



Author of 'Webster-Man's Man', 'The Valley of the Giants', etc.

Picture by A. W. L.

SYNOPSIS.

CHAPTER I.—Captain Phineas P. Scraggs has grown up around the decks of the Frisco, and from a boy on a river steamer, risen to the ownership of the steamer Maggie. Since each annual inspection promised to be the last of the old weatherbeaten vessel, Scraggs naturally has some difficulty in securing a crew. Where the ship Yankee Adair, P. Gibney, likable but erratic, a man whom nobody but Scraggs would hire, is the skipper, Keila Johnson, a Swedish, constitutes the forecastle hands, and Bart McGuffey, a wastrel of the Gibney type, reigns in the engine room.

CHAPTER II.—With this motley crew and his ancient vessel, Captain Scraggs is engaged in freighting garden truck from Halfmoon bay to San Francisco. The inevitable happens, the Maggie goes ashore in a fog.

CHAPTER III.—A passing vessel halting the wreck, Mr. Gibney gets word to a towing company in San Francisco that the ship ashore is the Yankee Prince, with promise of a rich salvage. Two tugs succeed in pulling the Maggie into the water, and the ship's tow line gets away in a fog.

CHAPTER IV.—Furious at the deception practiced on them, Captains Ilka and Flaherty, commanding the two tugs, ascertain the identity of the "Yankee Prince" and, fearing ridicule should the facts become known along the water front, determine on personal vengeance. Their hostile visit to the Maggie results in Captain Scraggs promising to get a new boiler and make needed repairs to the steamer.

CHAPTER V.—Scraggs refuses to fulfill his promise and Gibney and McGuffey "strike." With marvelous luck Scraggs attracts a fresh crew. At the end of a few days of wild convulsions Gibney and McGuffey are stranded and seek their old positions on the Maggie. They are hostilely received, but remain. On their way to San Francisco they sight a derelict and Gibney and McGuffey swim to it.

CHAPTER VI.—The derelict proves to be the Chesapeake, richly laden, its entire crew stricken with scurvy. Scraggs attempts to tow her in, but the weather is unequal to the task and Gibney and McGuffey, alone, sail the ship to San Francisco, their salvage money amounting to \$1500 apiece.

CHAPTER VII.—Independently rich, our two adventurers still have a kindly feeling for the Maggie, and, his crew having deserted him, Captain Scraggs induces them to return. At an "old horse" sale the three purchase two mysterious boxes which they believe contain smuggled "Oriental goods." They find, instead, two dead Chinamen.

CHAPTER VIII.—Scraggs seeks to "double cross" his two associates, but Mr. Gibney and McGuffey, by means of a satisfactory financial settlement with the business company to whom the bodies had been consigned, leaving \$7500000 in his cold.

CHAPTER IX.—Gibney reneges McGuffey's action in lending money to Scraggs without consulting him, and after a terrific wrangle, the two separate. McGuffey becoming assistant engineer on an oil tanker, Gibney disappearing, and Scraggs, forced to land by the Marine, taking a subordinate position on a ferry steamer. Senior Lopez, Mexican consular agent, makes Scraggs a generous offer for transportation of millions to Lower California. Scraggs accepts, and the old Maggie is once more put into commission. Arriving at his destination, Scraggs finds his old companion, Mr. Gibney, in the consulate. Time having passed uneventfully, the reunion is joyful. Gibney plans to steal the ammunition and convey it to revolutionists in Columbia. On their way they are attacked by a Mexican gang, which they capture, though the Maggie is damaged so that it must be destroyed. On the gunboat, to which they transfer, they find their old friend McGuffey acting as engineer.

CHAPTER X.—Our three adventurers form a "syndicate" with the revolutionists, they have renamed the Maggie II, as their base of operations. They sail for the South Sea Islands, where they plan to obtain valuable black coral.

CHAPTER XI.—Going ashore with supposedly friendly natives, Gibney and Scraggs are taken prisoners, to be held for a cannibal feast.

CHAPTER XII.

On board the Maggie II B. McGuffey, Esquire, had just gotten into position the Maxim-Vickers "pon-pon" gun on top of the house. The last bolt that held it in place had just been screwed tight when a flash and swirl over the tops of the jungle and across the still surface of the little bay there floated to McGuffey's ears the single word:

"Help!"

McGuffey leaned against the gun, and for the moment he was as weak as a child, "Gawd," he muttered, "that was Scraggs and they're a-goin' to hit him up. Oh, Gib, Gib, old man, why wouldn't you listen to me? Now they've got you, and what in blazes I'm going to do to get you back, dead or alive, I dunno."

It was fully half an hour before poor McGuffey could pull himself together, and when he did, his grief was superseded by a fit of rage that was terrible to behold.

"Step lively, you blasted scum of the sea," he bawled to the mate, and the crew gathered around the gun. "Lug up a case of ammunition and we'll shell that bush until even a parrot won't be left alive in it."

"Aye, aye, sir," responded the crew to a man, and sprang to their task.

"Um, an old navy gunner," said the first mate quietly. "I'll handle the gun. With a pon-pon gun it's just like playing a garden hose on them, only it's high-explosive shell instead of water. I can search out every nook and cranny in the coast of this island. Those guns are sighted up to 4,000 yards."

"Kill 'em all," raved McGuffey, "kill all the blasted niggers."

When Mr. Gibney fell under the impact of the earthshaking pot he was only partially stunned. As he tried to struggle to his feet half a dozen hands were laid on him and in a trice he was lifted and carried back of the wall to a clear space where a dozen heavy teakwood posts stood in a row about four feet apart. Mr. Gibney was quickly stripped of his clothing and bound

hand and foot to one of these posts. Three minutes later another delegation of cannibals arrived, bearing the limp, naked body of Captain Scraggs, whom they bound in similar fashion to the post beside Mr. Gibney. Scraggs was very white and bloody, but conscious, and his pale-blue eyes were flickering like a snake's.

"What's-what's—the meanin' of this, Gib?" he gasped.

"It means," replied the commodore, "that it's all off but the shouting with me and you, Scraggs. This fellow Tabu-Tabu is a d-d traitor, and his people are still cannibals. He's the decoy to get white men ashore. They scheduled to treat us nice and be friendly until they could get the whole crew ashore, or enough of them to leave the ship helpless, and then—O Gawd, Scraggs, old man, can you ever forgive me for lettin' you into this?"

semi-conscious, and then something warm, dripping across his face, roused him. He moved, and found that his feet were free, though his hands were still bound to the post, which lay extended along his back. He rolled over and glanced up. Captain Scraggs was shrieking. By degrees the bells quit ringing in the commodore's ears, and this is what he heard Captain Scraggs yelling:

"Oh, you McGuffey. Oh, you bully Irish terrier. Sock it to 'em, Mac. Kill the beggars. You've got a dozen of 'em already. Plug away, you good old hunk of Irish bacon."

Mr. Gibney was now himself once more. He struggled to his feet, and as he did, something burst ten feet away and a little fleecy cloud of smoke obscured his vision for a moment. Then he understood. McGuffey had a rapid-fire gun trained on the wall, and the savages, with frightful yells, were fleeing madly from the little shella. Half a dozen of them lay dead and wounded close by.

(Continued next week)

WEST PINE RIVER

Dr. Graham was a caller in this vicinity Sunday.

Born to Fred Lentz and wife Friday, a baby girl.

Mrs. John Daniels is on the sick list.

Roy Reifer and family of Arcada spent Sunday at Wm. Bartley's.

Mrs. Church of Ithaca is nursing in this vicinity.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Stitt visited her daughter and family in Pompeii last week.

Lynn Gee and wife were Riverdale callers last Saturday.

(Intended for last week) E. G. Topp and wife, of Shepherd were callers in this vicinity last Tuesday.

Miss Lulu Ellis, who has been on the sick list is reported better.

Merle and Melvin Leland are the owners of a new photograph.

Bert Kyes and wife, of Shepherd, spent last Friday with Fred Kyes and family.

Mrs. Wm. Adams spent Friday night with her daughter, Mrs. Ray Helman, in Alma.

Lynn Gee and family visited his brother and family in Sumner, Sunday.

Mrs. C. F. Johnson entertained company from Shepherd last week.

Frank Hall's oldest son entered school last week.

Mrs. Delia Soule, who has been visiting her sister, Mrs. Rose Newcomb, has returned to her home in St. Louis.

NORTHWEST SEVILLE

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Manley Eavens, Monday January 16, a son, Laurel.

Mrs. Ed. Freed called on Mrs. Eavens Tuesday.

Unions Dickinson was in Mt. Pleasant Saturday on business.

Mrs. B. Freed and daughter, Ella, of Elwell visited the former's son and wife, E. Freed, Thursday.

Frank Scars had an auction sale at his farm Thursday. He expects to locate in Mt. Pleasant.

Mrs. Sadie Dickinson called on Mr. and Mrs. Eavens Saturday afternoon.

Mrs. Luther Meads spent the week end at the home of her son, Carl, returning home Thursday afternoon.

(Intended for last week) Ethel Tynan called on Mrs. V. Dickinson Saturday afternoon.

Will Myers spent Thursday night at the home of W. Tynan.

Main Messer, who is working in a saw mill near Vestaburg, spent the week end at his home here.

Mrs. Charlie Whittemore has been on the sick list the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Wiley and children of near Alma were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Going, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Stacey visited relatives at Sumner Sunday.

Dr. Highfield was in Alma Thursday attending the Gratiot-Isabella-Clare County Medical Society.

Mrs. John Hall spent the week end in Ithaca, a guest of her daughter, Mrs. Melvin Budge.

Miss Kathleen Cummings spent over Sunday with her parents at Vestaburg.

Mrs. Brackson Robart spent Saturday with relatives at St. Louis.

Mr. and Mrs. James Ostrander of Houghton Lake visited friends in this vicinity last week.

Mrs. F. Martin has returned from Alpena where she had been called by the death of her grandchild.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Bywater have purchased the residence occupied by O. Scofield and family, formerly owned by Neil VanAlstine.

Henry Curtis of Edmore was in town Friday on business.

Mrs. E. M. Highfield returned Tuesday evening from Courtright and Chatham, Ontario.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Harry entertained relatives from Shepherd Sunday.

Mrs. Patrick O'Brien of St. Louis spent the week end with her sister, Mrs. Carrie Treese, on the Deaneer farm.

Harry Palmer of Stanton was in town Tuesday on business.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Leiter entertained friends from Six Lakes Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Bemis visited relatives at Alma last Wednesday.

Jack Heilsinger of Alma spent Sunday on the Fred Grenman farm south east of town.

Forest Lapugh of near Blanchard was a Riverdale visitor Thursday.

WRIGHT SCHOOL

Mrs. Florence Webb of Alma spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Childs.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Fink entertained about 30 friends and neighbors, Friday evening. The evening was spent in dancing and playing cards. A fine pot luck supper and a fine time was enjoyed by all.

About 70 attended the Arcada Farmer Club at Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Hainline's. Mr. Babcock of Alma gave a very interesting talk, which was much appreciated by the club members.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Lentz welcomed a baby girl to their home Thursday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Foster Wilbur, formerly of this neighborhood but now of Alma, welcomed a 10 lb boy to their home, Friday night.

Miss Velma Going of Riverdale spent Friday evening with Mrs. Gail Wiley.

Mrs. Ed. Stevens was called to Fowler last week to attend the funeral of her father.

Harry Carpenter of Greendale has been staying with his sister, Mrs. Wesley White, while recovering from the effects of an operation.

Mrs. Elmer Muhn spent last week visiting her parents near Shepherd.

Mrs. Fred Rockafellow and son, Bernard, spent the week end in Riverdale.

The little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Anderson was taken very sick last Sunday night. She was taken to a hospital about midnight. At this writing she is better.

Mr. and Mrs. Going of Riverdale spent Sunday with their daughter, Mrs. Claud Wiley.

Stanley Ball and family entertained relatives on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Giles Isham have been entertaining their daughter, Mrs. Ed. Vanceore and daughter, Margaret, from Pompeii.

(Intended for last week) Mrs. Floyd Nelson and children spent Tuesday with her mother, Mrs. Church, of Sumner.

Mrs. Mack Wilson, formerly of this vicinity, passed away at her home in Alma last week. She was the adopted daughter of Charlie Biggs, of Seville Center.

Owen Courter, of Elwell, was a business caller in this vicinity one day last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Whitcraft and son, Purl, spent Wednesday with the former's sister, Mrs. Ed O'Bryant, of Forest Hill.

Clyde Webb is back in the vicinity again.

Willis Lemon will go to Lansing Saturday to visit.

Miss Mary Barry was home from Mt. Pleasant last week.

John McLaughlin of Elwell, was a business caller at Frank Whitcraft's Friday.

Gilbert Barry is working for the Alma Ice company.

Geo. Ferris has been visiting at Pat Whitcraft's, of Merle Beach, the past week.

Mr. Adams is working in Alma at D. W. Robinson's store.

Miss Vergil Whitcraft spent Sunday with Miss Ella Eboemker.

Hugh Johnson of Elwell, was a caller at Frank Whitcraft's on Friday.

Miss Margaret Barry was home from Saginaw last week.

James Barry, who is working in Alma, was home over Sunday.

Jack Adams entertained company from Alma Sunday.

Josephine Johnson spent Sunday with Ella Shoemaker.

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RAILROAD TIME TABLES

Pere Marquette Railroad

Westbound Eastbound

8:15 a.m. 10:15 a.m.

1:35 p.m. 4:15 p.m.

5:54 p.m. 8:55 p.m.

* Daily and Sunday Ann Arbor Railroad

Northbound Southbound

8:55 a.m. 7:15 a.m.

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RIVERDALE

Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Jacques and children of Alma were guests of John Jacques and wife Sunday.

Miss Mira Greenman has been quite ill for several weeks.

Miss Regan of Edmore spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Fred Leiter.

Mrs. Julia Rice left last week for Pontiac where she expects to remain with her son, Charlie, for some time.

Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Clark have the sympathy of their friends over the death of their infant daughter, who passed away January 18, aged one week.

Mrs. Cora Nunn spent Sunday with her daughter, Mrs. Glen Croton, south east of town.

Miss Geneva LaMay spent several days last week with relatives at Saginaw.

Mr. and Mrs. V. P. Cash and daughter Mildred of Alma called on friends in town Wednesday of last week.

Dr. and Mrs. Highfield were summoned to Port Lambton, Ontario, Thursday, on account of the death of a relative.

TOWN LINE

Mr. and Mrs. Will Sullivan and Mrs. Belle Lake of Alma spent Sunday the former's daughter, Mrs. Homer Leonard and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Ervin Topp and three children of Shepherd spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. George Lentz and family.

Carlyle Bowers near Forest Hill has been quite ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed. O'Bryant of Forest Hill spent Thursday with the latter's sister, Mrs. Olive Hoyt and family.

Paul Whitcraft spent Wednesday night with Geo. Shoemaker.

Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Johnson spent one day last week with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Matt Johnson.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Ball autored to Lansing on Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Wilk have been entertaining their daughter, Edna, the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hall have been entertaining relatives from Riverdale the past few days.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Chatman entertained company last Sunday.



"I'll Handle the Gun."

a hurried conversation. As a result of their conference, a huge savage was called over and given some instructions. Tabu-Tabu handed him a war club and Mr. Gibney, rightly conjecturing that this was the official executioner, bowed his head and waited for the blow.

It came sooner than he expected. The earth seemed to rise up and smite Adelbert P. Gibney across the face. There was a roar, as of an explosion in his ears, and he fell forward on his face. He had a confused notion that when he fell the post came with him.

For nearly a minute he lay there,