

EDISON'S CONQUEST OF MARS.

BY GARRETT P. SERVISS
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CHAPTER VII.—Continued.

The party which had gone to visit the planet had long since returned, and the information which, in a scientific sense, was no less interesting than what we had been able to gather.

They had found within the curious atmosphere of Mars, which is a circle of some 2,000 miles in diameter, but, however, information which, in a scientific sense, was no less interesting than what we had been able to gather.

At length we gave ourselves up for lost. There seemed to be no possible way to free ourselves from the baleful grip of this terrible and unlooked for enemy.

As the comet approached the sun its electric energy rapidly increased, and watching it with telescopes—for we could not withdraw our fascinated eyes from it—we could clearly behold the fearful things that went on in its nucleus.

This consisted of an immense number of separate meteoroids of no very great size individually, but which were in constant motion among one another, darting to and fro, clashing and smashing together, while fountains of blazing metallic particles and hot mineral vapors poured out in every direction.

As I watched it, unable to withdraw my eyes, I saw imaginary forms revealing themselves amid the flaming meteors. They seemed like creatures in agony, tossing their arms, bewailing in their attitudes the awful fate that had overtaken them and fairly chilling my blood with the pantomime of torture which they exhibited.

I thought of an old superstition which I had often heard about the earth and exclaimed, "Yes, surely, this is flying hell!"

As the electric activity of the comet increased its continued changes of potential and polarity became more frequent, and the electrical ships darted about with even greater confusion than before.

Occasionally one of them, seized with a sudden impulse, would spring forward toward the nucleus of the comet with a sudden access of velocity that would fling every one of its crew from his feet, and all would lie sprawling on the floor of the car while it rushed, as it seemed, to inevitable and instant destruction.

Then, either through the frantic efforts of the electrician struggling with the controller or through another change in the polarity of the comet, the ship would be saved on the very brink of ruin and stagger away out of immediate danger.

Thus the captured squadron was swept, swaying and darting hither and thither, but never able to get sufficiently far from the comet to break the bond of its fatal attraction.

So great was our excitement and so complete our absorption in the fearful peril that we had not noticed the precise direction in which the comet was carrying us. It was enough to know that the goal of the journey was the furnace of the sun. But presently some one in the flagship recalled us to a more accurate sense of our situation in space by exclaiming:

"Why, there is the earth!"

Everything being prepared then, we left the moon with great speed, just 48 hours after we had landed upon its surface, carrying with us a determination to revisit it and learn more of its wonderful secrets in case we should survive the dangers which we were going to face.

A day or two after leaving the moon we had another adventure with a wandering inhabitant of space which brought us into far greater peril than had our encounter with the meteor.

The airships had been partitioned off so that a portion of the interior could be utilized in order to serve as a sleeping chamber, while, according to the regulations prescribed by the commander of the squadron, each member of the expedition in his turn passed 8 out of every 24 hours—sleeping if he could, if not, meditating in a more or less clouded way upon the wonderful things that he was seeing and doing—things far more incredible than the creations of a dream.

One morning, if I may call it by the name of the time of my periodical emergence from the darkened chamber, glancing from one of the windows, I started to see in the black sky a brilliant comet.

CHAPTER VIII.

No periodical comet, as I knew, was at this time approaching the neighborhood of the sun, and no stranger to that kind had been detected from the observations making his way upward before we left the earth. Here, however, was unmistakably a comet rushing toward the sun, flinging at a great cleansing tail behind it and so close to us that I wondered to see it remaining almost motionless in the sky. This phenomenon was soon explained to me, and the explanation was of a most disquieting character.

The stranger had already been perceived not only from the flagship, but from the other members of the squadron, and, as I now learned, efforts had been made to get out of its neighborhood, but for some reason the electrical apparatus did not work perfectly, some mysterious disturbance acting upon it, and so it had been found impossible to avoid an encounter with the comet—yet an actual coming into contact with it, but falling into the sphere of its influence.

In fact, it was informed that for several hours the squadron had been dragging along in the wake of a comet, very much as boats are sometimes towed off by a wounded whale. Every effort had been made to adjust the electric charge upon the ships that they would be repelled from the comet's influence, but, owing apparently to eccentric changes continually going on in the electric charge affecting the clashing mass of meteoric bodies which constituted the head of the comet, we found it impossible to escape from its influence.

At one instant the ships would be repelled, immediately afterward they would be attracted again, and thus they were dragged hither and thither, but never able to break from the invisible grasp which the comet had cast upon them.

The latter was a great calamity, for, owing apparently to eccentric changes continually going on in the electric charge affecting the clashing mass of meteoric bodies which constituted the head of the comet, we found it impossible to escape from its influence.

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BUTLER'S THIN SCHEME

THE PROFFER OF FUSION INTO A FEINT.

They "Demand" Plenty of Offices—What Skinner Says—Examinations, Explanations—Chartered.

RALEIGH, N. C., May 19.—The last clause of the Populist resolution: "Resolved that this convention elect a conference committee, which shall be authorized to confer with any party or factions of a party which declares its endorsement of the above principles and purposes and which favors cooperation with the Populist party, to carry the same into effect upon such basis as will maintain intact the integrity of the people's party and as will preserve to it not less than its present representation in both State and national affairs."

This means a demand for a Populist Senator, five Congressmen and plenty of "plum" generally. Senator Butler says: "Our proposition is made in good faith. If accepted it will be carried out in good faith."

Henry Skinner is perceptibly backed. He said: "Butler got a majority of the convention, not squarely and openly, but in his usual manner of insinuation. I lost nothing in the fight."

Otto Wilson, Skinner's first lieutenant, says: "I don't see that the convention is for the best interests of the party. It may be, I hope so. I am not at all sure. I am not going to endorse it. I think a mistake was made. Otto looked very sour. He and Walter Henry are both named 'Mad.'"

Dr. Exam of Wayne said: "There will be no fusion with Democrats. What was done is merely a feint. Our party is strong enough to do alone. There will be no fusion at all."

The State charter the Appalachian Land and Lumber company of Murphy, Cherokee county, capital \$5,000, stockholders C. P. Ross and others. It will work the Hammond and other properties.

The Mystic Shriners had a grand time here. Many of them, like the Populists, did not go to sleep at all.

In camps Grimes and Russell there are now 21 companies, the total membership being 1,500. All these are mustered in.

The Episcopal diocesan convention of North Carolina met at Newbern yesterday.

Bishop Sutcliffe of Washington will be here next week. Rev. Dr. Hartley Carmonah, of St. Paul's, Richmond, preaches the baccalaureate sermon May 29 at the A. & M. college here.

The War With Spain is Proving a Pretty Undertaking.

From the Washington Post.

The war is costing \$1,000,000 a day. It continues for a year it will involve an expenditure of over \$400,000,000. The appropriations already made, or estimated as necessary for that period, are as follows:

For military, estimated, \$167,000,000
For the navy, estimated, 75,000,000
Emergency defense fund, appropriated, 20,000,000
Army deficiency bill, pending, 35,000,000
Navy deficiency bill, pending, 22,000,000
Regular army appropriation bill, passed, 23,000,000
Naval appropriation bill, passed, 8,000,000

Total, \$425,000,000

While a small portion of the above ordinary army and navy appropriations would have been necessary even if war had not occurred, yet the fact remains that amounts given do not include military and naval contingencies that are certain to be contracted. For instance, the estimates for the army and navy were made before the acquisition of the Philippines. The retention and government of those islands will add materially to expenditures.

It is not necessary, even if war is not to be expected, whether the war will last a year, if is the popular impression that as soon as the anticipated naval battle is fought and won Spain will sue for peace and thus end the struggle. This optimistic view is not shared by Senator Alston and other Republican leaders, who may be supposed to reflect the views of the administration. It is said that even should peace be declared in a month or six weeks, the United States will have to carry on a heavy task before it in establishing a stable government in Cuba and effecting the occupation and control of the Philippine archipelago.

When it is remembered that Spain's fleet will not risk another combat with the American navy, and thus the war will be indefinitely prolonged.

He Caught On.

The Park avenue trolley line in the city of Rochester is crossed by three consecutive streets which bear masculine surnames. An Irishman with a carpet bag entered one of the cars the other day, and sat down at the curb near the door. The car swung around the corner of Chestnut street.

"James, shouted the conductor, a man sitting by the door, "do you know where you are going?"

"Oh, want to get out at Avonno B," he said. "Me foirst name is Michael."

"William," announced the conductor. Another man got out. The Irishman's eyes were visible through the door.

"Alexander," shouted the conductor. The third man left the car.

When it had started on the Irishman arose and approached the conductor.

"Oh, want to get out at Avonno B," he said. "Me foirst name is Michael."

"William," announced the conductor. Another man got out. The Irishman's eyes were visible through the door.

"Alexander," shouted the conductor. The third man left the car.

When it had started on the Irishman arose and approached the conductor.

"Oh, want to get out at Avonno B," he said. "Me foirst name is Michael."

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"Oh, want to get out at Avonno B," he said. "Me foirst name is Michael."

Notice.

North Carolina, Buncombe County. In the Superior Court.

R. J. Ferrill and wife Anna J. Ferrill, and Mary Brown, ex-parte.

NOTICE OF SALE—By virtue of an order and judgment of the Superior Court of Buncombe County, North Carolina, dated the 11th day of April, 1898, in the above entitled action, there is pending, the undersigned Commissioner, appointed by the Court in said order, will, on

THURSDAY, THE 26TH DAY OF MAY, 1898, be tween the hours of 12 m. and 2 p. m. sell at public auction to the last and highest bidder for cash, at the Court House door in the City of Asheville, in said County and State, the following described lot of land, to-wit:

The first line two hundred and five (205) feet, in said County and State, and the following described lot of land, to-wit: Being situated on the North side of Clayton street in the City of Asheville in the County of Buncombe and State of North Carolina, and bounded by a line

Beginning at a stake on Clayton street at the southwest corner of the lot now belonging to Miss Roselle, heretofore belonging to Rufus A. Sampson, and runs northwardly with the line of said lot containing two hundred and five (205) feet to the northwest corner of said Roselle lot.

Thence westwardly and parallel to Clayton street seventy and five (75) feet (7 1/2) feet to a stake; thence southwardly and on a line parallel to Clayton street seventy and five (75) feet to a stake in the northern margin of Clayton street; thence eastwardly with Clayton street seventy-one and three-fourth (71 3/4) feet to the beginning.

Dated this 19th day of April, 1898. J. E. RANKIN, Commissioner.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE

MONDAY, MAY 16, And All Week, Woodward-Warren

STOCK COMPANY, Under the direction of H. Guy Wood.

Monday Night, Tuesday Night, Wednesday Night, Bartley Campbell's

THE GALLEY SLAVE, A Society Drama.

Thursday Night, Friday Night, Saturday Night, Dr. Sawyer's

OUR STRATEGISTS, A High-Class Comedy.

Specialties of high order introduced. Prices, 19, 20 and 30 cents.

Reserved seats now on sale at Heinich's Broadway drug store. Ladies' free Monday matinee. Reserved seats for a person holding one 30 cent ticket Saturday matinee 3 p. m., 20c to all.

High Grade Fertilizers

SUPERPHOSPHATE OF BONE, \$20.00 PER TON.

I guarantee one ton of this fertilizer to be equal to 3 1/2 tons of barn yard manure.

PURE RAW CRUSHED BONE MEAL, \$25.00 PER TON.

GROUND OYSTER SHELLS FOR CHICKENS, \$1.00 PER HUNDREDWEIGHT.

Manufactured at— Asheville Bone Mills,

NO. 8 BUTTRICK STREET, CHAS. J. ALSTON, Proprietor.

FOR THE TRAVELER.

Arrival and Departure of Southern Railway Trains.

(Central Time.) FROM THE EAST, No. 11, 2:25 p. m. No. 15, 12:10 a. m.

TO THE WEST, No. 12, 1:15 p. m. No. 16, 5:10 a. m.

FROM MURPHY BRANCH, No. 18, 1:00 p. m. No. 20, 4:00 p. m.

TO THE SOUTH, No. 9, 1:45 p. m. No. 13, 6:00 p. m.

FOR THE EAST, No. 12, 1:15 p. m. No. 16, 5:10 a. m.

FOR THE WEST, No. 11, 2:25 p. m. No. 15, 12:10 a. m.

FOR THE SOUTH, No. 11, 2:25 p. m. No. 15, 12:10 a. m.

FOR MURPHY BRANCH, No. 18, 1:00 p. m. No. 20, 4:00 p. m.

(Central Time.)

Notice.

State of North Carolina, Buncombe County—Superior court.

H. M. Ratcliff, Administrator of James Sluder, vs. Frank Hawkins, et al.—Notice.

By virtue of the judgment of the Superior court rendered in the above entitled cause I will on the

6TH DAY OF JUNE, 1898, at the court house door in the city of Asheville, N. C. sell to the highest bidder the following described land, situate in Leicester township, Buncombe county.

Beginning on a large white oak, Thomas Moore's corner; thence north with Moore's line 35 poles to a crooked pine, Moore's corner; thence south with Moore's line 22 poles to a sourwood; thence south with Moore's line 12 poles to a pine corner; thence south with Brookshire's marked line 87 poles to a pine corner; thence with his line, said to be south, 20 poles to a black oak in Ratcliff's line; thence with Mont. Ratcliff's line, passing his several corners, so that the end of his land will constitute lines to this tract, to the line or dogwood corner of John Sluder's line of said tract; thence south with Henry Mears' tract of land, and then with the lines of Henry Mears' land to a white oak, the beginning corner, extending 15 or 16 poles to a white oak in five parcels and then as a whole, and both bids will be reported to court.

The terms of said sale or sales will be twenty-five per cent. of the purchase money to be paid in cash and the balance in five equal installments, payable from date of sale, title to be retained until all of the purchase money shall have been paid, and the said vendee shall have the option of buying with good and sufficient security.

H. M. RATCLIFF, Commissioner.

Notice.

By virtue of an order made the 31st day of March, 1898, by the clerk of the Superior court of Buncombe county, North Carolina, the undersigned commissioner will sell on the premises on the

FIRST MONDAY IN JUNE, 1898, being the 15th day of said month, at 12 noon, to the highest bidder, two-thirds of the purchase price in cash and the remaining one-third in notes, payable in six months from the day of the sale with interest at 6 per cent. from date of sale, the lands described as follows, to-wit:

All that certain tract of land lying and being in Leicester township, Buncombe county, North Carolina, on the waters of South Fork of the Swain River, bounded as follows: To-wit: Beginning at the mouth of the creek; thence with the line of T. S. Triplett, south 73 degrees east, crossing the creek 58 poles to a stake; thence south 73 degrees east, crossing the creek 33.8 poles to a small double chestnut; thence south 84 degrees east, crossing the creek 23 poles to a stake; thence with C. W. Bridges north 15 degrees 45 minutes east 34 poles to a stake; thence with T. J. Gillespie's line north 76 degrees west, crossing the creek 126 poles to the public road; thence with said road and lines, Lou J. Skiff's line north 33 degrees 30 minutes west 16 poles; south 1 degree west 27 poles to the beginning, containing 84 acres, more or less, as shown on a plat of said lands fully described in the petition filed in the superior court of said county wherein an order was obtained under which this sale is made aforesaid, in which Otis Gillespie is petitioner and the said C. W. Bridges is respondent, and the proceedings in said matter are on file in the office of the undersigned commissioner, Messrs. Thomas & Wells, attorneys at Law, Legal building, Asheville, N. C. This May 4, 1898. R. D. F. ROBERTSON, Commissioner.

Notice.

SALE OF LAND ON GLADY FORD OF HONIMY IN BUNCOMBE COUNTY, N. C.

By virtue of the power, authority and trust on him conferred by a deed executed by Thomas A. Ballard and his wife, dated April 6th, 1896, and registered in book 40, at page 416, 6, at the default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness therein mentioned, the undersigned, as the executor of the said deed, do hereby notice that he has sold to the undersigned, the State Bank of Commerce of Hendersonville, N. C. on the 13th DAY OF JUNE, 1898, at the front court house door of the county of Buncombe, in Asheville, North Carolina, a certain parcel of land or cash, will sell for the purposes stated in said deed in trust and convey.

The said land is described as follows: Situate in the county of Buncombe, North Carolina, on the east side of a mountain and runs north 40 degrees 10 minutes east, crossing said creek and another fork of said creek 90 poles to a locust on the north side of the line, 3 degrees west, 90 poles to O'Kelly's beginning corner; thence north 40 degrees with the mentioned line, 3 degrees west, to the beginning, containing 50 acres, more or less; and hereby notice that he has sold the said land in trust, to the registry of which reference is made for the purposes of description and all other purposes in this notice, with all the appurtenances and improvements thereto belonging. This fifth day of May, 1898. F. W. THOMAS, Trustee.

Notice.

By virtue of the power of sale conferred in a certain deed executed by Otis A. Miller, said deed in trust being dated August 24, 1893, and recorded in book 90, at page 426, of the records of deeds in trust and mortgages for Buncombe county, to which reference is hereby made, and default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness therein mentioned, and having been requested by the holders of the said notes to sell the lands described in said deed in trust, I will on the 20TH DAY OF JUNE, 1898, at the court house door in the city of Asheville, at public auction sell to the highest bidder for cash the lands contained in this notice, in trust as described as follows:

Being lots Nos. 1, 2 and 3 of block No. 2, and lots Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 10 of block No. 4, and lots Nos. 6, 7 and 8 of block No. 5, and lot No. 1 of block No. 6, of a block No. 7, as shown on a plat of said lands, to which reference is hereby made for accurate description. This deed in trust was given to secure the payment of a part of the purchase money in said land. May 19th, 1898.

J. G. MERRIMON, Trustee.

Notice.

Having qualified as administrator of the estate of T. A. Starnes, this is to notify all parties holding claims against the estate to present them to me for payment on or before the 30th day of the month of June, the date of this notice, or the same will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. Personal debts to the estate will come in and settle on April 7, 1898. T. C. STARNES, Administrator.

Dobbin & Ferrall,

"TUCKER'S STORE"

Nos. 123 and 125 Fayetteville Street, Raleigh, N. C.

Just Now Very Stylish—

Printed Foulards and India Silks.

Our styles are prettier than other stores—We have the tastiest buyer in America—Our prices are also lower than any other stores.

Let us send you samples and you will send us an order

WRITE TO US

Dobbin & Ferrall.

If you want a Liniment that goes to the spot every time and does its work buy

PASTOR WEY'S OIL OF COMFORT

Everyone who uses it says, Can't do without it. It is a wonderful Liniment and cost only 25 cents a bottle.

There is nothing in the market that will act so quickly and give immediate relief in all rheumatism, colds, cramp, diarrhoea, cholera infantum, etc. than Pastor Wey's Infallible Antidote. It never fails. 50 cents a bottle. For sale at the

Asheville Drug Co.

East Court Square and College St. Asheville, N. C.

ATTENTION!

J. S. Mosseiler, the practical and leading gun and locksmith, calls the attention of parties wanting work done. They will be benefited by calling on him. He has moved from Patton avenue to the new store room, 19 South Main street, near Public Square. He will give satisfaction in his line of business. The leading sporting people know his reputation. This is the time of year to have lawn mowers adjusted and sharpened. Golf clubs made and repaired, barbers' scissors, clippers, horse clippers sharpened, razors cleaned. Light machinery, bicycles, typewriters, sewing machines, music boxes, brass and steel instruments put in perfect order. Iron safes repaired. Everything in my line will be done well and promptly. J. S. MOSSEILER, 19 South Main St.

NOTICE.

Having been appointed by the county commissioners of Buncombe county, N. C., to list the taxes of the four wards of the city of Asheville, we hereby notify all persons liable for taxes on property or polls, that we will be in the office of the county commissioners in perfect order from 8 o'clock on WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1 TO THURSDAY, JUNE 30, except Sundays, from 8 o'clock a. m. to 5 o'clock p. m., for the purpose of listing all property and polls subject to taxation for the fiscal year beginning June 1, 1898.

F. M. MILLER, JOHN A. WAGNER, Listers.

Notre Dame of Maryland

Charles Street Ave., Baltimore, Md. College for Young Women, Preparatory School for Girls. Regular and Elective Courses. Extensive Grounds. Location Unsurpassed. Suburb of Baltimore. Spacious Buildings, completely Equipped. Conducted by School Sisters of Notre Dame.

SKYLAND INSTITUTE

Is completing its fourth session and has been full every year in both literary and music departments.

J. S. DICKEY, A. M., Prin.

TURNER'S N. C. ALMANAC.

Old Reliable for 1898. The only STANDARD STATE ALMANAC published. For sale at H. Taylor Rogers' Book Store, Asheville N. C. Price 10c per copy.

J. A. TENNENT, Architect and Contractor,

Office and Jobbing Shop South Court Square.

Wm. W. West, REAL ESTATE

LOANS NEGOTIATED. Room 7, 2nd Floor, Drummer Block, Patton Avenue.

LOOKING AHEAD!

Looking ahead is the great point in business as well as in public affairs. Merchandise and Warships are apt to cost purchasers more money than would be necessary if steps were taken in time when needs are not too pressing and the judgment is calm and clear. We are frequently obliged to dissappoint patrons who wait until the last moment to buy the many good things we are constantly offering. It invariably follows that when these goods are sought for elsewhere, much higher prices are demanded for them. Be forearmed then, by buying in time, for while we always aim to provide enough, we cannot always gauge demand, and disappointments are as embarrassing to us as they are to our patrons.

BIG BALTIMORE

The Acknowledged Cheapest House in the State of North Carolina.

10 and 12 Patton Ave.