

A FALLEN IDOL.

THE PROLOGUE.
Continued.

This was a very exclusive idol, and a visit from it was esteemed as an overwhelming distinction throughout Mysore; in fact, it only went out on a few days to confer with an extremely well-connected idol of Vishnu at a mansion, or sacred rest house, half way from their respective temples, but on this occasion Ram Chunga's influence had enabled the rule to be relaxed in Siva's honor.

Here it was accordingly, and a rich pavilion was put up at one end of the compound, within which the distinguished visitor was installed, and this done, the Brahmins entered the temple and came out bearing the wonder-working image of Siva, which was hailed with acclamations while it was being reverently deposited in the pavilion by the side of Brahma.

And then, as the gods would necessarily have many things to say to one another, the hangings were drawn, and the priests made a ring round the pavilion, and stood guard from its vulgar curiosity.

At last the gods had had sufficient time to exchange views, and it was time to gratify them with the ministrations of the dancing girls, before the united idols were placed upon the chariot and carried home together in pomp.

So the tom-toms were rattled and thumped with fervor, and the torches made the compound light as day, as the dancing girls, in robes of purple and orange and green, edged with glittering silver tissue, prepared to go through their dreamy and deliberate evolutions, accompanied by chants like the cry of the midnight cat, and Ram Chunga gave the signal for the hangings to be drawn back.

A universal shriek marked their withdrawal, as the torchlight shed its fierce glare upon the interior. Ram Chunga grew green, and his teeth chattered, as well they might; even Acharya Chik, as he gazed from afar, could hardly trust his eyesight.

For the sacred idol of Brahma was broken into a dozen pieces; his arms were planted, with considerable taste and fancy, in various corners of the floor; and worse still, the hardy-won idol of Siva was in the same plight, its fragments arranged in a pyramid upon the principal throne, upon the very summit of which squatted, with a bland smile on its smug features, the despised image of Chalanaka, the least and lowest of the Jain tirthankars.

The haughty Ram Chunga, savagely accepting his defeat, wrapped his shawl about him and made his way through the shivering dancing girls and a sweat-stricken village, out of the precincts of the temple where he had been so signally discomfited.

young painter who was already beginning to be known in art circles, and who was at work there on the particular afternoon in early spring with which the narrative opens.

Ronald Campion was too fond of somewhat daring experiments to have quite gained the confidence of the British art patron, and so far, such praise as had been accorded him was greatly in excess of the solid pudding.

He was not strictly a handsome man, though his face had a power and attractiveness of its own, and his figure would have appeared to advantage in one of the becoming painting suits in which many less well-favored men indulge, but while he was not of the order of squalid geniuses, there were no more traces of an eye to effect in his dress than in his studio.

So much engrossed was he that he did not look around when the door was opened, and an elderly man with a cross-grained walnut-colored face made his appearance.

"Mister Babcock to see you, sir," he announced, with a certain grim relish, as he stood at the top of the short flight of steps.

Campion muttered something which did not sound like delight.

"Hang it, Bates, couldn't you tell him I was busy?" he said.

for them, but after a while he stopped with an impatient sigh. "No good," he muttered, "I may as well stop work for to-day—the light's getting bad, too. I'll go and get some setting over; no, I'm hanged if I do, I'll turn late the park."

And presently he was crossing one of the chain bridges in the direction of the park.

And, as it happened, Fate was kind to him for this evening; for while he was inside the radius of enchantment, he saw a dainty figure coming toward him from one of the bridges, and the figure was that of the enchantress.

As she came nearer there was the least little glimpse in her cheek; she recognized him evidently, she stopped and held out her hand, and even called him by his Christian name.

Even that dull and unpleasant type of person, the "most ordinary of servers," would have instantly suspected, from the manner of both, that they were on terms of some intimacy; and so they were, for they were engaged.

CHAPTER II.
A Remonstrance.

There's a present for you, sir! Yes, thanks to her thrift, my pet has been able to buy me a gift. —London Lyrics.

Ronald Campion had indeed succeeded in winning Mrs. Staniland's niece Sybil, but the elder lady had not as yet been consulted, and it was by no means likely that the engagement would meet with her approval.

It had gone on for more than a month now, this most unsatisfactory of engagements. They saw one another but seldom—indeed for part of the time she had been away at Eastbourne: she wrote, and her letters were gay and affectionate; but when he met her again she gave no sign by her manner of greeting him that he was more to her than others were.

It is true there were others present at the time, and that she contrived to reassure him before he left by some apparently careless speech, to which her eyes and voice gave a sweet and special meaning; but for all that, the strain was telling on his self-respect, and he chafed under his false position more and more.

LEGISLATURE QUILTS

After Extraordinary Session of 47 Days.

EMBRACED USUAL POLLIFICATION

Conference Committee Agrees on Appropriations — Members Get Their Pay — Jollification by Local Optionists and Prohibitionists in Locked Arms — 2:50 a. m.

After a most extraordinary session of 47 days the general assembly of South Carolina adjourned Saturday night with the hands pointing at 11:55, but actual time of 2:50. In both house and senate quorums were not present, many of the members having gone home. It was the usual jollification, however, and prohibitionist and local optionist locked arms and caroled forth the old songs, being interrupted occasionally by a mock session. The galleries and floors were crowded at times by visitors, who watched the proceedings with interest and amusement.

During one of the recesses the "ghost walked" and the members received their checks for \$290 for a session of 47 days. Before last year the pay was \$4 per day per member for not exceeding 40 days.

There was a dispute on the extra pay for the employees and attaches for extra pay for the prolonged session. Finally it was decided to grant the increase.

The appropriation bill as originally introduced in the house showed a decrease of \$122,000 from last year. On account of appropriations made in various bills, and adjustments between house and senate the difference between the appropriation bill of 1908 and 1909 is \$12,000. This is a reduction in the aggregate appropriation.

The free conference committee agreed upon the following essential points which were authorized by special acts or the action of either senate or house:

- For common school extension \$20,000.
- For Winthrop extension \$10,000.
- For Winthrop kitchen \$12,000.
- For factory inspectors \$2,600.
- For statistical information \$800.
- For increase in expense account for Commissioner Watson \$500.
- For increase clerk's salary, same department, \$200.
- University of South Carolina, to correct clerical error, \$2,000.
- Increase for high schools \$10,000.
- Increase for Hospital for the Insane \$5,000.
- Increase for printing \$5,000.
- Claims passed \$10,000.
- Additional for engraving department \$1,200.
- Battalion South Carolina \$5,000.
- Refund for Greenville reunion \$15,500.
- Monument to the women of the Confederacy \$7,500.
- Contingent account for the senate \$2,000.
- Same for house \$500.
- Additional for solicitors \$700.
- Additional for clerks \$500.

These are the chief items that are provided for. A number of smaller allowances were granted.

was a long discussion on Senator Lide's bill to incorporate the Edisto Power company. The objection seemed to be on the idea that it was given condempnator rights that were unnecessary. The bill, however, passed.

House killed Senator Webster's bill providing for a State board of embalmers by a vote of 47 to 17.

It then took up Senator Ott's bill, which would make a jury verdict a lien again: the person's real estate on which the verdict is rendered. The time limit had been changed in the house from ten days to five days from the rising of the court. There was considerable debate on the bill and it was finally passed.

Mr. Dixon's resolution endorsing President-elect Taft's sentiment in his Atlanta speech with reference to official appointments in the South was discussed and finally defeated.

Senator Mauldin's bill to prevent worthless checks was then brought up and was finally passed.

It reads as follows: "Section 1. That from and after the approval of this act any person who shall draw and utter any check or draft on a bank or banking house in which he has no funds or not funds sufficient to pay such check or draft, and who on being notified of refusal of the bank or banking house to honor such check or draft shall fail for 30 days to deposit funds sufficient to meet the same, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished by fine or imprisonment or by fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the court."

The senate Friday passed the prohibition measures with the Christensen and Williams amendments, after a lengthy discussion as to what was really the agreement of the evening before.

The senate Friday night passed the appropriation bill adopting the finance committee amendments in toto, with a few slight changes, proposed on the floor of the senate. The levy was raised from 5 mills to 5 1/4 mills, as it was pointed out by Senator Mauldin, chairman of the finance committee, that this levy would be necessary with the appropriations as made in the bill.

The University of South Carolina was given its \$20,000 as proposed in the bill for the erection of a new administration building.

PROHIBITION BILL PASSED

Provision of Measure Including Amendments Election to be Held August 17 to Determine Whether Wet Counties Retain Dispensaries.

The prohibition bill as passed in the legislature of South Carolina in its late session is in brief as follows: "Section 1. That all alcoholic liquors and beverages, whether manufactured within this State or elsewhere, or any mixture by whatsoever name called, which, if drunk to excess, will produce intoxication, are hereby declared to be detrimental, and their use and consumption to be against the morals, good health and safety of the State and contraband."

The section then forbids the selling or giving away any such intoxicants except as provided in following sections: "Sec. 2. That wholesale druggists may lawfully sell in wholesale quantities to retail druggists and to public or charitable hospitals or to medical or pharmaceutical colleges and in no other way, pure alcohol for medicinal purposes only, or grain alcohol to be used by chemists or bacteriologists actually engaged in scientific work and for such purposes only."

The section provides for proper reports of such sales. "Sec. 3. That any retail druggist whose place of business is located in any of the incorporated towns or cities of this State, who is himself a registered or licensed pharmacist, or who regularly employs a registered or licensed pharmacist, may sell, in the manner herein set out, upon filing a bond in the sum of \$5,000, to be approved by the clerk of court, in which each druggist does business, conditioned for a faithful observance of the provisions of this act."

This section further provides restrictions about approval of bond and allows the use of alcohol for compounding medicines, provided however that no more alcohol shall be used in the medicines than are essential.

"Sec. 4. That no sale of pure alcohol, for medicinal purposes, shall be made by any retail druggist except upon the prescription of a regular practicing physician of this State, who, before writing such prescriptions, shall make an actual examination of the person for whom the prescription is issued."

It provides that the doctor shall certify in due form that he believes alcohol to be absolutely necessary to alleviate or cure the patient, and that the physician himself has no interest in the drug store where it is to be filled.

"Sec. 5. That no prescription shall be filed herein except upon the day upon which it is issued or the following day, and no more than one-half pint of alcohol shall be sold and delivered on any one prescription, and when such prescription is filed, it shall not be refilled, but shall be delivered to the druggist filling same."

It provides that no physician who is a druggist shall issue and fill his own prescriptions and guards against improper delivery by which means it might be misapplied.

"Sec. 6. That any retail druggist whose place of business is located in any of the incorporated towns or cities of the State may lawfully sell alcohol in quantities not greater than five (5) gallons to be used in the arts or for scientific or mechanical purposes, and such druggists may sell, in like quantities, to chemists and bacteriologists engaged in scientific work and for such purposes only, and such druggists may sell in quantities not greater than one-half gallon, wine used for sacramental or religious purposes only."

labor for not less than one year nor more than five years.

"Sec. 12. That any druggist or physician who violates in any way the provisions of this act shall, in addition to the punishment herein provided, for not more than one year for each offense.

"Sec. 13. That this act shall not have the effect of preventing the indictment, prosecution and conviction of any person who has been guilty of the violation of the present criminal law relating to the dispensary, or punishment therefor, as now provided by law for offense heretofore committed."

"Sec. 14. That this act shall take effect on the first Tuesday in August, 1909; Provided, That in the counties then having dispensaries an election shall be held on the third Tuesday in August, 1909, for the purpose of determining whether the dispensaries located therein shall be reopened, and such election in each of said counties shall be held and conducted by the same officers and under the rules and regulations provided by law for general elections.

"Sec. 15. At such election the election commissioners for such county shall at each voting precinct therein provide one ballot box in which the ballots must be cast. Any person who is a qualified elector of such county may vote in said election. Every voter who may be in favor of the sale of liquors and beverages in such counties shall cast a ballot in the box provided therefor, on which shall be printed the words, 'For Sale and Manufacture of Alcoholic Liquors and Beverages,' and every voter opposed shall cast a ballot upon which shall be printed the words, 'Against Sale and Manufacture of Alcoholic Liquors and Beverages,' if a majority of the ballots cast in such election be 'For Sale and Manufacture of Alcoholic Liquors and Beverages,' it shall be lawful for such liquors and beverages to be sold in said county as hereinafter provided: Provided, That expense of these elections shall be borne by the State.

"Sec. 16. In case an election as herein provided shall result in favor of the sale of liquors and beverages, the dispensaries in each county so voting shall be reopened and conducted under the provisions of an act entitled 'An act to declare the law in reference to and to regulate the manufacture, sale, use, consumption, possession, transportation and disposition of alcoholic liquors and beverages within the State, and to police the same,' approved the 16th day of February, 1907, and acts amendatory thereof: Provided, That all of the provisions and limitations of the said act shall remain in full force and effect in all of the counties of this State: Provided, further, That in counties which shall reopen dispensaries therein, the county dispensary board and dispensers in office on August 2, 1909, shall continue to discharge their several duties as if such dispensary or dispensaries had not been closed: Provided, That in the counties which have heretofore voted upon the question of dispensary or no dispensary under existing or previous laws and have no dispensary at this time shall have the right at any time after the expiration of four years from the last election on the liquor question to hold an election upon the question of dispensary or no dispensary, as provided in an act entitled 'An act to declare the law in reference to and to regulate the manufacture, sale, use, consumption, possession, transportation and disposition of alcoholic liquors and beverages within this State, and to police the same,' approved February 16, 1907.

"Sec. 17. That all acts and parts of acts inconsistent herewith and the same are hereby repealed."

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