DESERT GOLD



AND BROTHERS.

(7.)

"Why, mother!" Gale could say no

more. He put his arm around her. In

another moment she had gained com-

mand over herself, and, kissing him

Gale went thoughtfully back to his

room. Then remembering the hope

Mrs. Relding had given him, Dick lost

his gravity in a flash, and something

began to dance and ring within him

He simply could not keep his steps

turned from the patio. Every path

led there. His blood was throbbing

his hopes mounting, his spirit soaring

der his breath.

"Now for some spunk!" he said, un

Plainly he meant his merry whistle

and his buoyant step to Interrupt this

first languarous stage of the siests

which the girls always took during

the hot hours. But neither girl heard

verde, her beautiful head dark and

still upon a cushion. Nell was asleep

with the soft, perfect curve, had ai-

ways fascinated Dick, and now drew

she opened her eyes. They were sleepy,

yet surprised until she saw him.

Then she was wide awake in a second,

"How long have you been here?"

ond," he replied, lying shamelessly.

"Just got here this fraction of a sec-

"I thought-I was-dreaming," she

said, and evidently the sound of her

"Yes, you looked as if you were

"So sorry to wake you. I can't see

how I came to do it. & was so quiet.

Nell's sleepy eyes opened a little

make of this changed young man,

Dick felt gleeful and tried hard to

keep the fact from becoming manifest.

You seem remarkably happy today."

Pleasant dreams."

tered noiselessly.

"I certainly am happy. Adios.

Nell was really sleepy, and when she

had fallen asleep again he would re-

turn. He walked around for a while.

Presently, as if magnet-drawn, he re-

traced his steps to the patio and en-

Nell was now deep in her siesta.

She was inert, relaxed, untroubled by

Nell Was Now Deep in Her Siesta.

dreams. Her hair was damp on her

stood back fully ten feet from her,

by Dreams.

She Was Inert, Relaxed, Untroubled

feared she would awaken.

bewildered, uncertain.

unusual gayety.

voice reassured her.

she pushed him out of the door.

And have some spunk about it!"

"There! Go tell her, Dick, .

HARPER

CHAPTER IX

An Interrupted Siesta. Ne man ever had a more eloquent and beautiful pleader for his cause than had Dick Gale in Mercedes Castaneda. Nell lay in the hammock, her hands behind her head, with rosy cheeks and arch eyes. Indeed she looked rebellious.

Dick was inclined to be rebellious himself. Belding had kept the rangers in off the line, and therefore Dick had been idle most of the time, and, though he tried hard, he had been unable to stay far from Nell's vicinity. He believed she cared for him; but he could not catch her alone long enough to verify his tormenting hope. He had long before enlisted the loyal Mercedes in his cause; but in spite of this Nell had been more than a match for them both.

Gale pondered over an idea he had long revolved in mind, and which now suddenly gave place to a decision that made his heart swell and his cheek burn. He went in search of Mrs. Belding, and found her busy in the

The relation between Gale and Mrs. Belding had subtly and incomprehensively changed. He understood her less than when at first he divined an antagonism in her. If such a thing were possible she had retained the antagonism while seeming to yield to some influence that must have been fondness for him. Gale had come to care greatly for Nell's mother. Not only was she the comfort and strength of her home, but also of the inhabitants of Forlorn River. Indian, Mexican, American were all the same to her in trouble or illness; and then she was nurse, doctor, peacemaker, helper. She was good and noble, and there was not a child or grownup in Forlorn River who did not love and bless her. But Mrs. Belding did not seem happy. She seldom smiled, and never laughed. There was always a soft, sad, hurt look in her eyes. Gale often wondered if there had been other tragedy in her life than the supposed loss of

Mrs. Belding heard Dick's step as Mercedes didn't wake. Well, I'll go ding shut me up quick, the last time." he entered the kitchen, and, looking and let you have your siesta and up, greeted him.

her father in the desert.

"Mother," began Dick, earnestly. Belding called her that, and so did Ladd and Lash, but it was the first time for Dick. "Mother-I want to speak to you.

The only indication Mrs. Belding gave of being startled was in her eyes, which darkened, shadowed with multiplying thought.

"I love Nell," went on Dick, simply, "and I want you to let me ask her wider. She did not know what to

to be my wife. Mrs. Belding's face blanched to a deathly white. Gale, thinking with

surprise and concern that she was going to faint, moved quickly toward her, took her arm, "Forgive me, I was blunt, .

But I thought you knew."

"I've known for a long time," replied Mrs. Belding. Her voice was steady, and there was no evidence of agitation except in her pallor, "Then youyou haven't spoken to Nell?"

Dick laughed. "I've been trying to get a chance to tell her. I haven't had it yet. But she knows. I hope, I almost believe Nell cares a little for

"I've known that, too, for a long time," said Mrs. Belding, low almost as a whisper.

"You know!" cried Dick, with a glow and rush of feeling. "Mother!

You'll give her to me?" She drew him to the light and looked with strange, piercing intentness into his face. Gale had never dreamed a woman's eyes could hold

such a world of thought and feeling. It seemed all the sweetness of life was there, and all the pain. "Dick Gale, you want my Nell? You love her just as she is-her sweet-

ness-her goodness? Just herself, body and soul? . . . There's nothing could change you-nothing?"

"Dear Mrs. Belding, I love Nell for herself. If she loves me I'll be the happiest of men. There's absolutely nothing that could make any difference in me.

"But your people? Oh, Dick, you come of a proud family. I can tell. You've become a ranger. You love the adventure-the wild life. That won't last. Perhaps you'll settle down to ranching. I know you love the West. But, Dick, there's your family-

"If you want to know anything about my family, I'll tell you," interrupted Dick, with strong feeling. "I've no secrets about them or myself. My future and happiness are Nell's to make. No one else shall count with

"Then, Dick-you may have her God-bless-you-both."

Mrs. Belding's strained face under went a swift and mobile relaxation and suddenly she was weeping in became clear and comprehensive. He strangely mingled happiness and bit-

garded her calmly "I've interrupted your siesta again, he said. "Please forgive me. I'll take

became impossible for him to stay away any longer he returned to the patio. The instant his glance rested upon

Nell's face he divined she was feign- (By REV. P. B. FITZWATER, D. D. ing sleep. Dick dropped upon his knees and bent over her. He wanted more than anything he had ever wanted in his life to see if she would keep up that pretense of sleep and let him kiss her. She must have felt his breath, for her hair wayed off her THE STORY OF THE GOOD brow. Her cheeks were now white. Her breast swelled and sank. He bent down closer-closer. But he must have been maddeningly slow, for as he bent still closer Nell's eyes opened, and he caught a swift purple gaze of eyes as she whirled her head. Then, with a little cry, she rose and

CHAPTER X

Rojac.

No word from George Thorne had come to Forlorn River in weeks. Gale grew concerned over the fact, and began to wonder if anything serious could have happened to him. Mercedes showed a slow, wearing strain,

Thorne's commission expired the end of January, and if he could not get his discharge immediately, he surely could obtain leave of absence. Therefore, Gale waited, not without growing anxiety, and did his best to cheer Mercedes. The first of February came bringing news of rebel activities and bandit operations in and around Casita, but not a word from the cav-

alryman. A dozen times Gale declared he would ride in to Casita and find out him. Mercedes lay under the palo why they did not hear from Thorne; however, older and wiser heads prevailed over his impetuosity. Belding In the hammack. Her sweet, red lips, and the rangers and the Yaqui held a consultation. Not only had the Indian become a faithful servant to Gale, but him irresistibly. He had always been he was also of value to Belding. consumed with a desire to kiss her, Yaqui had all the craft of his class, and now he was overwhelmed with his and superior intelligence. His knowlopportunity. It would be a terrible edge of Mexicans was second only to thing to do, but if she did not waken his hate of them. And Yaqui, who at once- No, he would fight the had been scouting on all the trails, temptation. That would be more than gave information that made Belding It would- She stirred-he decide to wait some days before sending anyone to Casita.

He had dropped back erect when It was upon Gale's coming from this conference that he encountered Nell. Since the interrupted siesta episode she had been more than ordinarily elusive, and about all he had received "Why-you here?" she asked, slowly. from her was a tantalizing smile from "Large as life!" replied Dick, with a distance. He got the impression now, however, that she had awaited him. When he drew close to her he was certain of it, and he experienced more than surprise.

"Dick," she began, hurriedly. "Mercedes is dying by inches. Can't you see what ails her? It's more than love or fear. It's uncertainty-sushaving pleasant dreams," replied Dick. pense. Oh, can't we find out for her?" "Nell, I feel as badly as you about her. I wanted to ride to Casita. Bel-

Nell came close to Gale, clasped his arm. There was no color in her face. But he did not move to go. Nell Her eyes held a dark, eager exciteregarded him with curious, specula- ment

"Isn't it a lovely day?" queried Dick. Dad's consent? Risk it! Go to Ca-"Yesterday was finer, but you didn't sita and find out what's happened to Thorne-at least if he ever started for Forlorn River?" "Oh, yesterday was somewhere back in the past—the inconsequential

"No, Nell, I won't do that." She drew away from him with passionate suddenness.

"Are you afraid?" This certainly was not the Nell Burton that Gale knew.

"No, I'm not afraid," Gale replied, a little nettled.

"What's the inconsequential past? "Will you go-for my sake?" Like lightning her mood changed and she was close to him again, hands on his, Dick turned away then and left the her face white, her whole presence patio by the opening into the yard. sweetly alluring.

"Nell, I won't disobey Belding," protested Gale. "I won't break my

"Dick, It'll not be so bad as that. But-what if it is? . . . Go, Dick, if not for poor Mercedes' sake, then for mine-to please me. I'll-I'll . . you won't lose anything by going. I think I know how Mercedes feels. Just a word from Thorne or about him would save her. Take Blanco Sol and go, Dick. What rebel outfit could ever ride you down on that horse? Why, Dick, if I was up on Sol I wouldn't be afraid of the whole rebel army."

Gale could only stare at this transformed girl. "Dick, listen! . . . If you go-

if you fetch some word of Thorne to comfort Mercedes, you-well, you will have your reward. Dick, will you go." "No-no!" cried Gale, in violence, struggling with himself. "Nell Burton, I'll tell you this. To have the reward I want would mean pretty near heaven for me. But not even for that will I break my word to your father."

She seemed the incarnation of girlish scorn and willful passion. "Gracias, senor," she replied, mockingly, "Adios," Then she flashed out

of his sight. Gale went to his room at once, disturbed and thrilling, and did not soon recover from that encounter.

The following morning at the breakfast table Nell was not present, "She's In one of her tantrums lately," said it Lags Far Behind improvements in Belding. "Wouldn't speak to me this morning. Let her alone, mother, She's spolled enough, without running after her. She's always hungry. She'll be on hand presently, don't mistake me."

(To Be Continued).

Again Nell stirred, and gradually - A new record for mail sorting was awakened. Her eyes unclosed, humld, set when Miss Nina E. Hohnes, of De- missioners of prisons have forseen shadowy, unconscious. They rested troit, distributed 20,610 letters in eight this charge, and have answered it. "It upon Dick for a moment before they hours.

and to all outside appearances re- in filibuster.

IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL

He wandered away, and when it steer burnessible for him to steer

Teacher of English Bible in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago.) Copyright, 1922, Western Newspaper Union.

LESSON FOR DECEMBER 10 SAMARITAN

LESSON TEXT-Luke 10:25-37. GOLDEN TEXT-Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.-Lev. 19-18. PRIMARY TOPIC-Showing Kindness

JUNIOR TOPIC-The Story of the Good Samaritan.
INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC Being a Good Neighbor. YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC Who Is My Neighbor!

1. How to Inherit Eternal Life (vv. 25-28).

1. The Lawyer's Question (v. 29). "Lawyer" here means one versed in religious law-the Scriptures. This does not mean lawyer in our modern nearly correspond to a theological professor. The lawyer's object was to trap Jesus-to induce Him to take such a stand as would weaken His influence as a teacher. He expected Jesus to set forth some new ceremonies which would conflict with or disparage the law.

2 Jesus' Question (v. 26). Though Jesus knew the motive of the lawyer He did not evade his question. He sent him to the law-the field which was familiar to him. He thus was robbed of his own weapon.

3. The Lawyer's Reply (v. 27). He made an intelligent answer declaring that the entire content of the law was embraced in love to God and man. This expresses the whole of human

4. Jesus Reply (v. 18.) This straightforward answer went to the heart of the lawyer. Per ect love to God and man is truly the way of life. No man has yet had or can have such love. His sinful condition precludes its possibility. Man's failure to measure up to this requirement is his condemnation. The lawyer keenly felt this thrust. He was defeated on his own grounds and convicted of

II. Who Is My Neighbor (vv. 29-

1. The Lawyer's Question (v. 29). This question reveals the insincerity of the lawyer. Christ's answer had reached his conscience and now he seeks to escape the difficulty by asking a captious question. Lawyer-like he sought to get off by raising a question as to the meaning of words.

2. Jesus' Answer (vv. 30-37). Christ's reply more than answered the lawyer's question. In the parable of the Good Samaritan He makes clear who is a neighbor, and also what it means to be a neighbor, or what loving a neighbor means. Christ's answer had a double meaning. He not only made clear who is my neighbor, but made "Dick, will you slip off without It clear that the lawyer was not playing the neighbor. He thus was convicted of not having been a neigh-

> (1) Who is my neighbor? This destitute and wounded man left on the highway by the robbers is the man who needs a neighbor. My neighbor, therefore, is the one who needs my help, whether he lives next door or on the outside of the world. Those who have the Spirit of Christ can see their neighbors on every hand. (2) What being a neighbor means. Our supreme concern should not be "Who is my neighbor?" but "Whose neighbor am I?" To be a neighbor is (a) to see those about us who need help (v. 33). Love is keen to discern need. We should be on the lookout for those in need of our help. (b) Have compassion on the needy (v. 33). Christ's compassion was aroused as He came into contact with those who were suffering and in need. All those who have His nature will be likewise moved. (c) Give to those in need (v. 34). Many are willing to give money to help the poor and needy, but are unwilling to personally minis-touch is more important than the material aid. We should give ourselves MANAMANA MARKA MAR as well as our money. (d) Bind up wounds (v. 34). (e) Set the helpless ones on our beasts while we walk (v. 34). This is proof that love is genuine. Christians will deny themselves in order to have something to give to those who have need. This kind of sympathy is greatly needed today. (f) Bring to the irn and take care of the unfortunate (v. 34). Genuine love does not leave its service incomplete. Much Christian service is spasmodic, helps and then leaves a man to take care of himself. (g) Give money (v. 35). It costs a good deal to be a neighbor. Love is the most expensive thing in the world. It cost God His only Son. It cost Christ His life. May we go and do likewise!

ENGLISH PRISON REFORM

America.

Prison reform in England, says a London dispatch lags far behind what has been accomplished in America, but it has even so made such progress that some critics are declaring too much is being done in the direction of making things easy and comfortable for convicts.

In their annual report the Comis our duty," they say, "as the custodians of those who are for a time - Senator Harrison is the "buster" forcibly separated from life in the civic community, to restore them to it

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down and outer" is to be opened in Denver, Colorado, by "Jim" Goodheart, of the city welfare bureau. With 300 comfortable, clean rooms

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at least as fit as when we received them. To this end we should feed and exercise their minds as well as their hodies else we shall restore them to the stern competition of life outside primary object of prisons.

Within the last twelve months changes have been effected in the treatment of convicts that would have been regarded as revolutionary a few years ago. These are all in the direction of recognizing that even convicts are human beings, and that the punishment of the inmates is not the primary objects of prisons.

The broad arrow, everywhere kown as the badge of the convict, no longer appears on prison garments. They have now no distinctive markings. Neither is it any longer insisted that the hair of convicts be clipped close to the scalp. The rules prohibiting conversation between prisoners while sense of that term. It would more at work have been greatly relaxed. NOW for Convicts are no longer required to receive their visitors from the outside world behind bars or wire netting.

HAMBONE'S MEDITATIONS

WEN DE BOSS PAY ME WAGES AH AIN' NEVUH GOT NOTHIN' COMIN' TO ME, BUT EF HE JES' GIMME A DOLLAH NOW EN DEN AHS ALLUZ GOT SUMPN IN SIGHT!



hostely will rank as one of the most adequately equipped charitable estab-Sahments in the country, it is be-

There can be no rehabilitation of the jobless, penniless man who has no lace to live, Goodheart believes. "A man who sleeps in the park can't

he made to have much respect for

himself," Goodheart says.

-Montreal's bachelor tax, yielding filed their petition in said Court pray-\$100,000 a year, was voted down. The vote stood 23 to 8 in support of an appeal to the provincial legislature to repeal the law.

-Legislation is proposed in England that will compel girls under sixteen to wear their hair loose, plaited or hanging down their backs.

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Bankrupt., No. B-285 In Bankruptcy. To the Creditors of the Above Named Bankrupt: TAKE notice that on November 14th,

1922, the above named bankrupt ing that they may be decreed by the Court to have a full discharge from all debts provable against their estate, ex-cept such debts as are excepted by law from such discharge, and a hearing was thereupon ordered and will be had upon said petition on December 18, 1922, before said Court, at Greenville in said District, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, at which time and place all known creditors and other persons in interest may appear and show cause, if any they have, why the prayer of said petition should not be granted.

D. C. DURHAM, Clerk.
Dated at Greenville, S. C.,
Nov. 14, 1922. Nov. 14, 1922.

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