

A GENTLEMAN FROM MISSISSIPPI

BY THOMAS A. WISE

Continued from the First by THOMAS A. WISE

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CHAPTER IX. A NEW KIND OF POLITICAL PARTISANSHIP. THE combination of the forces of Langdon and Haines did not...

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of the old gaining strength from the young. They loved each other, and more than any love, they trusted one another...

The passing weeks taught Haines that he was deeply in love with Carolina, and though he had endeavored to keep the knowledge of this from her...

A subject that for some unexplainable reason frequently lodged in Haines' mind was that of the apparent similarity with which Mrs. Spangler cultivated Senator Langdon's friendship...

Calling at the Langdon's house one evening in February to receive directions regarding important work for the next day, Haines was somewhat puzzled at the peculiar smile on the senator's face...

"I've been told that I can name the new holder of a five thousand dollar year position in the department of commerce and labor and that if I have no one in particular from my state to name—that that you would be a good man for the job..."

"I'm glad to hear that," Haines replied. "I'm glad to hear that," Haines replied. "I'm glad to hear that," Haines replied...

"There, there, Bud," broke in Langdon, "you mustn't say anything against Senator Stevens to me. True, he associates with some fellows I don't approve of, but that doesn't necessarily mean anything wrong, and I myself have at various times found him thoroughly honest..."

"Yes, there, Bud," broke in Langdon, "you mustn't say anything against Senator Stevens to me. True, he associates with some fellows I don't approve of, but that doesn't necessarily mean anything wrong, and I myself have at various times found him thoroughly honest..."

tion of the tariff had pushed this project temporarily into the background so far as they were concerned, though the "boss of the senate" and his associates had been losing no time in perfecting their plans regarding the choice of Alacoola as the site...

Peabody and Stevens had ingeniously exploited Langdon at every possible opportunity in relation to the naval base. Asked about new developments in the committee on naval affairs, the ready answer was "Senator Stevens is the man to know. He knows all about the naval base; has the matter in full charge. I really know little about it..."

So by hiding behind the unsuspecting old hero of Crawfordsville they diverted from themselves any possible suspicion and placed Langdon where he would have to bear the brunt of the great scandal that would, they well knew, come out at some future date—either that day or some day...

What, after all, the schemers concluded, in the little matter of an investigation among senators to guilty senators varied to the law, have destroyed every compromising document that could be used against them...

CHAPTER X. WHEN SENATORS DESIGNED. THE wisecracks of Washington had nightly predicted that the site of the hundred-million dollar Gulf naval base would be decided on in March after the excitement and gaiety attending the presidential inauguration had subsided...

On the morning of the day before this action of the committee on naval affairs was to be taken Secretary Haines sat at his desk in Senator Langdon's committee room in the capitol. Richard Cullen, the favorite associate of Haines in his journalistic days, sat at his desk in the capitol...

"Now, let me tell you something, Dick," the secretary answered firmly. "Don't you worry off all your dyspeptic ideas in this neighborhood. My senator is a great man. They can't appreciate him up here because he's honest—crystal clear. I used to think I knew what a decent citizen, a real man, ought to be, but he's taught me some new things. He'll teach them all some day..."

Cullen hung one leg over Haines' desk. "You're a nice, quiet, gentlemanly little fellow," and I like you, old fellow," retorted Cullen. "But don't deceive yourself too much. Your Senator Langdon is personally one of the best party men I've ever seen, and he's a damn good fellow. Sure, I like his speeches, and all that, but just walk with me..."

stop to it's landing you." The secretary's face showed that he was not at all pleased with the remark.

"What do you mean?" he asked. "I mean," replied Cullen, "that you're not going around here with your nose in the air, thinking you're a senator, and that you're going to keep Langdon away from the committee of 'insiders' in the senate for your own purposes..."

"I understand," said the secretary. "I'll do my best to keep you from interfering with the committee's work. I'll do my best to keep you from interfering with the committee's work..."

"But you, Dick, you have..." "Of course, old man, I have done nothing to do with this. I know you too well to doubt you. Still, the yarn is hanging you. Remember that western senator who was 'delivered' with a heavy weight on a graft bill?" he inquired...

"Should say I did, Dick. That's the record for that game. It was a corporation measure. One railroad wanted it; another opposed it. The senator innocently told an eastern senator that he was going to vote for the bill. That the easterner went to the railroad wanting the bill passed and got \$500,000 on his absolute promise that he would get Senator K. to vote for it..."

"Yes," said Cullen, "and later, when Senator X heard that Senator K. had got money for his vote, he was wild. Then when another easterner was made to pass the bill (which had been defeated) the 'delivered' senator said to the western senator: 'You've got to be careful, you've got to be careful, you've got to be careful...'"

"Oh, good morning, senator. I was just talking with my secretary about that hydrate clause." Peabody bowed slightly. "I know it was coming up," he said. "I just dropped over. I'm not here to it or any southern measure."

"The Mississippian turned. "Oh, good morning, senator. I was just talking with my secretary about that hydrate clause." Peabody bowed slightly. "I know it was coming up," he said. "I just dropped over. I'm not here to it or any southern measure."

But it makes it more difficult for me when you southern people oppose certain Pittsburg interests that I have to take care of."

"I've never been in Pittsburg, but they tell me it looks as if it could take care of itself."

"That's true enough, but give and take is the rule in political matters, Langdon."

"This remark brought a frown to Langdon's face. "I don't like bargaining between gentlemen," he said.

"What can you produce of aluminum, my boy, is problematical, but I must come down. It's got to be down, and I'm not going to do anything else until it does."

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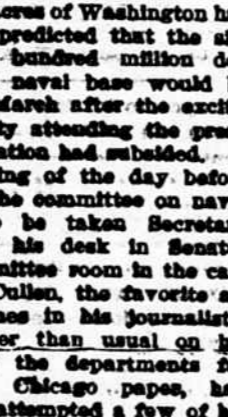
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"Better as Senator Langdon."



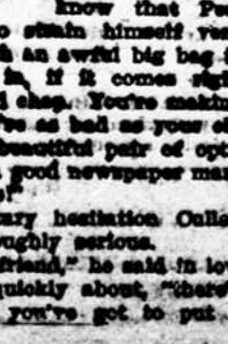
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Carolina Langdon had an austere lovelessness.



"My boy, the days must come when you'll be in Alacoola, until you're dead."



"Conceding to the party..."

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THE BANK OF CHERAW

Table with financial data: Capital \$50,000, Stockholders Liability 50,000, Surplus 50,000, Total resources over \$300,000.

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It is not him unexpectedly. You sound here, where I got square with you to some extent. Anyway, I'm going to vote against that bill this time and make a long speech against it...

"Of course," said Cullen, "but X was to blame, though. He didn't know enough to keep to himself. He was going to vote. Any man that talks that way will be 'delivered'..."

"I know how to stop those ruminations. I'm sure it's Peabody's work; he's thinking Langdon will hear the talk and mistrust me," began Haines, when he came Senator Langdon himself, his lips becoming contentedly. Little did the senator know from Mississippi that he was about to face the severed head, the most vital crisis of his entire life.

Cullen responded to the senator's cheery greeting of "Morning, spy-boddy."

"Senator," he asked Cullen, "my paper wants your opinion on the question of the election of senators by the people."

"Well, I don't know," said Cullen, "but just walk with me..."

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A scornful laugh accompanied his reply. "Alacoola, huh! I reckon you're a fool, after all. Why, you know of the speculation in land in Alacoola, and everybody knows outsiders that don't it. It's the only way you can get a young man, you'll find out things in a day, and you'll drop to it all. 'I guess' was too late with that. That's about the size of it. I guess Alacoola 'll talk to you' went on mayor. 'If that fellow Fairbrother Alacoola had been able to hold tongue maybe I wouldn't know so much. But now I know what's what. I know this—that you're either a big fool or an insider. You're a nice young fellow. I have kind of a fancy to you. I like to see you young fellows get along and not miss your chances. Come, my boy, get wise to yourself, get wise to yourself! Climb on to the band wagon with you' friends."

Continued