

BY MARY DEVERUX WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY DON C. WILSON

CHAPTER XXVII.

Early in December, 1914, Gen. Jackson arrived at New Orleans. "Lafitte had, some time before this, fled to the island, and a copy of the proclamation issued by Jackson while yet at Mobile, after the general had received from Gov. Claiborne a full statement of the proposition made to Lafitte by the English, together with the Baratarian leader's offer of service on behalf of himself and his followers."

"Between 8 and 9 o'clock of an evening toward the middle of December, Jackson and Gov. Claiborne were seated in the library of the latter's residence, engaged in an earnest discussion of some of the many perplexing questions with which they were confronted."

"We are too weak, by far, I tell you, Claiborne. Gen. Jackson was saying with emphatic emphasis, and without anything like a sufficient strength to meet what is now at our very doors, I feel to be frank with you—some doubt of our ability to sustain the present enthusiasm of these people who were talking so lately of capturing the damned Britishers."

"Captivating!" echoed the governor. "Safely general at this late day, and in the face of the pledges they have made, neither the legislature nor the citizens would return to any such idea."

"I am not so sure of that. If they were forced as you and I, to treat with the enemy outnumbered as we are more to one," growled Jackson. "Before the governor—whose back was to the door—could reply to this outbreak, he became aware that a third person had entered the room, and he glanced over his shoulder to see who it might be, while his face showed the irritation he felt at any interruption to interrupt him at such a time."

"But his expression changed to one of mingled anger and contentment; and Jackson, who had been stony regarding the intruder, started to feet."

"After bowing respectfully, the newcomer stood silent, while his quick eyes searched with curious interest the stern face of Gen. Jackson, whose eyes had had stolen into the breast of his coat."

"The governor, who had risen when he saw the key turned in the door, made a step or two toward the chair where lay his sword; but the stranger, picking up the weapon before Claiborne could reach it, presented it to the governor, and said:

"Surely Gen. Jackson will not fire upon an unarmed man!"

"I give me to explain these matters. And, without going into them any further, I wish to assure you once more that my former offer was made from legitimate and patriotic motives."

"Jackson bowed, as if in acquiescence. "But," demanded Lafitte, a sudden flash of indignation sounding in his voice, "how was it received? My messenger, speaking in my name, was branded as false; my messengers were imprisoned. And, as a fitting sequel to this, an armed expedition was sent to Barataria to capture me, my vessels, or my property destroyed. In addition to this, and harder than all else, I am the man whom you have actually wounded, was brought to New Orleans, thrown into the common jail, and left there, to die."

"Lafitte had been standing all this time. But now, as he finished speaking, he seated himself and folded his arms, while he took an expression of stoical indifference, and calmly, and with the impassioned words that had just poured from his lips, he spoke in a low, steady, and clear voice, as if each were waiting for the other to speak, until the former, while he heaved the package he had taken from his waist, and with those grave heaved something akin to tenderness, "Capt. Lafitte, you understand, that I, an officer of the army, cannot refuse to accept of any course that I took place prior to my assuming command here."

"You will do me the honor to read the original documents I received some time ago from your enemies, and in respect to which I understand my statement was condemned as false."

"Be seated," said Lafitte, said Gov. Claiborne, with rather reluctant consent. "The former bowed slightly in recognition of the invitation, but remained standing as he continued, with increased emphasis. "The statements I

"The matters now at issue, those which I have stated, and what is past must stand. Now, Gen. Jackson, may I say that you open this package, and read the paper, which contains the first paper, the impressions he gathered were faintly observed in his look, and false and comments."

"The bombast," he growled, before Lafitte could say that, "is a 'Sophomoric rubbish.' Savors of Eton, with some of George the Third's silly manderings." And so on, until the glow seemed to come from an inward light, as his eyes rested upon something hanging against the wall, back of the governor."

"The governor took the paper, and had begun to read it, when, chancing to glance at Lafitte, he was puzzled by the expression of the latter's face. He was leaning back in his chair, his lips half-parted, and his face soot with the excitement of the strongest disgust. "Here, Claiborne, you have seen a copy of this; but you had better refresh your memory by reading the original."

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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. Ideal country house for anyone. Home 2 1/2 miles from town, 12 acres, 1000 ft. water, 1000 ft. electric, 1000 ft. gas, 1000 ft. sewer, 1000 ft. water, 1000 ft. electric, 1000 ft. gas, 1000 ft. sewer.

2. Large, twenty-two-story house on Twelfth in Birmingham. Home 2 1/2 miles from town, 12 acres, 1000 ft. water, 1000 ft. electric, 1000 ft. gas, 1000 ft. sewer.

3. The Bukey farm in the town of Dryden, Mich. Home 2 1/2 miles from town, 12 acres, 1000 ft. water, 1000 ft. electric, 1000 ft. gas, 1000 ft. sewer.

4. Two-story house and lot on south side of Main St., 2000 ft. from town, 12 acres, 1000 ft. water, 1000 ft. electric, 1000 ft. gas, 1000 ft. sewer.

5. P.O. Brook Farm—the celebrated Culligan Farm. Home 2 1/2 miles from town, 12 acres, 1000 ft. water, 1000 ft. electric, 1000 ft. gas, 1000 ft. sewer.

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SIMPLE LIFE IN JERSEY.

Inhabitants Not All Imbued With the Spirit of the Octopus.

"How far is it to Somerville?" asked the new arrival, who had just stepped ashore from the boat.

"Nigh on six miles," replied the village shoemaker, looking up from his last.

"Can I get somebody here to drive me?" "Oh do it, if you will wait till I have my things."

In a few minutes the team was ready, and the cobbler and his passenger were on the way.