then, lock into the secret recesses of my heart. You will find there no other feeling than one of bitter regret for my folly and the ardent desire to atone for it. If I had not judged myself worthy of a pure affection and capable of responding to it by a constant love, you would never have seen me again. Fear nothing on my account, Davideff. The Pierre Laurter me again. you know is dead-killed on a tempestuous night, and the man you see before you, though he has the same features, fortunately has not the same

That's right," cried Davideff, gayly. 'Ah, a heavy weight has been re-moved from my conscience. If I had not been able to count upon you with certainty I do not know how I could have carried through my undertaking It is surrounded on all sides by difficulties and anxieties. It will be neces-sary for you to meet Clemence—'

"If it is absolutely necessary," re turned Pierre, "I will make the effort, but I shall do it with great reluc-

No doubt it will be with greater reluctance than in former days," answered the Russian with a smile. "But we must try and save Jacques from her clutches, and nothing less than your intervention will enable us to succeed. Let us leave that for the futare, however, and eccupy ourselves with the present. Let us speak of Mile. de Vignes."

Pierre's brow cleared. At this moment dinner was served, and the two friends seated themselves at table and spent the next hour in exchanging confidence.

Pierre gave an account of his so journ at Torrevecchic to the doctor, and the latter recounted to the doctor, all that had taken place during his absence. In this way they were able to arrive at the conviction, Davidoff that Laurier was, as he affirmed, radically cured of his fatal passion, and Laurier that Davideff, in recalling him as hastily as he had done as much wisdom as decision. Toward nine o'clock they left the notel and set out for the house of Mme. de Tignes. In the boulevard, in the mild air of the summer night, Fierre felt his heart swell with joy and hone his eyes to heaven with a feeling of repentance at having so insanely de-

During the past few days Alme de Vignes, forewarned by Davidoff, had seen the future, which had appeared to ler so dark, lighted up by 1 ray of hope. The certainty Pierre Laurier lived, the positive-ness with which Davidoff af-firmed that the painter loved Juliette, and loved only her, had given

spaired of happiness.

the midst of the misfortunes which overwhelmed her, with everything to ear from her son, and everything fear for her daughter, the possibility of seeing Julitte once more restored to health and tranquility was a source creasing weakness and dejection? Davidoff had been welcomed as a savior. Communicating his news to Juliette with wise precaution, he had planted at first a seed of hope in her mind which had found fertile soil. By degrees the seed cast roots which spread vigorously; and now the flower ready to bloom, awaited only a last ray of sunshine. Since the beginning of the week Juliette, without any further plausible reason than the ardent desire to see the

"on dit" of Davidoff had been seized on with avidity by this young heart. Why should not Pierre have been rescued from the waves, as was said, and taken on board a passing trading vessel bound for Corsica, where he had been seen by persons who declared they had recognized What was there strange in his him? remaining all these months hidden from his friends, ashamed perhaps of not having carried into effect the cidal purpose which he had announced? And was it not natural that he should leave the de Vignes in ignorance of his being alive? All this was admissible. And the young girl was so eager to believe it that she would

miracle she hoped for wrought, had

become convinced that Pierre

have thought still stranger things

(To be continued.) EAR DRUMS AND DROWNING.

Why Good Swimmers May Meet Sudden Death in the Water.

Sudden death of swimmers has never been explained satisfactorily, but it is generally assumed that it is due to cramps that affect the respiratory muscles. The Medical Record says there is another theory that "has never received the attention which it This is that cold water pen merits. etrating the ear sets up an irritation in the delicate passages of the inner ear. It cites an address delivered by Dr. Guettich before the Berlin Otolog-ical Society, in which he revived this theory.

irritation of the labyrinth the inner ear by cold water might cause sudden paralysis, just as a shock to it through a sharp blow on the chin will cause a "knockout." The symptoms of the smimmer and the fighter are similar. They can make notions, but cannot direct them; they may become temporarily unconscious. In the case of the swimmer, of course, drowning follows unless some one

The Med. Record says that person with perforated ear drums are those chiefly menaced by this accident, although it may occur to others. And this in spite of the fact that children with large perforations of the ear drum often swim and dive with im-

#### THE C. P. R. AND RUSSIA

The traffic arrangement by which the C. P. R. will represent the Russian Government in providing for through freight services from the Dominion to Russia by the Trans-Siberian Railway and the Russian Volun-teer Fleet, which is an auxiliary of the railway, is an amplification of the connection which the company has sustained with the Trans-Siberian Railway, which is a state-owned system The Company has offices in Moscow and Petrograd in which it does business, the only railway on this continent to have such offices in Russia. If it would seem strange that the Com-pany should do business in either city, it need only be mentioned that the C. P. R. is the only railway in America which is a member of the Round the World Conference of which the executive of the Trans-Siberian line, which the average Russian always calls the "Transcontinental" line—this being the notion the system conveys to his mind. On this line there are three types of engine. The wood engine is a special type, which is not built at all on this continent, but it serves the purpose in the physical circumstances on the system, which is differentiated in several ways from those on this continent.

#### ENGLAND AS AN ISLAND.

#### Changes a Channel Tunnel and Perfect Aviation Would Bring.

Great Britain is an island. Unless there is some great convulsion of na-ture to all time the Strait of Dover will separate it from the continent of Europe. Yet every now and then a renewal of the scheme for a channel tunnel is heard, and at this moment men are flying from England to France and France to England.

Suppose the channel tunnel to made; suppose flying to be improved— and it is improving every day—what will become of the island? What will become of the sea? They will be there and will be shown on the map, but to all human intents and purposes the geography will be changed. The sea will no longer be a barrier; it will no longer be the only highroad from England to France. There will be going to and from on or in dry land and going to and fro neither on land nor sea Suppose this science of aviation to make great strides and heavy loads to be carried in the air, what will become of the ports, and what will be come of the seagoing peoples?

The ports will be there, appearing as now on the map, but Birmingham goods will be shipped at Birmingham for foreign parts and Lithgow will export mineral direct, saying goodby the Blue mountain and even to Sydney harbor —Sir Charles P. Lucas in Science.

# Fires in the Philippines.

The fighting of fires In the dry sea son is a grave problem in the cities and pueblos of the Philippine Islands House construction is light, the roofs framework of bamboo and the sides of either nipa or sawali-a woven product of certain species of bamboo.
When this material has been exposed continuously to the sun for several months it becomes as inflammable as tinder. Fires that break out in the of sweet satisfaction to her. What tinder. Fires that break out in the were pecuniary cares compared to the inipa districts always gain great head-anxieties caused by her daughter's in- way before any kind of an alarm can way before any kind of an alarm can be sent in even where there is a fire department Fires in such spread with great rapidity. In thickly populated areas it is not uncommor for a fire to burn several hundred houses before it is

#### Household Hints. To prevent glass dishes from crack-

ing when pouring in a hot mixture piace the dish on a hot cloth. A few drops of ammonia in the dish water will brighten the glass and sil-

Suet may be kept fresh by chopping roughly and sprinkling it with a lit-tle granulated sugar.

To prevent a tam-o'-shanter that has to be washed from shrinking, dry

it over a dinner plate.

To restore faded silks of their natural color, immerse them in soapsuds to which a little pearl ash has been added.

# Old Bags Like New.

Shabby leather bags, etc., may be improved in appearance by being rub-bed over with well beaten white of egg and then polished with beeswax esg and then polished with beeswar and turpentine, the flual rubbing be the given with a soft, clean brush

# GERMAN GLEE OVER GASES

Ghoulish Delight of Officer at Success of Brutal Scheme.

Those Not Dead From Results Quickly Bayoneted.

An English paper just to hand has the following regarding the German delight over the effects of their gas wariare:

Liege, June 18.-Received via Rotterdam, Monday)—I have had an instructive conversation here with a German oldier, who has returned from the Ypres front for a few days' rest. This man took part in the attacks made with the help of poisonous gases, and he told me several details concerning this new method of warfare

"We lay in our positions for months," he said, "and could never push forward a hundred metres. The British machine guns were handled too well. We could not approach the enemy's lines. Then, on the first day the gases were used we gained two kilometres. This was the result of the gas. You should have seen how it worked. It was fine." My pleasant acquaintance smiled a broad smile. "Everywhere the bodies of asphyxiated soldiers. There was white foam on their mouths, and their faces were black. Those who were still able to resist were soon silenced by the bayonet. It was a ghastly sight, but it was the greatest victory cur company

has had in the whole war.' I asked him whether the gas was librated from bombs. "No," he replied.
"It is put up in cylinders, just like carbonic acid gas or oxygen. The cybottles-wa inders-we call them buried in front of our tranches, with only the outlet tap left above ground. When the wind was favorable the taps were opened, and thick dark clouds rolled towards the trenches of the enemy. Then we received the or der for the storm attack, and rushed for the enemy's lines. Of course we cannot use the gas always, because when the wind is not blowing direct owards the opposing trenches stand a charce of getting some of it ourselves, and that would be less plea-

"We had some experience of this kind of thing the other day, when a British chell struck some of our concealed gas bottles, and they exploded.
The gases came into our own trenches, and before safety measures could be taken, fifty of our men lay dead on

"Will you go on using them?" I ask "I hardly think so," replied the er. "The last time we used them soldier. end ran up to the enemy trenches, instead of finding them emptied, as we had anticipated, we were received with terrible machine gun fire and a rifle salvo, and we had to hurry back to our own lines. Apparently the men had respirators on and the gas did not seem to have effected them. So if this oes on the gases will be useless to us onless, of course, we find something

unless, of course, we find something cise, for German science shrinks from o problem, however difficult it is." In reply to my definite question what the Germans thought of the emloyment of gases he answered, "Th are a splendid weapon. For what is the aim of all arms? To make the enemy unfit to fight. This the gas accomplished in the highest degree. It may be that it is a cruel weapon, but the whole war is cruel, and was it not the Englishmen who were the true. the Englishmen who used it first? four correspondent, being a neutral, offered no reply to this last question. -Central News.

# Not Her Quarrel

The fact that corporal punishment is discouraged in public schools is what led Harry's teacher to address this note to the lad's mother:
"I regret very much to have to in-

form you that your son Harry idles away his time, is disobedient, quarrel-Harry idles some and disturbs the pupils who are trying to study their lessons. He needs a good whipping and I strongly recommend that you give him one Whereupon Harry's mother responded as follows:

Dear Miss Jones—Lick him yourself; I ain't mad at him.—Yours truly, Mrs. Smith."

# A Joint Concern.

When Richra Brinsley Sheridan was in distress, in early life, one of his resources was that of writing for the dugitive publications of the day, in which he was materially assisted by wife, and many years after his entrance into the spheres of politics he vas heard to say that "if he had stuck to the law he believed he should have done as much as his friend Tom Erskine; but,' continued he, "I had no time for such studies. Mrs. Sheridan and myself were often obliged to keep writing for our daily leg or shoulder of mutton; otherwise we should have had no dinner." One of his friends, to whom he confessed this, wittily replied "Then I perceive it was a 'joint' concern.

# Meat Loaf.

One pound and a half each of beef nd lean pork. Remove the bone and gristle and run it through the meat chopper. Add one and one-half cup-fuls of bread crumbs, three well-beaten eggs, one cupful of milk, a rounded teaspoonful of salt, one of ground sage and half a teaspoonful of pepper. Mix well together and place in a loaf tin. Cover with thin slices of fat perk and bake in a hot oven for one hour and a half, basting often

# Didn't Want 'Em.

"That beauty expert is a fake."

"Wanted to give me some wrinkles on how to look young."—Baltimore American.