

The Spoilers.

By REX E. BEACH.

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SYNOPSIS.

CHAPTER I.—At Unalaska Glenister and Dextery, gold miners bound to Nome, save a young woman from a party of sailors. The three sail north on the Santa Maria, the girl as a stowaway in the miner's cabin, while the men go below. Dextery has been warned to guard his claim and to beware of a man named McNamara, who backed by the courts, is going to Nome. The girl overhears Glenister say he considers her "spoils of war." II.—The girl, carrying important papers, had left Seattle for Nome on the Ohio, which, with small cargo aboard, had been quarantined at Unalaska. She had fled from the Ohio in order to reach Nome as soon as possible. III.—The girl tells Glenister her name is Helen Chester. She is "bringing the law" to Nome. He tells her he will guard his mine himself. He kisses her against her will. IV.—As Helen leaves the cabin on the ship's arrival at Nome she is seen by Mrs. Chapman of Nome. Struve, the lawyer whom Helen has come to see, is found drunk. Glenister saves Helen from accidental shooting. Glenister and Dextery take Helen for safety to their mine, the Midas. V.—Judge Stillman, Helen's uncle, arrives at Nome and takes charge of her. Other arrivals are Alec McNamara, a political schemer, and Dunham, partner of Struve. McNamara and the two lawyers plot to "jump" the Midas claim. Their agent, Galloway, has been driven off by Dextery. Struve, acting on instructions in the papers brought recently by Helen, has closed the titles of the richest placers in Nome. McNamara is head of a scheme to oust the rightful mine owners. There have been many attempts to "jump" claims. Glenister promises Helen that he will try to become civilized and will not shoot the claim "jumper." VI.—McNamara, as receiver for Galloway, takes charge of the Midas by order of Judge Stillman. He has already seized many other claims. Glenister suspects Judge Stillman despite his belief in Helen. He prevents one of his men, Slapjack Simms, from shooting McNamara. VII.—In a Nome saloon, dance hall and gambling hall Cherry Malotte, a mining camp woman, in love with Glenister, fills for a short time the place of Bronco Kid, the farm dealer. Glenister had been infatuated with Cherry, but had broken with her. He tells her of the "jumping" of his claim now a week old, and the vain attempts at legal relief made by his lawyer, Bill Wheaton. McNamara is supported by federal troops. Cherry becomes jealous of Helen when Glenister tells he intends to marry the newcomer, Bronco Kid, in love with Cherry, is jealous of Glenister. VIII.—McNamara falls in love with Helen. The girl tells Dextery that her missing brother is somewhere in Alaska. He attracts the attention of the Bronco Kid. McNamara seizes all the property on the claims. Glenister and Dextery believe that judge, prosecuting attorney and marshal are all conspiring with McNamara against them. McNamara's move leaves them without funds. Dextery dotes and threatens McNamara and Judge Stillman. IX.—Dextery declares his intention of killing McNamara if the latter has "fixed" the higher courts in San Francisco. Judge Stillman is to move his court to St. Michael's for a month, leaving McNamara free to work the claims. Glenister, Dextery and Simms disorganized, at midnight, make a midnight raid on the mine to obtain gold to send Wheaton to San Francisco. On the same night McNamara takes Helen to see the mine. He tells her the legal procedure against Glenister and Dextery is regular. The girl distrusts him. She surprises Glenister and the others at work. He holds her up and then leaves without revealing his identity. She believes that she recognizes him and sends McNamara and his men off on a wrong scent. X.—Dextery disturbs Glenister by telling him McNamara is in love with Helen. Wheaton goes to San Francisco. Helen tells Glenister she knows who she recognizes and sends McNamara and his men off on a wrong scent. XI.—Dextery tells Glenister to warn him against pursuit, outwits McNamara and his searchers by hiding the gold in Glenister's stove.

CHAPTER XI.

RAW, gray day, with a driving drizzle from seaward and a southerly rack of clouds drifting low, matched the sullen, fitful mood of Glenister. During the last month he had chafed and fretted like an animal in leashed for word of Wheaton. This uncertainty, this impotent waiting with folded hands, was maddening to one of his spirit. He could apply himself to no fixed duty, for the sense of his wrong against his brother, and the feeling himself haunting the vicinity of the Midas, gazing at it from afar, gnawing hungrily for such scraps of news as chanced to reach him. McNamara allowed access to none but his minions, so the partners knew but vaguely of what happened on their property, even though, under fiction of the law, it was being worked for their protection. No steps regarding a speedy hearing of the case were allowed, and the relation between Judge Stillman and the receiver had become so generally recognized that there were uneasy mutterings and threats in many quarters. Yet, although the politician had by now virtually absorbed all the richest properties in the district and worked them through his henchmen, the people of Nome, as a whole, did not grasp the full turpitude of the scheme nor the system's perfect working. Strange to say, Dextery, the fire eater, had assumed an oriental patience quiet foreign to his peppery disposition and spent much of his time in the hills prospecting. On this day, as the clouds broke about noon, close down on the angry horizon a drift of smoke appeared, shortly resolving itself into a steamer. She lay to in the offing, and through his glasses Glenister saw that it was the Bonoko. As the hours passed and no boat put off, he tried to hire a crew, but the longshoremen spat wisely and shook their heads as they watched the surf. "There's the devil of an undertow settin' along this beach," they told him, "and the water's too cold to drown in comfortably." So he laid his hands upon his impatience. Every day meant many dollars to the water, and yet it seemed that nature was resolute in thwarting him, for that night the wind trebled, and

eyes of the lean faced men beyond the grating he felt that the game was growing close, and his blood tingled at the thought. He had not planned on a resistance so strong and swift, but he would meet it. He knew that they lungered for his destruction and that Glenister was their leader. He saw further that the man's hatred now stared at him openly for the first time. He knew that back of it was something more than love for the dull metal over which they wrangled, and then a thought came to him. "Some of your work, eh, Glenister?" he mocked. "Were you afraid to come alone, or did you wait till you saw me with a lady?" At the same instant he opened a door behind him, revealing Helen Chester. "You'd better not walk out with me, Mrs. Chester. This man might—well, you're safer here, you know. You'll pardon me for leaving this way?" He hoped he could locate the young man to some rash act or word in the presence of the girl and counted on the conspicuous heroism of his own position, facing the mob single handed, one against fifty. "Come out," said his enemy hoarsely, upon whom the insult and the sight of the girl in the receiver's company had acted powerfully. "Of course I'll come out, but I don't want this young lady to suffer any violence from your friends," said McNamara. "I am not armed, but I have the right to leave here unmolested—the right of an American citizen." With that he raised his arms above his head. "Out of my way!" he cried. Morehouse opened the gate, and McNamara strode through the mob. It is a peculiar thing that, although under fury of passion, a man may fire even upon the back of a defenseless



Out of my way!

foe, yet no one can offer violence to a man whose arms are raised on high and in whose glance is the level light of fearlessness. Moreover, it is safer to face a crowd than a single adversary. McNamara had seen this psychological trick tried before and now took advantage of it to walk through the press slowly, eye to eye. He did it theatrically, for the benefit of the girl, and, as he foresaw, the men fell away before him—all but Glenister, who blocked him, gun in hand. It was plain that the persecuted miner was beset himself with passion. McNamara came within an arm's length before pausing. Then he stopped, and the two stared malignantly at each other, while the girl behind the railing heard her heart pounding in the stillness. Glenister raised his hand uncertainly, then let it fall. He shook his head and stepped aside, so that the other tramped past and out into the street. Wheaton addressed the banker. "Mr. Morehouse, we've got orders and writs of one kind or another from the circuit court of appeals at Frisco directing that this money be turned over to us." He showed the papers to ward the other. "We're not in a mood to trifle. That gold belongs to us, and we want it." Morehouse looked carefully at the papers. "I can't help you," he said. "These documents are not directed to me. They're issued to Mr. McNamara and Judge Stillman. If the circuit court of appeals commands me to deliver it to you, I'll do it, but otherwise I'll have to keep this dust here till it's drawn out by order of the court that gave it to me. That's the way it was put in here, and that's the way it'll be taken out." "We want it now." "Well, I can't let my sympathies influence me." "Then we'll take it out anyway," cried Glenister. "We've had the worst of it every where else, and we're sick of it. Come on, men!" "Stand back, all of you!" cried Morehouse. "Don't lay a hand on that gate. Boys, pick your men." He called this last to his clerks, at the same instant whipping from behind the counter a carbine, which he cocked. The assayer brought into view a shot gun, while the cashier and clerks armed themselves. It was evident that the deposits of the Alaska bank were absolutely safeguarded. "I don't aim to have any trouble with you-all," continued the southerner, "but that money stays here till it's drawn out right." The crowd paused at this show of resistance, but Glenister railed at them: "Come on! Come on! What's the matter with you? And from the light in his eye it was evident that he would not be talked. Helen felt that a crisis was coming and leaped herself. These men were in deadly earnest—the white haired banker, his pale helpers and those rctm, quiet ones outside. There stood bravely, sun bronzed men with set jaws and frowning faces and yellow haired Scandinavians in whose eyes danced the flame of battle. These had been lashed at every turn, goaded by rejected failures, and now stood shoulder to shoulder in their resistance to a cruel law. Suddenly Helen heard a commotion from the street and the quick tramp of men, while over the heads before her she saw the glint of rifle barrels. A file of soldiers with fixed bayonets thrust themselves roughly through the crowd at the entrance. "Clear the room!" commanded the officer. "What does this mean?" shouted Wheaton. "It means that Judge Stillman has called upon the military to guard this gold, that's all. Come, now, move quick!" The men hesitated, then unobeyed. For resistance to the blue of Uncle Sam comes only at the cost of much consideration. "They're robbing us with our own soldiers," said Wheaton when they were outside. "I've said Glenister darkly. "We have tried the law, but they're forcing us back to first principles. There's going to be murder here."

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

Out of Sight.

"Out of sight, out of mind," is an old saying which applies with special force to a sore, burn or wound that's been treated with Bucklen's Arnica Salve. It's out of sight, out of mind and out of existence. Piles, too, and chilblains disappear under its healing influence. Guaranteed by English Drug Company. A Colorado man is reported to have gotten drunk three times a day for a year. Yet it should be remembered to his credit that he also got sober the same number of times.

How to Cure a Cold.

The question of how to cure a cold without unnecessary loss of time is one in which we are all more or less interested, for the quicker a cold is gotten rid of the less the danger of pneumonia and other serious diseases. Mr. B. W. L. Hall, of Waverly, Va., has used Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and says: "I firmly believe Chamberlain's Cough Remedy to be absolutely the best preparation on the market for colds. I have recommended it to my friends and they all agree with me." For sale by English Drug Company.

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Five years ago The Bank of Union opened for business. At that time there was only one bank in Union county, with assets of about \$200,000.00 or less, while now there are five banks in the county with assets aggregating about \$1,000,000.00. What a wonderful change for so short a time! What is the reason? The principal cause lies in the enhanced values of farm products, but along with this there has been a great awakening in the way of doing business. People who were dead in financial matters have come to life, and they see the dawn of a better day. People are more thrifty than five years ago. They are more ambitious to succeed, and they do succeed. The banks have contributed no little to this revolution in financial matters.

The Bank of Union Has Labored Steadily to Promote Prosperity in Union and Adjoining Counties.

It has spent much money to safeguard the interests of its customers. No bank could do more under the circumstances. Absolute safety and good service are guaranteed. The people should recognize these facts and appreciate them. They could not do this in a more welcome way than by using this bank as a depository. A private room for the accommodation of customers has been provided. There they will find a desk, paper, etc., for their convenience. Welcome.

The Keeley Cure. It relieves a person of all desire for strong drink or drugs, restores his nervous system to its normal condition, and reinstates a man to his home and business. For Full Particulars, Address The Keeley Institute, Greensboro, North Carolina. Correspondence Confidential.

Do You Know What It Does? It relieves a person of all desire for strong drink or drugs, restores his nervous system to its normal condition, and reinstates a man to his home and business. For Full Particulars, Address The Keeley Institute, Greensboro, North Carolina. Correspondence Confidential.

Scott's Emulsion strengthens enfeebled nursing mothers by increasing their flesh and nerve force. It provides baby with the necessary fat and mineral food for healthy growth. ALL DRUGGISTS; 50c. AND \$1.00.

Shop in Charlotte and Have The Little - Long Company Pay Railroad Fare. It's the hub of the surrounding country and The Little-Long Company's store is the emporium for merchandise that's up to the minute. There you'll find everything that's new, and the largest stock of the Carolinas to select from. The millinery and coat suit showings are far beyond anything ever seen in their stores. Besides, you will find every want can be supplied in the way of fine dress goods, silks and trimmings, floor coverings, china, brick-a-brac, men's and boys' high-class clothes, ladies', men's and children's fine shoes, men's and ladies' furnishings, as well as an up-to-date jewelry department containing sterling silver and plated table ware, silver novelties, solid and gold filled jewelry, watches, fobs, bracelets, diamonds, rings, etc. If you purchase \$40.00 or more, railroad fare will be refunded within a radius of fifty miles, and freight prepaid on all purchases of \$5.00 or more. Ask where's the biggest store in the Carolinas, and you'll be told it's in Charlotte, and it's The Little-Long Company.

AN IMMENSE ARRAY of Fall and Winter Merchandise Here for Your Inspection. Notwithstanding the big advance in Cotton and Woolen Goods, we are still selling most lines of merchandise at old prices. The explanation is that we placed a large percentage of our orders for this Fall's Merchandise last Spring, and it is fortunate for those who patronize us that we did, as it enables us to sell them goods at much less than we could otherwise do. We always give our customers the advantage. Dress Goods. A VARIETY OF WEAVES. 56-inch Ladies' Cloth, all colors, the yard, 48c. 54-inch Ladies' Cloth, all colors, special at 75c and 95c. Lot 50c. value in Mohairs, at 39c. Lot Woolen Dress Goods, 15c to 25c value, while it lasts, per yard, 10c. Silks! Silks!! Notwithstanding big advance, we have Silks at the same old prices: 36-inch Taffeta, all shades in solids and plaids, per yard, 95c.

Clothing! Clothing!! We have never had such a big Clothing business so early in the season—a ! there's a reason for it. We are showing some of the best values that were ever offered in Monroe in Men's Suits, Boy's Suits and Children's Knee Pants Suits, and Men's Odd Pants. We can save you one-third of the regular price. On a Big Job Lot of Clothing we have. We bought it at a big discount. You get the benefit. Don't Lose Any Time. This store makes a specialty of Bargains which awaits your coming. Ladies' Coats. More than Two Hundred Ladies', Misses' and Children's Coats here to select from. Think of buying an All-Wool Black Kersey Coat for \$5.00! Worth fully 25 per cent more, and we have others at \$7.50 and \$9.00 that we could not duplicate at the price. Children's very serviceable Coats—just the thing for school wear—at \$2.90 and upward. We have them as low as 98c. Many Other Bargains. We could mention hundreds of other Bargains, but haven't the space, so we'll have to give to you in broken doses. Don't Lose Sight of

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