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ESTABLISHED 1855.

THE CLANSMAN.

An Historical Romance of the Ku Klux Klan.

BY THOMAS DIXON, JR.

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CHAPTER IV. THE BANNER OF THE DRAGON. Ben Cameron rode rapidly to the rendezvous of the pickets who were to meet the coming squadrons. He returned home and ate a hearty meal. As he emerged from the dining-room, Phil seized him by the arm and led him under the big oak on the lawn: "Cameron, old boy, I'm in a lot of trouble. I've had a quarrel with my father, and your sister has broken me all up by returning my ring. I want a little excitement to ease my nerves. From Elsie's incoherent talk I judge you are in danger. If there's going to be a fight, let me in."

The movement of the clouds in sympathy was unnecessary. Old Stoneman sent for Lynch, and found he had fled to Columbia. He sent for the only lawyer in town whom the lieutenant governor had told him could be trusted. The lawyer was polite, but his refusal to undertake the prosecution of any alleged member of the Klan was emphatic. "I'm a sinful man, sir," he said with a smile. "Besides I prefer to live on general principles."

proclamation of the president declaring Martial Law. Ben watched this day dawn with nervous dread. He had passed a sleepless night, riding in person to every Den of the Klan and issuing positive orders that no white man should come to Piedmont. A clash with the authority of the United States he had avoided from the first as a matter of principle. It was essential to his success that his men should commit no act of desperation which would imperil his plans. Above all, he wished to avoid a clash with old Stoneman personally. The arrival of the big excursion was the signal for a revival of negro insolence which had been planned. The men brought from the eastern part of the state were selected for the purpose. They marched over the town yelling and singing. A crowd of them, half drunk, formed themselves three abreast and rushed the sidewalks, pushing every white man, woman, and child into the street.

Miscellaneous Reading. OUR CONGRESSMEN. And Matters of Interest in Washington. Columbia Record. WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—A bill of more than usual importance to all sections of the south has been introduced in the house by representative Martin, of Colorado. His bill is to establish mining experiment stations in all states and to establish plants that will aid in the development of mineral resources of the United States generally. Throughout the entire Appalachian belt, including the states of Virginia, North and South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama, it is well known that the fields are rich in ores of different kinds, and the trouble has always been that there was no way to test the real value of the lands to ascertain what they possessed without going to great expense in securing expert engineers or shipping the ores to far away points. It is intended to establish in each of the states these mining experiment stations, and the management of them will be under the control of the secretary of the treasury. One expert geologist at a salary of \$3,000 per year will be appointed, also competent and experienced chemists. They will receive for all the laborers, workmen, and mechanics employed by or in behalf of the United States government. There are ten states having laws declaring eight hours a legal day's work, unless otherwise agreed. Strikes have established it in some lines of industry, and agreements with employers have given it effect in others. It is possible that it may soon become the rule rather than the exception. The results of a general adoption of the eight hour system are impossible of prediction. Assertions that it does and must limit output and so increase cost of production are not invariably supported by history. In some cases it has done so and in others it has not. CURRENCY OF THE COLONIES. Cheap Paper Money That Was Issued in Early Days of This Country. A gentleman of this city, one of whose ancestors served in the Revolutionary War and whose known forebears run considerably further back has an interesting collection of Colonial paper money. His collection is not large, but it contains some rare specimens, including several pieces of provincial paper money issued long before the Revolution. The American colonies had no right to issue paper money, but most of them did it all the same. Massachusetts made such an issue as early as 1690—and other colonies followed her example at intervals. The two Carolinas issued \$30,000 of paper money in 1702, which was to be redeemed in three years by a duty on liquor, skins and furs. It was never redeemed. In 1723 Pennsylvania issued \$75,000 of paper money, which, being secured by real estate, was ultimately redeemed. During the Revolutionary War nearly all the colonies issued notes, and assisted congress in flooding the country with worthless currency. Some of them were queer looking things to pass for money. A half-dollar note, issued by New York in 1775, provided that "this bill shall pass current in all payments in this colony for half a Spanish milled dollar or the value thereof in gold or silver currency." This promise was attested by a picture of two men, one an individual supporting a shield, and mounted by a crown. This was issued a year before the Declaration of Independence. A month before the Declaration, Connecticut issued a five-shilling note, declaring that the "possession of this bill shall be paid by the treasurer of the colony of Connecticut five shillings, lawful money, by the first of January, A. D. one thousand seven hundred and eighty-one."