

Jephthah's Daughter:

A Story of Patriarchal Times.

By JULIA MAGRUDER...

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CHAPTER VI.—(Continued.)

Now, as the host of Jephthah marched down the streets of Mizper, while all along the people cheered and shouted as they passed, behold at Jephthah's side, in front of them, there rode the young man Adina, and not behind, as was his wont. And by this token all the people knew that he had won glory for himself in battle, and that Jephthah strove thus to show the favor which he had toward him, and with the noise of their shoutings, "Long live Jephthah, the Gileadite!" were mingled cries of "Long live Adina!"

And as these sounds came even to the ears of Namarah, behold the flush upon her cheeks grew deeper and her eyes yet more glorious. And ever the soldiery pressed onward, followed by the shouts of triumph from the crowd. And Jephthah, the mighty captain, rode a night-black charger, while that of Adina was white as milk. Both men were clad in gleaming armor, on which the rays of the setting sun made blazes of vivid fire, gilding the silver of the old man's beard, and burnishing the gold of Adina's thick curls, which seemed a part of his shining helmet. And ever, as they rode, the eyes of both were turned toward the house of Jephthah, for Jephthah had vowed a vow unto the Lord, and had said: "If Thou shalt without fail deliver the children of Ammon into my hands, then it shall be that whatsoever cometh forth of the doors of my house to meet me, when I return in peace from the children of Ammon, shall surely be the Lord's, and I will offer it up for a burnt offering." And he looked to see what it should be.

But the young man Adina, who knew not of Jephthah's vow, and had said naught of the tidings sent to Namarah by the carrier bird—that being a secret between the maiden and himself—knew that Namarah would be prepared for their coming, and rightly thought that she would come to meet them. And now, as they began to come nigh to the house, behold, the great doors were thrown open, and forth there came the maiden Namarah, clad all in white and gold, and after her her maidens, with timbrels and dances. But Namarah came first, with her head erect and all her face made glorious with joy. The childish timidity she was wont to show had vanished now, and she faced the band of soldiery a royal princess in her bearing. She felt herself a queen, indeed, for happy love had crowned her.

And as she came, behold the two men who were at the head of the great host drew rein and suddenly checked their horses, and all the soldiery halted. All eyes were on the beautiful face of the majestic maiden, hers only seeing the faces of the two men who led the host. Her gaze sought first the face of Adina, with a treacherous fealty which she could not control, and as their looks met thus, behold the joyousness of his heart gleamed forth into his eyes, which met hers, with a look that thrilled her soul with rapture. For a moment she was blinded with ecstasy, and saw naught before her but light, supreme, bewildering; and then, with the reflection of that light upon her face, she turned her rapt gaze upon her father, and suddenly the great light became a great darkness, which likewise cast its reflection upon her; for the face of Jephthah her father was as the face of a man in mortal throes, and behold the hand that held the bridle shook and fell, and his body swerved in the saddle, so that he would have fallen but that the young man Adina, seeing the maiden's sudden change of countenance had looked toward its source, and was just in time to put out his hand and stay Jephthah in his place.

Then Adina dismounted and ran to Jephthah's side, and while the maiden Namarah herself laid hold on the bridle of his horse, the young man assisted him to the ground, and with Namarah's help led him into the house. The eyes which had but lately looked such joy into each other, exchanged now looks of pain and horror, for it was quickly passed from mouth to mouth that the great captain had been seized with mortal illness, and that the joy of his victorious return and meeting with his daughter was like to cost him his life.

But Jephthah, when he heard these words, denied and said: "It is not as ye say, O men of Israel; nevertheless the hand of the Lord is heavy upon me this day. Cause to go out from me all save the maiden Namarah and the young man Adina."

And when they had so done, behold Jephthah rent his clothes, and said: "Alas my daughter; thou hast brought me very low; and thou art one of them that trouble me; for I have opened my mouth unto the Lord, and I cannot go back!" And Namarah said unto him: "My father, if thou hast opened thy mouth unto the Lord, do not be according to that which hath proceeded out of thy mouth; forasmuch as the Lord hath taken vengeance for thee of thine enemies, even the children of Ammon." So spake she, and her voice was firm

and clear, but her face went deadly pale, even as the face of the young man Adina put on a ghastly pallor; and as he stood before her in his shining armor a great trembling seized him, so that his armor shook and sounded. And as she looked on him and saw his grief, behold her heart bled for him, and for all the visions of her happy love; and she turned to him and threw her arms about his neck. And Adina clasped her to him, careful not to hurt her tender body against his mail-clad breast, and it seemed unto them both that the barrier that had come so suddenly between their two souls was even as this barrier between their bodies—hard and cruel and impassable. But there was no barrier between their lips, and as they softly touched and trembled on each other, they knew not whether that moment's ecstasy was of pain or joy.

And Jephthah sat and gazed on them, and as he looked he was no longer the mighty man of valor, but a creature sore stricken, so that his hands shook for very weakness, and feeble and impotent tears fell down upon his beard and trickled to his armor, while his face was changed and piteous to behold, and he looked, all at once, an aged man.

Turning her eyes toward him, and seeing him in such unhappy case, Namarah slipped from her lover's arms, and went and knelt beside her father, circling his neck with her tender arms, and calling him all manner of caressing names, while she kissed him with deep lovingness on his forehead, his cheeks and his lips. Then did she loosen his heavy armor, and remove each piece in turn, beseeching him to take comfort, and avowing toward him an affection more fervent and dutiful than ever she had shown him in the past. But Adina spake no word either with or against her, but stood where she had left him, with his right hand holding the elbow of his left arm, which was raised toward his face, his chin sunk in his palm. He was still in complete armor, only he had removed his helmet, so that his sunny curls were uncovered. Right goodly to look upon he was, in the majesty of his stalwart youth, but his ruddy skin was ashen white, and in the great blue eyes, which had so lately glowed with so luminous a love-light, there was now the shadow of great despair. And ever his eyes were fixed upon the maiden, following each movement that she made, and the hunger of his soul was in them.

CHAPTER VII.

When Jephthah, at her bidding stood up, that Namarah might lift from him the weight of his heavy armor, he turned and looked upon Adina, and a great cry broke from him, and he sank backward into his seat and covered his face with his hands. But Namarah bent above him and drew away his hands, kneeling on her knees before him, and holding them in both her own.

"Nay, grieve thee not, my father," she said, tenderly. "Let it be done to me according as thou has vowed." "Thy life is mine, and vowed to me!" burst forth Adina, hotly, taking a step toward her, as if he would wrest her from her father. But the compelling eyes of the maiden Namarah arrested him, and he turned, and began to pace the apartment with the angry strides of a caged beast.

"Ah, woe, my daughter," Jephthah spake, "that thy father, who hath so loved thee, should bring thee now such hurt. It had pleased me well that thou shouldst wed Adina. It was but the morning of this day on which I dreamed these dreams, and to what are they come? Alas, my daughter, why camest thou forth to meet me, so contrary to thy wont and usage? Thou wast ever affrighted before the soldiery and held backward when they came about the door."

"I was even bold and fearless, my father, against my usual wont, because happy case, Namarah slipped from her that love had made me so, and in the presence of my lord, Adina, I had but one fear only, lest I might fail of my honor to him—who knew not my ways as thou knewest them—and appear unloving and ungracious in his eyes. At these words Adina's motions grew more gentle and he checked him in his walk, and came and stood near by, his chin sunk in his palm, as before, and his eyes, with a most mighty tenderness in them, bent upon Namarah.

"But, how knewest thou, my daughter, that the victory was won and thy father's host returning, seeing I sent no messenger before me, but made haste myself to bring thee tidings?" Then Namarah turned her fair face upward, and said: "Adina, speak. Let it be known unto Jephthah, my father, that the thing that is come upon us was partly of our own doing—thine and mine."

Then Adina, softened, mayhap, by the sight of the old man's suffering, and more yet by the nobleness and submission of Namarah's spirit, answered, and said: "These words be true, O Jephthah,

for it was even I that sent unto the maiden tidings, by which she gained the knowledge of our approach."

"But how sendest thou these tidings," said Jephthah, "seeing that I gave thee no leave to take a messenger?"

"Therein the fault was mine," Namarah said, "if fault there be—for, were it not the will of God, naught that was done or is to be done possible—seeing that I gave unto Adina one of my carrier birds, to send me word of thy triumph and return, and the bird, in truth, brought me the tidings this morning. Seest thou not then therefore, oh, my father, that this thing that is befallen us was to be?"

Then Jephthah bowed his head upon his hands and uttered a mighty groan. "How sayst thou, my daughter, that we shall be delivered? Knowest thou not that according to my vow thou must be offered a burnt sacrifice?"

As he spake these awful words, the maiden's face grew whiter still, though the courage of her eyes faltered not, and through all the body of the young man Adina there ran a great shiver that again made to shake his armor that it rattled and sounded, seeing which, Namarah rose and ran to him, fearing lest he might even fall to the ground, so greatly he tottered and trembled. Taking him by the hand, she led him to a place beside her father and gently pressed him to a seat, while she herself sank back upon her knees before them, holding a hand of each, and as she lifted up her head and looked at them, it seemed unto the father and the lover both that her face was as the face of an angel.

"Hearken to me, O thou to whom my soul best loveth," said Namarah, "for there is a voice within me that seemeth to me to speak, and that most dread and sacred voice saith to me what it shall comfort thee to hear. 'I will deliver thee,' the voice crieth continually, and shall we not believe this Heavenly voice? Let us, therefore, be comforted, and take courage and pray continually for deliverance from the terror wherewith we are affrighted. For what is it that thy soul feareth O Adina, and O Jephthah my father? Is it not even the thought of parting?"

As Namarah spake these words, the spirits of the men who listened to her grew suddenly more calm, and the faith and courage with which her own heart was animated seemed to be in some sense imparted to them, so that Jephthah turned unto Adina, and spake unto him in these words:

"Let not thy soul within thee hate me, O Adina, for my heart is sad even unto death. Forgive me the harm that I have done unto thee through ignorance, and let it be with us both even according unto the words that this maiden hath spoken, and let us take comfort and have hope. Let us together pray continually for the deliverance that she feeleth to be in store for us."

And Adina answered, and said: "It shall be as thou sayest, O Jephthah, and the God of power hear our prayers."

Then Jephthah caused him that he knelt in front of him, at the side of the maiden Namarah, and as they rested so, Jephthah lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And as their heads were bowed together, the short golden curls of the man beside the long dark tresses of the maiden, Jephthah rose, and softly left them; and when they lifted up their heads, behold they were alone.

(To be continued.)

Misunderstood Patriotism.

Prof. Alfred B. Adams of New York was a soldier in the civil war, and took part in the Red river campaign under Maj. Gen. Banks. "At one place," he said recently to one of his classes, "we surprised a southern garrison and took many southern prisoners. They were guarding a mountain of cotton bales which were intended for shipment to Europe on account of the southern government. Gen. Banks promptly confiscated the cotton and transferred it to his flotilla. Each bale was stencilled 'C. S. A.' and over this the northern soldiers with marking brushes wrote in huge characters, 'U. S. A.' I was on guard at the time, and one of my prisoners, a handsome, bright-eyed young southern officer, said, 'Yank, what's that writing there? I looked proudly at him as I replied: 'The United States of America over the Confederate States of America. Can't you read—U. S. A. over C. S. A.?' He looked at me quizzically. 'Thank you,' he said. 'Do you know, I thought it was United States of America Cotton Stealing association.' The next question he put to me I didn't answer."—Philadelphia Post.

Church's Most Pressing Need.

Mrs. De Silke—"I wish to give a memorial of some kind to the church, in memory of a relative. What would you suggest?" Struggling Pastor—"A—er—an appropriately decorated—er—new church furnace, madam, and a—a few tons of coal."

Dentistry Among the Ancients.

The manufacture and use of false teeth is undoubtedly a practice of great antiquity. The ancient Egyptians were no mean dentists. Jawbones of mummies have been found with false teeth in them, and also with teeth filled with gold.

Off the Old Block.

"James, you ought to control little Jim better." "Mother, we can't; he's too much like you."—Indianapolis Journal.

World's Longest River.

The Nile is the longest river in the world, 4,300 miles. The Niger is 3,500 miles and the Zambezi 1,600 miles.

DAVIS IS FOR FREE TRADE.

Introduces a Substitute for Puerto Rican Bill.

ACT DECLARED PROVISIONAL.

Extends the Internal Revenue Laws with Amendments Thereto to the Island—If Passed the Provisions Are to Terminate on March 1, 1902.

Washington, D. C., March 27.—Senator Davis of Minnesota, has introduced a substitute for the Puerto Rican bill which provides for free trade between the United States and Puerto Rico and extends the internal revenue laws with amendments over the island. The act is declared provisional and shall not continue longer than March 1, 1902.

The senate committee on Puerto Rico decided to make no recommendation for the separation of the tariff feature from the Puerto Rican bill until after the action of the Republican caucus.

Busy Week for Congress.

Washington, March 27.—The army appropriation bill will be taken up today and doubtless will serve for a text for a wide latitude of discussion on military affairs. The latter part of the week will be devoted to the naval, agricultural or the fortifications appropriation bills.

In the senate, Puerto Rico, according to present indications, will step aside temporarily at the beginning of the week in order to afford Senator Carter an opportunity to secure consideration for his Alaskan code bill. The present condition of affairs in Alaska and the prospect of a still greater influx of people into that territory make the Alaskan legislation very important.

Foraker Bill Recommended.

Washington, March 27.—For a few minutes in the senate Saturday surprise, bordering on almost consternation in some quarters, was created by a request of Mr. Foraker that the Puerto Rican government bill be recommended to the Puerto Rican committee. During the elucidation of his request Mr. Foraker indicated that it was his purpose to separate the bills and press the Puerto Rican tariff bill to an early vote, his desire being to have the vote taken not later than next Thursday, probably amended so as to have the duty apply only to exports to the United States proper, and not to imports from this country.

House Passes Relief Bill.

Washington, March 27.—After a brief and spirited debate the house Saturday took the last congressional steps in completing the Puerto Rico relief bill, agreeing to the conference report by a vote of 135 to 87. The bill turns over to the president for the use of Puerto Rico about \$2,000,000 of customs receipts collected on Puerto Rico goods up to Jan. 1st and such amounts as may hereafter accrue until otherwise provided by law. The debate lasted an hour, but in this time the range of Puerto Rico legislation was discussed.

Tribute to Indiana's War Governor.

Washington, March 27.—The statue of Oliver Perry Morton was formally presented to the nation Saturday by the state of Indiana. Charles W. Fairbanks, the senior senator from that state, made the presentation speech. Senator Beveridge also spoke briefly, but eloquently, in eulogy of Mr. Morton, making correct but pointed reference to his predecessor's fearless independence as a republican, stalwart as applicable to the current complications over the Puerto Rican tariff.

Want Cuban Railway Concession.

Washington, March 27.—Sir William Van Horne, managing director of the Canadian Pacific railway; Gen. Grenville M. Dodge and Gen. Samuel Thomas had a conference Saturday with the secretary of war regarding their plan for a complete railway system to gridiron Cuba, with a line the entire length of the island at the main trunk.

House Asks Light on Open Door.

Washington, March 27.—On Saturday the house adopted the favorable report from the committee on foreign relations on the resolution of inquiry into the matter of maintenance of the open-door policy in China by which the president is requested to transmit to the house the correspondence on this subject.

Puerto Rican Relief Bill Signed.

Washington, March 27.—The Puerto Rican appropriation bill was signed by the president Saturday afternoon.

Major Kirkman Court-martialed.

New York, March 27.—The Times says that according to a letter written by an army officer in Manila to his parents in Brooklyn, Major Kirkman, United States volunteer, captain of regulars, has been court-martialed for an alleged insult to Archbishop Chapelle, papal legate to the Philippines, during a voyage from San Francisco to Manila.

Many Women Register at Canton.

Canton, Ohio, March 27.—Registration returns show that about 1,500 women have qualified to vote here for members of the board of education. The city is so close politically that these women hold the balance of power. There is a bitter fight on the American Book company.

Auditor for Catholic University.

Rome, March 27.—The pope has nominated Bishop Marchetti as the auditor of the Catholic university at Washington.

HE DENOUNCES DAMNATION.

Plymouth's Pastor Abjures Westminster Creed.

Brooklyn, March 27.—Newell Dwight Hillis, from the pulpit of Plymouth church—the pulpit of Beecher and Lyman Abbott—sang Sunday this defiance to the doctrines of the Presbyterian church, in which he had grown up and to which he still owes allegiance: "I would rather shake my fist in the face of the Eternal and fling every vile epithet toward the stainless throne, where eternal mercy sits with the world's atoning Savior, than lift my hand with that creed toward God's throne and affirm that I taught or believed it." Beginning his sermon with a statement of the great importance that ideals of the future life have for men, he quickly made the assertion that until evolution came the world had no data for an adequate discussion of the problems of right and wrong and penalty. He placed himself fairly and squarely upon the ground that both nature's penalties and God's punishments represent, not anger, but medicinal love, that they are not to break the bruised reed, but to bring growth and victory.

HORLOCKER CONFESSION OUT.

Eva Stewart's Sensational Testimony Is Excluded.

Hastings, Neb., March 27.—Judge Adams, who is hearing the Horlock-Morey poisoning case, ruled that all of the testimony of Eva Stewart detailing Julia's confession of her love for Mr. Morey, and of their subsequent relations, should be stricken from the record. Miss Stewart was recalled for cross-examination by the state and was asked if it was before or after Miss Horlock had asked to make a confidante of her that Miss Horlock related to her the story as told by the witness. She replied that it was afterward. Upon this the testimony was stricken out, and the testimony of Witness Franklin that Miss Horlock told him she was in love with a married man was also stricken from the record on the same grounds. The defense made no objection beyond saving the usual exception. It is announced that expert witnesses will prove that Miss Horlock is afflicted with nymphomania, and therefore sexually a pervert and mentally unsound.

Barber Stricken Dumb.

St. Louis, Mo., March 27.—The talkative barber has been overtaken with retribution. Charles Cratzer lost the power of speech while in the act of suggesting a "hair cut" to a reluctant Saturday customer.

His case is a puzzle to the city hospital physicians. They agree that he is suffering from aphasia, but his is one of the few instances in which the disease developed as to be able to faintly so far recovered as to be able to faintly utter "yes" or "no," but all other sounds from his lips were without meaning.

Castellano May Lodge Menekel.

Paris, March 27.—The sequel to the quarrel between Boni Castellano and M. Rodays of the Figaro has just come to light. The editor is said to be using his influence with the government to have one of the forthcoming royal visitors to the exhibition lodged at Castellano's new Trianon. It is said that Castellano is aspiring to the czar, but will at best get the negus of Abyssinia, King Menekel.

In Jail Instead of in Grave.

Cincinnati, Ohio, March 27.—Charles Mortimer, a cabinet-maker, of 1527 Rouse street, in a drunken craze on Saturday night tried to hang himself from a rafter in the attic of his home. Three times the rope broke, and while he was getting ready for the fourth attempt policemen arrived and took him into custody. He had been drinking heavily and had taken no food for several days.

Chicago Sport Wins \$37,500.

Hot Springs, Ark., March 27.—One hour and ten minutes' play over the faro table of the Southern club Saturday made a difference of \$37,500 in favor of Matt Hogan, the well-known Chicago sport and wine agent, who had been playing the horses in Leo Mayer's poolroom with varying success for the last two weeks, "piking" along until he had got to the good about \$2,000.

Bonds Allotted to Americans.

New York, March 27.—J. P. Morgan & Co. have received official notification from England of the allotment to American subscribers of British war bonds. A little more than \$3,000,000 of the bonds will come to this country. The American subscriptions were for more than \$9,000,000, most of them being for amounts exceeding \$50,000.

Baxter and Lemieux Guilty.

Montreal, March 27.—James Baxter, the Montreal broker, and Ferdinand Lemieux, former accountant of the defunct Ville Marie bank, charged with conspiracy to defraud the bank of a large sum of money, have been found guilty, the jury, however, joining in a recommendation to mercy.

Miss Sampson to Marry Ensign Cluverius.

Boston, Mass., March 26.—The marriage of Miss Hannah Walker Sampson, youngest daughter of Rear Admiral William T. Sampson, to Ensign Wat Tyler Cluverius, U. S. N., is to take place on the evening of April 5 at the commandant's house at the Charleston navy yard.

Nethersole Has Brain Fever.

New York, March 27.—Miss Olga Nethersole is suffering from brain fever. The illness of the actress has taken a most decided turn for the worse. She is in a grave condition, and the actress on this account has not been informed of her indictment by the grand jury.

From Washington

How a Little Boy Was Saved.

Washington, D. C.—"When our boy was about 16 months old he broke out with a rash which was thought to be measles. In a few days he had a swelling on the left side of his neck and it was decided to be mumps. He was given medical attendance for about three weeks when the doctor said it was scrofula and ordered a salve. He wanted to lance the sore, but I would not let him and continued giving him medicine for about four months when the bunch broke in two places and became a running sore. Three doctors said it was scrofula and each ordered a blood medicine. A neighbor told me of a case somewhat like our baby's which was cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla. I decided to give it to my boy and in a short while his health improved and his neck healed so nicely that I stopped giving him the medicine. The sore broke out again, however, whereupon I again gave him Hood's Sarsaparilla and its persistent use has accomplished a complete cure." Mrs. NETTIE CHASE, 47 K St., N. E.

Female Trapes Artist Saves Herself.

During a fire which damaged the Stross hotel at Cincinnati, O., to the extent of \$3,000, Miss Dolly Le Claire, a trapeze artist, descended from a high window on a rope made of bed clothes.

To California Quickly and Comfortably Via Chicago, Union Pacific and North-Western Lines.

"The Overland Limited" leaves Chicago daily 6:30 p. m., arrives San Francisco the afternoon of third day, and Los Angeles next morning. No change of cars. All meals in dining cars. Buffet, smoking and library cars, with barber. "The best of everything." "The Pacific Express" leaves Chicago daily 10:30 p. m., with first-class and through tourist sleepers to California. Personally conducted excursions every Thursday. All agents sell tickets via Chicago & North-Western R'y. For full information and illustrated pamphlet apply to W. B. Kniskern, 22 Fifth Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

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