

Jacqueline of Golden River

By VICTOR ROUSSEAU

CHAPTER XIX.

The Ball That Lured.
I went along the tunnel in the direction of the V. Ange, picking my way very carefully, peering into the numerous small caves and fissures in the wall on either hand. And I was about half way through when I saw a shadow running in front of me and making no sound.

It was Duchaine. There could be no mistaking that tall, gaunt figure, just visible against the distant day.
I raced along the tunnel after him. But he seemed to be endowed with the speed of a deer, for he kept his distance easily, and I would never have caught him had he not stopped for an instant at the approach of the ledge.

There, just as he was poised himself to leap, I seized him by the arm. He did not attempt violence but gazed at me with hesitation and pathetic doubt.
"M. Duchaine," I pleaded, "won't you come back with me and let us talk it over? Jacqueline is in my hands. No, no," he cried, laughing. "You can't catch me with such a trick as that. My little daughter has gone to New York to make our fortunes at M. Daly's gaming house. She will be back soon loaded down with gold."

"She has come back," I answered. "She is not fifty yards away."
"With gold?" he inquired, looking at me doubtfully.

"With gold," I answered, trying to allure his imagination as Leroux had done. "She has rich gold, red gold, such as you will love. You can take up the coins in your fingers and let the gold stream slip through them. Come with me."

I grasped him by the arm and tried to lead him with me. My argument had moved him. I thought I had won.
But just as I started back into the tunnel, holding the arm of the old man, who lingered for a moment and began to take a pebble tumbled from the rocky platform and rebounded over the cliff. I cast a backward glance, and there upon the opposite side I saw Leroux with gold!

"Bonjour, M. Hewlett!" he called across the chasm. "Don't be afraid of me any more than I am afraid of you. Just wait a moment. I want to talk business."

"I have no business to talk with you," I answered.
"But I did not say it was with you, monsieur," he answered in sneering tones. "It is with our friend Duchaine. Hola, Duchaine!"

At the sound of Leroux's voice the old man straightened himself and began muttering and looking from the one to the other of us undecidedly.
Suddenly I saw him turn his head and his eyes upon me. He craned his neck forward, and then, very slowly, he began to walk toward his persecutor. I craned my neck.

Leroux was holding out—the roulette wheel!
"Come along, Charles, my friend," he cried. "Come, let us try our fortunes! Don't you want to stake some money upon your system against me?"

The old figure had leaped forward over the ledge, and in a moment Leroux had grasped him and pulled him into the tunnel.

I hustened back to Jacqueline and encountered her in the passage just where the light and darkness blended, standing with arms stretched out against the wall to steady herself; and in her eyes was that look which tells a man more surely than anything, I think, can, that a woman loves him.

"Oh, I thought you were dead," she sobbed, and fell into my arms.
I held her tightly to support her, and I led her back to the gold cave. At a few words I explained what had occurred.

"Now Jacqueline, you must let me guide you," I said. "Don't you see that there is no chance for us unless we leave your father for the present where he is and make our own escape?"

We can reach Per Capotone's cabin soon after midday, and we can tell him your father is a prisoner here. He would not come with us, Jacqueline, even if he were here."

She did not respond. "It was the safety of us two and her father's life assured, against a miserable fate for her, and I knew not what for me, though I thought Leroux would give me little shift once I was in his power again."

She was so silent that I thought I had convinced her. I urged her to her feet. But suddenly Leroux had a stealthy footfall close at hand, between the cave and the catwalk.

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I followed him, driving my fist as fast as I could behind my back. Before I reached the light he was scrambling across the ledge, and before I could cover him he had succeeded in disappearing behind the projecting rock on the other side.

So Leroux had already sealed one exit—that by the Old Angel, where the road led into the main passage. God grant that he had no time to reach the exit by the mouth of the cave. If I made haste! If I made haste! But I would not argue the matter any further. I would not risk at full speed. I reached the cave.

"Jacqueline! Come, come!" I called.
"She did not answer."

"She did not answer, peering round me in the obscurity. I saw her near the earth-shack, lying upon the side. Her eyes were closed, her face as white as a dead woman's."

The bullet from Jean Pettit's revolver that missed me must have penetrated her body.
She lived, for her breast stirred, though so faintly that it seemed as though all that remained of life were concentrated in the faint-throbbing heartbeats.

I rushed her in my arms and placed a sack beneath her head, making a bed for her.
"She is not fifty yards away," I said.

"With gold?" he inquired, looking at me doubtfully.
"With gold," I answered, trying to allure his imagination as Leroux had done. "She has rich gold, red gold, such as you will love. You can take up the coins in your fingers and let the gold stream slip through them. Come with me."

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I thought it was Charles Duchaine. I hoped it was Leroux. I placed my finger on Jacqueline's lips and kept her from uttering a word, reverting to hand.

Then, in the gloom, I saw the villainous face of Jean Pettit looking into mine, twice peered away, and in his hand was a revolver too.

I followed him, driving my fist as fast as I could behind my back. Before I reached the light he was scrambling across the ledge, and before I could cover him he had succeeded in disappearing behind the projecting rock on the other side.

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IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By REV. F. B. FRETWATER, D. D.
Teacher of English Bible in the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago
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LESSON FOR AUGUST 10

WINNING OTHERS TO CHRIST.

LESSON TEXTS—Acts 18:2-12; James 1:21-25.

GOLDEN TEXT—Ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the utmost parts of the earth.—Acts 1:8.

PRIMARY TOPIC—Helping others to know Jesus (Acts 18:2-12).

JUNIOR TOPIC—Telling our friends about Jesus (Acts 18:2-12).

INTERMEDIATE TOPIC—Witnessing for Christ.

ADULT TOPIC—Personal evangelism the duty and privilege of all Christians.

REVIEW QUESTIONS—What did Paul do in Acts 18:2-12?

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Latest Markets

LIVE STOCK—DETROIT.

Best heavy steers, \$13.65-15.60; best handy weight butcher steers, \$11.50-12.50; mixed steers and heifers, \$10.50-11.50; handy light butchers, \$8.50-9.50; light butchers, \$7.50-8.50; best cows, \$9.50-10.50; butcher cows, \$8.50-9.50; calves, \$6.50-7.50; lambs, \$4.50-5.50; best heavy bulls, \$10; Bologna bulls, \$8.50-9.50; stock bulls, \$7.50-8.50; foot-culls, \$5.50-6.50; stockers, \$4.50-5.50; milkers and springers, \$7.00-12.00.

CATTLE.

Best grades, \$15.75; common, \$10.75.
Sheep and Lambs.
Best lambs, \$17; fair lambs, \$10.75; light, to common lambs, \$12.75; small to good, sheep, \$7.50-8.50; culls and common, \$4.75.
Hogs.
Best grades, \$25.25-30.25; pigs, \$22.50.

EAST BUFFALO.

Cattle—Prime, heavy, steers, \$12.50-13.50; best shipping steers, \$13.50-14.50; medium shipping steers, \$11.50-12.50; best native yearlings, \$9.50 to 1,000 lbs., \$15.15; light native yearlings, \$12.15; best hands, \$12.15; fair to good kind, \$11.50-12.50; heavy steers and heifers, \$12.15; western heifers, \$10.50-11.50; butcher cows, \$9.50-10.50; culls, \$8.50-9.50; canners, \$8.50-9.50; fancy bulls, \$11.50-12.50; butchering bulls, \$9.50-10.50; common bulls, \$7.50-8.50; best feeders, \$9.50 to 1,000 lbs., \$10.50-11.50; medium feeders, \$8.50-9.50; stockers, \$8.50-9.50; light common, \$7.50-8.50; best milkers, \$10.50-11.50; culls, \$8.50-9.50; medium, \$7.50-8.50.
Hogs—Heavy and Yorkers, \$22.75; pigs, \$22.75-23.25.
Sheep—Top lambs, \$15.50-16.75; yearlings, \$12.15; weathers, \$10.50-11.50; ewes, \$9.50-10.50; calves, \$8.50-9.50.

GRAIN AND FEED.

Wheat—Cash No. 1 red, \$2.25-2.30; No. 1 mixed, \$2.24-2.30; No. 2 white, \$2.24-2.30; No. 2 red, \$2.24-2.30; No. 3 red, \$2.24-2.30; No. 4 red, \$2.24-2.30; No. 5 red, \$2.24-2.30; No. 6 red, \$2.24-2.30; No. 7 red, \$2.24-2.30; No. 8 red, \$2.24-2.30; No. 9 red, \$2.24-2.30; No. 10 red, \$2.24-2.30; No. 11 red, \$2.24-2.30; No. 12 red, \$2.24-2.30; No. 13 red, \$2.24-2.30; No. 14 red, \$2.24-2.30; No. 15 red, \$2.24-2.30; No. 16 red, \$2.24-2.30; No. 17 red, \$2.24-2.30; No. 18 red, \$2.24-2.30; No. 19 red, \$2.24-2.30; No. 20 red, \$2.24-2.30; No. 21 red, \$2.24-2.30; No. 22 red, \$2.24-2.30; No. 23 red, \$2.24-2.30; No. 24 red, \$2.24-2.30; No. 25 red, \$2.24-2.30; No. 26 red, \$2.24-2