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Tyler & Simpson Co.

Wholesale Distributors.

A Gentleman From Mississippi

By THOMAS A. WISE

Novelized From the Play by Frederick R. Toombs

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(Continued from Last Thursday.)

CHAPTER II.

BIG BILL LANGDON was the term by which the new senator from Mississippi had been affectionately known to his intimates for years. He carried his 230 pounds with ease, bespeaking great muscular power in spite of his gray hairs. His rugged courage, unwavering honesty and ready belief in his friends won him a loyal following, some of whom frequently repeated what was known as "Bill Langdon's Golden Rule."

"There never was a man yet who didn't have some good in him, but most folks don't know this because their own virtues pop up and blind 'em when they look at somebody else." At the reunions of his old war comrades Langdon was always depended on to describe once again how the Third Mississippi charged at Crawfordsville and defeated the Eighth Illinois. But the stirring events of the past had served to increase the planter's fondness for his home life and his children, whose mother had died years before. At times he regretted that his unexpected political duties would take him away from the old plantation even though the enthusiastic approval of Carolina and Hope Georgia proved considerable compensation.

Although not sworn in as senator, Colonel Langdon's political duties were already pressing. A few days after Congressman Norton's visit he sat at his library conferring with several prominent citizens of his county regarding a plan to ask congress to appropriate money to dredge a portion of the channel of the Pearl river, which would greatly aid a large section of the state.

During the deliberations the name of Martin Sanders was announced by Jackson, the colonel's gravely decorated negro bodyguard, who boasted that he "wuz brung up by Cuneil Marse Langdon, sub, a fightin' Mississippi cunel, sub, sence long befo' de wah and way befo' dat, sub."

"Show Mr. Sanders right in," commanded Colonel Langdon.

"Good day, senator," spoke Sanders, the boss of seven counties, as he entered. Glancing around the room, he continued, bending toward the colonel and muttering his now whispering voice with his hand: "I want to speak to you alone, I'm here on politics."

"That's all right, but these gentlemen here are my friends and constituents," was the reply to no uncertain voice. "When I talk politics they have a perfect right to hear what I, as their senator, say. Out with it, Mr. Sanders."

As Sanders was introduced to the members of the conference he grew red in the face and stared at Langdon amazed. At last he had discovered something new in politics. "Say," he finally blurted, "when I talk business I—"

"Are you in politics as a business?" quickly spoke Colonel Langdon.

"Why—I er—no, of course not," the visitor stammered. "I am in politics."

The band played "The Stars and Stripes Forever" as the flag, which is a red pennant with a black ball in the center, was hoisted to the top of the mast. When it was looked out at the quonset the crew of the Vermont cheered wildly and their enthusiasm was answered lustily from every ship in the fleet. The Vermont won the trophy from the Minnesota by a narrow margin.

Blames Moving Pictures. Chicago, Feb. 5.—Moving pictures are blamed for his downfall by Remond Prange who has been sentenced to three years in the government prison at Leavenworth, Kan., for counterfeiting. Prange was arrested and indicted a few days ago and confessed that he had passed several bogus dollars.

"I was hard up," he explained to Judge Landis, "and could not get a job. One day I went into a moving picture show and saw pictures of counterfeiters. That gave me an idea and I made a few bad coins. I thought I could live on them until I got an honest position, but I was caught. If I had not seen those pictures, I would not be here now."

Read Ardmoreite want ads.

Carolina Langdon had an unsteady love for my party's sake, just like every body else," and Sanders grinned suggestively at his questioner.

"Have you anything further to say?" asked Langdon in a tone hinting that he would like to be rid of his caller.

"Well, since you are so very new in this game, senator, I'll talk right in 'to mornin', as they call it. I came to ask about an appointment as to tip you off on a couple o' propositions. I want Jim Hagley taken care of—you've heard of Jim—was clerk o' Pennington county. A \$2,000 a year job 'll do for him; \$500 o' that he gives to the organization."

"You're the organization, aren't you?" queried Langdon.

"Why, yes. Are you just gettin' wise?" cried Sanders. "Haven't I—"

reformers, voters, voters, voters, what hangin' on to me that needs to be taken care of? An' so I make the fellows that work help those that don't. Why, Langdon, what 'n h— are you kickin' an' questionin' about? Didn't you get my twelve votes in the legislature? Did you have a chance for senator without 'em? Answer me that, will you? Why, with 'em you only had two more than needed to elect, an' the opposition crowd was solid for Wilson," cried the angry boss, pounding the long table before which Langdon sat.

"I'll answer you mighty quick," retorted the now thoroughly aroused senator elect, rising and shaking his clinched fist at Sanders. "Those twelve votes you say were yours—yours?"

"Yes, mine. Them noble legislators that cast 'em was an' is mine, mine. I tell you, jest like I had 'em in my pocket, an' that's where I mostly carry 'em, so as they won't go strayin' about careless-like."

"You didn't have to vote those men for me. I told you at the capital that I would not make you or anybody else any promises. You voted them for me of your own accord. That's my answer."

"Them noble legislators was mine," gentlemen of the county present when Sanders entered and who had no desire to witness further the unpleasant episode rose to leave, in spite of the urgent request of Colonel Langdon that they remain. The only one reluctant to go was Deacon Amos Smallwood, who, coming to the plantation to seek employment for his son, had not been denied of his desire to join the assemblage of his neighbors.

Last to move toward the door, he stopped in front of Sanders, stretched his five feet three inches of stature on tiptoe and shook a withered fist in the boss' firmly set, determined face.

"Infamous!" shrieked the deacon. "You're a monster! You're unrighteous! You should have belonged to the political machine of Cattle or Pontius Pilate!"

"Never heard tell o' them," muttered Sanders, deeply puzzled. "Guess they was never in Mississippi in my time." His accompanying gesture of perplexity caused the deacon to hasten his exit. Tripping over the leg of a chair, he fell headlong into the arms of the watchful Jackson, who received the deacon's blessing for "uplifting the righteous in the hour of their fall."

Relieved at the departure of the witnesses, Sanders showed increased aggressiveness. "To be sure, senator, you were careful not to personally promise me anything for my support at the election, as you say," the leader sneered, "but you had Jim Stevens to make promises for you, which was smooth, absolute an' artistic smooth."

"Stop, sir!" Langdon furiously shouted. "You forget, sir, that your insinuation is an insult to a man elected senator from Mississippi, an insult to my state and to my friend Senator Stevens, who I know would make you no promises for me, for he had not my authority."

"Certainly you're a senator, but what's a senator anyhow? I'll tell you, Mr. Colonel Langdon, a senator is a man who holds out for his own pocket as much as as follows that make him will stand for. When we don't get our rightful share, he's through."

With a sudden start, as though to spring at Sanders' throat, Langdon, with compressed lips and eyes blazing, grasped the edge of the table with a grip that threatened to rend the polished boards. With intensest effort he slowly regained control of himself. His fury had actually weakened him. His knees shook, and he sank weakly into a chair. When he finally spoke his voice was strained and labored. "Sanders, you and I, sir, must never meet again because I might not succeed again in keeping my hands off you. What would my old comrades of the Third Mississippi say if they saw me sitting here and you there with a whole body, sir, after what you have said? They would not believe their eyes, thank God, sir. They would all go over to Stuart City and buy new eyeglasses, sir." A suspicious moisture appeared on the colonel's cheeks which he could not dry too quickly to escape Sanders' observation.

"But I had to let you stay, sir, because you, the sole accuser, are the only one who can tell me what I must know."

"What do you want to know?" asked Sanders, who had realized his great mistake in losing his temper, in talking as openly and as violently as he had and in dragging the name of Senator Stevens into the controversy. He must try to keep Stevens from hearing of this day's blunder, for Jim Stevens knew as well as he, didn't he, that the man who loses his temper, like the

man who talks too much, is of no use in politics.

"I want to know how you formed your opinion of political matters—of senators. Is it possible, sir, that you have actual knowledge of actual happenings that give you the right to talk as you have? I want to know if I must feel shame, feel disgrace, sir, to be a senator from Mississippi, that state, sir, that the Almighty himself, sir, would choose to live in if he came to earth."

"There, there, senator, don't take too seriously what I have said," Sanders replied in reassuring tone, having outlined his course of action. "I lost my head because you wouldn't promise me something I needed—that appointment for Hagley. What I said about senators an' such was all wild words—nothin' in 'em. Why, how could there be, senator? This query was a happy afterthought which Sanders craftily suggested in a designedly artless manner."

"Just what I thought and know," exclaimed Langdon sharply. "It couldn't be; it isn't possible. Now you go, sir, and let it be your greatest disgrace that you are not fit to enter any gentleman's house."

"Oh, don't rub it in too hard, senator. You may need my help some day, but you'll have to deliver the goods before-hand."

"I said, 'go!'" "I'm going, but here's a tip. Don't blame me for fightin' you. I've got to fight to live. I'm a human being, an' humans are pretty much the same all over the world, all except you—you're only half natural. The rest of you is reformer."

After Sanders' departure the colonel sat at his table, his head resting in his hand, the events of the day crowding his brain bewilderingly.

"The battles of peace are worse than any Beauregard ever led me into," he murmured. "Fighting to conquer oneself is harder than turning the left flank of the Eighth Illinois in an engaging battle."

But the new senator from Mississippi did not know that for him the wars of peace had only just begun, that perhaps his own flesh and blood and that of the wife and mother who had gone before would turn traitor to his colors in the very thick of the fray.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

PENITENTIARY BILL.

Measure Introduced Locates State Prison at McAlester.

Guthrie, Okla., Feb. 7.—The state penitentiary is definitely located at McAlester, and an appropriation of \$300,000 made for its construction and equipment by a bill introduced by Senator Redwine.

The bill provides for the employment of a warden at \$2,400 per year, deputy warden at \$1,800, one clerk at \$1,500, assistant clerk at \$1,200, second assistant clerk at \$900, and such other employees as the board of control may deem necessary at a salary not exceeding \$50 per month.

Provision is also made for the purchase of 1,000 acres of land for the penitentiary, including the 100 acres now occupied by the prison ground.

Another public building bill to day, by Memminger of the senate and Humphries of the house, locates the school for the deaf at Atoka and makes an appropriation of \$100,000 for the erection of buildings.

Provision is made in a bill by Franklin for the gathering of agricultural and other statistics by the board of agriculture, through the agency of the local assessors, and for the taking of a decennial census through the same agency, beginning with 1915 and every ten years thereafter, thus placing them midway between the dates of the federal census.

Usury is defined and provision made for recovery in civil suits, but no criminal proceedings provided for, in a bill by Memminger. Detailed procedure for the impeachment of witnesses is provided in a new bill by Hatchett.

Suit in Assassination Case.

Muskogee, Okla., Feb. 8.—To recover life and accident insurance aggregating a half-million dollars, a suit is set for trial today in the United States circuit court, brought by Mrs. Susie M. Burdett against the Penn Mutual Life Insurance Co., of Philadelphia, American National National of Galveston and Provident Savings Life, Mutual Life and Fidelity & Casualty Co., of New York. Mrs. Burdett is the widow of Joshua Burdett, a wealthy merchant of Creek County, who is supposed to have been assassinated at Eufala in 1906.

Burdett's body was found in a well on his farm. Nearby on the ground was the revolver with which he is supposed to have been killed. The companies refused payment for a long time on the ground of suicide and now also allege false statements to the medical examiners.

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PLEASANTRIES IN THE HOUSE

MR. LIVINGSTON REFERRED TO THE DUTY OF MR. HEPBURN, WHO SMILED.

MR. SCOTT LOST A POINT

The Iowa Man Had Objected to the Georgian Whipping to Representative Scott—Quarrels Over Agricultural Appropriations.

Washington, Feb. 7.—While the house was considering the agricultural appropriation bill today there was a sharp exchange of words between Mr. Hepburn of Iowa and Mr. Livingston of Georgia, two of the oldest members of the house. It arose in connection with a colloquy over a minor amendment between Mr. Livingston and Mr. Scott of Kansas, which was carried on in such a low tone of voice that Mr. Hepburn protested that he could not hear and that both were out of order. He laid down the parliamentary rule requiring members to address the chair.

"I am very much obliged to the gentleman," replied Mr. Livingston, "but he certainly is getting in his dotage."

The chair admonished the members that they must observe the rules of debate and address the chair.

Snarling under Mr. Livingston's characterization, Mr. Hepburn again got the floor.

"The gentleman from Georgia in his amiability has suggested that I am in my dotage," he said, "yet his evidence of that was that I could not hear his wanderings. But the moment the chair addressed the house in loud tones the gentleman at once said, 'I cannot hear.' I submit the question of dotage to the membership."

Although plainly vexed at first Mr. Hepburn smiled as he sat down, the house in the meantime convulsed with laughter.

The bureau of plant industry was given a raking over by Mr. Mann who charged that the money appropriated for testing paper making plants had been wasted. "All the information obtained," he said, "was already known, they had to learn something themselves. They knew very little about the subject."

Mr. Cole, Ohio, made a strong plea for an appropriation of \$20,000 for experiments in the manufacture of paper from cornstalks, and offered an amendment which, however, was withdrawn after notice of point of order against it by Mr. Scott, who said it had been fully demonstrated that paper could be manufactured from cornstalks.

Despite Mr. Scott's protests the chair overruled the point of order against the amendment of Mr. Mann of Illinois appropriating \$10,000 for the testing of such plants as may require tests to ascertain if they are suitable for making paper. Incidentally he said that while it had been demonstrated that paper could be made from cornstalks the proposition was chimerical and not a commercial possibility.

Mr. Mann next directed a shot at Secretary Wilson. He admitted, he said, that the secretary was a very able man, but when it came to the subject of paper making, "what he does not know about it would fill many volumes and what he does know would occupy very little space."

By way of a substitute, which was agreed to by Mr. Mann, Mr. Davis, of Minnesota, offered an amendment appropriating \$10,000 for breeding fibrous plants which may be used for paper making. The amendment was adopted.

County Commissioners' Proceedings.

Carter County, State of Oklahoma.

The board of county commissioners of Carter County, Oklahoma, met this the 1st day of February, 1909, in regular monthly session, all members of the board and the deputy county clerk in attendance, and the following business was transacted, to-wit:

Authority was given to township trustees to dispose of old Hickory bridge on Lone Grove and Ardmore road, and to place proceeds in county treasury. Approved additional bond of Joe Hightight for \$5,000.00 as township treasurer.

Passed resolution asking Hon. James Wilson, secretary agriculture, to have the Washita river surveyed and drained.

Bought car of oak lumber from Peter Schmall for \$214.77, containing over 12,000 feet.

Asked the clerk of Wilson township to resign on account of being convicted of crimes.

Ordered, that the order adding school district No. 66 to Baum and school district No. 67 to Sneed, is hereby revoked, and they are hereby made separate schools to be maintained by the county, and the revenue derived from said districts 66 and 67 to go to district No. 36 to which they are hereby added.

In the matter of road petition No. 18 of J. A. Gilliam, et al., beginning at the southwest corner of section 26 and running 4 miles west along section lines, known as Durwood to Ardmore road, ordered that same be allowed.

Wrote letter to J. Geo. Wright asking him when he will be able to furnish this county with the list of taxable land.

Made contract with Kansas City Bridge Co., to make approach to Berwyn bridge, east end.

Approved bond of county depository, Ardmore National Bank, for \$50,000.

Erroneous affidavit of T. L. Wright whereby it was shown that he was assessed, without his knowledge, for property in another county was allowed for \$31.25.

Ordered that under law for correcting erroneous assessments found in sections 6142 and 6143, New Oklahoma Statute, this board has no power to correct the assessment of property where it is assessed too high, this comes under the authority of the city and township equalization boards, and wherein they have failed to correct these errors, there is no recourse before this board.

Claims were allowed and warrants issued on the following funds, to-wit: Court, \$2067.15; salary, \$1631.98; contingent, \$190.56; road and bridge, \$777.66; supply, \$160.79; separate schools, \$170.25; poor and insane, \$110.23, and election, \$10.40.

There being no further business to come before this board we hereby stand adjourned until next Monday, Feb. 8, 1909.

Witness our hands this the 3rd day of February, 1909.

ROBERT F. SCIVALLY,

Attest: Chairman County Board.

(Seal.)

Wm. B. FRAME, County Clerk.

By B. W. DUKE, Deputy.

Washington Once Gave Up. To three doctors; was kept in bed for five weeks. Blood poison from a spider's bite caused large, deep sores to cover his leg. The doctors failed then "Bucklin's Arnica Salve" completely cured me," writes John Washington, of Bosqueville, Tex. For eczema, boils, burns and piles it's supreme. 25c at Ardmore Pharmacy.

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For the best oil and use best service, and the lowest price, call phone \$42. Retail Oil Wagon. 10-1m

The Best Cough Cure

A half ounce of Virgin Oil of Pine, two ounces of Glycerine and a half pint of Whisky, mixed will cure any cough that is curable and break a cold in 24 hours. Take a teaspoonful every four hours. Ask your druggist for the genuine Leach's Virgin Oil of Pine compound pure, prepared and guaranteed by the Leach Chemical Co., Cincinnati, O.

Notice to the Public.

The following warrants are now good and can be collected at my office:

Court fund up to No. 600.

Salary fund up to 129.

Contingent fund up to 161.

Road and Bridge fund up to 378.

All warrants on the separate school fund.

D. M. RUMPH,

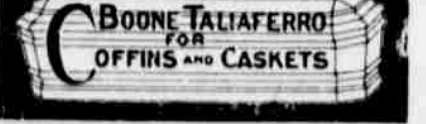
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