



**CHAPTER VIII.**

Somewhere East of Nantucket. The Sibylla under stress of her powerful turbines was racing easily, reeling off her thirty knots with no seeming effort and scarcely a perceptible vibration. There had been a stiff breeze during the night, but it had died down at sunrise, and now, at noon, the sea was calm as the bosom of a nun. The sun blazed on the yacht's polished brasses, intensifying the snowy whiteness of her glossy paint, and turning to jeweled showers the spray which fell away from her sharp prow and caressed her long, sleek sides. It was wonderful weather for late October. On the nineteenth the temperature had risen to ninety in New York, breaking all records for that date; and now, two days later, here at the meeting of sound and ocean, with Point Judith just coming into view over our port bow, and Block Island a blur abaft our starboard beam, we sat, Cameron and I, shaded by spread awnings, on the after-deck, as though it were mid-summer. For he had been convinced by my righteous untruth, after repeated and emphatic dining, and had daily grown stronger; readily agreeing at length to a cruise along the coast, with Bar Harbor as objective. "That is precisely what I had the Sibylla built for," he told me, when my suggestion found acceptance. "Did you ever notice the inscription on the brass tablet over the fireplace in the saloon? No? Well, it's this: 'Sibylla, when thou seest me faynte, address thyselfe the gyde of my complaints.' "I found it in an old book, published in 1662, a poetic induction to 'The Mirror of Magistrates,' written by Thomas Sackville. You can fancy how my application distorts the original intention; but Sackville isn't likely to trouble me over it." I repeat this explanation now mainly to indicate the improved temper of the speaker. His mind was placid once again, and with this recovered placidity had come a return of his quiet humor. For my own part I was not altogether happy. My delight over my friend's recovery, and Evelyn's pleasure thereat, was curbed by self-reproach regarding the instrument I had employed to bring it about. A lie is to me a most contemptible agent, and to make use of one has been always abhorrent. In this instance I had saved my conscience in a measure with the old excuse that the end justified the means, but it was only in a measure, and I was far from being as happy as I pretended. Moreover, I could not rid myself of an uneasiness—a misery, indeed, in which I was now without company—concerning the day and its menace. I say "without company," for Cameron, of course, had quite dismissed the subject, and Evelyn, who previously was greatly perturbed, had seemed to put away all apprehension directly she saw us safe aboard the yacht. There had been some talk of her accompanying us, but without signifying my real reason, I had managed to dissuade her. For my disquietude there was certainly no logical ground. I had taken the precaution of having the Sibylla searched from masthead to keelson before sailing. The coal was examined as carefully as that of a battleship in time of war; every locker and cupboard was inspected; even the ventilators were metaphorically turned inside out and the record of every man of the crew was looked into with vigorous scrutiny. So I could see no loophole unguarded. But the past was an argument which set logic at naught. If such things could be as that which had happened a month ago in Cameron's dressing room, how much further might the inexplicable carry? Of what use were precautions against an enemy who with apparent ease calmly defied all natural laws? All the morning my thoughts had been running in this line. Foolish thoughts they must seem to one who reads of them; worthy only to be classed with the idle, superstitious fears of young girls and old women, and impossible to a well-balanced, clear-headed man of twenty-nine. It may be that I was not well-balanced and clear-headed. And yet the sequel would tend rather to a contrary conclusion. Cameron was still reading the Herald, and I sat with a pair of binoculars at my eyes sweeping the waters for the trailing smoke of a liner or some object of lesser interest. Presently the silence was broken by my companion. "I see," he began, dropping the paper to his knees, "that China is really in earnest in her anti-opium campaign. Two Peking officials have died from the effects of a too-hasty breaking of the habit. Men do not die in the attempt to obey mere paper re-

forms. The Chinese are a wonderful old people, Clyde."

"I lowered my glasses, all at once interested. "You've been in China?" he asked. "No, I haven't," was his answer. "I've always meant to go; but when I was nearest, ill news drew me home; and so I never got closer than Yokohama on one side, and Srinagar, in Kashmir, on the other."

"You've seen something of them in this country, I suppose?" "No, very little. I attended a dinner once at which Li Hung Chang was the guest of honor; and I've eaten chop suey in one of those Chinese eating palaces they have in Chicago. That's about the extent of my personal Chinese experience. But I have always been interested in the country and its people. I have read about everything that has been published on the subject. By the way, did they ever find out who killed that boy of Murphy's?"

"Not yet," I answered. "They've had some of his own kind under surveillance, but no more arrests have been made."

"Murphy was released?" "Yes."

He took up his paper again and once more I applied myself to sea-gazing. Far away to the northeast I made out what appeared to me to be a sea-going tug or pilot boat, steaming, I thought, with rather unusual speed for a vessel of her class. It was not much of a discovery, but the waters had been very barren that morning, especially for the last two hours, and insignificant as this object was I felt in a manner rewarded for my vigil. Half an hour later she had slipped out of sight and I was busy in an effort to pick her up again, when a cry from the lookout forward directed my attention to a floating speck possibly two miles or more dead ahead, and not more than a point off our course. "Come," I said to Cameron, "let's go up on the bridge and have a look!"

"And have our trouble for our pains?" he returned, incredulously. "It's probably some bit of wreckage, a box or a cask."

"Very well," I agreed, starting off alone. "Even a box or a cask is worth while as a variation."

When on nearer approach the drifting object proved to be a fisherman's dory, with a man, either dead or unconscious, plainly discernible in the bottom. I should hardly have been human had I not experienced a degree of satisfaction over Cameron's failure as a prophet. That, however, was the least abiding of my sensations. In an instant it had given way to anxiety concerning the boat's occupant and interest in the business-like manner in which MacLeod, the stocky young executive officer of the Sibylla, was preparing to pick up our find.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

**NEWS FROM O. C. I.**

**Cadet Edens the Winner of the Monthly Competitive Drill.**

Edgefield, Dec. 18.—The Y. W. C. A. and Y. M. C. A. of the South Carolina Co-Educational Institute gave a reception on Saturday evening which was very much enjoyed by all present. The monthly competitive drill in the manual of arms was held in the auditorium Tuesday. The medal for the best drilled recruit was won by Cadet Edens, M., of Smtor. In the drill for the medal given to old students Cadet Dunbar of Dalzell and Cadet Edens, C., of Sumter tied. After drilling for more than an hour it was decided to award a medal to each one.

For the most improvement in penmanship Miss May West of Edgefield and Cadet Reese of Bishopville were awarded gold medals.

Capt. P. P. Burns, a former professor of the S. C. C. I., but now of Howard College, Alabama, is here to attend the Sheppard-Lyon wedding.

Miss Ruth Cain of Sumter was one of those on the honor roll in grade A for the past month.

The college closed today for the holidays.

**Cured of Liver Complaint.**

"I was suffering with liver complaint," says Iva Smith of Point Blank, Texas, "and decided to try a 25c box of Chamberlain's Tablets, and am happy to say that I am completely cured and can recommend them to every one." For sale by all dealers.—Adv.

**TO CUT PRICES OF EGGS.**

**Philadelphia Housekeepers Plan Still Further Reduction.**

Philadelphia, Dec. 19.—Another cut in the price of storage eggs was decided upon by the Housekeepers league here today and tomorrow and the product will be sold by its members for 22 cents a dozen. It was decided to hold a mass meeting early next month to discuss co-operative measures for buying and selling other necessities.

**How to Bankrupt the Doctors.**

A prominent New York physician says "If it were not for the thin stockings and thin soled shoes worn by women the doctors would probably be bankrupt." When you contract a cold do not wait for it to develop into pneumonia but treat it at once. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is intended especially for coughs and colds, and has won a wide reputation by its cures of these diseases. It is most effectual and is pleasant and safe to take. For sale by all dealers.—Adv.

**SOME CHRISTMAS WINDOWS.**

Many of the Merchants of the City Decorate Elaborately for Holiday Season.

As is usual at this the Christmas season of the year, many of the merchants of the city have gone to work to decorate their show windows most elaborately in holiday attire, presenting a very attractive and enticing appearance to the many shoppers of the city and those from off who come here to shop. In fact unless one walks leisurely along the street and takes full time to closely observe all of the windows and compare them with show windows of other cities and towns of the size of Sumter, he or she will not know how much care is really taken by the home merchants in making their windows attractive in order to catch the passing trade, not only at Christmas time, but throughout the year.

Sumter merchants have always taken great care in this matter and consequently show windows in the city have repeatedly met with complimentary notice and remarks from strangers who have stopped to observe them in passing. Some of those merchants who this season have observed this custom and who have pretty windows as the result of their efforts along this line are:

The D. J. Chandler Clothing Company decorations are most elaborate. Green vines with red flowers twined around the walls of the windows and in the corners, with artistic light effects at night comprise the scheme of decorations. In one window is Santa Claus watching the Christmas shoppers go by, and both windows have a neat arrangement of clothing necessary to men and boys, and most freely purchased at Christmas time.

L. W. Folsom has his windows arranged with a green tissue paper and holly effect that is very inviting to the eye of the passerby.

Miss M. C. Jacobs' millinery store has holly and red in the scheme of decoration with a beautiful picture hat in the center, something that causes every woman to stop for a longer and better view when passing that way.

Hearon's Pharmacy has used red and green paper and holly in its decorations and has used them with delightful effect. In the windows are displayed a line of Christmas candles and necessary and useful articles carried by a drug store.

Shaw and McCollum Mercantile Company has used red paper and holly and has presented a beautiful window in which Christmas toys and articles of dry goods are placed on display.

Mrs. Lula Atkinson is another millinery store which has attractively decorated windows, red and holly being the chief articles used in decorating.

The four big windows of O'Donnell & Company are elaborately decorated, the displays of goods being according to which department of the store is represented by the window. Red paper, holly and moss are used to form an artistic combination in one window in which the display of the grocery department is fruits and nuts. Red paper, a Christmas bell and holly form a scheme of decoration for a second window in which is placed a display of lamps. A third window is decorated with red paper, moss and holly, while shoes are placed on display for the customer to look at before entering the store to purchase. Red and green with moss form the combination in the scheme of decoration for the window in the clothing department, where men's clothing is placed in display.

The Sumter Dry Goods Company has a display of Christmas bells with a background of red and green paper, the window being most uniquely and effectively gotten up to catch the eye of those who are out buying their Christmas goods. Displays of toys and Christmas goods, as well as more necessary articles are displayed in the windows.

Strauss' store has used red and white in its scheme of decorations, these colors being used in festoons in the windows. Nuts and fruits are the Christmas dainties placed in the windows for the housewife to secure from the well-known "quality" store.

DuRant Hardware company has in its windows a number of Xmas bells and the season is appropriately remembered by a collection of Santa Claus', and Santa in his sleigh driving his famous reindeer.

J. M. Chandler has used green and red paper to decorate his windows and has a choice display of men's articles of clothing and suits which is apt to draw the attention of those expecting to purchase of these articles at this season.

Bultman Bros Shoe store has used moss and holly in one show window, making a very pretty effect, while the other window is uniquely decorated with an artificial snow storm. Shoes make up the exhibit for the Christmas shopper.

LeGrand's Jewelry store has a collection of red and green draperies hanging in festoons and presenting

**an attractive appearance.**

Sibert's Drug Store is also decorated with colored tissue paper draped across the store and attractive displays of useful articles are placed in the windows for display.

Levy & Moses have very pretty windows in their store. Colored streamers draped in tasteful style in the windows make up the scheme of decoration and a display of fruits, nuts and candies make a most tempting combination to entice the attention of the housewife.

Schwartz Bros have no special Christmas decorations, but have a beautiful display of dresses, furs and other articles wanted by the ladies in one window, while in the other they have an assortment of toys, and numerous things which are useful and which may serve as Christmas presents.

A large number of other stores have very attractively arranged windows in which Christmas goods are displayed, toys and fireworks being especially noticeable, but have not decorated elaborately for the Christmas and holiday season.

**STATE'S TEXTILE ESTABLISHMENTS.**

**Paying Help \$2,000,000 More Than in 1911 Says Commissioner Watson.**

Columbia, Dec. 17.—"I am gratified that without the use of extensive child labor the textiles are this year able to pay nearly \$2,000,000 more to the employees in wages and show an increase in value of their annual produce of over \$2,500,000,000," says Commissioner Watson in his annual statement on the condition of the textile plants in South Carolina. He says:

"The showing made by the textiles at the end of this year is indeed a handsome one and it is a significant one, for it shows a very substantial and material development of the industry, and what is of more general concern perhaps, very much better conditions as to labor. The total spindleage is now 4,463,911 against 4,322,264 last year, this being an increase of 141,646 during the year. There has also been an increase of 1,582 blooms. The capital in cotton mills is now \$83,769,646, which shows the very handsome increase of \$4,880,192. The value of the annual product of our textiles has now jumped to \$73,502,000, which is an increase over the preceding year of \$2,574,090."

"Referring to the labor conditions, it is noteworthy that this year \$1,835,486 more money has been paid for wages than during the past year. The only decrease in the amount of wages paid shown by any class of the labor is in the classification applying to girls under 16 years of age, which indicates that their work in the mills has been irregular, that they have been taking longer rests and more frequently attending schools. The total average number of persons employed in the textiles in South Carolina is now 47,757, which is an increase of 2,168 over 1911. It is gratifying that the largest proportion of the increase in the number of persons actually employed is in males over 16 years of age; that increase being represented by 1,625. There were more women over 16 years of age employed during the year 1912 than during the year 1911 by 1,012.

"Considering the condition as to child labor, it is very gratifying that there are 468 less children employed in the textiles in this State today than a year ago, and all of them are now over 12 years of age. This has occurred notwithstanding the increase in the number of people employed. In 1909 there were 8,432 children under 16 years of age employed; in 1910 there were 8,312; in 1911, 7,958, and in 1912, 7,490. There has been during the year a decrease of 517 boys and the increase of girls has been only 49; that class of employment having been kept practically at a standstill. I might call attention to the fact that just three years ago in the year 1909 we had 726 under 12 years of age children at work in the textiles. The next year, 1910, that number had been reduced to 620. Last year the number had been further decreased to 410 and only 169 of those being girls. Then the new law striking out all of the old exemptions and making it impossible for a child under 12 years of age to work for any cause became effective, and this year there is not a single child under 12 years of age employed as far as we are able to find through inspection, though there may be an occasional case that has escaped the inspectors. It is of much gratification to me, notwithstanding the rapid growth and development of the textile industry that in three years time with the average number of employed people steadily increasing, we come to the end of the year 1912 with 944 less children under 16 years of age at work than we had at the beginning of that period. I am gratified, too, that without the use of extensive child labor the textiles are this year able to pay nearly two million dollars more to the employees in wages and show an increase in the value of their annual product of over \$2,500,000."

**THE CITRUS TRIFOLIATA AS A HEDGE PLANT IN SOUTH CAROLINA.**

South Carolina Experiment Station—Press Bulletin No. 98.

(By Senator B. R. Tillman.)

One familiar with the topography of the State and character of the soil in upper South Carolina understands why the soil washes away so badly. It embraces fully one-third of the State. Portions of this are much more hilly than the rest. On certain soils of a red kind, owing to the freezing and thawing in winter, the washing and denudation is much more marked. Any land in this region grows Bermuda grass admirably, and even where the soil is gone, if the land is broken deeply and a little stable manure used, Bermuda soon sods it over. On land entirely devoid of soil, or extremely poor the best way to secure a Bermuda sod is to sow rye and fertilize with commercial fertilizers. The plant grows with less humus than any of the grains and the roots will serve to give the Bermuda a foothold if the rye is grown and allowed to rot on the land. Once sodded and put in pasture it recuperates and its fertility is restored very rapidly. The trouble with growing cotton on such land, as has been too long the custom, is that having lost its humus, it washes very badly and soon becomes sterilized or so poverty-stricken that it will not grow anything profitably.

When land has been pastured several years and the Bermuda sod becomes set and grows all over it, an admirable crop of oats can be grown on it if commercial fertilizers are used in the drill when the oats are sown and no injury will result to the grass at all. Oats should be sown every third or fourth year in such soils. In fact it makes better pasture for plowing it up deep and turning the Bermuda roots under the land. Such farms can be made profitable by stock-raising without the necessity of growing cotton. Cotton as everyone knows requires hoeing, and hoeing Bermuda sod is costly and laborious. There are thousands and tens of thousands of acres of land in the Piedmont or regions north of Columbia that are very badly gullied or washed. These soils have all the mineral elements in ample quantity to grow fine Bermuda grass. All they need is to get this grass on them and use them as pastures alternating with oats as I have already indicated. There are many thousands of acres of land originally very fertile and densely wooded which are now given over to poverty-stricken old field pine thickets, full of gullies, where the pines are puny and show none of the vigor usual with that type of trees. How to restore these now barren and useless acres to productive agriculture is one of the problems which Clemson College seeks to solve. On its own farm at the college it is showing the possibilities of recuperation coming from Bermuda sod on lands once gullied and washed away. What can be done at the college, and has been done, can be done throughout the Piedmont region of the State.

The only drawback to making land profitable for stock-raising is the lack of fences. Anyone familiar with the expense and trouble of keeping up wire fencing must welcome the hedge plant that will grow under favorable conditions and produce a fence in from six to ten years according to the way it is treated. Such a plant is the Citrus trifoliata or hardy lemon. I have known the value of this plant for twenty years or more. Dr. C. U. Sheppard at Summerville and Mr. P. J. Berckmans of Augusta, Ga., have grown the hedge successfully for thirty years or more. I have on my plantation at Trenton more than half a mile of such a hedge, a photograph of which is sent with this article, and it makes a fence entirely impervious to stock of all kinds. To use the old Saxon adage, it is "pig tight, horse high and bull strong." I doubt very much whether even an elephant would like to tackle it for the millions of thorns are very strong and sharp, and the bush which becomes a small tree when neglected, has a very stiff stem and is not easily bent.

The only enemy I know and the worst one to the citrus hedge is fire. If crab grass is allowed to grow and leaves to accumulate under and around the hedge and then fire gets in it, the plants will soon die for they are very sensitive to fire. My experience with this hedge has been so satisfactory that I felt warranted in urging the farmers everywhere in the Piedmont Section, to try it without hesitation if they want a living fence that will not rot down and needs very little pruning to keep in order. The plants should be pruned any time between the 1st of November and the 1st of March. One pruning a year is all that is necessary. A pair of lopping shears with handles 3 feet long is the best tool for this purpose. If the hedge is allowed to grow more than 5 feet tall, then Water's tree pruner with handle 5 feet long is the

**most convenient tool to use.**

Either one of these tools will cut a stem one inch in diameter. The parts removed by trimming should be raked up and burned. If an ornamental hedge is desired, then it is desirable to prune three or four times during the growing season, using the ordinary hedge shears. In England where they have the hawthorne hedges there is a mowing machine which runs by horse-power and both cuts off the top of the hedges and trims the sides. The machine is arranged so that the cutting knife can be elevated to cut the top of the hedge and then it can be run perpendicularly to cut the sides. There may be two machines required to do this work, but I have seen the machines at work cutting off the top and trimming the sides. Whether it was the same machine or two different machines, I do not know. The main thing is to cut when the growth is young and succulent before it hardens.

In planting this hedge on poor land, as much of it will be planted on that character of land, the farmers ought to plow out a strip four or five feet wide with a two-horse plow and as deep as they can make it. The last five furrows ought to be sub-soiled and the water furrow raked out with a hoe down to the clay and a ditch made. If this is filled with stable manure, so much the better. If this cannot be had rich earth raked up from the woods or low places where it has been washed should be placed in the bottom of this ditch and thoroughly mixed with a liberal quantity of equal parts of cotton seed meal, and kainit. This ought to insure a rapid growth. The plant lives very easily as it has a large number of roots. It is important that it should be cultivated after it begins to grow so as to keep down the weeds and grass. This can be done easily by plowing and working the same as a row of corn.

After the hedge is started and begins to grow, if there are any missing places, they ought to be replanted the next winter and extra care taken to get large strong plants to replant with.

The hedge should be cut down to the ground the first winter after it is planted and becomes established so as to make it bunch out low and make a close fence. The proper distance for the plants to be placed is from 18 to 24 inches, not wider.

**CHRISTMAS DISTRIBUTION FUND.**

**\$409.98 Collected for Purchase of Gifts for Needy of City.**

The total amount of the Christmas fund to be used in the purchase and distribution of gifts for the needy of the city amounts to \$409.89, exclusive of the \$240 annually contributed by the estate of the late Mrs. Ella Toumey, which makes the total amount to \$648.89. Besides this amount Schwartz Bros have offered to give toys amounting to about \$5 in cash.

The collection for last year, including the Toumey fund amounted to \$600.84, so it will be seen that the collection of this year is nearly \$50 more than it was for last year. The part of this fund not used in the distribution of gifts at this season of the year will be dispensed during the year from time to time as a special committee appointed for the purpose sees fit to dispense it to needy causes.

The donations to the fund this year were as follows:

Cash Collection	\$148.39
O'Donnell & Co.	25.00
Woodmen	25.00
Elks	25.00
Thomas Wilson	25.00
Jenkins Auto Spec. Co.	25.00
Claremont Lodge, 64 A. F. M.	10.00
Beulah Chapter 25, R. A. M.	10.00
Shriner's Club	10.00
Eastern Star	10.00
Knights of Pythias	10.00
Fire Department	10.00
Jr. Order Am. Mec.	10.00
Baraca Class Washington St.	10.00
Baptist Church	10.00
Baraca Class First Baptist Church	10.00
Christian Church	5.00
J. R. Ligon	5.00
H. D. Barnett	5.00
J. M. Chandler	10.00
Epworth League Methodist Church	5.00
Sumter Light Infantry	5.00
Lyric Theatre	5.00
A Friend	5.00
A Friend	1.00
A Friend	.50
Total	\$409.89
To this, if added Mrs. Toumey's gift	240.00
Total	\$649.89
Schwartz Bros, assortment toys about	5.00

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Knights of Pythias	10.00
Fire Department	10.00
Jr. Order Am. Mec.	10.00
Baraca Class Washington St.	10.00
Baptist Church	10.00
Baraca Class First Baptist Church	10.00
Christian Church	5.00
J. R. Ligon	5.00
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