YORKVILLE, S. C., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1910.

## **RUXTON** KING Copyright, 1909, by Dodd, Mead & Company

an American princess; of Olga Platan-

ova, the girl with the dread mission;

Tullis, the American bulwark of a for-

is Prince of Graustark and an Amer-

CHAPTER I.

Truxton King.

He was a tall, rawboned, rangy young

fellow with a face so tanned by wind

his skin would feel like leather if you

by the sense of touch. His clothes fit-

ted him loosely and yet were gracious-

ly devoid of the bagginess which char-

through the last stages of college de-

that Truxton's mother was more or

less averse to the steel business as a

here and now that she intended Trux-

bump of imagination, contiguous to

and application; hence it is not sur-

For twenty days he had traveled by

khara, striking off with his guide alone

toward the sea of Aral and the east-

creation of a harebrained fictionist.

east he had learned, to his honest

believe, but the English bank in Mesh-

ton for the diplomatic service.

eration.

heritage for her son. Be it understood

acterizes the appearance of extremely

ican author prince of story tellers.

A Story of Graustark **GEORGE BARR M'CUTCHEON** 

Truxton King, a millionaire's son, His blood grew quick again and eager. sets out in search of adventure. Where He would not go home until he had better could he look for stirring events sought out this land of fair women and than faroff Graustark, where the age sweet tradition. And so he traversed of chivalry yet survives in all its ro- the wild and dangerous Tartar roads mantic opportunity; where rules Prince for days and days, like the knights of Scheherazade in the times of old, and Robin, the most precocious boy monarch in the realm of fiction; where the came at last to the gates of Edelweiss. reds of Europe plot his murder in mysner in the historic Hotel Regenzetz terious underground retreats; where was he able to realize that he was gallant Truxton King and brave "Untruly in that fabled, mythical land of cle Jack" fight valiantly for the preservation of the prince and the love of Graustark, a quaint, grim little princi-

and courage are mightier than the fancy. He had not even dared to hope sword? Read of Prince Robin, son of that it actually existed. duty to divulge the fact that Truxton broken line of the present royal famof Marlanx, the Iron Count; of John King, after two full days and nights in the city Edelweiss, was quite eign throne; of lovely Loraine and of ready to pass on to other fields, comdaredevil Truxton King, and then you pletely disillusioned in his own mind will understand why an American lad and not a little disgusted with himself for having gone to the trouble to visit Spantz so pointedly that Truxton

the place. Where were the beautiful women he since he left Teheran? On his soul, he Edelweiss who were more than passaand sun you had the impression that bly fair to look upon. True, he had to admit, the people he had seen were of could affect the impertinence to test it the lower and middle classes—the royal family," he ventured coldly. shopkeepers and the shop-girls, the hucksters and the fruit venders. What he wanted to know was this: What so now that I appreciate that the lithad become of the royalty and the noyoung men whose frames are not fully bility of Graustark? Where were the set and whose joints are still parading princes, the dukes and the barons, to say nothing of the feminine concomitants to these excellent gentlemen?

This tall young man in the panama One dingy little shop in the square hat and gray flannels was Truxton interested him. It was directly oppo-King, embryo globe trotter and searchsite the Royal cafe, with American er after the treasures of romance. bar attached, and the contents of its Somewhere up near Central park, in grimy little windows presented a peone of the fashionable cross streets, culiarly fascinating interest to him was the home of his father and his They were packed with weapons and firearms of ancient design. Once he father's father before him-a home which Truxton had not seen in two ventured inside the little shop. Findyears or more. It is worthy of pass- ing no attendant, he put aside his suddenly formed impulse to purchase father was a manufacturer; more than a mighty broadsword.

that, he was something of a power in On several occasions he had seen the financial world. His mother was grim, sharp featured old man in the not strictly a social queen in the great doorway of the shop, but it was not until after he had missed the Thursmetropolis, but she was what we might safely call one of the first "ladies in day train that he made up his mind to waiting," which is quite good enough accost him and to have the broadsword at any price. With this object for the wife of a manufacturer, especially when one records that her husin view, he inserted his tall frame into the narrow doorway, calling out lustily band was a manufacturer of steel. It is also a matter of no little consequence for attention.

> "What is it?" demanded a sharp, angry voice at his elbow. He found himself looking into the wizened, parchment-like face of the little old man. "That broad- Say, you speak Eng-

But neither Truxton's father, who lish, don't you?" "Certainly," snapped the old man. wanted him to be a manufacturing 'Why shouldn't I? I can't afford an Croesus, nor Truxton's mother, who expected him to become a social Solointerpreter. You'll find plenty of Engmon, appears to have taken the young lish used here in Edelweiss since the man's private inclination into consid-Americans and British came. They won't learn our language, so we must learn theirs." Young Mr. King believed in romance.

"What's the price of that old sword He grew up with an ever increasing ou have in the window?"

which, strange to relate, there was a "Three hundred gavvos." properly developed bump of industry "What's that in dollars?"

"Four hundred and twenty. It is genuine, sir, and 300 years old. Old Prince Boris carried it. It's most

"I'll give you a hundred dollars for t. Mr.-er"-he looked at the sign on the open door-"Mr. Spantz."

"I don't want your money. Good Truxton King felt his chin in perplexity. "It's too much. I can't afford it," he said, disappointment in his

"I have modern blades of my ow! make, sir, much cheaper and quite as good," ventured the excellent Mr.

Spantz. "You make 'em?" in surprise The old man straightened his bent figure with sudden pride. "I am armorer to the crown, sir. My blades

are used by the nobility-not by the army, I am happy to say." "I say, Herr Spantz, or monsieur, I'd like to have a good long chat with you. What do you say to a mug of that excellent beer over in the cafe garden?

"TLL GIVE TOU A HUNDRED DOLLARS prising that he was willing to go far Business seems to be a little dull. afield in search of the things that Can't you-er-lock up?" Spantz looked at him keenly. seemed more or less worth while to a

"May I ask what brings you to Edelweiss?" he asked abruptly.

ill fortune to be born in the nineteenth "I don't mind telling you, Mr. Spantz We come upon him at last-luckily that I'm here because I'm somewhat for us we were not actually following of a fool. False hopes led me astray. him-after two years of wonderful but I came here looking for romance-for rather disillusioning adventure in mid- adventure."

"I see," cackled Spantz, his eyes Asia and all Africa. He had seen the Kongo and the Euphrates, the Ganges twinkling with mirth. "You thought and the Nile, the Yangsekiang and the you could capture wild and beautiful Yenisei; he had climbed mountains in princess here just as you pleased, Abyssinia, in Siam, in Tibet and Af- eh? Let me tell you, young man, only ghanistan; he shot big game in more one American-only one foreigner, in than one jungle and had been shot at fact-has accomplished that miracle by small brown men in more than one Mr. Lorry came here ten years ago forest, to say nothing of the little en- and won the fairest flower Graustark counters he had had in most unocci- ever produced-the beautiful Yetive-

but he was the only one." "No. I'm not looking for princesse I've seen hundreds of 'em in all parts caravan across the Persian uplands,

through Herat and Meshhed and Bo- of the world." "You should see Prince Robin."

on the armorer. "I've heard of nothing but him, my ern shores of the Caspian, thence through the Ural foothills to the old good Mr. Spantz. He's seven years our throne. On his deathbed the thought of as nothing more than the sort of thing. I daresay he's a nice

little chap. Got American blood in

Somewhere out in the shimmering him, you see." The old man retired to the rear of men in Graustark who might have amazement, that there was such a land the shop and called out to some one done as much for their prince!" as Graustark. At first he would not upstairs. A woman's voice answered. "My niece will keep shop, sir, while

hed assured him that he would come to I am out," Spantz explained. They paused near the door until the it if he traveled long enough and far enough into the north and west and if old man's niece appeared at the back as much as to say that he was a fool he were not afraid of the hardships of the shop. King's glance became to ask such a question in a place so that most men abhor. The dying spir- more or less in the nature of a stare it of romance flamed up in his heart. of amazement.

A young woman of the most astounding beauty, attired in the black and red of the Graustark middle classes was slowly approaching from the shadowy recesses at the end of the shop. His heart enjoyed a lively thump. Truxton King, you may be sure, did not precede the old man into the street. He deliberately removed his hat and waited most politely for age to go before youth, in the meantime blandly gazing upon the face of this amazing

Across the square, at one of the tables, the old man, over his huge mug tle attention by giving him a careful more, sir?" history of Graustark, past, present and

The old man was rambling on. "The young prince has lived most of his Washington and London and life in Paris, sir. He's only seven, sir. Of course you remember the dreadful accident that made him an orphan and place. As he sauntered across the litput him on the throne with the three 'wise men of the east' as regents or governors-the train wreck near Brussels, sir. His mother, the glorious Princess Yetive, was killed and his father, Mr. Lorry, died the next day from his injuries. That, sir, was a most appalling blow to the people of Graustark. There never will be anbeautiful princesses; where American pality in the most secret pocket of the other pair like them, sir. God alone pluck and manhood are pitted against earth's great mantle. This was the preserved the little prince. The collision was from the rear, a broken rail foreign intriguers, and where honesty land of his dreams, the land of his throwing a locomotive into the princess' coach. This providential escape And now it becomes my deplorable of the young prince preserved the unfly."

"I say, Mr. Spantz, I don't believe I've told you that your niece is a most remarkably beau"-

"As I was saying, sir," interrupted flushed, "the little prince is the idol of all the people. Under the present had read about and dreamed of ever regency he is obliged to reside in the principality until his fifteenth year, had not seen half a dozen women in after which he may be permitted to travel abroad."

Spantz was eying him narrowly "You do not appear interested in our Truxton hastened to assure him that he was keenly interested. "Especially

tle prince is the last of his race." "There are three regents, sir, in charge of the affairs of state-Count Halfont, the Duke of Perse and Baron Jasto Dangloss, who is minister of po-



A SLY, IMPULSIVE SMILE PLAYED ABOUT HER RED LIPS.

lice. Count Halfont is a granduncle of the prince by marriage. The Duke of Perse is the father of the unhappy Countess Ingomede, the young and beautiful wife of the exiled Iron Count Marlanx. No doubt you're heard of him."

"I remember that he was banishe from the principality."

"Quite true, sir. He was banished in 1901 and now resides on his estates in Austria. Three years ago in Budapest he was married to Ingomede, the daughter of the duke. Count Marlanx has great influence at the Austrian court. The Duke of Perse realized this when he compelled his daughter to accept him as her husband. The fair Ingomede is less than twenty-five years of age. The Iron Count is fully sixty-five."

"I'd like to see if she's really beautiful. I've seen but one pretty woman in this whole blamed town, your niece, Herr Spantz. I've looked 'em over pretty carefully too. She is exceedingly attract"-

"You will not find the beautiful women of Edelweiss in the streets, sir,

snapped Spantz. 'Don't they ever go out shopping?" but notice, carry their wares to the houses of the noble and the rich. But tomorrow the garrison at the fortress If you should happen to be on the avenue near the castle gate at 12 o'clock you will see the beauty and chivalry of Graustark. The soldiers are not the only ones who are on parade." There was an unmistakable sneer in his

"You don't care much for society, I'd say," observed Truxton, with a

tone.

smile. Spantz's eyes flamed for an instant and then subtly resumed their most ingratiating twinkle. "We cannot all be peacocks," he said quietly. "You will also see that the man who rides beside the prince's carriage wheel is an American, while Graustark nobles

take less exalted places." "An American, eh?"

"Yes. Have you not heard of John Tullis, the prince's friend? He, your countryman, is the real power behind Roman highway that led down into the old, and he looks like his mother, and princes' father placed his son in this sweet green valleys of a land he had he's got a jeweled sword and all that American's charge and begged him to stand by him through thick and thin until the lad is able to take care of himself. As if there were not loyal King looked interested. "I see. The

people, no doubt, resent this espion-Sprantz gave him a withering look, his feet.

too long." The American sank back in his chair. Suddenly he became conscious of a disquieting feeling that some one was looking at him intently from behind. He turned in his chair and found himself meeting the gaze of a ferocious looking, military appearing little man at a table near by. His waiter appeared at his elbow with the change. the table there?" demanded young Mr. him husband,

King loudly. of beer, became properly grateful. He treme insolence. "That is Baron Dan-sits occasionally in solemn collectivewas willing to repay King for his lit- gloss, minister of police. Anything ness just off the throne room within be glad to hear that. He's-he's afraid

> me for? Does he think I'm a pickpocket? "You know as much as I, sir," was to the loan of 5,000,000 gavvos, before all that the waiter said in reply. King pocketed the coin he had intended for

the fellow and deliberately left the

tle square his gaze suddenly shifted to a second story window above the gun-The interesting young woman had cautiously pushed open one of the shutters and was peering down upon a trio of red coated guardsmen. Almost at the same instant her quick, eager gaze fell upon the tall American, now quite close to the horsemen He saw her dark eyes expand as if with surprise. The next instant he caught

his breath and almost stopped in his tracks. A shy, impulsive smile played about her red lips for a second, lighting up the delicate face with a radiance that amazed him. Then the shutter was closed gently, quickly. He felt his ears burn as he abruptly turned away. In the meantime Baron Dangloss was watching him covertly from the edge

of the cafe garden across the square.

CHAPTER II. A Meeting of the Cabinet. At this time the principality of

Graustark was in a most prosperous condition. Its affairs were under the control of an able ministry, headed by the venerable Count Halfont. The Duke of Perse, for years a resident of St. Petersburg and a financier of high standing, had returned to Edelweiss soon after the distressing death of the late Princess Yetive and her American husband, and to him was intrusted the treasury portfolio.

The financing of the great railroad project by which Edelweiss was to be connected with the Siberian line in the north fell to his lot at a time when no acquired in less stately but more profone else could have saved the little government from heavy losses or even ankruptey.

The opening of this narrative finds the ministry preparing to float a new 5,000,000 gavvo issue of bonds for construction and equipment purposes. to depart for London and Paris to take eral Braze of the army, Baron Pultz of up the matter with the great banking the mines, Roslon of agriculture. The nouses. St. Petersburg and Berlin were not to be given the opportunity to gobble up these extremely fine securities. This seemingly extraordinary excluwas the result of vigorous objections raised by an utter outsider, the American, John Tullis, long time friend and companion of Grenfall Lorry, consort to the late princess.

Tullis was a strange man in many particulars. He was under forty years tion of bankers in France and Engof age, but even at that rather immature time of life he had come to be ecognized as a shrewd, successful financial power in his home city, New York. At the very zenith of his power he suddenly and with quixotic disregard for consequences gave up his own business and came to Graustark for residence, following a promise made to Grenfall Lorry when the latter lay dying in a little inn near Brus-

They had been lifelong friends. Tullis jestingly called himself the little prince's "morganatic godfather." For two years he had been a constant resident of Graustark.

His wide awake, resourceful brain attuned by nature to the difficulties of administration, lent itself capably to the solving of many knotty financial puzzles; the ministry was never loath to call on him for advice and seldom disposed to disregard it. An outsider, he never offered a suggestion or plan unasked. To this single qualification they probably tingled pleasantly as the The thought abruptly banished all else esteem in which he was held by the classes and the masses. Sosially, he was a great favorite. He enjoyed the freedom of the most exclusive homes

in Edelweiss. There was but one man connected with the government to whom the popularity and influence of John Tullis proved distasteful. That man was the occasion the cabinet had chosen to be guided by the sagacity of John Tullis in preference to following the lines laid down by the astute minister of "Hardly. The merchants, if you will finance. The decision to offer the new bond issue in London and Paris was due to the earnest, forceful argument of John Tullis-outside the cabinet chamber, to be sure. This was but one instance in which the plan of the treasurer was overridden. He resented the plain though delicate influence of the former Wall street man. Tullis had made it plain to the ministry that Graustark could not afford to place itself in debt to the Russians, into whose hands sooner or later the destinies of the railroad might be expected to fall. The wise men of Graustark saw his point without force of argument and voted down in the parliament the duke's proposition to place the loan in St. Petersburg and Berlin. For this particular act of trespass upon the duke's official preserves he won the hatred of the worthy treasurer and his no inconsiderable following among the

> deputies. But John Tullis was not in Edel weiss for the purpose of meddling with state affairs. He was there because he elected to stand mentor to the son of his lifelong friend, even though that son was a prince of the blood and controlled by the will of three regents chosen by his own sub-

jects. To say that the tiny prince loved his big, broad shouldered, ruddy cheeked, adoring mentor would be putting ing. To my mind it is rather a silly it too gently; he idolized him. Tullis custom which compels us to keep the was father, mother and big brother to the little fellow in knickers. One woman in Graustark was the

source of never ending and constantly are not interested in our grave delibpublic. Without replying, he got to increasing interest to this stalwart erations." companion to the prince. That woman Prince Bobby broke in eagerly: "Un- Norman Conquest.

"I must return. I have been away was, alas, the wife of another man! cle Jack says I've just got to be inter-Moreover, she was the daughter of the ested in 'em whether I want to or not

Duke of Perse. The young and witty Countess of to things and become a regular prince. Marlanx came often to Edelweiss. She You see, Uncle Casper, I've got a lot was a favorite at the castle, notwith- to learn." standing the unhealthy record of her ancient and discredited husband, the Iron Count. Tullis had not seen the count, but he had heard such tales of him that he could not but pity this "Who the devil is that old man at glorious young creature who called than the wisest man in the realm."

At present we are permitted to at-The waiter assumed a look of ex- tend a meeting of the cabinet, which prince so politely that the duke was the tapestried walls of a dark little people may think he's butting in too "Yes. What's he looking so hard at antechamber known to the outside world as the "room of wrangles." The question under discussion relates

"YOU AWFUL OLD MAN!" HE CRIED.

mentioned. At the head of the long table, perched upon an augmentary pile of lawbooks, surmounted by a little red cushion, sits the prince, almos lost in the huge old walnut chair of his forefathers.

The prince was a sturdy, curly haired lad, with big brown eyes and a lamentably noticeable scratch on his nose itable pursuits. (It seems that he had peeled his nose while sliding to second base in a certain American game that he was teaching the juvenile aristocracy how to play.)

About the table sat the three regents and the other men high in the admin- fore you go I'll have Uncle Jack give gents of the government were ready istration of affairs, among them Gen- you a good licking. Oh, he can do it, Duke of Perse was discussing the great into the flushed, writhing face of his loan question. The prince was watching his gaunt, saturnine face with more than usual interest.

"Of course it is not too late to rescind the order promulgated at our last sitting. There are five bankers in St. Petersburg who will finance the loan without delay. We need not delay the interminable length of time necessary to secure the attention and co-operaland. It is all nonsense to say that Russia has sinister motives in that matter. We need the money before the winter opens. Why should we prefer England? Why France?"

For some unaccountable reason he struck the table violently with his fist and directed his glare upon the astonished prince, The explosive demand caught the ruler by surprise. He gasp. ed and his lips fell apart. Then i must have occurred to him that the question could be answered by no one save the person to whom it was so plainly addressed. He lifted his chin and piped up shrilly and with a fervor that startled even the intense Perse;

"Because Uncle Jack said we should that's why." It goes without saying that the inno cent rejoinder opened the way to an that gentleman's ears burned in response to the sarcastic comments of the Duke of Perse and Baron Pultz, ne owed much of the popularity and result of the stout defense put up by

Halfont, Dangloss and others. The duke's impassioned plea was of no avail. His confreres saw the wisdom of keeping Russia's greedy hand out of the country's affairs-at least for the present-and reiterated their decision to seek the loans in England tain across the most rugged of the would not be taken to parliament for reconsideration. The duke sat down, pale in defeat; his heart was more bitter than ever against the shrewd American who had induced all these

men to see through his eyes. At this juncture the prince, gathering from the manner of his ministers that the question was settled to his liking, leaned forward and announce to his uncle, the premier:

"I'm tired, Uncle Casper. How much longer is it?" Count Halfont coughed. Just a few minutes, your highness. Pray be patient—er—my little man." Prince Bobby flushed. He always knew that he was being patronized when any one adressed him as "my little man."

"I have an engagement," he said, with a stiffening of his back. The Duke of Perse smiled grimly. In his most polite manner he arose to address the now harassed princeling, who shifted uneasily on the pile of lawbooks.

"May your most humble subject pre sume to inquire into the nature of our highness' engagement?" "You may, your grace," said the

The duke waited. A smile crept into the eyes of the others. Well, what is the engagement?" "I had a date to ride with Uncle

Jack at 11 and to review the troops." Count Halfont interposed good humoredly: "There is nothing more to come before us today, your grace, so l fancy we may as well close the meetprince with us-er-after the opening of the session. Of course, your highness, we don't mean to say that you

He says it's the only way to catch or

"Yes, your highness, you have," solemnly admitted the premier. "But I am sure you will learn." "Under such an able instructor a Uncle Jack you may soon know more

added the Duke of Perse. "Thank you, your grace," said the confounded. "I know Uncle Jack will

much. "Butting in!" gasped the premier. At this the Duke of Perse came to his feet again, an angry gleam in his eyes. "My lords," he began hastily, "it must certainly have occurred to you before this that our beloved prince's English, which seems, after all, to be his mother tongue, is not what it should be. Butting in! Yesterday I overheard him advising your son, Pultz, to 'go chase' himself. And when your boy tried to chase himself-'pon my word he did-what did our prince say? What did you say, Prince

Robin? "I-I forget." stammered Prince Bobby

"You said 'Mice!' Or was it-er". "No, your grace; rats. I remember. That's what I said. That's what all of us boys used to say in Washington." "God deliver us! Has it come to this -that a prince of Graustark should grow up with such language on his lips? That confounded American has every one hypnotized!" exploded the duke. "His influence over this boy is a menace to our country. He is making an oaf of him—a slangy, impudent

"Your grace!" interrupted Baron Dangloss sharply.

"Uncle Jack's all right," declared the prince, vaguely realizing that a defense should be forthcoming. "He is, eh?" rasped the exasperated luke, mopping his brow.

"He sure is." pronounced the prince with a finality that left no room for doubt. "He is a mountebank, a meddler

that's what he is!" exclaimed the overheated duke. But the prince had slid down from

his pile of books and planted himself beside him so suddenly that the bitter words died away on the old man's

"You awful old man!" he cried, trembling all over, his eyes blazing. "Don't you say anything against Uncle Jack. I'll-I'll banish you-yes, sir-banish you like my mother fired Count Marall right! I-I hate you!'

The duke looked down in amazemen little master. For a moment he was stunned by the vigorous outburst, Then the hard lines in his face relaxed, a softer expression came into his eyes, and he smiled kindly on the boy. But Prince Bobby was still unappeased. "I could have you beheaded," he said stubbornly. "Couldn't I, Uncle

Casper?" The Duke of Perse suddenly forward and placed his bony hand upon the unshrinking shoulder of the prince, his eyes gleaming kindly, his voice strangely free from its usual harshness. "You are a splendid little nan, Prince Robin," he said. "I glory in you. I shall not forget the lesson in loyalty that you have taught me." Bobby's eyes filled with tears. The genuine humility of the hard old man touched his tempestuous little heart.

"It's-it's all right, du-your grace "m sorry I spoke that way too." As the prince strode soberly from the "room of wrangles" every eye was upon his sturdy little back, and there was a kindly light in each of them,

bar none. Later on the prince in his khaki riding suit loped gayly down the broad mountain road toward Ganlook beside the black mare which carried John acrid discussion of John Tullis. If Tullis. He had told Tullis of his vainglorious defense in the antechamber. "Say, Uncle Jack, when are you going to take me to the witch's hovel?"

> from his eager little brain. "Some day soon," said Tullis. "You see, I'm not sure that she's receiving visitors these days. A witch is a very arbitrary person. Even princes have

to send up their cards." The witch's hovel was in the mounold woman of the hills was an ancient character about whom clung a thouand France. The question, therefore, canyons and was to be reached only sand spookish traditions, but who, in the opinion of John Tullis, was nothing more than a wise fortune teller and necromancer, who knew every trick

> stitious. As they rode back to the castle after an hour, coming down through Castle avenue from the monastery road, they and that they are suitable and prope passed a tall, bronzed young man whom Tullis at once knew to be an American. He was seated on a big deed disposing of the custody and tuibowlder at the roadside enjoying the shade. At his side was the fussy, well known, figure of Cook's interpreter eagerly pointing out certain important personages to him as they passed. Of course the approach of the prince was the excuse for considerable agitation and fervor on the part of the man from Cook's. He mounted

wave it frantically. "It's the prince!" he called out to Truxton King. "Stand up! Hurray! Long live the prince!

the bowlder and took off his cap to

The man from Cook's came to grief. He slipped from his perch on the rock and came floundering to the ground. The spirited pony that the prince was riding shied and reared in quick affright. The boy dropped his crop and clung valiantly to the reins. A guardsman was at the pony's head in an in-

Truxton King picked up the riding crop, strode out into the roadway and ed in the following section of the civil handed it up to the boy in the saddle. "Thank you," said Prince Bobby. "Don't mention it," said Truxton King, with his most engaging smile, "No trouble at all."

To be Continued.

## THE TILLMAN CHILDREN

Supreme Court Gives Them to Their Mother.

FULL TEXT OF INTERESTING DECISION.

B. R. Tillman, Jr., Was Confessedly Unfit to Care For the Children, He Was Held Unfit to Dis-

vicious and lawless. This lawless feeling ran unnecessarily high; but whether it would have amounted to anything, of course, it is impossible to say. It is stated, however, that partisans of the mother as against Senator Tillman, had formed a plot to, in the even he decision should be adverse to the mother, take the children forcibly from the senator, and give them over to Mrs. Lucy Dugas Tillman. Other partisans of the same stripe are reported to have arranged to take Senator Tillman's portrait from the hall of the house of representatives and trample it in the street, either of which unnecessary and uncalled-for act would have merely served to set afform a vicious and to statute it the statute its. uncalled-for act would have merely served to set aflame a vicious and lawless sentiment that could have done It

There are all kinds of expressions afloat, from all kinds of people, some of whom hold that the decision pan-Senator Tillman. Others had been claiming that the court would give the children to Senator Tillman, because it would be afraid to do otherwise, and so it has been going; but all these expressions are more or less thoughtless, and without much foundation in fact. The decision is based purely upon the law and the evidence. The court decides that according to his own admission. that according to his own admission, B. R. Tillman, Jr., is not fit to have the custody of the children, and by his act deeding them to his father and mother, deeding them to his father and mother, he relinquishes all right to them. There was nothing in the testimony beyond mere unsupported intimations, to indicate any unfitness on the part of the mother, and under the common law of reason and justice as well as the constitution of the state, she is entitled to their custody.

This prince was to the inquiry: where the constitution of the state, she is entitled to the renewal of united family life.

The custody of Douschka Pickens you like my mother fired Count Mar-lanx out of the country. I won't let you come back here—never. And be-and his wife, Mrs. S. S. Tillman, res-

Opinion by C. A. Woods, A. J. er of the infants. Douschka Pickens Tillman and Sara Starke Tillman, fil-ed her petition in this court on the of January, 1910, praying that a writ of habeas corpus be issu the end that her children be released from the alleged unlawful restraint of er on the father it is violative the respondents, Hon. Benj. R. Tillman stitutional rights. The constitutional rights. and his wife, Mrs. S. S. Tillman, and that they be turned over to her custody, care and training.

The petitioner alleges her marriage with B. R. Tillman, Jr., the son of the espondents, the birth of the two chiltwo years of age; the intemperate hab-its of her husband; and such unjust and cruel attacks on her character by him that she was forced to leave him on November 24, 1908; her subsequent reconciliation with him in February, 1909, on the faith of his retraction of tion and promise of reform; her husconsent from the family residence in their grandmother, Mrs. Sarah S. Tillreturn of her husband on the children, his explanation being e had given them to his father and mother, who had taken them to South Carolina; the departure of her husband from their residence immediately after this statement, his taking with him his alise and his declaration of his intention to desert her; the execution of a deed by the father, B. R. Tillman, Jr., without her consent and without co sultation with her, by which he under took to transfer the custody and care to his parents, the respondents, B. R. man. That petitioner further alleges that she is fully qualified to have the and is possessed of ample means for insists that, under the facts stated, she is entitled to their custody and care. On this petition, to which were attachnumerous affidavits in support of its allegations, a writ of habeas corpus was issued, requiring the respondents bring the infants before the court, committed to the custody of the petitioner. Thereafter, on the 31st day of January the respondents brought the parents is at an end and the parents is at an end

grounds: First, that B. R. Tillman, Jr., the in the trade of hoodwinking the super- father of the children, executed to hem, on the first day of Decemb 1909, a deed disposing of the custody and tuition of the children, in accordance with the statute law of the state;

of the children on these

persons to have the custody and tui-Second, that "at the com deed disposing of the custody and tu-tion of said children, being without prejudice to the children, would be good and valid during the lifetime of the said B. R. Tillman, Jr., and he being alive this proceeding is premature."
Third, that the disposition of the custody of the children by the father is for their best interest, and the court, for that reason, should not deliver their mother.

The deed from the father, B. R. Tillman, Jr., to the respondents, purports to dispose absolutely of the custody of the children during their minority; and the first inquiry is: statute law of the state authorize such disposition, in the sense that it confers on the father the arbitrary power to dispose of his children, thus taking away the right of the mother and the child to judicial inquiry and adjudication as to their proper custody, and destroying the long recognized jurisdiction of the courts to adjust the custody established has passed a constitutional act bestow-ing such absolute power on the father the deed introduced is conclusive of the controversy. The statute under which the deed was made is contain-

The Law Used. "Section 2689. The father of any

child or children, under the age of 21 years and not married, whether born before or after the death of such father, or the mother of any such child or chilthe father being dead, such father or mother be under the age other human being, though it has been AT Cats came into England before the of 21 years, or of full age, may, by his or her deed, executed and recorded ac-

cording to law, or by his or her last will and testament, made and probated according to law, dispose of the cus-tody and tuition of such child or children for and during such time as he, she or they, respectively, remain under the age of 21 years, to any person or

TERMS--\$2.00 A YEAR IN ADVANCE

persons, in possession or remainder.
"Section 2690. Such disposition of the custody of such child or children shall be good and effective against all and every person or persons claiming the custody of such child or children, as guardian in socage or otherwise."

On behalf of the petitioner it is con-tended that the statute should be con-strued to confer on the father the right Children, He Was Held Unfit to Dispose of Them, and Because There Was Nothing Against the Character of the Mother, the Children Were Restored to Her.

The information that the supreme court had filed a decision under which it takes away from Senator and Mrs. B. R. Tillman the two children, deeded to them by B. R. Tillman, Jr., and gives the children to their mother, Mrs. B. R. Tillman, Jr., was published in the last issue of The Enquirer, the news having been received through a dispatch from Mr. August Kohn.

There was tremendous interest in the case throughout the state, much of it natural and proper, and the most of it vicious and lawless. This lawless feeling ran unnecessarily high; but whether it would have amounted to anything, of course, it is impossible to say. It

civil code cannot control the plain meaning expressed in the statute it-

lawless sentiment that could have done no good to the mother, the children or the laws of South Carolina.

There are all kinds of expressions to the custody of children during It is therefore manifest that what-

ders to public sentiment, and that if it had not been for the overwhelming expressions in favor of the mother, the children would have been left with Senator Tillman. Others had been claiming that the court would give the children to Senator Tillman, because it had been sent to senator tillman, because it had been claiming that the court would give the children to Senator Tillman, because it had the business and his wife, acquiesced in by the respondents, which provided that during

The argument falls because the first agreement was made in view of the then existing separation of the hus-band and wife, and there was after-

their custody.

Because of the tremendous interest is the extent of the power of dispoint this especial case, and because of the great importance of the subject, the decision of the court follows in bitrary power, regardless of the rigi family rights of the mother? Or, did it intend it to confer upon him the power to transfer such rights as he himself had at the date of the deed, without infringing upon the rights of the children to be placed in the custoof the mother to have their custody, in case the father had forfeited his right

shall any person be deprived of life liberty or property without due process of law, nor shall any pers

deprived of the equal protection of the laws." Article 1, Section 5.

The liberty guaranteed in this section, and in the like provision of the 14th amendment of the constitution of the c the United States is thus defined by the supreme court of the United States in Allgeyer vs. Louisiana, 165 U. S., tioned in that ame only the right of the citizens to be free from the mere physical restraint of term is deemed to embrace the right of the citizen to be free in the enjoyment of all his faculties; to be free to use them in all lawful ways, to live and work where he wills; to earn his livesue any livelihood or avocation and for

that purpose to enter into all contracts which may be proper. Right of Freedom. In the right of freedom from unlaw the enjoyment of all those privileges and immunities which belong to the nature incapable of limitation by exact definition. For the purposes of this discussion it is sufficient to say that and is possessed of ample means for and custody of their children and the their maintenance and education, and right of children to receive from their parents maintenance and care, but be-yond this there is a liberty of children above the control of their parents country have always enforced.

When the parent in asserting his claim to the custody of the child, disregards the correlative right of the child its liberty. This liberty of the child thought to be free from such lilegal res-traint of the parent and constitution orbids to be taken away except by due Parent vs. Parent.

Within the protection of this provi-sion of the constitution fall also certain ights of the parents against each other with respect to the custody of their children. The father being charged with the support of his children, ordi-narily his right to their custody is superior to that of the mother, but when the father relinquishes his right to the custody or forfeits it by his conduct, there can be no doubt that the mother under her family right, is entitled t the custody and care of her child. In other words as soon as the father's right falls away, the mother's right immediately takes its place and must be recognized by the court relinguished or forfeited. The rights ject to the still higher rights of the

It seems perfectly clear that the general assembly can not empower the father at his own will to deprive the nother and child of these legal rights so long established as elements of per-sonal liberty. If these family rights of the mother and children were not within the protection of the constitution under statutes like this, the father could exercise a tyranny revolting to all sense of justice and conceptions of personal liberty. He could at any mo-ment capriciously break up his family take all his infant children from the them upon strangers and the courts would be powerless to give any relief, though manifestly such a course of conduct would itself be plenary proof of relinquishment of the duties of the parental office.

The argument comes to this: The guaranty of personal liberty expres ed in the constitution means above all else that no human under the protection of the constitution can be placed under subjection to the arbitrary pow-er of disposition and control of any

[Cotninued on Fourth Page.]