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## MALCOM KIRK.

A Tale of Moral Heroism In Overcoming the World.

BY CHARLES M. SHELDON, Author of "In His Steps," "Crucifixion of Philip Strong," "Robert Lardy's Seven Days."

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Illustrations by Herman Heyer.

CHAPTER XIII.

TWENTY YEARS AFTER. that night of the election, when Doro- ate and overemphasize his work. 1 Nearly 20 years had gone by since thy had kneeled in front of Valmer's want to speak of his beautiful family, saloon, in the main street of Conrad, which is a part of the best part of this when one evening a well dressed, disout of the west bound express upon the man of rare power in all the church

the station.

"Yes; he lives up by the church," was the answer.

and finally stopped in front of a comfortable looking house close by a good sized church building.

He went up the short board walk and rang the bell.

The door was opened by a girl about 19 years of age, a girl with a great profusion of heavy brown hair and a face generally called "pretty" or not. "Is your father at home?" asked the

gentleman, smiling. "I don't know. Will you come in't That is, unless you have something to sell. And then I am sure father is out." She said it without the least ap-

pearance of being pert or rude. "I haven't anything to sell," replied the stranger, laughing. "I am George Wilson, one of your father's old classmates in Hermon, and he"-

"Come right in," said the girl. "Any one from Hermon is welcome. I've heard father speak of you often." "This is Faith, is it?" he asked as he

entered a pleasant sitting room. "Yes, sir," she answered shyly. "Ex-

cuse me, I'll call father." She went out of the room, and the Rev. George Wilson of the famous Institutional church of Boston looked around him, and his look was full of

the most absorbing interest. What he felt and thought can perhaps best be told in a letter which he wrote home two days afterward while sitting in the guest chamber of the parsonage. The letter threw much light on the events of the past 20 years and is of value as coming from one who saw Malcom Kirk and his family at this time, both as a friend and also as an intensely interested

spectator of a very remarkable life. "I am sitting in Malcom Kirk's house," the letter began, "and it is difficult for me to realize all that that fact means. There is no question in my mind that Kirk is in some ways one of the most remarkable ministers in this country, and yet he and his talented wife have remained in this comparatively obscure place for over 20 years, working quietly and without ostentation, with some most astonishing results until lately unheard of by the churches in the east.

"Since I was in Conrad about 20 years ago great changes have occurred in the state. Perhaps the greatest change of all has been the prohibitory amendment to the constitution. Every one knows that the election on the leg-Islature's act to submit the amendment resulted in an affirmative vote. Every one also knows that the people have never reversed that decision, and it seems probable that they never will.

"You will also remember what an excitement was caused by one event in Conrad at the close of that famous election day. I listened to the story from Kirk's own lips, and it was as exciting as any novel I ever read.

"He had been called out of town on the afternoon of that day to see a young man who died of the effects of a drunken debauch, and as he came back to Conrad in the evening his wife was kneeling in the center of a group of other women, holding a prayer meeting in front of one of the most notorious saloons then in Courad.

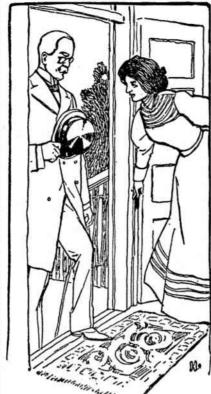
"He had only just come to the place when a great disturbance broke out in throw a bottle of vitriol at Mrs. Kirk. It was afterward shown that the man was crazy with drink and awfully exattempt. Mrs. Kirk's face was burned on one side, but a man of the name of anxious for her future if it were not a man's influence it would be difficult carver, who had been drinking, but for the fact that they and herself are that the for the fact that they and herself are that the the that the the that the the that the that the that the the that the that the that the the th going on, grappled with the other and is the salvation of such a girl as Faith, devil does business in Conrad. Kirk took away the bottle, receiving dread- and Mr. and Mrs. Kirk seem to be ful burns in doing so. This man is now peacefully sure of the fact. All of the the sexton in Mr. Kirk's church, a de- children are members of the church, vont, sincere Christian and a good ex- and all three of them are very evidentample, so Kirk says, of hundreds of ly proud of their father and of what he men who will remain sober if the sa- has done. loon is taken away and the constant temptation to drink is absent. And so done? far as I can observe he is decidedly

right in his belief. those injuries, and her beauty of face, parsonage, both of which had been gle with state and county officials who which is still remarkable, is marred burned down, it is supposed, by the only by a scar which gives her, to all whisky men during the fight which who know her history, an added inter- went on before the amendment was est. The affair created an intense feeling here for a long time. Nothing so structure, seating 300 or 400 people, terrible had been known since that at- with several classrooms attached. The tempt to disfigure Mrs. Coleman of parsonage is a good house of eight Marviile, Canada, while marching with rooms, fairly well furnished, although other women in a temperance proces- Kirk's peculiar habits of generosity must be recognized by the temperance sion. The event opened many people's have not permitted anything approacheyes to the satanic power of the drink ing luxury even in the slightest degree. evil. It was only one out of countless events where the whisky element has events where the whisky element has stood for the greatest crimes and for smallest thing that Kirk has done. It cerned the contest they began here,

judgment bar of a long suffering God. "It is difficult for me to write of Malcom Kirk without seeming to exaggerwestern town.

"Mrs. Kirk has developed into a woand social life of the place. Years ago "Does Mr. Kirk live where he used the women here recognized her ability to?" he asked of one of the loungers at as a leader by making her president of the Christian Temperance union. It was largely through her efforts that the township polled a very heavy vote The stranger went on down the main for the amendment. She has thrown street, looking about him curiously, all her rare talents as a gifted musician with the result that no woman has ed in here during the town's rapid growth in the years of eighty-six and

"There are three children, two boys,



"Come right in," said the girl. "Iny one from Hermon is welcome."

wife have revolutionized the moral

of the faith? But I am profoundly the basket to find some thread. touched by the extent of overcoming to be seen in this place. I have been suit," said Dorothy gravely. "He must newsy paper, lived economically, and Plead Their Causes Before place, no matter how small or difficult, entered it with a passion like Kirk's to redeem the lost part of it and bring it back to God?' I know this much is true of the work done here. There has been no unusual excitement and no extraordinary means employed to produce the astonishing results. There is no question that Kirk has certain qualities that have helped him. His voice is, as it always was, a fine instrument. He knows how to talk to people, and he writes uncommonly well. But, on the other hand, he is still awkward, homely of appearance and by no means always at his best. He loves people. He longs, as Paul did, for the salvation of the world. And there lies the secret of his work. It is nothing which other men may not also have.

"I don't know a minister in our churches anywhere who might not claim all that Malcom Kirk and his wife have claimed. They have overcome the world by means of their love, by following the plain path of duty at the cost of suffering, by not pleasing also into the redemption of the town, life of this whole town. When they themselves. They are still engaged in came here about 20 years ago, they the struggle. It will never cease this such an influence as she has on all the found a community of 1,500 people. A side of death and paradise. But I wish young, thoughtless life that has crowd- great amount of lawless, thoughtless that every pastor and every church life crowded the saloons, the dance- might come here and see what has been houses, the cheap resorts of amuse- done and what the future seems cerment. Kirk and his wife, after pass- tain to record. The most malignant ing through an experience of great forces of evil have evidently arrayed named Gilbert and Hermon, and a suffering and temptation, most of themselves against Kirk and his wife, that people had to look at twice before they knew whether she was what is girl, the oldest child, named Faith. The which has always been unknown even and so far these two have overcome boys are bright, handsome fellows and to their own people, came out of their them all. Heaven has won the victory take after the mother. Gilbert is 17 affliction with astonishing power over out here, and I do not know why it and Hermon 15. Faith, who is nearly the life of the place. There is no ques- should not do so everywhere. Do we 19, is like her father. I have not yet tion that the very thinking of the peo- want the world to be saved? Do we been able to tell whether she is what ple here is shaped by Malcom Kirk's have a passion to save it? Do we put you women would call 'pretty' or not, Christianity. The promise he and his the kingdom first? If we did, should

the world, sfill goes on. Is there a ment fit the crime," said Faith as place in the world where a Christian she stabbed the back of the coat with outfit for \$500, paying \$55 cash as first may cease from fighting the good fight a big needle and began turning over payment.

unable to silence the question, 'What if every minister as he entered a new way. Mend it as carefully as you can, dollar that he owed. Faith."

trying to find something besides white Guardian appeared, and it has been pubsilk. At the same time, mother, don't lished ever since by Mr. McSweeney.

But he had energy and was a good "I'm sorry Gilbert hasn't a better workman, and gave the people a

On the 22nd of August, 1879, the "Yes, ma'am," replied Faith. "I am first issue of the Hampton County BIG DAY IN YORKVILLE SATURDAY.



ground would be a warning to Gilbert is looked upon today as one of the ever he had a mind to say, and even not to get his coat torn again?"

Mrs. Kirk laughed, and before she could answer the bell rang. Faith put aside the work and went county.

to the door. "Can I see Mr. Kirk?" asked a voice that Dorothy recognized at once.

not to be disturbed." "But he told me to call today, and I

want to see him very much." "Did he tell you to call this morn-

couldn't come at any other time." Faith stood holding the door uncertainly, but still resolutely blocking the entrance.

Malcom Kirk came out of his study then declined re-election. at the top of the upper hall. "Is that Mr. Barnes, Faith? Tell him to come nent part in building the Methodist speakers occupied an improvised plat-

ing, Mrs. Kirk." Then he stumbled means to its support. noisily up stairs and entered Malcom's study. The door closed, and Faith went back to her work. TO BE CONTINUED.

How Pluck and Perseverance voted for Bryan and Stevenson. Conquer Success.

RECORD OF MILES B. McSWEENEY

Left an Orphan at an Early Age, a Poor Newsboy Becomes a Printer, Then His State.

father dying of yellow fever in Charles. by virtue of his office is chairman of

Young McSweeney's struggles for a 10th year. He sold newspapers and of Pythias, and has been honored by clerked in a book store. While clerk- both organizations. ing he attended a night school, and became very fond of reading and writing.

While in the book store he met Mr. Augustine Ford, a member of a company that had begun the publication of a paper known as The Gazette.

This was in 1867. which was to be awarded to the most deserving of the young men then emprinter, and served Columbia Typo

to tear his coat across the back like retary and afterwards as president. garment and looking at it with grave roll for re-organization of the Phroenix here from Hen Sien Fu, in southern bia, and served as secretary of the

Mr. McSweeney's record as a Demo-

hat Dorothy recognized at once.

been successful in every undertaking. so only with Tillman; but with the other speakers. Taken all in all, it is in his study writing, and he ought ent parts of Hampton, and he has de- was an ideal meeting, for it included chased by him in that town.

built by money loaned to the town by people from the stump. a few citizens. The resolution was In spite of the threatening aspect of "Well-no-he said today. But I offered by Mr. McSweeney at a public the clouds overhead, it was determined meeting and it was unanimously agreed to hold the meeting at the baseball

> wards saw every dollar of indebtedness grand stand that holds a thousand paid. He served for five terms and people, was filled to its utmost capaci-

and Baptist churches. He not only form, facing the grand stand, within Faith at once stepped aside, and a contributed liberally; but solicited convenient hearing distance, and the shabby looking man came in. As he subscriptions in Augusta and Charles- arrangement was generally satisfactory passed the door of the sitting room he ton. He is a member of the Methodist all around. bowed clumstly and said, "Good morn- church, and contributes liberally of his

> Mr. McSweeney has always been the National Democratic convention. At the first St. Louis convention in 1888 he voted for Cleveland and Thur-1896, he voted for Bryan and Sewall.

He served the Democracy of his county for 10 years as county chairelected to the legislature.

He has always taken great interest on the staff of General Stokes and General Moore, with the rank of major and lieutenant colonel. During his W. D. Evans with incompetency, inan Editor, and Then Governor of Service in the legislature he was chairman of the committee on military.

Mr. McSweeney takes keen interest MILES B. McSweeney can be truly several years a trustee of the South

both boards at present. He is a member of the order of

Mr. McSweeny was a member of the for a number of years. He was for

Carolina State Press association. In 1896 he was elected lieutenantgovernor by a handsome majority and re-elected in 1898 without opposition,

senators. chosen and the scholarship given to ples. Even his political enemies have but as to whether the repeated gentle gether. Dorothy was sewing, and him. On account of the lack of to concede this. He now asks an en- admonitions of Chairman Brice to the means, he found that he could not pay dorsement of his fellow-citizens by an effect that there should be no personfor his board and clothing, and was election to a full term, and justice and alties, averted the crisis, or it's all It was about 11 o'clock in the mogning a part of the land Malcom Kirk was up\*stairs obliged, after spending a part of the fair dealing which characterize the peowind and no thunder anyway, did not ing, and Malcom Kirk was up stairs session, to give up his desire for a ple of South Carolina demand and will develop. Both tried to tell something

SIX HUNDRED MASSACRED.-Says a Hong Kong dispatch of Thursday: He was among the first to sign the "Au Italian priest has just arrived that neither made much headway in Hook and Ladder company, of Colum- Huan, where the Italian bishop and three priests have been massacred after revolting torture. This took place on July 4. Six hundred converts were people to select the best business man "He said one of the boys pushed him crat is wellknown, and he did faithful massacred after the women had been in the crowd. He claimed that hon-Mr. McSweeney moved to Ninety- ties. Six other priests fled to the hills,

Sovereigns of York.

Candidates For Governor Discuss Whisky-The Evans's Have Their Usual Quarrel, as Also Do Capers and McMahan, Durham and Booker-Senator Tillman Winds Up the Meeting With a Characteristic Speech.

In point of attendance, the state campaigu meeting in Yorkville, last Saturday, broke the record of the present canvass. So say the candidates, and so says Mr. August Kohn, in his report to the News and Courier and Columbia State. There must have been fifteen hundred people present; possibly more. It was a strong reminder of the great meetings of the early nineties; but was unlike them in that there was a noticeable absence of passion and prejudice. In the old days demagogueism was at a premium; but those who tried it last Saturday realized that it was at a discount. If they did not realize the fact it was because their sense of discrimination was less than that of the crowd. Tillman was there, and be evidently saw it. There was no doubt about the fact that he was among his friends. These included many who formerly looked upon him only as a demagogue of the first water; but now recognize him as a statesman of merit and ability. The old hypnotic influence with which he use to sway crowds to his will was lacking. He encountered not the least unfriendliness. There was none to encounter. He could see and feel, however, that you think white silk on a black back- The paper has been well managed and while he had full license to say whatbest in the state. Mr. McSweeney has indulge in his peculiarly affected abuse ever been foremost in everything cal- without danger of exciting serious reated to help his state, town and sentment, his friends collectively and individually, reserved the right to deal He is regarded as one of the best with pending questions as their best business men in his section, and has judgment should dictate. It was not veloped and improved every lot pur- all the conditions required for a complete justification of the rule that makes The school house in Hampton was candidates present their claims to the

As intendant of the town he after- rangements, and by 11 o'clock the big

ty. There were a few ladies in the Mr. McSweeney also took a promi- crowd, but not a great many. The

RAILROAD COMMISSIONER.

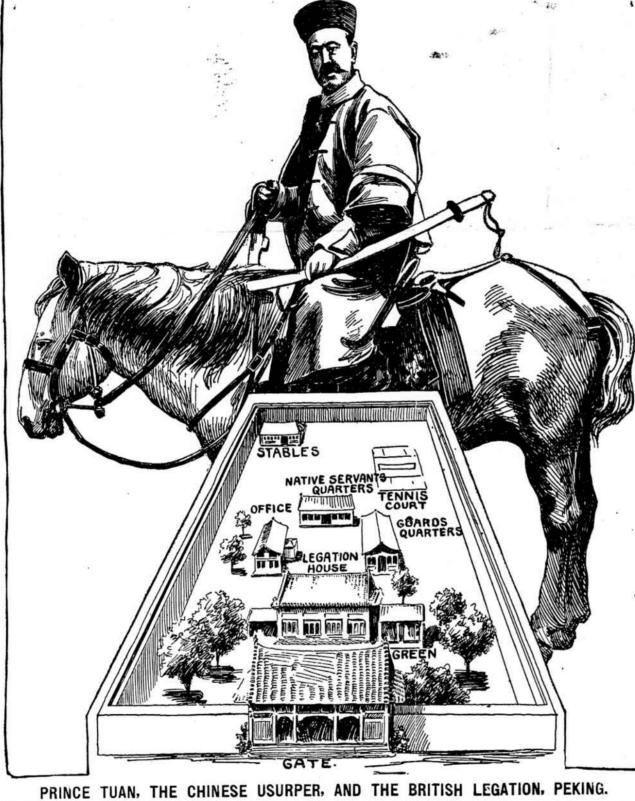
After calling the meeting to order, Chairman Brice introduced Rev. B. H. prominent in politics, and has been Grier, who offered prayer. There was three times honored as a delegate to music by the Gold Hill band, and the speaking was opened by the introduction of candidates for railroad com-1888 he voted for Cleveland and Thur-man, and at the convention in July, Messrs. B. B. Evans, of Edgefield; W.

D. Evans, the present incumbent, of At the Kansas City convention he Mariboro; Thomas N. Berry, of Darlington ; J. E. Pettigrew, Florence : W. D. Mayfield, of Richland; J. H. Wharton, of Laurens. Each was allowed man, declining in 1894, when he was 10 minutes and they consumed about one hour of time. There is a lively and bitter quarrel in the military of his state, and was between W. D. Evans and B. B. Evans.

efficiency and dishonesty. His charges are ostensibly aimed at the whole commission; but they are made in such a in all educational matters, and was for way as to leave no doubt of their being intended especially for W. D. referred to as a self-made man. He was Carolina college and a member of the Evans. In reply, W. D. Evans charges left fatherless at the age of 4 years, his board of visitors of the Citadel, and B. B. Evans as being a kind of a cowardly camp follower who went to the Spanish war, after hostilities were over. in a soft berth, accepted a rotten posilivelihood began before he reached his the Knights of Honor and the Knights tion in a rotten postoffice, under a rotten Republican administration, after which he came back to South Carolina. and imposed upon people with rotten State Democratic Executive committee insurance policies, issued in the name of rotten insurance companies. B. B. eight years president of the South Evans denounces W. D. Evans's statements as false, and when W. D. produces what he calls sufficient proof, B. B. denounces that as false. B. B. also charges the railroad commission with McSweeney afterwards worked for and on the death of Governor Wm. derelection of duty and violation of Burke & Ford, job printers. From H. Ellerbe, in June, 1899, he took the law in allowing the railroads to charge what he called Malcom Kirk's "pe- there he went to Edward Perry's, oath of office of governor and has 25 cents excess on fares that have to where he completed his apprenticeship since discharged the duties of the be collected without tickets. W. D. to do with this history of the human as a Jos printer of this custom; conflict against sin and involved in inglon and Lee university, of Lexing-that he managed his own private but claims that there has been no comconflict against sin and involved in ton, Va., had offered a scholarship to that growing conflict all the members the Charleston Typographical Union, presided with fairness and impartiality conductors have asked the commisand to the entire satisfaction of the sion to do away with the practice, and W. D. has to admit that such is the His administration as governor has fact. It looked several times last Satbeen free from blunders and the office urday as if the colloquy would lead to a the union, young McSweeney was has been conducted on business princi-

about South Carolina local rates as compared with the local rates of other states; but each denied what the other had to say and it was very evident

Mr. Thomas N. Berry explained that there were seven candidates for one office, and that it was the duty of the the necessary qualifications, and that he had them all. He said that he was



but she is one of the most interesting | wife made when they came here has | we not see the results everywhere that

"You ask, What has Malcom Kirk

"In the first place, in spite of what seemed like impossibilities, he succeed-

individual girls I ever met. She is been constantly in mind. The number fond of trying experiments and resem- of lost men and boys who have been atbles her father in that respect. She tracted to Kirk's ministry and to Mrs. wants to know and feel things for her- Kirk's singing and playing and led to the saloon behind him. Some one broke self and is passionately fond of doing Christ is amazing. Even the business letter which meant even more than for other people. I begin to get the and political life of the town has been impression that she is thoroughly un- shaped by Kirk's purpose in life. That what he called Malcom Kirk's "peselfish and that she has the making of means a great deal, as any one will aca remarkably useful woman. But I knowledge. This fact, however, is cited by the events of the day. He was only partly successful in his horrible only partly successful in his horrible of the successful in his horrible only partly successful ences. She is one of those girls who rad by other towns. They speak of it would make her father and mother as 'Kirkville.' A higher compliment to

their work. At the present time he tells me that through failure on the part of the officers of the law to enforce the law the whisky men have Well, Mrs. Kirk has recovered from ed years ago in building a church and struggle again. This time it is a strughave broken their oaths of office. It is the same struggle in another form. At the bottom of the whisky business in statute or not, is the incentive of great labor and also the human passion for though the next instant she sighed a company for a number of years. drink, two things which Kirk says little.

the problem of temperance. "It remains therefore to be said that stood for the greatest crimes and for smallest thing that Kirk has done. It cerned the contest they began here, which it must answer heavily at the is not too much to say that he and his the battle they entered for victory over it. That would be making the punish- ness venture. He had a capital of \$65, coffin on board a river boat for 17 days.

we see here? I shall return home from my visit to Malcom Kirk with that question sounding in my heart." There was one brief allusion in this

Wilson knew. It was his allusion to rectly these led to events which have

A few days after Wilson's departure Faith and her mother were sitting tohas told me that the whisky men have gether in the "common room," as Faith ployed in Charleston printing offices. never ceased from the day they were called it, the room that the family driven out of Courad to attempt to used for dining and sitting room tocome back in some form and carry on gether. Dorothy was sewing, and on the boys' suits. It was about 11 o'clock in the morn-

grown cold and opened several places. In his study. The boys were at school, the last of the old and Faith, who had finished the high collegiate education. Like all good give as much. school, had been staying at home for typos at that time, he was a union two years helping her mother. "Mother, how does Gilbert manage graphical Union as corresponding sec-

> astonishment. Dorothy could not help smiling, al-

Forks."

people and always reckoned upon in against a wire fence last Saturday work for his party in 1876. while they were out fishing near 'The Six, in Abbeville county, and com where they were probably killed. The "Well, the boy that did it ought to be menced the publication of the Ninety priest who escaped had a perilous a. Prohibitionist straight out, and in