CHERAW. CHRSTERFIE

ed at Cullen, who

d." he chuckled.

do More, We'll Deserve it."

## A GENTLEMAN FROM MISSISSIPPI

THOMAS A. WISE the Pray by Pressie H. Toombe

lanation from Stevens as to he had allowed "his senator" to as his secretary "this inquisi-

secause we knew he didn't unwhat's going on, and you, stevens, supposed to be the finished nobody can control, one who the inside workings of Washfi and who will take par-tic-u-lar re in teaching your fellow Missippian far too much for our good." tevens' reply, to effect that prob-

bly Haines would consent to be "takcare of if judiciously approached, derided by the observant Pesdety," he laughed, "and think at a scandal he would have for his per if we took a chance on disosing our hand to him. No, no, Stewe must have him watched and try to discredit him in some way. Per-haps we can make Landon believe that his secretary is

to the secretary, encouraged him in his

attentions to her, led him surely into

her power, Norton having prevailed on

her to keep the knowledge of their en-

ragement secret from every one, even

The days and nights became filled

with important work for Senator Lang-

don and his secretary. Together they

went over the important measures, out-

fined what appeared to be the best

course of procedure and carried it into

effect as far as possible. Langdon be-

came a prominent figure in the senate,

owing to his consistent support of

measures that fitted in with the public

policy, or what should be the public

polley, of the nation. He had learned

that the only practicable way to out-

onal hotel

ntment class and put them under

ditions through political favoritism.

God's name does he want? A commit-

tee chairmanship? An ambassadorship

Again it was Peabody who had the

die, and he's sore at leaving so

ads and hearts thinking and throb-

pether, Langdon and his secre-laines, plodded along. They sened to lean on each other,

the control of the civil service commis-

wit or to cope with the members of

OHAPTE A COMPANY OF CO Langdon and Haines did Lat H all and rejoiced, for the believed find much favor among the with all the accrued erudition of eightpowers that are—at the capital. een years of innocent girthood that Peabody peremptorily demand. Mr. Bud Haines was quite the finest specimen of young manhood this world had ever produced. How could he have happened! She was sure that man Haines, a reporter who didn't she had never met his equal, not even

and what's going on, and you, that he was seeply in love with Garo-tina, and, though he had endeavored to keep the knowledge of this from her, her woman's intuition had told her his secret, and she stifled the momen tary regrets that flitted into her mind, because she was now in "the game herself, the Washington game, that

man and makes her a store to for fancy. No one but hesself and Morton knew how deeply she had "plunged" on a certain possible turn of the political cards. She must not, she could not, lose if life itself were to remain of value to her, and on her away over

A subject that for some ent acaidmity with which Mrs. Sp. ship. For several years she had occu-pled a high social position at the capi-tal, he well knew, but various sades.

had pushed this ground so far as cerned, though senate and his satellites had been losing no ing their plans regarding the choice of Altacoo-

la as the site. Peabody and Stevens had ingeniously exploited Langdon at

every possible op-Asked about new developments in the Langdon. He knows all about the naval bases has the matter in full charge. I really know little about it."

So by hiding behind the unsus ing old bero of Crawfordsville they diverted from themselves any possible suspicion and placed Langdon where the great scandal that swould, they well-knepy-come out at some fets

traysh had been secured.

What, after all, the schemers concluded, is the little matter of an investigation.

had, for she wed Congress wed Congress with the first convergence of the secretary determined to investigate Mrs. Spangier and her present mode of life at his first opportunity, hoping the while that his quest would reveal her would fear himself, or for himself, as he investigated himself, when the had been convinced by Norton and Bandelph, would prove a stumbling block to them, would prove a stumbling block to them, as who resided at the capital be to her father, to herself in particular or to mercally and so on the surface cause the memories of her late hus band, a former congressman of high standing, were associated with it.

Calling at the Langdons' house one to live?

Carolina Langdon was most amiable to the secretary of the secretary and so one the surface of the langdons' house one to the secretary and so one the surface of the Langdons' house one to live?

next day, Haines secretary's look of inoutry, the the new holder of

a five thousand dollar a year posttion in the department of commerce and labor and that if I have no one in particu-

evening in February to receive direc-

tions regarding important work for the

pussled at the pe-

cultar smile on

the senator's face.

the dominating machine, made up, he was surprised to see, of members of only two in you would be a good man for the job oppose what the Frist I was glad for your sake, my enough power to boy, for if you wanted it you could have the position. But on thinking it nidebound "inthing behind it not showing on the surfought the

"It's a trick," said Ratnes. "Who

"I might have known," bothy re

aponded the secretary. "There's a small coterie of senators and crowd that wants you and me separation to the sarcastic party buses in both me to resist, did they? Then he paused, rubbing his fingers through his crowd," which crowd was admitted to hair in a perplexed manner. "Strange he somewhat of a factor when it final- isn't it, senator, that a man of you ly prevailed on the president to take party is offered this desirable piece of over 11,000 postmasters from the appatronage, entirely unsolicited on your part, from the administration of an other, a different political party? Bapeion, resulting in the necessity of a cially when that other party has so ompetitive examination for these ostmarters instead of their securing clamoring to enter the land of milk and honey.' I think Stevens deliber-Those who did not know Langdon ately

timately suggested that "this fellow ought to be 'taken care of.' What in don, "you mustn't say anything against Senator Stevens to me. True, he assofor some Mississippi charcoal burner?
A couple of federal judgeships for hisfriends? Well, whatever it is, give it
to him and get him in with the rest

"Yes." muttered the secretary, foiclates with some folks I don't approve "Yes," muttered the secretary, fol-

lowing the senator into the library, "you've always found him bonest be cause you think everybody's honest-but Stevens is just the doctor who will re's only one thing worse than a young reformer, and theirs an old one," he laughed bitterly at a secret conclave at his apartment in the luxurious Louis Mapoleon hotel. "The young one thinks he is going to live and wants our future profits for himself. The old one thinks he's going to die, and he's sore at leaving so cure you of this allment, this chronic

Hainer laughed softly, "When Pea-body's little Stevie gets through back-ing at the prostrate body of political purity his two handed sword of polit-Ical corruption will need now edges. Thus far neither the senator nor his secretary had suspicion of any ques-tionable deal in regard to the guif naval base. The rush of other events, particularly the fight-over the reduc-

WHEN SEXATORS DESAGRES HH wiseacres of Washington had nightly predicted that the site of the bundred million dollecided on in March after the excita-Answering the ment and gayety attending the presi dential inauguration had subside On the morning of the day befor Mississippian this action of the committee on naval affairs was to be taken Secretary Haines eat at his desk in Senator Langdon's committee room in the capitol ... Richard Oullen, the favorite associate of Haines in his journalistic

days, out earlier than usual on his daily round of the departments for news for his Chicago papes, had strolled in and attempted a few of his characteristic cynicisms. Haines usually found them entertaining, but these were directed at Senator Langdon. "Now, let me tell you something,"

Dick," the secretary snewered firmly. "Don't you work off all your dyspeptie ideas in this neighborhood. My senstor is a great man. They can't apprecinte him up here because he's honest orystal clear. I used to think I knew what a deceat citizen, a real man, ought to be, but he's taught me some new things. He'll teach them all something before he gets through." Cullen hung one leg over Haines

Tourse a mos, quiet, gentlemanly lit-the optimistant and I like you, old fel-low," retorted Callen. But don't decoive yourself too much. Your Senator Langton to personally one of the best ever. But he was born a mark, and r mask bett be to the end of tim

"He looks good sow. Sure, I like his peeches, and all that, but just walt.

When some of those old force to to put his head in the beg and the & down, they word bare say souble at all." have to go over my head, too," he said with a nod.

drop you both in if it comes sight down to that old chap. Fours making a mistake. Fourse as bad as your old man. For've a beautiful pair of opti-mists, and you a good newspaper man, too-it's a shame!

After momentary hestination Cullen continued, thoroughly serious.
"Bud, my old friend," he said in low

nd then selling it for eash" "But you, Dick, you have"

"Of course, old man, I have d the truth of this. I knew you too we to doubt you. Still, the warm is him. ing you. Remember that western sen-ator who was "delivered" twice, both ways, on a graft bill?" he laught

"Should say I did, Dick. The the record for that game. It was a concerporation measure. One railroad brown wanted it; another opposed it. The definition innocently told an eastern san-"Should say I did, Dick. That is refired weather the bill passed and the got of AN on his absolute promise that the would get Senator E. to vote for it. who, of course, did vote for it."

"Yes," said Cullen, "and later, when Senator X. heard that Senator X had

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on good morning, senator. I was

ng with my secretary about

o I just dropped over. I'm not

posed to it er any southern measure,

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ndrel here's where I got aquare with you to some extent. Anyway, I'm going to vote against that bill this time and make a long speech against staded, "and both ratiroads to this day think that X. received the money from

was to blame, though. He didn't know enough to keep to himself bow was going to vote. Any man that, take that way will be 'delivered.' "I know how to stop those rumors, for I'm suce M's Peabedy's work, he thinking Langdon will hear the talk and mistrust ma." began Haines, when in came Senator Langdon himself, his free beaming numeratedly. Little dis the junter seaster from himse realise that he was soon to face the shi cotte tite

greeting of "Mornin', speryston" he asked Collen, "my paper wants your opinion on the ques-tion of the election of senators by



at's a question that conbut it makes it more difficult for me tors and not those when you southern people oppose cer-tain Pittsburg interests that I have to take care of."

"I don't like bargaining between gen

pad into his pocket and hur-Langdon smiled. "Two never been in Pittsburg, but they tell me it looks as if it could take day that I appear before the means committee, isn't it?". care of itself." The visitor shrugged his shoulders.

Haines, consulting his before ways and means to put the needs of your state on the This remark brought a frown to of the reduction of the tariff m hydrates. The people of Langdon's face. believe it has actually put into the exhausted cotton In Virginia they hope to use tobacco fields."

does the pesky stuff come solved the senator.
South America," coached the The south is in a hurry the duty must come down. to bluff a bit, because Peato blur a bit, because make of bargain-wanting you to iron and steel duties. But you slieve that iron and steel need.

will tell them, don't you see. they will feel the necessity of you what you want for the order to gain your support from and steel demands." door opened and Senator

about," whispered the secretary.
tantiv the Mississippian had his
His back to Peabody, he rose, ght down his fist heavily upon the

irates, my boy, is problematical, but south is in a hurry for it, and the y niust come down. It's got to be down, and I'm not going to do thing else until it does." retary stretched across the

Micros me, senator; Senator Peaedly as though he had just sight-

Peabody. More important still don't believe American politics has to be run on that plan. Why can't we change a lot of things now that we are here?" Langdon became so enthused that he

paced up and down the room as he

"Peabody, you and Stevens and I," continued Langdon, "could get our friends together and right now start to make this great capital of our great country the place of the 'square deal,' the place where give and take, bargain and sale, are unknown. We could start a movement that would drive out

went on Languer Public spinion today de for Altas would be with us, and both heuses of congress would have to join in the glaring way and showed them their plain duty. And I tell you, Senator Peabody, that the principles that gave birth to this country, the principles of truth, honesty, justice and independence would rule in Washington"-

"If Washington cared anything about them, Langdon," interjected the Pennsylvanian. "That's my point," cried the Mississippian-"let us teach Washington to

care about them!" "Langdon, Langdon," said Peabody patronizingly, "you've seized on a bigger task than you know. After you reform Washington you will have to go on and reform human nature, human instincts, every human being in the country, if you want to make politics this angelic thing you describe. It isn't politics, it's humanity, that's wrong," waving aside a protest from

"Anyway your idea is not constitutional, Langdon," continued Peabody. You want everybody to have a share wouldn't meet the theory of centralization woven into our political system secretary. by its founders. They intended that by a limited number of representa- to choosin' ground fo' a naval base.

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tives, so that authority can be fixed and responsibility ascertained." "You distort my meaning!" cried

Langdon. "And, senator, I would like to ask why so many high priced constitutional lawyers who enter congress spend so much time in placing the con-stitution of the United States between themselves and their duty, sir, between "That's true enough, but give and the people and their government, sir, take is the rule in political matters, between the nation and its destiny? I want to know if in your opinion the constitution was designed to throttle

expression of the public will?" "Of course not. That's the reason you and I, Langdon, and the others are elected to the senate," added Peabody, starting to leave. Then he halted. "By the way, senator," he said, "I'll do my best to arrange what you want regarding aluminium hydrates for the sake of the south, and I'll also stand with you for Altacoola for the naval base. Our committee is to make its report tomorrow."

Langdon observed the penetrating gaze that Peabody had fixed on him. It seemed to betray that the Pennsylvanian's apparently careless manner was assumed.

at Haines. "I'm not absolutely com



A moment later a page boy brough

"Bud," he remarked to the secretary,

CHAPTER XI. ON THE TRAIL OF THE "INSIDERS." OLONEL J. D. TELFER (J. D. standing for Jefferson Davis, he explained proudly to Haines) proved a warm advocate of the doubtful merits of Gulf City as a hundred million dollar naval base. His flushed face grew redder, his long white hair became disordered. and he tugged at his white mustache in the national government. That continually as he waxed warmer in his efforts to impress the senator's protected by a natural harbor and thislands of Mississippi sound, make he th' only spot to be considered. She's God's own choice and the people's, too, for a naval base."

But unfortunately congress also has something to say about choosing

it," spoke Haines. "To be shuah they do." said Gulf City's mayor, "but"-"And there was a man here from

Altacocla yesterday," are in interrupt-ed the secretary, "who said that Gra City was fit only to be the state for aged and indigent frogs." "Say, they ain't a man in Alt



ming the door.

in a card. "Colonel J. D. Telfer, Gulf City," read the senator. "I'm going to send my old acquaintance

Telfer, mayor of Gulf City, in here for you to talk to. He'll want to kno about his town's chances for be chosen as the naval base. I must h ry away, as I have an appointme with my daughters and Mrs. Span gler before going before ways and means."

"I tell you, Mr. Haines, Gulf City, our government should be controlled sah, leads all the south when it comes Her vast expanse of crystal sea, her miles upon miles of silvah sands, sah,

his feet, his fa in shame. "Seems young n "Not friend t

A scornful laugh a fer's reply. "Altacoola, huh! I reckon yo be a fool, after all. Why, knows of the speculatin' in lan Altacoola, and everybody know outsiders that's doin' it. It's t rs, right here in Washington ain't in, yo' can easy get a le Young man, yo'll find out thing lay, and yo'll drop to it all. "I guess I was too late with That's about the size of it. I gue tacoola 'll talk to yo'," went on mayor. "If that feller Fairbrothe Altacoola had been able to had tongue maybe I wouldn't bao much. But now what's what. I know this—that yo're either a big fool r—an insider. Yo're a nice young feller. I have kind-a taken a fancy to yo'.

I like to see yo' young fellers get along and not miss yo'r chances. Come, my boy, get wise to yo'rself, get wise to yo'rself! Climb on to the band wagon with yo' friends." Bud concluded that he might be able to get more definite information out of

Telfer if he humored him a bit. "I tell you, colonel," he finally said, "these are pretty grave charges you're making, but I'll tell you confidentially, owing to your liking for me, that it is not yet too late to do something for Gulf City. Now, just suppose you and I dine together tonight early, and we'll go over the whole ground to see how things lie. Will you?"

The colonel held out his hand, smil ing broadly. He felt that at last be had won the secretary over; that the young man was at heart anxious to take money for his influence with the

"All right, my boy, yo'r on. We'll dine together. Yo' are absolutely certain that it won't be too rate to get to enator Langdon?" "Absolutely positive

I, unless I was what fool ?"

mistake in a ma

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