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AUSTIN LODGE NO. 414, B. P. O. ELKS. Meets on second and fourth Fri. evenings of each month at the new Elks' hall on Main St. Visiting Elks are invited to meet with us.

FIDELITY LODGE, No. 39, A. F. AND A. M. The regular communications of this lodge are held in Masonic hall Austin, Minn., on the first and third Wednesday evenings of each month.

ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER, No. 14. The stated communications of this Chapter are held in Masonic hall, Austin, Minn., on the second and fourth Friday evenings of each month.

ST. BERNARD COMMANDERY, K. T. No. 12. Meets first Monday evening of each month at Masonic hall. GEORGE E. ANDERSON, E. C. PARKS GOODWIN, Recorder.

AUSTIN LODGE No. 56, K. O. P. Meets on the second and fourth Wednesday evenings of each month. Visiting Knights welcomed. A. NELSON, G. C. W. J. URBATOR, K. of E. and S.

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THE LIONS OF THE LORD A TALE OF THE OLD WEST BY HARRY LEON WILSON

CHAPTER XII. A Fight for Life.

The stream of Saints to the Great Basin had become well-nigh continuous—Saints of all degrees of prosperity, from Parley Pratt, the Archer of Paradise, with his wealth of wives, wagons and cattle, to Barney Bigler, unblest with wives or herds, who put his earthly goods on a wheelbarrow and, to the everlasting glory of God, trundled it from the Missouri river to the valley of the Great Salt Lake.

One by one the trains worked down into the valley, the tired Saints making fresh their covenants by re-baptism as they came. In the waters of the River Jordan, Joel Rae made hundreds to be renewed in the Kingdom, swearing them to obey Brigham, the Lord's anointed, in all his orders, spiritual or temporal, and the priesthood or either of them, and all church authorities in like manner; to regard this obligation as superior to all laws of the United States and all earthly laws whatsoever; to cherish enmity against the government of the United States, that the blood of Joseph Smith and the Apostles slain in that generation might be avenged; and to keep the matter of this oath a profound secret then and forever.

From a high, tented wagon in one such train, creaking its rough way down Emigration canyon, with straining oxen and tired but eager people, there had leaped late one afternoon the girl whose eyes were to call to him so potentially—incomparable eyes, large and deep, of a velvety grayness, under black brows splendidly bent. Nor had the eyes alone voiced that call to his starved senses. He had caught the free, fearless confidence in her leap over the wheel, and her graceful abandon as she stood there, finely erect and full-curved, her head with its Greek lines thrown well back, and her strong hands raised to readjust the dusky hair that tumbled about her head like a storm cloud.

Men from the train were all about, and others from the settlement, and these spoke to her, some in serious greeting, some with jesting words. She returned it all in good part without embarrassment—even the sally of the winking wack who called out: "Now, then, Mara Cavan! Here we are, and a girl like yourself ought to catch an Elder, at the very lowest."

She laughed with easy good nature, still fumbling in the dusk of blown hair at the back of her head, showing a full-lipped mouth, beautifully large, with strong-looking, white teeth. "I'll catch never a one myself, if you please, Nathan Tanner! I'll do no catching at all, now! I'm the one will have to be caught!"

Her voice was a contralto, with the little hint of roughness that made it warm and richly golden; that made it fall, indeed, upon the ears of the listening Elder like a cathedral chime calling him to forget all and worship—forget all but that he was five and twenty with the hot blood surging and crowding and crying out in his veins. Now, having a little subdued the tossing storm cloud of hair, she stood with one hand upon her hip and the other shading her eyes, looking intently into the streets of the new settlement. And again there was bantering jest from the men about, and the ready, careless response from her, with gestures of an impishly reckless unconcern, of a full readiness to give and take in easy good fellowship. But then, in the very midst of a light response to one of the bantering men, her gray eyes met for the first time the very living look of the young Elder standing near. She was at once confused, breaking off her speech with an awkward laugh, and looking down. But, his eyes keeping steadily upon her, she, as if defiantly, returned his look for a fluttering second, trying to make her eyes survey him slowly from head to foot with her late cool carelessness; but she had to let them fall again, and he saw the color come under the clear skin.

He knew by these tokens that he possessed a power over this splendid woman that none of the other men could wield—she had lowered her eyes to no other but him—and all the man in him sang exultantly under the knowledge. He greeted her father, the little Seumas Cavan, of indomitable spirit, fresh, for all his march of a thousand miles, and he welcomed them both to Zion. Again and again while he talked to them he caught quick glances from the wonderful eyes—glances of interest, of inquiry—now of half-hearted defiance, now of wondering submission. The succeeding months had been a time of struggle with him—a struggle to maintain his character of Elder after the Order of Melchisedek in the full gaze of those velvety gray eyes, and in the light of her reckless, full-lipped smile, to present to the tempt-

They were appalled at the sweeping victories he promised the Saints over the hated Gentiles at an early day. They suggested, too, that the Lord might withhold an abundance from them for a few years until he had more thoroughly tried them. But their counsel seemed only to inflame him to fresh absurdities. In the very days of their greatest scarcity that winter, when almost every man was dressed in skins, and the daily fare was thistle roots, he declared to them at a Sunday service:

"A time of plenty is at hand—of great plenty. I cannot tell you how I know these things. I do not know how they come to me. I pray—and they come to life in my spirit; that is how I have found this fact; in less than a year states goods of all needed kinds will be sold here cheaper than they can be bought in eastern cities. You shall have an abundance at prices that will amaze you."

And the people thrilled to hear him, partaking of his faith, remembering the gulls that ate the crickets, and the rain and wind that came to save the pioneer train from fire. To the leaders such prophesying was merely reckless, inviting further chastisements from heaven, and calculated to cause a loss of faith in the priesthood. And yet, wild as it was, they saw this latter prophecy fulfilled; for now, so soon after the birth of this new empire, while it suffered and grew weak and bade fair to perish in its cradle of faith, there was made for it a golden spoon of plenty.

Over across the mountains the year before, on the decayed granite bedrock of the tall race at the mill of one Sutter, a man had picked up a few particles of gold, the largest as big as grains of wheat. The news of the wonder had spread to the east, and now came frenzied hordes of gold seekers. The valley of the mountains where the Saints had hoped to hide was directly in their path, and there they stopped their richly laden trains to rest and to renew their supplies.

The harvest of '49 was bountiful in all the valley; and thus was the wild prophecy of Joel Rae made sober truth. Many of the gold seekers had loaded their wagons with merchandise for the mining camps; but in their haste to be at the golden hills, they now sold it at a sacrifice in order to lighten their loads. The movement across the Sierras became a wild race; clothing, provisions, tools and arms—things most needful to the half-clad, half-starved community on the shores of the lake—were bartered to them at less than half-price for fresh horses and light wagons. Where a \$25 pack-mule was sold for \$200, a set of joiner's tools that had cost \$100 back in St. Louis would be bought for \$25.

The next year the gain to the Saints was even greater, as the tide of gold seekers rose. Early that summer they sold flour to the oncoming legions for a dollar a pound, taking their pay in the supplies they most needed on almost their own terms. This passing of the gold seekers was not, however, a blessing without drawbacks. For the Saints had hoped to wax strong unobserved, unmolested, forgotten, in this mountain retreat. But now obscurity could no longer be their lot. The hated Gentiles had again to be reckoned with.

First, the United States had expanded on the west to include their territory—the fruit of the Mexican war—the poor bleak desert they were making to blossom. Next, the government at Washington had sent to construe and administer their laws men who were aliens from the Commonwealth of Israel. True, Millard Fillmore had appointed Brigham governor of the new territory—but there were chief justices and associate justices, secretaries, attorneys, marshals, Indian agents from the wicked and benighted East; men who frankly disbelieved that the voice of Brigham was as the voice of God, and who did not hesitate to let their heresy be known. A stream of these came and went—trouble-mongers who despised and insulted the Saints, and returned to Washington with calumnies on their lips. It was true that Brigham had continued, as was right, to be the only power in the territory; but the narrow-minded appointees of the federal government persisted in misconstruing this circumstance; refusing to look upon it as the just mark of Heaven's favor, and declaring it to be the arrogance of a mere civil usurper.

Under such provocation Joel Rae longed more than ever to be a Lion of the Lord, for those above him in the church endured too easily, he considered, the indignities that were put upon them by these evil-minded Gentile politicians. He would have rejected them forthwith, as he believed the Lord would have had them do, nay, as he believed the Lord would sooner or later punish them for not doing. He would have thrust them into the desert, and called upon the Lord for strength to meet the storm that would doubtless be raised by such a course. He was impatient when the older men cautioned moderation and the petty wiles of diplomacy. Yet he was not altogether discouraged; for even they lost patience at times, and were almost as outspoken as he could have wished.

The spring of '56 found them again digging roots and resorting to all the old pitiful makeshifts of famine. "This," declared Joel Rae, to the starving people, "is a judgment of Heaven upon us for permitting Gentile aggression. It is meant to clench into our minds the God's truth that we must stand by our faith with the arms of war if need be."

"Brother Rae is just a little mite soul-brued," Brigham thereupon confessed to his "and I

wouldn't wonder if the Lord would be glad to see some of it taken out of him. Anyway, I've got a job for him that will just about do it."

Brigham sent for him the next day and did him the honor to entrust to him an important mission. He was to go back to the Missouri river and bring on one of the hand-cart parties that were to leave there that summer. The three years of famine had left the Saints in the valley poor, so that the immigration fund was depleted. The oncoming Saints, therefore, who were not able to pay their own way, were this summer, instead of riding in ox-carts, to walk across the plains and mountains, and push their belongings before them in hand-carts. It had become Brigham's pet scheme, and the Lord had revealed to him that it would work out auspiciously. Joel prepared to obey, though it was not without aversion that he went again to the edge of the Gentile country.

He was full of bitterness while he was obliged to tarry on the banks of the Missouri. The hatred of those who had persecuted him and his people, bred into him from boyhood, flashed up in his heart with more fire than ever. Even when a late comer from Nauvoo told him that Prudence Corson had married Capt. Girway of the Carthage Grays, two years after the exodus from Nauvoo, his first feeling was one of blazing anger against the mobocrats rather than regret for his lost love.

"They moved down to Jackson county, Missouri, too," concluded his informant, thus adding to the flame. They had gone to set up their home in the very Zion that the Gentiles with so much bloodshed had wrested from the Saints.

Even when the first anger cooled and he could face the thing calmly in all its deeper aspects, he was still very bitter. While he had stanchly kept himself for her, cherishing with a single heart all the old memories of her dearness, she had been a wife these seven years,—the wife, moreover, of a mob-leader whose minions had put them out of their home, and then wantonly tossed his father like a dead branch into the waters. She had loved this uniformed murderer—his little Prue—perhaps borne him children, while he, Joel Rae, had been all too scrupulously true to her memory, fighting against even the pleased look at a woman; fighting—only the one above could know with what desperate valor—against the warm-hearted girl with the gray eyes and the red lips, who laughed in her knowledge that she drew him—fighting her way for a sentimental figment, until she had married an

To be Continued.

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Order for Hearing on Claims.

STATE OF MINNESOTA. County of Mower—ss. In Probate Court. Special term, Feb. 4, 1907. In the matter of the estate of Ole A. Dalager, deceased.

Letters testamentary on the estate of said deceased being this day granted unto Anton A. Dalager of said county. It is ordered that all claims and demands of all persons against said estate be presented to this court for examination and allowance at this court for examination and allowance at the probate office in the court house in the city of Austin, in said county, on Monday, the 5th day of August, A. D. 1907, at 3 o'clock p. m.

It is further ordered, that six months from the date hereof be allowed to creditors to present their claims against said estate, at the expiration of which time all claims not presented to said court, or not proven to its satisfaction, shall be forever barred, unless for cause shown further time be allowed. Ordered further, that notice of time and place of hearing and examination of said claims and demands shall be given by publishing this order once in each week for three successive weeks in the MOWER COUNTY TRANSCRIPT, a weekly newspaper printed and published at the city of Austin in said county. Dated at Austin, Minnesota, the 4th day of Feb., 1907. By the Court, J. M. GREENMAN, Judge of Probate. Feb. 6, 13, 20.

Order for Hearing on Claims.

STATE OF MINNESOTA. County of Mower—ss. In Probate Court. Special term, Feb. 15, 1907. In the matter of the estate of J. T. Miller, deceased.

Letters of administration on the estate of said deceased being this day granted unto Cora Miller of said county. It is ordered, that all claims and demands of all persons against said estate be presented to this court for examination and allowance at the probate office, in the court house, in the city of Austin in said county, on Monday, the 12th day of August, 1907, at three o'clock p. m. It is further ordered, that six months from the date hereof be allowed to creditors to present their claims against said estate, at the expiration of which time all claims not presented to said court, or not proven to its satisfaction, shall be forever barred, unless for cause shown further time be allowed.

Ordered further, that notice of time and place of the hearing and examination of said claims and demands shall be given by publishing this order once in each week for three successive weeks in the MOWER COUNTY TRANSCRIPT, a weekly newspaper printed and published at the city of Austin in said county. Dated at Austin, Minnesota, the 15th day of Feb., 1907. By the Court, J. M. GREENMAN, Judge of Probate. Feb. 27, Mar 5.

Order for Hearing and Notice of Application for Appointment of Administrator.

STATE OF MINNESOTA. County of Mower—ss. In Probate Court. Special term, February 21st, 1907. In the matter of the estate of William J. Schwan, deceased.

The State of Minnesota to all persons interested in said estate. On reading and filing the petition of Alice E. Schwan, of Austin, Minn., representing among other things that William J. Schwan late of Mower County, Minn., on the 22nd day of November, A. D. 1903, at Butte, Montana, died intestate, and being a resident of this county at the time of his death, leaving goods, chattels and estate within this state, and that the said petitioner is the widow of said deceased, and praying that administration of said estate be to said E. Dodge granted; It is ordered that said petition be heard and all persons interested in said estate appear before this court, on Tuesday the 26th day of March, A. D. 1907, at three o'clock p. m. at the probate office in the city of Austin in said county and show cause if any they have why said petition should not be granted.

Ordered further, that notice thereof be given to the heirs of said deceased, and to all persons interested by publishing this order and citation once in each week for three successive weeks prior to said day of hearing, in the MOWER COUNTY TRANSCRIPT, a weekly newspaper printed and published at the city of Austin in said county. Dated at Austin, Minnesota, the 21st day of February, A. D. 1907. By the Court, J. M. GREENMAN, Judge of Probate. Feb. 27-Mch 13.

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