

A STORY OF INDIA.

[London Society.]
CHAPTER II.
THE BALL.

Lalera, the residence of the Raj of Coochabhar, who permitted a part of his place to be thrown open for the convenience of those who wished to get up dances in the station, was alive with life and light as Mrs. Campbell and her party entered. She swept into the ball-room on her husband's arm, who led Cissy, pure and white as a stately snowy lily, on the other.

A large room stretching across the end of the building, and surrounded on three sides by a veranda, was the chief apartment used on such occasions as the present. Bright candelabra blazing with light were suspended from a gorgeous arched roof, and mirrors and doors alternated all round the room.

The first dance was almost over as Cissy arrived, but her partner soon appeared to claim her for what remained of it. Round the room she glided gracefully and calmly, but ever and anon the golden-brown lashes were lifted, and the violet eyes gazed quietly over her partner's shoulder, seeking for a face that would not be banished from her mind.

'What nonsense, Ann! Cissy would never be such a fool.'

'Hem! you think so; but you will see your mistake yet. You see she refused Captain Lambert the fourth waltz because of him.'

'Yes, I was so angry, I felt inclined to forbid her dancing with Mr. Burton at all.'

'That would be a mistake, dear; believe me she will think the more of him, if you oppose her.'

'But what can one do?' asked Mrs. Campbell peevishly.

'Ah, a great many things can be managed quite quietly, Emily; for instance, you who so often have fainting-fits might fancy yourself ill at the time she wanted to dance with him, and call her away.'

'Well, but she would only dance with him again.'

such a fuss and keep people waiting! If you are so particular, can you not explain it again? Go now, at once; don't make yourself conspicuous.'

Cissy's face flushed. 'I can explain it afterwards at our waltz,' she thought, and in the expediency of the moment she hesitated, faltered and moved away.

Graham Burton stood near watching. He did not hear the words, but the result sufficed him. Indignation swelled in his heart against her, as he saw Cissy gliding through the dance; and he determined not to go near her till the waltz came round which she had promised him, and then to let her explain her conduct or not as it pleased her.

'The dances slipped on one by one, and Cissy was ever on her feet. The gay throng swarmed about, and the snowy figure of the girl, with her calm, still face and downcast eyes, passed in and out among the eddying, gliding, whirling crowd. Her heart was not at rest; she was longing for the fourth waltz, that she might explain all to Graham Burton, and that he might not glance so disdainfully and haughtily at her, but at length it drew near, and her heart beat fast as she was led to her seat for the last time before it.'

'Cissy, darling,' a voice murmured at her elbow, as she was nearing a seat. She started nervously, and glanced round.

'Yes, aunt,' she answered, a strange dread at her heart.

'Your mamma is not at all well, dear; she is wanting you. Mr. Moreton, would you be so kind as to take Miss Campbell out to the veranda, she will find her mother there. I will come immediately; but Alice has torn her dress, and wants me. Stay; are you engaged for this dance?'

'Yes, to Mr. Burton; would you kindly tell him.'

'O, I don't suppose it matters much about him, does it? But I will, if I meet him; go, dear, now.'

With sinking heart Cissy went out to the veranda, where she found her mother reclining on a couch and fanning herself.

'What is it, mamma dear? Are you ill?' she asked, struggling between filial duty and her desire to see Graham Burton, and explain all to him.

'[TO BE CONTINUED.]'

ARCHERY.
Close of the Tournament.
The Archery Tournament at the Zoological Garden closed yesterday afternoon. The following prizes were awarded:

CONVICT LABOR CONTRACTS.

Shall They be Abolished?
The Trades and Labor Assembly submits the following for the consideration of voters:

The practice of farming out convict labor to contractors at less than the current wages of free labor is a grievance which has for years been complained of by manufacturers, whose profits have been curtailed in order to compete in the market with the contractors, and by mechanics who have suffered reductions in wages in consequence of this unfair competition.

In 1877 a special committee of the House of Representatives presented to that body a report containing a mass of evidence on this subject, and commended the abolition of the prison contract system. The report was adopted and ordered printed, but no action has since been taken on the recommendations of the committee, and the evil complained of continues unabated.

Believing that this injustice alike to employer and employe can be remedied without loss to the State, and for the purpose of securing prompt legislation, the Trades and Labor Assembly recently submitted to all the candidates for the Senate and House of Representatives from Hamilton County, on both Republican and Democratic tickets, a pledge, binding them, if elected, to their best efforts to secure the enactment of a law prohibiting convict labor contracts.

As this is not necessarily a party question, but one which directly affects some manufacturers, and in which trades unionists and all workmen are directly or indirectly interested, attention is called to the result of the course adopted by the Assembly, supplemented by a little investigation:

REPUBLICAN TICKET.
A document declaring to stand by the record of their party in 1876-7, which appointed the special committee above referred to and accepted its report, has been received, signed by Messrs. Benjamin Eggleston, Charles Fleischman, Joseph Kirby, Peter F. Stryker, William H. Hill, Frank Kirchner, George W. Williams, Lewis Voight, Charles C. Davis, Daniel Gano Ray and Joseph E. Heart. The name of Mr. L. M. Dayton is not attached.

Hon. Peter F. Stryker has made a favorable record on this very question, as he was one of the special committee which recommended the abolishment of the contract system.

DEMOCRATIC TICKET.
The daily papers, in chronicling the nomination of Mr. Conrad Harris for Senator, mentioned him as being strong with trades unionists, and molders in particular. The fact that he is well and not very favorably known among that class can be learned from almost any member of Iron Molders' Union No. 3. He also declines to pledge himself on the subject of convict labor.

Mr. Thomas H. Johnson signed the pledge as submitted, and Mr. P. J. Donham declares himself favorable to the desired legislation.

Mr. A. R. Von Martels has signed the pledge as submitted to him, and in an additional document declares he is in favor of labor legislation on other important questions. His professional patronage being mainly from the working classes, he is naturally in sympathy with them, and might reasonably be expected in a Legislative career to pursue such a course as would popularize him with working people, thereby benefiting himself peculiarly by increasing the number of his clients.

Messrs. John J. Sullivan, A. McKim, John Hagerty, Wm. Lusby, Jr., and Chas. N. Danenhour have signed the pledge as submitted to them.

No replies have been received from Messrs. Blair, Turpin or Breckenridge. This statement is submitted to the public without lengthy comment, so that those affected directly or indirectly by competition with the product of convict labor may of themselves act intelligently on election day by depositing their ballots for those whom they have reason to believe will apply their earnest efforts to the speedy removal of the evil.

W. H. FOSTER,
Corresponding Secretary.

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