

CHAPTER L. MY AMERICAN MILLIONS.

WAS the middle of the night (as I thought) when Savory-my man, my landlord, valet and general factotum-came in and woke me. He gave me a letter, saying simply, "The gentleman's a-waiting, sir," and I read it twice, without understanding it in the very least.

Could it be a hoax? To satisfy myself I sat up in bed, rubbed my aston-ished and still half sleepy eyes and read it again. It ran as follows:

GRAY & QUINLAN, SOLICITORS.

Dear Sir-It is our pleasing duty to inform you, at the request of our New York agents, Mesers. Smiddy & Dann of 57 Chambers street, New York city, that they have now definitely and New York city, that they have claim as the sole surviving relative and general heir at-law of their late esteemed client, Mr. Aretas McFaught of Church place and Fifth avenue, New York.

As the amount of your inheritance is very con-

As the amount of your inheritance is very considerable and is estimated approximately at between \$14,000,000 and \$15,000,000, say three millions tween \$14,000 money, we have thought it right to apprise you of your good fortune without delay. Our Mr. Richard Quinlan will hand you this letter in person and will be pleased to take your in-Captain Aretas Wood, D. S. O., 21.

"Here Saret Piccadilly.

"Here, Savory. Who brought this? Do you say he is waiting? I'll see him in half a minute." And, sluicing my head in cold water, I put on a favorite old dressing gown and passed into the next room, followed by Roy, my precious golden collie, who began at once to spiff suspiciously at my visitor's

I found there a prim, little, old young gentleman, who scanned me curiously through his gold rimmed pince nez. Although, no doubt, greatly surprisedfor he did not quite expect to see an archmillionaire in an old ulster with a ragged collar of catskin, with damp, unkempt locks and unshorn chin at that time of day-he addressed me with much formality and respect.

"I must apologize for this intrusion, Captain Wood - you are Captain

"I am Mr. Quinlan, very much at your service. Pardon me-is this your dog? Is he quite to be trusted?"

"Perfectly, if you don't speak to him. Lie down, Roy! I fear I am very latea ball last night. Do you ever go to balls, Mr. Quinlan?" "Not often, Captain Wood. But if 1

have come too early I can call later

"By no means. I am dying to hear more. But, first of all, this letter. It's

all bona fide, I suppose?" "Without question. It is from our firm. There can be no possible mistake. We have made it our business to verify all the facts-indeed, this is not the first we had heard of the affair -but we did not think it right to speak to you too soon. This morning, however, the mail has brought a full acknowledgment of your claims, so we

came on at once to see you." "How did you find me out, pray?" "We have had our eye on you for some time past, Captain Wood," said the little lawyer smilingly. "While we were inquiring you understandwe were anxious to do the best for

"I'm sure I'm infinitely obliged to you. But still I can't believe it, quite. I should like to be convinced of the reality of my good luck. You see, I haven't thoroughly taken it in." "Read this letter from our New York

agents, Captain Wood. It gives more details," and he handed me a typewritten communication on two quarto sheets of tissue paper; also a number of cuttings from the New York press. The early part of the letter referred to the search and discovery of the heirat-law (myself) and stated frankly that there could be no sort of doubt that my case was clear and that they would be pleased, when called upon, to put

me in full possession of my estate. From that they passed on to a brief enumeration of the assets, which comprised real estate in town lots, lands, houses, stocks, shares, well placed investments of all kinds, part ownership of a lucrative "road," or railway; the controlling power in shipping compa-nies, coal companies, cable companies, and mining companies in all parts of

the United States. "It will be seen that the estate is o ome magnitude," wrote Messrs, Smiddy & Dunn, "and we earnestly hope that Captain William A. Wood will take an early opportunity of coming to look into things for himself We shall then be ready to give a full unt of our stewardship and to ex-

plain any details. Meanwhile, to meet any small im mediate needs, we have thought it adable to remit a first bill of exchange for \$50,000 say £10,217 17s. 6d., at nt rates-negotiable at sight and duly charged by us to the estate."

ARTHUR GRIFFITHS.

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"The last part of the letter is con-

"How would you like it paid, Captain

"If you please. Messrs. Sykes & Sars-

"It shall be done at once. I will call

there, if you will permit me, on way

back to Lincoln's Inn. Is there any-

thing more? As to your affairs gen-

erally. If you have no other lawyers,

mit your claims. I should be most un-

grateful if I did not. Pray consider

legal advisers from this time forth."

"Thank you sincerely, Captain Wood.

can only express a hope that as our

acquaintance grows you will have no-

reason to regret this decision. I will now-unless you have any further

commands-wish you a very good

With a stiff, studied bow he bent be-

fore me and was gone. He left me a

prey to many emotions-surprise, be-

wilderment still predominating, but

withal a sense of pleasurable excite-

It was indeed a change, a revolution

in my affairs. Hitherto, like most men

of my cloth, I had been constantly

hard up; of late, all but in "Queer

street," for I had yielded only too read-

ily to the fascinations of London. Aft-

er many years of service abroad, this

spell at home, in the heart and center

of life, was enough to turn any one's

head. I was now on the headquarters

everywhere on the chance of meeting

Frida Fairholme, at whose feet I had

fallen the very first day we met. I

worked hard at the office, but I played

bard, too, making the most of my time,

of my means, which, unhappily, did

not go far. Four or five hundred a

year is not exactly affluence for a care

less young soldier, with a war office

appointment, aping the ways of a fin-

ished man about town. Gloves, but-

tonholes and cab fares swallowed up

half of it, and with the other half I had

That, at least, and without looking

Savory had suffered more than once

from the narrowness of my budget,

but he had been very good and patient,

and I was glad to think he would be

the first to benefit by my good fortune.

ed as I buttoned up my coat and made

ready to start for the office, a little late

"Well, sir, I am rather pressed. The

quarter's rent is overdue, and the land-

lord called twice yesterday. If you

"Seventeen pounds eleven for the

I had taken out my checkbook while

he spoke and wrote him a check for

"A little check! There! Keep what's

over after you've bought a nice bit of

rooms, and Mrs. Savory's bill is £9."

could make it convenient"-

to share my luck."

ing doors of Sykes & Sarsfield's bank.

I was no longer the humble suppliant

for a pitiful overdraft, but the pos-

sessor of a fine balance, who could

hold his head high. Roy usually wait-

ed patiently outside, but today I en-

couraged him to enter at my heels.

"How much do I owe you?"

"Would you like your money?" I ask-

hardly been able to keep out of debt.

further, was all over now.

n the day.

confidence."

ment.

field, the army agents, of Pall Mall."

AT THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICE.
As I left the bank, where I had been most cordially received, with my sovereign purse full and the nice crisp notes for £250 carefully put by in my pocketbook, I began at last to believe in my fortune. There is a solid, unmis takable reality in the chink of good gold, while the supple civility of the great financiers, who had so lately looked black at my overdrawa account proved how completely my position was changed.

CHAPTER II.

The morning's adventures and surprises had occupied much time, and it was now getting late; past noon, in fact. We members of the "intelligence" made it a point of honor to be in good time at the office-an hour or more earlier than this. It had hardly occurred to me that I need not go to the office at all. You see, I had been some 13 years under discipline and not many nours an archmillionaire. Besides, there is such a thing as esprit de corps. I was a public servant, engaged in responsible work, and I could not, would not, have neglected it willingly; no, not

for the wealth of the Indies. So I stepped briskly down the steps below the Duke of York's column and crossed the park at my very best pace. For all that, I was overtaken near Birdcage walk by some one who hailed me without coming quite close.

"One word, sir, I pray, in your own best interests. But, sakes alive, keep we are supposed to be good men of business and perhaps—of course we adback that bound. He is a fine beast, no doubt, but I'd rather have him farther away."

vance no claims-you may consider "Quiet, Roy! My dog will not harm that we have served you well already you," I said civilly. "But at this moand may intrust us further with your ment I am very much pressed"-"My dear sir, I fully and freely ad-

"If you will allow me to walk with you a few yards, no more, I reckon I could make it plain to you that I have good excuse for intruding upon your yourselves installed as my confidential valuable time."

The park was as open to him as to me, and when he ranged himself alongside I made no objections. I confess I too, was curious to hear what he had to say.

"You have enemies, sir," he began abruptly, and he looked so comical as he said this that I was rude enough to laugh. He was a broad shouldered, square faced, weather beaten looking man, with a florid complexion and a bulgy nose, irreproachably dressed in the very height of the fashion. But he had rather the air of a second class tragedian, with his long, black, curly hair and his voice so deep and so solemn as he conjured me to be serious.

"I reckon this is no laughing matter, captain. Guess your enemies will soon fix that. They mean mischief." He spoke it like a sentence of death

and seemed very much in earnest, yet I could hardly take it seriously. "Such a threat scarcely affects me.

staff, with an appointment in the intelligence department, and I found peo-You see, it is my business to risk my life. The queen has sometimes enple were very kind; shoals of invitations came in, and I accepted everyemies, and hers are mine." thing-balls, dinners, routs. I went "These I speak of are altogether your

own, captain-people who grudge you your new wealth." "You have heard then?"

"Heard!" be cried, with great scorn. "There is nothing I do not know about you, captain. How did you enjoy the summer on the Cuyuni river, and were the maps you got at Angostura very useful to you?" "Hush, man, hush! Who and what

are you? What the mischief are you driving at?" By this time we had entered Queen Anne's gate and were at the door of

the office. "Is this your bureau?" he now asked. "May I not go inside with you, only for one moment? The matter is urgent. It affects you very closely. Your danger is imminent. They are bound, these

enemies, to do you an injury-a terrible "Oh, well, then, it must keep," I said petulantly. "I cannot give you any more time now; I am expected here. suppose Sir Charles has arrived?" I asked of the office messenger, old Ser-

geant Major Peachey. "Yes, sir, he has been here these three hours. He came-on his bicycle -soon after 9 a. m., and he has asked for you, I think, twice."

"There, your business must keep, "Snuyzer. I bow to your decision, but if you will permit me, I will call

in Clarges street this evening at"-"If you must come, come about 5. Good day," and I passed into the office. I shared my room at the "intelligence" with a colleague, Swete Thornhill, of the artillery, a lively youth out of hours, but who stuck to his work man-

fully-more so than any of us, and we were by no means idle men. "Thought you were dead," he said shortly, and without looking up from his papers; "wonder you took the

trouble to come at all." "I was detained by something special. Important business. Anyhow, it's no affair of yours," I answered

"Yes it is, when it throws me out of my stride. I wish you'd make up your mind either to come or stay away altogether. There has been a regular hue and cry for you all the morning, and I've been disturbed abominably. I have those calculations of the comparative penetration of the new projectiles in hand, and they take some

want to disturb you. But who was it, anyhow?" "The boss chief himself, Collingham,

fer than you or any man Jack of us." At this moment an office messenger came in with a huge bundle of papers, which he placed before me on my desk. They were enveloped in the usual green "jacket," which meant extreme urgency, and on the outside was written, in a big, bold hand, "Captain Wood-speak."

"He'll do most of the talking, I expect," went on Swete Thornhill mall-ciously. "He's fit to be tied. Go in, man, at once, and take your punish

The distinguished officer at that time head and chief of our department was Major General Sir Charles Collingham, V. C., K. C. B., one of the most notable soldiers of the day, ardent, fearless, highly skilled, strong in counsel, foremost in the field, who had served almost everywhere, in all the wars, great and small, of recent years and had made a close study of the science of his profession as well. He had traveled far and wide, knew men and many cities, was as much at home at court as in camp, popular in society, which he cultivated in his spare moments, although he allowed nothing to stand in the way of his work. The service came first, and first in the service was the all important, transcendently useful department, as he thought it, over which he presided.

Sir Charles expected-nay, exacteda like devotion from us. his staff officers, whom in all matters of duty he ruled with a rod of iron. None of us liked to face him when he was put out,



"Great Scott" he roared. "You lazy, idle young villain"

for he was choleric, although not cross grained. Under a stern face and rough manner he had a kindly nature far down, for he did not wear his heart upon his sleeve, certainly not for an erring subordinate, as he considered me just then.

I felt rather sheepish and uncomfortable as I appeared before the great man. The general was tall in stature, very thin and straight, while his strong, weather beaten face-the deep bronze contrasting sharply with the bristling white mustachios and long, projecting eyebrows, over fierce, steely blue eyes-commanded respect.

He began on me at once. "By the Lord Harry, this won't do, Wood!" he cried, with amazing volubility and force. "What have you got to say for yourself? Slept late? Of course you will sleep late if you waste the night firting and philandering with that little madcap devil, Frida Fairholme. But, I tell you, I won't have the business of this office neglected. Now you are late for parade, and you know I insist upon punctuality. And I practice what I preach. I was here as the clock struck 10 this morning, and I'd already been Hounslow and back on my bike. But there, you'll end by putting me out of temper. Don't do it again."

"I won't, Sir Charles," I said meekly, yet wondering why I, a man of millions, submitted to such slavery, and I turned to go.

"Ah, by the way, Wood, bring me that report of yours, will you, on the defense of the Canadian frontier? It is ready, I presume?" "Well, no, Sir Charles, not quite. I

eave been delayed by"-"Great Scott!" he roared, instantly blazing up into white heat. "You lazy,

idle young villain! I believe you want to drive me mad. You know as well as I do that the foreign office is pressing for the paper, that I promised it to Lord Salisbury within a week, and here you, you- Oh, go away! I want none of your excuses. I've had enough of you. You shan't stay here, bringing discredit on the office. I'll have none of it. You shall go back to your grovel ing, guard mounting routine, and when you are grizzling your soul out in that beastly tropical hole, Bermuda, you may be sorry for the chance you've tost. Go away, I say. I've done with you. I hate the very sight of you."

And I went, meaning in my ragefor I, too, had become furiously angry -to take him at his word and walk straight out of the house. But custom is strong. The spirit of subordination. of obedience, the soldierly sense of duty, when once imbibed, are not to be shaken off in a second. When I regained my desk and saw the papers there, I remembered that I was bound in honor to fulfill my obligations. My chief had, no doubt, gone too far, but that did not release me. Before I took any further steps I must first complete my work.

There was not much wanting to finish my report on the Canadian frontier, and I did it out of hand. Then I sent it in to the chief and prepared to tackle the second set of papers, which proved to be a scheme, marked "strictly confidential," for a combined attack upon New York by sea and land, (Our political relations at that particular noment were greatly strained. There were rumors of grave disagreement, if nothing worse.) But now I noticed the word "speak," and I knew that I must take verbal instructions before I set to work. I must face my trascible chief again, and I had no great fancy for it. However, it must come sooner or lat er, so I scribbled a few words on a

The general was at his standing desk (he seldom sat down) pouring over my other report, but he looked round as I entered and nodded pleasantly. Bright sunshine bad already succeeded the always fugitive storms in his hasty

# Whooping Cough.

Don't you dread it? There's not a sensible, well-read person in the world who isn't afraid of whooping-cough. It's a most distressing disease and a very dangerous one, too. The child is so liable to have convulsions, pneumonia or bron-

chitis as a complication. The cause of the disease is a germ which rests in the back part of the throat and upper air-passages. How can these germs be destroyed? Certainly not by taking medicine into the stomach. Then why not breathe something into the throat that will destroy them?

That is just what Vapo-Cresolene does. You breathe-in the vapor; it passes right over the germs, destroying every one of them. All inflammation quickly subsides, healing rapidly takes place and recovery is prompt and perfect.



Vapo-Cre of the is sold by druggists everywhere. The Vaporizer and Lamp, which should last a life-time, and a bottle of Cresolene complete, \$1.50; extra supplies of Vapo-Cresolene 25 cents and 50 cents. Hustrated booklet containing physicians testimonials free upon request. Vapo-Cresolene Co., 150 Fulton St., New York, U.S.A.

### Recommended and sold by C H Gunn & Co.

ERAKES AND COUPLINGS.

At least one-sixth of the locomotives

implification," and we went over the

tems together. Then I asked him about the other matter, and soon heard all I wanted to know. I can set down nothing of this here, for the whole affair was very secret and particular-of vital interest to two great countries-and Sir Charles impressed it on me very earnestly that the paper and plans must on no account pass out of my possession.

"You may have to work on the scheme at your own diggings, for it must go in by the end of the week. But pray be most careful. Lock up the apers in your dispatch box at night and keep the thing entirely private."

"It is just possible that you may wish to give the job to some one else, general, as I shall hardly be here to complete it," I said, rather stiffly, and with that I handed him the sheet of foolscap which contained my resignation.

TO be Continued.

The woman must not belong to her self; she is bound to alien destinies But she performs her part best who can take freely of her own choice the with sincerity and love. - Jean

Better to deny at once than to pro-

lien to her heart, can bear and fos-Paul F. Richter.

nise long.

all in this country last year were exported to England. The "A" signal box situated outside Waterloo station, London, is one of the largest in the world. An average of 45 trains an hour are dealt with from this box, which contains 236 signal levers. President A. J. Cassatt of the Pennsyl-

ania railroad has not only a private car, but also a private engine. The locomotive is No. 937, has always been used for that purpose and has had the same engineers since the days of President Thomas A. Scott.

TALES OF CITIES.

St. Louis has named its newest and laruse after Eugene Field. Newport, Ky., has an ordinance requiring sufficient fire escapes on all louses over two stories high. The extraordinary sum of \$250,000,000

is being expended by the people of New York for public improvements. The city of Birmingham, Ala., has already begun to make preparations for an exposition to be held there from Nov. 15, 1904, to May, 15, 1905, The charter name of the enterprise is to be the International Metallic and Industrial exposi-

Better as ktwice than lose your way

# That Persistent **Tickling Cough**

air passages, that sense of tightness across the chest—"danger signals!" For

## Gunn's Cura Cough

and be on the safe side. It s a remarkable cure for all THROAT and LUNG AFFECTIONS. Pleasant to take, being composed of Wild Cherry, White Pine, Balm of Gilead Bud, Blood Root, Etc. 25c a Bottle at

Central c. H. Gunn Store Oor, K ng and 5th

The Physician Wanted Mrs. Tompkins to go to the Hospital and Have Food Injected Into Her Bowels.

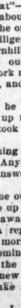
"It gives me great pleasure to send you my testimonial and thank you for your valuable Ozone, which has been of such benefit to me. I had been a sufferer from dyspepsia for months, which developed into an ulcerated stomach. I could not eat or drink, as everything gave me such awful pain. The least bit of dry bread gave me as much pain as a big meal would. Finally I decided not to eat anything, and would. Finally I decided not to eat anything, and for five weeks I lived on milk and lime water. I was doctoring all this time, but the medicine did me no good. Finally the doctor gave me the last bottle and said I had better go into the hospital; that I ought not to swallow anything, and that in the hospital everything would be injected into my bowe's. Then I would have a chance to get better. I did not feel everything would be injected into my bowe's. Then I would have a chance to get better. I did not feel like going there, but I went away into the country for four weeks. I then weighed ninety-five pounds. My nerves were so bad that I could not sleep at night. I came back as bad as ever, when I happened to see a testimonial from some person who had suffered something like myself, and who had been cured by the use of Powley's Liquified Ozone. I went to Hargreaves Bros., 162 Queen street west, and got a b.ttle. I took it every two hours for two days, and then I took a little piece of bread, without feeling any pain. I took three bottles, after which I could eat anything, I could sleep well, and am to-day in perfect health.

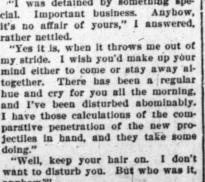
I could sleep well, and am to-day in perfect health.

I can never express my thanks for all it did for me. After taking three bottles I weighed one hundred and nine pounds, having gained fourteen pounds." Trusting this will be of benefit to some other sufferer, I am, yours very truly. (Signed) Mrs. E. L. Tompkins, 13/

\$1.00 large size bottle, 50c. small size, at all druggists. Write THE OZONE COMPANY OF TORONTO, Limited, 48 Colborne Street, Toronto.

Powley's Liquified Ozone.





jewelry for Mrs. S. You've been long suffering with me and shall be the first Out in the streets, along King street, down Pall Mall, I trod the pavement Sir Charles. He has sent three times with the conscious air of a man who for you, and came in twice. Wanted had heard good news. Friends I passyou for something pressing. Now, I believe, he is doing the job himself. Wise man. Do it a blamed sight beted saw it plainly on my face and rallied me on my beaming looks and buoyant demeanor. They had not left me when I walked through the swing-

sheet of foolscap and went in.

"This will do first rate, Wood. There are only one or two points that need