

MY LADY OF THE NORTH

The Love Story of a Gray Jacket

by RANDALL PARRISH
Author of WHEN WILDERNESS WAS KING
ILLUSTRATIONS BY ARTHUR T. WILLIAMSON
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The story opens in a Confederate tent at a critical stage of the Civil War. Gen. Lee imparts to Capt. Wayne an important message to Longstreet. The two officers, who have been in the line of the army, are in the darkness, Wayne is taken for a general officer who comes to his appointment, and a young lady on horseback is given a change in the line of the northern girl and attempts to escape but fails. One of the horses succumbs and the young lady is thrown to the ground, but she enters in the dark a huge must attack in the tent. The girl shoots the brute just in time.

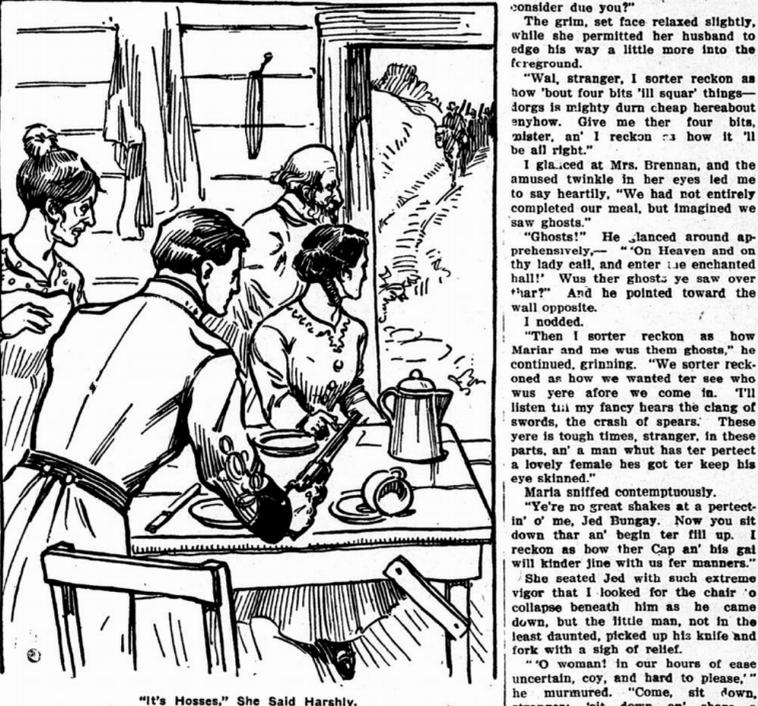
CHAPTER VI.—Continued.

"The great ugly brute!" she exclaimed, looking at the form in the center of the floor.

"He was certainly heavy enough to have been a bear," I replied, clenching my teeth in pain, "and sufficiently savage."

I viewed her now for the first time clearly, and the memory will remain with me all my life. Her dress, which she wore with a constant air of defiance, was of a dark blue, and the reflection of the red flames became mingled with the gray down, until the bare and cheerless interior grew more and more visible. Her search was far from unsuccessful, while her resourcefulness astonished me, old campaigner as I was; for it was scarcely more than full daylight before she had me at the table, and I was doing full justice to such coarse food as the larder furnished.

The eating helped me greatly; but for some time so busy were we that neither of us spoke. On my own part I experienced a strange hesitancy in addressing her upon terms of equality. Ordinarily not easily embarrassed in



much, as I could tell by her downcast eyes and heaving bosom, and I hastened to relieve her embarrassment.

"You have nothing whatever to ask forgiveness for," I said earnestly. "Rather such a request should come from me. I only trust, Miss Brennan, that you will excuse my part in this extremely unfortunate affair."

She sat looking down upon her plate, her fingers nervously crumbling a bit of corn bread.

"You do not even know who I am," she said slowly. "I am not Miss, but Mrs. Brennan."

I felt as if a dash of cold water had been suddenly thrown in my face. "Indeed?" I stammered, scarcely knowing what I said. "You appear so young a girl that I never once thought of you as being a married woman."

"I was married very early; indeed, before I was seventeen. My husband—"

What she was about to add I could not conjecture, for a quick change in the expression of her face startled me. "What is it?" I questioned, half rising to my feet, and glancing over my shoulder toward the wall where her eyes were riveted.

"Something resembling a hand pushed aside the coat hanging upon the wall," she explained in low trembling tones, "and I thought I saw a face."

Believing it to be merely her overwrought nerves which were at fault, I sought to soothe her. "It was probably no more than a shadow," I said, crossing to her side of the table, to enable her better to feel the influence of my presence. "Let us be content to sit here by the door, for we should be taking too great a risk of discovery if we ventured into the open."

She turned to me with a look of surprise. "What would you consider due?"

"The grim, set face relaxed slightly, while she permitted her husband to edge his way a little more into the foreground.

"Wal, stranger, I sorter reckon as how 'bout four bits 'ill squar' things—dorgs is mighty dern cheap hereabout anyhow. Give me ther four bits, mister, an' I reckon as how it 'll be all right."

I glanced at Mrs. Brennan, and the amused twinkle in her eyes led me to say heartily, "We had not entirely completed our meal, but imagined we saw ghosts."

"Ghosts!" He glanced around apprehensively. "On Heaven and on thy lady call, and enter the enchanted hall!" Was ther ghost ye saw over 'nair? And he pointed toward the wall opposite me.

I nodded.

"Then I sorter reckon as how Marlar and me was ther ghosts," he continued, grinning. "We sorter reckoned as how we wanted ter see who was yere afore we come in. 'I'll listen till my fancy hears the clang of swords, the crash of spears. These yere tough times, stranger, in these parts, an' a man what has ter protect a lovely female hes got ter keep his eyes skinned."

Maria sniffed contemptuously.

"Ye're no great shakes at a peartectin' o' me, Jed Bungay. Now you sit down ther an' begin ter fill up. I reckon as how ther cap an' his gal will kinder jine with us fer manners."

She seated Jed with such extreme vigor that I looked for the chair to collapse beneath him as he came down, but the little man, not in the least daunted, picked up his knife and fork with a sigh of relief.

"O woman! in our hours of ease uncertain, coy and hard to please," he murmured. "Come, sit 'down, stranger; 'tis down 'n' share 'n' scoldier's couch, a soldier's fare. Not as I'm a sojer," he hastened to explain, "but that's how it is in ther book. Say, old woman, kinder sker up some coffee fer we uns—leastwise what us Confeds call coffee."

"Without much difficulty I induced Mrs. Brennan to draw her chair once more to the table, and I sat down beside her.

"You are Confederate, then?" I asked, curious to know upon which side his sympathies were enlisted in the struggle.

"He glanced warily at my gray tunic, and then, as if he were wandering to the blue an' yellow cavalry cloak lying on the floor.

"Wal, I jist don't know, Cap," he said cautiously, continuing to eat as he talked, "as I'm much o' anything in this yere vor. First ther durned gray-backs ther come droopin' up yere, blarin' ther shabby shifty eyes ther blue bell-bottoms comin' long an' cut down every lick o' my corn fodder, so ther I'll be cussed if I ain't 'bout ready ter fight either side. Anyhow I ain't no fightin' yit worth talkin' 'bout, fer Marlar is pow'ful feared 'd get hurt."

Maria regarded him scornfully.

"Hiding out, I suppose?"

"Wal, 't ain't very healthful fer us ter be stayin' 'n' hum much o' ther time, long with that ther Red Lovrie, an' Jim Hale, an' ther rest o' ther cattle 'round yere."

"Guerillas pretty thick now in the mountains?"

"Wal, I dunno; I heard as they was doin' somethin' down by ther brick church, but that's no guaranty, 'em jist 'round yere. I reckon as how they know's nough ter keep 'em far as ever peasant pitched a bar."

"You hrr—no fear of them, then?"

"Whut, me?" The little man sat 'bout upright, and glared "erely across ther table as though he would resent an insult. "Jist tell y' Cap. I reckon ther ain't no guerilla a' goin' ter poke his nose 'round yere 'less ther a lookin' fer sudden death; ther's mighty few o' 'em ain't heard o' Jed Bungay—'whut in thunder's ther matter with yer gal?"

CHAPTER VII.
A Disciple of Sir Walter

Even as I gazed upon her, my admiration deeper than my pain, the expression of her face changed; there came a certain firmness about her anxiety into those clear, challenging eyes, and with one quick step she drew nearer and bent above me.

"Oh, Captain Wayne," she cried, her warm, womanly heart conquering all prejudice, "you are badly hurt and bleeding. Why did you not tell me? Please let me aid you."

"I fear I must," I replied grimly. "I would gladly spare you, for indeed I do not believe my injury sufficiently serious to cause alarm, but I find I have only one arm I can use at present, the brute got his teeth into the other."

"Oh, believe me, I can do it." She spoke bravely, a sturdy ring of confidence in the voice, although at the thought her face paled. I have been in the hospitals at Baltimore, and taken care of wounded soldiers. If there was only some water here!"

She glanced about, dreading the possibility of having to go forth into the night alone in search of a spring or well.

"I think you will find a pail on the bench yonder," I said, for from where I leaned against the wall I could see out into the shed. "It was doubtless left for the dog to drink from."

She came back with it, tearing down a cloth from off a peg in the wall as she passed, and then, "caring a resolute air of authority, knelt beside me, and with rapid fingers, flung back my jacket, unfastening the rough army shirt, and laid bare, so far as was possible, the lacerated shoulder.

"Forgive me," she said anxiously, "but I fear I can never dress it in this way. We must remove your jacket and cut away the sleeve of your shirt."

At last the disagreeable task was accomplished, the wounded shoulder completely bared. Her face was as white as snow, and she shied her eyes with her hand.

"Oh, what a horrible wound!" she exclaimed, almost sobbing. "How that great brute must have hurt you!"

"The wound is not so serious as it appears," I replied reassuringly, and glad myself to feel that I spoke the truth, "but I confess the pain is intense, and makes me feel somewhat faint. It was not so much the bite of the dog, but unfortunately he got his teeth into an old wound and tore it open."

"An old wound?"

"Yes; I received a Minie ball there at Gettysburg, and although the bullet was extracted, the wound never properly healed."

She performed her disagreeable task with all the tenderness of a sympathetic woman, and as she worked swiftly and deftly, made no attempt to conceal the tear clinging to her long lashes. Skillfully she deep, jagged gash was bathed out, and then as carefully bound up with the softest cloths she could find at hand. The relief was great, and I felt, as I moved the shoulder, that saving

ORCHARD MEN MEET

RICH PRIZES AT EXHIBITION OF STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY IN MINNEAPOLIS.

WAS A GREAT YEAR FOR FRUIT

Program Deals With Nearly Every Phase of Cultivating and Growing Fruit and Garden Products.

Minneapolis.—The 1911 meeting and exhibition of the Minnesota State Horticultural Society is the greatest of its fifty years of life, held in the First Unitarian church, Eighth street and Mary place, Minneapolis, next Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

The fruit crop of 1911 has been such that the large and coveted prizes offered for certain fruits will be awarded this year. In previous years the fruit did not come up to the standard, but with the announcement that Minnesota was given the first prize for apples in this, the Middle West section of the country, comprising a dozen states, the outlook is declared to be encouraging. Over \$1,000 in cash prizes were offered.

Among the papers read and talks made were the following:

PLUMS AND OTHER FRUITS.
"Hybrid Plums and What We May Expect From Them," Dewain Cook, Fruit grower and nurseryman, Minneapolis.
"Comparative Value of Japanese Hybrid and American Plums," John W. Moberg, Fruit grower, Minneapolis.
"The Fruit of the Country," Peter Stevens, Canby, "Evergreen and Deciduous Underbrakes for the Western Prairies," John W. Moberg, nurseryman, Devils Lake, N. D.
"The Fruit of the Country," Mrs. E. E. Lundgren, St. Paul and Cannon Falls.
"The Fruit of the Country," H. Drum, retired farmer and fruit grower, Owatonna.
"Some Native Wild Fruit Substitutes for Cultivation," Miss Elsie Butler, superintendent of the State Horticultural Society, Minneapolis.
"The Fruit of the Country," S. A. Beach, professor of horticulture, Iowa State Agricultural College, Ames, Iowa, thirty minutes.

TOP WORKING.
"A Visit to 'Top Working' Topworked Orchard," J. Roy Cady, professor of horticulture, Minnesota Agricultural College, St. Paul.
"Possibilities for Minnesota in Apple Raising," Top Working, John W. Moberg, twenty-four varieties of apples grown in his own orchard, top worked on Virginia crab, and top worked on Virginia crab, West Salem, Wis. "Winter Apples on Top-Worked Trees," H. Kenney, orchardist and original horticultural experimenter, Waterville, Me.
"Present Status of Top Working," made up from reports of members of the State Horticultural Society, St. Anthony Park. "Attitude of the Nurserymen Toward Top Working," S. D. Richardson, nurseryman, Winnebago.

A message from C. S. Harrison, York, Neb. "The Drainage in the Orchard," Fred John Stevens, State Agricultural College, St. Paul.
"The State Forest Service," H. W. Corbridge, State Forester, Paul. "The Duties of a Forest Ranger," W. L. Eisenach, Deer River.
"The Duties of a Forest Ranger," The Forest School in Itasca State Park," Superintendent, John W. Moberg, St. Paul.
"The Birds of the Roadside," Charles M. Loring, Minneapolis.
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PLANT BREEDING.
"The Plant Breeder's Auxiliary in 1911," Clarence W. Johnson, Albert Lea. "The State Fruit Breeding Farm for 1911," W. H. Johnson, superintendent, Excelsior. Report of committee on examination of the Minnesota State Fruit Breeding Farm, Ed. Yanish, St. Paul; E. A. Smith, Lake City; H. Malinda, Seeding Orchard in 1911," E. Perkins, farmer and orchardist, Red Wing. "How the Horticultural Society Breeding Movement," M. J. Dorsey, assistant in plant breeding, state experiment station, Excelsior.

SPRAYING AND MARKETING.
"Spraying Materials and Their Use," H. M. Ashby, Sherwin & Williams, Chicago.
"Spraying in Entomology," H. M. Ashby, Sherwin & Williams, Chicago.
"The State Horticultural Society," M. J. Dorsey, assistant in plant breeding, state experiment station, Excelsior. Report of committee on examination of the Minnesota State Fruit Breeding Farm, Ed. Yanish, St. Paul; E. A. Smith, Lake City; H. Malinda, Seeding Orchard in 1911," E. Perkins, farmer and orchardist, Red Wing. "How the Horticultural Society Breeding Movement," M. J. Dorsey, assistant in plant breeding, state experiment station, Excelsior.

MARKETING.
"Marketing Apples From a Commercial Orchard," S. G. Kinney, nurseryman and orchardist, Fairbault. "Providing a Market for Fruit," M. J. Dorsey, assistant in plant breeding, state experiment station, Excelsior. "Drouth Resistant in Trees Suitable for Shelter Belts," C. E. Johnson, professor of horticulture, North Dakota Agricultural College, Grand Forks.
"The Fruit of the Country," H. Kenney, orchardist and original horticultural experimenter, Waterville, Me.
"Present Status of Top Working," made up from reports of members of the State Horticultural Society, St. Anthony Park. "Attitude of the Nurserymen Toward Top Working," S. D. Richardson, nurseryman, Winnebago.

BIG PRIZES ARE OFFERED.
The following are the various prizes offered by the society and others: One thousand dollars offered as a premium for a seedling plum.

One hundred dollars (contributed by Charles M. Loring of Minneapolis) offered for a seedling plum.

One hundred dollars offered annually (total \$700) for seven years for the best late winter seedling apple. Under this offer the first prize of \$100 will be awarded at the annual meeting of the society to be held in Minneapolis. The prize of the same amount will be awarded at the annual meeting of the society to be held in Minneapolis. These prizes are given for seedling apples grown from seed planted not earlier than the spring of 1906, under prescribed conditions.

CHAPTER VIII.

Mrs. Bungay Defends Her Hearthstone.

A hand pressing hard upon my arm brought back a scattered sense with a rush. It was Mrs. Brennan who stood there, her face whitened by anxiety, her eyes peering anxiously through the opening of the door.

"Surely those men are not soldiers, Captain Wayne!" she exclaimed. "They wear uniforms of both armies."

"No don't they are guerillas," I answered, drawing her back from where she might be seen in their approach.

"We must find hiding if possible, for you shall never fall into such hands, Bungay!"

I turned toward the little giant had been sitting, but he was not to be seen. However, "so sound of my voice aroused Maria to a full sense of our danger, nor was she a woman to hesitate in such emergency. With a single stride she crossed the narrow room, caught the white-faced hero by the collar of his shirt, dragged him ignominiously forth from beneath the table where he had sought refuge, shook him as she would shake a toy dog, until his teeth rattled, and then flung him out of the door leading into the back shed. It was done so expeditiously that I could only gasp.

I glanced at Mrs. Brennan, and the amused twinkle in her eyes led me to say heartily, "We had not entirely completed our meal, but imagined we saw ghosts."

"Ghosts!" He glanced around apprehensively. "On Heaven and on thy lady call, and enter the enchanted hall!" Was ther ghost ye saw over 'nair? And he pointed toward the wall opposite me.

I nodded.

"Then I sorter reckon as how Marlar and me was ther ghosts," he continued, grinning. "We sorter reckoned as how we wanted ter see who was yere afore we come in. 'I'll listen till my fancy hears the clang of swords, the crash of spears. These yere tough times, stranger, in these parts, an' a man what has ter protect a lovely female hes got ter keep his eyes skinned."

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"O woman! in our hours of ease uncertain, coy and hard to please," he murmured. "Come, sit 'down, stranger; 'tis down 'n' share 'n' scoldier's couch, a soldier's fare. Not as I'm a sojer," he hastened to explain, "but that's how it is in ther book. Say, old woman, kinder sker up some coffee fer we uns—leastwise what us Confeds call coffee."

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TRIMPH OF WATER FINDING

English Expert Locates Ample Supply. Gauging Depth Below Surface Within Two Feet.

A very remarkable achievement in "water-finding" has been carried through at Selly Oak, Birmingham. It was necessary to discover a supply of water on the land belonging to the Patent Enamel works, and Mr. Chesterman was called from Hereford for the purpose. He went over the land with his piece of aluminum wire for about half an hour, then he suddenly stopped and declared that at the place where he stood water would be found at a depth of 350 feet. A contract was signed by him to be engaged to sink an eight-inch artesian tube which should produce not less than 15,000 gallons of water a day, on the condition "No water inter ther hole with yer about half an hour." Then he suddenly stopped and declared that at the place where he stood water would be found at a depth of 350 feet. 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