

# Maid, Wife or Widow?

## WON FROM THE ENEMY.

By MRS. ALEXANDER.

### CHAPTER V

The little sister blushed crimson, held down her head and became suddenly silent.

The words were meant for her ear alone, but they also reached those of the watchful Rittmeister, who, divining their import, with an impulse of irritation laughed scornfully, as he remarked "that the young Fraulein had not reached the age at which prejudice hardened into consistency."

At last the repast was over, ceremonious bows and murmured "Gesegnete Mahlzeit" exchanged.

Lies slid quietly from the room, and at the same time the Amtmann seized Steinhausen's arm.

"Now, Herr Rittmeister, I am at your service."

"We will make a little tour of the 'Gut,' and I will fully explain my principles of management."

The pleasant little gentleman, rubbing his hands, stood, his head slightly on one side, bright, alert and brimful of useful hints wherewith to enlighten his friend the enemy.

Irritated and disgusted as he was, Steinhausen could not help unbending to the simple, kindly, well-bred country gentleman.

"You are very friendly, Herr Amtmann," he returned, graciously.

"I hope I do not trespass too much upon your precious time."

"By no means—by no means! This way, Herr Rittmeister. Permit me to direct you."

For nearly two hours did Steinhausen perambulate the various inclosures of Herr Amtmann's "Gut," and enter eagerly into his host's explanations.

The farm had, indeed, every requisite save water; and this the Amtmann had intended to supply by machinery, already purchased, and placed in a small building beside a deep well which lay at the foot of the hill; but the breaking out of the war, and the consequent absorption of skilled laborers in the army, had arrested the work, and the good Judge's outlay had been hitherto unproductive.

"A sad loss to me, my dear sir," concluded the little man, "for it will be some time before I bring matters into working order; and Lies, too, she feels it much—this delay."

At last the Judge's exhaustive exposition of his system, his small economies and larger outlays, his checks here, his discipline there, came to an end.

The precious hour of repose was over, and Von Steinhausen was pleased to think it must be time for afternoon coffee—not that his inspection of Herr Ghering's farm was devoid of interest to him—like most Germans of his age and standing, he looked forward to the time when, his soldiering days over, he would turn for occupation and interest to the pursuits of a country gentleman.

Still, it was much more agreeable to sit in the shady veranda, and sip the fragrant coffee handed to him by his fair antagonist.

The two gentlemen found all the party, including the dog Nero, assembled in this favorite resting place.

Lieutenant Burchardt was chaffing Clarchen about the projected ride which did not come off, in which amusement Von Planitz assisted; the little Backschechen was evidently vexed and ill at ease, looking to her sister for help, but the latter was absorbed in the task of pouring out and distributing the coffee, and took no notice of the mute appeal.

Steinhausen looked on in silence for a few moments, until he mastered the situation.

"So you did not accomplish your excursion, Fraulein Clara," he said at last, slowly stirring his cup of coffee.

"The Frau sister would not permit such tampering with the foe, eh! mein Fraulein? she would like to train the little one in the way she should go—nicht wahr, mein Gnadige?"

"I would not teach anything save loyalty," returned the older sister, gravely, offering the speaker a plate of biscuits—which Nero, by a sudden impetuous movement, nearly upset.

"Ah! loyalty; it is a noble quality," said Steinhausen, absently.

He had started from his seat to assist in saving the biscuits, and in so doing inadvertently caught the soft white hand he had just been admiring in his own. The touch was electric—

for an instant his thoughts were in a whirl—the next he began to hope that, perhaps, the orders which he was to await at Bergfeldler would not come until to-morrow evening, and so he might have more time—for what? he scarce knew himself.

He began to tell Lies of his walk through the farm with her father.

She said little—having taken up a piece of elaborate embroidery, on which her eyes were fixed.

Suddenly the old servant Hans presented himself.

"An orderly wishes to speak to Herr Rittmeister."

"Oh! bring him in, bring him in," cried the master of the house, who was in the highest good humor after the delightful occupation of the afternoon.

"Through the garden, Hans," said the young directress of the house, quietly, but emphatically. Von Steinhausen turned his eyes on her, and their expression of mingled resentment and reproach showed her that he thought she shrank from permitting their salon to be polluted by the presence of a Prussian trooper soldier.

This was not what she meant, and feeling it was not possible to explain, an inexplicable sensation of annoyance brought the color to her cheek in a quick, flitting blush, which did not escape Steinhausen's observation, even while he seemed only to see the dusty, travel-stained trooper who now ascended the steps, and, saluting, handed a dispatch to Rittmeister.

Steinhausen took it, broke the seal, and opening it, glanced at its contents, a look of fierce discontent darkening his brow as he read; then, crushing it somewhat in his hand, said to his brother officers:

"We march early to-morrow, gentlemen. We must be in Dresden by noon."

"Then to the soldier!"

"You can go. I have no further orders."

"Hans, take him to the kitchen; give him food and drink," said the kindly Frau Ghering.

"March to-morrow!" cried Burchardt. "That is a misfortune! One would like to rest a month long in such a heavenly house as yours, Gnadige Frau."

"And no chance for a ride now, lieber Fraulein," said the Fahrnich to Clarchen.

"Does any other party succeed to yours?" asked Lies.

"Ach! I am sorry," exclaimed the hospitable Gerichtsamtman.

"We shall not soon find gentlemen so courteous and accommodating as yourselves," to which civility Burchardt made a suitable reply, and some talk ensued, unheeded by Steinhausen, who was sunk in profoundest silence.

This order shattered his half-formed plans; it forced him to turn his back on the first morsel of real, vivid interest and delight that he had tasted for years, to forego the elucidation of the mystery which tantalized and attracted him.

It seemed a lifetime since the same fierce eagerness had thrilled his nerves, and it came back to him like renewed youth.

A question from the Judge broke the spell and compelled his attention.

"Pardon me! I did not hear."

"I merely asked if the view from the balcony above answers your expectations, Herr Rittmeister?"

"What view?" asked Steinhausen, quickly. "I have not yet had a chance of seeing it."

"Why, Lies," cried her father, impatiently, "why did you neglect my request?"

"Now, perhaps, the Rittmeister may leave without seeing the best view from the villa or from anywhere else in the neighborhood."

"Please conduct him at once to the upper balcony. I would gladly accompany you; but letters I have neglected this afternoon must be written, and pray do not miss this fine sunset."

Lies rose silently, hesitated an instant, and then, bowing to Steinhausen, led the way through the salon to a staircase ascending to the first floor.

Here the Prussian officer exclaimed: "I believe it would only be polite in me to relieve you from the performance of a task so evidently unwelcome; but—I should like to see the view of which your father spoke."

"It is no unwelcome task to show you the beauties of a land so little esteemed by your countrymen."

"Little esteemed! Why do you say so?"

"That is of no consequence. Pray follow me, and confess that Saxony at least has beauty of which you cannot deprive her."

She smiled as she spoke with something of a jest and earnest, preceding him upstairs and through another salon which Steinhausen had not yet seen.

The long French windows of this apartment opened on a balcony which ran along the north side of the house, and, passing through one of them, Lies leant against the balustrade, and with a silent but expressive gesture stretched out her hand toward the wide landscape, and then let it slowly fall to her side.

Pre-occupied as Steinhausen was by his eagerness to improve this probably last tete-a-tete with the object of his admiration, he was for a few seconds riveted by the unusual beauty of the view before him.

Below rolled the broad silver "silent highway" of the Elbe.

A wide-spreading plain to the left was sprinkled with villages, each clustering round church or tower; and far away the domes and steeples of the capital were dimly discernible.

At the other side of the river the banks stretched more or less steeply up to the forest heights, which again led up to the Bohemian mountains; and to the right, like isolated giants, stood the rocky masses of the Silensteine,

and the royal, fortress-crowned Koenigsstein, all steeped in the golden haze of a glowing autumnal sunset, all sleeping in a stillness so profound as almost to be felt.

Steinhausen looked at the fair scene in silence, and the grave expression of his companion's face deepened and softened into sadness.

She leant her elbows on the parapet, and rested her cheek on her clasped hands.

At length a low sigh, unconsciously breathed, struck on the Rittmeister's ear.

He turned his dark, stern eyes upon the figure beside him.

"To-morrow," he began, in a softer tone than usual, and paused—"to-morrow, then, I leave Bergfeldler, and perhaps may never again behold this loveliness." (Hers or that of the scenery?)

"Tell me, now that I am a moment alone with you, why you hate me and all Prussians."

"There is much I want to ask; but this first."

"I do not hate you; why should I hate an unoffending stranger? Your nation! Well, I do not love it."

"Why?" asked Steinhausen, receiving no answer, he repeated, "Why?"

"Surely," cried Lies, quickly, raising her head and looking full at him, "you can answer that question yourself! Herr von Steinhausen is sufficiently well read to be able to recall the historical facts of centuries past—from the old Brandenburg days and the Seven Years' war, down to the present unhappy struggle. Prussian policy has always been the same, aggression and annexation!"

Steinhausen laughed.

"What can you expect?" he said; "ours is no saintly sphere of impossible virtue, but a world of ordinary humanity, where might makes indefensible right!"

"It is a robber's maxim," said Lies haughtily, and turning, stepped back into the salon.

Steinhausen followed sharply, placing himself between her and the door; Lies stopped in some surprise.

"Is that all? Have you no more to advance against us?"

"I have, perhaps, already said too much, considering what hospitality demands," she replied.

"Hospitality! meine Gnadige," exclaimed the Rittmeister, with a provoking laugh, "do you not mistake the position?"

"We are not here by invitation, but in obedience to our general's order—as victors!"

"It is true, we have been well received and entertained, but had it been otherwise, we should have taken all we required and more; as conquerors, we are masters—at least, for the present."

Lies looked at him astonished, as if she could not, at once, quite comprehend the brutality of this speech; then the sensitive lips began to quiver, and in spite of her proud carriage, the large blue eyes were suddenly suffused with indignant tears.

"Let me pass," she said; "you are—" she stopped; Steinhausen finished the sentence for her—"a rude barbarian!" and he placed himself resolutely against the door.

"Yes! you are so earnest yourself that you take my half jest seriously; will you believe my whole earnest?"

He went on, eagerly, hurried by an impulse he felt was utterly folly, yet which he could not resist.

"I cannot, and will not, leave you without some explanation—some solution of the doubts which are so maddening!"

"Do you not see you have cast a spell upon me?"

"Short as the time is, resent the avowal as you may, I must and will tell you that I love you—love you intensely."

He tried to take her hand.

"On twenty-four hours' acquaintance!" she replied, with good-humored mockery, although she turned very pale and looked anxiously at the door.

"You dare not scorn the feeling you have evoked," exclaimed Steinhausen, quickly; then, seeing the alarm that would speak in her eyes in spite of her efforts to seem coldly calm.

"Mein Lieber," he continued, "you do not fear me; sweetest! best! I love you; I would not disturb or distress you for worlds; if—if you are free, do not reject me!"

"Nay, let me hold your hand one moment," resolutely catching and kissing it; "and if—as from what I can gather may be the case—you are unhappily linked to one who cannot appreciate the treasure fortune has given him, let me atone for the past! the bonds must be strong indeed if love and darling such as mine cannot break them; tell me truly, are you free?"

"I am not, Herr Rittmeister," said Lies, greatly disturbed, "and even if I were—this is madness!"

"There is, perhaps, a tinge of madness in it," returned Steinhausen, still holding her hand; "but there is truth and reality in it also," he urged, growing more eager as she shrank from his advances.

"I must tear myself away to-morrow; let me write to you! Leave me some straw to cling to; I cannot lose you!"

"Herr Rittmeister," interrupted Lies, collecting herself and at last releasing her hand.

"I cannot listen to such folly; if you think for an instant, you must see there is almost an insult in such an abrupt avowal."

"I cannot imagine what has suggested such ideas as to my position; surely, my father has not been so impudent as to—but," interrupting herself, "even if you were not an utter stranger—an enemy—a man of whom I feel a sort of slight fear—I must not, dare not, listen to your words."

To be continued.

## NORTH STATE NEWS

### Items of Interest Gleaned From Various Sections

#### FROM MOUNTAIN TO SEASHORE

#### Minor Occurrences of the Week of Interest to Tar Heels Told in Paragraphs.

##### Charlotte Cotton Market.

These prices represent the prices paid to wagons:

Good middling	111-4
Strict middling	111-4
Middling	111-3
Good middling, tinged	111-3
Stains	9 to 10

##### General Cotton Market.

New Orleans, quiet	111-8
New Orleans, easy	111-8
Mobile, easy	107-8
Savannah, easy	111-8
Charleston, nominal	111-8
Wilmington, steady	111-8
Norfolk, quiet	111-4
Baltimore, nominal	111-2
New York, quiet	111-45
Boston, quiet	111-70
Philadelphia, steady	111-70
Houston, quiet	111-8
Augusta, quiet	111-8
Memphis, quiet and nominal	111-16
St. Louis, quiet	113-16
Cincinnati	113-16
Louisville, firm	115-8

##### Brokers Can't Sell Liqueur.

Raleigh, Special.—Judge Thomas R. Purnell in the Federal Court here created a considerable sensation by charging the grand jury that it would be their duty to return true bills for selling liquors without license against any parties in Raleigh who received samples of whiskey from distillers or wholesalers elsewhere and sold by these samples to the Raleigh dispensary or private individuals. It is known that a number of brokers and others have sold to the dispensary and others in this way. The judge declared that this practice was more reprehensible than the "blind tiger" vender who slipped around the corner and sold whiskey by the pint.

##### Prices of Furniture Raised.

High Point, Special.—The North Carolina Case Workers' Association, in session here advanced the price of furniture five per cent. this same advance was made simultaneously by all the Southern furniture manufacturers many of them being present at this meeting. The Western manufacturers, in session at Chicago, made the same advance, so it is general throughout the United States. Manufacturers from all the southern states were in attendance upon the meeting and a great time was had. The next meeting will be held in Morehead City in August of this year. Mr. C. J. Field, the efficient secretary of the association, was re-elected with an increase in salary.

##### Defendants Acquitted.

Winston-Salem, Special.—Sam Kobre, William Pleas and J. E. Whitcomb, who have been on trial in the superior court since Monday indicted for the murder of Henry Kobre, a Russian Jew, in this city Sunday night, January 21st, were acquitted. The jury acting upon the instructions from Judge Peebles, who said that the State had failed to incriminate the defendants with crime except the testimony of Sallie Stewart, and that he would not convict or hang a "Yaller" dog upon her evidence. The case was disposed of without argument by counsel.

##### New Professors Elected.

Raleigh, Special.—Mr. Thos. Nelson was elected Professor and Mr. B. Moore Parker, Assistant Professor in the Textile Department of the Agricultural and Mechanical College by the board of trustees. These elections give strength to the department and more satisfaction to the students of the college and the citizens of Raleigh.

##### Verdict For Damages.

Wilmington, Special.—In the superior court Charles D. Wilson, a traveling salesman, was awarded \$5,000 damages against the Atlantic Coast Line railway for injuries received while crossing the defendant company's tracks in this city. Wilson was struck by a passing train, receiving permanent injuries.

##### New Enterprises.

The Merchants' and Farmers' Bank of Gaysburg, was chartered with a capital stock of \$75,000 subscribed by A. J. Ellis and others to do a commercial business.

Another charter is to the Washington Amusement Co., of Beaufort county for the operation of theatres and skating rinks at a capital of \$2,000 subscribed by B. W. Taylor and others.

The Robertson Grocery Co., of Salisbury reduces its capital to \$4,000. C. E. Robinson is president.

## NORTH CAROLINA CROPS

### General Summary of Condition of North Carolina Crops for Week Ending Monday, June 4, 1906.

The mean temperature for the State during the past week was about 1 degree below normal. It has been cool during the first part of the week, and warm during the latter part. The lowest temperatures generally occurred on May 30th, and the highest on June 1st and 2nd. There has been some complaints of cold winds during the first portion of the week doing some damage, but as a whole the weather was 94 degrees which occurred on June 2nd in Robeson county; and the lowest, was 46 degrees which occurred on May 4th at many places in the eastern district.

The rainfall for the past week was about 0.30 inch below normal, light rains having fallen on June 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. The rainfall of the preceding week was quite heavy and has proved very beneficial, but the dry winds quickly evaporated the moisture and now rain is needed particularly in the central district.

#### Quarrel Over An Account.

Asheville, Special.—A special to The Citizen from Andrews, says: "Harvey and Jake McFall, of Lowndes county, Ga., and Will Quitt has a fight at Rhodo, five miles east of here, resulting in Jake McFall being killed by Quitt and Quitt being seriously but not dangerously cut. The fight was the result of a dispute over an account. The McFalls began the affray and approached Quitt with drawn knives. Quitt retreated, warning them not to follow, but they made a dash at him, cutting his left arm twice, inflicting severe gashes. Quitt fired four shots, wounding Jake McFall in the head. McFall died about 10 o'clock. Quitt walked to Andrews and surrendered to Deputy Sheriff Elliott.

#### Prof. Bassett Retires From Trinity College.

John Spencer Bassett, Ph. D., professor of history in Trinity College, Durham, has resigned to accept a similar chair at Smith College, Northampton, Mass. About two and a half years ago Dr. Bassett wrote an article for a magazine in which he asserted that, with the exception of Robert E. Lee, Booker T. Washington was the greatest man the South had produced in a hundred years. The article attracted considerable attention throughout the country and was the object of some adverse criticism at the time. Dr. Bassett tendered his resignation to the college authorities, but they declined to accept it.

#### Sad Death at Maryville.

Maryville, Special.—A sad death occurred in this city last Wednesday morning when Miss Beryl Goddard, daughter of Nathan and Dorcas Goddard, passed into the beyond after an illness of one week, of heart trouble. Despite the fact that she has been in very poor health for some years, she was very ambitious to secure an education, sometimes too ill to pursue her studies but would rally and resume until she had just reached the goal which she had so faithfully struggled to attain. She was just ready to receive her diploma from the Blount county high school, when she was suddenly stricken down, one week before her death with the fatal heart trouble.

#### Telegraphic Briefs

Captain Garst and Lieutenant-Commander Witherspoon, of the battleship Rhode Island, were put on trial on charges connected with the recent stranding of that vessel.

It is alleged that Speaker Cannon is backing Congressman Huff in his failing to appear at the Pennsylvania Railroad inquiry until after Congress adjourns.

The House after securing a quorum by arresting members, passed the Compulsory Educational bill.

Senator Stanley in a speech attacked the American Tobacco Company.

Representative Gaines' Campaign Contribution Publicity bill will be reported favorably to the House.

Senator Bailey and others express the opinion that under the Rate Bill a rate made by the Interstate Commerce Commission can be kept in the courts until it expires.

King Alfonso and Queen Victoria attended a gala operatic performance.

Democrats are forcing the tariff to the front, and Republicans admit that it will probably be the issue of the campaign.

Rev. Dr. J. A. Snyder celebrated his fortieth anniversary as pastor of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, New Market.

President Cassett, of the Pennsylvania Railroad, returned home and gave out a statement on the disclosure of grafting by officials.

## A CONGRESSMAN KILLS HIMSELF

### Representative Adams, Prominent and Popular, Takes His Own Life

#### BROODED OVER MONEY MATTERS

Representative Robert Adams, One of House's Most Popular and Conspicuous Members, Shoots Himself to Death.

Washington, Special.—Representative Robert Adams, of Philadelphia, died at the Emergency Hospital from the effects of a self-inflicted bullet wound. Mr. Adams was discovered in a dying condition in his apartments at the Metropolitan Club chambers. He was sitting in a chair. A bullet wound in his mouth and pistol lying near him made it clear that he had attempted suicide.

A letter received by Speaker Cannon from Mr. Adams explained the cause of the suicide. Mr. Adams said in the letter that his debts exceeded his resources and forced him to abandon his official position. While he did not indicate an intent to take his life, he spoke of the form of his burial, indicating that he had then made up his mind to commit the rash act.

Dr. Nevitt, the coroner, issued a certificate of death by suicide, saying that it was such a clear case no inquest would be necessary.

#### The House Shocked.

Not in years has there come to the membership of the lower House of Congress such sudden gloom as came with the going out of Mr. Adams. But lately having charge of these diplomatic and consular bill, he showed energy and activity, getting the bill through the House with less friction than usual, few amendments being made to the measure.

When the house convened there was an especially large membership present and when the chaplain referred to the death of the late Congressman, members were visibly affected.

#### An Unparalleled Scene.

Then came a scene that has never had its parallel in the historic chamber of the nation's law-making body. The Speaker rose and asked that the House indulge him while he read a letter from the dead, a letter received while the life of Robert Adams was passing away. A silence fell on the House that but the day before was surcharged with animation. The letter was as follows:

"Washington, May 31, 1906.

"Hon. J. G. Cannon.

"My Dear Mr. Speaker:

"The fact that my personal obligations exceed my resources is my only excuse for abandoning the responsible position I occupy in the House. I am willing to be buried at its expense, but I ask that no committee be appointed or memorial services held, as I have never been in sympathy with the latter custom.

"With assurances of my high regard

"Sincerely yours,

"ROBERT ADAMS."

Following the reading of the letter, Mr. Morrell presented a resolution directing the sergeant-at-arms to make the necessary arrangements for the funeral, the expenses to be paid out of the contingent fund of the House, and then, as a further mark of respect, the House adjourned.

Representative Adams was one of the most popular Representatives in Congress and he has been identified with many matters of world-wide importance.

#### Lynchers Under Bond.

Wadesboro, N. C., Special.—An order signed by Judge Walter H. Neal at 6 o'clock Friday afternoon, after naming the following as defendants: John Niven, Lester Johnson, Zeke Lewis, Elmer A. Dunn, John Jones, J. F. Dunn, May Gilledge, Lewis Adams, Jim Swink, Billy Dean and Frank Graham, says: "After hearing the evidence, it is adjudged by the court that there is probable grounds to believe the above named defendants guilty of the offense charged against them under the statute of 1893, and they are admitted to bail in the sum of \$5,000 each, to be approved by the solicitor for their appearance at the next term of Superior Court of Union County, for the trial of criminal cases, to answer the charges set out in the warrants. In default of the execution of said bond the sheriff will commit them to the common jail of Union county and this order shall constitute a commitment to the keeper of the common jail of Union county."

#### Big Fire in Virginia Town.

Danville, Special.—A special to The Register from South Boston, Va., says: Fire which broke out here Friday afternoon at 1 o'clock entailed a financial loss variously estimated at between \$250,000 and \$300,000. The origin of the conflagration is supposed to have been from a lighted cigarette or match thrown in the stables of Edmondson's warehouse, in which the fire started.