



The THIRD DEGREE

A NARRATIVE OF METROPOLITAN LIFE

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SYNOPSIS.

Howard Jeffries, banker's son, under the evil influence of Robert Underwood, a fellow-student at Yale, leads a life of dissipation, marries the daughter of a gambler who died in prison, and is disowned by his father. He tries to get work and fails. A former college chum makes a business proposition to Howard which requires \$2,000 cash, and Howard is broke. Robert Underwood, who had been repulsed by Howard's wife, Annie, in his college days, and had once been engaged to Alicia, Howard's stepmother, has apartments at the Astoria, and is apparently in prosperous circumstances. Howard recalls a \$200 loan to Underwood, that remains unpaid, and decides to ask him for the \$2,000 he needs. Underwood, taking advantage of his intimacy with Mrs. Jeffries, Sr., becomes a sort of social highwayman. Discovering his true character she denies him the house.

CHAPTER IV.

The richly decorated reception rooms, brilliantly illuminated with soft incandescent lights artistically arranged behind banks of flowers, were filled with people. In the air was the familiar buzz always present in a room where each person is trying to speak at the same time. On all sides one heard fragments of inept conversation.

"So good of you to come! How well you're looking, my dear."

"My husband? Oh, he's at the club, playing poker, as usual. He hates music."

"I've such a terrible cold!"

"Trouble with servants? I should say so. I bounced my cook this morning."

"Aren't these affairs awfully tiresome?"

"I was so glad to come. I always enjoy your musicales."

"Dr. Bernstein coming? How perfectly delightful. I'll ask him for his autograph."

"What's psychology?"

"Something to do with religion, I think."

"Haven't we been having dreadful weather?"

"I saw you at the opera."

"Doesn't she look sweet?"

"Oh, I think it's just lovely."

People now arrived in quick succession and, forming little groups, the room soon presented an animated scene. The women in their smart gowns and the men in their black coats made a pleasing picture.

"My dear Mrs. Jeffries, how do you do this evening?" exclaimed a rich, deep voice.

The hostess turned to greet an elderly and distinguished-looking man who had just entered. Directly he came in voices were hushed, and on every side one heard the whisper:

"There's Judge Brewster, the famous lawyer."

There was a general craning of necks to catch a glimpse of the eminent jurist whose brilliant address to the jury in a recent case celebre had saved an innocent man from the electric chair.

Richard Brewster was a fine example of the old school statesman-lawyer of the Henry Clay type. He belonged to that small class of public men who are independent of all coteries, whose only ambition is to serve their country well, who know no other duty than that dictated by their oath and conscience. A brilliant and forceful orator, there was no office in the gift of the nation that might not have been his for the asking, but he had no taste for politics. After serving with honor for some years on the bench he retired into private practice, and thereafter his name became one to conjure with in the law courts. By sheer power of his matchless oratory and unanswerable logic he won case after case for his clients and it is a tribute to his name to record the plain fact that in all his career he never championed a cause of which he need be ashamed. Powerful financial interests had attempted to secure his services by offers of princely retainers, but without success. He fought the trusts bitterly every time he found them oppressing his profession.

Alicia advanced with extended hand.

"This is indeed kind, Judge," she exclaimed with a gracious smile. "I hardly dared hope that my poor musicale would be so honored."

The old lawyer smiled good-humoredly as he replied gallantly:

"I don't know much about music, m'm; I came to see you." Looking around he added: "You've got a nice place here."

He spoke in his characteristic manner—short, nervous, explosive sentences, which had often terrified his opponents in court.

"Lawyers are such flatterers," laughed Alicia as she nervously fanned herself, and looked around to see if her guests were watching.

"Lawyers only flatter when they want to," interrupted Mr. Jeffries, who had just joined the group.

Alicia turned to greet a new arrival and the lawyer continued chatting with his host.

"I suppose you'll take a rest now, after your splendid victory," said the banker.

"I Don't Know Much About Music, M'm."

Judge Brewster shook his head dubiously.

"No, sir, we lawyers never rest. We can't. No sooner is one case disposed of than another crops up to claim our attention. The trouble with this country is that we have too much law. If I were to be guilty of an epigram I would say that the country has so much law that it is practically lawless."

"So you're preparing another case, eh?" said Mr. Jeffries, interested.

"What is it—a secret?"

"Oh, po!" answered the lawyer, "the newspapers will be full of it in a day or two. We are going to bring suit against the city. It's really a test case that should interest every citizen; a protest against the high-handed actions of the police."

The banker elevated his eyebrows.

"Indeed," he exclaimed, "what have the police been doing now?"

The lawyer looked at his client in surprise.

"Why, my dear sir, you must have seen by the papers what's been going on in our city of late. The papers have been full of it. Police brutality, illegal arrests, assaults in station houses, star-chamber methods that would disgrace the middle ages. A state of affairs exists to-day in the city of New York which is inconceivable. Here we are living in a civilized country, every man's liberty is guaranteed by the constitution, yet citizens, as they walk our streets, are in greater peril than the inhabitants of terror-stricken Russia. Take a police official of Capt. Clinton's type. His only notion of the law is brute force and the night stick. A bully by nature, a man of the coarsest instincts and enormous physical strength, he loves to play the tyrant. In his precinct he poses as a kind of czar and fondly imagines he has the power to administer the law itself. By his brow-beating tactics, intolerable under Anglo-Saxon government, he is turning our police force into a gang of ruffians who have the city terror-stricken. In order to further his political ambitions he stops at nothing. He lets the guilty escape when influence he can't resist is brought to bear, but in order to keep up his record with the department he makes arrests without the slightest justification. To secure convictions he manufactures, with the aid of his detectives, all kinds of perjured evidence. To paraphrase a well-known saying, his motto is: 'Convict—honestly, if you can—but convict!'"

"It is outrageous," said Mr. Jeffries. "No one can approve such methods. Of course, in dealing with the criminal population of a great city, they cannot wear kid gloves, but Capt. Clinton certainly goes too far. What is the specific complaint on which the suit is based?"

"Capt. Clinton," replied the judge, "made the mistake of persecuting a young woman who happened to be the daughter of a wealthy client of mine. One of his detectives arrested her on a charge of shoplifting. The girl, mind you, is of excellent family and irreproachable character. My client and his lawyer tried to show Capt. Clinton that he had made a serious blunder, but he brazened it out, claiming on the stand that the girl was an old offender. Of course, he is forced at last to admit his mistake



DR. H. Q. ALEXANDER MAKES A SPEECH

ADDRESS BODY OF UNION MEN FROM ALL PARTS OF COUNTRY.

PRINCIPLES ARE OUTLINED

Gives Brief Sketch of the Plans of the Union—In Conclusion He Touched on a Subject That Had Caused Much Talk.

out afterward that he had been duped. Proceedings were threatened, but Underwood managed to hush the affair by returning part of the money."

In another part of the room a couple were discussing Mr. Jeffries as he stood talking with Judge Brewster.

"Did you notice how Mr. Jeffries has aged recently? He no longer seems the same man."

"No wonder, after all the trouble he's had. Of course you know what a disappointment his son turned out!"

"A scamp, I understand. Married a chorus girl and all that sort of thing."

"Not exactly, but almost as bad. The girl was a waitress or something like that in a restaurant. She's very common; her father died in prison. You can imagine the how to old Jeffries. He turned the boy arid left and left him to shift for himself."

Alicia approached her husband, who was still talking with Judge Brewster. She was leaning on the arm of a tall, handsome man with a dark Van Dyke beard.

"Who are you discussing with such interest?" she demanded, as she came up with her escort.

"We were talking of Capt. Clinton and his detestable police methods," said the banker.

"Judge," said Alicia, turning to the lawyer, "allow me to introduce Dr. Bernstein. Doctor, this is Judge Brewster."

The stranger bowed low, as he replied courteously:

"The fame of Judge Brewster has spread to every state in the union."

A faint smile spread over the face of the famous lawyer as he extended his hand:

"I've often heard of you, too, doctor. I've been reading with great interest your book, 'Experimental Psychology.' Do you know," he went on earnestly, "there's a lot in that. We have still much to learn in that direction."

"I think," said Dr. Bernstein, quietly, "that we're only on the threshold of wonderful discoveries."

Pleased to find that her two distinguished guests were congenial, Alicia left them to themselves and joined her other guests.

"Yes," said the lawyer musingly, "man has studied for centuries the mechanism of the body, but he has neglected entirely the mechanism of the mind."

Dr. Bernstein smiled approvingly.

"We are just waking up," he replied quickly. "People are beginning to look upon psychology seriously. Up to comparatively recently the layman has regarded psychology as the domain of the philosopher and the dreamer. It did not seem possible that it could ever be applied to our practical everyday life, but of late we have made remarkable strides. Although it is a comparatively new science, you will probably be astonished to learn that there are to-day in the United States 50 psychological laboratories. That is to say, workshops fully equipped with every device known for the probing of the human brain. In my laboratory in California alone I have as many as twenty rooms hung with electric wires and equipped with all the necessary instruments—chronoscopes, kymograph, tachistoscopes and ergographs—instruments which enable us to measure and record the human brain as accurately as the Bertillon system."

"Really, you astonish me!" exclaimed the judge. "This is most interesting. Think of laboratories solely devoted to delving into mysteries of the human brain! It is wonderful!"

He was silent for a moment, then he said:

"It is quite plain, I think, that psychology can prove most useful in medicine. It is, I take it, the very foundation of mental healing, but what else would it do for humanity? For instance, can it help me, the lawyer?"

Dr. Bernstein smiled.

"You gentlemen of the law have always scoffed at the very suggestion of bringing psychology to your aid, but just think, sir, how enormously it might aid you in cross-examining a witness. You can tell with almost scientific accuracy if the witness is telling lies or the truth, and the same would be clear to the judge and the jury. Just think how your power would be increased if by your skill in psychological observation you could convince the jury that your client, who was about to be convicted on circumstantial evidence alone, was really innocent of the crime of which he was charged. Why, sir, the road which psychology opens up to the lawyer is well-nigh boundless. Don't you use the Bertillon system to measure the body? Don't you rely on thumb prints to identify the hand? How do you know that we psychologists are not able to-day to test the individual differences of men?"

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

To the Man of Honor.

Base gains are the same as losses.

—Hestod.

Lexington.—Dr. H. Q. Alexander, of Mecklenburg county, president of the North Carolina Division of the Farmers' Educational and Co-operative Union of America, made a notable speech in the county court house, addressing a body of union men assembled from all parts of the county. The attendance, considering the busy season, was unusually large, and Dr. Alexander made a fine impression.

Dr. Alexander outlined the principles of the union in a masterly way. He called special attention to the fact that the union stresses the educational feature and stands for better rural schools, more efficient courses of instruction in the schools, better teachers and the enforcement of the state law relative to the teaching of agriculture in the schools. He told the farmers assembled that the union had been directly responsible for the farm life school plan. He showed that agricultural training that would reach the children is necessary because 82 per cent of our population is rural and 95 per cent of our boys and girls never go higher than the fifth grade. If agriculture is not taught in the elementary schools it will not be taught at all. He said that the union favors liberal appropriations for the A. & M. College and the State University, but it also favors larger appropriations for the elementary schools.

He then sketched briefly the high aims and purposes of the union, telling something of its plans and of the dreams of the leaders. The union hopes to see the day when the farmers of the land will be self-supporting and President Alexander says the time is coming.

In conclusion he touched on a subject that has caused no little talk and some resentment among the merchants of Lexington. The union in this county has been considering the question of establishing a store for the better handling of merchandise of various kinds, and this has not "set well" with the local merchants. President Alexander said that no member of the union had any desire for the union to "turn merchant" or to engage in the distribution of manufactured products. He said that the union saw the absolute necessity of a less expensive system of distribution, and instead of going into competition with the merchant the union appealed to the merchant to help in cutting off the numerous non-producing middle men, who are responsible for high prices. The union objected, not to the merchants and their reasonable profits, but to the middle men. Mr. Alexander gave figures showing that sixty cents out of every dollar goes, not to the merchant and manufacturer, but to the middle man.

St. John's Day at Oxford Orphanage.

The celebration at the asylum was a big success. From early dawn the crowd commenced to pour in from everywhere. The four large excursion trains from Weldon, Raleigh, Dunn and Durham, brought immense crowds. In all the attendance was estimated at ten thousand. The program was perfectly carried out. The address of welcome by Mr. B. K. Lassiter was very greatly appreciated and gracefully spoken. Response by Dr. W. C. Wicker, of Elon College.

The address of Gen. B. S. Royster was remarkably good and delivered in forcible and attractive style the subject being on character building. The large audience listened with great pleasure to the splendid speech.

Convention Holds Session.

At Central Methodist church, at Mt. Airy the Surry county laymen's missionary convention held its first session; with one hundred and fifty delegates from the various churches of the county present. This convention is the result of a month's effort. It is the first county convention to be held in the world under the direction of the World's Laymen's Movement and lays a foundation for the evangelization of the globe, for this is the purpose of this great movement.

Commission Has Amended Order.

The North Carolina Corporation commission have made the following amended order: "From and after this date, tariff applying to Southern Express Company now reading: 'Package not exceeding five pounds in weight, or \$5.00 in value, between any two points in North Carolina on any railroad or system of railroads, will be carried for 25 cents, is amended by adding thereto the following: 'A charge exceeding 25 cents shall not be applied'

THE CONFEDERATE REUNION

A General Order is Issued From Headquarters of North Carolina Division of U. C. V's.

Durham.—Paragraph 1. The commander of the North Carolina Division of the United Confederate Veterans has the pleasure of announcing that the next annual reunion of this division will be held in the city of Wilmington on the 2nd and 3rd day of August, 1911, in accordance with the invitation extended and accepted at our last reunion. Our comrades and other public spirited and hospitable citizens of our "City by the Sea," are determined to make this reunion one of the pleasantest ever held in this state, and they will give a warm and hearty welcome to all veterans who may attend.

Par. 2. Wilmington has long been famous for its generous and refined hospitality, and that one city in the South is the memory of the Confederate soldier more tenderly and fondly cherished. An interesting programme is being prepared for the occasion and everything possible will be done for the comfort and pleasure of all veterans who attend, veterans who are unable to pay for their meals and lodging will be cared for free, if they will, no later than two weeks before the reunion, notify Adjutant L. Leon at Wilmington, so that accommodations may be provided for them. This is important and must not be neglected by any veteran who wishes free accommodations.

Par. 3. Application has been made to the railroads for the usual low rate of one-cent a mile, and the exact fare from any station may be learned by inquiring of the local agent.

Par. 4. The annual election of the division and brigade commanders will be held on the first day of the reunion, as heretofore, and only those camps will be allowed to vote which have been reported by Gen. Mickie as having paid their dues.

By order of
MAJOR GENERAL J. S. CARR,
H. A. LONDON,
Adjutant General and Chief of Staff.

Savings Bank Opens at Rocky Mount.

There will be opened at the local postoffice a postal savings bank and in accordance with the ruling of the authorities at Washington Rocky Mount will be added to the several such stations that are now being conducted as an experiment all over the nation. Postmaster Robbins has just returned from Salisbury, where he was ordered by the department to receive instructions as to the operating of such a depository and he states that in addition to the instructions he received that at the starting of the service in this city Mr. E. L. Osborne of Goldsboro, an expert in this work, will be sent at an early date to get things in readiness for the opening and that he will remain until the bank's opening. Literature descriptive of the operating of a postal savings bank has been received at the local office and has been distributed. With the excellent banking facilities, and the strong institutions that this city enjoys, the measure of success that may be secured by this institution of the government will be watched with interest.

Hendersonville Well Advertised.

One of the best advertised towns in the state is Hendersonville. The stories of strange and uncanny happenings from the fall of Caesar's Head to the startling discovery of a subterranean river, have gone the rounds and have found their way into newspapers in all sections of the country. And it happened thusly. In a moment of inspiration a number of Hendersonville's enterprising business men conceived the idea of establishing a press bureau. While the idea was not exactly a new one, it was certainly a novel move for North Carolina cities to have a regularly established and paid press bureau. Several cities had talked about having such an institution, but the movements generally ended there. But Hendersonville went to work. The bureau was established, in charge of a trained newspaper man, Mr. T. R. Barrows, and soon the good people of the South sat up and "took notice." They were daily impressed with the fact that Hendersonville was on the map, and that there were several live wires sojourning there.

County Superintendent Elected.

Rocky Mount.—Monday, July 3, the county board of education for Nash county meets in Nashville for the purpose of electing a county superintendent of schools, and while as yet there is only one candidate for the position, Mr. Robert E. Ranson, the incumbent, it is understood that there is some opposition, due in all probability to some personal dislikes to Mr. Ranson. However, there has never been a person who has worked more assiduously or done greater things for the cause of education.

Southern to Build Cut-Off Line.

Official announcement is made by the Southern Railway of its decision to build a cut-off line from a point two miles from Charlotte on the Atlantic, Tennessee & Ohio to the North Charlotte yards. The trains bound from and destined to Statesville, Taylorsville and Winston-Salem, both passenger and freight, will be operated over this, the present line being kept for use by manufacturing enterprises. The object sought is to avoid the necessity of backing the trains to North Charlotte for coal.