LAFITTE OF LOUISIANA

BY MARY DEVEREUX

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY DON C. WILSON

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CHAPTER X.

A night had passed and the island of Martinique lay drowsing in the sleepiness of midday. In Fort Royal bay, before the sleepy town, lay three ships at anchor. The one nearest shore was a brigantine, beautiful in model and French in build; she carried a long eighteen-pounder amidships, and her decks were pierced for lighter guns. This was the "Black Petrel," and she displayed the American ensign, now hanging limp in the motionless air, as were the like colors shown by the "Condor," rocking nearby in the bay tide.

Down in the luxuriously furnished cabin of the brigantine Lara and La Blite, seated, and in earnest conversation, passed occasionally to scroll-like this craft.

"Perhaps she means no mischief," muttered the former; "but the very fine she fine, and the red showing on her decks are enough to set any friend on edge."

"You say you heard nature last evening, as did I, that she stopped only to fill her water butts, and is bound farther south."

Lafitte shown the glass, and laughed a little bitterly; but he made neither reply nor comment.

"Did old De Cassenan seem inclined to treat his granddaughter with kindness?" Lara inquired, after a short silence, and as if considering it wise to change the subject.

"Yes, for all I could see; and he is likely to do so while she makes no demand upon his gold."

Lara uttered an oath and drained his glass.

"That man has been growing more and more miserly ever since his pretty daughter ran away with that cursed Englishman, and I have often thought it might have been money in his pocket if I had let Stanley's blood out of his veins the night of the gaming-

"I fear Garonne make harm for all."

but a ball before he levanted with the girl."

Jean let this pass without remark; but, as Lafitte regretted his glass, the young man left the table and carried full you will get your brains as be fingged as they were when I tried to talk with you this morning.

"Befogged, was I my son? Yet not so much but that I recall every word you told me of what has happened since you left Lafitte and me on the Barra de Heroe, and went to play gentleman awhile in New Orleans. By the way, Jean," he added, as from an after thought, "that was an odd thing for you to do, go off on a wild goose chase to the Florida wilds to bring De Cassenan's boat away from the Choctaws."

"There was a smouldering anger in Lafitte's eyes as he turned them upon Lara's mocking face.

"I told you that the Indian runner, Bird-Wing, came from his tribe to Count de Cheneau, bringing a letter from Mrs. Stanley, imploring his forgiveness, as she was about to be married to protection for her daughter. He asked for my services, and I gave them gladly, for his daughter's sake."

Lafitte had spoken the truth, and in a mocking tone, asked, "Did you find her still such a charming demoiselle? I dare swear you did, and there be truth in the reports that the Englishman left her long ago; for her to wear our her life among their red neighbors."

Lafitte rose and went over to the port-hole, turning his back as he answered, "I found her dead, with the Indians mourning for her as for one well loved. She died with her child, my Barbe, a French woman. I brought to the count."

"What is the child called, and how old said you she was?" Lara inquired, his eye more serious than

"She is fourteen, but such a pale little slip that she neither looks nor seems her age. She bears the name given her by her mother—Rosette—but the Indians called her Island Rose. Their cabin was on a small island, and in some of their rude surroundings the mother seems to have cared for the child most carefully. The

No, replied the latter, without taking the glass from his eye. "for he fingged as you thought, and I found his orders this morning, before I came aboard this craft."

"Very well, said Lafitte, pausing to attention to Lara's cover defense of himself; "there is nothing more to be done until night."

"Nothing," the other man assented, and Lafitte left him.

The "Black Petrel's" guns, large, and all fellow of Lara's, loomed against the taffrail smoking, while he looked sowlishly at the English vessel. Young Lopez hanged Garonne mate of the "Black Petrel," a fellow with the face fierce Portuguese, as swarthy as his companion.

Some distance forward, leaning against the bulwark, his arms folded and his sinful face turned toward the sinking sun was the aristocrat-pirate of Elbow Key, the only Indian absent from a young scheme of the Spanish tribe inhabiting an island of the Bahama group.

"I have been watching him and I tell you he does not like to be trusted, the gunner was saying; "he goes nowadays to have no eyes save for his mate, Lopez. If he had a cow, I will bind us all into some infernal mischief, since we may feel the rope around our necks.

"Have a care, Lopez," said his comrade, with a sly leer, "for the taste of another rope first, upon your neck, for showing disrespect to your captain."

"You have been over-free with that sort of remark already, and bides at the bottom of what I thought it was time to tell you you mutiny, was the surly retort. "An Indian never forgets the hurt he never forgives and forgiving is something an Indian would scorn as we would scorn cowardice."

Garonne with an oath, asked what he meant

"I will stake all the silver and gold that fell to my share from the fight three weeks ago with the Spanish that Elbowah will never forget the injury to the man who tried to rob him of stealing your ruby. Every blow of the rascal's rod awoke deeper

derfe in his heart; and chase with sooner or later, make a merry hell for you, and perhaps for all of us."

Garonne whose look of growing anger had changed to one of sneering scorn, uttered a burst of vile profanity, and striking the taffrail with a broad fist, brown as mahogany, exclaimed roughly, "Let me hear no more such talk, Lopez, or Lopez, old mesmerizer as we are, you are not quite a bit too far. You prate like some old housewife in her dotage.

Lopez, with an angry snarl, straight wheel Garonne, and turning, called to Lafitte coming toward him. Garonne then saw the captain, and, advancing said, "No sign yet, captain, of the lying boat from over there," indicating with a jerk the mainland.

Lafitte nodded a careless recognition of the mate's presence and passed on to Lopez.

"I had thought that when the coal came the Englishman might have tried to board us for an interview, or to bring them to New Orleans at present. Pierre told me, only the day before I sailed, of some tale he never heard between Governor Claiborne himself and two gentlemen with him, of the capture of their cargo bound for a show, and they were delayed at the spitfish while one, may, remained the accident."

"Oh, I say, as seems to me I always saying nowadays, that your idea is the right one," was the surly answer. "We'll up sail at midnight, when we can reckon upon slipping away from under the nose of that infernal Britisher out there, and make for our own waters snuggery, where Lafitte has no doubt, been wondering at us being so long away. Once in the channel that brings us to the Barra de Heroe, and anchored before it, all the crafts Kentucky ever owned could have hard work to get at us. We will take the niggers there for awhile, and turn them over to the island to work our crops, until Claiborne takes another fancy and forgets all about the recent agitation.

He had while speaking, again picked up the spyglass, and focussed it upon the island-star where nothing was changed since the last of the cloud lounger.

"Have you anything more to say to Jude?" inquired Lafitte, after a reflective silence, and he left the room Lara was swearing at the enemy he was scrawls.

TROUBLE FOR SENATOR PLATT.

New York Statesman to be Sued for Breach of Promise.

Miss Mae Catherine Wood, who was the conspicuous party of the third part two years ago when the aged Senator T. C. Platt hurried his blushing bride, Mrs. Lillian T. Janeway, to the altar one Saturday evening in New York, has decided to sue for damages for breach of promise.

It was commonly report at the time of this hasty marriage that its abrupt ending was due to the influence of Miss Wood, who claimed to have reason to expect the senator to marry herself instead of the widow. Nothing in this case was settled at the time presumably. Da said the matter, all the parties concerned, but now it appears to have broken out afresh with a new grievance added to it.

The firm of O'Flaherty and Pulton, reputable lawyers of Washington, Va., has been retained in the case, which involves only the exercise of mere ingenuity, but also a conspiracy suit against the Senator from New York and government officials in Washington.

The Richmond lawyers have many documents, some signed with Platt's name, some "T. C. P." and some "P." It is alleged these are filled with incriminating matter. The most interesting letters, however, have been turned over to the lawyers, but they, in turn, have delivered to Miss Wood. She intends to keep them until they are made public in a court of law.

No Surprise Intended.

Miss Mae Catherine Wood renewed her effort to levy tax on United States Senator Thomas C. Platt for his sudden lovemaking prior to his marriage to Mrs. Lillian Janeway has caused little astonishment at Washington. It was popularly rumored at the time of the Senatorial Bridal Tour that it was far from satisfied with the result.

"I AM THE CATHERINE WOOD"

Immediately after the settlement in New York the lady departed for Washington, resigned her $1,600 a year position in the postoffice, and rented an entire suite of apartments at a fashionable hotel. Here she lived royally for at least six months.

Then, according to the hotel people, she was heavily in arrears for board and her bills sent to Senator Platt. Miss Wood explained that the senator was her business manager and had some money in trust for her. As the venerable New Yorker positively refused to honor the bills, Miss Woods was requested to leave the hotel.

She then left Washington and her movements have not been known to any one there. It is said, however, that all her debts were paid, but whether by the order of Senator Platt or not does not seem to be clear.

Miss Wood's Washington career was interesting and varied. She was there about four years ago and was detailed from the New York city postoffice. From the beginning she talked freely of Senator Platt and stated he had obtained her position in New York and had manipulated her transfer.

She received many letters from the senator and sometimes read them to her fellow clerks.

In the spring of 1903 she told her fellow clerks she was going to Europe to purchase her trousseau. For this purpose she borrowed nearly $1,500, and after three months' absence returned to Washington and resumed her duties.

During all this time rumors continually increased of the engagement of Senator Platt and Miss Wood. In this way, finally the engagement was formally announced and the wedding took place.

This was just before Miss Wood sailed for Europe, and it was soon after her return that the engagement was broken. When she heard of the engagement in Washington she made threats freely against the postoffice department. She showed some letters to friends, in which the senator addressed "Pet." One threatened to become a common document and is still slyly courted.

These letters were filed with Senator Platt in New York, where she said, in substance, that if he did not do what she wanted, she would publish them.

Animosities of War Forgotten.

That she was not alone in believing from the fact that the other night Admiral and Mrs. Dewey entertained at dinner in honor of Don Emilio De Ojeda, the Spanish minister. The latter is prominent in the popular diplomat and is well liked in Washington. If he enterprise any hard feelings of the little unpleasantness of 1898 he did not show it in a most successful manner. The Spanish minister and his wife occupied room terms with he hero of Manila, and he frequently participated in the Dewey home in Rhode Island avenue.

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ILLINOIS STATE NEWS

ILLINOIS FARMERS ARE TO MEET | SYNDICATE GETS A FRANCHISE

Institute to Hold Sessions in Joliet for Three Days.

What is termed the "annual round-up meeting" of the Illinois Farmers Institute will be held at Joliet Feb. 21, 22 and 23. In connection therewith also will be held the seventh annual meeting of the Illinois Association of Domestic Science. The use of six halls for simultaneous meetings will be arranged to accommodate the business of these two organizations, and preparations are being perfected on an elaborate scale.

The institute will appeal to interest to all members of county farmers' institutes, farmers, horticulturists, dairymen, live stock breeders and gardeners of Illinois, also to the members of domestic science associations, women's clubs, housekeepers and homemakers and all others who are interested in the development of the resources of the state and the upbuilding of its homes.

In a general way the programme will embrace the morning classes, beginning at 9 o'clock and continuing for one hour, work in corn-judging and horse-breeding, dairy cattle, poultry, horticulture, live stock, poultry and soils. The general sessions will be at 10:15 a. m., 1:30 p. m. and 7:30 p. m.

The term office of the institute directors in the overnumbered districts expires in March, this year, and the delegates in attendance at the district convention from those districts will select directors for the ensuing two years. Only duly accredited delegates from county farmers' institutes will be permitted to vote in the election of the board of directors.

OLD CLOCK SHOW

Last year over 15,000 copies were sent out to those interested and still those in tens of pounds of seeds and of seats in the clover fields each season because the demand is not developed. Mr. Smith has been engaged in bee-raising since 1874 and is known throughout the country as an authority. He organized the Central Illinois Beekeepers' association in 1885.

Guilty of Misuse of the Mails.

Scott Lauzenier, a farmer residing near Barry, Pike county, was pleaded guilty in the United States district court at Springfield to the charge of sending obscene letters through the mails to a young woman of his acquaintance. As this was his second offense, Judge Humphreys sentenced him to six months in the Sangamon county jail.

Asks Damages for Death.

Mrs. Gabin E. Eastham of Charlton has brought suit for $10,000 damages against the White Hall Screw and Stove Company and the White Hall Railway company for the death of her husband, Frank Eastham, who was killed by a train while on the clay banks east of White Hall.

CANNON'S PROTEGE.

Cecil P. Yeargin, whom Speaker Cannon has appointed page of the house of representatives, is a son of Lyman T. Yeargin, editor of the Oakland Leader, and was born Jan. 15, 1892. Master Cecil served one year as page in the Illinois legislature and one year as page on the floor of the fifty-seventh congress. He is a bright lad and being the only page from the state of Illinois feels proud of his appointment that has been given him.

Factory Inspector Not Liable

Attorney General Stead has given an opinion to Jonathan Nathan of Alton that Edgar T. Davis of Chicago, state factory inspector, cannot be held personally responsible for the payment of costs in five child-labor cases.

Wine Company.

Application has been made for the incorporation of the Fieldon Milling and Elevator Company at Jerseyville. The incorporators are Charles Fieldon, Fieldon and August Barbilinger and H. J. Miller of Louisville.

Brick Yard for Virginia.

Carl Erickson has bought four acres of land just beyond the eastern city limits from Dr. W. W. Miller and will establish a brickyard.

Cash for Church Buildings.

The sum of $1,000 has been subscribed by twenty citizens of Virginia, Cass and vicinity to be used for building a new German Evangelical church and parsonage in that place. The committee is still at work soliciting subscriptions.

Tri-County Teachers.

Efforts are being made to form a new Tri-County Teachers' association, composed of Washington, Clinton and Marion counties, to take the place of the one recently disbanded.

SYNDICATE GETS A FRANCHISE

Interurban Line Right of Way From Springfield to St. Louis.

The McKinley syndicate, which is constructing the interurban line between Springfield and St. Louis, has secured a fifty-year franchise from the city council of Venice to construct, maintain and operate an electric railway on State street in that city, and, it is said, will ask for a similar franchise from the Madison council. The syndicate has also given notice that it will apply to the council of Edwardsville for a franchise to construct and operate an electric light and power plant, also a plant for the manufacture of gas and to furnish hot water or steam for heating purposes, with the right to lay pipes in the streets and alleys of the city.

NOTED BEEKEEPER.

John Quincy Smith of Lincoln, president of the Illinois Beekeepers association, was in Springfield recently lobbying for another appropriation for the association. None of the efforts of the association drawn any salary, receive no regular appropriation is spent in suppressing foul brood, promoting the industry of beekeeping and publishing the minutes of the association.

Union Meeting of Teachers.

A union meeting of the teachers of Green and Scott counties will be held in Winchester, Ill., Friday and Saturday, Feb. 24 and 25.

To Vote on Incorporation.

A special election will be held in Hutsonville, Monday, Feb. 27, for the purpose of submitting to the voters the proposition of incorporating as a village. At the last election the proposition was voted down.

Plan Amusement Park.

A company is forming to establish a big amusement park and pleasure resort near Springfield. J. P. Grimes, manager of the Grand opera house, and H. L. Bridwig of Terre Haute are the promoters.