******** The Gaptain of the Kansas.

By LOUIS TRACY. Author of "The Wings of the Morning." "The Pillar of Light," Etc.

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> CHAPTER XIII. [CONTINUED.]

Courtenay meanwhile was examining the advancing flotilla. His brain was coming each detail of the Alaculof array, but his heart was whispering gladly

"In another moment you would have kissed her and told her you loved her. You know you would, so don't deny it. Ah, kissed her and held her to your

So Suarez spoiled a pretty bit of romance by his ruffling agitation over some bawl of savage frenzy, for Courtenay of course would have laughed away the girl's protests that she was usurping another woman's place

If the confident demeanor of the paddling warriors in the canoes were destined to be justified, the Kansas was in a parlous state. Her vast bluk and sheer walls of steel did not daunt them. They came on steadily against the rapid current and spread out into yards of the ship. Then three men, erouching in the bows of different canoes, produced rifles hitherto invisible and began to shoot. The bullets ricochetted across the ripples, and Courtenny saw that the savages did not understand the sighting appliances. They were aiming point blank at the ves sel in so far as they could be said to aim at anything, and the low trajectory caused the first straight shot to rebound from the surface of the water and strike a plate amidships. The loud clang of the metal was hailed by the Alaculofs with shouts of delight.

The long range firing was kept up for several minutes, much to Courtenay's relief, as Suarez was certain that the Indians' stock of cartridges did not amount to more than 400 at the utmost. The canoes crept gradually nearer, and bullets began to strike the ship frequently. One glanced off a davit and shattered a couple of windows in the chart house. This incident aroused even greater enthuslasm than the first blow of the attack, There was renewed activity among the paddle wielders. Two canoes were not fifty yards from the most souther ly floating mine. Courtenay commenced to haul in the slack of one among the half dozen thin cords. He him sorely. turned to tell Suarez to be ready for the duty which had been intrusted to him when his glance happened to travel toward the mouth of the bay.

Then he learned the significance of that column of smoke on the northern point. A fleet of at least forty canoes was advancing on the ship from the the bridge,' sea. Tide and paddles were swinging the small craft along at a spanking pace. They were already much near er the vessel than the first batch of Indians, who had very cleverly con- the shattered form stretched at the trived to enlist the attention of the defenders while the real attack was developing without let or hindrance. It was a smart ruse worthy of a race of higher attainments can the tribe which is ranked low at in the human scale. The newcomers abstained from firing or stone slinging. They were gathering with the speed and silence

Two mines protected the front of the Kansas, and several canoes had passed them. Indeed Courtenay soon found that some of the assailants were already screened by the ship's bows, but the larger number were clustered thickly round Tollemache's infernal machines. It was well that a cool headed sailor was called on to deal with this emergency. The captain of the Kansas even smiled as he appreclated the full menning of the trick which his adversaries had tried to play on him, and the man who smiles in the face of danger is one to be depended

The six cords were numbered. He dropped No. 2, which he was holding, and seized Nos. 4 and 5. He drew them in, hand over hand, as rapidly as possible, but was careful not to sacrifice a smooth tension to undue hurry. In a few seconds two deafening reports split the air, the glass front of the chart house shook, pieces of the broken panes rattled on the floor, several scraps of Iron, bolts, buts and heavy nails fell off the decks and hatches, and a tremendous hubbub of yells came from the main body of Indians. A couple of heavily charged dynamite bombs had burst in their midst, dealing death and destruction over a wide area. Several canoes near the floating platforms were torn asunder and sank, while men were killed or wounded out of all proportion to the number of craft disabled.

Courtenay at once picked up the governing cord of the mine which he was about to fire in the first instance. He felt that the Alaculof flotilla would act in future on the "once bitten twice shy" principle where those innocent looking little poles showed above sea level, and he must strike fierce blows while the opportunity served. The nine canoes on the south were not clustered around the bomb in the same manner as the others, but they were near enough to sustain heavy loss, and their frightened crews had ceased to ply their paddles, so he fired that shell

the ship's dides. A volley of stones woman's love.

smashed several more canes of stout glass, many arrows were imbedded in edge and said: the woodwork, but he calmly pulled another cord and blew a single loud blast Miss Maxwell, I will bind his paw. on the siren. That was the agreed signal to warn those below that they must expect to be attacked from the fore part of the vessel. His shotgun was lying on the table. He took it up and faced forward again. Several canoes were scurrying past and away from the ship as fast as the current and many arms could propel them. He fired both barrels at those within range on the port side. He reloaded, 1 and the sharp snapping of revolver shots told him that Tollemache and the Chilean were busy.

But the Indians were demoralized by the complete failure of their scheme. They had ceased firing and stone slinging; they were flying for their lives. Courtenay wheeled round on Suarez.

"Now!" he cried, pointing to a speaking trumpet. Suarez ran out on deck, put the megaphone to his mouth and roared after the discomfited enemy a threat of worse things in store if they dared to come near the ship again. As he used the Alaculof language, the sounds he uttered were the most extraordinary that Courtenay had ever heard from a human throat-a compound of hoarse, guttural vowels and consonants ending in a series of clicks -and the stentorian power of his lungs

must have amazed the Indians. Courtenay saw that the two fleets were combining forces about 500 yards to the westward. They were close inshore, but none of the savages landed, nor did they head for the more remote Otter creek As he was anxious to keep them on the run, he resolved to a crescent when within a few hundred try the siren again. He judged rightly, as it transpired, that they would fear the bellow of the fog horn even more than the flying missiles which had dealt death and serious wounds so lavishly.

He knew sufficient Spanish, eked out by signs, to bid Suarez hold the siren cord taut for a minute. While the Kansas was still trumpeting forth her loud blare of defiance he ran down the bridge companion. Mr. Boyle and the tiny garrison of the port promenade deck received him jubilantly. They had escaped without a bruise and owing to their position were able to witness the Indians' retreat.

He raced across to starboard and found that by unfortunate mischance a Chilean fireman in Tollemache's de tachment had been shot through the brain. The poor fellow was prone on the deck. It was only too evident that a doctor's skill could avail him naught, so Tollemache had decided that he should not be taken below. The incident marred an easily won victory. Courtenay was assured in his own mind that none of the men had been injured, seeing that he and Suarez, who occupied the most dangerous position, were untouched. This fatality was a mere blunder of fate, and it grieved

Even while he bent reverently over the unlucky Chilean's body the deafening vibration of the fog horn ceased and he heard Elsie's glad cry from the

"Oh, my, here comes Joey! That means that Captain Courtenay has left

The girl's joyous exclamation, her prelude to a paean of thanks that the dreadful necessary slaying of men had ceased, was a strange commentary on commander's feet. Among the small company on board it had been decreed that one at least, after surviving so many perils, should never see home and kin again.

He gave orders that the dead man should be carried to the poop to await a sailor's burial. Then he turned and. with less sprightly step, descended the main companion. In the salon he found Elsie and Christobal watching the stairs expectantly. The girl had the dog in her arms, and Courtenay the Indians would probably avoid in perceived for the first time that Joey's the event of a second attack, might off fore paw had been cut by the broken glass which littered the floor of the chart house.

"Then the attack has really failed?" was Elsie's greeting. "I saw some of the canoes turn and scurry away. That was the first good sign, and then Joey came."

"You saw them?" repeated Courtenay, his bent brows emphasizing the question.

"Yes. I was looking through one of the ports. Was that wrong?"

"Which one?"

She pointed, "That one," said she, wondering that he had never a smile "Then you must obey orders more

above your head." She paled, and her eyes fell before

her at all, for she read the unspoken tridge paper. He placed it in his pocket agony of his thought. "I am sorry," she murmured, "not

is it-not one of our own people, I hope?" "A fireman. I think his name is fancy, but I regret his loss exceedingly. It must have been the merest ac-

The captain of the Kansas was certainly preoccupied or he would never Joey's injury. Nor would either he or Elsie have forgotten that Christobal was not "one of our own people," though the girl might protest hotly against any invidious twisting of the

phrase. The Spaniard missed nothing of Courtenay's solicitude for Elsie's well being nor of her shy confusion. Chrisalso and had the satisfaction of seeing tobal was under no sort of doubt that two more of the frail craft capsize. unless another "accident" intervened He heard the crash of bullets against he had lost all chance of winning this

But he swallowed the bitter knowl-"If you undertake to hold the dog.

"Oh, my ducky darling little pet! Did I actually forget all about his dear wounded little fact? And he came hopping in so bravely, too, carrying himself with such a grand air. Come, then, Joey, dear! Let us see what has happened. Yes, this is the doctor, but he won't hurt you. He is so good and kind to little dogs. He will wrap up the bleedy part until it is quite nice and comfy.'

CHAPTER XIV.

N his way back to the deck the captain encountered Suarez. The Spaniard led the English man toward one of the peepholes in the canvas screen. enough, the canoes were making off toward Otter creek. In the marvelously clear light it was easy to see the threatening arms held out toward the ship by a few men who stood upright. Even their raucous cries were yet audible. Courtenay was glad he had not missed this demonstration of hatred. It argued the necessity of continued watchfulness.

The general attitude of the crew was one of real annoyance that the fight had not been carried on at close quarters. The Kansas bore tokens in plenty of the battle. Many bullets and arrows had struck the ship, the canvas was torn in several places, a number of port lights were broken, and the open decks, fore and aft as well as the spar deck, were littered with stones. He picked up some of these missiles, man's earliest and latest projectile. They were round and heavy. A few bore the red streaks of oxidized fron; some appeared to be veritable lumps of ore, though the action of water had made them "smooth stone out of the brook." He showed one to Tollemache, who seemed to possess a good deal of out of the way knowledge, and the latter instantly pronounced the



you undertake to hold the dog, Miss Maxwell, I will bind his paw."

The captair saw to the reverent bur-

specimen to be almost pure copper veined with silver.

ial of poor Pietro Gama entered full details of the fight in the ship's log and helped Walker to search the susmines had been demonstrated beyond a doubt. He thought it possible, given the necessary time, to rig a device which would be practically invisible. A fresh set of dummy poles, which deflect the canoes into the area of new mines laid at sea level.

Their utmost diligence brought to light no further supply of the explosive. Evidently the prepared lumps of coal, each containing a stick of dynamite, which were placed in the bunker at Valparaiso had been conveyed on board by one man, so it was more than likely there was not another ounce of the stuff on the ship except the three specimens first discovered. These, water soaked and useless, were locked in a drawer in the chart house.

While scrutinizing the bunker Courtepay found a grimy piece of paper, crushed into a ball and amalgamated with coal dust by means of the glue or faithfully next time. A man was shot other substance which had been used dead by a stray bullet not three feet for making the bombs intended for the destruction of the furnaces He examined it carefully, believing it had his stern gaze, which did not deceive the appearance and texture of carand, while changing his clothes before joining the others at supper, came on so much on my own account, though I it again with a certain surprise. He shall be more careful in future, but plunged it into a basin of hot water, because some one has suffered. Who and it yielded its secret. It was the outer wrapper of a stick of dynamite. It bore the circular stamp of the manufacturers, the Sociedad Anonyma de Gama. You have hardly seen him, I las Costas del Pacifico. This in itself meant nothing. The same company probably supplied hundreds of mines with the five pound boxes in which dynamite is packed, and if the stamp were the only clew none could possibly have failed to inquire the extent of say when or where it had been issued

But miners are apt to be careless. Men accustomed to dynamite will handle it with an astounding disregard for Some Spanish overseer, evidently at r a wave of delight coursing through Elloss for a memorandum tablet, had sie's veins. scribbled hieroglyphics with an indelible pencil on this particular wrapper. It was clear that the figures and abbreviated words referred to the development of a cross heading and the position of certain lodes, but Courte I That would certainly not be fair.

nay was quick to see that the official who made those notes would recognize them; hence the mine or store from which the package had been stolen or bought could be identified. Such evi dence was of highly circumstantla value. Courtenay put the wrapper in the same drawer as the cartridges, entered in the log the time and manner of its discovery and forthwith dismissed it from his mind.

It was almost dark when he went on deck. The wind was keen and chilly It whistled through the broken windows of the wheelhouse and seemed to have in it a promise of bad weather But a giance aloft and at the sky beyoud the southern headland - Point Kansas, as it was called on board-reared him. The far flung are over ad was cloudless. The stars of the southern hemisphere, vivid and bright, though less familiar than those of the north, were reflected in the black wa-The ship was so still, the surroundings so peaceful, save for the plash of tiny waves created by the reeze, that he was almost startled when a soft voice came from the low-

"Where in the world have you been, Captain Courtenay? Joey is fretting for you, and I have carried him all over the ship in vain search."

His heart jumped with gladness. sie was awaiting him at the foot of the ompanion. Be sure he was by her side without needless delay. The dog wriggled in her arms, so she said:

"I don't think he ought to run about His dear little paw is rather badly cut. and there may be more broken glass on the deck."

"I hope not, for our Chileans' sake," laughed Courtenay. "I heard Mr. Boyle telling them to sweep it up, and they were hard at work when I went to my

"Oh, is that where you hid yourself? No wonder I could not find you. O: course Joey knew where you were Howestupid of me!"

"Please don't call yourself names, Elsie. You don't deserve them. And. by the way, may I address you by your Christian name? It slipped out today unawares. Not that I feel like apologizing, because I don't. There are times when the heart speaks, not the guarded tongue."

Luckily tis darkness covered the hot blush which leaped to her cheeks. She gave a nervous little laugh and strove desperately to parry this wholly unexpected assault.

"I shall be delighted if you always call me Elsie. It sounds friendly, and I think our circumstances warrant a

true friendship." "Excellent! I suppose you know that

my name is Arthur?" "Yes, but I had no notion of that sort of exchange. You are the captain, and a very serious sort of captain at times. I feel like a little girl when you look at me and tell me not to be naughty, so 'Elsie' sounds all right, but I simply dare not call you 'Arthur.' Just imagine what a sensation it would create in the salon! I should feel creepy all over. And hadn't we better be"-

"Elsie," said he, with a tender note in his voice which thrilled her like a chord of exquisite music, "I want to tell you something. The knowledge is forced on me that there is another man on this ship who wishes to make you his wife, but I, too, love you, and I see no reason why I should stand aside for

any man on God's earth until you tell me with your own lips that you prefer him to me.

"Oh!" gasped Elsle and "Oh!" again. but not another word could she utter. she who had been so voluble a moment ago. The bittersweet pain of hearing tricks of Cupid were again illustratpected coal for a further supply of dynamite, as the utility of the surface this sudden avowal was almost overed in marriage which took place at powering. Her ideals of honor and Pelham. While Mr. J. T. Gammon, truth were shocked, but she was a wo- of Ruffin, went to Wentworth to man as well as an idealist, and she was get a marriage license, Mrs. Mary knowledge that she had won the man whose love she craved. "I want you to listen to me, Elsie,"

that stilled the rising storm in her bos- to Pelham, where the knot was tied. om. "Dr. Christobal may have pleaded his own cause already. It is not for me to cavil at him for doing that, but I cannot lose you without a word. Whether you marry him or me or nelther of us, I shall love you forever. I want you to know that. It is no new discovery to me. I think my heart went out to you when I carried you in my arms through the gale, and since that hour you and I have had experiences denied to most men and women ere they reach the conclusion that they are fit mates for the voyage of life. Do you feel that, sweetheart? Have we known each other ten days or ten years?

His face was very near to hers now. His arm was around her neck. It was quite dark where they stood in the shadow of the bridge. He could not see the tears in her eyes, but he heard her broken answer:

"Are you-quite-fair-in using such words to me?"

"Fair, Elsie! Fair to whom?" "Because oh, how can I tell you? Are you free to-to speak to me in this way?"

"Elsie, I am pledged to no other woman, if that is what you mean. Who has been telling you otherwise?"

"No one. Indeed-indeed, I alone am to blame. You will be angry with me. but I could not help it."

She could say no more. If she had uttered another syllable just then she would have broken down completely. Courtenay placed his hand under her chin and lifted her unresisting lips to his. He kissed her twice and laughed danger, and here was a case in point. softly, with a glad confidence that sent

> "Sweetheart," he whispered, "I am sure you would not have allowed me to speak so plainly if you were going to send me away. Now, I don't want you to bind yourself irrevocably tonight.

don't know why I am to be angry what it was you couldn't beip, and I don't care a red cent. All I want to know is this-if the Kansas brings us both back to the outer world once more, have I as good a chance of win ning your love as any other man?"

"But I must tell you. I could not look you in the face if you did not hear When I was left alone in your cabin the second time and the sea came in, a packet of letters fell out of some clothes which I picked up from the floor. There was one from your sister. I hardly knew what I was do ing, but I saw her name, 'Madge,' and I read a few words on the half page above her signature."

His left arm was now so well estab lished that his hand touched her cheek and he found it wet with tears.

"What wild conceit has crept into your pretty little head?" he cried in amaze, unconsciously raising his voice somewhat. "A letter from my sister! She is the most straightforward woman breathing, I assure you. Never a line has she written to me which could bear any construction such as seems to trouble you. Why, on the contrary, Madge has often chaffed me for being so like herself in giving no thought to matrimony."

"It is horrid of me to persist, but I owe it to you to tell you what I saw She alluded to your 'affianced wife and said that 'under no other circum stances,' whatever they were, would she receive ner."

Then Courtenay laughed again, and Elsie found it was absolutely essential if Joey were not to be crushed that her head should bend a little forward. with the obvious result that it rested on Courtenay's shoulder

"I must show you the whole of that letter," he cried, "and the others which are tied up in the same bundle. You will see me blush, I admit, but it will not be from a sense of perfidy. But there is one thing you have forgotter Elsie." And his voice dropped to a tense whisper again. "In telling me your secret, which is no secret, yo. have given me my answer. Your heart must have crept out a little way to meet mine, dear, or my sister's words would not have perplexed you. So that is why you have avoided me during the past few days! But there! Now, indeed, I am not acting quite fairly. It is unfair to ask you to confess when I want you to wait until we win clear of our present difficulties before you decide whether or not you can find it to your liking to make a poor sailor man happy.'

Joey was a highly accommodating dog under certain conditions. He had curled up so complacently that Elsie found she could hold him quite easily with one arm. So the other went out in the darkness until it rested timidly on her lover's disengaged shoulder.

"It is easy to confess that which is already known," she murmured. "Whether we are fated to live one day or fifty years, it will be all the same to me, dear."

She lifted her face again to his and would have returned the kisses he gave her were it not that they lost their one sided character this time There was a chance that Joey might have been partly suffocated, though to all appearance he meant to die a willing martyr, had not Suarez leaned over the upper rail and asked in his grating accent if he heard the senon captain's voice below.

(Continued on Page Three.)

Changed Her Mind.

Reidsville, July 10.-The peculiar Stallings, of Ruffin, changed her mind and accepted the offers of Mr. J. T. Barker, another citizen of Rufhe said, with a passionate intensity fin, and they hied themselves off

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No. 21-Leaves Goldsboro, N. C., 6:45 a. m.: Selma, N. C., 7:40 a. m. Through train with Chair Car to Asheville, connecting at East Durham, N. C., for Oxford, Henderson, Keysville, and Richmond, at University for Chapel Hill, at Greensboro, for Charlotte, and all points South, also for Danville, Lynchburg, Charlottesville, Washington, and all points North.

No. 139-Leaves Goldsboro, N. C., 2:05 p. m.: Selma, N. C., 3:00 p. m., for Greensboro, N. C., handles through sleeper Raleigh, N. C., to Atlanta, Ga., connecting at Greensboro, for all points North, South, and West.

No. 111-Leaves Goldsboro, N. C., 9:40 p. m. Selma, N. C., 10:38 p. m.; handles sleeping Raleigh, N. C., to Greensboro, N. C. Connects at Greensboro, for Charlotte, Atlanta, New Orleans, Asheville, Knoxville, also for Danville, Lynchburg, Charlottesville, Washington and all points North.

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