

# MYNHEER JOE.

BY ST. GEORGE RATHBORNE.

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## CHAPTER III.

[Continued.]

"Then I heard a shot just beside me. With a horror I can't explain, I whirled around, to see the black devil of a traitor aiming a revolver, from the muzzle of which smoke still curled. General Gordon had his hand pressed to his heart, and I could see the blood trickling over his fingers. That sight will haunt me all my life! I who have seen many strange and terrible things in my time can never forget what happened on that awful 26th day of January.

"I knew the brave Gordon had received his death-wound at the hands of one who had even fought at his side, and the consciousness that the evil hour had come seemed to turn my very blood into molten lava.

"Fearful sounds arose all over Khartoom, for the signal had been given that was to indicate Gordon's downfall. The enemy assaulted the walls, a portion of the late defenders joined them, and Khartoom became the scene of a massacre too terrible for words.

"I assure you, my friends, I did not stand idle while all this was going on. No sooner did I see the falling hero at my side, when, quick as the lightning cleaves the clouds, my sword leaped from its scabbard. Giving a true Yankee yell I sprang at the assassin. The descending blade cleft his miserable skull to the chin, and through all time I shall never cease to rejoice that it was the arm of an American that avenged Gordon's death.

"What happened after that is more like a dream than a reality to me, but I shall give it for what it is worth. I remember plunging into the thick of the fight. All around me arose the most fearful sounds of a desperate battle, while through Khartoom rang the shrieks of poor women and the shouts of exulting demons; for the black horse had swarmed over the walls, and in their great fury, seemed to spare none.

"More than one went down before my sword and revolvers, for, expecting only death, I fought as a madman might.

"In the midst of the melee, covered with grime and blood, I could hardly be distinguished from one of the traitor-soldiers who had at last turned upon their general. Suddenly my body was clasped by a pair of hands from behind, and I found myself hurled to the ground.

"Naturally I expected instant death, when, to my surprise, a voice called in my ear:

"Feign death! I would save the sailor!"

"It was my faithful servant Kassee, whom I had brought from Bombay. I hardly know why I obeyed him: it must have been because I had so little power to resist, for life did not seem worth any trouble just then. "He dragged me into the house that overlooked the river and there secreted me. All through the day I heard the shouts of the victorious hordes as they thronged through Khartoom. Something had come into my mind, and I found that I had an object to live for, a mission to perform. The news of Gordon's death must be carried to his people, and I had come to the conclusion that of all the faithful within the walls of Khartoom, Joe Miner was the only living soul that remained.

"Night came, and faithful Kassee made his appearance. He had disguised himself as one of the enemy, and thus escaped the common fate that befell the defenders of the city.

"From him I learned that a clever scheme had been arranged whereby we could make our escape down the river. The water was very low, but Gordon had several small, light-draught steamers for use upon the upper waters of the Nile. One of these lay not more than a stone's throw down the river, tied to the bank.

"Kassee's bright plan was for us to drop into the river from the back of the house, wade down to the boat, climb aboard and, aided by the darkness, cast her adrift. When some distance down the river, we could light a fire, start up steam and, as soon as daylight came, make good progress north.

"There was something fascinating about the adventure, particularly as it promised to be our only chance.

"Acting under the instructions of my faithful Kassee I clambered through the slit of a window in the mud wall of the house, lowered myself by means of the convenient rope, and finally stood knee-deep in the waters of the Nile below, waiting.

"When the ex-sepoy joined me," continued Mynheer Joe, "we began to creep along down in the direction of the little steamer. It was guarded, but Kassee knew where the sentry was posted, and he attended to his case while I got ready to unfasten the ropes.

"I heard a single splash, but not a cry. Then Kassee came to me and declared everything was working all right. We pushed out into the stream and began to leave the doomed city behind. As yet discovery had not come.

"I will not dwell on this part of my

trip. In the morning we got up steam and began to make good headway.

"Until half way to the Second Cataract we were not molested. Then a troop of scouting followers of the Mahdi sighted us, and riding into the river attempted to take the steamer.

"We had prepared for this. There was a small cannon on board, which we kept in readiness for just such an emergency as this, and when we sent its contents into the midst of the black rascals they scattered to the winds.

"Below, we had another fight, and this time they very nearly took the vessel, but our fire was a trifle too warm, and they finally allowed us to go on.

"As we drew near the cataract we knew we would have to abandon the little steamer, but we had determined to continue the voyage in her light yawl, which could be carried around the cataract by two stout men.

"This was finally done, and we kept on down the river. Fortune had been kind until now. We ran upon some hippopotami, and in a rage one of the monsters crushed our boat. It was in the night. I believe my poor Kassee must have fallen a victim to the savage beasts, for I saw him no more.

"My own escape was very miraculous. I landed a mile down the stream. At break of day I pushed on. Fate threw me in with a native, who carried me as far as the First Cataract in his boat. Here I met an English hunter, a bold fellow who, with some guides, had been up the river shooting river horses, as he called the hippopotami.

"He was horrified at my news, and gladly gave me a place in his comfortable boat, after which we set out for Cairo, hundreds of miles away.

"All went well until we were about two days' run above the city, when a sudden squall took us unawares; the boat capsized, and I found myself wrecked again in the darkness.

"I spent weary hours clinging to the hatch which had somehow come under my hands. Several times boats came near me in the morning, but no one would take me off. They pretended not to hear me; in fact, I might as well have been a thousand miles away for all they noticed me. You see, they have a dread of being held as witnesses, and if part of a boat's crew is lost there must be a legal inquiry, which will compel them to be in town and lose time from their work.

"As the day was passing I felt that I must leave my raft and try to gain the distant shore, where the railroad runs unless soon rescued. Just then this boat came down the river, running close by. I called to the captain, telling him I was from Khartoom, with news of Gordon; he at once put about and came to my rescue. The rest you already know, my friends."

Thus Mynheer Joe finishes his story. It has not taken a great while to tell the facts, but volumes could be filled with the details. He endeavors to control himself when speaking of Gordon's death, but it is evident that event has made a powerful impression on the sturdy explorer, who so often has fought side by side with the Christian hero.

Sandy has ceased making his hieroglyphics upon the pages of his notebook. His face beams with enthusiasm at the thought of being first with this authentic account of Gordon's death. At the same time, out of respect for the feelings of Mynheer Joe, he endeavors to subdue this mark of journalistic pride and appear sober, but it is really beyond him.

As for Mr. Grimes, he has observed the narrator with deep interest all the while he tells of the strange things which happened to him. Whatever is passing in the mind of the silver king he does not allow it to be shown upon his face, which is as expressionless as that of the Sphinx.

The messenger from Khartoom sits there for a brief interval, with that look of sadness on his face, as though the thoughts surging through his mind have been too much for him.

"Come, rouse yourself, my boy! You are among friends at last, thank heaven, and will be the lion of Cairo when it is publicly known that you were with gallant Gordon when he fell," says Sandy, but the other holds up his hand, and says quietly:

"That is a distinction I do not crave. Somehow I feel guilty in not leaving my body beside Gordon. At best, I see nothing to boast of in having escaped his fate."

"The brave are ever modest," says Sandy. "At least, you will make a report to the proper officials to-morrow and verify my dispatches."

"Yes, a very brief one. That is only just. I would, for certain reasons of my own which you cannot understand, keep it as quiet as possible."

"Just so!" remarks the silver king, in such a peculiar way that Mynheer Joe glances at him, and then finds his attention caught by a photograph on the wall, which he sees for the first time.

"That face again! Whose picture have we here?" he demands, with an alarming interest.

## CHAPTER IV.

"I KNOW HIM AS MYNHEER JOE."

Sandy turns his head and sees what

has attracted the explorer's attention. He smiles, too, for the words of Mynheer Joe would indicate that this is not the first time his eyes have rested on the picture or its original.

"That is the daughter of the gentleman who hires the dahabeah upon which we are just now," returns the war correspondent.

"Name?" asks Joe.

"Demosthenes Tanner."

"Can it be possible?"

"That is her father, of course. The girl—"

"Stupid! It was her name I asked for."

"Ah, I see. She is called Molly," replies Sandy, with a wink in the direction of Mr. Grimes, who is, however, too deeply interested in watching Mynheer Joe's face to notice aught else. He seems to be not a little fascinated by something in connection with the other.

"Molly? A pretty name. Somehow it just seems to fit those features. Molly Tanner is it? Good! I will remember. What a strange freak of fate that I should be picked up by her father's boat of all on the river!"

Mynheer Joe is muttering to himself, as though indulging in some reminiscence of the past; a slight smile has appeared upon his rather worn and haggard though always striking face. Evidently the thoughts that slip into his mind are pleasant ones.

It is not in the nature of Sandy Barlow to let a comrade enjoy a secret alone. Not that he has any desire to be meddlesome, but he wishes to share the joy as well as the sorrows of those in whose company he travels life's highway. Hence he nods his wise little head sagely, and, cocking it on one side in a manner peculiar to himself, he remarks:

"I say, Joe, this isn't the first time that face has flashed before your enchanted vision? Own up, now, like a man. We're all in love with the divine Molly; every single man in Cairo at this hour yearns for her smiles, and you will be only one of scores. Speak up, man: Where did you ever meet her? I've never heard her mention your name, to my knowledge, and, by Jove, she thought you were a Dutchman, when she sent me down here! Leave it to Grimes if it ain't so."

Mynheer Joe smiles.

"For once, friend Sandy, you have hit the bull's eye. I have met this lady before."

"And still she does not recognize your name—that by which the whole world of scientific geographers has learned to call you? When she spoke of Mynheer Joe she showed no emotion, and, as I said before, told us to do all for the poor unfortunate German we could. She even wanted to come herself to hear of Gordon. He's her hero, you know, as he is of many thousands. Yes, and we had even to promise to bring you back with us. So, what do you say to that?"

"I suppose I shall have to go. A woman's will is law, generally, especially one whose face is as charming as that photo betrays."

"But, your former meeting?" hammers the man of pencil and note-book, who does not deviate from a course he may have marked out, and, as a consequence, generally gets there with both feet.

"Ah, you will have it, Sandy," laughs the other.

"Why not? There is something eccentric about it, I'll be bound. You didn't meet Molly in the ordinary orthodox way, or you'd know her name, while she could never forget yours."

"Well, you see it's a poor place to ask for a name when salt water is running into mouth and eyes," returns Mynheer Joe.

The correspondent appears to have received a tremendous shock, for, suddenly springing to his feet, he clutches the explorer by the arm to whirl him around so that he may look in his face.

"Confusion! Were you the hero of that little episode at Malta a year ago?" he demands.

"I don't know about being a hero, but I did have the extreme pleasure of jumping from my sailboat and saving, from a watery grave, a young girl who had fallen overboard from a boat that nearly upset in a squall," returns the man from Khartoom, modestly.

Mr. Grimes ponders up his lips as if to whistle, and his whole manner says: "So, that's the way the wind blows, is it, coming events cast a shadow before."

As for Sandy, he shrugs his shoulders and pretends to look dreadfully disappointed, though there is a twinkle in his eye that tells of a sly humor. You cannot always take Sandy as he appears. He has often turned out to be a sly rogue.

"And then you sailed away, without even leaving your name, nor has the young lady ever been able to learn who it was so gallantly jumped overboard after her. One thing is settled—you've got a clear road there, Joe. Not another man will have a chance when once Molly recognizes you as her preserver."

Instead of looking flattered the party addressed has something of a bored appearance. A man who has devoted his life to science and exploration has no business to fall in love. His heart is supposed to be wrapped up in his work.

"Don't mention it, Sandy, I beg. I was bound upon a very curious errand at the time and didn't mean to be rude, but time was money. I could spend five minutes raving a girl's life but deliver me from an hour of thanks from her relatives. When I got back to Malta they had gone."

[To be Continued.]

## LEE COUNTY GOES ON THE MAP

### Supreme Court Dismisses the Restraining Order.

Columbia State, 16th.

A week ago the State Supreme Court adjourned the hearing on the petition for injunction in the matter of the formation of the new county of Lee, the return to the petition having been filed and the return having been read and the case argued somewhat at length by the council on both sides.

It was gratifying to the counsel who had upheld the constitutionality of the act creating the new county and the regularity of all the proceedings incident thereto, when upon the opening of the court yesterday morning the acting chief justice announced a decision in favor of the new county and the following opinion was read from the bench by Associate Justice Jones:

The State of South Carolina in the Supreme Court, November term, 1902:

William W. Fraser and others, petitioners, vs. W. A. James and others as commissioners of Lee county, respondents. Opinion by Jones, A. J.

By this proceeding in the original jurisdiction of this court petitioners seek to enjoin the respondents as commissioners of Lee county, from performing any duty imposed upon them by the act of the general assembly to establish Lee county approved 25th February, 1902, Stat. 1194, upon the grounds set forth in the petition herewith reported, which assails the constitutionality of said act "for the reasons that the said Lee county did not certainly receive the favorable vote of two-thirds of the qualified electors in each section of said proposed new county, did not certainly have the necessary population and assessed value of property, nor have the necessary population and assessed value of property in the three old counties from which it was carved; has not the boundaries in the act that were designated in the petition and should have been controlled by the election; and has cut the county of Sumter within eight miles of its court house building."

Respondents make return denying the material allegations of the petition, and petitioners gave notice of a motion for a reference to take testimony upon the issues of fact raised. Upon the call of the case, however, respondents made a motion to dismiss the petition, being in effect a demurrer thereto, upon the several grounds set forth in their demurrer or motion.

After carefully considering the matter the court is of opinion that the petition should be dismissed upon the ground that it fails to state a course of action or facts warranting the injunction prayed. The case now presented in Segars vs. Parrott, 54 S. C. L., wherein the former act creating Lee county 28 Stat. 908, was declared unconstitutional and the commissioners thereunder were enjoined from performing any duties imposed upon them by said former act. In that case the petition alleged, among other things that the result of election for the proposed county of Lee in that portion of Darlington county sought to be embraced within the area of said new county of Lee was as returned by the managers of election and as declared by the commissioners of election unfavorable to the creation of said new county, in that, as so reported and declared it failed to obtain two-thirds of the qualified electors in the Darlington section in favor of the new county. In this case it is alleged "that the managers and county election commissioners declared as a result of said election that two-thirds of the ballot cast separately in each of the counties of Kershaw, Darlington and Sumter had voted 'Yes' on the creation of the county and in favor of 'Lee' as its name and 'Bishopville' as its county seat." "That the result of said last mentioned election was certified in legal form by the commissioners of election for said three old counties to the secretary of state and by him was submitted to the general assembly at its next session. All which proceedings were conformable to law." In the case of Segars vs. Parrott the former act creating Lee county was declared unconstitutional because it appeared by the result of the election as certified by the commissioners of election to the general assembly that two-thirds of those voting in the Darlington section were not in favor of the proposed new county the majority of the court holding the view that the result of the election as declared and certified by the commissioners of election to the general assembly, in the absence of any judicial action setting it aside, was final and conclusive as to such result and could not be disregarded by the legislature. The constitution required an election of the proposed new county leaving it to the legislature to provide the mode of ascertaining and declaring the result, which was done by the act of March 9, 1896, 22 Stat. 64, making it the duty of the commissioners of election to canvass the returns of the managers of election and certify the result to the secretary of state, to be by him transmitted in tabulated statement to the general assembly. The result of the election having been determined pursuant to the constitution and act of the general assembly by the designated tribunal having power so to do, was conclusive of the fact and binding upon the legislature as well as all others. It follows in this case, in so far as the allegations relate to the election for the proposed new county of Lee, that Segars vs. Parrott, is authority for dismissal of the petition.

In reference to the allegation in the second paragraph of the petition that the petition to the governor for the creation of the new county was not signed by one-third of the qualified electors of each township, school district or other territorial division then existing within the limits of said proposed new county, we may say that such allegation states no ground for injunction for the reason among others that the words "each section" in Art.

7, Sec. 1 of the constitution providing that the "general assembly may establish new counties in the following manner: Whenever one-third of the qualified electors within the area of each section of an old county proposed to be cut off to form a new county shall petition the governor, etc." does not refer to such division of a county as township, school district and the like, but means that portion of the territory of an old county which is proposed to embrace within the new county without regard to townships or school district lines.

It is ordered that the new county be organized and the restraining order be dismissed.

**Found Oil Well.**

Monterey, Special.—Mr. Levi Jark, a reliable citizen of Shaw's Fork, found a few days ago on the property of Mr. J. R. Crummett, what he claims to be an oil well. The place of discovery is right at the base of Shaw's ridge and a few miles west of the Shenandoah mountain. Its surroundings have many indications that would lead one to believe it may be a large stream of petroleum. Of course, it will not be fully known until further investigation is made. If it should turn out to be a paying stream it will be in easy reach of the C. W. railroad.

**American Ships Exempted.**

Berlin, By Cable.—Secretary Hay's note excepting American ships from certain restrictions of the Venezuelan blockade is favorably received by the German government. The Foreign Office treats the matter as not raising any essential difficulty and as being within precedent, since Germany made a similar reservation in the Cretan blockade. The precise status of American vessels under the blockade will be defined in an official notification.

**Salaries For Canal Officers.**

Washington, Special.—Senator Morgan introduced a bill fixing the compensation of members of the isthmian canal commission at \$5,000 per annum each. The salary of the chief engineer is placed at \$10,000; that of the paymaster in chief \$5,000, and that of the chief surgeon at \$6,000.

**Fire Sunday night in the Hathaway building, Boston, at Nos. 208-212 Summer street, did damage to the extent of \$150,000.**

**Appointed Railroad Manager.**

Philadelphia, Special.—Charles Otey Gwatkin, formerly general Eastern agent of the Wisconsin Railroad, has been appointed general manager of the Guatemalan Northern Railroad, with headquarters at Guatemala City. Mr. Gwatkin will leave New York for his new post on next Sunday. Mr. Gwatkin is a native of Lynchburg, Va. He entered the railway service in 1880 as agent of the Great Western Dispatch and Freight Line, at Binghamton, N. Y. Since that time he has held positions of responsibility with various railroads.

**Mrs. Grant Laid to Rest.**

New York, Special.—In the mausoleum on Riverside Drive, brief and simple services were conducted Sunday over the remains of Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant. In addition to the members of the Grant family there were present among the 500 persons to whom invitations had been sent, Governor Odell, Secretary Root, Admiral Barker and staff, General Dodge, General Horatio King, General Chas. F. Roe, N. Y. S. G., and staff; Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Carnegie, and many Federal and municipal officials and officers of the army and navy stationed in the city.

**NEWSY CLEANINGS.**

Cholera has practically disappeared from Egypt.

Glasgow is borrowing \$5,000,000 to complete the city sewerage system.

The Prince of Monaco has decided to abolish the small army of the principality.

The present indications are that Italy will not officially participate in the St. Louis Exposition.

Japan has ordered X-ray machines for use in detecting thefts of gold coins by mint employees.

Insurance rates on property in Brooklyn, N. Y., have been increased from twenty to thirty per cent.

Efforts are being made in Paris to form a society for securing promptness and politeness from telephone attendants.

A French school will be opened next March at Nantchang, China, under the auspices of the French Consul at Shanghai.

Carpenters in Atlanta, Ga., are discussing the eight-hour day proposition and devising plans for its introduction in that city.

The Danish Folkething has passed a bill abolishing oaths in legal procedure and substituting declarations "on faith and honor."

The turn over of 2000 co-operative societies in Europe during 1901 was \$100,000,000. In 1893 it amounted to only \$25,000,000.

The General Federation of Trade Unions of Great Britain has seventy-eight affiliated unions with a total paying membership of 421,772.

A special course of instruction in the science of deep-sea exploration is to be offered by five experts at Bergen, Norway, in the first three months of the new year.

For two years the slaughter of cows, heifers and calves for sale as meat is prohibited in the Transvaal, under penalty of a £50 fine or six months' imprisonment.

**Proof of Filial Affection.**

When a Carthage father became so badly jagged a few nights ago that he could not walk, his muscular son threw him over his shoulder and "toted" him home much as he would have carried a sack of flour—an exhibition which tends to disprove the theory that filial affection is decreasing.—Kansas City Journal.

## SOUTHERN INDUSTRIAL

### Large Mills for Texas.

For several years past there has been considerable activity in cotton mill building in Texas. A number of plants have been completed in the State, and are now operating successfully. According to interviews appearing in the Houston press, three more large cotton factories have been contracted for. It is stated that Judge A. M. Mather of Houston, Texas, has arranged with Eastern capitalists for financing these enterprises and for the sale of the product after the mills are in operation. Referring to one of the mills, Judge Hatcher is quoted as saying it will have 15,000 spindles and 244 looms, manufacturing print cloths, and represent the investment of \$225,000. In this plant electrical power will be used exclusively. Details as to the other mills are not announced.

### A \$200,000 Addition.

Announcement is made that the Union Cotton Mills of Lafayette, Ga., will enlarge its plant. The stockholders in the company met recently and authorized this enlargement, but the decision did not become publicly known until during the past week. Mill architects are now preparing plans and specifications for the improvements. The erection of seventy-five operatives' cottages will be a part of the betterments. The company now has 7680 ring spindles and 212 looms, manufacturing sheeting, toweling and drills. This equipment will be increased by 10,000 spindles and 288 looms. About \$200,000 will be expended on the new building and machinery.

### Hope Mills Improvements.

Work is progressing on the improvements of the Hope Mills Manufacturing Co. at Hope Mills, N. C., and will soon be completed. These improvements have been made according to the plans announced last June. The additional structure is 150x300 feet in size, and will be equipped with 200 looms and a finishing plant. Messrs. Lockwood, Greene & Co., the well known mill architects of Boston, Mass., have been in charge of the betterments. The company's present plant has 12,582 spindles and 751 looms, manufacturing madras, chevots and dress goods. It is stated that about \$100,000 is the expenditure involved in the extensions.

### A \$250,000 Addition.

Lockhart Mills of Lockhart, S. C., will build an additional mill to cost \$250,000. A decision to this effect was made by the stockholders at their annual meeting held during the past week. An increase of capital stock from \$650,000 to \$1,000,000 has been authorized to supply the funds, and action will be taken at once. Further details regarding this addition will be announced soon. The company also declared its usual semi-annual dividend of 3 per cent, and John C. Cary was re-elected president-treasurer. There are 25,000 spindles and 800 looms in the present plant.

### Piece Goods for India.

Valabhdas Runchordas & Co., No. 19 Humum street, Fort Bombay, India, write to the Manufacturers' Record that they are particularly interested in hardware, building material, bicycles, rubber goods, files, wire nails, screws and piece goods, and add: "There is a good opening for piece goods in our market. The large part of this trade is confined to our cast-brethren, and hence we are in the best position to push this trade."

### Textile Notes.

J. F. Williams' knitting mill at Shelby, N. C., was destroyed by fire during the week. The loss was about \$12,000.

New Jersey silk manufacturers contemplate building a mill in the South, and have been investigating the advantages of High Point, N. C., as a location. They have optioned a site in that town from J. Elwood Cox.

The stockholders of Paolet (S. C.) Manufacturing Co. held their annual meeting last week and declared their usual semi-annual dividend of 5 per cent. V. M. Montgomery of Spartanburg was elected president-treasurer, succeeding his father, Capt. John H. Montgomery, recently deceased.

Cumberland (N. C.) Cotton Mills Co. contemplates enlarging its plant; now operating 3000 spindles. With the election of J. Frederick Houston of Philadelphia as president of the company has removed its main office to 704 Provident Building in that city.

Lynchburg (Va.) Cotton Mill Co. has declared a semi-annual dividend of 4 per cent, on its common and preferred stock. It is capitalized at \$600,000.

The Capital City Mills of Columbia, S. C., is changing its equipment of machinery so as to produce a finer grade of goods. The company has heretofore used 400 bales of cotton each month, and with the changes will reduce this consumption to 100 bales. It has 6200 ring spindles and 200 looms.

Goldville Manufacturing Co., Goldville, S. C., and plant of 5000 ring spindles will be offered at public outcry on January 8, in pursuance of an order of court.

If Canada were ever troubled with a coal famine due to a strike, she would have an easier way out than we have found. Fifty square miles of the coal lands of the Northwest have been set aside as Government property. It belongs to the State, and some day the State may use it. Meanwhile, there must be some reassurance to the Canadians to know that in a pinch they could get coal through Government agency.