

Beacon



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HE Eagle spread his pinions full, Traditions boldly brushed aside. And o'er Atlantic swiftly sped To Isle where Lion doth abide.

The Lion roared with unfeigned joy. He bowed and doffed his ancient crown.

At Charing Cross, Trafalgar Square, When Eagle reached Old London Town

The Lion waved the Stars and Stripes, Day ne'er was born of such renown, he Eagle flapped the Union Jack, In London Town, Old London Town.

The Eagle cried: "God Save the King! "Star-Spangled Banner," Lion sang; Queen, Bobbie, Wac, Gob, Tommie cheer

And all of Britain's church bells rang.

That vale of memories-the Strand, Fleet Street and Oxford telt the thrill Which spread from Pall Mall's mart of

Unto the sphere of Ludgate Hill.

Big Ben awoke Westminster and The House of Parliament; St. Paul's Great organ pealed Old London's pride. Amazement stirred Haymarket's stalls.

"O welcome, brother," Lion roared, So all the Seven Seas might hear,

By Shakespeare's ghost and Milton's shade

I'm jolly glad, Sam, you are here.

year."

"I drink full cup to happiness, To lasting peace, joy, blessings, cheer, To all Old Glory's gallant hosts, Through many a golden prosp'rous

The Lion waved the Stars and Stripes, Day ne'er was born of such renown, The Eagle flapped the Union Jack, In London Town, Old London Town.

G. W. S. The New York Evening Post.

THE HEADSWOMAN

BY KENNETH GRAHAME (Concluded from last week)

III. night after her small scene with her I did wrong to take it to heart." cousin, waking depressed and unrefreshagitated than she had cared to show. tained possibilities that were alarming, labor?" In embracing a professional career, she had never thought for a moment that it admiration to which, as a girl, she was great execution!" justly entitled; and Enguerrand's views and as soon as she was dressed sent off a latest of them?" little note to the Mayor, saying that she had a nervous headache and felt out of sorts, and begging to be excused from attendance on that day; and the missive reached the Mayor just as he was taking his usual place at the head of the Board.

"Dear, dear!" said the kind-hearted old man, as soon as he had read the letter to his fellow-councilmen: "I'm very sorry. Poor girl! Here, one of you fellows, just run round and tell the gaoler there won't be any business to-day. Jeanne's seedy. It's put off till to-morrow. And now, gentlemen, the agenda-"

"Really, your worship," exploded Robinet, "this is simply ridiculous!"

"Upon my word. Robinet," said the Mayor, "I don't know what's the matter with you. Here's a poor girl unwell,and a more hardworking girl isn't in the town,—and instead of sympathizing with her, and saying you're sorry, you call it ridiculous! Suppose you had a headache yourself! You wouldn't like ---

"But it is ridiculous," maintained the tanner, stoutly, "Who ever heard of an executioner having a nervous headache? here's no precedent for it.' And 'out of sorts,' too! Suppose the criminals said they were out of sorts, and didn't feel up being executed?"

everybody's happy !"

they used to do, and wanting to argue the tant looked at her with admiration.

she says, 'Why, father,' she says, 'it's as Mayor about this." good as the play-actors,' she says."

self to-day. You must have got out of the Château's been empty so long. But fortable?" bed the wrong side this morning. As for he may go to Paris, or anywheres else "A bed of roses," replied the prisoner. won't let her keep regular business hours, necessary allowances. But see, the it. And now, to return to business for the view, my lord?" inquired Thibault, she mustn't think of going on with any- prison-doors are opening at last!" you see? And now, gentlemen, let's read square to the prison, which fronted the a mere matter of taste. Or will you replied the young Seigneur, lightly; "that the minutes!"

graceful figure with evident interest.

noticed; "and care sits but awkwardly on ed. that smooth young brow."

Jeanne, merrily. "These hands of mine, however, reflected that the reconciling of do but slip out and run away in the could militate against that due share of that you are so good as to admire. do

"I can well believe that your victims seemed this morning all the more narrow are numerous," he replied; "may I be and inexcusable. She rose languidly, permitted to rank myself among the

"I wish you a better fortune kind sir answered Jeanne, demurely.

"I can imagine no more delightful one, he replied; "and where do you ply your daily task, fair mistress? Not entirely out of sight and access. I trust?" "Nay, sir," laughed Jeanne, "I work in

the market-place most mornings, and there is no charge for admission; and access is far from difficult. Indeed, some complain-but that is no business of mine. And now I must be wishing you a good-evening. Nay,"-for he would have detained her,-"it is not seemly for an unprotected maiden to tarry in converse with a stranger at this hour. Au revoir, sir! If you should happen to be in the market-place any morning -- " And she tripped lightly away. The youth, gazing after her retreating figure, confessed himself strangely fascinated by this fair nnknown, whose particular employment, by the way, he had forgotten to ask; while Jeanne, as she sped homewards, could not help reflecting that, for style and distinction, this new acquaintaince threw into the shade all the Enguerrands and others she had met hitherto-even in the course of business.

The next morning was bright and Well, suppose they did," replied the breezy, and Jeanne was early at her post, this gay doublet, so as to give both of us layor, "we'd try and meet them halfway, feeling quite a different girl. The busy daresay. They'd have to be executed little market-place was full of color, and some time or other, you know- Why on movement, and the gay patches of flowers earth are you so captious about trifles? and fruit, the strings of fluttering ker- arm out of its sleeve. The prisoners won't mind, and I don't chiefs, and the piles of red and yellow mind: nobody's inconvenienced, and pottery, formed an artistic setting to the quiet impressive scaffold which they You're right there, Mr. Mayor," put in framed. Jeanne was in short sleeves, laughing: "twas but a poor jest of mine mother councilman. "This executing according to the etiquette of her office, winess used to give the town a lot of and her round graceful arms showed buble and bother; now it's all as easy as snowily against her dark blue skirt and me," she replied kindly, while her fingers

Point and kick up a row, the fellows as is "Hope you're better, miss," he said of the finest point lace; and she could not off for execution come skipping respectfully. "It was just as well you help a feeling of regret that some slight

on the scaffold! The jokes, the back- one fellow, and he said he didn't care; take a course so at variance with her real over, perceived sundry tall fellows, clad

word to shock a baby! Why, my little "Well, I wish he'd hurry up now, to wouth himself seemed entirely satisfied dispersing the municipal guard by the girl, as goes through the market-place oblige a lady," said Jeanne, swinging her with his situation. He hummed the last agency of well-directed kicks, applied every morning-on her way to school, axe carelessly to and fro; "ten minutes air from Paris during her ministrations with heartiness and anatomical knowyou know-she says to me only yesterday, past the hour; I shall have to talk to the and when she had quite finished, kissed ledge. A moment later, there strode on

"It's a pity there ain't a better show grace.

certain of having the last word! But I'll "Well, my good Raoul," said Jeanne, this particular point!" tell you what I'll do, if it'll please you; I'll coloring slightly at the obvious compligo round and see Jeanne myself on my ment, "quality, not quantity, is what we way home, and tell her-quite nicely, aim at here, you know. If a Paris educa- of your predecessors have really quite I've got in my neck! But that view of you know—that once in a way doesn't iton has been properly assimilated by the vexed me by their inability to appreciate the valley was really delightful!" matter, but that if she feels her health Seigneur, he will not fail to make all the that view. It's worth coming here to see "Did you come here simply to admire

thing that's bad for her. Like that, don't They both looked across the little the word yourself? Some people do; it's scaffold; and sure enough, a small body leave yourself entirely in my hands?" Thus it came about that Jeanne took of men, the Sheriff at their head, was her usual walk that evening with a ruf- issuing from the building, conveying, or client, "which I beg you to consider re- besides, they forgot to mention what my fled brow and a swelling heart; and her endeavoring to convey, the tardy prison spectfully kissed once more by your faithlittle hand opened and shut angrily as er to the scaffold. That gentleman, how, full servant to command." Absorbed in her reflections, she had taken by a vigorous kick or blow from the ing the scaffold. several turns up and down the grassy struggling captive. The crowd, unacfootway before she became aware that customed of late to such demonstrations be gasped. "Don't be in a hurry. heart already---" she was not alone. A youth, of richer of feeling, and resenting the prisoner's There's been some little mistake." dress and more elegant bearing than the want of taste, hooted loudly; but it was Jeanne drew herself up with dignity. "Something has vexed you, fair maid- reluctant convict could be prevailed upon my part that I'm aware of." en?" he observed, coming forward defer- to present himself before the young lady "No, no, no," said the Mayor, apologet- word. 'Understand me, Mr. Mayor," his washing-bill; and then what good entially as soon as he perceived he was he had already so unwarrantably detain- ically; "but on somebody else's there has, said she, "these proceedings are entirely taste he referred to recent events-put-

"Nay, it is nothing, kind sir," replied ed her to surprises and taught her the Jeanne; "we girls who work for our living futility of considering her clients as drawn should say, and he was carrying on rather must not be too sensitive. My employers from any one particular class; yet she free. I will only say so much in your I EANNE passed a somewhat restless have been somewhat exigent, that is all. could hardly help feeling some astonishment on recognising her new acquaint-"Tis the way of the bloated capitalist," ance of the previous evening. That, with ed. Though she had carried matters rejoined the young man, lightly, as he all his evident amiability of character, he and very haughty, he was, and wouldn't with so high a hand, and had scored so turned to walk by her side. "They grind should come to this end, was not in itself give his name nor yet his address—as a distinctly all around, she had been more us, they grind us; perhaps some day they a special subject for wonder; but that he gentleman should, you know, when he's will come under your hands in turn, and should have been conversing with her on She liked Enguerrand and more especi- then you can pay them out. And so you ramparts at the hour when-after ally did she like his admiration for her; toil and spin, fair lily! And yet methinks courteously excusing her attendance on and that chance allusion to Clairette con- those delicate hands show little trace of the scaffold-he was cooling his heels in prison for another day, seemed hardly to "You wrong me, indeed, sir," replied be accounted for at first sight. Jeanne, apparent contradictions was not included in her official duties.

The Sheriff, wiping his heated brow. now read the formal proces delivering over the prisoner to the executioner's hands: "and a nice job we've had to get him here," he added on his own account. And the young man, who had remained perfectly tractable since his arrival, stepped forward and bowed politely.

"Now that we have been properly introduced,?' said he, courteously, "allow you have been put to by my delay. The fault was entirely mine, and these gentlemen are in no way to blame. Had I known whom I was to have the pleasure shan't require you any more to-day, of meeting, wings could not have conveyed me swiftly enough."

"Do not mention, I pray, the word inconvenience," replied Jeanne, with that timid grace which so well became her. "I only trust that any slight discomfort it may be my duty to cause you before we part will be as easily pardoned. Andfor the morning, alas! advances-any little advice or assistance that I can offer is quite at your service; for the situation is possibly new, and you may have had

but little experience." "Faith, none worth mentioning," said the prisoner, gaily. "Treat me as a raw been but brief, I have the utmost confidence in you."

"Then, sir," said Jeanne, blushing, "suppose I were to assist you in removing more freedom and less responsibility?"

"A perquisite of the office?" queried the prisoner with a smile, as he slipped one

A flush came over Jeanne's fair brow "That was ungenerous," she said. "Nay, pardon me, sweet one," said he, -in bad taste, I willingly admit."

" I was sure you did not mean to hurt iss-your-hand. Instead of objecting, as scarlet tight-fitting bodice. Her assis- were busy in turning back the collar of his shirt. It was composed, she noticed, long in the morning, like a lot of lambs didn't put yourself out to come yesterday; error—as must, from what she knew

answers, the repartees! And never a anything to oblige a lady!" Leclings. Her only comfort was that the in the livery of the Seigneur, engaged in the pretty fingers with a metropolitan to the scaffold, clad in black velvet, and

"There again," persisted Robinet, "I this morning," pursued the assistant, as object to that too. They ought to show a properer feeling. Playing at mummers spat meditatively into the busy throng mind the step—so. Now, if you will have "Now, mark my words, you miserable". is one thing, and being executed is an- below. "They do say as how the young the goodness to kneel here-nay, the saw- little bladder-o'-lard," he roared at the other, and people ought to keep 'em Seigneur arrived at the Château yester- dust is perfectly clean; you are my first Mayor (whose bald head certainly shone Mayor, "I think you're out of sorts your- Paris again, which would be a pity, seeing in every case. So! Are you pretty com- absorbed in the view.

a little joke, more or less, we all know a he's a mind to, he won't see better work. And what a really admirable view one passes all bounds. Have you entirely maiden loves a merry jest when she's manship than in this here little town!" | gets of the valley and the river, from just lost your head?"

"Charming, is it not?" replied Jeanne. "I'm so glad you do justice to it. Some one moment,—would you prefer to give severely.

"Oh, in your fair hands," replied her

she paced the ramparts. She couldn't ever, seemed to be in a different and less leanne, blushing rosily, stepped back a fellow, and saw that divine creature stand being found fault with. How could obliging frame of mind from that of the pace, moistening her palms as she grasp- nay, a goddess, dea certié—so graceful, so she help having a headache? Those previous day; and at every pace one or ed her axe, when a puffing and blowing modest, so anxious to acquit herself with her with a cordial grace that put her enclods of citizens didn't know what a high- other of the guards was shot violently behind caused her to turn her head, and credit---- Well, you know my weakly strung sensitive organization was. into the middle of the square, propelled she perceived the Mayor hastily ascend-

"Hold on a minute, Jeanne, my girl,"

general run of the Radegundians, was not until that ingenious mediæval arrange. "I'm afraid I don't quite understand you, escort you back to the Château. This lace round his neck was even richer than leaning in an embrasure, watching the ment known as la marche aux crabauds Mr. Mayor," she replied in freezing ac- appears to be hardly a safe place for light- before. Jeanne had always considered had been brought to bear on him that the cents. "There's been no little mistake on headed and susceptible persons!"

> presence, that he was carrying on decidedly free. So the town-guard happened to come across him, and he was very high been dining and carrying on free. So She had felt it especially hard that the our fellows just ran him in-and it took the pick of them all their time to do it. too. Well, then, the other chap who was in prison-the gentleman who obliged you yesterday, you know-what does he middle of all the row and confusion; and very inconsiderate and ungentlemanly it was of him to take advantage of us in that mean way, just when we wanted a little sympathy and forbearance. Well, the Sheriff comes this morning to fetch out his man for execution, and he knows there's only one man'to execute, and he sees there's only one man in prison, and it all seems as simple as A B C-he never was much of a mathematician, you know -so he fetches our friend here along, quite gaily. And-and that's how it came me to apologize for any inconvenience about, you see; hinc illee lachryme, as the Roman poet has it. So now I shall just give this young fellow a good talking to, and discharge him with a caution; and we Jeanne, my girl."

"Now, look here, Mr. Mayor," said Jeanne, severely, "you utterly fail to grasp the situation in its true light. All these little details may be interesting in themselves, and doubtless the press will take note of them; but they are entirely beside the point. With the mudeleheadedness of your officials (which I have frequently remarked upon) I have nothing young gentleman has been formally handed over to me for execution, with all the necessary legal requirements; and executopen the case if you like; and any 'little standi here at all; in fact, you've no busi- to the advantage of the town." ness whatever lumbering up my scaffold. So shut up and clear out."

plored the Mayor. "You women are so young person's mind. precise. You never will make any allowthings."

"If I were to allow the necessary mar. of agonized protestation and lament have a right to be held sacred. The progin for all your errors, Mayor," replied which shortly reached Jeanne's ears, it fession, in spite of his best endeavors, Jeanne, cooly, "the edition would have to was evident that he was having a languished nevertheless. Some said that be a large-paper one, and even then the text would stand a poor chance. And was respectfully shown into a chamber a criminals of spirit; others, more unkindly. now, if you don't allow me the necessary part, where she had hardly had time to that the headsman was the innoce margin to swing my axe, there may be admire sufficiently the good taste of the in his new sphere than formerly, when another 'little mistake'-"

But at this point a hubbub arose at the tapestry with which the walls were hung, advocate for the defence.

in Maytime. And then the fun there is there was nothing particular to do. Only exist somewhere—should compel her to foot of the scaffold, and Jeanne, leaning adorned with his gold chain of office, the

separate. In my father's time, that sort of thing wasn't thought good taste, and I cation in Paris, you know. He's as likely to block you will find a nick, more or I don't take this out of your skin present-don't hold with new-fangled notions."

Seigneur arrived at the Chateau yester thank is perfectly clean, you are in; may have baid nead certainly shole of ent this morning. On the other side of provokingly in the morning sun), "see if the block you will find a nick, more or I don't take this out of your skin present-don't hold with new-fangled notions."

And he passed on to where the "Well, really, neighbour," said the and if he's disappointed, he may go off to perfect fit cannot of course be guaranteed youth was still kneeling, apparently quite

"My lord," he said firmly though respectfully, "your hair-brained folly really

"Faith, nearly," said the young man, rising and stretching himself. "Is that you, old Thibault? Ow, what a crick

"I came because my horse would come," is, these gentlemen here were so pressing; they would not hear of any refusal; and attendance was required in such a hurry for. And when I got here, Thibault, old ness; I never could bear to disappoint a woman. She had evidently set her heart fair mistress," he said, "considering how

"I think, my lord," said Thibault, with by my ignorance and awkwardness.," some severity, "you had better let me

You see it happened in this way: this irregular. I decline to recognize them, ting himself in the wrong, as a gentleman learner's profession had both accustom. Here young fellow was going round the and when the quarter expires I shall should!

When, an hour or two later, an invitation arrived-courteously worded but significantly backed by an escort of halfa-dozen tall archers-for both Jeanne and the Mayor to attend at the Château without delay, Jeanne for her part received it with nelther surprise nor reluctance. only two interviews fate had granted her with the one man who had made some impression on her heart should be hampered, the one by considerations of propriety, the other by the conflicting claims of her profession and its duties. On this occasion, now, she would have an excellent chaperon in the Mayor; and, business being over for the day, they could meet and unbend on a common but if I could only have carried my persocial footing. The Mayor was not at all surprised either, considering what had gone before; but he was exceedingly have been judging me now by the mere terrified, and sought some consolation 'blocking-in' of what promised to be a from Jeanne as they proceeded together to the Château. That young lady's remarks, however, could hardly be called exactly comforting.

"I always though you'd put your foot in it some day, Mayor," she said. "You are so hopelessly wanting in system and method. Really, under the present happy-go-lucky police arrangements, I never know whom I may not be called upon to execute. Between you and my cousin Enguerrand, life is hardly safe in this town. And the worst of it is, that we other officials on the staff have to share in the discredit."

"What do you think they'll do to me, Jeanne?" whimpered the Mayor, perspir ing freely.

"Can't say, I'm sure," pursued the canwhatever to do. All I know is, that this did Jeanne. "Of course, if it's anything in the rack line of business, I shall have to superintend the arrangements, and then you can feel sure you're in capable ed he has got to be. When my duty has hands. But probably they'll only fine beginner. Though our acquaintance has been performed, you are at liberty to re- you pretty smartly, give you a month or two in the dungeons, and dismiss you mistake' that may have occurred through from your post; and you will hardly your stupidity you can then rectify at grudge any slight personal inconvenience Chatelaine had ceased to officiate. Enyour leisure. Meantime, you've no locus resulting from an arrangement so much

This was hardly reassuring, but the Mayor's official reprimand of the previous "Now, Jeanne, do be reasonable," im. day still rankled in this unforgiving would name no names. Rumor had it,

On their reaching the Château the ance for the necessary margin of error in Mayor was conducted aside, to be dealt (which she gave him in bits)—But the with by Thibault; and from the sounds domestic trails of high-placed officials mauvaise quart d'heure. The young lady the scaffold lacked its old attraction for furniture and the magnificence of the practising in the criminal court

NEWS OF THE SEA

-London, Jan. 2.—The American steamer Lake Weston, aground near Nash Lighthouse, in Bristol Channel, has been driven further inshore and has a hole in her starboard quarter. The Lake Weston was bound from New York for the United Kingdom and stranded Dec. 30.

-Gloucester, Mass., Jan. 7-The crew of the fishing schooner Arkona and the people of the little settlement at Forteau Bay, on the Labrador coast, where the schooner was wrecked, are in danger of starvation unless aid is sent them immediately, according to a telegram received here to-day from the captain of the schoon-

The Arkona is owned by the Gloucester Fresh Fish Company. She was caught in the ice in the Straits of Belle Isle ten days ago, while bound from Greenbay, Nfld., to Bay of Islands, Nfld., to take on a cargo of frozen herring. In reply to an appeal from the company, Rear Admiral Spencer S. Wood, commandant of the first naval district, announced that orders had been given to have an ice-breaking steamer sent from Halifax N. S., to go to the assistance of the Arkona's crew

and the inhabitants of the bay shore. A telegram from Captain Stewart Stone of the schooner, said that on account of the ice, the provision boat which was to have supplied the settlement had been unable to reach there. The Arkona has a crew of ten, all of whom shipped here.

when the Seigneur entered and welcomed tirely at her ease.

"Your punctuality puts me to shame, on taking my head; and as she had my unwarrantably I kept you waiting this morning, and how I tested your patience

He had changed his dress, and the one of the chief marks of a well-bred man Jeanne, as was natural, had the last to be a fine disregard for the amount of

I was only too anxious to hear from your own lips that you bore me no illwill for the part forced on me by circumstances in our recent interview. Your lordship has sufficient critical good sense, I feel sure, to distinguish between the woman and the official."

"True, Jeanne," he replied, drawing nearer; "and while I shrink from expressing, in their fulness, all the feelings that the woman inspires in me. I have no hesitation-for I know it will give you pleasure-in acquainting you with the entire artistic satisfaction with which I watched you at your task !"

"But, indeed," said Jeanne, "you did not see me at my best. In fact, I can't help wishing-it's ridiculous, I know, because the thing is hardly practicable formance quite through, and put the last finishing touches to it, you would not masterpiece!"

"Yes, I wish it could have been arranged somehow." said the Seigneur, reflectively; "but perhaps it's better as it. is. I am content to let the artist remain for the present on trust, if I may only take over, fully paid up, the woman I adore!" Jeanne felt strangely weak. The

official seemed oozing out at her fingers and toes, while the woman's heart beat even more distressingly. "I have one little question to ask," he

murmured (his arm was about her now). "Do I understand that you still claim your bonus?"

Jeanne felt like water in his strong embrace: but she nerved herself to answer faintly but firmly, "Yes!"

"Then so do I." he replied, as his lips

Executions continued to occur in St. Radegonde: the Radegundians being conservative and very human. But much of the innocent enjoyment that formerly attended them departed after the fair guerrand, on succeeding to the post, wedded Clairette, she being (he was heard to say) a more suitable match in mind and temper than others of whom he that he found his match and something over; while as for temper-and mind