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LORD MORDEN'S DAUGHTER —OR— THE TRAGEDY OF THE CEDARS.

CHAPTER XIX.

After a few minutes' consultation, the driver was told to take them to Hammersmith.

Again was the precaution taken of stopping the cab a half-mile from their destination.

"We shall be back, say in an hour," Locksley said to the driver. "It is hardly wise for you to loiter in the streets, as you are known to at least one of the people who have been set to watch me."

"I will run my horse into the King George," replied the man. "It is just about nine o'clock, and I will be back here at ten."

"That will do," Rogers conducted his new master by many devious ways into the mysterious of Market-street, finally halting before a small grocer's shop.

"We occupy the upper-part of the house," he explained, "and have the use of this side door."

He rang a bell, which was very soon answered by a thin, pale-faced woman, an elderly middle-aged woman. It was apparent from her manners and speech that she had seen better days, and her faded eyes almost sparkled with pleasure when Frank said:

"This is my dear mother, sir. Mother, this is my new employer, Mr. Locksley."

"I have heard with gratitude of your kindness to my son, Mrs. Rogers said, when they were inside. "And it seems that some kind fate must have thrown him in your path."

"You are right, madam," Locksley replied, "for so far I am a debtor."

Frank hurried his mother out of the way, saying:

"I will send Miss Deane in here to you, sir. It is the best sitting-room we have."

He went away, and in five minutes the door opened softly, and Dora ran into his arms.

"Thank Heaven, you are safe, sweet-heart," he said, pressing her tightly to him. "Thank Heaven, a thousand times!"

Dora looked up at him, an anxious light in her sweet eyes—her ruddish lips trembling a little.

"Darling," she whispered, clinging closely to him, "do you know how dreadfully you have frightened me? Mr. Rogers came very late last night, and insisted that I accompany him in a cab to see you. I was doubtful, and would not have listened to him, only the cabman assured me that it was all right."

"And it was all right, my sweet-heart."

"But why did you not come yourself, or at least send a scrap of writing? I feared that you had met with some

dreadful accident, and when you weren't here, I nearly became hysterical. I am sure that there is some dreadful meaning attached to it. You must not hide anything from me, dear."

"I will never do that, Dora," Locksley said, earnestly. "In the first place I knew nothing of this until you had left Madam Bell's house; and we have to thank Rogers for outwitting Marlowe, and the people he has employed to trace you."

Again Dora clung to him convulsively, and he felt that she was trembling in every limb.

"Have no fear, dear one," he said, leading her to a lounge. "You are safe now, and I will only leave you for a few hours, until you are my precious wife. Mr. Rogers is the young detective I have engaged, and he discovered last night that Marlowe would visit Madam Bell in quest of you. At the very time he was looking after your safety, I was taking legal advice upon the same matter. And, darling, there is only one course open to us."

Dora glanced at him, her lovely face suffused with blushes.

"I can guess what you would say, Edmund," she softly responded. "Only as your wife shall we be free from the vindictiveness of Mr. Marlowe, through Esther and my grandfather."

"That is exactly it, little woman, and it is folly to think of evading them, for they have the law on their side. Do you know that I am liable to be arrested at any moment? I do not wish to alarm you needlessly, but an officer of the law is accompanying Marlowe with a search-warrant. I do not wish to meet this gentleman until we are one."

He kissed her fondly.

"I am ready, Edmund; I trust you in all things," she told him, shyly.

"I am glad that you speak sensitively— I am glad that you see as I do, darling. Now, I must leave you. Do you know what for?" He tried to speak gaily, but there was a grip of fear in his heart. "I am going to buy a wedding ring and a special licence. Then I must see a clergyman, and tomorrow morning we will be married. I would have liked to place you beyond danger to-day, but I do not see that it is possible, there is so much to be done."

He waited for her to speak, but she was weeping softly on his shoulder.

"You must not think me foolish and ungrateful, Edmund, my darling," she said, at last. "I am ashamed of being so much trouble to you, and of so little use."

"How can you say such things?" he

replied, tenderly stroking her shining hair. "Dora, I never knew the value of life until you gave me your love. Without it I should be but a cloud! There! we will not dwell upon that which is gloomy. Before us is a world of brightness, a beautiful garden, filled with flowers and perfumes. We will have a lovely little home, and I shall be furnished with all that is tasteful and beautiful. Do you like the picture, little woman? Do you not think that our lives will be like an idyllic dream? Like a stream that ripples gently along, singing of joy, joy, joy!"

"To make you happy, Edmund, will be my sweetest task," Dora told him. "And, do you know, dear, that I wish that tomorrow were here, so that we could commence our life's journey hand in hand!"

They would have talked in this way for a long time, had not Rogers tapped gently at the door.

"Mr. Locksley," he said, "it is ten o'clock, and it will not be wise to have the cab waiting about the streets."

"I may not be back, darling, until night; but when I do come, I shall have the wedding ring and the license in my pocket. It will not be safe for me to venture here again in the light of day. Kiss me, sweetheart!"

For a few minutes they were locked in a blissful embrace, then Locksley tore himself away, whispering:

"To-morrow—my sweet wife!"

Dora heard him wish Mrs. Rogers good-morning, then his quick steps passed down the rickety stairs, and he was gone.

"Oh, my darling, my darling!" she sobbed. "The future looks so bright; and so beautiful, but I am fearful that we shall never cross the black gulch that rolls between!"

CHAPTER XX.

Locksley did not return to Greely's Hotel, but was driven direct to his club in Piccadilly, where he dismissed the ostler, and gave him a handsome fee.

"You have more than atoned for the blunder you made," he said. "And I shall not forget you, Hoskins."

For an hour Edmund talked with Rogers, and it was decided to postpone the inquiries concerning the missing Lord Morden, until the present difficulties had been surmounted.

"I would prefer that you keep watch upon Miss Deane until I return to Hammersmith this evening," he said, finally. "Engage a room for me somewhere in the neighborhood, and arrange with your nearest clergyman to be ready to conduct a wedding at nine o'clock to-morrow morning."

"Yes, sir," replied Frank. "We live within a stone's throw of an Episcopal Church, and my mother attends regularly, and I know the pastor very well. His name is Plunket, and I believe that he is a man to be trusted, though I should suggest for safety that you go before a registrar in the morning. He will tie the knot in five minutes, if you are provided with a special."

"No," said Locksley, "I should have the feeling that I had not been married at all, were the ceremony not conducted in a church, and by a recognized servant of God. There is something revolting in these marriages, by consent, in the presence of a lawyer, who garbles over portions of the service, just as he would a marriage contract. I am sure that Miss Deane would object as strongly as I do. Beside, one or the other has to live in the district for a prescribed number of days. Arrange with Mr. Plunket, Rogers, and hint at a respectable fee. Clergymen are but human, where money is concerned."

"I will have everything ready as you desire, sir," Rogers promised.

When he was gone, Locksley hastened to the chambers of Fred Fairfax, his barrister friend, having taken the precaution to send a telegram early in the morning.

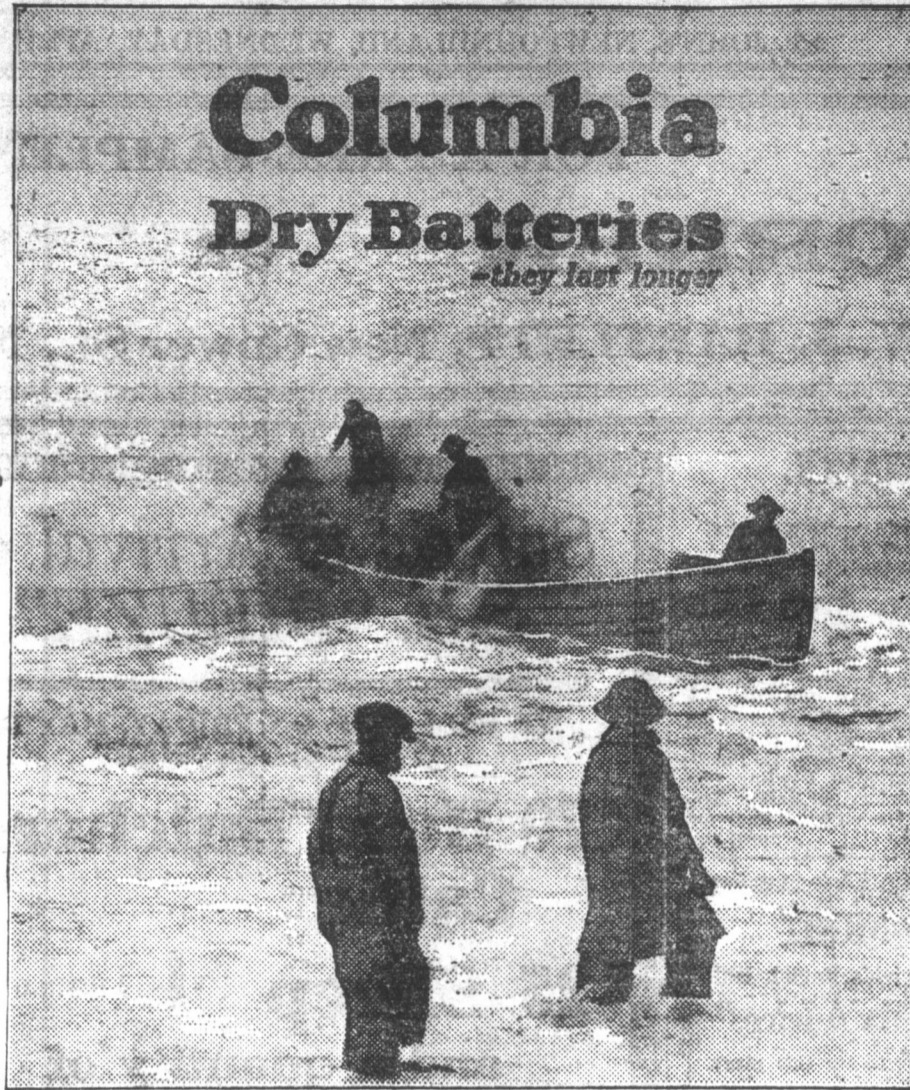
"Just in time to lunch with me," said Fairfax, as he walked into his rooms. "Well, I see that your mind is resolved upon some important step!"

"I want you to witness my marriage to-morrow, at nine o'clock, prompt," smiled Locksley, "and to assist me to-day, if you are not otherwise engaged. In obtaining a special licence, the clergyman will be ready."

(To be continued.)

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People Increasing Who Speak English

OVER SIXTY MILLION MORE PERSONS SPEAK ENGLISH THAN IN 1890.

In the year 1901 the number of people who spoke English was only 29,000,000; by 1890 it has grown to 111,000,000; to-day it is 179,000,000, and is rapidly increasing. More than 10 per cent. of the world's population use English as their only language.

By 1950 if nothing unforeseen occurs, English will be used by twice as many people as any other language, and by the year 2,000 will be the means of communication between one-quarter of the inhabitants of the globe.

More than that, since English is being taught in the schools of almost every civilized country, it seems certain that by that time more than half the world's population will be able to read English. There can be hardly any doubt but that, in course of time, English is bound to become the world language.

Let us glance for a moment at rivals of English, the other languages used by the peoples of this planet.

In 1801 French was the most widely used language. In Mulhail's Dictionary of Statistics the number then speaking French is given as 31,000,000, or 50 per cent. in excess of English-speaking peoples.

Next came Russian and third German, each with about 30,000,000 adherents. Fourth was Spanish, spoken by just over 26,000,000, and fifth Italian, used by 15,000,000 people.

In the space of 120 years the number speaking French has increased by only a quarter, and is to-day just over 40,000,000; 70,000,000 speak German, 50,000,000 Spanish, 35,000,000 Italian.

The only European language apart from English which has increased on a grand scale is Russian, which is to-day used by about 100,000,000 people. With all due respect to the use and laudables of the Russian language, it can hardly be said to be a serious rival to English.

Chinese is still used by an immense number. The present population of China is supposed to be about 420,000,000. But Chinese is so cumbersome a language that educated Chinese themselves admit that it cannot possibly survive.

The only living language besides English which is at present growing with any rapidity is Spanish. Spanish is the principal language of America from Mexico southwards, and the population of the South American countries is increasing rapidly. Yet even Spanish is no likely rival to English as a world language.

At present three-quarters of all the world's letters and postal packets are addressed in English, more than half the newspapers in the world are printed in English, while their circulation is quite three times that of all the periodicals printed in other languages.

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MIRAND'S LINTMENT FOR ACNES AND PAINS.

FORETHOUGHT.

We guard against the things we dread, the fall disease, the chilling rain; and then some day when we are dead, we find our caution was in vain. In Kansas, in the olden days, when cyclones made heads and tails of us, there, we used to gather round to praise the cellar built by Biddad Bare. The walls were made of granite blocks, and it was fashioned to defy the whirling hurricane that rocks the strongest things beneath the sky. "Now let tornadoes do their worst," said Biddad with a prideful grin; "no howling storm that ever burst can hurt the man who sits herein." When a coming storm I'll seek the cellar with my wife, and in that haven, snug and warm, we'll watch the elemental strife. When barns and haystacks hurtle by, upon the pinions of the blast, we'll sit in comfort eating pie, while folks less prudent stand aghast." We praised old Biddad for his sense, the sense that comforts and insures; we said to him, "A few weeks hence we'll all build cellars just like yours." One day when good old Biddad plowed some rolling acre far from home, there rose a sombre, funnel-cloud that blotted out the azure dome. It carried Biddad seven miles, and slammed him through a lot of trees, and with him broke down gates and stiles, and wound his form around his knees. Upon his head it made a dent and stripped him of his socks and shirt; and Biddad was the only gent in all that section who was hurt.

WALT MASON

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Income and Growth

Explorers Among With 32 Kill

More than five from all parts of the 14th Congress Party, which opened former War Minister presence was expected of the gathering of his departure to the Canadian resort of St. John's, in order to while he made base of political operations. It is believed that the Government will arrive his former party. Among the speakers will be said to be the continuation of the movement, agricultural production, and the recent activities of the Communist Party through the foreign may be said to be the already occupied with the Russian's economic situation.

Winston Churchill's flight, laid before the day, planned to be on a visit to the re-imposition of the on imported through increases of