

THE ALAMANCE GLEANER.

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NO. 8

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CHAPTER VII. A BATTLE OF COURAGE.

Blount had been halting between two opinions. The fighting blood in him prompted him to stay and set up the standard of honesty and fair dealing in the Blount name, to gather a few men of like convictions around him and to enter the political arena at the head of a movement designed at once and forever to abolish machine dictatorship in his native state.

But, on the other hand, the claims of blood could not be altogether ignored. The campaign for political cleanliness would inevitably involve his father's name. If successful, defeat and disgrace him. Clearly it was the part of filial duty to hesitate before he should set his hand to this particular plow of reform. Would it not be better for him to drop out quietly, leaving the political housecleaning for some one who would not have to pay such a costly price for the leadership?

Thus the two promptings clamored each for his hearing. But, after all, it was chance and the swift current of the occasion that decided for him and swept him along into the vortex of action. Before he had gone ten steps toward Gentry's office some one in the throng of debarking overland passengers called his name. When he turned he was facing a white-haired old gentleman with a scholarly face and an air of a man who had seen the world and a twist to his thin lips, a man and a traitor figured maiden with level eyes and a face in which the inherited traits were softened into lines of thoughtful firmness and serenity.

"Why, bless my soul, of all the lucky things!" ejaculated the old man, who but an instant before had been halting between two opinions. "You don't mean to tell me that this is the soul of all the said you were coming, Patricia?"

"It is, and you're to blame, young man," snapped the father of the peerless maiden. "If you've been talking me into about those nepotism affairs which you said could be dug out of your sugar-bush hills you'll pay our fare back home again—understand! Now show us to the best hotel in this mushroom city of yours, and do it quickly."

Having a definite thing to do, Blount forgot his problem and bestirred himself hospitably. "Though it was only three quarters of the Inter-Mountain, he chartered the best looking auto he could find in the back rank, put his charges into it and went with them to do the honors at the hotel, thereby missing two things which might have had an important bearing on the temporarily forgotten problem."

If he had gone directly to the office of the traffic manager on the second floor of the station building he could hardly have missed meeting a tall, full-faced man coming out of Gentry's private room, and he might have overheard the visitor's parting words to Gentry. "Oh, you're full for it all right. If you'd seen his face when Lacker and I came away you'd have said there was battle, murder and sudden death in it for somebody."

"But, see here, Bradbury," Gentry held his visitor to say, "it wasn't in the game that you lost to all him up with a lot of lies. I won't stand for that, you know. He is too good a fellow and too good a friend of mine."

It was at this juncture that Blount, if he had been present and invisible, would have seen a sour smile wreath upon the full face of the club gambler.

"It wasn't necessary. If he or the senator wanted to sue us for libel we could prove every word that was said. And it got him—got him right in the solar plexus. If you don't see some fireworks within the next few days I will guess and lose my suit."

The Honorable Senator Sagebrush

By FRANCIS LYNDE

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gave the severest rebuke to the hotel porter, Blount missed another incident which might have sent him back suddenly to his problem and his unsettled condition. When Mr. McVickar turned away from the clerk's desk it was to shake hands perfunctorily with the owner of the fast roadster.

"Well, senator," he said, with a certain dogged emphasis, "I'm here. Let's find a place where we can fill it out." And together they entered an elevator, which, as chance would have it, passed, in ascending, the car in which the younger Blount was coming down.

"It was to the senator's suit that the two opposing field commanders made their way, when their cars reached the fourth floor. In the senator's sitting room McVickar dragged a chair over to one of the windows which commanded a view of the Lost River mountains and dropped into it massively.

"I suppose we may cut out the preliminaries and come to the point at once," he began. "Admission tickets are that you had definitely announced your son as a candidate for the attorney generalship. Have you?"

The senator was replying a box of cigars, and his reply savored of good natured irony.

"The primaries do the nominating in this State," he said. "I don't know that," he asked mildly. "See here, Blount, I've come 8,000 miles to thrash this thing out with you, and I'm not in the humor to spar for an opening. Do you mean to run your son or not? That is a plain question, and I'd like a plain answer."

"I told you two weeks ago what I meant to do, McVickar, but you wouldn't believe me. I'll say it again if you want to hear it."

"And I told you two weeks ago that you couldn't stand for it; that you might name your own price for an alternative."

"Yes, and I told you my price, if you happen to remember."

"You said you wanted us to turn everything over to the reformers and take our chances on a clean administration. Naturally we are not going to do any such utopian thing. What I want to know now is what is going to cost us to get your consent to do the practical and possible thing."

"Want to buy me outright this time, do you?" said the boss, still smiling gently.

"We—McVickar was going to say, 'we bought you before,' but he changed it to a less offensive form—'we have had no difficulty in arriving at some sensible and practical conditions in the past.' Blount, and 'we shouldn't have now. We can't let you have your son for attorney general. That's out of the question. If you put your son as public prosecutor you can have but one object in view—you mean to squeeze us till the blood runs. We're willing to discount that object before the fact."

"So you have said before a number of times and in a number of different ways," was the mild counter suggestion.

"I don't say it many more times, David. You're pushing me too far."

"What will you say then?"

"I know as much about him as you do—more, perhaps, for I have taken more pains to keep tabs on him for the past few years than you have. He is clean and straight. Blount—son for any man to be proud of. If that is the real reason why we are afraid to have him instructing the grand jury of this state it is also your best reason for keeping the past decently under cover. What will you say to him when the newspapers open up on you? And what will he say to you? Had you thought of that?"

For the first time since the beginning of the old-fashioned conference the senator laid his cigar aside and set thoughtfully tugging at the drooping mustaches.

"You'd set the house afire over my head, would you, Hardwick?" he queried, with the gray eyes lighting threateningly; then, "The last time we talked you posted your debt; now I'll post mine. You go ahead and do your worst. The boy and I will try to see that you don't have all the fun. I won't say that you mightn't turn him if you went at it right. But you won't stand at it right, and opening to him now, blood is thicker than water, and if you hit me you hit him. And I reckon between we'll manage to give you as good as you send. That's all," rising to lean heavily upon the table, "all but one thing. You fight fair, Hardwick. Say anything you like."



Will Jones

"You'd set the house afire over my head, would you, Hardwick?" you like about me, but if that boy has anything in his past that I don't know about, that he wouldn't want to see published, you let it alone and keep your newspaper reporters off it."

The vice president laughed. He was of those who regain equanimity in exact proportion as he wishes to have an answer. "You needn't let the boy's record trouble you," he averred. "It's as clean as a hound's tooth. That is one of the things I'm banking on, David. I'm going to have that young fellow fighting on our side before we're through."

At this the gray eyes under the patent-brown brows flared fiercely, and the senator took the two strides needful to place him before the man in the chair.

"Don't you do that, McVickar. I give you fair warning," he said, his eyes flashed, and his hand on the hilt of his sword. "There's only one way you could do it."

The vice president stood up and put on his hat. "And you'll take precious good care that I don't get a chance to try that way, you were going to say. All right, David. You tell me to do my worst, and I'll be with you in ten minutes. You do the same, and we'll see who comes out ahead."

It was some five minutes later when the vice president had made his leisurely way down to the lobby. The electric lights blazed out, and the great gathering place was beginning to take on its evening air of stir and activity. Mr. McVickar pushed his way to the desk, and a row of lately arrived guests waited when he asked his question.

"Where will I be most likely to find Mr. Evans Blount at this time of day?" was the question he wished to have answered, and the obliging clerk made the line wait still longer while he summoned a bellboy and sent him scurrying across to one of the writing tables.

"This is Mr. Evans Blount," he said to the railroad magnate, indicating the young man who came up with the bellboy. "Mr. Blount, this is Mr. Hardwick McVickar, first vice president of the Transcontinental Railway company."

There was no trace of the recent battle in Mr. McVickar's voice or manner when he turned and shook hands cordially with the son of the man who had defied him.

"My father and I were just holding a little conference over your future prospects, Mr. Blount. He is going straight to his point. 'Suppose you come down to the car with me for a little private talk on the legal situation. I'm not sure but we shall wish to retain you in a cause that is coming up in September. Gentry tells me the law is pretty well up in cooperation law. Can you spare me a half hour now?'"

Evans Blount glanced at his watch. Patricia had told him that she and her father would dine in the cafe at 7 and that there would be room at their table for him and for his father, if the ex-senator would so far honor a poor college professor. There was an hour to spare, and if the vice president of the Transcontinental company were to be the king he was at least a great man whose invitation was in some degree embarrassing.

INDIAN LOOKING FOR LAND.

Tuscarora Tribe May Claim Several Thousand Acres in East Caro. in.

Raleigh Dispatch.

There walked into the office of the Secretary of State Saturday morning an Indian who introduced himself to Col. J. Bryan Grimes as Chief Mount Pleasant, of the Tuscarora Indian tribe, formerly of North Carolina and for many years residing in Niagara county, New York. He explained in broken English that he was in North Carolina to look up the rights of his people in connection with 26,000 acres of land in Bertie Co. on the Roanoke river, lands that he said were leased by his people to the State for 100 years when they retired to their kinspeople in New York; that the lease would expire in 1916 and the Indians wished to procure a settlement of their rights in reversion.

It developed that soon after Col. Grimes assumed the office of Secretary of State, he found in a veritable trash pile in one of the State House attic chambers the very Indian papers bearing on this land transaction, which involves valuable and extensive holdings of lands by State Senator Rascoe, of Bertie; C. W. Spruill, J. Gilliam and others. However, the papers that Col. Grimes found include a deed to the State by the Indian chiefs surrendering all rights to any reversals after the expiration of the 100-year lease. But no proof is found yet that this deed was duly registered. There was a settlement of these Indian land matters in 1802 with W. R. Daves as the representative of the government, by which adjustment was made of the leases and rentals but this, the Indians claim, was never ratified by the State Legislature so as to make it valid.

They proposed to enter into litigation, if necessary, to procure compensation from the State or the present holders of the land for their rights in the reversion. Chief Mount Pleasant has spent some time, he says, in the section of Bertie county where the lands in question are located and has discussed the matter with Senator Rascoe and others interested. He expects to be here some days looking into the case as it bears on the records in the office of the Secretary of State.

The Fishing Industry in North Carolina.

Washington Dispatch to Raleigh News and Observer.

Among the States in which commercial fishing was pursued in 1908, North Carolina ranked eleventh in the value of fishery products, according to the special census report on the general census of the Fishery Industry of the United States for 1908, prepared by Mr. William M. Stewart, chief statistician for manufactures.

The general summary shows that in 1908 there were 9,881 persons employed; the capital invested in vessels and boats, including outfit, \$533,000; in apparatus of capture, \$367,000; in shore and accessory property and cost, \$370,000; and the total value of products was \$1,776,000.

The chief fishing grounds of the State were Albemarle, Pamlico and Core Sounds, and their tributary rivers. Among the important rivers were the Cape Fear, New, Roanoke, Shallotte, Newport, North and Neuse. Many smaller sounds and rivers also contributed to the fishing product of the State.

An increase in the number of persons employed was shown at each canvass of North Carolina fisheries to and including that of 1902, and this was accompanied by increases in all the other items given in the above statement. From 1902 to 1908, however, there was a decrease in the number of persons employed and a corresponding decrease in the value of both classes of equipment.

Every family and especially those who reside in the country should be provided at all times with a bottle of Chamberlain's Liniment. There is no telling when it may be wanted in case of an accident or emergency. It is most excellent in all cases of rheumatism, sprains and bruises. Sold by all dealers.

FOLEY'S URINO LAXATIVE For Stomach Troubles and Constipation

Arbor Day in the North Carolina Schools.

Press Bulletin N. C. Geological and Economic Survey.

Education consists in preparing the child for life, so that the greatest good to the man himself, his neighbor, and the state will result from all his later experiences.

Perhaps the most common as well as the most vital experiences from the business point of view as well as from that of recreation, come to the average North Carolinian from his association with trees, the forests or their products. Yet few children, or grown people for that matter, can distinguish a longleaf from a shortleaf pine seedling, know the conditions most favorable for the best growth of even our commonest forest trees or can tell one oak or one pine from another by the bark, the buds, the leaves, or the fruit.

In order to foster a love of trees among children and to teach them elementary facts about them, as well as to encourage the planting of trees and the intelligent care of forests by their elders, the practice of observing Arbor Day has been introduced into nearly every state in the Union, and in many states it is a legal school festival. In North Carolina the day was observed as far back as 1893, but unfortunately it has never received general recognition. Only a school here and there has observed the day with appropriate exercises, when some of the teachers or patrons have been especially interested in the subject.

Recently the Forester of the North Carolina Geological and Economic Survey was invited to make an address at an Arbor Day celebration at Southern Pines, in which the whole town took a gratifying interest. The Civic Club, an organization of the women of the place, was the prime mover, while the teachers and the school children, united with the club to make the occasion a great success. Trees and shrubs were planted on the school grounds in the morning and in the afternoon drills, songs, and recitations, illustrating the child's relation to the trees and flowers around them, were very well given by the children in the large school auditorium.

Such a celebration might be held annually by every school in the state with great profit to the children, and with increasing interest on the part of the parents. There is unfortunately a tendency among the men to leave the education of the children more and more to the women, and the next generation will have special cause to bless their mothers for opening their eyes to the beauty and usefulness of the trees if the women, who through their clubs are doing such good work for civic improvement and the betterment of education, would take up this matter all over the state and work for a general Arbor Day observance.

In most states some special day is selected as Arbor Day by the Governor or Supt. of Education or some other authority, and all schools are expected to observe that particular day. In North Carolina, where the school year varies so in the different counties and where the time for planting trees varies with the different regions of the state, it would probably be better for each County Superintendent, or even each School Principal, to set the day which would be most convenient to him and most appropriate to the season and locality. Where only a fall school session is given in October in the mountains, November in the Piedmont section, and December in the eastern part of the state would be suitable times, while where a nine or ten months school is in the rule March or April would be more suitable, as children and older folks too, for that matter turn to the woods and fields in the springtime. Some Friday would usually be selected as interfering less with the routine of school work, though such interference really often turns out to be rather a help than hindrance to the work.

Suggestions for the observance of Arbor Day are contained in the following publications of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, which may be secured by writing to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.: "Arbor Day, Its History and Observance"; Arbor Day (Forest Service Circular 96); Forest Nurseries for Schools (Farmer's Bulletin 423); "Forestry in the Public Schools" (Forest Service Circular 130); "Tree Planting in Rural School Grounds" (Farmer's Bulletin 134).

The North Carolina Geological and Economic Survey has prepared an Arbor Day program which it expects to publish shortly. This will give suggestions for the observance of Arbor Day and appropriate short extracts for school recitations; such as the following:

"Ah, bare must be the shadeless ways, and bleak the path must be, Of him who, having open eyes, has never learned to see, And so has never learned to love the beauty of a tree.

Who loves a tree, he loves the life that springs in star and cloud, He loves the life that glides the clouds and greens the April sod; He loves the Wide Beneficence: His soul takes hold on God."

Panama Canal Will Be Ready in About Two Years.

New Orleans, Dispatch, 23d.

Sixty members of the American Society of Civil Engineers arrived in New Orleans today on the steamer Heredia, from Colon, Panama, where they went at the suggestion of President Taft to inspect the work done on the Panama canal. Other members of the party returned direct to New York from Colon.

It was announced that the representatives of the society who made the trip are unanimous in the approval of the work which has been done by Colonel Goethals, and they confidently believe the canal will be ready for service in 1913.

"The American people need not be alarmed at the reports of slides down there," said a member of the party. "This feature of the work was not overlooked by the government engineers who planned and have so successfully prosecuted the construction of the canal. There have been numerous slides in Culebra cut and near Gatun dam, and there doubtless will be many smaller slides in the future, but the great work undertaken by the United States will not be seriously interrupted.

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"Every one of the 110 of the American Society of Civil Engineers who visited the canal on this trip feels assured that the canal will be ready for service before the end of 1913."

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At the meeting of the executive committee of the State Press Association in Salisbury Friday, Lenoir was named as the place and June 20, as the time for holding the annual meeting of the association. In addition to Lenoir, invitations were presented from Morehead City, Wrightsville and Roanoke, Va.

CASTORIA The Kind You've Always Bought

The dead body of Walter Byrum, 25 years old, was found Monday in a mill pond in the vicinity of his home in Vance township, Union county. Byrum, who was unmarried, disappeared from his father's home January 22nd, but it was supposed he had gone to his brother, in Chicago. It is supposed he committed suicide but no cause can be assigned for the deed.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

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DR. WILL S. LONG, JR., DENTIST, 111 North Carolina, GRAHAM, N. C. OFFICE IN SIMMONS BUILDING

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DR. F. G. GOWER, DENTIST, GRAHAM, N. C. Office: Over National Bank of Alamance. 220-17

Suggestion of Opposition to Both Simmons and Kitchin.

Raleigh Dispatch

There are persistent reports of a movement on foot to get together at an early date representative progressive Democrats from all parts of the State for a meeting either in Raleigh or Greensboro, for the purpose of putting in the field a candidate for the United States Senate two years hence that will oppose both Senator Simmons and Governor Kitchin, who has come to be considered practically an avowed opponent for the senatorial toga worn for the past two terms by Senator Simmons. It is certain that the Simmons-Kitchin campaign will be a strenuous one for Democracy and, if it is converted into a three-cornered fight, the contest will be all the more stirring. It has been the impression thus far that Simmons and Kitchin would have a clear field for their fight, as ex-Governor Aycock has said he will not oppose Simmons.

—Ambitious young men and ladies should learn telegraphy, for, since the new 8-hour law became effective there is a shortage of many thousand telegraphers. Positions pay from \$50 to \$70 a month to beginners. The Telegraph Institute of Columbia, S. C., a d. v. e. other cities is operated under supervision of R. E. Orfield's and all students are placed when qualified. Write them for particulars.

Magazines and other bulky periodicals, after July 1, next, will be transported by the Post-office Department in carloads as fast freight. Postmaster General Hitchcock is developing as rapidly as possible plans, which he decided upon last December, to utilize fast freight in the transportation of magazines when practicable, and in instances where a saving to the government in transportation charges may be effected.

CASTORIA The Kind You've Always Bought

Mr. McNairy announces in a card in the advertising columns of the Lenoir News that he is a candidate for postmaster at Lenoir and that at the proper time he will ask for endorsements. In the same form and manner Postmaster W. Eugene Miller announces that his term expires next December, that he is a candidate for reappointment and at the proper time he will ask for endorsements, etc.

FOLEY'S URINO LAXATIVE For Stomach Troubles and Constipation

Application will be made to the Governor for the pardon of Geo. Hall, of Rowan county, serving 15 years in the State prison for participating in the lynching of the negroes who murdered the Leryer family, in Rowan a few years ago. While the negroes—three of them—were lynched by a mob, Hall was indiscreet enough to boast of the work, hence he landed in the State prison.

DeWitt's Little Early Balm, The Sore-shoe Remedy