

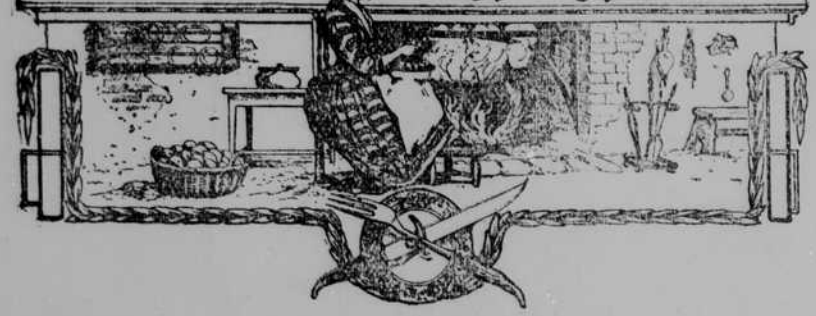
The Yadkin Ripple.

VOL. XIV.

YADKINVILLE, YADKIN COUNTY N. C. WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1907.

NO. 40.

A Captured Thanksgiving Dinner



PRETTY Mercy Standwell drew out the end of the huge iron crane almost as high as herself—and peered into the pot which it had brought from the blaze with a pretty, plump hand. Someone had to stay at home to look after things, and this morning Mercy had insisted on the others going to meeting and leaving her to this task, and she had been utilizing the three hours of the long sermon in adding to the stock of food. There were a goodly number of home folks and guests, and no one knew how many her father and mother would bring from the service.

"So ho, mistress," came a deep, mocking voice; "ye have been preparing for our coming, it seems. Beshrow me, but the colors are good. What say ye, boys, turning to a line of piratical, sailor-looking men who were following him into the room. "Shall we sit for a while and let this fair wench minister to our appetites? 'Twill be a difference from our blackamoor's cooking, I am thinking."

A hoarse growl of assent came from the line—all but one, who looked doubtful. "Will it be safe, captain?" this one asked. "Safe!" the deep voice echoed grimly. "What have we with a land word like that? Besides, it sounds weak in thy big mouth, Turbell. It is their Thanksgiving time here, and they will long for sermons. Let us be thankful, too, and partake of their good cheer. We shall then be fitted, when they return from service, to pick out good men and true for our vessel. And for thy good sake, the soldiers are at their goring a mile away from here. We can eat and be merry, and our need from the praise singers when they come back, and be dipping across the water before news of the exploit can get over the leaded tables to their ears. Now, Turbell," his keen, scornful eyes flashing about and seeming to see and comprehend everything; "get all the men inside. You fill up the table here, and I will take charge of the one in the next room. It will be time enough to log chickens and pigs and other live stock when we are through, and perhaps there will be a few scraps left from our feast that we can carry back to the vessel. It will be a change from the blackamoor."

All this time Mercy had been standing by the fireplace; and her eyes, which at first had dilated with terror, gradually calmed and grew watchful and speculative. She had thought they might be king's men, on a raid to impress seamen. Now she believed they were buccaneers, or pirates; but it amounted to the same. The one impressed in the king's name, the other in their own. In either case, the possibility of escape or release were equally small; only, with the pirates, in the event of capture, explanations might be difficult, and then punishment would be quick and certain.

As she hurried from table to table, trying to meet the demands for hot coffee which were hurled at her from all sides, the lips of the young girl were pressed firm, her brain busy. Something must be done, and she was the one who must do it. In another hour her father and brothers and uncles and cousins, and all the men of the neighborhood would be coming from service, and, unwarmed, would fall into the hands of these evil-eyed freebooters, who would pick out the strongest among them and bear them away to slavery that would be worse than death.

Mercy knew what it meant. The coast was an exposed one, and press-gangs had visited it before. Men had been carried away, and not one of them had ever returned. Occasionally stories had come back of hardships and cruelty and even of death, until the word press-gang had become a word to whiten the cheeks of women and clinch the fists of men. Only the year before the son of their nearest

neighbor, the most promising young man around, and the playmate and schoolmate and dear friend of Mercy, had gone out in a boat for a day's fishing. But he had rowed too far. A schooner had slipped from behind an island, a boat been dropped from her davits filled with dark-faced men. Mercy had been on the shore with others and had witnessed it all. And from that day to this no tidings had come back of Robert Wade.

Mercy was thinking of her playmate as she tried to keep the cups of the men filled, and of the similar fate that was pending over her dear ones. And doubtless there would be bloodshed, for the dear ones would resist to the last.

For the most part the men ate noisily, with loud guffaws of enjoyment and much rude badinage. The viands were before them, and they helped themselves liberally, with long reachings. It was only the cups that needed replenishing; but the men seemed to throw the contents down their throats at a single gulp, and then cried lustily for more.

Four times the big pot was refilled and emptied, fresh coffee being added with each refilling. But the men's impatience would not allow for boiling, and when hot water was poured for the fifth time Mercy had an uneasy apprehension that the coffee was very weak.

Suddenly a cup flew across the



—From The Ram's Horn.

room, crashing against a looking glass and breaking them both.

"To blazes with dishwater," a man yelled. "Here, girl, what ye got that's good to drink—strong?"

"Nothing, sir," answered Mercy, keeping her voice steady with an effort.

"No wine or cider?" threateningly. "No. The only barrel of cider that we had is too strong to drink. It is vinegar now. Father made it for that."

"Father made it for us to drink," mockingly. "And vinegar is just right. Bring in a pitcherful, quick. It is out in the barn."

"Quick! Didn't I tell ye!" yelled the man. "We don't want any palaver."

Mercy caught up a large pitcher and hurried out, an eager light coming into her eyes. If she was to do anything, she must do it now. But what?

As was often the case in rural communities, the Standwell young people had some little interest in the farm. Mercy owned a calf and a few of the chickens and a field which she sometimes gave to crops and sometimes left in grass for the hay. The last season it had been in grass, and her seven or eight tons of hay now rose in a large stack on the slope below the barn, where it awaited a purchaser. With its proceeds she expected to buy two or three more calves from her father, some English dress goods from the store, and some presents for the various members of the family.

"Ye'd ought to be a boy, and on ship-board." Ten minutes later the captain leaned back, wiping his mouth on the back of his hand. "Now, what do ye give us for the finish?" he called to Mercy. "Have ye cake and other sweet stuff?" "Yes, sir, many kinds; and pies and things fit for a thanksgiving."

"Well, bring them all on. But what's that smoke?" suddenly, and springing to his feet, he rushed outside, drawing his sword. When he came back, a few minutes later, his eyes were red and angry.

"Didn't I tell you men to be careful until we had eaten?" he cried. "Some of ye have dropped fire in lighting a pipe, and the dry grass is burning below the barn. If it spreads, the barn itself may catch, and then some of the torpid soldiers may be wakeful enough to see. Hurry, now, and get through. The palm singers will be here soon, and we must be ready to invite them on board. Your carelessness will lose us part of the feast. Come now, girls, bring on the sweet things, quick! quick!"

Mercy ran into the storeroom, returning a few minutes later with her arms straining under a pyramid of pies. These she hurried along the table, dropping one before each man. Then she ran back after more. Oh, if she could only keep the men feasting until the soldiers arrived—and even more than that, if only the men in the meeting house would be slow in discovering the smoke, so the soldiers could arrive as soon as they. All of them would believe it was a raid, with buildings being set on fire, and would come hurrying to the spot. Fortunately the freebooting captain himself did not suspect. He had some just far enough to see it was not the barn, and then the feasting had tempted him back. He supposed the fire to be grass burning in some field beyond.

He did not seat himself again in his chair, but stood by the table, tak-



—From The Ram's Horn.

ing huge mouthfuls of cake and pie, and swallowing glass after glass of the fresh buttermilk that Mercy brought in. Presently he swung around.

"Turbell," he called to the next room, "take all your men and gather up what food ye can find in the house. Go into the storeroom where the wench keeps her pies and cakes. Take everything, and all we are leaving on the tables. We will have a few days' rest from the blackamoor. Hurry, now, and get them to the boats, in case anything might happen; then come back. We will stay here and watch. The praise-makers will be here soon."

Ten minutes and the house had been stripped of its food; five more, and there was the sound of voices. "Stand by the doors," ordered the captain. "When they get close, spring out on them. Better club every one into insensibility; they will be easier carried."

"The soldiers," he warned in a hoarse whisper. "They're almost here. What—"

But the captain was by him with a bound. The men tumbled after. One look was sufficient. The soldiers were approaching at a run.

"To the boats!" yelled the captain. "They're too many for us, and ye know our fate if captured. Where is Wade? Not here? Then Turbell must have taken him. Run! now! run!"

When the soldiers came up panting, the last of the buccaneers were tumbling into their boats on the beach. The soldiers fired a volley to accelerate their movements. As the echoes died away a gaunt, disheveled figure crept from under the Standwell porch. Its eyes were big and hollow, and there were scars of ill-usage and cruelty upon the face, and one arm was in a sling. The people coming from the meeting house stared incredulously, then united in a ringing, welcoming, joyous shout of "Robert Wade! Robert Wade!"—Frank H. Sweet, in The Advance.

BRYAN A CANDIDATE

Willing to Accept Democratic Nomination For President

THINKS CHANCES TO WIN GOOD

Mr. Bryan Oft-Repeated Question by Saying That He Will Accept Democratic Nomination in 1908—Does Not Seek Nomination and Will Not Assume to Decide Question of Availability.

Lincoln, Neb., Nov. 19.—William J. Bryan will accept a Democratic nomination for President in 1908, but he will neither ask nor make a fight for it. He says that for a year or more he has been pressed to answer the question "Will you accept the nomination?" and he believes the public is entitled to an answer and to know the position he occupies. The question that ought to weigh most, he says, is whether his nomination will strengthen the Democratic party more than the nomination of some one else. Not only will he not seek or ask for the nomination, but he will not assume to decide the question of availability, and if the prize falls to another he will neither be disappointed or disgruntled. At the same time, he denies that he has waited this long in a desire to see whom the Republicans are likely to nominate, or to ascertain the chances of victory.

Mr. Bryan says: "Now that the election of 1907 is past and plans are being made for next year's campaign, Mr. Bryan feels that a statement is due to the public. Those who prefer another candidate are entitled to know his position and those who favor his nomination have a right to demand an answer to the question so often put 'Will you accept a nomination?' his refusal to answer the question has led to the circulation of many false reports and unfriendly newspapers have taken advantage of his silence to misrepresent his attitude.

Will Not Seek Nomination. "Mr. Bryan will not ask for or seek a nomination and he will not assume to decide the question of his availability. He has been so simply recompensed by his party for what he has done and for what he has endeavored to do that he cannot claim a nomination as a reward; neither should his ambition be considered for he has had honors enough from his party to satisfy any reasonable ambition. The only question that ought to weigh with the party is whether the party can be strengthened and aided more by his nomination than by the nomination of some one else. If he can serve the party by being its candidate, he will accept the commission and make the best fight he can. If, however, the choice falls upon another, he will not be disappointed or disgruntled. His availability is a question to be decided not by him, nor by a few leaders, not even by the leading newspapers that call themselves Democratic, but by the voters of the party and to them, he entrusts the decision of the question—they are the Supreme Court in all matters concerning candidates, as they are in all matters concerning the merits.

Party Must Depend Upon Its Merits. "He assumes that they will not select him unless they desire to make an aggressive fight for the application of Democratic principles to present conditions, and he also takes it for granted that the organization of the party will be in harmony with the platform, and will be composed of men who see political records and will invite confidence and give assurance that a victory, if won, will not be a barren victory.

"The Republicans must nominate either a reformer, a stand pater or one whose position on public questions is unknown, and the course of the Democratic party should be the same no matter which element controls the Republican convention. The Democratic party must make the fight for what it believes. While it may take advantage of Republican mistakes, it must depend upon its own merits for success and not upon the error of its opponents.

"The action of the Republican convention may have its influence in the determining of the relative availability of Democratic candidates, but it ought not to have any influence in determining the question whether the one chosen by the Democrats should accept the nomination. If the rank and file of the Democratic party desire Mr. Bryan to make the race, he will make it no matter who may be the Republican nominee."

Some Certificates Retired. New York, Special.—It was learned that some of the Clearing House loan certificates issued during the recent financial crisis had been retired.

No definite information as to the amount could be obtained, but Clearing House officials expressed high satisfaction at this concrete evidence of improvement in the general situation.

BARNEY MAKES WILL

Mortally Wounded by His Own Hand He Called His Family Around Him and Dictated Will—Estate Valued at \$2,500,000—Will Be Incorporated and Managed by Former Associates.

New York, Special.—Mortally wounded by his own hand, Charles Tracy Barney summoned his family and lawyers to his bedside and after calmly reviewing his business and private affairs and giving minute expression of his wishes in certain matters, dictated and signed a will in which his wife was made the principal beneficiary. This matter disposed of her submitted with resignation to the operation through which his physicians had hoped to save his life.

A half hour after the lawyers withdrew the former head of the Knickerbocker Trust company was dead. This became known through a statement made by Albert S. Milbank of the law firm of Masten and Nichols, Mr. Barney's personal attorneys, and explains the presence at the house when the coroner arrived of Arthur H. Masten and George L. Nichols, the firm members. It was given out at the house following the death of Barney that the dying man had said nothing further than the remark, repeated later by Dr. George A. Dixon, "Doctor, this is an accident."

It is believed that the estate at present will not amount to \$2,500,000. Under the provisions of a previous will Barney made his position of from \$7,000,000 to \$9,000,000. In Friday's will the banker directed that his estate should be incorporated and administered by a board of trustees, chosen from his former associates in the directorate of the now suspended Knickerbocker Trust company. Barney directed that his wife should be the chief beneficiary after his debts were paid.

Cortelyou Addresses Merchants.

New York, Special.—Secretary of the Treasury Cortelyou, the "savior of the business and financial interests of New York," was given a great reception upon his appearance at the tenth anniversary luncheon of the Merchants' Association of New York. Other speakers were James W. Wadsworth, Jr., speaker of the assembly; Patrick F. McGuigan, president of the board of aldermen; John T. Griggs, counsel of the association, and the Rev. Dr. Nehemiah Boynton, of the Clinton Avenue Congregational church, Brooklyn.

Combine Among Coal Dealers.

Chicago, Ill., Special.—State's Attorney Healy's attention has been called to a move inaugurated which is charged may have something to do with the increases of from 25 to 50 cents on a ton in the price of coal. The three principal companies are said to be affected by the new consolidation. The scheme is that all the coal yards be brought under one management. This would be an economical method of supervising business and would prevent competition between rival agents.

Wounded in Shotgun Duel.

Romoke, Va., Special.—In a duel with shotguns near Radford Thursday evening James Newby, custodian of Carpers' Lilia Springs, was fatally wounded by Hugh Peterman, and the latter was seriously wounded by Newby. The men were out hunting and when they met, turned their guns on each other and began shooting. The trouble is the result of an old grudge which grew out of jealousy on the part of Peterman, who imagined Newby was paying attention to his wife.

Norfolk Bank in Hands of Receiver.

Norfolk, Va., Special.—The Peoples Bank of Portsmouth, which suspended several days ago, went into the hands of a receiver Monday night upon petition of the directors who gave out a statement that the bank has been made insolvent through defalcations by the cashier.

STATEHOOD FOR OKLAHOMA.

New Star Added to American Flag by Admission of Oklahoma.

Washington, Special.—A new star was added to the American flag Saturday by the admission formally into the Union of the State of Oklahoma. President Roosevelt at 10:16 o'clock Saturday morning signed the proclamation admitting the territories of Oklahoma and Indian Territory jointly as one of the American States. Little formality attended the ceremony which meant so much to the people of the two territories. In appending his signature to the proclamation the President used a pen formed from a quill plucked from the wing of an American eagle. The pen will be deposited with the Oklahoma Historical Society.

Admission Marked by Jubilation.

Guthrie, Okla., Special.—The admission of Oklahoma to statehood was marked by jubilation throughout the two territories by the installation of Governor Charles N. Haskell and by a parade and barbecue in Guthrie.

PRESIDENT EXPLAINS

Tells Why "In God We Trust" Was Omitted From Coins

SAYS IT IS RANK IRREVERENCE

President Roosevelt Issues Letter Stating Why "In God We Trust," Has Been Dropped From Gold Coins.

Washington, Special.—In answer to one of the numerous protests which have been received at the White House against the new gold coins which have been coined without the words "In God We Trust," President Roosevelt has written a letter which he has made public. The letter follows:

"When the question of the new coinage came up we looked into the law and found there was no warrant therein for putting 'In God We Trust' on the coins as is the custom, although without legal warrant had grown up, however, I might have felt at liberty to keep the inscription had I approved of its being on the coin. But as I did not approve of it, I did not direct that it should again be put on. Of course the matter of the law is absolutely in the hands of Congress and any direction of Congress in the matter will be immediately obeyed. At present as I have said there is no warrant in law for the inscription.

Does No Good. "My own feeling in the matter is due to my very firm conviction that to put such a motto on coins or to use it in any kindred manner, not only does no good, but does positive harm, and is in effect irreverence, which comes dangerously close to sacrilege. A beautiful and solemn sentence such as the one in question should be treated and uttered only with that reverence which necessarily implies a certain exaltation of spirit. Any use which tends to cheapen it and above all, any use which tends to secure its being treated in a spirit of levity is from every standpoint profoundly to be regretted.

"It is a motto which it is indeed well to have inscribed on our great national monuments, in our temples of justice, in our legislative halls, and in buildings such as those at West Point; and Annapolis—in short wherever it will tend to arouse and inspire a lofty emotion in those who look thereon. But it seems to me eminently unwise to cheapen such a motto by use on coins, just as it would be to cheapen it by use on postage stamps or in advertisements.

Source of Jest and Ridicule. "As regards the use of coinage we have actual experience by which to go. In all my life I have never heard any human being speak reverently of this motto on the coins or show any signs of its having appealed to any high emotion in him, but I have literally hundreds of times heard it used as an occasion of, and incident to, the sneering ridicule which it so beautiful all things undesirable that so beautiful and exalted a phrase should excite.

"For example throughout the long contest extending over several decades on the free coinage question the existence of this motto on the coins was a constant source of jest and ridicule, and this was unavoidable. Every one must remember the innumerable cartoons and articles based on phrases like 'In God We Trust for the eight cents,' 'In God We Trust for the short weight,' 'In God We Trust for the thirty-seven cents we do not pay,' and so forth and so forth. Surely I am within bounds when I say that a use of the phrase which invites constant levity of this type is most undesirable. If Congress alters the law and directs me to replace on the coins the sentence in question, the direction will be immediately put into effect, but I very sincerely hope that the religious sentiment of the country, the spirit of reverence in the country will prevent any such action being taken.

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

Enjoined From Counting Prohibition Election.

Decatur, Ala., Special.—M. F. Woodward, a liquor dealer of Decatur, has enjoined the probate judge of Morgan county, also the sheriff and clerk of the court, from counting the prohibition election held in that county last Saturday. The papers were served on the officials by the coroner and bonds were fixed at \$2,500 each. The constitutionality of the law under which the election was held, is the main reason set out in the injunction.

Prevents Transfer of Cases.

Baton Rouge, La., Special.—The State Senate passed a bill prohibiting foreign corporations from filing or transferring cases to the Federal courts on penalty of disbarment from the State Court. There was only one vote against the measure, which was the cost of the proposed reforms to be concretely presented at the extra session.

Late News In Brief

MINOR MATTERS OF INTEREST

Grover Cleveland spend the day out hunting.

The German Emperor was delayed by fog on his arrival in England.

The third Douma will begin its sessions at St. Petersburg next Thursday.

Five new companies of the coast artillery are to be organized at Fort Monroe, Va.

Former Secretary of the Treasury Shaw made an address advocating currency reform.

A member of the Russian Absolutist party announces that the plan is to destroy the Duma.

The steamer Minnetonka brought a stowaway, who traveled as a passenger, though without money.

The ferry sale made by Anthony N. Brady, in New York, is to be investigated by the grand jury.

Marconi is experimenting with the wireless system to find if power cannot be transmitted in the same way.

Henry Farman made a complete circle with his aeroplane, though the performance is not regarded as official.

President Roosevelt has invited Dewey, Brownson and other admirals to review the fleet on its departure for the Pacific.

A Baltimore firm has filed a proposed whistleblowing, which Attorney General Bonaparte regards as in line with his decision.

President Gompers submitted an interesting report at the annual meeting of the Federation of Labor, which began at Jamestown.

William Davis, a negro criminal, is held by the Richmond police in the belief that he is the man who almost murdered and assaulted Miss Mamie Conners.

The People's Bank, of Portsmouth, is in the hands of receivers. It is said to be insolvent because of defalcations of the cashier.

Wholesale frauds on the part of distillers are said to have been unearthed by government agents at Danville.

The trial of Col. A. S. Hudson, on the charge of embezzlement was postponed by Judge Black at Charleston, W. Va.

Delaware liquor dealers are expected to contest the constitutionality of the law under which the recent local option election was held.

The appeal of the county of Philadelphia in the 2-cent rate case was argued before the Pennsylvania Supreme court.

William Jennings Bryan is to make another tour of New York State before deciding as to the Presidential nomination.

President Roosevelt, it is understood, is greatly disappointed at the results in Maryland, New Jersey and Ohio, and may change his attitude toward the Presidential nomination.

Charles S. Mellen, president of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad had a conference with Mr. Roosevelt.

Warning was issued to army officers that "round robins" or any form of criticism of officials or policies will be promptly punished.

Latest returns indicate that the Democrats have elected 117 members of the Virginia Legislature, while the Republicans elected 23.

Internal revenue officers have seized 16 distilleries in Lower Virginia for alleged revenue frauds.

Chicago will charge a 3 per cent. tax on the telephone company's gross receipts.

Bishop Ferguson, the negro prelate, is said to have attended Governor Swannson's reception at the Executive Mansion.

Latest returns in New Jersey reverse the earlier result, and give the State to the Republicans. Other results are practically as previously announced.

Raymond Hitchcock, the actor, reappeared in New York and was arraigned on one of the charges against him.

Official steps were taken to declare the telegraphers' strike off.

The arrival of gold shipments and the decision to stand by the trust companies eased things in Wall street.

The steamer Lusitania broke her best previous record for a day's run.

A plan is on foot to place Grover Cleveland at the head of a depositors' committee to aid in the rehabilitation of the Knickerbocker Trust Company.

Dr. J. Lewis Brown was arrested in Atlanta, on the charge of attempting to kill Father Gunn, priest in charge of the church of which he was organist.

Howard Galford was shot and instantly killed at Wantness, W. Va., and Anos Passell is in jail, charged with the crime.

Former Judge Wilbur J. Kilby, of Suffolk, is dead.

Pittsburg expects rail mills to resume within 30 days.