

## Partners of the Tide

By...  
JOSEPH C. LINCOLN  
Author of "Cap'n Ez"

Copyright, 1905, by A. S. Barnes & Co.

### CHAPTER XX.

AT 9 o'clock that morning Bradley, with his head bandaged, sat in the rocking chair by the window of his chamber, looking out. On the table beside him were medicine vials, teapots and a penciled memorandum in Dr. Palmer's handwriting; also there were an emulsion bottle and a steaming pitcher of "pepper tea." These last were Miss Tempy's contribution. That lady herself, with a face whiter even than Bradley's own and with fingers that shook until holding a needle was next to an impossibility, was seated in a chair by the door, pretending to sew. Every now and then she looked up, seemed about to speak, and then, seeing the expression on the young man's face, remained silent. Occasionally she wiped her eyes with her handkerchief.

Bradley went to the Point that day in spite of his partner's protests and the old maids' pleadings and direful prophecies concerning his health. He was kind, but so firm that they soon saw there was no use arguing.

Ira Sparrow took Bradley and Captain Titcomb to the Point in the You and I. Bearse, Ellis and some of the other men went with them. On the way Bradley and his partner discussed the situation. The work on the barge was going on as if nothing had hap-



"We'll stick to those who stick by us."

pened, although the news of the firm's loss had been telephoned to the life saving station early that morning. Barney Small met them as they climbed over the Freedom's rail. He was very sober and shook his employers' hands with silent sympathy.

"I told the boys to turn to," he said. "I didn't know what your plans was, but I want to quit till you said the word."

"Much obliged, Barney," said Bradley. "Call all hands aft. I want to talk to them."

The men came in groups, soot streaked and perspiring. They gathered in the waist, whispering to each other and glancing askance at Captain Titcomb and Bradley, who stood upon the raised deck by the wheel. In most of the grimy, sunburned faces there was a friendly concern. All looked embarrassed and awkward. When the whole crew was standing there, silently waiting, Bradley came forward.

"Fellows," he said, "when Cap'n Titcomb and I took the contract to get this barge off the shoals we risked every dollar we had. More than that, we mortgaged our new schooner to raise money to pay you with. She was burned last night, and, as the cap'n said, there is no insurance. The little money we have on hand belongs to the people who took the mortgage. We couldn't pay you for another week's work. So, then, either we must give up the contract—which will ruin us and drive the firm out of the wrecking business for good—or we must come to you with another proposition. I think every man who has worked for us knows that we don't play favorites. Every fellow knows that he'll be treated fair so long as he does his work. But this I want to say: We'll stick to those who stick by us. We shan't forget our friends. And this is our proposition: To the men who will volunteer to help us get this barge afloat, we will pay \$4 a day—instead of \$3, as you're getting now—when we float her and get our money. If we fail, you get nothing, and so do we. If we win, you win. We can float her if the weather holds good. What I'm asking is that you share our chances. It's up to you. What do you say?"

Bradley stopped and put his hands in his pockets. The men shuffled their feet and looked at each other. One or two of them whispered behind their hands. Then Barney Small snatched his rusty cloth cap from his head, tossed it to the deck and jumped upon it with both feet.

"Stage is ready for Orham, South Orham, West Harnes and Setucket! Pint!" he shouted. "Git aboard! Come on, you lubbers! Have me and Brad and Cap'n Ez got to work her off alone!"

Alvin Bearse struck the ex-stage driver a resounding thump in the back. "You bet you ain't!" he cried. "I'm in!"

"Me, too!" said Ira Sparrow. "Present and accounted for!"

served Bill Taylor. Ellis simply nodded and stepped forward. Others joined them by twos and threes.

Then Peleg Myrick sauntered to the front. "I dunno's I jest understand what the boss wants," he drawled, "but if there's anything me and Skeezicks can do, why—"

That settled it. There was a cheer, and the men began pushing each other out of the way to join the volunteers. In a few minutes there were only five who had not come forward.

And after that came work, work, work. The men were organized into day and night gangs. Bradley commanded the former, Captain Titcomb the latter.

The partners hired the You and I to do what she could of the work the Diving Belle had been engaged in. The lack of the schooner was a great handicap, but they had no funds with which to hire a large vessel.

They made their headquarters aboard the barge now. Bradley did not go up to Orham at all. When his day's work was over he ate a hasty supper and tumbled into a berth in the skipper's cabin, sometimes to sleep, but more often to lie awake and plan for the morrow. He was still pale and weak from the effects of the blow on the head, but he would not take it easy, as the captain begged. The worry and strain of the labor were in a sense reliefs to him—they kept him from thinking of other things.

Each morning the old maids telephoned to the station to learn how he felt and how the work was progressing. Bradley gathered from Miss Prissy's anxious remarks that in the village the partners' failure was regarded as a foregone conclusion. The news made him only more determined to succeed.

Cook & Sons wired daily, and every afternoon a report was sent to them. These reports were growing more optimistic. The barge was eating her way steadily through the shoal, and as she was lightened she moved faster. They watched the cables as a cat watches a rat hole, keeping them always tight. The captain said: "Brad, if I didn't know what was the matter I should believe my old Sunday school teacher was right. He always swore I'd be hung some day, and now all I can dream about is ropes."

The captain's energy was something wonderful. A nervous man by nature, he flew from one end of the Freedom to the other, commanding, helping, hurrying. With the men he was always cheerful and sure of success, but once in awhile, alone with his partner, he showed his real feelings. One morning before turning in he went ashore to telephone. When he came back he called Bradley aside and said:

"Brad, Sam says the gov'ment weather folks are foretelling a big storm for day after tomorrow. It's comin' from the south and 'll strike here about then. It's a terror, they say. It worries me. I'm more scared of a gale of wind jest now than I am of the Old Harry himself."

The junior partner looked troubled. "Wonder if that's what's distressing Peleg?" he observed. "Peleg has been after me ever since the fire. Says he's got something to tell me."

"He's been pesterin' me too. I ain't had no time to listen to his yarns. Let's see him."

They sent for the weather prophet, who appeared, dirtier than ever. "Look here, Peleg," was the captain's salutation. "What do we feed you for? Here's the gov'ment weather sharp smellin' out a gale, an you ain't peeped. You'll have to put specs on your second sight or we'll ship a new prophet, one or t'other."

Mr. Myrick was troubled. "Now, Cap'n Ez," he protested in an aggrieved tone, "ain't I been tryin' to git at you or Brad for four days or more? I know there was a blow comin'. She's comin' a-billin' too. And I don't need no specs nuther."

"Humph! Brad, this is the devil and all, isn't it? That'll do, Peleg."

"But, Cap'n Ez, there's somethin' else I wanted to tell you."

"Never mind now. Put it on ice. Git!"

Peleg "got," but with reluctance. He kept looking back and shaking his head. Captain Ezra's face was very solemn. His forehead wrinkled, and he pulled his mustache nervously.

"By crimestee!" he muttered. "We have got to do somethin' quick. I know you don't take any stock in Peleg, but if that gale does come we're knocked higher 'n the main truck. She's loosenin' up so now that a tug might help us. I can git a little one from Vineyard Haven, skipper, engineer and all, for \$40 a day."

"But they won't work on spec."

"No. I'm going to Wellmouth to see the bank folks. I'll tell 'em that if they ever hope to git back the rest of the money they lent on the Divin' Belle they must risk enough to pay for that tug. I'm goin' now."

"But you've been up all night. Let me go. You turn in."

"Turn in be durned! I'd sleep about as sound as an eel on a perch hook. I can turn in when I can't do anything else. Goodby. Put in your spare time prayin' for me, will you?"

He went to Wellmouth, saw the people at the bank and, as he said, "talked from his boots up." At 12 o'clock of the following day the little tug put in an appearance. She got a grip on the Freedom's bow and pulled with the tide.

The expected gale did not come that day, but the next afternoon the sky was overcast, and the sun disappeared behind angry clouds. It was blowing fresh when Bradley, worn out, went to his berth at 9 o'clock. He had fought against going at all, but Captain Titcomb said: "Put in an hour or two anyway. I'll call you if you're wanted."

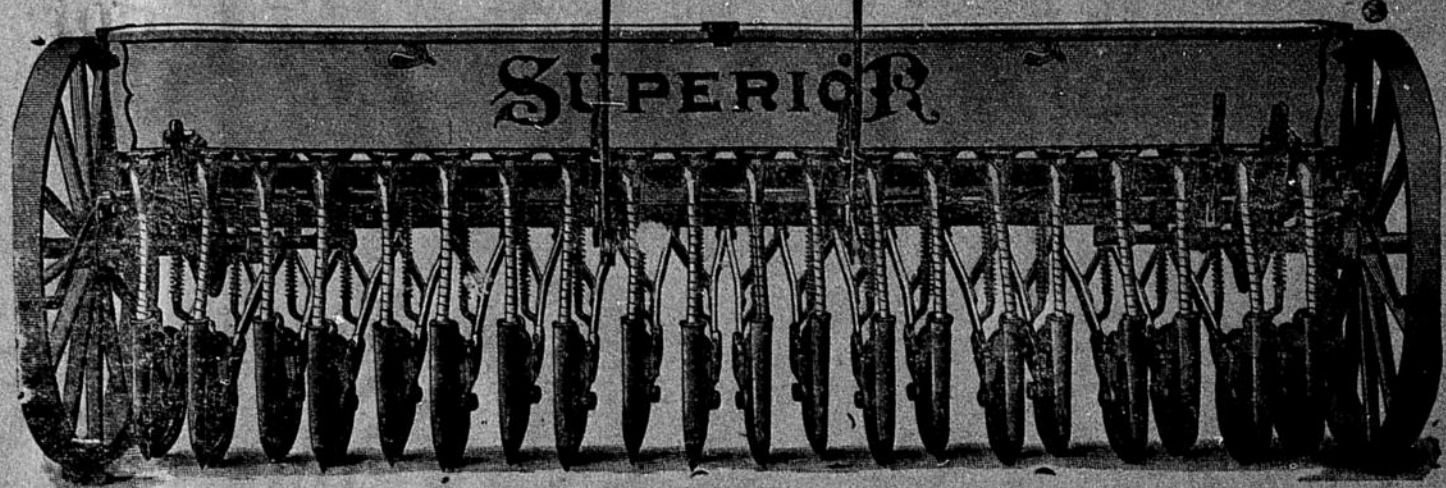
He called him before the second hour

# SUPERIOR GRAIN DRILLS

Furnished With Either

Single or Double Discs or Shoes

Best Feed, Best Frame and Best in Every Particular



Let us show you why it is best before you buy a Drill

## Coleman, Valentin & Somerville

ABERDEEN, - - - South Dakota

## KITTREDGE MAKES TWO APPEARANCES

THE BIG SENATOR SPOKE TWICE IN ABERDEEN YESTERDAY.

The Smoot Vote is Discussed.—Likewise the Bristol Case.—As to State Matters Senator Kittredge Stated He Favored a Two Cent Rate Bill. Denied Being a Milwaukee Road Attorney.

Senator Kittredge spoke to two good sized audiences in the opera house yesterday. On both occasions the senator preceded a performance by the popular Nelson company and there were necessarily many present who came primarily to attend the play. Curiosity in regard to the Sioux Falls gentleman had been whetted to a considerable extent by his apparent willingness to break a life long habit of silence on public matters and many attended to hear him for the first time. On both occasions the senator began his address with a sketch of the life and of Secretary Taft and as nearly all the republicans in the state are enthusiastic supporters of Mr. Taft that part of his address was well received. Following his remarks on Taft Kittredge took up the Reed Smoot case and defended his action in the matter. It is doubtful whether half his audience knew that he had voted against Smoot or not until their attention had been called to it of late. It is doubtful whether half his from making several bids for applause by reference to the "purity of the American home" etc.

The Bristol case came next and the senator prefaced his remarks by saying "I am charged," etc. He read the letter which has been a matter of newspaper discussion for some time and reiterated his determination never, while he remained in the senate, to permit any such unworthy citizens to become office holders. Mr. Kittredge next discussed the rate bill and declared that in that fight he "stood with his back to the president—with work that was sorely needed."

In regard to state matters the senator declared unequivocally in favor of the enactment into law of a two cent rate bill and of a law reducing freight rates. In this connection he declared that freight rates in this state were higher than they are in Nebraska but he did not offer to explain the inactivity of the previous stalwart administration nor of the inactivity of the stalwart board of railroad commissioners in this matter.

Mr. Kittredge's previous connection with the Milwaukee railroad seemed to demand from him an extended explanation and he favored

his hearers with one, repeating it several times for the sake of emphasis and the impression he sought to convey was that the Milwaukee road, when it had a case in court, sent to him to represent it and that he did this occasionally, but that when the case was ended his connection with the railroad company was also ended.

He did not tell his hearers that he pass given him by the Milwaukee road, while he was their attorney was to pay for continuous, running services for which he was to make no charge and that the business of the Milwaukee railroad, though paid for by the case, was always in his office and continuous from one term of court to the next.

Senator Kittredge was cordially received by his friends but it is doing no one an injustice to say that he aroused no enthusiasm in the city among others than his own personal following. In both audiences which assembled to hear him there were a considerable number of his opponents who accorded him a respectful hearing.

## MAN FOUND IN DELIRIOUS STATE AT REDFIELD

Edmund Sutter was found Monday morning in the Central hotel at Redfield suffering from delirium. There was nothing about him to identify him except a certificate of deposit for \$100 in the First National bank of this city dated last Friday. Sheriff Anderson was notified last night, as it was thought that he might either have been living here or have friends here. The sheriffs made an investigation last night but could find no one who knew him although some old residents of the city and county said that the name sounded familiar to them.

## CASTORIA

For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of *Wm. H. H. H. H.*

## DR. S. A. DARLING DENTIST

New First National Bank Building  
Aberdeen, S. D.

## THE ONLY MAN

In this section of the country that manufactures HARNESS with an up-to-date work shop, first class MECHANICS and A No 1 MATERIAL that is bought in large quantities and bought RIGHT, I will sell you first class work for less money than you pay for factory Harness.

Before you buy figure with

## B. F. WENZ

118 2nd Ave. E.

ABERDEEN S. D.



## The Standard is Never Lowered

when once SNOW WHITE flour is on the banner floating in the breeze of competition. The SNOW WHITE brand's quality never comes down and it's our constant effort to increase its present high grade. "Dependable" describes the situation exactly. Naturally you can count on good bread if you use SNOW WHITE flour.

(To be Continued)

Harsh physics react, weaken the bowels, cause chronic constipation. Doan's Regulets operate easily, tone the stomach, cure constipation. 25 cents. Ask your druggist for them.