

THE MAN FROM THE WEST

BY E. EVERETT GREEN.
Author of "The Marriage of Marcella," "Lady Elizabeth," "The Juggernaut," etc.

Mary smiled, but a faint quail of uneasiness began to steal over her. Her uncle had been well in the family history of his neighbors, and would tell Mary long stories about the landed gentry of the neighborhood. She remembered quite well the speaking of an Anthony Gaskell who had run away and disappeared after a quarrel with his father, the last Viscount Cotswold. Mary was only the heir in default of this son, and any progeny he might leave. She had always taken for granted that the elder branch was extinct, but it was proven to be untrue, but then who was this Anthony Gaskell, just over from America? And why did the man presently sitting in the room, looking into another room, where they remained a great while shut up together?

Mary slept rather brokenly that night, and was glad of the following morning to escape out of the house with the children before Mrs. Gaskell had appeared. She did not want to call her "Aunt" as she had suggested the previous evening, but she felt that she was in a position to be intimate with her. That free and easy American way of talking pleased her. In Val's opinion, the old-fashioned man—she liked it, but somehow Mrs. Gaskell's conversation set her nerves tingling.

The "sand" was rather of the nature of mud, though beyond Miss Lawley's red walls was the best stretch to be had in the neighborhood. The children were soon hard at work on the sand, and Mary had settled herself in the shade with a book, when the sight of two advancing figures caused her a curious thrill and start. Lord Cotswold was coming toward her over the sand, and with him a portly gentleman, quite unknown to her, yet whose voice and laugh as they approached were unmistakable and brought unbounded bewilderment into Mary's eyes.

"Val—no—it can't be. Yes it is. I don't understand. Lord Cotswold, explain."

"Keep your hair on, little Mary," spoke the unmistakable voice. "It's all right, and you've got to take a hand in this little game. I want to improve my acquaintance with a certain worthy couple calling themselves Gaskells—maybe it's their name right enough—and it doesn't suit my book to show up as Val Acrynton, not just yet, anyhow. But you'll not refuse to introduce Lord Cotswold's friend to your friend—Mr. Probyn. Not that we'll want much introduction, as it happens; but I'll give an air of probability to my belt along down here if I'm a friend of yours or of Cotswold's—savvy?"

Mary's glance travelled from one to the other.

"Oh, what is it?" she cried. "You don't mean that these people have come over from America to do you any harm?"

"Cotswold shall tell you all about that," said Val. "I just want to practice my English pattern-making on those kids. If the little beggars don't spot me, I shan't be afraid of any other eyes. Kids see through a brick wall faster than most."

Mary and Cotswold thus left alone together, stood looking at each other, with a strange inner consciousness that this was in some sense a crisis in their lives. Mary felt herself trembling; Cotswold held out his hands; she put her own out to meet them.

"Can they do you any harm? Are they here for that?"

"Mary, would you mind if I were poor again? If I were to be the Maurice Gaskell of former days?"

Her face was quivering as she raised it to his.

"I would not have you robbed of your birthright—your heart. You ought to be—you are—a king amongst men!"

The light leaped into his eyes; his fingers closed fast on her hand.

"Then crown me by your love, Mary; and come what will, I shall be a king indeed! Mary, I love you—I love you! This is my birthright—my heritage! To love you and to win and wear you before all the world!"

He had never meant to say it. Indeed he had never meant to utter such words—not to speak to any woman—until this matter of his inheritance had been settled. But the sun was shining overhead, the birds were singing, the world was full of life, and he was feeling towards their feet. Mary's sweet eyes were gazing into his with the love-light glimmering in their mysterious depths. Red-hot words leaped to his lips; had passed them before he was aware. They had to be spoken; there was no help in it, and no more.

"Maurice, I love you!"

It was a whisper; but it was enough. He linked her arm in his and led her onwards over the shining sands. For those two they were golden, and the sea was azure blue; and the little town behind them was wrapped in a glamour it had never known before. It was long ere they returned to the realities of earth again; or, perhaps, leaving the realities behind them, came back to the world of shadows. Who knows?

"Mary, if this man's contention be true, and he is the lawful son of (Uncle Anthony) he and not I, will be the Lord Cotswold of the future. Sweetheart, I long to see you reigning at Cotswold Chase, that is the dream I cherish walking to and fro in my silent house, and looking on the picture of another Mary Acrynton."

"Shall I not reign with you in that world of ours which nothing can touch?" she asked gently. "What can anything do to me, if I have always my own kingdom, where love is lord, and of which we hold the golden key, that none may rob us of our joy and glory? Is not this enough?"

"I only want you, Mary, my Mary!"

"And I only want you, beloved of my heart."

The sun was golden about them; they turned as the waves ran to the little point of the bay, barring their onward progress. They saw the children in the distance, but the noise of the waves was so loud that they were not aware of the figures were approaching over the sand. Mary, whose sight was long and keen, suddenly spoke.

"There are Mr. and Mrs. Gaskell. Cotswold paused and looked towards them. The Americans had come to a standstill beside the sand diggers, and were shaking hands with the children's big companion. Mary looked at Cotswold, surprised.

"Yes, Val made their acquaintance in the disguise in London. He does not think that Gaskell is their name; he thinks they are impostors. If he is right all will be well; but he is not sure. But directing operations. Other figures were approaching over the sand. Mary, whose sight was long and keen, suddenly spoke.

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FARMERS RICHER BY MANY MILLIONS

Because of the Advent of the Railroads, Carrying Quick Methods of Transport and Travel.

New York, Aug. 30.—Within a few days the president of the Rock Island system created a mild sensation by his statement of a self-evident truth to the effect that the farmers, as the chief producers of the country, and the railroads as the almost exclusive agency of transportation, should be come partners in a more real sense. Comment upon the utterance was somewhat general, and in the main, friendly, but in an editorial printed by one of the New York dailies it was suggested that the farmer would first demand a share in the profits.

The Sun quotes a large manufacturer, just returned from the west, as saying that a Dakota farm, not above the average in productivity, with an annual crop value of \$300,000, will yield this year a net profit of \$150,000, and that "even a poor, equipped farm can make 40 per cent net profit." To be sure, this leaves open the ratio between the capital investment and the net annual return.

Months ago a member of a reputable firm of public accountants appeared in the public print as saying that from his observations the average net profit from manufacturing enterprises is about 15 per cent per annum. Government reports place the annual return from railroad capital at not more than 4 per cent. No account is here taken of "watered" stock, or of the fact that by the investment of earnings, perhaps the foregoing estimates are not altogether accurate, and if they are, they may not be entirely representative, but in full justice to both the interests concerned they suggest that the farmer may already be receiving his share of the advantage resulting from the alliance, and it may be that he is receiving an undue share.

The farmer has been chief legatee to an unearned increment in land values, which increment the railroads, which increment the farmers to promote. From this, among other things, the farmer's capital investment has enhanced something like 100 per cent in the past twenty years, independently of any effort on his part.

UNCLE SAM AFTER POINTERS

The U. S. Navy Department Going to Great Britain for Ideas.

London, Aug. 28.—The American navy department is gathering parallels of all improvement being made in the construction of European battleships with the view of incorporating the best of them in the new American ships. Rear Admiral Capps visited the shipyard of Great Britain to obtain the early part of this month with Commander Norton, of the engineering works of Great Britain. Admiral Capps is continuing his investigations in Germany and France.

With the understanding that he would not divulge the results of his investigations, the company permitted Norton to examine the engines of this vessel in which many innovations have been introduced.

Commander Norton attended the conference of engineers, Glasgow, and then visited the engineering establishments, particularly those where high power machinery is being built.

BY THE MEXICAN ROUTE

Freight Being Shipped From Montreal For Vancouver.

Halifax, Aug. 28.—When the Elder Dempster liner Sokoto sailed from Halifax on Sunday morning she had on board a considerable quantity of freight being shipped from Montreal to Vancouver, via Mexico. For some months this project has been mooted, and it is first carried out in the present trip of the Sokoto. For a long time the possibility of water freight between the extreme east and the extreme west has been discussed. Rail rates of freight sent three thousand miles are of necessity extremely heavy, but the only direct water route is via Cape Horn, and only in exceptional cases has it been possible to send goods by this route.

With the construction of the Tehuantepec National Railway bridging Mexico, both these difficulties have been overcome. Freight can now be sent from Halifax, Sydney, and Montreal via Mexico to the Pacific coast. The route of the railroad, carried across the short stretch of intervening country to Salina Cruz, the Pacific terminal, and thence by steamer to the Canadian-Mexico line, operated by the Elder Dempster Company, carried to Victoria and Vancouver. The Sokoto trip was all from Montreal, and was mainly canned goods.

GREAT LAKE SHIPMENTS.

Washington, Aug. 28.—Never have shipments on the great lakes in the domestic trade aggregated such large amounts as during the month of July, according to statistics just made public by the bureau of commerce and labor.

The total shipments in the domestic trade from all the lake ports during July were 12,395,550 net tons, which exceeded the total of the same month last year by more than 2,500,000 net tons, and those of July, 1907, more than 1,166,000 net tons. Greatly increased shipments of iron ore from the Lake Superior and Lake Michigan ports was the cause of the increase.

THIS IS A DELIGHTFUL TIME OF THE YEAR for a Pleasure Trip.

Why not arrange to spend a week or two at one of the many tourist resorts, so conveniently reached by the Grand Trunk Railway System? Including Muskoka, Lake of Bays, Algonquin Park, Tamagami, Kawartha Lakes, Georgian Bay, Mattawa, French River, French River, etc. Round trip rates from London to above resorts range from \$9.50 to \$15.45. Full information, illustrated literature, tickets, etc. from E. de La Hooke, City Agent, or E. Ruse, depot agent. 87½

SPEER'S END IS CALLED NATURAL

There Is a Tragedy in the Mystery.

Buffalo, Aug. 28.—After long silence, the local papers are breaking into the Speer mystery. One of them prints a declaration that Speer was not assaulted in the Williamsburg road house, had no fight with anybody, was not taken home dead on a Saturday night, and died from purely natural causes on a Sunday afternoon. The story says:

"District Attorney Wesley C. Dudley, cognizant of the hundreds of rumors which have been afloat since Speer died, also interested because certain friends of Speer have urged that all mystery be cleared away in justice to them, to Speer and to his family, has now begun a quiet but thorough investigation. The inquiry has been hampered by the absence from the city of the physician who attended Speer, Dr. John H. Pryor. It also is hindered by the legal fact that the district attorney cannot ask him to make statements, certain persons who may have been with Speer, if he intends to follow his informal investigation with a presentation of the case to a grand jury.

"Whether or not what the district attorney so far has ascertained is what he may ascertain later, will justify taking the Speer case to a grand jury for formal investigation, is a question none now can answer positively.

"District Attorney Dudley can apply to a court for an order to exhumate the body of Speer. To do that, with any certainty of obtaining the court's permission, the district attorney must be able to show reasonable probability that Speer was murderously assaulted, or that there was something criminal in connection with his death.

"Many theories are talked of as to the causes of Victor Speer's death. "First-Speer died as the result of an assault, committed upon him by some person with whom he quarreled or who bore him a serious malice.

"Second—Victor Speer died from poisoning either by accident or by some suicidal intent or through accidentally taking what was an overdose, considering his physical condition on the night he returned home after visiting Medina and Williamsburg.

"Or, third, and lastly, Victor Speer's death was due to natural causes, as stated in the certificate of death made by Dr. John H. Pryor, the physician who was called by Mrs. Speer, Sunday afternoon, and who attended him until he died."

The paper contends that Speer died from natural causes, and that nobody has anything to conceal. But it prints an interview with Dr. Pryor, who refuses to state his opinion as to the cause of Speer's death. And it is admitted that Speer had a "wordy discussion" in Williamsburg about something or other with somebody of prominence. And Dr. Pryor, who called Dr. Howland into consultation in the Speer home, swore Howland to secrecy, and refuses to release him from his pledge. So the case is left pretty much as mysterious as ever.

CHINA GAINS A POINT

Her Sovereignty Over Chientai Territory Acknowledged by Japan.

Peking, Aug. 28.—It was announced officially today that the negotiations between China and Japan on the general Manchurian questions were nearly completed. The Japanese government, in these long and bitter controversies between China and Japan are on the point of being arranged, but the pending settlement is expected by friends of China with pessimism.

It is understood to consist of a surrender of the main points China held for her defense, in accordance with the terms of the Ampoche that followed the decision of the Antung-Mukden railroad dispute. In the matter of compromise, it is understood that China has conceded the right to the extension of railroads in Manchuria that do not connect with or assist the Japanese line.

She concedes also the administration of the Manchurian railways, and the Kinkow railroad constitutes an actual grant of additional sovereignty.

The only thing that China receives is recognition of her sovereignty over Chientai territory, lying between Korea and Manchuria. This Chientai question is regarded here as a political creation on the part of Japan, and her principal claims, which are consolidated by the so-called compromise.

ASSERTS SHE IS BIGAMOUS

Artist Earle's Affinity Makes This Plea in Seeking Divorce.

New York, Aug. 28.—Supreme Judge Ames signed today an order for a commission to take testimony in Paris in the suit brought by Julia Kuttner Earle, the affinity wife of Ferdinand Phineas Earle, to annul her marriage. The commission was directed to Sir Thomas Barclay, who will examine George Vavin and S. G. Archibald, two French advocates who assisted Emile Marc Tischbaker Earle, the artist's first wife, to obtain her divorce in France. They are to testify as to the validity under the French laws of Julia Kuttner's marriage to Earle in March 17, 1908.

Mrs. Earle purposes to show by this evidence that the first Mrs. Earle had but one husband, and that the second marriage was invalid. She left her husband last spring, alleging that Earle had abused her, and brought suit to annul the marriage in May.

A VETERAN DEAD.

Windsor, Aug. 28.—Alfred Fox, 87 years old, a veteran of the rebellion, died today in the hospital of his daughter, in this city. Mr. Fox was born in Essex County. When the rebellion broke out he saw service under General Sherman, and was in the line of militia, and subsequently was transferred to Amherstburg. He took part in the engagement at Bold Island, and in 1838 he and a dozen of his comrades were imprisoned in Pelee Island, until rescued by Col. Prince, several days later.

50 Dozen Night Gowns

The Season's Surplus Stock from the Celebrated Puritan Mills

On Sale Tuesday Morning

Notwithstanding the fact that we have had a record season in our Whitewear Department, we expect to be greeted with the greatest crowd of the season Tuesday morning. We were fortunate in securing the surplus stock of Night Gowns from the Puritan Mills, Toronto, at a great price concession. All told, the lot consists of about 50 dozen Gowns, principally overmakes, all perfectly made and finished; in fact, they're all desirable, and we have never had such a collection of Handsome Gowns in our history. The prices that we have marked these garments is in keeping with OUR PREVIOUS SALE METHODS of low pricing. Don't miss this great sale, it will pay you to forestall your wants and buy far into the future. An assorted lot; value unlimited, 35¢. Value to \$1.00, for 60¢. Value to \$1.25, for 75¢. Value to \$2.00, for 98¢. Value to \$2.50, for \$1.25.

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ENGLISHMAN HEADS TURKEY'S NEW BANK

The Appointment Held To Be a Triumph for British Diplomacy.

London, Aug. 28.—The London Daily Chronicle says: Sir H. Babbington Smith, secretary of the postoffice, has at the request of the Government, accepted the post of president of the National Bank of Turkey, which is now in course of formation. He will resign the secretaryship of the postoffice and proceed to Constantinople next month.

The appointment is a distinct triumph for British diplomacy, for as soon as the idea of establishing such an institution was first mooted more than one European Government lost no time in laying before the Turkish administration claims that financiers of their own particular nationality should participate in finding the necessary capital, and so become identified with the management of the bank.

Tangible evidence that British interests were gaining the ascendancy came, however, when the announcement was made at the beginning of the present year that Sir Ernest Cassel, the eminent London financier, had arrived in Constantinople, and was in conference with the Turkish minister in regard to the formation of the bank.

The result of Sir Ernest Cassel's visit was that the final statutes for the formation of a national bank were drawn up in February last, submitted to the Porte, and approved. By this scheme English and French interests were to be identified with the institution, France being represented by the Banque des Paris et des Pays Bas, acting in conjunction with the Imperial Ottoman Bank. The scheme provided that plans for reorganizing the financial and commercial affairs of the Ottoman empire. The functions it will have to perform will be of an extensive character, embracing those of an industrial, commercial and land-mortgage bank; and the intention is that it shall be the channel through which foreign capital will be attracted to the country for the development of its resources.

Sir Henry Babbington Smith, who was created a K.C.B. in 1908, has been secretary to the postoffice since 1903. He was born in January, 1863, and married Lady Elizabeth Bruce, daughter of the ninth Earl of Elgin, in 1888. Sir Henry became principal private secretary to the chancellor of the exchequer (Mr. Goschen), and was private secretary to the Earl of Elgin, viceroy of India, from 1894 to 1899. He was British representative on the council of administration of the Ottoman public debt in 1900, and president in the following year.

RACE'S RUIN NEAR

And Noted Scientist Says the Fair Sex Is To Blame.

Winipeg, Aug. 28.—The human race has not a particularly bright outlook for the remainder of the century, according to the opinion of a noted scientist, who has been speaking of the race's ruin near. The speaker declared the reason this failure was inevitable was that woman was in her fight for equality with man.

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MORE BRITISHERS WENT TO UNITED STATES

Number Coming to Canada Was Less—Lord Northcliffe and Moberly Bell Coming.

London, Aug. 30.—Emigrants to Canada during the first seven months of the year were 53,923 and to the United States 59,433.

Lord and Lady Northcliffe and Moberly Bell were passengers on the Empress of Britain.

NEW CONCERNS

List of Various Companies That Have Been Given Charters.

Toronto, Aug. 30.—Industrial incorporations as announced by the Ontario Gazette this week are:

The Hazelden Rural Telephone Company, Limited, Hazelden, share capital \$30,000.

Machakil Hadas Congregation, Toronto, without share capital, provisional directors Gabriel Goodman, Anshel Heller, Samuel Glick, Meyer Shapiro, and Saul Pezenick.

The Canada Producer and Gas Engine Company, Limited, Barrie, share capital, \$250,000.

Canadian Estates, Limited, Toronto, share capital \$100,000, provisional directors M. W. Le Thorpe, L. Dryden, A. Dye, W. A. Smith and J. Lynch.

The North Huron Telephone Company, Limited, Wingham, share capital \$10,000.

The Murrant Vandervoort Business College, Limited, Toronto, share capital \$4,000, provisional directors R. A. Murrant, G. W. Vandervoort, G. M. Vandervoort, E. M. Murrant, and F. Mackenzie.

Crowe Manufacturing Company, Limited, Hamilton, share capital \$40,000.

The Wroxeter Rural Telephone Company, Limited, Wroxeter, share capital \$10,000.

Dairy Lunch, Limited, incorporated under Dominion letters, is licensed in Ontario.

Securities, Limited, is authorized to change its corporate name to United Securities Company, Limited, and Garfunkel and Dottenberg Company, Limited, to Garfunkel, Rottenburg, Limited.

Mining companies incorporated this week are as follows:

Kaiser Gold Mining Company, Limited, Windsor, share capital, \$1,000,000.

Cambrian Mining and Development Company, Limited, Port Arthur, share capital \$1,000,000.

Black Mines Consolidated, Limited, Toronto, share capital, \$3,000,000. Provisional directors, John Black, O. L. Henault, J. A. Brock, C. E. Lewis, F. T. Enright, W. Vass, and J. Robinson.