By Major ARCHIBALD W. BUTT,

One of the Herges of the Titanic and President Taft's Military Aid.

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CHAPTER II.

A Guest at the Pines. RESENTLY I asked what accommodations were to be had at Oglethorpe. "Mighty poor, mighty poor,

But if you are going to be long in the vicinity you might get board in one of the farmhouses outside of the town." that I was a writer and that I was

collecting material for a story. terest at once and carefully scanning my face through his spectacles.

Yes." I answered, which was the truth at least, for I had suddenly conceived the idea of collecting data for a novel. For where else, I thought, to General Ogiethorpe," said my old could there be better characters and host, seeing my curiosity, for the scenery than right here? My aged bridge was out of all proportion to the companion looked thoughtful for a moment and then said;

"May I ask if you have any references or if you know anybody in these

the state whom my father had known. and these seemed to satisfy him, for he continued:

"If you are of a mind to accept my you. I guess Bud would enjoy your could the great confidence and esteem company, and Ellen and Mary-Mary's my wife, you know-would make you tor." welcome."

"It would be a great convenience to me," I said and thanked him, "for I know nothing of this country, and you an important bit of family history and seem to be very well acquainted."

"I ought to be," he said, "for my family has been in these parts since General Oglethorpe, that great philanthropist and friend of the poor, first came to Georgia. The last time he came to this country he made my greatgrandfather's bouse his headquarters to Savannah. Just before the Revoluof himself in token of the esteem in which he held his father. He lived to see the colony he had planted become with the hope that some day the fortunes of the family may go out of their eclipse and that some worthy son will arise to restore it to its former position of importance in the commonwealth. But what there is left you will be welcomed to, my lad."

Before I could properly thank him the whistle blew and our train pulled



"If I know'd yer had gists I'd sure have brought the coach."

into Ogiethorpe. The colonel advanced and, calling out to an old negro. whom he addressed as Jefferson, ordered him to bring the wagon nearer. as there was a trunk to get.

"If I know'd yer had gists, Mars Ge'oge, I'd sure have brought the coach," said the old darky, looking apologetically at the wagon he was on. The colonel told him that I was going to stay some time and that he "reckoned" I would know all they had soon and so he would not begin by offering

"By the way, sir," he said as we

stepped off the platform, "I have not the pleasure of knowing your name, though you have heard mine often but now summoned the courage to enough this morning." I had, indeed, overlooked that detail or else felt indifferent to it, but I handed him my card, which he read carefully and then

"I reckon you ain't any relation to the Palmers of Kentucky. I roomed with two men from that state of your name years ago when I was at Prince-

I told the colonel that I was not from Kentucky, but thought there was some kinship. I had intended telling him that the families had never met and that in all probability the Kentucky Palmers would not know of me. but I did not finish my explanation, for as soon as I mentioned kinship he grasped my hand warmly and said:

"Then, sir, you can make yourself at home in my house as long as you care to, for there were never two finer fellows than those Palmer boys, even if they did join the Yankee army during the war. I tell you, sir, I am proud and happy to entertain one of their blood at the Pines. And now, Jefferson, drive fast, for we must let Miss Ellen know we have a guest."

The Pines was a distance of some five miles from the town limits. It was appropriately named, for after we entered the grounds we passed into a sir-that is, if you stay in the town. primeval forest of tall and stately pine trees. The long needles waved in the wind, and there was a mournful cadence in the branches, different from I thanked him and then explained the song we bear in the northern forests. The ground was covered with pine straw, and it might have been "A book?" he said, showing great in- falling there and ungathered for generations, so thickly did it seem to lie. We crossed a branch over which there had been built an old stone bridge. now covered with vines.

"That, sir, was built as a memorial size of the stream. "When the general paid his memorable visit to this place it was right there, sir, that he drew from his pocket a small fask and after offering my grandfather a I mentioned several persons within dram took one himself. You must know, sir, that the great philanthropist was supposed to be a teetotaler and certainly never took a drink in the presence of any of his colonists for hospitality we will be glad to put you fear of setting them a bad example. up and to share what we have with That little act shows as nothing olde in which he held my worthy progeni-

I was anxious to hear more of this episode, but feared to get the colonel started on what was evidently to him which I suspected strongly had become a hobby. "Some day Ellen shall walk here with you," he added, "and show you the inscriptions on it. You will find them interesting."

Ellen again. I was beginning to feel the keenest anxiety to meet this Ellen and to wonder what she could bewhen on his way from Fort Augusta half cook and half lady, I had begun to think from the little bits I had picktion he sent my grandfather a portrait ed up concerning her during the day. We passed from the pine trees into a long avenue of cedars, and when we emerged from this the Pines in all its an independent state, you know, sir, solitary and lonely grandeur stood beand he seemed mighty proud of the fore us, rich in coloring from the setrecord old Georgia made during the ting sun that bathed it in a crimson war of the Revolution. The Pines, as glow. As I looked at it in wonderment we call our home, was built just after | it might have been a dream out of the his death, and his picture has the place past that had taken shape and floated of honor in it now. It is a sorry place now across my vision. Its front and since the Yankees came through here | sides were flanked with colonial coland used it as a stable, but we keep it umns of the Doric type, and the low wings running at right angles to the body of the house were covered with vines which almost hid the low porch. This porch was supported by diminu-

tive columns of the same graceful curves. I was so moved by the beauty of the whole at first that I failed to note that some of the columns were on the point of falling and that others were crumbling to decay. The plaster had fallen from many of them, showing a dull red brick behind. But these evidences of decay gave an additional charm to the scene, augmenting its perfection as a whole and keeping it in perfect harmony with its owner and the neighborhood of that section. It seemed to typify the generation then living there and fighting against its own decay. I was awakened from my dreamy thought by hearing the colonel calling loudly for some one to get the horse. Presently there came from around one of the wings a little, half naked urchin, who said that Mrs. Turpin had gone to the Trig funeral, and that Miss Ellen was cooking the dinner, and that "Young Marsa" had not come from the fields.

"Then tell Miss Elien, Sammie, to put another finger in the ple, for I have brought a guest home with me. Now. sir," turning to me, "if you will come with me, I will show you your room and bid you make yourself at home."

We passed under the huge doorway and entered a large hall which was as wide as any room I could remember in my grandfather's house in New England. It was almost bare of furniture There were two or more large mahogany sofas which had once been lined with black horsehair, but this latter was so much worn that the matting showed beneath it in places, and in others it was patched with bright colored calico and sometimes with pieces of faded slik. The colonel led me up a flight of stairs, bare of carpet, but

clean and polished. "You will be right over the billiard room," he said, opening a door which led into a beautifully lighted room on the east side, standing in the center of which was a large, canopled bed. "If you care for billiards," he continued. "I will wager that Ellen can give you ten points and beat you out. And now, sir, we have dinner at 6 o'clock, for Bud likes to have his dinner when he comes from the field instead of in the middle of the day, as he says he feels more like a gentleman. Until then.

"Colonel, there is one little thing I should like to have settled. Business is business, you know." I said, laughing, for I did not like the look of dignity he suddenly assumed at the men-

tion of business. "In justice to both

of us I ought to ask you how much

will be my board by the week." Had General Oglethorpe himself aris. en to confront the colonel I do not think he could have shown more surprise than he did at my simple question. He drew himself up with a dignity which was truly commanding, and, speaking in a suppressed voice, he asked me:

"When have the Turpins adopted the custom of taking money from their guests, I beg you to tell me, str? If you were not a kinsman of my dear friends, the Palmers, I would at once show you the door."

I stood covered with confusion. humbly beg your pardon if I have offended you, colonel, and I am greatly mortfied to have so deeply wounded you, but until this mement I thought you had been kind enough to receive me as a boarder. I felt grateful enough for that, and you should not put me under obligations which I can never repay and which I have no right to acsept. But you yourself are somewhat to blame," I added quickly, for I saw that he was still deeply offended. "You sold me that I might get board in one of the farmhouses and immediately offered me the hospitality of your

"The Turpins are not farmers, sir; they are planters, and if we have to cook our own meals we serve them with no less degree of hospitality than when a nigger stood at each door at the beck and call of everybody in the

"Colonel Turpin, I hope you will forgive me my stupid blunder or else let me here your house at once."

His face rejented into a smile, and, extending his hand, he grasped mine.

"As you say, lad, I am not blameless in the matter. But we are getting a little sensitive down here. And now forget all about it, and, what is more, don't ever mention it to Ellen or to Bud, for they would think their old father had been lacking in dignity, else a mistake of this kind were impossible." When he left me I fell a prey to re-

grets over my stupid blunder and, what cemed worse, my apparent deception concerning the relationship with the Kentucky Palmers. As long as 1 thought I was going to go to an inn of some kind or to pay my board I had not thought it worth while to explain the mistake into which the colonel had fallen. I felt it to be too late now to confess that in all likelihood there was no kinship at all or, if any, so remote as to form no ties of blood and certainly not to earn for me any consideration on that score. Feeling like a culprit, I threw myself on the bed, determined to leave the Pines at the first moment I could do so without offend ing my kind old host.

When the pickaninny, Sam, knocked at my door to tell me that dinner was served he found me prepared to do justice to anything in the way of food which might be placed before me. I had been traveling all day, to all intents and purposes without anything to eat. While anxious to satisfy my hunger, yet it was with some feeling of embarrassment that I started downstairs to meet the colonel. He met me at the foot of the steps and, motioning me to follow him, led me to a room in one of the side wings. There I saw two silver gobiets, frosted on the outside, with their rims complete ly hidden by long and graceful bunches of mint. Without sitting down he handed me one and took the other

himself. "Of late years, Mr. Palmer," he said. we have abandoned the time honored custom of drinking mint juleps before our dinner, but in order that you may feel perfectly at home and rest certain of the fact that I feel no resentment on account of your natural mistake I have taken the liberty of asking you to join me in one of these, sir," holding the goblet as if pledging my

"This delicious fluid should be sipped only while sitting, but as the family is assembled for dinner I will ask you to forego the pleasure of a chat over our juleps and drink standing. I pledge your health, sir, and that of your kinsfolk, the friends of my young

manhood," It was the first julep I had ever tasted, and I shall never forget with what delicious force the straw threw the Equor against the roof of my mouth. The goblets were soon emptied, and I was ushered into the parior, where we were evidently expected, for e occupants were standing.

(Continued in next Friday's paper.)

CLERK'S NOTICE NO. 2173 IN BANKRUPTCY.

In the District Court of the United States for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, Burton Lewis Holbert, Honesdale, of Wayne county, Pa., a bankrupt under the Act of Congress of July 1, 1898, having applied for a full discharge from all debts provable against his estate under said Act. notice is hereby given to all known creditors and other persons in inter-est, to appear before the said court at Scranton in said District, on the 25th day of June, 1912, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, if any they have, why the prayer of the said petitioner should not be granted.

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