



BY MARY DEVERUX  
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CHAPTER XV.

After the death of Laro a new and somewhat better order of things prevailed among the so-called "Pirates of the South Seas."

Now under the direct leadership of Lafitte alone, and with better opportunities for having his adventurous nature, the larger body of them followed unquestioningly his more majestic and less lawless practices; and not a few of the men actually relished the changed conditions in which they found themselves.

Garson, who had been given a vessel of his own, had gathered to himself the most ungenerous of Laro's followers, and entered upon a career in which he observed the same methods as his former commander, with the result that he was finally brought to execution, together with most of his crew, in a South American port.

Life at the Ursuline convent was, for many months, a burden to Lazalle, and her whims and caprices made it but little less so to the mother superior and nuns. But they, with a lively remembrance of many generous favors from Lafitte, felt that they must bear patiently with the charge he had left in their keeping.

The Roche, as her banker and man of business, came often to see his fair client, and ended by falling in love with her—a fact he was wise enough to keep to himself. And, later on, he obtained Lafitte's consent, and her removal from the convent and taking a house of her own, where, with Miss Brigida and a retinue of slaves, the high-strung beauty seemed more contented.

When the summer of 1812 had brought the Cascaes household to their Barataria home, there befell something which struck Lafitte with a new despair, and took from him all hope of ever being hailed as vander little Rosello the smallest server, even should the occasion or necessity arise.

Her childhood trust in him became destroyed; he saw her shrink from him in terror and abhorrence. And this he awakened in him the knowledge that the—as he supposed—paternal love he had been cherishing for the child of her who had always been his ideal, was the affection of a father for his daughter, but the love of a man for a woman.

The bitterest poison he had ever swallowed, and which he had drawn from his veins. Yet no one would have suspected this, as he went his way, and for a time with greater recklessness than ever.

Her "Captain Jean" was none other than Lafitte, the terrible pirate who, after the rumor mentioned by Pierre had now become a fact, inasmuch as the governor of Louisiana had issued a proclamation offering a reward for Lafitte's apprehension.

"This had come about by reason of a letter to the baronet, which had proved to be the chip which kindled a blaze the long-smouldering fire of wrath against the Baratarians.

When the information was brought to Lafitte, accompanied by a copy of the proclamation, he had, without delay, taken a pinnace and set out for the extreme southerly side of Grande Terre, upon which was the Count de Cascaes' abode.

At the sound of Lafitte's feet upon the steps, a woman's weakened face, wrinkled and scowling, its coffeehue contrasting with wisps of gray, wry smile showing from beneath a bright-colored bandanna, was projected from one of the numerous doors opening from the hallway into various rooms in the two wings of the building.

It was apparent that she recognized the visitor, for she came out into the hall and, despite her age, advanced briskly toward him.

"Ah, Zenny, there you are, looking as young as ever," was his smilingly spoken greeting.

"Always you say words, Captain Jean, that please, even when one knows they are not true." Lafitte laughed lightly.

Supernatural Connected with Jeweled Toy of English's King.

When as a girl Annie de France, the French queen, died, visited Windsor Castle, the mystic jewel, which was taken from the throne of Tippos Sahib and presented by the British Company to George III., was the object of her profound admiration. In fact, it fascinated her romantic soul, and Queen Victoria, who was among the first to wear the gem, quite understood her young niece's feeling, so she ordered the jewel to be taken to the princess's apartment, in order that she should be made of the treasure. The first thing the Queen of Portugal asked for the night she entered the banquet hall on the throne, was to see the blaze of the celebrated gold plate upon the buffet, was this jeweled bird. His majesty immediately ordered that the table in front of the Queen, that she might gaze upon it at her leisure.

There are many legends woven about this jewel, and one of them says the Hindoos call it "Uma," and they say that whoever uses Uma must reign over India. It is supposed to be the crown of the Hindoos, and it is thought upon the head of whoever it endows with royal power. It is about twelve inches long, and is shaped like a bird with an extraordinary tail. Rubies, brilliants, emeralds and pearls are seen about the jewel, and they are said to be the gift of the gods.

It was, therefore, with a sigh of relief that he saw her disappear, after his master had gone inside.

He remained sitting on the steps, his chin supported by two yellow palms, while a group of young negroes who had drawn near to gaze curiously at him, after the manner of their kind, proceeded to converse in a way evidently intended to attract his attention.

Instinct, rather than any sound, made Natio realize that a presence was near him; and glancing over his shoulder, he saw a girl, white-clad form standing in the doorway through which Lafitte had passed a few minutes before. Presently he saw one of her little hands go to her side, as if she had been startled, or was experiencing some strong emotion; and she stood with bended head, as if listening.

Natio was still starting at the girl when she started impetuously, and went hurriedly down the hallway.

Led by curiosity, the boy jumped to his feet, and saw her descend the steps of the back gallery, and so swiftly into the woods, which seemed to swallow up the snowy form and glittering hair—swallow them so suddenly as to leave in the boy's superstitious mind an uncomfortable suggestion that she was not real flesh and blood, but a "wench," or perhaps a second voodoo priestess.

Within the room, near whose open door the girl had stood, Lafitte and De Cascaes were having a serious conversation.

Following the custom of the time, De Cascaes had reached out to ring a bell for refreshments, when Lafitte, with an expressive gesture, stayed his hand.

"Monsieur le Comte, I can tarry quite a very short time—only long enough to impart the very important intelligence I came to bring you."

Through it all not a word was spoken. We laughed and laughed, and his eyes shone and twinkled like stars, until we were off to bed vanquished.

Suddenly the man fell. He was a dignified person, but as he reached the corner his feet set down with precision, failed to stay set. They went so high and so far that he tumbled about, that as the man hit the wall in sitting posture observers expected to see a spine protrude from the top of his head.

Two youths had seen the episode. One was a bad youth, and unwieldy. He heaved. The other was a good youth, who had put his hand on his forehead to pick up the fallen man.

"Thank you," said the man. "I am a childless milliner, looking for an heir. You are a man of letters, a roll and blow yourself. Only one condition is attached. Don't spend a cent on that laughing Jackass who is with you."

Handing over a \$10,000 bundle, and giving his hotel address, the man went his way, and the moral of this is so obvious that the reader unable to discern it isn't worth bothering about—Washington Times.

Demand for English Wives. In nearly all of the colonies of Great Britain there is a demand for wives which is greatly in excess of the supply. And it is not the "faded" afraid of selling her hands who is wanted to help to populate the colonies, but the young women who are able and willing to work who gets the best prices in these matrimonial markets.

Alas, any woman can look forward to her marriage in these colonies, even if she goes out to them in the position of servant, and then, when she has learned the tricks have a better chance of getting wealthy husbands than those who go out in the capacity of maid. In both cases, however, the same problem is ever present as in our country, and often when a young woman becomes "help" in one household she is afforded the opportunity of becoming the mistress of another. A Liverpool servant who emigrated to Australia twenty many years ago is now the wife of a prosperous merchant.

"Certainly," was the clerk's response, as he pointed to convenient crates of the coveted breakfast food. The grocer was asked, "Have you any of the other 'Strictly fresh eggs'?"

The customer was a man of well-known education, and he was expressing his disapproving opinion in complimentary language on his own occasion. He was especially endeavoring to impress his hearers with the fact that he was a man of letters, and that he should not be content to read on their laurels, but should make it a point to play the part in the "strictly fresh" of a leading educational womanhood.

Real Estate Exchange

Of Whitehead & Mitchell at the Exchange Bank, Birmingham, Mich.

The following is a partial list of farms, city and village lots and real estate generally which we have for sale. As our list is constantly changing, we request that parties will write us if they do not see what they want in this list:

1. Farm of 200 acres, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$10,000.

2. Farm of 100 acres, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$5,000.

3. Farm of 50 acres, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$2,500.

4. Farm of 25 acres, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1,250.

5. Farm of 12 1/2 acres, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$625.

6. Farm of 6 1/4 acres, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$312 1/2.

7. Farm of 3 1/4 acres, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$156 1/4.

8. Farm of 1 1/2 acres, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$75.

9. Farm of 3/4 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$37 1/2.

10. Farm of 1/2 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$25.

11. Farm of 1/4 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$12 1/2.

12. Farm of 1/8 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$6 1/4.

13. Farm of 1/16 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$3 1/8.

14. Farm of 1/32 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1 5/8.

15. Farm of 1/64 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$7/8.

16. Farm of 1/128 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$3/8.

17. Farm of 1/256 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/4.

18. Farm of 1/512 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/8.

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79. Farm of 1/512 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/8.

80. Farm of 1/1024 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/16.

81. Farm of 1/2048 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/32.

82. Farm of 1/4096 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/64.

83. Farm of 1/8192 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/128.

84. Farm of 1/16384 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/256.

85. Farm of 1/32768 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/512.

86. Farm of 1/65536 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/1024.

87. Farm of 1/131072 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/2048.

88. Farm of 1/262144 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/4096.

89. Farm of 1/524288 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/8192.

90. Farm of 1/1048576 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/16384.

91. Farm of 1/2097152 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/32768.

92. Farm of 1/4194304 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/65536.

93. Farm of 1/8388608 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/131072.

94. Farm of 1/16777216 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/262144.

95. Farm of 1/33554432 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/524288.

96. Farm of 1/67108864 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/1048576.

97. Farm of 1/134217728 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/2097152.

98. Farm of 1/268435456 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/4194304.

99. Farm of 1/536870912 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/8388608.

100. Farm of 1/1073741824 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/16777216.

101. Farm of 1/2147483648 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/33554432.

102. Farm of 1/4294967296 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/67108864.

103. Farm of 1/8589934592 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/134217728.

104. Farm of 1/17179869184 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/268435456.

105. Farm of 1/34359738368 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/536870912.

106. Farm of 1/68719476736 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/1073741824.

107. Farm of 1/137438953472 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/2147483648.

108. Farm of 1/274877906944 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/4294967296.

109. Farm of 1/549755813888 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/8589934592.

110. Farm of 1/1099511627776 acre, well fenced, well improved, with a good house, barn, and other buildings. Price \$1/17179869184.