



CHAMBER XXVII. Uncle Ben had started out bravely enough, but after he had traveled a mile or so he found himself growing faint and weak. He was not only an old man, but the exciting scenes through which he had passed in the last few hours, together with the physical pain he had endured, were quite sufficient to tax his strength to the utmost.

"O Lawd, doan' let it cum jes' yet! Give de ole man strength 'nuff to reach dem Yankees, an' den yo' kin take him away! I dun can't stop here, O Lawd! I've got to keep trappin' till I find Mars Custer an' tell him dat Miss Sunshine wants him!"

After a rest of three or four minutes he rose up and moved on. He slipped and staggered as he advanced, but he shut his teeth hard and would not yield to the weakness seeking to pull him down. Two events happened to brace him up and restore a portion of his strength. He had gone a distance of about two miles and was just passing the cabin of a "moss white" which had been deserted for the last month when Mrs. Baxter suddenly appeared. She had traveled two miles toward the Yankee lines after leaving Rest Haven instead of going the other way, but it was to strike a pose, leading over the range into the Semanookah. She had been waiting there in hopes to hear from Ben, who had told her that he would return for his revenge. Uncle Ben was no doubt possessed of the information she longed for, and though realizing his feelings toward her she made bold to step out and greet him.

"What, yo' yere!" shouted the old man at the top of his voice as soon as he set eyes on her. "Fo' de Lawd, woman, but if I eber git hands on yo' I'll kill yo' for shere!"

"Had he cum when yo' left the place?" she asked, pretending not to notice his outburst of anger, but at the same time preserving a respectful distance between them.

"Yo' ole cat! Yo' ole ole debbil!" he exclaimed as he rushed at her. "Yo' an' ole do one who brung all dis trouble to Miss Sunshine, an' I'll broke ebery bone in yo' body!"

She retreated before him and held up her hand as a caution to him to listen. The soldiers and guerrillas had begun firing on the camp. The distance was two miles or more, but the morning wind was blowing from the south, and the reports of the muskets came plainly to their ears. Both realized at once what was going on. The woman laughed as she observed:

"He's goin' to git 'em for shere! He will be an' effer nor and ride the best critter in de company. Reckon yo' must 'a' bin brin' out when he got that, or yo' wouldn't be yere now. He was gain to hurr yo' 'nuff."

The reports of the guns told Uncle Ben that the two men in camp had been attacked, and that he had not a moment to waste with the woman. All his strength and resolution had returned, and without hesitating he started off at a head pace. She felt certain of his mission, and she was determined to detain him if possible. Mrs. Baxter was not only a fearless woman under all circumstances, but in such a crisis as this she was desperate. If Uncle Ben brought help, all that had been gained would be lost, and he might be killed or captured with the rest of the gang. She stepped aside to let the old slave pass and then followed at his heels, threatening, taunting and exhorting by turns and almost daring to lay hands on him. If she had been armed with knife or pistol, she would have attacked him at once. As she was not so equipped, she followed him in hopes of encountering some one on the highway. If a white man, and she cried out to him that the black had dared to raise his hand against her, Uncle Ben would be seized, if not shot down in his tracks.

Aggravated and annoyed by the pain of the blows indicated by the Baxter, maddened by the woman's words, and her continued presence and rendered desperate by the danger of the general situation, it was no wonder the old man suddenly turned at bay with the glare of a hunted wolf in his eyes. She was too close to him to escape. Springing forward, he seized her by the shoulders, lifted her from the ground, and with a mighty effort he flung her clear of the road. At that point the ground sloped sharply away toward a ravine, and as the woman struck the earth with stunning force she rolled over and over until she finally brought up against a bush 50 feet away.

"De Lawd forgive me, but I couldn't den help it!" groaned Uncle Ben as he continued his way. "Dey's arter Miss Sunshine, an' dey's arter me, an' dey's arter Mars Kouton, an' de good ole missus an' myn den in de house, an' what's gwine to becom of us all I danno!"

With eyes fastened on the pathway, with teeth hard shut, with words of prayer rising to his lips and a constant struggle against the feeling of despair seeking a lodgment in his heart, the faithful old slave pressed on, mile after mile, and suddenly found himself confronted by a party of horsemen in blue uniforms. The goal had been won, and as he realized it he went with his arms and legs outstretched on the icy road.

"Runaway dinky, but he isn't pursued that I can see," observed the captain of the troop as he ordered a halt. "Some of yo' men liven him up with a sip of whiskey."

A sergeant dismounted and put a flask to Uncle Ben's lips and forced some of the contents down his throat. In a couple of minutes the old man sat up and looked around.

"Were yo' running away?" asked the captain as he rode closer.

"Whar-whar's Mars Custer?" gasped Uncle Ben in reply.

without any visible cause, painful and swollen, causing a most serious illness. In this case I could not prevent suppuration, although I used the most rigid antiseptic measures and most careful internal treatment, and he recovered only after a very protracted illness.—Dr. Henry Bartens in Hall's Journal of Health.

WELL STRAPPED IN.

Why the Round Waist Continues Popular With Women. The round waist promises to continue in favor and to be used not only for this summer goods, but for street toilettes made up of heavier materials. Only a slender waist can bear the tight belt confining a gathered bodice, but as long as gowns are made in two pieces so long will the tight belt hold its own and be worn by the masses of women, irrespective of their size. From an artistic



BELT STREET COSTUME.

point of view, the loose, draping style is infinitely preferable to the more natural, but it can be worn only with the one piece gown. The general public of today, however, is not particularly artistic. The fashioning of it likes to feel itself well strapped in and comfortably bolstered, while the masculine part approves the custom as "easy" and having "go," so the round waist found favor as soon as it appeared, and it seems to intend to remain as the only alternative of the long coat, which is a rather more formal style, suited especially for middle aged and elderly women, although and confined to them. There is a juvenile air about the belted bodice, and nobody who is no longer young does well to wear it. Nearly all the separate silk waists are made in this fashion, although in trimming and finish they show such variety. The round gaitered bodice is of course made over a fitted lining in all cases, as it otherwise becomes lumpy and shapeless.

The great objection to this mode lies in the difficulty experienced in preventing the fastening of the skirt from slipping below the belt. Nobody has yet invented an infallible method for keeping it in place, and it is doubtful if any skirt can be persuaded to stay up by means short of a lining waist secured on the skirt band all the way around and fastened in the back, the dress costume to be worn over it.

A Parisian model shows a street costume made of gray ponce de soie. It has perfectly plain round skirt and a round bodice gathered at the waist under a belt closing in front with a large buckle. The sleeves, consisting of a large bellow, puff, gathered on the middle of the outside of the arm under a ruche of the silk, extend only to the elbow, where they are met by long gloves. A dretroite corset in white silk muslin trimmed with law falls over the front of the corsage. A wide black hat trimmed with ostrich plumes is worn.

Direct Proof. My wife has been troubled with Liver Complaint and Pains in the back, for over a year. For some weeks she had the aid of our best physicians. After the use of three bottles of your Burdock Blood Bitters she is almost entirely well. We truly recommend your medicine to all who are afflicted with Liver Complaint. GEORGE W. SHAW, Montpelier, Williams Co., Vt.

Advertisement for Indapo, a HINDOO REMEDY. It claims to cure various ailments and is sold by Messrs. H. B. Smith, Wholesale and Retail Druggists, SCRANTON, Pa., and other local druggists.

Advertisement for Dr. PEAL'S PENNYROYAL PILLS. It is described as a safe and certain remedy for various ailments, sold by JOHN B. FIELDS, Pharmacist, corner Wyoming Avenue and Spruce Street, Scranton, Pa.

Advertisement for DUPONT'S POWDER. It is described as a mining, blasting and sporting powder, manufactured at the Wapwallopen Mills, Luzerne County, Pa., and at Wilmington, Delaware.

Advertisement for HENRY BELIN, Jr., General Agent for the Wyoming District. He is located at 118 Wyoming Ave., Scranton, Pa., and is associated with the Third National Bank Building.

Advertisement for CASTORIA. It is described as a harmless substitute for opium, morphine, and other narcotic substances. It is used for infants and children, and is praised for its effectiveness in treating various ailments such as colic, diarrhea, and worms.

Advertisement for Castoria, continued. It lists various locations where the medicine is available, including Scranton, Pa., and other parts of the region. It also mentions the name of the manufacturer, Dr. Samuel Pitcher.

Advertisement for R. R. R. RADWAY'S READY RELIEF. It is described as a medicine for internal ailments, such as colds, coughs, and sore throats. It is praised for its quick and effective relief.

Advertisement for BRANDT CLAY PRODUCT CO. It is described as a manufacturer of bricks, tiles, and other building materials. It is located in Binghamton, N.Y., and has a factory in Brandt, Pa.

Advertisement for SEEDS AND FERTILIZERS. It lists various types of seeds and fertilizers, such as white clover, timothy, and lawn grass seeds. It also mentions the name of the manufacturer, HUNT & CONNELL CO.

Advertisement for MALONEY OIL AND MANUFACTURING CO. It is described as a manufacturer of lubricating oils and shafting and journal grease. It is located in West Lackawanna Ave., Scranton, Pa.

Advertisement for RADWAY'S R PILLS. It is described as a medicine for various ailments, such as colds, coughs, and sore throats. It is praised for its quick and effective relief.

Advertisement for MT. PLEASANT COAL. It is described as a high quality coal for domestic use, and is available in various sizes and quantities. It is located at 118 Wyoming Avenue, Scranton, Pa.

Advertisement for RESTORED MANHOOD. It is described as a medicine for various ailments, such as weakness and lack of energy. It is praised for its effectiveness in restoring health and vitality.

Advertisement for THE FLOUR AWARDS. It is a notice from the N. Y. Tribune, dated Oct. 31, 1893, regarding the first official announcement of World's Fair diplomas on flour. It lists various flour brands and their manufacturers, such as Washburn Flour Mills and Crosby Co.

Advertisement for SUPERLATIVE AND GOLD MEDAL flour. It is described as a high quality flour, and is available at various locations, including Scranton, Pa., and other parts of the region.

Advertisement for IRON AND STEEL. It lists various types of iron and steel products, such as Norway iron, black diamond, and silver. It also mentions the name of the manufacturer, WILEY & RUSSELL AND WELLS BROS. SCREW CUTTING MACHINERY.

Advertisement for BITTENBENDER & CO., SCRANTON. It is described as a wholesaler and retail dealer in wagonmakers' and blacksmiths' supplies. It lists various types of supplies, such as wagon wheels, axles, and springs.

Advertisement for P. P. P. Pimples, Blotches and Old Sores. It is described as a medicine for various skin ailments, such as pimples, blotches, and old sores. It is praised for its effectiveness in clearing the skin.

Advertisement for HUNT & CONNELL CO. It is described as a manufacturer of various products, including seeds and fertilizers. It is located in West Lackawanna Ave., Scranton, Pa.

Advertisement for MALONEY OILS. It is described as a manufacturer of lubricating oils and shafting and journal grease. It is located in West Lackawanna Ave., Scranton, Pa.

Advertisement for HOTEL WAWERLY. It is described as a European plan hotel, and is located at the corner of 15th and Filbert Sts., Philadelphia. It is praised for its comfortable accommodations and excellent service.

Advertisement for T. J. VICTORY, PROPRIETOR. It is described as a business or service, and is located in Scranton, Pa. It is praised for its quality and reliability.