

THE HUMAN ELEMENT.

CHAPTER I.

At that time—to wit, at the beginning of this vast career—I was a bachelor of 35, with a private income which averaged \$2000 a year.

My father, who was an old-fashioned aristocrat and a town of Deromaster. My modest establishment consisted of two women servants, a man and a boy. I kept a couple of horses and rode regularly to hounds during the season.

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for the few moments it lasted as if it could be caused by nothing less than the hand of Death. But it passed, and I was quickly myself again. I felt that I was not dead, as I had started me; it was Daubeny's shade come back to resume its mortal tenement.

But the tenement was no longer vacant. I felt you, my good fellow, do honor to me. I said aloud, "but self-protection is the first law of nature, and I had no option but to do as I have done. Take my advice, which is to follow my own path. By diligent searching you will doubtless be able to find some other fellow's domicile left empty for the time being, as you will find it difficult to find a suitable and appropriate and make your own. You have my sincere wishes that your quest may prove a fortunate one. Adieu, cher Monsieur, and I trust you will be able to thank me for my advice."

I got out of the house without being observed. Hailing the first cab I came across, I was off in a twinkling, and I was before daybreak next morning in London.

After spending a couple of days in town, where I laid in a stock of clothes, and indispensable and had the beard and moustache of Mr. Percival Daubeny removed by the razor, thereby imparting quite a different character to the young man who went to Deromaster, and took up my quarters at the "George and Dragon," the best hotel in the town, entering my name in the register as "Mr. Evan Oslow of London."

Three days after my arrival I had the unique experience of being a looker-on at my own funeral—or rather at the funeral of a small table which reached the door of the house in which I was lying in state. The gentleman who had been fatally injured in the hunting field, had been found dead in bed, having passed quietly away in his sleep. On the same day I read in the newspapers an account headed, "Mysterious Disappearance of a Surgeon at Millington." He was spoken of as being a young man of exceptional promise in his profession, and no adequate motive seemed forthcoming which would serve to account for so strange a proceeding.

My one burning desire now was to be revenged on the death of my father, or, rather of the Horace Sparkinson who was now supposed to be dead and buried; but first of all it was requisite that Mr. Evan Oslow should obtain an introduction to the man who had been the cause of my father's death.

Among other frequenters of the billiard room at the "George," was a callow youth of good family of the name of Ford, who, from casual remark by the way, I found to be well acquainted with Miss Menteith, and that, in fact, she, together with her uncle and aunt, were frequent visitors to his mother's house. To this I was man I attached myself. I put him up to several "wrinkles" at billiards, practicing an hour with him in private every morning. I initiated him into the mysteries of cards, and he, in turn, introduced me to London and Paris which caused him to open his guileless blue eyes very wide indeed, and above all, I took care not to let him know that I was the same man who had been so mysteriously introduced to him at my next meeting. The result was that in less than a month after my arrival in London, I was invited to dine at the home of my mother in honor of his coming of age.

There, as I had fully expected I should, I met my mother, my father's sister, and my uncle and aunt. My mother, who was a widow, and my father's sister, were both well, and my uncle and aunt were both well, and my father's sister, were both well, and my uncle and aunt were both well.

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apprehended at first, began to assume form and consistency in my mind, till at length it formed itself as a concrete idea. It was by means of my own contrivance, or, rather, by means of the contrivance of my uncle of a portion of his superfluous wealth I should merely be claiming, after a fashion of my own, a modicum of that which I had no means of recovering. I was, of course, had I owned the Horace Sparkinson, outlived the old curmudgeon. I was still as much my uncle's nephew as ever I had been, and why should he be able to rob me of my inheritance, or otherwise to enrich that happy horde of consins and half-consins who were waiting, with ill-concealed impatience, for the moment when I should be able to appropriate and make your own. You have my sincere wishes that your quest may prove a fortunate one. Adieu, cher Monsieur, and I trust you will be able to thank me for my advice."

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was, whether the man who stole the portmanteau, or the man from whom it was stolen, was the author of the Briarfield tragedy.

That night was passed by me in one of the cells of the Deromaster police station. Next morning I was hauled before the bench of magistrates and fined; the result, a week later, I was committed to take my trial at the next court sittings, on the double charge of robbery and murder, the latter on the ground that I had been found with the stolen portmanteau in another part of the country on the night of the burglary. By the advice of the man-of-law I sent for and retained I pleaded guilty to the charge, although with a defense that would avail anything it behooved me to adopt was "hidden in the deep obscurity." Suppose I were to confess everything except the fact that I had been found with the portmanteau in another part of the country, I should have been hanged, and I believe my statement? Granting, however, that they did believe it, although I might manage to save my neck, it would be at the expense of a life-long term of penal servitude.

There was a scurry fight for fate to play a man who, only a few days before, had been found with the stolen portmanteau in another part of the country on the night of the burglary. By the advice of the man-of-law I sent for and retained I pleaded guilty to the charge, although with a defense that would avail anything it behooved me to adopt was "hidden in the deep obscurity." Suppose I were to confess everything except the fact that I had been found with the portmanteau in another part of the country, I should have been hanged, and I believe my statement? Granting, however, that they did believe it, although I might manage to save my neck, it would be at the expense of a life-long term of penal servitude.

I lay down on my pallet and willed the change, which came about in due course. Whither I went and what I saw during my brief stay in the prison, I do not remember to the purpose of this narrative. I was back in my cell in little over an hour, but only to find that the table had indeed been turned upon me, and that I was now in the hands of the law. I was stretched on my pallet, as I had left him, a faintly breathing and all but insensible. I found Evan Oslow, or, to speak more correctly, I found the man who had been found with the stolen portmanteau in another part of the country on the night of the burglary. By the advice of the man-of-law I sent for and retained I pleaded guilty to the charge, although with a defense that would avail anything it behooved me to adopt was "hidden in the deep obscurity." Suppose I were to confess everything except the fact that I had been found with the portmanteau in another part of the country, I should have been hanged, and I believe my statement? Granting, however, that they did believe it, although I might manage to save my neck, it would be at the expense of a life-long term of penal servitude.

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THE CZAR'S CRUELTY

Toward the Hebrews Confirmed in Letters to This Country.

SNUBBED, ROBBED AND EXILED.

They Must Dance to Any Tune Which Suits a Russian's Fancy.

AN ABSTRACT OF THE REPRESSIVE LAWS

The letters and papers from Russian Israelites to their relatives in Philadelphia daily bring fresh instances of the systematic persecution of the race by the Czar's petty officials. The Russians in this city are receiving appeals from their cruelly hardened brethren for tickets of deliverance from the hand of the oppressor.

The extent of the persecution in the everyday affairs of life among the down-trodden race would surpass belief if the stories were not established beyond a doubt by letters direct from many victims independently corroborating each other. These letters show that it was not enough that the Government should place every obstacle in the way of a Hebrew rising to any place of prominence or honor, in civil or military office, but that things have come to that pass where thriving citizens of this faith can be harassed and driven from their homes, that they can be lawfully robbed of their property, restricted in the honest business they may wish to engage in, thrust out of their seats in public conveyances, and finally kicked and spat upon like curs in the very streets.

MUST STAND IN CARS. In Russia there is a law to sustain the Russian who enters a public conveyance every seat taken, and who takes an Israelite on the shoulder and says: "Here, Jew, give up your seat." That is done in Kieff, of over 100,000 Jews are now being expelled from Russia, as shown by letters received in Philadelphia, says the *Inquirer* of that city. One of them is written to M. L. Bliznetze, who keeps a grocery store in Philadelphia. The letter is written in beautiful Hebrew style, which proves the writer's country. Among other things it says: "Some few days ago a circular was sent around to the Russian Jews of Philadelphia, asking them to give up their seats on the street cars. It is occupying a seat and a Christian enters the car and says: 'Give up your seat.' And if the 'Jid' refuses then the Christian can lodge a complaint against him with the police, and he will be punished by imprisonment for a few days. Likewise if a 'Jid' and a Christian quarrel in the street, and the latter has no witness to testify that the 'Jid' insulted him, then the offense is punished under the same rule. It needs no telling that each of us as a carrying those who have left Russia."

The name of the writer of that letter was in the copy of this article until two friends of the writer, who are well known in Philadelphia, were asked to give up their names. They refused. They feared that they would be traced out in Russia and made the victim of revengeful persecution by the Czar's officials. The writer of the letter was to be asked for tickets to bring him to America. They will be sent to the writer of this article.

The regulations about street quarrels make it dangerous for the owners of the street cars to allow any Hebrew to get into a car. The Hebrews who are expelled from their homes and goods and sent to America, and remained there themselves to try to make a living. The Hebrews who are expelled from their homes and goods and sent to America, and remained there themselves to try to make a living. The Hebrews who are expelled from their homes and goods and sent to America, and remained there themselves to try to make a living.

Another law which is now revised is that which prohibits Israelites from giving with in 50 miles of the frontier, and this is subject every Russian paper contains brief statements that so many were expelled from certain towns along the frontier. This process of driving out is now being carried out in the interior is going on rapidly. Many who can afford to travel any other way than afoot are emigrating.

One measure assigned for this action, which seems to lack any ground, is that of malicious persecution, in that they are dangerous to the borders in case of war. Another explanation lies in the fact that the Government is over-crowded with Hebrews, whose minds are perverted to believe that their poverty and misery are entirely caused by the persecution of the Hebrews. The expulsion of dozens of thirty ones from a small town that should you wish to make the further side of the Atlantic, in Horace Sparkinson, you will find him in the person of Ephraim Sagers, a middle-aged old "elo" man who lives a lonely life in a rowdy, and who is a member of the "Minories." Do you think it possible that you can more than faintly imagine what my thoughts are as I sit of a night brooding over my handful of fire with the ghost of the dead past crowding thickly around me.

N. B.—Ephraim Sagers deals in all kinds of cast-off wearing apparel. Cash down and no questions asked.—*Belgravia.*

the other side of the paper which makes the announcement, lists of seven families expelled from a certain small town.

HANDICAPPED IN SCIENCE. The masses of the Hebrews in higher scientific results was effectively cut off by an order which reduces the percentage of those who may be admitted to the higher institutions of learning almost to zero. The result is that after spending eight years, as they must, in schools graduating to what would be our central high school, only one hundredth part of the Jewish graduates can ever get into a college of scientific or engineering. The last copy of the *Fochoch* tells of the life of M. Rabinowich, who was driven to despair, starvation and suicide by this rule. Out of respect for Jewish scientists in Russia and disapproval for the oppression of the Jews, the last medical congress refused to meet in St. Petersburg.

It is on account of the revival of the most ferocious forms of Russian persecution of the Jews that an influx to America is looked for, and the Jewish Alliance is about to call a mass meeting to establish a movement to prepare a plan of distributing them over the country as they come.

Abstract of the Repressive Laws About to be Enforced. From the London Times. First—Jews throughout Russia (and including Russian Poland) must henceforth reside in towns only, and not in the country. No Jew will any longer be permitted to own or even to farm land. All Jewish landowners, farmers and agricultural laborers will thus be expelled from their village homes, and unless they have saved the means of subsistence, will be reduced to beggary. To intensify the severity of this edict, and widen its scope, the Government officials have included many hundreds of small towns in the category of country villages, and expelled Jews from those towns. In this manner the number of sufferers from the edict is greatly augmented. Tens of thousands of souls will thus be rendered homeless. These laws, known as the "May Laws," were promulgated in 1882, but were never put into force until the present year.

Second—Jews have hitherto been allowed by law to reside in only 16 counties (gubernias) of Russia. But the law has not been enforced against Jewish merchants in many important commercial centers outside those provinces, such as Riga, Liban, Kozoff, etc.; for, by a Ministerial circular of 1886, the same sanctions are now being permitted to remain there unmolested. The law is now to be strictly enforced, and, by a recent Ministerial order, all Jews, numbering about 100,000, who had previously settled outside the 16 counties, are to be expelled.

Third—Jewish artisans who in like manner had, under the law of 1865, been permitted to settle temporarily in places outside the 16 counties are now being expelled from those places. Tens of thousands of artisans with their families will, it is said, be affected by this edict, and rendered homeless.

Fourth—Jews are no longer to be allowed to be in any way connected with mines or mining industry, nor even to hold shares in any mine.

Fifth—The Jews will henceforth be practically debarred from partaking of any educational advantages, whether in schools, gymnasia or universities. Hitherto they have been permitted to attend the same, but the limitation that their number should not exceed 5 per cent of the total number of students. Secret instructions have already been sent requiring the reduction of this small percentage to still lower limits. In many of the higher educational institutions all Jewish students have been expelled.

Sixth—The legal profession, in which heretofore a large number of Jews in Russia have achieved great success, will in future be closed to Jewish students. A law has already been passed forbidding the granting of sanction of the Minister of the Interior before a Jew, qualified by examination, may practice. Since the promulgation of the law this small percentage of Jews has been expelled from many of the higher educational institutions all Jewish students have been expelled.

Seventh—Jews are henceforth prohibited from following the professions of engineer or army doctor, or from filling any Government post, however subordinate.



Presenting to the most elegant form THE LAXATIVE AND NUTRITIOUS JUICE OF FIGS OF CALIFORNIA. Combined with the medicinal virtues of plants known to be most beneficial to the human system, forming an agreeable and effective laxative to permanently cure Habitual Constipation, and the many ills depending on a weak or inactive condition of the KIDNEYS, LIVER AND BOWELS.

Every one is using it and all are delighted with it. PURE BLOOD, REFRESHING SLEEP, HEALTHY STRENGTH. When one is Bilious or Constipated, HEADACHE, DIZZINESS, NATURAL FOLLOW.

CHILDREN LEARN ECONOMY. I have used it by the use of Wolff's ACME Blacking.

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