

The Quarterbreed

BY ROBERT AMES BENNET



CHAPTER XXIV—Continued.

He, in turn, was so intent upon manuevering to have himself spoken by that most genial of hosts, the president, that he failed to see Marie until she spoke to him.

"That is sufficient, Captain Hardy. May I ask you to take me back to him?" Vandervyn was waiting for her near the president. As they approached him, she gave Hardy a look of half-repentment.

"I cannot wish you success," he replied. She gave him a quizzical glance and turned away with Vandervyn.

CHAPTER XXV. Consented. The court-martial began its session at nine in the morning, and the trial of Hardy was over before three in the afternoon.

The man before him was the president's military aide. "Captain Floyd Hardy?" "At your service."

Hardy went white, but his jaw set firm with grim resolution. He stepped out beside the aide, and crossed the sidewalk to the waiting motor.

The ride was short. The car made a sudden turn, and curved around to the executive offices of the president. Hardy looked at his companion, perplexed.

The man turned in his swivel chair and abruptly made a beckoning gesture. Hardy's hand went up in salute as he stepped forward.

"You are Captain Floyd Hardy?" "Yes, sir." "The same who suppressed the late insurrection in the Sulus?"

"After that you obtained a detail, your conduct in discharge of which has resulted in your trial by court-martial on serious charges. I have before me the findings of the court. The circumstances are exceptional.

"Permit me, sir, to first present for your consideration a matter relating to the interests of the tribe which—" "Stop!" ordered the president.

"Others are waiting for interviews. I can give you only ten minutes. If you expend them on this other matter, you will have no further opportunity to state your own case."

The president showed a trace of surprise. "Is that all you have to say? There is still a minute."

"That is all, sir," replied Hardy, rising. The president touched a call button, but raised his finger. "One moment. What if I should confront you with witnesses?"

"As I have stated, sir, my only request is that all the witnesses in the case be examined."

"There are some already at hand. You shall see what they have to say about your charges."

matter may be removed in the house and even in the senate. It will be well for you to send for the mat."

Vandervyn shrugged. "Can't do it, even to oblige you, Mr. President. The fellow has gone to the place where cold storage is unknown.

The aide left the room. Vandervyn again shrugged. "Search has been made for her, Mr. President. All that could be learned from her Indian relatives was that she had been very sick and had gone away."

The aide returned to the room leading a tall young woman who was dressed in a Parisian tailored suit that Vandervyn had last seen on Marie.



"My Words as Good or Better Than a Cashiered Officer's."

coming to Washington had Vandervyn been given so much as a glimpse of Miss Dupont's reputed Hindu maid. This undoubtedly was the woman, and he looked at her with sharp curiosity as Marie raised the veil.

"Are you afraid to read your sentence?" she taunted. "Had it not been for you, he would have had the mine and a million from his contract and me."

"Acquitted—honourably—on all charges!" he murmured. "On all charges!—Honorable mention recommended—Approved—the President."

"Merely a question of doing justice to you, Captain Hardy. When a man has done his duty, however harshly, it is the duty of others to see that he receives just compensation."

"That does not follow. You must know I did love him. But to find that I had for rival another 'breed girl'—one not half so beautiful as I—I could not endure the thought."

"You must, I took it from you. Though I have used the income from it not altogether for personal gratification, you must realize that my pride will not permit me to keep it any longer."

"It is not," she contradicted. "When we were abroad, Pere and I went to Monte Carlo. I fancy the gambling spirit infected me. Let us settle the ownership of the mine with a wager. If you do not marry this year, I agree that you will accept it back from me on your wedding day."

success. But I am too busy a man to moralize. If you will pardon me, ladies, there is to be a cabinet meeting."

He bowed to them, and then confronted Hardy. "Sir, I warned you that if you did not speak in your own defense, you would have no other opportunity. I shall not reverse my approval of the findings of the court-martial."

Without replying, the president abruptly faced about to his desk. Hardy again saluted, and marched from the room as if on dress parade.

CHAPTER XXVI.

The woman whose skirt he had seen in front of him before he became aware of her presence. He found himself looking into the cool, half-mocking face of Marie.

"Denest," he replied, "you forget that other day in the coulee—that day when you thought me dying. I gazed up into your eyes, and I saw the look of my mother."

ALL VICTIMS OF DISCONTENT

Absolutely Satisfied Person Is Hard Indeed to Find, and Perhaps It Is Well It Is So.

Nearly every fellow is in hopes that some day he will be able to quit the kind of work he is doing.

It is hard work, he wants to do something easy, and if it is easy he wants a position that isn't so confining.

Why he has a job where he works in an office part of the time and on the street part of the time, he wants to get into something where he won't always have to be running in and out.

Proper View of Life. Why is it, I wonder, that the little boy almost always imagines that outside of home is to be found the larger liberty?

Sailor's Duties Made Lighter. Jack Tar knows what it means to tote heavy shells around ship, but Jack Tar will not need to worry about this duty longer, according to the Popular Science Monthly.

Rely on Parcel Post. Since the outbreak of the war practically the only means by which a large variety of articles can be imported into Persia is the parcel post.

"It is not fair for me to bet on a certainty; but if you insist, I agree to the wager," said Hardy.

"Then be prepared to take the mine a week from today," she bantered. He tore his gaze away from the lovely face whose gay smile appeared so heartlessly mocking.

"Marie—you—" he stammered. "Are you certain it is—love—not a passing feeling of pity?" "Pity! For you?" she cried. "Do you think I could dare pity you?—a man like you! I could not have been so presumptuous even had those treacherous conspirators succeeded in crushing you."

"Her voice sank to a note of deep humility. 'I know how very unworthy of you I am. Yet I hope I am not so unworthy as that first day at the coulee. When I scorned you, and you, with your skill and courage and moderation, saved us without harming those whose attack he had unwittingly brought upon us. I was a coquette—a coquette infatuated with the kind of man with whom a coquette deserves to be infatuated. But I was not altogether frivolous. I soon perceived your immeasurable superiority over him. Only my head could not overcome the fascination that had bound my heart. My soul sought to free itself from the spell—I struggled and prayed—Yet not until there at the mine, when you showed yourself the bravest, the most generous—'

She flung out her arms to him in piteous appeal. "Captain! My captain! Say that you do not think me—altogether what he—thought me!" Hardy drew her hands together, and bent to kiss them with reverent passion.

(THE END.)

FRUIT LAXATIVE FOR SICK CHILDREN

"California Syrup of Figs" is a harm tender stomach, liver and bowels. Every mother realizes, after seeing her children "California Syrup of Figs" that this is their ideal laxative because they love its pleasant taste and it thoroughly cleanses the little stomach, liver and bowels without griping.

CLEAR YOUR COMPLEXION. While You Sleep With Cuticura and Ointment—Trial Free. On retiring, gently smear the Cuticura Ointment, wash five minutes with Cuticura Soap hot water, and continue bathing with the Soap. The latter part of this treatment on the pores opens through the night.

To Drive Out Malaria. And Build Up The System. Take the Old Standard GENUINE TASTELESS CHILL TONIC. You get what you are taking, as the formula printed on every label, showing Quinine and Iron in a tasteless form. Quinine drives out malaria, the builds up the system. So certain.

TIME TO PAY FOREIGN DEBT. Coins of Most of European Countries Are Worth Much Less Now Than Before the War.

In peace days a Russian ruble worth a trifle more than 61 cent American money. Now it is worth 28 cents.

Strong Proof. She—That's not engaged. Her fourth dance with him this evening.

The United States in 1915 produced 650,055 tons of lead.

Have You Ever Suspected that the cause of various annoying ills might lie in the daily cup of tea or coffee?

Instant Postum. There's no caffeine in anything harmful in the delightful, pure food-drink—just the nourishing goodness of wheat.

Instant Postum. There's no caffeine in anything harmful in the delightful, pure food-drink—just the nourishing goodness of wheat. Postum has put the sands of former tea and coffee drinkers on the Road to wellville. "There's a Reason"



"I Could Not Impose on Your Generosity."

"So I have been told several times already—I wished a few moments with you, that I might thank you for your generosity. It has given me the great opportunity of my trip abroad and this visit in Washington."

"I am saving all the reports of your social triumphs," he said. "They have made me very happy."

"Since it will bring you happiness, I wish him—good fortune."

"You do?" The question was almost an exclamation. But the girl at once regained her quiet composure. "I do not understand. If you wish him good fortune, why then do you seek to prevent him from receiving his compensation as attorney for the tribe?"

"Yes—of every dishonest dollar," said Hardy, his mouth stern, though his eyes besought her to forgive his harshness. "You have enough already."

"Are you certain?" she rejoined. "You may have heard that mines often pinch out or run into valueless ore—You can guess why Pere and I have told no one, least of all Reggie."

"My resignation has not been withdrawn, and I am engaged in a private enterprise. I cannot draw pay as an officer in the service," explained Hardy.

"Then let it pass. But the little loan?" "Very good of you to offer. However, I believe I have enough left to last me through. And in any event, I could not impose on your generosity. The money would be used against him—which, you see, would hardly do."