

WORLD FAMOUS FICTIONS

白菜與帝王
CABBAGES AND KINGS

O. HENRY 著
伍光建 選譯

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By
O. HENRY

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作者傳略

奧顯理原名頗爾陀(William Sydney Porter),是一八六七至一九二〇年間人,其先原是美國南部的一個舊家。他十五歲才入他的姨母所辦的學堂讀書,隨後在藥店當書記。他自小就好讀書,讀過非常多的英文名作;他酷好了尼生(Tennyson)的詩歌與雷因(Lane)所譯的天方夜談。後來他在一個土地局當會計。一八九一年他當銀行的收支員。一八九四至一八九五年他買了一個星期報,改名『滾石』;他說一年後這個報當真『滾走了』。一八九五至一八九六年他當報館訪員。一八九六年他被控侵吞銀行款項。他逃走,逃到渾都刺斯(Honduras)國,曾遊歷南美洲的幾國。一八九七年他回國投案,被監禁在奧海奧(Ohio)的遷善所。後來出獄,好像表明他是無辜的。有人說假使他不逃走是不會下獄的。他入獄在一八九八年四月,出獄在一九〇一年七月。他好像,就當在時改名姓爲奧顯理的。他在監裏的醫院當夜班獄卒,長夜無聊,他寫短篇小說登在各雜誌上。所以他一出獄就許多人酷好他的小說。自一九〇二年起他住在紐約寫許多小說。他享年不永,卻寫了不下二百多短篇小說,最爲社會所歡迎。他是一個天生的小說家。他無論什麼故事都能寫:悽慘的,神祕的,荒誕的,浪漫的及平常瑣事,一經他寫出來都極

能迷人。無人能創造他所寫的故事，亦無人能寫得他那樣動聽。可惜他太過喜歡：用俚語，有人以為是退化文章，如戲劇中的一種有跳舞有歌唱的活潑短促小戲。他所著的『白菜與帝王』（一九〇五年出版）比較的俚語較少。這部書也是短篇小說性質；不過前半部借中美洲的一個共和國的一個捲逃大總統作綫索，後半部借一個賣國的大總統作綫索，描寫幾個平常人物（殆即所謂『白菜』）與前後任兩三個大總統（殆即所謂『帝王』），描寫得極其有趣，令人讀之不忍釋手。看他一路寫來，文從字順，毫不費力，這就表示他是一個大作家。民國二十三年穀雨日伍光建記

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CHAPTER XII

SHOES

“Same old thing!” he complained. “Fool people writing for information about the country. They want to know all about raising fruit, and how to make a fortune without work. Half of 'em don't even send stamps for a reply. They think a consul hasn't anything to do but write letters. Slit those envelopes for me, old man, and see what they want. I'm feeling too rocky¹ to move.”

Keogh, acclimated² beyond all possibility of ill-humour, drew his chair to the table with smiling compliance on his rose-pink countenance, and began to slit open the letters. Four of them were from citizens in various parts of the United States who seemed to regard the consul at Coralio as a cyclopædia of information. They asked long lists of questions, numerically arranged, about the climate, products, possibilities, laws, business chances, and statistics of the country in which the consul had the honour of representing his own government.

“Write 'em, please, Billy,” said that inert official, “just a line, referring them to the latest consular report. Tell 'em the State Department will be delighted to furnish the literary gems. Sign my name. Don't let your pen scratch, Billy; it'll keep me awake.”

“Don't snore,” said Keogh, amiably, “and I'll do your work for you. You need a corps of assistants, anyhow

¹ rocky, 不好過. ² acclimated, 服水土, 習慣.

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第十二回 鞋子

〔有一天美國領事約翰愛特和特(John Atwood)同他的幫手比里·開伊奧(Billy Keogh)正在吃飯，僕人送幾封郵件進來。領事懶得動，叫開伊奧拆看。譯者註。〕

領事口出怨言，說道：『可是舊話來了。傻瓜寫信問這裏的情形。他們要曉得怎樣種果樹，怎樣不必動手做事就可以發財。有一半寫信來問的人，連回信的郵票也不附信交來。他們以為領事沒得別的事體做，只是寫信。老頭子，你替我拆封，看看他們要什麼。我覺得太不好過，懶得動。』

開伊奧是習慣供人驅策的，是絕不會不高興的，他的玫瑰色的臉帶着奉命唯謹的微笑，把他的椅子拖近桌子，就起首拆封，有四封是從美國各部分的市民寫來的，他們好像當柯拉利奧(Coralio)的美國領事是一部通天曉。他們問一長串的話，按着號數排列下來，問的是氣候，土產，有什麼生意可做，法律，有什麼機會，與領事所報告於美國政府的該國的統計。

這個懶得動的官員說道，『比里，請你復他們一行，就請他們參觀最後的領事報告。教訴他們，外交部還樂意供給好文章。簽我的字。比里，你寫字不要把紙刮得沙拉沙拉的響；這會驚醒我。』

開伊奧很和氣的說道，『你卻不要打呼，我就替你把



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Don't see how you ever get out a report. Wake up a minute!—here's one more letter—it's from your own town, too—Dalesburg."

"That so?" murmured Johnny showing a mild and obligatory interest. "What's it about?"

"Postmaster writes," explained Keogh. "Says a citizen of the town wants some facts and advice from you. Says the citizen has an idea in his head of coming down where you are and opening a shoe store. Wants to know if you think the business would pay. Says he's heard of the boom along this coast, and wants to get in on the ground floor."

In spite of the heat and his bad temper, Johnny's hammock swayed with his laughter. Keogh laughed too; and the pet monkey on the top shelf of the bookcase chattered in shrill sympathy with the ironical reception of the letter from Dalesburg.

"Great bunions!"¹ exclaimed the consul. "Shoe store! What'll they ask about next, I wonder? Overcoat factory, I reckon. Say, Billy—of our 3,000 citizens, how many do you suppose ever had up a pair of shoes?"

Keogh reflected judicially.

"Let's see—there's you and me and—"

"Not me," said Johnny, promptly and incorrectly, holding up a foot encased in a disreputable deerskin *zapato*. "I haven't been a victim to shoes in months."

"But you've got 'em, though," went on Keogh. "And there's Goodwin and Blanchard and Geddie and old Lutz and Doc Gregg and that Italian that's agent for the banana company, and there's old Delgado—no; he wears sandals.

¹ bunions, 脚指發腫.

呈一個報告。你且醒一會子！——還有一封信啦——這是從你的本市鎮來的——從狄爾斯堡 (Dalesburg) 來的。』

約翰表示一種溫和的與勉強的注意，喃喃說道，『是麼？說些什麼？』開伊奧解說道，『郵務局長寫道，有本市鎮的一個市民，要你告訴他些事實與條陳。他說這個市民有意要到你這裏來，開一間鞋店。他要曉得你看這個買賣能否賺錢。他說他聽見這裏的一帶海岸的生意是很興旺的，他要在平地那一層走入來。』

天氣雖然是熱，約翰的脾氣雖然不好，他一聽了信裏的話，不能不大笑，笑到他所躺的吊床兩邊搖擺。開伊奧也大笑；在書架上那隻寶貝猴子也叫喊，與他們那樣挖苦的歡迎這封信表同情。

領事喊道，『他們好像得了腳趾腫的毛病！開鞋店麼！我要猜他們再問的是什麼？我猜是大衣製造廠。比里，我來問你，我們這裏有三千人，有幾個是穿鞋的呀？』

開伊奧很小心的想。

『我們看看——你是穿鞋的，我是穿鞋的——』

約翰舉起一隻穿了一隻很難看的鹿皮鞋，趕快說道，『我有好幾個月不做鞋子的犧牲啦。』他這句話說得不甚對。

開伊奧往下說道，『你卻有鞋。此處穿鞋的有古特文 (Goodwin) 與布蘭查 (Blanchard) 及蓋狄 (Geddie) 與老魯特茲 (Lutz) 與格力格 (Gregg) 醫生，還有當香蕉公司代理的義大利人，還有老第爾伽杜 (Delgado)——不是的，他是穿屨的。……(他一連又舉了好幾個穿鞋的人。譯者註。)

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“ 'Bout right,” agreed the consul. “Not over twenty out of the three thousand ever felt leather on their walking arrangements. Oh, yes; Coralio is just the town for an enterprising shoe store—that doesn’t want to part with its goods. Wonder if old Patterson is trying to jolly me! He always was full of things he called jokes. Write him a letter, Billy. I’ll dictate it. We’ll jolly him back a few.”

Keogh dipped his pen, and wrote at Johnny’s dictation. With many pauses, filled in with smoke and sundry travellings of the bottle and glasses, the following reply to the Dalesburg communication was perpetrated:

MR. OBADIAH PATTERSON,
Dalesburg, Ala.

Dear Sir: In reply to your favour of July 2d, I have the honour to inform you that, according to my opinion, there is no place on the habitable globe that presents to the eye stronger evidence of the need of a first-class shoe store than does the town of Coralio. There are 3,000 inhabitants in the place, and not a single shoe store! The situation speaks for itself. This coast is rapidly becoming the goal of enterprising business men, but the shoe business is one that has been sadly overlooked or neglected. In fact, there are a considerable number of our citizens actually without shoes at present.

Besides the want above mentioned, there is also a crying need for a brewery, a college of higher mathematics, a coal yard, and a clean and intellectual Punch and Judy show. I have the honour to be, sir,

Your Obt. Servant,
JOHN DE GRAFFENREID ATWOOD,
U. S. Consul at Coralio.

領事表同意，說道，『大約就是這些人。在三千人裏頭不過有二十人是穿皮鞋的。是呀；柯拉利奧確是一個可以試開鞋店的市鎮，——只要不盼望把貨賣出。我在這裏胡猜老巴脫爾生 (Patterson) 是不是試同我開頑笑。他滿肚子都是他所謂頑笑。比里，你寫回信給他。我來口授，你照寫。我們也同他開頑笑以報他。』

開伊奧把筆尖放在墨水裏，照着約翰所說的寫下來。約翰說了幾句，停下來，吸煙，走過去拿酒瓶，走過來拿酒盃，他停了又說，才把答復狄爾斯堡的來信答復了。回信說道：

巴脫爾生先生：

我今答復你七月二日來信，我要告訴你，據我的見解看來，以眼所能見的證據而論，地球上沒得一個地方會更比柯拉利奧要一間頭等鞋店。這裏有三千居民，卻並無一間鞋店。這樣的情景不說自明。這一帶的海岸很快的變作敢於冒險的商人的目的地，可惜鞋子生意無人看重，或無人注意。以事實論，我們這裏有大多數的人現在是不穿鞋的。

我們這裏不獨無鞋店，還無酒廠，無教高等算學的學校，無煤廠，無潔淨的與有知識的傀儡戲。

駐柯拉利奧美國領事約翰愛特和特啓。

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P.S.—Hello! Uncle Obadiah. How's the old burg racking along? What would the government do without you and me? Look out for a green-headed parrot and a bunch of bananas soon, from your old friend

JOHNNY.

"I throw in that postscript," explained the consul, "so Uncle Obadiah won't take offence at the official tone of the letter! Now, Billy, you get that correspondence fixed up, and send Pancho to the post-office with it. The *Ariadne* takes the mail out to-morrow if they make up that load of fruit to-day."

The night programme in Coralio never varied. The recreations of the people were soporific and flat. They wandered about, barefoot and aimless, speaking lowly and smoking cigar or cigarette. Looking down on the dimly lighted ways one seemed to see a threading maze of brunette ghosts tangled with a procession of insane fireflies. In some houses the thrumming of lugubrious guitars added to the depression of the *triste* night. Giant tree-frogs rattled in the foliage as loudly as the end man's "bones"¹ in a minstrel troupe. By nine o'clock the streets were almost deserted.

Nor at the consulate was there often a change of bill. Keogh would come there nightly, for Coralio's one cool place was the little seaward porch of that official residence.

The brandy would be kept moving; and before midnight sentiment would begin to stir in the heart of the self-exiled consul. Then he would relate to Keogh the story of his ended romance. Each night Keogh would listen patiently to the tale, and be ready with untiring sympathy.

¹ bones, 响板.

又啓。奧巴狄亞老伯，你好呀！老市鎮進行得怎麼樣啦？假使政府沒得你與我，怎樣會進行呀？你的老朋友約翰不久就郵寄一隻綠頭鸚鵡與一球香蕉給你。

領事解說道，『我加幾句又啓，以使奧巴狄亞老伯不怪我回信的官樣文章口氣！比里，你把信封好，打發班佐(Pancho)送去郵局。倘若人們今天把果子裝好，阿利阿尼船明天就裝郵件開行。』

在柯拉利奧地方晚上的消遣辦法是始終不改的。人們的消遣是會令人睡着的，又是淡而無味的。他們精着脚，毫無目的，隨便走走，低聲說話，或吸雪茄或吸紙烟。有人試從高處往下看，街燈點得不亮的市鎮，就好像看見一串令人迷惑的略帶棕色面皮的女鬼，同一列的瘋狂螢火蟲糾在一起。在幾所房舍裏頭有人彈悲哀的六絃琴，使這樣悽慘的晚上更加悽慘。很大的樹蛙在樹上叫喊，如同在一班遊行歌者的末後一個人的『嚮板』一樣嚮。到了九點鐘幾乎路絕行人啦。

在領事官署裏頭，也不常有什麼改變。開伊奧每天晚上總來的，因為這所官舍的向海一個小廊子，是柯拉利奧最涼的地方。

晚上是不停的喝白蘭地酒；等不到半夜，這個自甘貶逐出外的領事心裏的情緒起首發動啦。他就告訴開伊奧他的已經告終的戀愛故事。開伊奧每天晚上都很耐煩的聽他說這件故事，還要不嫌煩瑣與他表同情。

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"But don't you think for a minute"—thus Johnny would always conclude his woeful narrative—"that I'm grieving about that girl, Billy. I've forgotten her. She never enters my mind. If she were to enter that door right now, my pulse wouldn't gain a beat. That's all over long ago."

"Don't I know it?" Keogh would answer. "Of course you've forgotten her. Proper thing to do. Wasn't quite O. K. of her to listen to the knocks that—er—Dink Pawson kept giving you."

"Pink Dawson!"—a world of contempt would be in Johnny's tones—"Poor white trash! That's what he was. Had five hundred acres of farming land, though; and that counted. Maybe I'll have a chance to get back at him some day. The Dawsons weren't anybody. Everybody in Alabama knows the Atwoods. Say, Billy—did you know my mother was a De Graffenreid?"

"Why, no," Keogh would say; "is that so?" He had heard it some three hundred times.

"Fact. The De Graffenreids of Hancock County. But I never think of that girl any more, do I, Billy?"

"Not for a minute, my boy," would be the last sounds heard by the conqueror of Cupid.

At this point Johnny would fall into a gentle slumber, and Keogh would saunter out to his own shack under the calabash tree at the edge of the plaza.

In a day or two the letter from the Dalesburg postmaster and its answer had been forgotten by the Coralio exiles. But on the 26th day of July the fruit of the reply appeared upon the tree of events.

The *Andador*, a fruit steamer that visited Coralio regularly, drew into the offing and anchored. The beach

『比里，但是你絕不可以爲我爲那個女子而心裏難過。我已經忘記了她啦。我的心裏絕不想她啦。假使她現在從那門口走進來，我的脈是絕不會多跳一跳的。這件事在許久以前就完了。』——約翰每天晚上都是用這兩句話結束他所說的戀愛故事。

開伊奧總答道，『難道我不曉得麼？你自然是忘記了她，這是應該的。她不該聽——丁克·播生 (Dink Pawson) 所常給你排斥話。』

約翰就極藐視的說道，『品克·多生 (Pink Dawson)！他是一個可憐的白色廢物！這就是他。他卻有五百畝（美國畝）的可以耕種的地；他就有了勢力啦。也許將來有一天我有機會以田地誇他。多生們不算什麼人物。在亞拉巴馬 (Alabama) 的人們，無不曉得愛特和特氏。比里，你曉得我的母親是狄·伽拉芬雷特 (de Graffenreid) 氏的一個後人麼？』

開伊奧就會答道，『我不曉得，果然是的麼？』其實他已經聽過有三百次了。

『其實是的。是汗諾克 (Hancock) 府的狄·伽拉芬雷特。比里，但是我絕不再想那個女子了，是不是？』

這個很服愛神的人，最後所聽見的，就是開伊奧答道，『你一分鐘也不想她。』

到了這個時候，約翰就慢慢睡着了，開伊奧就慢慢走出去，走到他自己的在街邊葫蘆樹下的暫時搭蓋的小屋子。

這兩個遠離本國的人，過了一兩天，把狄爾斯堡郵務局長的來信與領事的回信全忘記了。但是到了七月二十六日答復的果子發現於事體的樹上。

那條按期到柯拉利奧的裝鮮果輪船名安大多爾 (Andador) 的，走入遠遠的海面下了錨。碼頭上站了一排一

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was lined with spectators while the quarantine doctor and the custom-house crew rowed out to attend to their duties.

An hour later Billy Keogh lounged into the consulate, clean and cool in his linen clothes, and grinning like a pleased shark.

"Guess what?" he said to Johnny, lounging in his hammock.

"Too hot to guess," said Johnny, lazily.

"Your shoe-store man's come," said Keogh, rolling the sweet morsel on his tongue, "with a stock of goods big enough to supply the continent as far down as Terra del Fuego. They're carting his cases over to the custom-house now. Six barges full they brought ashore and have paddled back for the rest. Oh, ye saints in glory! won't there be regalements in the air when he gets onto the joke and has an interview with Mr. Consul? It'll be worth nine years in the tropics just to witness that one joyful moment."

Keogh loved to take his mirth easily. He selected a clean place on the matting and lay upon the floor. The walls shook with his enjoyment. Johnny turned half over and blinked.

"Don't tell me," he said, "that anybody was fool enough to take that letter seriously."

"Four-thousand-dollar stock of goods!" gasped Keogh, in ecstasy. "Talk about coals to Newcastle! Why didn't he take a ship-load of palm-leaf fans to Spitzbergen while he was about it? Saw the old codger on the beach. You ought to have been there when he put on his specs and squinted at the five hundred or so barefooted citizens standing around."

"Are you telling the truth, Billy?" asked the consul, weakly.

排看熱鬧的人，驗疫的醫生與稅關的水手都坐船出去辦事。

過了一點鐘開伊奧慢慢走入領事署，穿了一身細布衣服，既乾淨又涼快，如同一隻高興的沙魚，露着齒笑。

約翰在他的吊床裏，開伊奧對他說道，『你試猜是什麼？』

約翰懶懶的答道，『天氣太熱，我不耐煩猜。』

開伊奧一面在舌頭上滾他的糖，一面說道，『你的開鞋店的人來了，帶着極多貨物，足夠供給這裏到拖爾拉狄非伊古(Terra del Fuego)全個大陸之用。他們正在車他的箱子去驗關。他們已經把六條大駁船的貨放在岸上了，他們回去裝其餘的貨。哈，享光榮的聖賢呀！等到他當真鬧笑話及與領事見面的時候，空中不會有一派熱鬧聲音麼？在熱帶的人們只要享受這一會子的熱鬧，就值得在這裏住九年。』

開伊奧喜歡安享他的快樂。他揀地席上一塊乾淨地方，就躺在地下。他樂到了不得，樂到四面的牆都震動了。約翰轉過半個身子，瞬眼。

他說道，『你不要告訴我有這樣的傻子，認真的相信我信裏頭的話。』

開伊奧狂樂，張大口喘氣，說道，『裝了四千塊錢的貨來！說什麼運煤到紐卡斯爾 (Newcastle 是出煤的地方。譯者註。)呀！他既是運鞋到這裏，爲什麼不運扇子往斯匹茲卜爾根 (Spitzbergen 北冰洋極冷地方。譯者註。)賣呀？我看見那個老頭子在碼頭上。當他戴上眼鏡，斜看在四圍站着的五百個赤脚的市民們的時候，你該在那裏看他的。』

領事用微弱聲音問道，『比里，你是說真實話麼？』

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"Am I? You ought to see the buncoed¹ gentleman's daughter he brought along. Looks! She makes the brick-bust señoritas here look like tarbabies."

"Go on," said Johnny, "if you can stop that asinine giggling. I hate to see a grown man make a laughing hyena of himself."

"Name is Hemstetter," went on Keogh. "He's a— Hello! what's the matter now?"

Johnny's moccasined feet struck the floor with a thud as he wriggled out of his hammock.

"Get up, you idiot," he said, sternly, "or I'll brain you with this inkstand. That's Rosine and her father. Gad! what a drivelling idiot old Patterson is! Get up, here, Billy Keogh, and help me. What the devil are we going to do? Has all the world gone crazy?"

Keogh rose and dusted himself. He managed to regain a decorous demeanour.

"Situation has got to be met, Johnny," he said, with some success at seriousness. "I didn't think about its being your girl until you spoke. First thing to do is to get them comfortable quarters. You go down and face the music,² and I'll trot out to Goodwin's and see if Mrs. Goodwin won't take them in. They've got the decentest house in town."

"Bless you, Billy!" said the consul. "I knew you wouldn't desert me. The world's bound to come to an end, but maybe we can stave it off for a day or two."

Keogh hoisted his umbrella and set out for Goodwin's house. Johnny put on his coat and hat. He picked up the brandy bottle, but set it down again without drinking, and marched bravely down to the beach.

¹ buncoed, 上當, 受騙. ² face the music, 大胆對付爲難的事.

『我是不是說真話麼？你該看看這個上當的人所帶來的女兒。看呀！她使這裏的磚灰色的小姐們好像煤膠那樣黑的小嬰孩。』

約翰說道，『你若是不能停止那樣的驢子叫，你只管說。我討厭看見一個大人變作一個愛笑的野貓。』

開伊奧往下說道，『老頭子名哈木斯特(Hemstetter)，他是個——呀哈！你怎麼樣啦？』

當約翰從吊床滾出來的時候，他的穿了鹿皮鞋的腳碰在地板上，碰出聲響。

他很嚴厲的說道，『你這個獸子，你站起來吧，不然我就拿墨水架打破你的腦袋。這就是洛星(Rosine)小姐與她的父親。上帝呀！巴脫爾生不曉得是多麼一個呆笨的獸子！比里·開伊奧，你起來，幫助我。我們該作什麼呢！難道全個世界都瘋了麼？』

開伊奧站起來，彈彈自己。他努力恢復一種正經態度。

他說道，『約翰，我們得對付這樣的情形，』他居然能夠說兩句認真的話。『我一直等到你說出來，我才曉得她是你的意中人。我們第一件事是要安置他們在舒服地方。你走下去大膽對付他們，我一面走到古特文家裏，看看古特文太太肯不肯請他們在她家裏住。在本市鎮裏頭以他們的住宅爲最像樣。』

領事說道，『比里！上帝保佑你。我曉得你不會不幫我的。世界必定有個末日，但是我們也許可以攔阻住一兩天。』

開伊奧支住陽傘走去古特文家裏。約翰穿上褂子戴上大帽。他把地下的白蘭地酒瓶拾起來，卻並未喝一口就放下來，很大膽的往碼頭走。

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In the shade of the custom-house walls he found Mr. Hemstetter and Rosine surrounded by a mass of gaping citizens. The customs officers were ducking and scraping,¹ while the captain of the *Andador* interpreted the business of the new arrivals. Rosine looked healthy and very much alive. She was gazing at the strange scenes around her with amused interest. There was a faint blush upon her round cheek as she greeted her old admirer. Mr. Hemstetter shook hands with Johnny in a very friendly way. He was an oldish, impractical man—one of that numerous class of erratic business men who are forever dissatisfied, and seeking a change.

“I am very glad to see you, John—may I call you John?” he said. “Let me thank you for your prompt answer to our postmaster’s letter of inquiry. He volunteered to write to you on my behalf. I was looking about for something different in the way of a business in which the profits would be greater. I had noticed in the papers that this coast was receiving much attention from investors. I am extremely grateful for your advice to come. I sold out everything that I possess, and invested the proceeds in as fine a stock of shoes as could be bought in the North. You have a picturesque town here, John. I hope business will be as good as your letter justifies me in expecting.”

Johnny’s agony was abbreviated by the arrival of Keogh, who hurried up with the news that Mrs. Goodwin would be much pleased to place rooms at the disposal of Mr. Hemstetter and his daughter. So there Mr. Hemstetter and Rosine were at once conducted and left to recuperate

¹ ducking and scraping, 鞠躬點頭.

他看見哈木斯特與洛星小姐在海關的牆蔭裏，被一堆張大口的市民圍住。海關的員役在那裏鞠躬點頭與安大多爾船主一面在那裏解說這兩個新到此地來的人的營業。洛星的神氣康健又極其活潑。她看四圍的奇異景物覺得很有趣。當她歡迎她的舊愛人的時候她的圓頰子上發紅。哈木斯特很親熱的同約翰抓手。他是一個年老只顧理想不顧事實的人——他是許多走錯路的生意人之一，這些人是永遠不心滿意足，常要改變的。

他說道，『約翰，我很喜歡看見你，我可以叫你約翰麼？我得謝你那樣快就答復郵務局長的打聽消息的信。他出於自願的替我寫信給你。我正在打聽要做別的生意，要做利錢更大的生意，我看見報紙上說，投資家正在注意於這一帶的海岸。你勸我來，我很謝謝你。我把我的所有，全變賣了，把所得的錢全買了鞋，在北方花錢所能置買的鞋，頂好也不過這樣。約翰，你們這個市鎮很好看，如同一幅畫一樣。我希望我的生意如你的信所令我盼望的那樣好。』

約翰心裏很難過，好在不久開伊奧到了，縮短他的難受，他走來報告說，古特文太太很喜歡騰出幾間屋子讓哈木斯特父女住。於是立刻領他父女往那裏，讓他們休息路

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from the fatigue of the voyage, while Johnny went down to see that the cases of shoes were safely stored in the customs warehouse pending their examination by the officials. Keogh, grinning like a shark, skirmished about to find Goodwin, to instruct him not to expose to Mr. Hemstetter the true state of Coralio as a shoe market until Johnny had been given a chance to redeem the situation, if such a thing were possible.

That night the consul and Keogh held a desperate consultation on the breezy porch of the consulate.

"Send 'em back home," began Keogh, reading Johnny's thoughts.

"I would," said Johnny, after a little silence; "but I've been lying to you, Billy."

"All right about that," said Keogh, affably.

"I've told you hundreds of times," said Johnny, slowly, "that I had forgotten that girl, haven't I?"

"About three hundred and seventy-five," admitted the monument of patience.

"I lied," repeated the consul, "every time. I never forgot her for one minute. I was an obstinate ass for running away just because she said 'No' once. And I was too proud a fool to go back. I talked with Rosine a few minutes this evening up at Goodwin's. I found out one thing. You remember that farmer fellow who was always after her?"

"Dink Pawson?" asked Keogh.

"Pink Dawson. Well, he wasn't a hill of beans¹ to her. She says she didn't believe a word of the things he told her about me. But I'm sewed up² now, Billy. That tomfool

¹ a hill of beans, 一堆金錢。 ² sewed up, 疲倦。

上的勞乏，約翰一面看看一箱箱的鞋子好好的存在海關棧房裏，等候關吏查驗。開伊奧如同一條沙魚那樣張開大口笑，各處去找古特文，教他不要把柯拉利奧無人穿鞋的真實情形告訴哈木斯特，要等到約翰有機會挽回這樣的不幸的地位，這是說，假使能夠辦到的話。

當天晚上領事與開伊奧在領事署的有風的廊子很絕望的商量這件事。

開伊奧曉得約翰的心思，說道，『不如送他們回家。』

約翰有一會子不響，說道，『我願想送他們回去，比里，但是我對你說了謊。』

開伊奧很和藹的說道，『這不算什麼。』約翰慢慢說道，『我告訴過你有一百次，說我已經忘記那位小姐了，是不是？』

這個可以作耐煩表率の開伊奧承認他說過，說道，『你說過約有三百七十五次了。』

領事又說道，『我每次說謊。我其實並不會有一刻忘記她。我因為她說過一次「不，」我就跑開了，我真是一條不會變通的驢子。我是個傻子，我太過驕傲，不肯回去。今天晚上我在古特文家裏同洛星說了幾分鐘話。我看出一件事體來啦。你記得常時追逐她的那個田舍翁麼？』

開伊奧問道，『就是丁克·播生麼？』

『品克·多生。原來他並不是很有錢的。她說他常對她說我的壞話，她一字都不相信。比里，可惜現在我疲倦了。』

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letter we sent ruined whatever chance I had left. She'll despise me when she finds out that her old father has been made the victim of a joke that a decent school boy wouldn't have been guilty of. Shoes! Why he couldn't sell twenty pairs of shoes in Coralio if he kept store here for twenty years. You put a pair of shoes on one of these Caribs or Spanish brown boys and what'd he do? Stand on his head and squeal until he'd kicked 'em off. None of 'em ever wore shoes and they never will. If I send 'em back home I'll have to tell the whole story, and what'll she think of me? I want that girl worse than ever, Billy, and now when she's in reach I've lost her forever because I tried to be funny when the thermometer was at 102."

"Keep cheerful," said the optimistic¹ Keogh. "And let 'em open the store. I've been busy myself this afternoon. We can stir up a temporary boom in foot-gear anyhow. I'll buy six pairs when the doors open. I've been around and seen all the fellows and explained the catastrophe. They'll all buy shoes like they was centipedes. Frank Goodwin will take cases of 'em. The Geddies want about eleven pairs between 'em. Clancy is going to invest the savings of weeks, and even old Doc Gregg wants three pairs of alligator-hide slippers if they've got any tens. Blanchard got a look at Miss Hemstetter; and as he's a Frenchman, no less than a dozen pairs will do for him."

"A dozen customers," said Johnny, "for a \$4,000 stock of shoes! It won't work. There's a big problem here to figure out. You go home, Billy, and leave me alone. I've got to work at it all by myself. Take that bottle of Three-star along with you — no, sir; not another ounce of

¹ optimistic, 樂觀.

無論我從前還有什麼機會，我們所寄的那封傻信，把機會都毀了。一個顧臉的小學生所不敢開的玩笑，我竟敢同他開，使她的父親上當，做了犧牲，她若一曉得，當然會看不起。鞋子呀！假使他在柯拉利奧開鞋店開二十年，他連二十雙鞋也賣不出去。你試令卡利白（Caribs 土人。譯者註。）或西班牙的棕色孩子穿一雙鞋，他們會怎麼樣？他們就會頭貼地脚向天的亂喊，等到把鞋子踢丟才罷。他們向來未穿過鞋子，他們是永遠不肯穿的。倘若我送他們父女回家，我必得把全個故事告訴她，她看我是個什麼樣人呀！比里，我要那個女子要得很利害，現在我可以到手，我卻永遠失丟她，只因我當天氣很熱，寒暑表在一百零二度的時候，我嘗試開頑笑。』

開伊奧向來是樂觀的，說道，『你何必灰心。讓他們開鞋店。我今天忙了一個下午。無論怎樣，我們能夠鼓動暫時的熱鬧市面。他一開店門，我就買六雙鞋子。我曾各處跑過，見過全數的人，把這件禍事解說一番。他們個個都要買許多鞋子，好像他們都是百足蟲。佛朗克古特文肯買好幾箱鞋子。蓋狄們要買十一雙。克蘭雪（Clancy）肯把幾個星期所節省下來的錢買鞋，格力格醫生要三雙鱷魚皮拖鞋，只要他們有十號的拖鞋。布蘭查看了哈木斯特小姐一眼；他既是一個法蘭西人，他至少要買十二雙。』

約翰說道，『四千塊錢的鞋子只得十二個買主！這是不成的。這是一個大問題，我們得好好解決，比里，你回家去，讓我獨自一人在這裏。我自己得想法解決這個問題。你把那瓶三星白蘭地拿去；我不要啦；美國領事一兩酒也

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booze¹ for the United States consul. I'll sit here to-night and pull out the think stop. If there's a soft place on this proposition anywhere I'll land on it. If there isn't there'll be another wreck to the credit of the gorgeous tropics."

Keogh left, feeling that he could be of no use. Johnny laid a handful of cigars on a table and stretched himself in a steamer chair. When the sudden daylight broke, silvering the harbour ripples, he was still sitting there. Then he got up, whistling a little tune, and took his bath.

At nine o'clock he walked down to the dingy little cable office and hung for half an hour over a blank. The result of his application was the following message, which he signed and had transmitted at a cost of \$33:

TO PINKNEY DAWSON,
Dalesburg, Ala.

Draft for \$100 comes to you next mail. Ship me immediately 500 pounds stiff, dry cockleburrs.² New use here in arts. Market price twenty cents pound. Further orders likely. Rush.

CHAPTER XIII

SHIPS

"What are you going to do—try to create a demand?"

"Political economy isn't your strong point," said the consul, impudently. "You can't create a demand. But you can create a necessity for a demand. That's what I am going to do."

¹ booze, 酒. ² cockleburrs, 藜耳, 或稱卷耳.

不喝啦。我今晚將坐在這裏，把閉塞思路的塞子拔出。只要這個問題有一個弱點，我就從那裏進攻。倘若沒得，將可有一間店鋪倒閉，損害這個華麗的熱帶地方的名譽。』

開伊奧走出來，曉得他不能有什麼用處。約翰放幾根雪茄在桌上，在一張輪船上用的椅子上伸得直直的。當忽然破曉，日光照着港口的微波時，他還坐在那裏。他隨後起來，嘴裏吹嘯一個小調，走去洗浴。

到了九點鐘，他走入一間發海線電報的黑暗辦事室裏，他在一張空白上，想了有半點鐘。他用心的結果就是開列於下的電報，他簽了字，照發了，他花了三十三塊錢：

狄爾斯堡，品克·多生。下次郵船匯你一百元。立刻裝船送交我五百磅硬的乾的藁耳。這裏的技術有新用處。市價是兩角一磅。我將來似許再定貨。趕快。

第十三回 船

〔哈木斯特果然在一星期內閉店，把鞋子擺得很好看，開伊奧與其他說英國話的居民，都進去買了許多鞋子，哈木斯特頭兩天很高興，只說異土人不來買。約翰安慰他，說土人不買就罷了，若是要買，就是成羣結隊搶來買的。開伊奧問約翰有什麼妙計，約翰說要等到明後天裝鮮果的輪船來才有辦法。譯者註。〕

開伊奧問道，『你要做什麼——嘗試創造一種需求麼？』

領事很無禮的說道，『你不懂得經濟學。你不能創造一種需求。但是你能創造需求的必要。我就是要做這樣的事。』

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Two weeks after the consul sent his cable, a fruit steamer brought him a huge, mysterious brown bale of some unknown commodity. Johnny's influence with the custom-house people was sufficiently strong for him to get the goods turned over to him without the usual inspection. He had the bale taken to the consulate and snugly stowed in the back room.

That night he ripped open a corner of it and took out a handful of the cockleburrs. He examined them with the care with which a warrior examines his arms before he goes forth to battle for his lady-love and life. The burrs were the ripe August product, as hard as filberts, and bristling with spines as tough and sharp as needles. Johnny whistled softly a little tune, and went out to find Billy Keogh.

Later in the night, when Coralio was steeped in slumber, he and Billy went forth into the deserted streets with their coats bulging like balloons. All up and down the Calle Grande they went, sowing the sharp burrs carefully in the sand, along the narrow sidewalks, in every foot of grass between the silent houses. And then they took the side streets and byways, missing none. No place where the foot of man, woman or child might fall was slighted.¹ Many trips they made to and from the prickly hoard. And then, nearly at the dawn, they laid themselves down to rest calmly, as great generals do after planning a victory according to the revised tactics, and slept, knowing that they had sowed with the accuracy of Satan sowing tares and the perseverance of Paul planting.

With the rising sun came the purveyors of fruits and meats, and arranged their wares in and around the little market-house. At one end of the town near the seashore

¹ slighted, 忽略, 看輕.

領事發電後兩個星期。一條鮮果船運了一個大的，很神祕的包件給他，包裹不知是什麼東西。約翰有勢力，足以使海關的官吏們不必照常查驗就把這大包東西放行。他命人把這包東西送到領事署，密密的收藏在一間後屋子裏。

當天晚上他割開大包的一角，拿出一堆藁耳來。他很小心細察一過，如同一個戰士先察看他的兵器，然後出去替他所戀愛的女子及他的性命奮鬪。這些藁耳是八月裏成熟的，如同榛子那麼硬，滿身都是刺，如同針那樣堅硬，那樣尖利。約翰輕輕的吹嘯一個小調，出去找比里·開伊奧。

到了夜深，柯拉利奧都酣睡時候，他同比里走入無人的街上，他們的褂子都是很漲滿的，如同氣球一般。他們就在大街上走來走去，很小心的把有尖利刺的藁耳，如播種一樣，撒在沙裏，在人走的窄道上，與房舍間的草地上，都播滿了。

他們隨後在橫街上與小街上也播滿了，一條也不遺漏。凡是男人，女人，或孩子們所可以踏足的地方，都不曾忽略。他們來回取尖刺的藁耳，走了好幾遍，後來天將破曉，他們才躺下安心睡覺，如同大將們一樣，照着修改的軍略，策劃一個勝仗之後，才去睡覺，他們曉得他們用魔鬼播野草子的準確方法播種；用保羅的百折不回的毅力培植。

太陽一出就有許多賣果賣肉的人們來，把他們的貨物在小市場裏頭與四周陳列起來。市場在市鎮的那一頭，

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the market-house stood; and the sowing of the burrs had not been carried that far. The dealers waited long past the hour when their sales usually began. None came to buy. "*Qué hay?*" they began to exclaim, one to another.

The first to perceive the remedy was Estebán Delgado, the barber, a man of travel and education. Sitting upon a stone, he plucked burrs from his toes, and made oration:

"Behold, my friends, these bugs of the devil! I know them well. They soar through the skies in swarms like pigeons. These are dead ones that fell during the night. In Yucatan I have seen them as large as oranges. Yes! There they hiss like serpents, and have wings like bats. It is the shoes—the shoes that one needs! *Zapatos—zapatos para mí!*"

Estebán hobbled to Mr. Hemstetter's store, and bought shoes. Coming out, he swaggered down the street with impunity, reviling loudly the bugs of the devil. The suffering ones sat up or stood upon one foot and beheld the immune barber. Men, women and children took up the cry: "*Zapatos! zapatos!*"

The necessity for the demand had been created. The demand followed. That day Mr. Hemstetter sold three hundred pairs of shoes.

"It is really surprising," he said to Johnny, who came up in the evening to help him straighten out the stock, "how trade is picking up. Yesterday I made but three sales."

"I told you they'd whoop things up when they got started," said the consul.

"I think I shall order a dozen more cases of goods, to keep the stock up," said Mr. Hemstetter, beaming through his spectacles.

與海岸相近；播散藁耳並未撒到這麼遠。賣貨的人們在那裏久等，過了向來賣東西的時候許久。不見有人來買。他們起首彼此相對說道，『爲什麼！』

〔先是女人出門往市場買東西，赤腳被藁耳刺了。後來是男人，赤腳也被刺了。譯者註。〕後來還是一個剃髮匠德伽杜首先想出補救方法，他原是一個旅行家，又是受過教育的。他坐在石頭上，從他的腳趾拔出藁耳，對着大家演說道：

『我的朋友們，你們看看這些魔鬼的毒蟲！我很曉得這些東西。這些東西在空中飛過，如同一陣鴿子一般。這都是死的，是晚上丟下來的。我在猶格旦(Yucatan)見過這種東西有橘子那麼大。是呀！在那裏的蟲子，是有翅膀的，如同蝙蝠一般，他們嘶嘶的叫，如同蛇叫。我們所要的是鞋子，鞋子，鞋子！』

這個剃髮匠跛着腳，走到哈木斯特的鞋店裏買鞋。穿了出來，就大模大樣的在大街上走，不怕東西刺他的腳啦，嘴裏大罵魔鬼的毒蟲。腳底被刺的人們有坐下的，有用一隻腳站着的，看着這個不受刺的理髮匠。於是男人，女人，孩子們都在那裏喊道，『買鞋呀！買鞋呀！』

果然造出需求的必要。果然需求就跟着來。那一天哈木斯特賣了三百雙鞋子。

到了晚上，約翰走來幫他整理貨物，他對約翰說道，『買賣這樣發達，實在是詫異。昨天我只賣了三雙鞋子。』

領事說道，『我對你說過，生意只要一起頭，就會做得很大的。』

哈木斯特的高興眼光從眼鏡射出來，說道，『我看我不如再定十二箱貨，以便應付市面。』

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"I wouldn't send in any orders yet," advised Johnny. "Wait till you see how the trade holds up."

Each night Johnny and Keogh sowed the crop that grew dollars by day. At the end of ten days two-thirds of the stock of shoes had been sold; and the stock of cockleburrs was exhausted. Johnny cabled to Pink Dawson for another 500 pounds, paying twenty cents per pound as before. Mr. Hemstetter carefully made up an order for \$1500 worth of shoes from Northern firms. Johnny hung about the store until this order was ready for the mail, and succeeded in destroying it before it reached the postoffice.

That night he took Rosine under the mango tree by Goodwin's porch, and confessed everything. She looked him in the eye, and said: "You are a very wicked man. Father and I will go back home. You say it was a joke? I think it is a very serious matter."

But at the end of half an hour's argument the conversation had been turned upon a different subject. The two were considering the respective merits of pale blue and pink wall paper with which the old colonial mansion of the Atwoods in Dalesburg was to be decorated after the wedding.

On the next morning Johnny confessed to Mr. Hemstetter. The shoe merchant put on his spectacles, and said through them: "You strike me as being a most extraordinary young scamp. If I had not managed this enterprise with good business judgment my entire stock of goods might have been a complete loss. Now, how do you propose to dispose of the rest of it?"

When the second invoice of cockleburrs arrived Johnny loaded them and the remainder of the shoes into a schooner, and sailed down the coast to Alazan.

約翰勸道，『假使我是你，我還不定貨。你不如等等，看生意能持久不能。』

約翰與開伊奧每天晚上都播種，到了明天，結果就是錢。到了第十天，就賣了帶來的鞋子三分之二；約翰所買的藁耳也用完了。約翰發電給品克·多生，再買五百磅，照前每磅兩角。哈木斯特很小心寫好一張買貨單，要從北方的行號定一千五百元的鞋子。約翰在鞋店裏徘徊不去，等到單子弄好可以交郵遞，他設法在路上就毀了這張單子，並不送往郵局。

當天晚上，他同洛星小姐在古特文廊子旁的芒果樹下，把他所作的事全供出來。她看看他的眼，說道，『你是一個很惡的人。父親與我將回家去。你說是一場笑話。我看是一件極其嚴重的事。』

但是辨論了半點鐘後，他們談到別的話柄上去啦。這兩個人在那裏考慮他們結婚之後裝飾那所老的殖民地大房子，究竟是用淡藍色紙糊牆好，抑或是用粉紅色紙好。』

翌日早上，約翰對哈木斯特招認。這個鞋商戴上眼鏡，看看他說道，『我看你是一個最非常的少年無賴。假使我不曾用做生意的好決斷，經營這次的生意，我的整票貨物就許變作完全失敗。現在你打算怎樣銷了其餘的貨？』

等到第二批藁耳到來的時候，約翰把這種東西與其餘的鞋子，都裝在一條帆船上，向海岸下駛，運往阿拉珊(Alazan)。

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There, in the same dark and diabolical manner, he repeated his success: and came back with a bag of money and not so much as a shoestring.

Three days after Johnny's departure, two small schooners appeared off Coralio. After some delay a boat put off from one of them, and brought a sunburned young man ashore. This young man had a shrewd and calculating eye; and he gazed with amazement at the strange things that he saw. He found on the beach some one who directed him to the consul's office; and thither he made his way at a nervous gait.

Keogh was sprawled in the official chair, drawing caricatures of his Uncle's head on an official pad of paper. He looked up at his visitor.

"Where's Johnny Atwood?" inquired the sunburned young man, in a business tone.

"Gone," said Keogh, working carefully at Uncle Sam's necktie.

"That's just like him," remarked the nut-brown one, leaning against the table. "He always was a fellow to gallivant¹ around instead of 'tending to business. Will he be in soon?"

"Don't think so," said Keogh, after a fair amount of deliberation.

"I s'pose he's out at some of his tomfoolery," conjectured the visitor, in a tone of virtuous conviction. "Johnny never would stick to anything long enough to succeed. I wonder how he manages to run his business here, and never be 'round to look after it."

"I'm looking after the business just now," admitted the *pro tem.* consul.

¹ gallivant, 閒遊.

他在那裏用同樣的黑暗的與鬼怪的方法，又告成功：帶了一大袋錢回來，連一根鞋帶也賣光了。

〔他辭職。他提議開伊奧暫時權代領事，政府批准，約翰同哈木斯特父女坐船回本鄉。開伊奧做了只拿錢無事做的領事，他向來是從容不迫的，他說的居這樣高位，還是很從容的。他所開的照相店不久就關了，譯者註。〕約翰走後三天，有兩條帆船到了柯拉利奧。就攔了一會之後，就有一條小船送一個陽光曬黑的少年到岸。這個少年有一雙麻利會打算盤的眼；他看見許多奇怪東西很詫異。他在碼頭上找着一個人指點他往領事署；他帶着神經受了驚動的態度往那裏走。

開伊奧爬在他的領事椅子上，在公事紙上畫老伯（這是指代表美國人的沙木老伯Uncle Sam，譯者註。）的頭。他擡頭看這個客人。

陽光曬黑了臉的少年用辦公事的腔調問道，「約翰愛特和特在那裏？」

開伊奧一面還在那裏很小心的畫老伯的領帶，一面說道，「走了。」

那個棕色人靠着桌子，說道，「這才像他，他常是不理公事，好閒逛的。他回來得快麼？」

開伊奧想了一會，才答道，「不見得。」

來客用深信的腔調，猜度道，「我猜他出去同人家開頑笑。約翰無恆心，不能久於其事，所以都無成效。我曉得他是絕不肯留心做事的，我卻詫異他怎樣能夠辦這裏的事。」

臨時領事承認道，「現在是我管理這裏的事。」

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“Are you?—then, say!—where’s the factory?”

“What factory?” asked Keogh, with a mildly polite interest.

“Why, the factory where they use them cockleburrs. Lord knows what they use ’em for, anyway! I’ve got the basements of both them ships out there loaded with ’em. I’ll give you a bargain in this lot. I’ve had every man, woman and child around Dalesburg that wasn’t busy pickin’ ’em for a month. I hired these ships to bring ’em over. Everybody thought I was crazy. Now, you can have this lot for fifteen cents a pound, delivered on land. And if you want more I guess old Alabam’ can come up to the demand. Johnny told me when he left home that if he struck anything down here that there was any money in he’d let me in on it. Shall I drive the ships in and hitch?”

A look of supreme, almost incredulous, delight dawned in Keogh’s ruddy countenance. He dropped his pencil. His eyes turned upon the sunburned young man with joy in them mingled with fear lest his ecstasy should prove a dream.

“For God’s sake tell me,” said Keogh, earnestly, “are you Dink Pawson?”

“My name is Pinkney Dawson,” said the cornerer¹ of the cockleburr market.

Billy Keogh slid rapturously and gently from his chair to his favourite strip of matting on the floor.

There were not many sounds in Coralio on that sultry afternoon. Among those that were may be mentioned a noise of enraptured and unrighteous laughter from a

¹ cornerer, 盤斷人.

『是你管理麼？我且問你，製造廠在那裏？』

開伊奧帶着一臉和平客氣的注意神色，問道，『什麼製造廠？』

『就是用藁耳的製造廠。只有上帝曉得他們拿藁耳作什麼用！我的藁耳裝滿那兩條的最下層艙。我讓你便宜買我這單貨。凡是在狄爾斯堡無事做的人，無論是男是女或是孩子，我都雇來摘藁耳，摘了一個月。我雇這兩條船運送到這裏。人人都以為我是瘋了。我這票貨只要一角半一磅，在岸上交貨。你若多要，我猜阿拉巴瑪能夠供你的所求。當約翰離家的時候，曾告訴我，只要他在這裏看出有可以發財的營業，他讓我預聞。我把船放進來下碇，好不好？』

開伊奧的紅臉起首流露一種了不得的，幾乎令人不能相信的快樂。他的鉛筆丟下來。他的兩眼看這個陽光曬黑的少年，他的眼色又歡樂又害怕，害怕他的狂樂會變作一場好夢。

開伊奧很着急的說道，『你告訴我，難道你就是丁克·播生麼？』

這個壟斷藁耳生意的人說道，『我姓多生名品克尼。』

比里·開伊奧樂到發狂的，與輕輕的，從他的椅子溜下來，溜到鋪在地板上他所喜歡的一塊蓆子上。

當天下午悶熱，柯拉利奧沒得許多聲音。所有的聲音就是一個躺在地下的愛爾蘭種美國人的狂樂的大笑聲，

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prostrate Irish-American, while a sunburned young man, with a shrewd eye, looked on him with wonder and amazement. Also the "tramp, tramp, tramp" of many well-shod feet in the streets outside. Also the lonesome wash of the waves that beat along the historic shores of the Spanish Main.¹

CHAPTER XIV

MASTERS OF ARTS

A two-inch stub² of a blue pencil was the wand with which Keogh performed the preliminary acts of his magic. So, with this he covered paper with diagrams and figures while he waited for the United States of America to send down to Coralio a successor to Atwood, resigned.

The new scheme that his mind had conceived, his stout heart indorsed, and his blue pencil corroborated, was laid around the characteristics and human frailties of the new president of Anchuria. These characteristics, and the situation out of which Keogh hoped to wrest a golden tribute, deserve chronicling contributive to the clear order of events.

President Losada—many called him Dictator—was a man whose genius would have made him conspicuous even among Anglo-Saxons, had not that genius been intermixed with other traits that were petty and subversive. He had some of the lofty patriotism of Washington (the man he most admired), the force of Napoleon, and much of the wisdom of the sages. These characteristics might have

¹ Spanish Main, 中美洲. ² stub, 一截.

是沒道理的大笑聲，當下有一個陽光曬黑的少年，臉上有一雙麻利眼，帶着驚奇與迷惑神氣看着他。此外還有外頭大街上穿了鞋走路脚步聲。還有波浪衝擊中美洲的有歷史關係的海岸的單調聲。

第十四回 大畫師

開伊奧變最初的幾出把戲，所用的小棍子，就是一概二寸長的藍鉛筆。當他在那裏等候美國派人來接辭職的愛特和特的手的時候，他無所事了，只好在紙上畫圖，畫人物。

他有一個新計策，是他的腦子所概念的，是他的大膽所擔保的，又是他的藍鉛筆所協助的，這個計策埋伏在安朱里亞（Anchuria）國的新大總統的個人性格與人性的弱點的左右前後。開伊奧希望從這樣的時局，奪得極大的好處，大總統的性格與這樣的時局值得記載，以便把許多事變的次序看得清楚。

大總統魯沙達（Losada）——許多人稱他為狄克提陀——頗有天才，假使不是攙雜了許多小器的與好行破壞的特性，即使他在盎格魯薩克森人裏頭，也是會顯名的。他有華盛頓（是他所最稱讚的）的高超愛國主義，他有拿破崙的實力，還有聖賢們的許多朋智。這幾種特色原可以

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justified him in the assumption of the title of "The Illustrious Liberator," had they not been accompanied by a stupendous and amazing vanity that kept him in the less worthy ranks of the dictators.

Yet he did his country great service. With a mighty grasp he shook it nearly free from the shackles of ignorance and sloth¹ and the vermin that fed upon it, and all but made it a power in the council of nations. He established schools and hospitals, built roads, bridges, railroads and palaces, and bestowed generous subsidies upon the arts and sciences. He was the absolute despot and the idol of his people. The wealth of the country poured into his hands. Other presidents had been rapacious without reason. Losada amassed enormous wealth, but his people had their share of the benefits.

The joint in his armour² was his insatiate³ passion for monuments and tokens commemorating his glory. In every town he caused to be erected statues of himself bearing legends in praise of his greatness. In the walls of every public edifice, tablets were fixed reciting his splendour and the gratitude of his subjects. His statuettes and portraits were scattered throughout the land in every house and hut. One of the sycophants in his court painted him as St. John, with a halo and a train of attendants in full uniform. Losada saw nothing incongruous⁴ in this picture, and had it hung in a church in the capital. He ordered from a French sculptor a marble group including himself with Napoleon, Alexander the Great, and one or two others whom he deemed worthy of the honour.

¹ sloth, 無振作. ² joint in his armour, 他的弱點. ³ insatiate 無厭足. ⁴ incongruous, 不倫不類.

表明他自稱為『名貴的解放人』是應該的，可惜這許多特色帶着一種非常的與令人極其驚怪的好虛榮，使他落在不甚有價值的狄克提陀們之列。

他卻很有功於他的本國。他撼動本國，幾乎掃清無知識及無振作的束縛，掃清蛀蝕國家的虱子，幾乎置國家於世界列強之列。他設立學校與醫院，造路造橋，造鐵路與宮殿，撥許多大筆津貼以扶助技術及科學。他是絕對的專制家，又是人民所崇拜的。國裏的錢財如水一般流入他的手裏。其他的大總統們貪財，是毫無道理的。魯沙達搜刮了非常多的錢，但是他的人民卻享受一部分的利益。

他的弱點就是無厭足的好立石像，與做紀念品，以紀他的榮耀。他要每個市鎮造他的石像，還要題幾句話恭維他的偉大。凡在公家建築的牆上，都裝釘牌子，說他的榮耀，與他的人民怎樣感恩。在本國裏頭，無論第宅與茅舍，都有他的小石像與畫像。在他的宮廷裏頭有一個善獻媚的人繪畫他做聖約翰，頭的四圍有一圈光環，與一長串全身披掛的隨從（作者只是平平淡淡的敘去，讀者自然就會看不起這個大總統。譯者註。）魯沙達看不出這幅畫裏頭有什麼不倫不類，還在國都裏的一所教堂掛起來。他叫一個法蘭西塑像家塑了一堆白石的像，裏頭有他自己，有拿破崙，有亞力山大，還有一兩個其他大人物，是他以為配同他在一堆裏頭的。

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He ransacked Europe for decorations, employing policy, money and intrigue to cajole the orders he coveted from kings and rulers. On state occasions his breast was covered from shoulder to shoulder with crosses, stars, golden roses, medals and ribbons. It was said that the man who could contrive for him a new decoration, or invent some new method of extolling his greatness, might plunge a hand deep into the treasury.

This was the man upon whom Billy Keogh had his eye. The gentle buccaneer had observed the rain of favours that fell upon those who ministered to the president's vanities, and he did not deem it his duty to hoist his umbrella against the scattering drops of liquid fortune.

In a few weeks the new consul arrived, releasing Keogh from his temporary duties. He was a young man fresh from college, who lived for botany alone. The consulate at Coralio gave him the opportunity to study tropical flora. He wore smoked glasses, and carried a green umbrella. He filled the cool, back porch of the consulate with plants and specimens so that space for a bottle and chair was not to be found. Keogh gazed on him sadly, but without rancour, and began to pack his gripsack. For his new plot against stagnation along the Spanish Main required of him a voyage overseas.

Soon came the *Karlsefin* again—she of the trampish habits—gleaning a cargo of cocoanuts for a speculative descent upon the New York market. Keogh was booked for a passage on the return trip.

"Yes, I'm going to New York," he explained to the group of his countrymen that had gathered on the beach to see him off. "But I'll be back before you miss me. I've undertaken the art education of this piebald country,

他搜刮歐洲各國的寶星，他所想得的寶星，他不惜用政策，化錢，用詭計，閹騙歐洲的君主們。到了有大典的時候，他胸前掛滿寶星，從左肩至右肩都掛滿十字，星子，金玫瑰，寶星，與大綬。有人說，無論什麼人，只要能夠設法替他取得一個新寶星，或創造一個新方法恭維他的偉大，這個人就可以深深的伸手入國庫。

比里·開伊奧所注意的就是這麼一個大總統，這個斯文海盜（妙在海盜上加斯文兩字。譯者註。）曾留心觀察有許多人設法恭維大總統都得了許多好處，他就覺得大總統既是施恩如同下雨一般，他不該高舉他的雨傘，反對他的雨露，不肯沾潤。

過了幾個星期，新領事到任，使開伊奧可以交卸。新領事是一個少年，新從學校出來的，他只要研究植物學。在柯拉利奧的領事署使他有機會研究熱帶花木。他戴的是烟燻過的眼鏡，手上拿的是一把綠色的傘。他把領事署的後廊塞滿了花草與標本，沒得地方放酒瓶與椅子。開伊奧很慘的瞪着兩眼看他，卻並不懷恨，起首收拾手拿的皮包。因為他的陰謀反對中美洲沿岸的停頓無發展，要他渡海。

不久那條卡爾芬（Karlsefin）又來了——這是一條到處跑的野雞船——擄一儼椰子送往紐約謀利。開伊奧定了回頭的艙位。

有一堆美國人在碼頭上同他送行，他對他們解說道，「是呀，我往紐約。但是我不等到你們很想再見我的時候我又回來啦。我擔任這個黑白斑駁國的美術教育，這裏正

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and I'm not the man to desert it while it's in the early throes of tintypes."

With this mysterious declaration of his intentions Keogh boarded the *Karlsefn*.

Ten days later, shivering, with the collar of his thin coat turned high, he burst into the studio of Carolus White at the top of a tall building in Tenth Street, New York City.

Carolus White was smoking a cigarette and frying sausages over an oil stove. He was only twenty-three, and had noble theories about art.

"Billy Keogh!" exclaimed White, extending the hand that was not busy with the frying pan. "From what part of the uncivilized world, I wonder!"

"Hello, Carry," said Keogh, dragging forward a stool, and holding his fingers close to the stove. "I'm glad I found you so soon. I've been looking for you all day in the directories and art galleries. The free-lunch man¹ on the corner told me where you were, quick. I was sure you'd be painting pictures yet."

Keogh glanced about the studio with the shrewd eye of a connoisseur in business.

"Yes, you can do it," he declared, with many gentle nods of his head. "That big one in the corner with the angels and green clouds and band-wagon is just the sort of thing we want. What would you call that, Carry—scene from Coney Island, ain't it?"

"That," said White, "I had intended to call 'The Translation of Elijah,' but you may be nearer right than I am."

"Name doesn't matter," said Keogh, largely; "it's the frame and the varieties of paint that does the trick.

¹ free lunch man, 吃白食的人。

在初與照相的時候，我是不肯拋棄的。』

開伊奧說了這句神祕話表示他的意思就上了船。

十日後，他把他的薄褂子的領子弄得高高的，一面發抖，就衝進卡洛拉懷特(White)的畫室，這是在紐約第十街的一所高房子頂上。

懷特正在吸紙烟，一面在一個煤油爐上炸香腸。他說年不過二十三歲，關於美術卻有很高貴的理想。

懷特喊道，『比里·開伊奧呀！』一面伸出那隻並不忙於弄炸鍋的手。『你是從野蠻世界的那一部分來的！』

開伊奧說道，『好呀，卡里，』他一面拖一張凳子向前，把手指放近爐子。『我並不費事就找着你，我很高興。我終天在幾本姓名住址簿上與畫院裏找你。街角的那個吃白食人快告訴我你在那裏。我很曉得你還在繪畫。』

開伊奧四圍看看這間畫室，帶着一個辦事老行家的眼光看。

他輕輕的點了幾次頭，說道，『是的，你能夠做這件事。我們所要的，就是放在角落的一大幅畫，有幾個安琪兒，有綠色的雲，還有音樂車。卡里，你稱這幅畫是什麼——是柯尼島(Coney)的景致麼，是不是的？』

懷特說道，『我有意稱這幅畫為伊里亞(Elijah)升天圖(事見舊約。譯者註。)，但是你的名稱比我的較為近些。』

開伊奧很大方的說道，『名稱是不要緊的，能夠動人還是畫架與各種各樣的顏色。我能夠在一分鐘內告訴你

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Now, I can tell you in a minute what I want. I've come on a little voyage of two thousand miles to take you in with me on a scheme. I thought of you as soon as the scheme showed itself to me. How would you like to go back with me and paint a picture? Ninety days for the trip, and five thousand dollars for the job."

"Cereal food or hair-tonic posters?" asked White.

"It isn't an ad."

"What kind of a picture is it to be?"

"It's a long story," said Keogh.

"Go ahead with it. If you don't mind, while you talk I'll just keep my eye on these sausages. Let 'em get one shade deeper than a Vandyke brown and you spoil 'em."

Keogh explained his project. They were to return to Corallo, where White was to pose as a distinguished American portrait painter who was touring in the tropics as a relaxation from his arduous and remunerative professional labours. It was not an unreasonable hope, even to those who trod in the beaten paths of business, that an artist with so much prestige might secure a commission to perpetuate upon canvas the lineaments of the president, and secure a share of the *pesos* that were raining upon the caterers to his weaknesses.

Keogh had set his price at ten thousand dollars. Artists had been paid more for portraits. He and White were to share the expenses of the trip, and divide the possible profits. Thus he laid the scheme before White, whom he had known in the West before one declared for Art and the other became a Bedouin.

Before long the two machinators¹ abandoned the rigour of the bare studio for a snug corner of a café. There they

¹ machinators, 陰謀家.

我要什麼。我渡二千哩的大海特爲來帶你同去實行一個計劃。我一有了這個計劃就想起你來。你同我回去，作一幅畫，好不好？路程要九十日，畫一幅畫可以得五千塊錢。』

懷特問道，『米麥食料告白，或生髮水告白麼？』

『不是畫告白。』

『要畫什麼路數的畫呀？』

開伊奧答道，『說來話是很長的。』

『你只管往前說。你一面說，我卻一面要注意我的香腸，請你勿怪。若是炸得太過火，炸到比赭色更深一層，就把香腸糟塌了。』

開伊奧把計劃告訴他。他們得回去柯拉利奧，到了那裏懷特就裝作一個有名的美國畫像家，辛苦了許久，賺了許多錢，現在遊覽熱帶，以事休息。這樣一個有聲望的畫師，大總統就很許可以請他畫一幅肖像，他可以分得到一部分流入專事設法恭維大總統的人們手裏的錢，即使是走故步的生意人，也有理由希望這件事是可以辦到的。

開伊奧已經定好這幅畫像的價錢，要一萬圓。有過幾個畫師替闊人畫像，得過更多。他同懷特分任旅費，分享可能到手的餘利。他就是這樣把計劃告訴懷特，他早已在西方認得懷特，在那個時候那一個還不會學繪畫，這一個還不會變作一個遊蕩人。

這兩個陰謀家不久就拋棄寒冷的無家具的畫室，走去咖啡館的一個溫暖舒服的角落。他們在這裏坐到夜深，

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sat far into the night, with old envelopes and Keogh's stub of blue pencil between them.

At twelve o'clock White doubled up in his chair, with his chin on his fist, and shut his eyes at the unbeautiful wall-paper.

"I'll go you, Billy," he said, in the quiet tones of decision. "I've got two or three hundred saved up for sausages and rent; and I'll take the chance with you. Five thousand! It will give me two years in Paris and one in Italy. I'll begin to pack to-morrow."

"You'll begin in ten minutes," said Keogh. "It's to-morrow now. The *Karlsefin* starts back at four P. M. Come on to your painting shop, and I'll help you."

For five months in the year Coralio is the Newport of Anchuria. Then only does the town possess life. From November to March it is practically the seat of government. The president with his official family sojourns there; and society follows him. The pleasure-loving people make the season one long holiday of amusement and rejoicing. *Fiestas*, balls, games, sea bathing, processions and small theatres contribute to their enjoyment. The famous Swiss band from the capital plays in the little plaza every evening, while the fourteen carriages and vehicles in the town circle in funereal but complacent procession. Indians from the interior mountains, looking like prehistoric stone idols, come down to peddle their handiwork in the streets. The people throng the narrow ways, a chattering, happy, careless stream of buoyant humanity. Preposterous children rigged out with the shortest of ballet skirts and gilt wings, howl, underfoot, among the effervescent crowds. Especially is the arrival of the presidential party, at the opening of the season, attended with pomp.

在兩個人之間擺了開伊奧一檄的藍鉛筆與幾個舊信封。

到了十二點鐘，懷特在他的椅子上縮作一團，一手托住下頷，閉眼對着面前不好看的糊牆紙。

他用安詳腔調表示他的決定，說道，『比里，我贊成你的計劃，我節省下二三百塊錢，專供香腸與房租的；我肯同你碰機會。五千塊錢呀！這就夠我住巴黎兩年與住義大利一年。我明天就起首收拾行李。』

開伊奧說道，『十分鐘內你就得收拾。這時候已經是明天啦。下午四點鐘卡爾芬就起程回去。我們進去你的畫室，我幫你收拾。』

在柯拉利奧地方，一年有五個月就是安朱里亞國的紐坡爾特 (Newport)，只有在這五個月裏頭這個市鎮是有生機的。從十一月到明年三月，這個市鎮其實就是政府所在地。大總統與他的屬員們住在這裏；社會的有名人物跟隨他到這裏。喜歡娛樂的人們把這幾個月變作一個長期的消遣與娛樂。他們所賴以消遣的就是慶節，跳舞會，遊戲，海水浴，排隊遊行與小戲院。從都城來的有名的瑞士音樂隊每晚都在小廣場裏奏樂，同時市鎮裏的十四部馬車環繞遊行，有點像出殯，卻覺得很自滿的。有許多北美洲土人從內地山裏出來，好像荒古時代的石刻神像，來到這裏，在大街上賣他們手製的東西。人們擠滿小街，一長串吱吱喳喳，快樂的，無憂無慮的，精神復振人。孩子們打扮得很怪異，穿了最短的跳舞裙，披了兩隻金色的翼，在沸騰的人堆脚下大戚。這個娛樂節一開首的時候，尤其是大總統的扈從一到，就有更多的排場，陳列，與表示愛

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show and patriotic demonstrations of enthusiasm and delight.

When Keogh and White reached their destination, on the return trip of the *Karlsefin*, the gay winter season was well begun. As they stepped upon the beach they could hear the band playing in the plaza. The village maidens, with fireflies already fixed in their dark locks, were gliding, barefoot and coyeyed, along the paths. Dandies in white linen, swinging their canes, were beginning their seductive strolls. The air was full of human essence, of artificial enticement, of coquetry, indolence, pleasure—the man-made sense of existence.

The first two or three days after their arrival were spent in preliminaries. Keogh escorted the artist about town, introducing him to the little circle of English-speaking residents and pulling whatever wires¹ he could to effect the spreading of White's fame as a painter. And then Keogh planned a more spectacular demonstration of the idea he wished to keep before the public.

He and White engaged rooms in the Hotel de los Estrangeros. The two were clad in new suits of immaculate duck, with American straw hats, and carried canes of remarkable uniqueness and inutility. Few caballeros² in Coralio—even the gorgeously uniformed officers of the Anchurian army—were as conspicuous for ease and elegance of demeanour as Keogh and his friend, the great American painter, Señor White.

White set up his easel on the beach and made striking sketches of the mountain and sea views. The native population formed at his rear in a vast, chattering semicircle

¹ pulling wires, 運動, 牽綫. ² caballeros, 紳士.

國的熱烈及快樂。

當開伊奧與懷特坐卡爾芬回頭船到了柯拉利奧的時候，熱鬧的冬季剛起首。當他們踏步上碼頭的時候就能夠聽見奏樂聲音。鄉下姑娘們把螢火蟲裝在她們的黑頭髮內，精着腳，帶着羞怯的眼色，在路上溜。放蕩的男子們穿了白色細布衣服，轉着他們的手杖，起首遊行引誘女子。

空中布滿了人類的特性，人力的引誘，調情，遊手好閒，尋樂——人工造出來的過活。

他們到後的最初兩三天都是造初入手的事。開伊奧領着畫師到處走走，介紹他見那不多的幾個說英國話的居民，盡他的能力運動，求他們到處揚名，說懷特是一個有名的畫師。開伊奧要衆人心目中有這個畫師，他隨即設法當着衆人而前做出一種更能炫人耳目的表示。

他同懷特住在愛斯特蘭 (Estranjeros) 大旅館。兩人都身穿新製的一塵不染的白衣服，頭戴美國草帽，手拿極特別與最無用的手杖。開伊奧同他的朋友美國大畫師懷特先生，過舒服日子，穿華麗衣服，柯拉利奧只有不多的幾個紳士們比得上他們，安朱里亞國的穿很華麗制服的軍官們也比不上他們。

懷特在碼頭上擺他的畫架，起能動人的山水景致的稿子。土人們在他背後作一個半圓形站着，一面說話一面

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to watch his work. Keogh, with his care for details, had arranged for himself a pose which he carried out with fidelity. His rôle was that of friend to the great artist, a man of affairs and leisure. The visible emblem of his position was a pocket camera.

Two weeks after their arrival, the scheme began to bear fruit. An aide-de-camp of the president drove to the hotel in a dashing victoria. The president desired that Señor White come to the Casa Morena for an informal interview.

Keogh gripped his pipe tightly between his teeth. "Not a cent less than ten thousand," he said to the artist,— "remember the price. And in gold or its equivalent—don't let him stick you with this bargain-counter stuff they call money here."

"Perhaps it isn't that he wants," said White.

"Get out!" said Keogh, with splendid confidence, "I know what he wants. He wants his picture painted by the celebrated young American painter and filibuster now sojourning in his down-trodden country. Off you go."

The victoria sped away with the artist. Keogh walked up and down, puffing great clouds of smoke from his pipe, and waited. In an hour the victoria swept again to the door of the hotel, deposited White, and vanished. The artist dashed up the stairs, three at a step. Keogh stopped smoking, and became a silent interrogation point.

"Landed," exclaimed White, with his boyish face flushed with elation. "Billy, you are a wonder. He wants a picture. I'll tell you all about it. By Heavens! that dictator chap is a corker! He's a dictator clear down to his finger-ends. He's a kind of combination of Julius Cæsar, Lucifer and Chauncey Depew done in sepia. Polite

看他畫。開伊奧向來是留心於細目的，他已經布置好他自己所演的脚色，他演得很像。他所演的脚色就是大畫師的朋友，是要做大事的人，是逍遙自在不必做事的人。他的地位有一個可以看見的記號，就是一個袖珍照像機。

他們到了兩個星期後，他們的計策起首收效啦。大總統的一個副官坐了一輛華美的四輪小馬車到旅館。大總統請懷特先生來卞薩摩林那私見。

開伊奧口裏的牙把他的烟管咬得緊緊的對畫師說道，『你牢記着價錢——一萬塊錢，少一文銅錢也不成。你要他交金子，或與金子等值的——你不要上他們的當，收受他們這裏所謂錢幣。』

懷特說道，『也許他不要畫。』

開伊奧很有把握的說道，『你走開！我曉得他要什麼。他要這個有名的少年美國畫師繪畫他的肖像，這個少年，又是個未奉明令，來侵犯外國的，現時位在這個被人作踐的國裏。你去吧。』

那部四輪馬車很快的把畫師送走了。開伊奧走來走去，從他的烟管噴出大陣的烟，在那裏等候。過了一點鐘，四輪馬車回到旅館門口，懷特下來，馬車又走了，畫師三步當一步衝上樓去。開伊奧停止吸烟，變作一個不嚮的問話標點。

懷特的孩子臉高興到發紅，叫道，『到手了。比里，你是一個異人。他要一幅畫像。我慢慢告訴你。天呀，這個大總統是一個好誇大口的人！他從頭到手指尖都是一個狄克提陀。他是一個用烏賊墨所畫的愷撒(Julius Caesar)，魔鬼(Lucifer)與狄飄(C. Depew)的混合體。他的

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and grim—that's his way. The room I saw him in was about ten acres big, and looked like a Mississippi steamboat with its gilding and mirrors and white paint. He talks English better than I can ever hope to. The matter of the price came up. I mentioned ten thousand. I expected him to call the guard and have me taken out and shot. He didn't move an eyelash. He just waved one of his chestnut hands in a careless way, and said, 'Whatever you say.' I am to go back to-morrow and discuss with him the details of the picture."

Keogh hung his head. Self-abasement was easy to read in his downcast countenance.

"I'm failing, Carry," he said, sorrowfully. "I'm not fit to handle these man's-size schemes any longer. Peddling oranges in a push-cart is about the suitable graft for me. When I said ten thousand, I swear I thought I had sized up that brown man's limit to within two cents. He'd have melted down for fifteen thousand just as easy. Say—Carry—you'll see old man Keogh safe in some nice, quiet idiot asylum, won't you, if he makes a break like that again?"

The Casa Morena, although only one story in height, was a building of brown stone, luxurious as a palace in its interior. It stood on a low hill in a walled garden of splendid tropical flora at the upper edge of Corallo. The next day the president's carriage came again for the artist. Keogh went out for a walk along the beach, where he and his "picture box" were now familiar sights. When he returned to the hotel White was sitting in a steamer-chair on the balcony.

"Well," said Keogh, "did you and His Nibs¹ decide on the kind of a chromo he wants?"

¹ His Nibs 即 his lordship, (諷刺語).

態度客氣而兇猛。我見他的時候，他在一所大屋子，有十畝大，好像一條米失失必河的輪船，有金色的裝飾，與鏡子及白油。他說英國話說得極好，我畢生不能希望及得他。隨後談到價錢。我說一萬塊錢。我預料他會喊衛兵進來，把我拖出去槍斃。他的眼皮並不曾動。他不過隨隨便便的搖一搖他的栗色手，說道，『你說多少就是多少。我明天得回去，同他討論畫幅的詳細布置。』

開伊奧垂頭。我們一看他的垂頭喪氣神色，就不難曉得他怪他自己太過無用。

他很愁悶的說道，『卞里，我現在是頹唐了。我不配再管理這許多大計劃了。我只配推小車子在街上賣橘子。當我說一萬塊錢的時候，我可以對天發誓，我以為我測量這個棕色人的界限，測得很準的了，所差不過是一兩個銅錢。假使我們敲他一萬五千塊錢，也是一樣容易可以到手。卡里呀，年老的開伊奧若再做這樣的錯事，我請你把我平安的送入一所好的，安靜的瘋人院裏頭，你肯不肯？』

卡薩摩林那雖然不過只有一層樓，原是一所棕色石的建築，內裏卻是很奢華的，如同一所宮殿一般。這所大房子在柯拉利奧邊上，坐落在一個不高的山上，在有牆的花園裏頭，園內有許多茂盛的熱帶花木。翌日大總統的馬車又來接畫師。開伊奧出門，在碼頭上散步，他的照像機是人所見慣的了。等到他回旅館的時候，他見懷特在露台，坐在輪船椅子上。

開伊奧說道，『好呀，你同那位總統大人商定他所要的是怎樣一幅繪畫麼？』

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White got up and walked back and forth on the balcony a few times. Then he stopped, and laughed strangely. His face was flushed, and his eyes were bright with a kind of angry amusement.

"Look here, Billy," he said, somewhat roughly, "when you first came to me in my studio and mentioned a picture, I thought you wanted a Smashed Oats or a Hair Tonic poster painted on a range of mountains or the side of a continent. Well, either of those jobs would have been Art in its highest form compared to the one you've steered me against. I can't paint that picture, Billy. You've got to let me out. Let me try to tell you what that barbarian wants. He had it all planned out and even a sketch made of his idea. The old boy doesn't draw badly at all. But, ye goddesses of Art! listen to the monstrosity he expects me to paint. He wants himself in the centre of the canvas, of course. He is to be painted as Jupiter sitting on Olympus, with the clouds at his feet. At one side of him stands George Washington, in full regimentals, with his hand on the president's shoulder. An angel with outstretched wings hovers overhead, and is placing a laurel wreath on the president's head, crowning him—Queen of the May, I suppose. In the background is to be cannon, more angels and soldiers. The man who would paint that picture would have to have the soul of a dog, and would deserve to go down into oblivion without even a tin can tied to his tail to sound his memory."

Little beads of moisture crept out all over Billy Keogh's brow. The stub of his blue pencil had not figured out a contingency¹ like this. The machinery of his palm had

¹ contingency, 意外事.

懷特站起來，在露台上走來走去，走了好幾遍。隨後他站住不走了，卻放聲大笑，笑得很奇怪。他滿臉通紅，兩眼發光，表示一種發怒的好笑。

他帶着頗粗的腔調，說道，『比里，當你初時走入我的畫室，對我說繪一幅畫的時候，我以為你不過要一幅掛在大街上的繪畫告白，或是賣壓碎大麥麵，或是賣生髮香水的告白，畫在一排山上，或畫在一個大陸邊上。拿這兩種繪畫同你所計劃的畫幅相比，無論那兩幅中的那一幅，就是極高等的美術。比里，我不能作那幅畫。你得讓我走開不幹。讓我慢慢告訴你那個野蠻要的是什麼。他把他所要畫的都想好了，還作了一幅草圖，表明他的意思。這個老頭子畫得並不壞。司美術的女神們呀，細聽他要我畫什麼怪東西。他自然要把自己擺在畫片中心。他要我畫他做天帝，坐在奧林帕斯(Olympus)山上，在他腳下畫許多雲。站在他一邊的要畫華盛頓，全身軍裝，一隻手放在大總統的肩膀上。要畫一個安琪兒，伸出兩翼在他頭上盤旋，正在把一頂桂冠放在大總統頭上——我猜他以為自己是五月的王后。背景上畫大礮，還要多畫幾個安琪兒與軍人，(作者的筆墨頗饒諧趣。譯者註。)一個肯畫這樣一幅畫的人必得有一條狗的靈魂，這樣一個人該無聞於後世，還不如一條狗，尾巴拖一個錫罐，鬧得很嚮，還可以使人記得他。』

(未免太挖苦具狗靈魂的畫師了。)比里的額上慢慢冒出許多汗珠子。他的一概藍鉛筆並不會算出這樣一件意外的事。他的計劃的機器一直走得很順利的，他正在恭維

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run with flattering smoothness until now. He dragged another chair upon the balcony, and got White back to his seat. He lit his pipe with apparent calm.

“Now, sonny,” he said, with gentle grimness, “you and me will have an Art to Art talk. You’ve got your art and I’ve got mine. Yours is the real Pierian¹ stuff that turns up its nose² at bock-beer³ signs and oleographs of the Old Mill. Mine’s the art of Business. This was my scheme, and it worked out like two-and-two. Paint that president man as Old King Cole, or Venus, or a landscape, or a fresco, or a bunch of lilies, or anything he thinks he looks like. But get the paint on the canvas and collect the spoils. You wouldn’t throw me down, Carry, at this stage of the game. Think of that ten thousand.”

“I can’t help thinking of it,” said White, “and that’s what hurts. I’m tempted to throw every ideal I ever had down in the mire, and steep my soul in infamy by painting that picture. That five thousand meant three years of foreign study to me, and I’d almost sell my soul for that.”

“Now it ain’t as bad as that,” said Keogh, soothingly. “It’s a business proposition. It’s so much paint and time against money. I don’t fall in with your idea that that picture would so everlastingly jolt the art side of the question. George Washington was all right, you know, and nobody could say a word against the angel. I don’t think so bad of that group. If you was to give Jupiter a pair of epaulets and a sword, and kind of work the clouds around to look like a blackberry patch, it wouldn’t make such a bad battle scene. Why, if we hadn’t already settled

¹ Pierian, 司美術女神的。 ² turn up nose, 看不起。 ³ bock-beer, 麥麴釀的啤酒。

他自己的計策巧妙，到了現在，恐怕有點行不通啦。他再拖一把椅子到露台，把懷特拉回來坐下。他帶着鎮靜的外表，點着他的烟筒。

他用和平的嚴厲腔調，說道，『我的孩子，將來有一天我同你作一個以美術待美術的討論。你的美術是真正司美術女神們的美術，看不起麥麴所釀的啤酒招牌與舊磨房的油畫。我的美術是做生意的美術。這原是我的計劃，實行出來果不出我所料。你只管畫那個大總統的像，你把他畫作柯爾王（King Cole 英吉利的神祕王，嗜酒。譯者註。），或畫作女愛神（金星），或畫一幅山水，或畫作壁畫，或畫作一堆百合花，或畫作無論什麼都可以，只要他以爲他像那個人物或東西。你只管把顏料搗在畫布上，收錢。卡里，你不會到了這個當口把我踢開。你得想着那一萬塊錢。』

懷特說道，『我禁不住不想到那一萬塊錢，所以難受就在此。我被那一萬塊錢所動，我畫那幅肖像，就把我向來所存的美術意想全摔在泥溝裏，把我的靈魂深深的泡入惡名裏頭。那五千塊錢可以使我游學外國三年，我因爲這樣的利益幾乎把我的靈魂賣了。』

開伊奧安慰他，說道，『何至於這樣不好。這原是一個買賣問題。在這一方面是費多少顏料與多少時光，在那一方面是多少錢。你以爲這樣一幅畫像永遠搖動美術方面的問題，我卻不以爲然。你是曉得的，繪一個華盛頓在那裏是不會錯的，又無人能夠說一句話反對那個安琪兒。據我看來，繪畫這幾個人物在一起，並無什麼不好。你若給天帝畫上一對肩章與一把劍，四圍畫雲。畫作像一團懸鉤子，並不成爲一幅不好的圖畫。可惜我們先議定了畫

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on the price, he ought to pay an extra thousand for Washington, and the angel ought to raise it five hundred."

"You don't understand, Billy," said White, with an uneasy laugh. "Some of us fellows who try to paint have big notions about Art. I wanted to paint a picture some day that people would stand before and forget that it was made of paint. I wanted it to creep into them like a bar of music and mushroom there like a soft bullet. And I wanted 'em to go away and ask, 'What else has he done?' And I didn't want 'em to find a thing; not a portrait nor a magazine cover nor an illustration nor a drawing of a girl—nothing but *the picture*. That's why I've lived on fried sausages, and tried to keep true to myself. I persuaded myself to do this portrait for the chance it might give me to study abroad. But this howling, screaming caricature! Good Lord! can't you see how it is?"

"Sure," said Keogh, as tenderly as he would have spoken to a child, and he laid a long forefinger on White's knee. "I see. It's bad to have your art all slugged up like that. I know. You wanted to paint a big thing like the panorama of the battle of Gettysburg. But let me kalsomine¹ you a little mental sketch to consider. Up to date we're out \$385.50 on this scheme. Our capital took every cent both of us could raise. We've got about enough left to get back to New York on. I need my share of that ten thousand. I want to work a copper deal in Idaho, and make a hundred thousand. That's the business end of the thing. Come down off your art perch, Carry, and let's land that hatful of dollars."

"Billy," said White, with an effort, "I'll try. I won't

¹ kalsomine, 粉刷.

價，不然的話，畫一個華盛頓要另外加一千塊，畫一個安琪兒應該另外加五百塊。」

懷特很不安的大笑道，「比里，你不懂。我們嘗試繪畫的人，有好幾個對於美術存了大志。我原想將來有一天我要作一幅畫，使人看見忘記其爲顏料所造成的。我要這幅畫慢慢深入於人心，如同一段音樂與香蕈，好像一顆軟彈子一般。況且我還要他們看了我的畫，走開，問道，「他還畫過什麼畫？」我不要他們所看見的是一物；或是一個畫像，是雜誌的封面，或是書裏的繪圖，或是一個女孩子的像——我要他們什麼都不看見，只看見那幅畫。所以我甘受貧窮，吃炸香腸過活，爲的是我嘗試要忠於我自己。我勸我自己畫這幅肖像，原爲的是我可以有機會往外國遊學。但是這樣一幅荒唐無理的諧畫！上帝呀！難道你不能看出來麼？」

開伊奧把一隻長手指放在懷特膝上，用對孩子說的溫和話，對他說道。『我誠然看得出來。把你的美術來這樣糟塌，原是很不好的。我曉得。你要畫一幅大畫，有如葛的斯堡(Gettysburg)戰圖。但是讓我替你畫一幅心境的圖，以備你考慮。計至今日爲止，我們因爲這個計劃已經花了三百八十五元零五角了。我們的資本已經把我們兩個人所能籌措的款項全放在裏頭了。我們現時所餘的錢，僅夠我們回去紐約。我要我那一部分的一萬塊錢。我要在伊大和作銅的投機事業，賺十萬。這就是這次買賣的結局。卡里，你的美術理想爬得太高了，你爬下來吧，讓我們把那些錢弄到手吧。』

懷特很費力的說道，「比里，我肯嘗識。我並不說我願

say I'll do it, but I'll try. I'll go at it, and put it through if I can."

"That's business," said Keogh, heartily. "Good boy! Now, here's another thing—rush that picture—crowd it through as quick as you can. Get a couple of boys to help you mix the paint if necessary. I've picked up some pointers around town. The people here are beginning to get sick of Mr. President. They say he's been too free with concessions; and they accuse him of trying to make a dicker¹ with England to sell out the country. We want that picture done and paid for before there's any row."

White worked faithfully. But, as the work progressed, he had seasons of bitter scorn, of infinite self-contempt, of sullen gloom and sardonic gaiety. Keogh, with the patience of a great general, soothed, coaxed, argued—kept him at the picture.

At the end of a month White announced that the picture was completed—Jupiter, Washington, angels, clouds, cannon and all. His face was pale and his mouth drawn straight when he told Keogh. He said the president was much pleased with it. It was to be hung in the National Gallery of Statesmen and Heroes. The artist had been requested to return to Casa Morena on the following day to receive payment. At the appointed time he left the hotel, silent under his friend's joyful talk of their success.

An hour later he walked into the room where Keogh was waiting, threw his hat on the floor, and sat upon the table.

"Billy," he said, in strained and labouring tones, "I've a little money out West in a small business that my brother

¹ dicker, 買賣, 交易, 爭價錢.

意做這件事，我只肯試試做看。我就去畫，我若能夠的話，我就畫完這幅畫。』

開伊奧很高興的說道，『好孩子！這才是做生意的辦法，此外還有一事——你趕快把像畫完了——你盡你的所能，快快的搨滿了。你若見得必要，儘管找兩個人來幫你和顏料。我在這裏得着幾個曉得消息的人。這裏的人民起首討厭大總統。他們說他太過自由拋棄本國的土地；他們責他嘗試同英國做個買賣。把這個國賣丟了。我們要趕快在政變之前把像畫完，把錢拿到手。』

懷特很忠實在那裏畫。但是當他的工作進行的時候，他有過好幾次痛心疾首的看不起他自己的工作，無限的看不起他自己，有時滿肚子不好發作的愁悶，有時很高興以表示挖苦，開伊奧卻不然，他有一個大將的忍耐，安慰他，哄騙他，同他辯論——只要他在那裏畫像。

到了一個月後，懷特宣布他的繪畫完成啦——天帝，華盛頓，安琪兒們，雲，大礮，全畫好啦。當他告訴開伊奧的時候他的臉色是死白的，他的嘴是扯得直直的。

他說大總統很喜歡這幅畫像。要掛在懸掛大臣與英雄畫像的國立畫院內。要畫師明天回到卡薩摩林那領錢。到了時候，他就走出旅館，他的朋友很快樂的說他的大功告成，他卻不嚮隨他說。

一點鐘後他走入他朋友在那裏等候的屋子，把帽子摔在地下，坐在桌上。

他很節制着自己，很費事的說道，『比里，我的兄弟在西方做點小生意，原有我的一點資本。當我一面研究美術

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is running. It's what I've been living on while I've been studying art. I'll draw out my share and pay you back what you've lost on this scheme."

"Lost!" exclaimed Keogh, jumping up. "Didn't you get paid for the picture?"

"Yes, I got paid," said White. "But just now there isn't any picture, and there isn't any pay. If you care to hear about it, here are the edifying¹ details. The president and I were looking at the painting. His secretary brought a bank draft on New York for ten thousand dollars and handed it to me. The moment I touched it I went wild. I tore it into little pieces and threw them on the floor. A workman was repainting the pillars inside the *patio*. A bucket of his paint happened to be convenient. I picked up his brush and slapped a quart of blue paint all over that ten-thousand-dollar nightmare. I bowed, and walked out. The president didn't move or speak. That was one time he was taken by surprise. It's tough on you,² Billy, but I couldn't help it."

There seemed to be excitement in Coralio. Outside there was a confused, rising murmur pierced by high-pitched cries. "*Bajo el traidor—Muerte el traidor!*" were the words they seemed to form.

"Listen to that!" exclaimed White, bitterly; "I know that much Spanish. They're shouting, 'Down with the traitor!' I heard them before. I felt that they meant me. I was a traitor to Art. The picture had to go."

"'Down with the blank fool' would have suited your case better," said Keogh, with fiery emphasis. "You tear up ten thousand dollars like an old rag because the way

¹ edifying, 令人進德. ² tough on you, 難爲你.

的時候我就靠這點小生意過活。我將把我的股本抽出來，賠償這次計劃的你一部分的損失。」

開伊奧跳起來說道，『損失呀！難道你不曾領到畫價麼？』

懷特說道，『畫價是領到啦。但是現在畫也沒得了，錢也沒得了。你若是願意聽，待我把可以令人進德的詳情告訴你。大總統與我正在看畫像。他的祕書拿一張紐約的一萬塊錢匯票來，交給我。當我拿這張匯票的時候，我忽然變瘋了。我把匯票撕得很碎，摔在地下。一個工人正在重油院裏的柱子。剛好有一桶他的油放在那裏。我把他的油刷拿起來，搗了兩升藍色油在那幅一萬塊錢的如同惡夢一般的畫上，搗了滿幅都是藍油。我對大總統鞠躬，我就走出來（寫得有聲有色如在目前，的確好看。譯者註。）大總統既不動，亦不說話。這一次他被我出其不意的嚇倒了。比里，太難爲你了，但是我不能不這樣做。』

原來這個時候柯拉利奧有許多人鬧事啦。外邊有一片嘈雜聲音，越鬧越響，還有很尖的叫喊聲。好像是『打倒叛逆！』

懷特很痛恨的說道，『你細聽呀！我懂得一點西班牙話。他們喊的是，「打倒叛逆！」我從前聽過這樣的叫喊。我覺得他們是指我。我是美術的反叛。我不得不毀了那幅畫。』

開伊奧很激烈的說嚴重話，說道，『打倒一個無頭腦的傻子，更合你的身分。你撕碎一張一萬塊錢的匯票，如

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you've spread on five dollars' worth of paint hurts your conscience. Next time I pick a side-partner in a scheme the man has got to go before a notary and swear he never even heard the word 'ideal' mentioned."

Keogh strode from the room, white-hot. White paid little attention to his resentment. The scorn of Billy Keogh seemed a trifling thing beside the greater self-scorn he had escaped.

In Coralio the excitement waxed.¹ An outburst was imminent. The cause of this demonstration of displeasure was the presence in the town of a big, pink-cheeked Englishman, who, it was said, was an agent of his government come to clinch the bargain by which the president placed his people in the hands of a foreign power. It was charged that not only had he given away priceless concessions, but that the public debt was to be transferred into the hands of the English, and the custom-houses turned over to them as a guarantee. The long-enduring people had determined to make their protest felt.

On that night, in Coralio and in other towns, their ire found vent. Yelling mobs, mercurial but dangerous, roamed the streets. They overthrew the great bronze statue of the president that stood in the centre of the plaza, and hacked it to shapeless pieces. They tore from public buildings the tablets set there proclaiming the glory of the "Illustrious Liberator." His pictures in the government offices were demolished. The mobs even attacked the Casa Morena, but were driven away by the military, which remained faithful to the executive. All the night terror reigned.

¹ waxed, 越鬧越大.

同撕碎一塊破布一般，不過因為你在畫上用了五塊錢的顏料，使你的良心不安。以後我找幫手共同實行一個計劃，我必定要他在一個公證律師面前發誓，說他連「理想」名詞都不曾聽見過。」

開伊奧氣到如同大火燒到發白的程度，從屋裏走出來。懷特不甚理他發怒。開伊奧很看不起他，比諸他所倖免的更看不起自己，算不了什麼。

柯拉利奧鬧事，越鬧越大啦。暴動就在目前啦。人們鬧事為的是有一個身軀碩大粉紅臉色的英國人到了，有人說大總統把他的人民放在一個外國的掌握中，這個人是英國政府的辦事人來這裏訂實這件便易買賣。有人貶斥大總統，說他不獨割讓與英國人許多無價寶的權利，還把公債都轉交與英國人手上，把海關交給他們作一種擔保。忍受已久的人民立意要反抗。

當天晚上人民在柯拉利奧與其他市鎮發作。成羣成隊的亂喊亂叫的人民在街上遊行，他們雖然是無定性的，卻是很危險的。他們把廣場中間的大總統銅像推下來，打碎作幾塊。他們把公家建築的牌匾扯下來，這些牌匾是頌揚「名貴解放人」的光榮的。衙署內所掛的大總統像片都打碎了。羣衆還敢攻打卡薩摩林那，卻被軍人擊退，軍人還是忠於政府的，終夜都是恐怖世界。

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The greatness of Losada was shown by the fact that by noon the next day order was restored, and he was still absolute. He issued proclamations denying positively that any negotiation of any kind had been entered into with England. Sir Stafford Vaughn, the pink-cheeked Englishman, also declared in placards and in public print that his presence there had no international significance. He was a traveller without guile. In fact (so he stated), he had not even spoken with the president or been in his presence since his arrival.

During this disturbance, White was preparing for his homeward voyage in the steamship that was to sail within two or three days. About noon, Keogh, the restless, took his camera out with the hope of speeding the lagging hours. The town was now as quiet as if peace had never departed from her perch on the red-tiled roofs.

About the middle of the afternoon, Keogh hurried back to the hotel with something decidedly special in his air. He retired to the little room where he developed his pictures.

Later on he came out to White on the balcony, with a luminous, grim, predatory smile on his face.

"Do you know what that is?" he asked, holding up a 4 x 5 photograph mounted on cardboard.

"Snap-shot of a seflorita sitting in the sand—alliteration unintentional," guessed White, lazily.

"Wrong," said Keogh with shining eyes. "It's a slung-shot. It's a can of dynamite. It's a gold mine. It's a sight-draft on your president man for twenty thousand dollars—yes, sir—twenty thousand this time, and no spoiling the picture. No ethics of art in the way. Art!

到了明日中午就恢復秩序，魯沙達還是專制的大總統，這就可以看出他是個偉大人物。他發出許出告示切實否認他與英國辦過什麼交涉。和安(Sir Stafford Vaughn)爵士，就是那個粉紅臉的英國人，也掛牌與登報，聲明他到這裏來並無什麼國際意味。他是一個毫無陰謀的旅行家。他說自從到此以來，他其實並不曾同大總統說過話，亦不曾見過大總統。

當鬧事的時候，懷特正在預備回國，要搭兩三日內開行的輪船。不能安靜的開伊奧，約在中午時候拿了照像箱子出去，要把落後的光陰過得快些。本市現在是安靜了，好像是絕未鬧過事的。

到了三四點鐘的時候，開伊奧趕快跑回來旅館，他的神氣表示有極其特別的事故。他走入他洗化照片的小屋子。

過了一會他走出來，找坐在露台的懷特，臉上帶着一種閃光的，兇惡的，與意在劫掠的微笑。

他舉起一張粘好在紙樸上的寬四寸高五寸的照片，說道，「你曉得這是什麼？」

懷特懶懶的猜道，「一個小姑娘坐在沙上，你乘人不備，急忙照了她的相——無意的照了幾個(?)」

開伊奧兩眼發光說道，「你猜錯了。這是擲擊彈。這是一罐炸藥。這是一個金礦。這是一張即期匯票，要大總統交二萬塊錢——是的，先生，這次是二萬塊錢，又不必糟塌這幅畫。這次沒得美術的道德學來干預。美術呀！你同

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You with your smelly little tubes! I've got you skinned to death with a kodak. Take a look at that."

White took the picture in his hand, and gave a long whistle.

"Jove!" he exclaimed, "but wouldn't that stir up a row in town if you let it be seen. How in the world did you get it, Billy?"

"You know that high wall around the president man's back garden? I was up there trying to get a bird's-eye of the town. I happened to notice a chink in the wall where a stone and a lot of plaster had slid out. Thinks I, I'll take a peep through to see how Mr. President's cabbages are growing. The first thing I saw was him and this Sir Englishman sitting at a little table about twenty feet away. They had the table all spread over with documents, and they were hobnobbing¹ over them as thick as two pirates. 'Twas a nice corner of the garden, all private and shady with palms and orange trees, and they had a pail of champagne set by handy in the grass. I knew then was the time for me to make my big hit in Art. So I raised the machine up to the crack, and pressed the button. Just as I did so them old boys shook hands on the deal—you see they took that way in the picture."

Keogh put on his coat and hat.

"What are you going to do with it?" asked White.

"Me," said Keogh in a hurt tone, "why, I'm going to tie a pink ribbon to it and hang it on the what-not,² of course. I'm surprised at you. But while I'm out you just try to figure out what gingercake potentate would be most likely to want to buy this work of art for his private collection—just to keep it out of circulation."

¹ hobnobbing, 密談. ² what-not, 多寶樹.

你的有惡氣味的小鉛筒！我用一個小照像機，就制你的死命。你拿去看看。』

懷特把照片取過來放在手上，長嘯一聲。

他喊道，『天帝呀！你若讓人們看見，豈不激動人們滋事麼？比里，你怎樣照得這樣的照片？』

『你曉得大總統的後花園有一道高圍牆麼？我走到那裏，試取一個鳥瞰勢，看看這個市鎮。我碰巧看見這道牆有一條裂縫，因為那裏有一塊石頭與一堆灰都丟下來了。我心裏想，我何妨窺探，看看大總統的白菜長得怎麼樣了。我往裏一看，就看見大總統與那個英吉利爵士坐在一張小桌邊，離牆不過二十尺。他們把許多公文全擺在桌上，他們在那裏密談，談得很着緊的，如同兩個海盜一般。那個地方原是花園的很好的一個角落，很祕密的，在棕櫚樹與橘子樹蔭之下，還有一個桶裝了幾瓶香賓酒放在青草地上，我曉得這正是時候在美術上作一孤注。所以我把照相機舉高與牆縫齊，就按機。當我正在按機的時候，他們兩個人因為買賣告成，在那裏拉手——你試看照相，正是他們拉手的時候。』

開伊奧穿上大衣戴上大帽。

懷特問道，『你這張相片拿來作什麼用？』

開伊奧帶點不高興的腔調，說道，『我麼，我自然是去繫上一條粉紅色帶子，掛在多寶櫥上。我很詫異你問我這句話。但是當我出門的時候，你試計算，什麼徒有外觀的元首，最肯買這樣的美術品，作為他自己的私家收藏，——不使其流傳於外。』

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The sunset was reddening the tops of the cocoanut palms when Billy Keogh came back from Casa Morena. He nodded to the artist's questioning gaze; and lay down on a cot with his hands under the back of his head.

"I saw him. He paid the money like a little man. They didn't want to let me in at first. I told 'em it was important. Yes, that president man is on the plenty-able list. He's got a beautiful business system about the way he uses his brains. All I had to do was to hold up the photograph so he could see it, and name the price. He just smiled, and walked over to a safe and got the cash. Twenty one-thousand-dollar brand-new United States Treasury notes he laid on the table, like I'd pay out a dollar and a quarter. Fine notes, too—they crackled with a sound like burning the brush off a ten-acre lot."

"Let's try the feel of one," said White, curiously. "I never saw a thousand-dollar bill." Keogh did not immediately respond.

"Carry," he said, in an absent-minded way, "you think a heap of your art, don't you?"

"More," said White, frankly, "than has been for the financial good of myself and my friends."

"I thought you were a fool the other day," went on Keogh, quietly, "and I'm not sure now that you wasn't. But if you was, so am I. I've been in some funny deals, Carry, but I've always managed to scramble fair, and match my brains and capital against the other fellow's. But when it comes to—well, when you've got the other fellow cinched,¹ and the screws on him, and he's got to put up—why, it don't strike me as being a man's game. They've

¹ cinched, 勒緊動不得。

等到比里從大總統的府第回來的時候，落日的紅光正照在椰樹頂上。畫師的兩眼瞪着他，帶有請問神色，開伊奧就對他點頭；隨即躺在一張小床上，兩手放在他的頭後。

開伊奧說道，『我見着他。他給錢給得很小氣。他們起初不讓我進去。我告訴他們我有要事。是呀，這個大總統是在多才多能之列。他用腦的方法是很好的辦事章程。我只須舉起這張照片，使他能夠看見，就把我的價錢告訴他。他不過微微一笑，走過去，開一個錢櫃，把錢取出來。他把很新鮮的美國國庫所出的鈔票，共值二萬一千圓，放在桌上，如同我拿出一塊零二角五給人一般。還是頂好的鈔票——搓搓就發很響的聲音，如同放火燒十畝地的小樹林一般。』（如是寫得有聲有色，卻是很安詳，毫不費力的。譯者註。）

懷特好奇，說道，『讓我來試摩一摩，我生平還未見過一千塊錢一張的鈔票啦。』開伊奧並不立刻答話。

開伊奧心不在焉的說道，『卡里，你很看重你的繪畫，是不是？』

懷特很坦白的說道，『比看我自己的與我的朋友們的金錢上的利益，重得多。』

開伊奧安詳說道，『那一天我以為你是一個傻子，我現在還不敢一定說你不是傻子。倘若你是個傻子，我也是個傻子。卡里，我曾做過幾件很好笑的巧奪錢財的事，但是我常設法奪取得很公平的，我拿我的腦筋與資本與對方的人的腦筋與資本對壘。但是當你把對方的人勒緊了，動不得，還要加上幾個螺絲釘的時候，你要什麼，他只好給什麼——我覺得這不是男子漢所為，他們有一個名詞

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got a name for it, you know; it's—confound you, don't you understand. A fellow feels—it's something like that blamed art of yours—he—well, I tore that photograph up and laid the pieces on that stack of money and shoved the whole business back across the table. 'Excuse me, Mr. Losada,' I said, 'but I guess I've made a mistake in the price. You get the photo for nothing.' Now, Carry, you get out the pencil, and we'll do some more figuring. I'd like to save enough out of our capital for you to have some fried sausages in your joint when you get back to New York."

CHAPTER XVI

ROUGE ET NOIR

It has been indicated that disaffection followed the elevation of Losada to the presidency. This feeling continued to grow. Throughout the entire republic there seemed to be a spirit of silent, sullen discontent. Even the old Liberal party to which Goodwin, Zavalla and other patriots had lent their aid was disappointed. Losada had failed to become a popular idol. Fresh taxes, fresh import duties and, more than all, his tolerance¹ of the outrageous oppression of citizens by the military had rendered him the most obnoxious president since the despicable Alforan. The majority of his own cabinet were out of sympathy with him. The army, which he had courted by giving it license to tyrannize, had been his main, and thus far adequate support.

¹ tolerance, 縱容.

稱這種事體，你是曉得的；你不曉得呀，這就叫作——。一個人覺得——好樣你的美術一樣——他——好呀，我把那張照片撕碎了，把碎塊放在那堆鈔票上，一起推過桌子那邊去。我說道，「魯沙達先生，請你勿怪，我猜我把價錢說錯了。你不必給錢，你把照片拿去。卡里，你把鉛筆拿出來，讓我們再核算。我要從我們的資本裏頭省出多少錢來，等到你回去紐約的時候，夠你在小屋裏炸香腸用。」

第十六回 紅與黑

我們曾經表示過魯沙達做了大總統，跟着就是人民心懷怨望。這樣惡感接連增長。全個共和國的人好像都是敢怒不敢言。古特文與沙和拉(Zavalla)及其他愛國人們所幫助過的舊自由黨，也大失所望。魯沙達原想變作一個爲人民所愛戴與爲人民所崇拜的大人物，卻做不成。他抽收幾種新稅，幾種入口稅，尤其失人心的還是他縱容軍人非常的欺壓市民，這就使他變作可鄙的愛甫蘭(Alforan)以後的最受人反對的大總統。他的閣員們有大多數是不與他表同情的。他敷衍軍隊，縱容他們欺壓人民，他的最要緊的後盾又是最適用的後盾就是軍隊。

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But the most impolitic of the administration's moves had been when it antagonized¹ the Vesuvius Fruit Company, an organization plying twelve steamers and with a cash capital somewhat larger than Anchuria's surplus and debt combined.

Reasonably, an established concern like the Vesuvius would become irritated at having a small, retail republic with no rating at all attempt to squeeze it. So, when the government proxies applied for a subsidy they encountered a polite refusal. The president at once retaliated by clapping an export duty of one *real* per bunch on bananas—a thing unprecedented in fruit-growing countries. The Vesuvius Company had invested large sums in wharves and plantations along the Anchurian coast, their agents had erected fine homes in the towns where they had their headquarters, and heretofore had worked with the republic in good-will and with advantage to both. It would lose an immense sum if compelled to move out. The selling price of bananas from Vera Cruz to Trinidad was three *reals* per bunch. This new duty of one *real* would have ruined the fruit growers in Anchuria and have seriously discommoded the Vesuvius Company had it declined to pay it. But for some reason, the Vesuvius continued to buy Anchurian fruit, paying four *reals* for it; and not suffering the growers to bear the loss.

This apparent victory deceived His Excellency; and he began to hunger for more of it. He sent an emissary to request a conference with a representative of the fruit company. The Vesuvius sent Mr. Franzoni, a little, stout, cheerful man, always cool, and whistling airs from Verdi's

¹ antagonize, 作對.

但是政府的最不智的舉動就是同維蘇維亞(Vesuvius)鮮果公司作對,這個公司有十二條輪船來往裝貨,其現錢資本比安朱里亞國的盈餘與債款的總數,還要大得多。

一個設立多年的營業,如同維蘇維亞公司,被一個小小的,零碎出賣的,又無地位的共和國所嘗試敲詐,自然會變作忿怒的。所以當政府委員們向公司要津貼的時候,他們碰了釘子,公司很客氣的拒絕不給。大總統立刻報復,抽收香蕉出口稅,每枝要納一個里爾(real西班牙幣名合英幣二便士半。譯者註。)——這是出產鮮果諸國向來所無的。維蘇維亞公司化過許多錢在海岸一帶造碼頭與果園,其代理人們在總棧所在的市鎮蓋了好幾所闊房子,一向與共和國交涉,彼此都是親善的,彼此都得利益。若是被逼遷出,就會受很大的損失。從維拉·喀拉茲(Vera Cruz)到特里達(Trinidad)每枝香蕉的賣價是三個里爾。新加一里爾的稅,就會毀了安朱里亞的種果樹的人們,假使維蘇維亞公司不肯納新稅,就會受種種嚴重的不便。維蘇維亞公司卻有某種理由接連買安朱里亞所出產的鮮果,給四里爾的買價;不讓種果樹的人們吃虧。

這樣的外表得勝使大總統受騙;他嘗過滋味就起首要再加新稅。他派一個人去同公司說,要公司派代表會議事件。維蘇維亞公司派法蘭索尼(Franzoni),他是一個小胖子,與致是好的,常是冷靜的,吹嘯華爾狄(Verdi)樂

operas. Señor Espirition, of the office of the Minister of Finance, attempted the sandbagging¹ in behalf of Anchuria. The meeting took place in the cabin of the *Salvador*, of the Vesuvius line.

Señor Espirition opened negotiations by announcing that the government contemplated the building of a railroad to skirt the alluvial coast lands. After touching upon the benefits such a road would confer upon the interests of the Vesuvius, he reached the definite suggestion that a contribution to the road's expenses of, say, fifty thousand *pesos* would not be more than an equivalent to benefits received.

Mr. Franzoni denied that his company would receive any benefits from a contemplated road. As its representative he must decline to contribute fifty thousand *pesos*. But he would assume the responsibility of offering twenty-five.

Did Señor Espirition understand Señor Franzoni to mean twenty-five thousand *pesos*?

By no means. Twenty-five *pesos*. And in silver; not in gold.

"Your offer insults my government," cried Señor Espirition, rising, with indignation.

"Then," said Mr. Franzoni, in warning tone, "*we will change it.*"

The offer was never changed. Could Mr. Franzoni have meant the government?

This was the state of affairs in Anchuria when the winter season opened at Coralio at the end of the second year of Losada's administration. So, when the government and

¹sandbagging, 斷路賊用沙袋打人, 使失知覺.

劇的調。代表安朱里亞國的是財政部的人員名愛披里順(Espirition)，嘗試用迷惑手段。他們在公司的一條輪船上的頭等艙裏會議。

愛披里順開議，宣言政府籌劃造一條鐵路繞沖積海邊走過。他隨即說這條路怎樣有益於公司，他就提議由公司捐助造路經費，他說五萬披素(pesos 西班牙銀幣。譯者註。)不能多過公司所得的利益。

法蘭素尼否認他所代表的公司會得着所議造的鐵路的任何利益。他以代表資格，他必得拒絕捐助五萬披素。但是他肯負責捐二十五。

愛披里順說法蘭素尼所說的二十五是說二千披素麼？

不是的，只是二十五個披素。只是銀幣，還不是金幣。

愛披里順大怒，站起來，說道，『你所願捐的數目侮辱我的政府。』

法蘭素尼用警告腔調說道，『既是這樣，我們將改換。』

數目並未改換。難道法蘭素尼的意思是要改換政府麼？

當安朱里亞國處於這種情形的時候，柯拉利奧的冬季開首啦，這是魯沙達當大總統的第二年年底。所以當政府與社會每年出發到海濱的時候，顯然見得這次大總統

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society made its annual exodus to the seashore it was evident that the presidential advent would not be celebrated by unlimited rejoicing. The tenth of November was the day set for the entrance into Coralio of the gay company from the capital. A narrow-gauge railroad runs twenty miles into the interior from Solitas. The government party travels by carriage from San Mateo to this road's terminal point, and proceeds by train to Solitas. From here they march in grand procession to Coralio where, on the day of their coming, festivities and ceremonies abound. But this season saw an ominous dawning of the tenth of November.

Although the rainy season was over, the day seemed to hark back to reeking June. A fine drizzle of rain fell all during the forenoon. The procession entered Coralio amid a strange silence.

President Losada was an elderly man, grizzly bearded, with a considerable ratio of Indian blood revealed in his cinnamon complexion. His carriage headed the procession, surrounded and guarded by Captain Cruz and his famous troop of one hundred light horse "*El Ciento Huilando*." Colonel Rocas followed, with a regiment of the regular army.

The president's sharp, beady eyes glanced about him for the expected demonstration of welcome; but he faced a stolid,¹ indifferent array of citizens. Sightseers the Anchurians are by birth and habit, and they turned out to their last able-bodied unit to witness the scene; but they maintained an accusive silence. They crowded the streets to the very wheel ruts; they covered the red tile roofs to

¹ stolid, 感覺不靈.

光臨，是不會被無限的娛樂所慶賀的。擇定十一月十日爲這一隊快樂的人們從京都入柯拉利奧的日期。有一條二十哩長的窄軌鐵路從梭里塔(Solitas)入內地。政府的人們坐馬車從山瑪刁(San Mateo)到這條鐵路的末站，從此坐大車往梭里塔。再從這裏排隊入柯拉利奧，在他們到的那一天，有許多宴會與禮節。但是這一季看見十一月十日是不祥的破曉。

雖然多雨的時節已經過去，這一天好像回到烟霧騰騰的六月天氣。全個上午下小雨。排隊入柯拉利奧的時候，地方上是很奇怪的寂然無聲。

大總統魯沙達有了幾歲年紀啦，髭鬚斑白，他的肉桂色的臉表示他有許多印度種的血。他的馬車在排隊之前，四圍有軍官喀拉茲與他的有名的一百輕騎所保護。跟在後頭就是羅卡士(Rocas)大佐，帶着一隊正式軍隊。

大總統的兩隻尖利圓珠眼睛左右的望，要看他所逆料的歡迎表示；但是他只看見排列了許多感覺不靈敏的與冷淡的市民。安朱里亞國的人生來與習慣都是喜歡看熱鬧的；凡是走得動的人都出來看熱鬧；他們卻始終不嚮，表示有指斥的意思。他們塞滿大街，塞到車轍；紅瓦房

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the eaves, but there was never a "viva" from them. No wreaths of palm and lemon branches or gorgeous strings of paper roses hung from the windows and balconies as was the custom. There was an apathy, a dull, dissenting disapprobation, that was the more ominous¹ because it puzzled. No one feared an outburst, a revolt of the discontents, for they had no leader. The president and those loyal to him had never even heard whispered a name among them capable of crystallizing the dissatisfaction into opposition. No, there could be no danger. The people always procured a new idol before they destroyed an old one.

At length, after a prodigious galloping and curvetting of red-sashed majors, gold-laced colonels and epauletted generals, the procession formed for its annual progress down the Calle Grande to the Casa Morena, where the ceremony of welcome to the visiting president always took place.

The Swiss band led the line of march. After it pranced the local *comandante*, mounted, and a detachment of his troops. Next came a carriage with four members of the cabinet, conspicuous among them the Minister of War, old General Pilar, with his white moustache and his soldierly bearing. Then the president's vehicle, containing also the Ministers of Finance and State; and surrounded by Captain Cruz's light horse formed in a close double file of fours. Following them, the rest of the officials of state, the judges and distinguished military and social ornaments of public and private life.

As the band struck up, and the movement began, like a bird of ill-omen the *Valhalla*, the swiftest steamship of

¹ominous, 不祥.

頂上也站滿人，從房頂站到房簷，卻始終無一人喊『萬歲。』向來結綵歡迎的，從窗戶與露台懸掛棕櫚葉圈子，與檸檬樹葉，或一串一串的五色紙紮玫瑰花，這次卻什麼都沒有。只有一種不表同情，一種無光彩的，不表同意的不贊成，因為這樣的表示很令人疑迷，所以更表示不祥。無人怕鬧事，無人怕不逞之徒倡亂，因為他們無為前首人。大總統與忠於他的人們，絕不會聽過有人附耳說一個能夠使怨望變成反對的人。既無這樣的人，就不能有危險。人們常是先有了一個他們所崇拜的新人物，然後把舊的毀了。

當披紅帶的少佐們，穿金衣袖的大佐們，與戴肩章的軍長們騎馬狂跑與短跳之後，按着每年的辦法，排隊的人們從大街走到卡薩摩林那，向來都是在這裏行歡迎禮的。先行的是瑞士音樂隊。在後就是本地鎮將，騎馬跳着走，還有一哨他的軍隊。再後就是一部馬車，坐着四個閣員，其中最顯著的就是陸軍部長，老將披拉爾（Pilar），他的鬍子白了，卻還很有軍人的態度。隨後才是大總統的車，車裏還有財政部長與外交部長；喀拉茲的輕騎圍住大總統的馬車，分作很密的雙排，每排若干隊，每隊四騎隨後就是其餘的官員，裁判官們與高貴的武官及公私生活的社會閒人。

當軍樂一奏，與起行的時候，維蘇維亞的最快輪船，瓦哈拉，如同一隻不祥的鳥，溜入港裏，看着大總統與他

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the Vesuvius line, glided into the harbour in plain view of the president and his train. Of course, there was nothing menacing about its arrival—a business firm does not go to war with a nation—but it reminded Señor Espirition and others in those carriages that the Vesuvius Fruit Company was undoubtedly carrying something up its sleeve for them.

By the time the van of the procession had reached the government building, Captain Cronin, of the *Valhalla*, and Mr. Vincenti, member of the Vesuvius Company, had landed and were pushing their way, bluff, hearty and nonchalant, through the crowd on the narrow sidewalk. Clad in white linen, big, debonair, with an air of good-humoured authority, they made conspicuous figures among the dark mass of unimposing Anchurians, as they penetrated to within a few yards of the steps of the Casa Morena. Looking easily above the heads of the crowd, they perceived another that towered above the undersized natives. It was the fiery poll of Dicky Maloney against the wall close by the lower step; and his broad, seductive grin showed that he recognized their presence.

Dicky had attired himself becomingly for the festive occasion in a well-fitting black suit. Pasa was close by his side, her head covered with the ubiquitous black mantilla.

Mr. Vincenti looked at her attentively.

“Botticelli’s Madonna,” he remarked, gravely. “I wonder when she got into the game. I don’t like his getting tangled with the women. I hoped he would keep away from them.”

Captain Cronin’s laugh almost drew attention from the parade.

的扈從。輪船到港自然並無恐嚇意思——一個做生意的行號是不同一個國打仗的——卻使愛披里順及在馬車裏的其他人們記得維蘇維亞鮮果公司在那裏暗施詭計，這是無疑的了。

當前隊到了衙署的時候，瓦哈拉的船主克魯寧（Cronin）與維蘇維亞公司的股東文章提（Vincenti）已經登岸，在窄路上的人叢中擠過，神氣是率直的，和氣的，冷靜的。他們的身軀大，神色從容自得，穿了白細布衣服，帶着一種有事權而無脾氣的態度，當他們鑽入人叢中，離卡薩摩林那的台階不過幾碼遠的時候，他們在一羣黑而無威儀的安朱里亞人堆中，是很顯著的。他們從從容容的在人堆的頭上看過去，就看見又有一個人高出身體矮小的土人上。他們看見狄奇·瑪路尼（Dicky Maloney）的紅頭靠着較下的台階附近的牆邊；他張大口，露齒作迷人的微笑，這就表示他認得他們。

狄奇穿了一套很合身材的黑衣服，很稱這樣的慶賀大典。帕沙（Pasa是狄奇·瑪路尼的夫人。譯者註。）在他身邊，頭上戴着無處不戴的黑披肩，

文章提很留心看她。

他很鄭重的說道，『她是卜提奢里（Botticelli）所繪的聖母像。我心裏很詫異，她是幾時走來演這出戲的。我不喜歡他同婦女們混在一起。我希望他脫離女人們。』

船主克魯寧大笑，幾乎引排隊遊行的人注意他。

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"With that head of hair! Keep away from the women! And a Maloney! Hasn't he got a license? But, nonsense aside, what do you think of the prospects? It's a species of filibustering out of my line."

Vincenti glanced again at Dicky's head and smiled.

"*Rouge et noir*," he said. "There you have it. Make your play, gentlemen. Our money is on the red."

"The lad's game," said Cronin, with a commending look at the tall, easy figure by the steps. "But 'tis all like fly-by-night¹ theatricals to me. The talk's bigger than the stage; there's a smell of gasoline in the air, and they're their own audience and sceneshifters."

They ceased talking, for General Pilar had descended from the first carriage and had taken his stand upon the top step of Casa Morena. As the oldest member of the cabinet, custom had decreed that he should make the address of welcome, presenting the keys of the official residence to the president at its close.

General Pilar was one of the most distinguished citizens of the republic. Hero of three wars and innumerable revolutions, he was an honoured guest at European courts and camps. An eloquent speaker and a friend to the people, he represented the highest type of the Anchurians.

Holding in his hand the gilt keys of Casa Morena, he began his address in a historical form, touching upon each administration and the advance of civilization and prosperity from the first dim striving after liberty down to present times. Arriving at the régime of President Losada, at which point, according to precedent, he should have delivered a eulogy upon its wise conduct and the happiness

¹ Fly-by-night, 放蕩人.

『有那樣一頭的頭髮！離開婦女們呀！況且他是一個瑪路尼！他不是得了一張準許的執照麼？但是我們丟開胡話不說，你看光景怎麼樣？這是一種外人非法干預別國時事，不是我的本業。』

文章提又看看狄奇的頭微笑。

他說道，『有紅有黑。先生們賭一個顏色。我們是賭紅的。』

克魯寧看看站在台階旁的身材高大態度雍容的人，表示贊成意思說道，『這個少年會贏。但是據我看來，好像是演蕩子戲。說話比戲台大；滿空中都是汽油味，他們自演自看，又兼做布景人。』

他們不說話啦，因為軍長披拉爾已經從第一輛馬車下來，站在卡薩摩林那的頂高的台階上。閣員以他為最老，習慣是應該由他宣讀歡迎詞，說完把官舍的鎖匙獻與大總統。

軍長披拉爾是共和國的一個最顯著的市民。他是三次戰事的英雄，又是無數那麼多次革命的英雄，在歐羅巴的宮庭裏與軍營裏，他是一個貴客。他既善於辭令，又是人民之友，他代表最高等的安朱里亞國人。

他一手抓住卡薩摩林那的鍍金鎖匙，一面作歷史的演說，說及每次的政府與文化及繁榮的進步，從最初暗淡的求自由時代說起，以至今日。他說到大總統魯沙達時代，照着先例，他說到這裏就該頌揚一番，恭維政府的明智舉動與人民的歡樂，不料披拉爾反不說了。他隨即一言

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of the people, General Pilar paused. Then he silently held up the bunch of keys high above his head, with his eyes closely regarding it. The ribbon with which they were bound fluttered in the breeze.

"It still blows," cried the speaker, exultantly. "Citizens of Anchuria, give thanks to the saints this night that our air is still free."

Thus disposing of Losada's administration, he abruptly reverted to that of Olivarra, Anchuria's most popular ruler. Olivarra had been assassinated nine years before while in the prime of life and usefulness. A faction of the Liberal party led by Losada himself had been accused of the deed. Whether guilty or not, it was eight years before the ambitious and scheming Losada had gained his goal.

Upon this theme General Pilar's eloquence was loosed. He drew the picture of the beneficent Olivarra with a loving hand. He reminded the people of the peace, the security and the happiness they had enjoyed during that period. He recalled in vivid detail and with significant contrast the last winter sojourn of President Olivarra in Coralio, when his appearance at their fiestas¹ was the signal for thundering *vivas* of love and approbation.

The first public expression of sentiment from the people that day followed. A low, sustained murmur went among them like the surf rolling along the shore.

"Ten dollars to a dinner at the Saint Charles," remarked Mr. Vincenti, "that *rouge* wins."

"I never bet against my own interest," said Captain Cronin, lighting a cigar. "Long-winded old boy, for his age. What's he talking about!"

¹ fiestas, 宗教慶節, 慶節, 歡迎會.

不發的高舉那一掛鎖匙，高出他的頭上，兩眼很留神的看。綁這一捆鎖匙的帶子，在風中搖動。軍長很高興的說道，『風還在這裏吹啦，安朱里亞國的市民呀，現在我們的空氣還是自由的，你們今晚必得謝神聖們。』

他就是這樣發付了魯沙達政府，他忽然說到從前奧利瓦拉 (Olivarra) 政府，他是人民所最愛戴的安朱里亞國的元首。九年前，奧利瓦拉正在盛年，與正在最有用的時候，被人暗殺。那時候魯沙達自己當自由黨中一派的領袖，有人說就是這一派行刺的。無論這一派是否犯了暗殺的罪，那個有異志而多詭計的魯沙達要過八年才能達到目的。

軍長披拉爾於是大放厥詞說這件事。他用一種愛戴的筆墨，形容慈善的奧利瓦拉。他要人民記得當奧利瓦拉做大總統時候的太平，安穩與歡樂。他追述前大總統奧利瓦拉最後在柯拉利奧過冬的情形，那時候大總統一出現於他們的歡迎會，他們就歡聲雷動的喊大總統萬歲，以表示他們的愛戴與贊成，他把當日的詳細情形，說得有聲有色，以反襯現在的寂寞。

隨後就是人民們當衆第一次發表他們的意見。在羣衆裏頭發出一陣低微而持久的怨望聲，如同波濤在岸邊湧過一般。

文章提說道，『我同你賭，紅的贏；你若輸了，請我在聖查理吃大餐，我若輸了給你十塊錢。』

克魯寧點着一根雪茄，說道，『我向來不賭反對我自己利益的事。那個老頭子很老了，還說一篇這樣長的話。他說些什麼？』

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"My Spanish," replied Vincenti, "runs about ten words to the minute; his is something around two hundred. Whatever he's saying, he's getting them warmed up."

"Friends and brothers," General Pilar was saying, "could I reach out my hand this day across the lamentable silence of the grave to Olivarra 'the Good,' to the ruler who was one of you, whose tears fell when you sorrowed, and whose smile followed your joy—I would bring him back to you, but—Olivarra is dead—dead at the hands of a craven assassin!"

The speaker turned and gazed boldly into the carriage of the president. His arm remained extended aloft as if to sustain his peroration. The president was listening, aghast, at this remarkable address of welcome. He was sunk back upon his seat, trembling with rage and dumb surprise, his dark hands tightly gripping the carriage cushions.

Half rising, he extended one arm toward the speaker, and shouted a harsh command at Captain Cruz. The leader of the "Flying Hundred" sat his horse, immovable, with folded arms, giving no sign of having heard. Losada sank back again, his dark features distinctly paling.

"Who says that Olivarra is dead?" suddenly cried the speaker, his voice, old as he was, sounding like a battle trumpet. "His body lies in the grave, but to the people he loved he has bequeathed his spirit—yes, more—his learning, his courage, his kindness—yes, more—his youth, his image—people of Anchuria, have you forgotten Ramon, the son of Olivarra?"

Cronin and Vincenti, watching closely, saw Dicky Maloney suddenly raise his hat, tear off his shock of red hair, leap up the steps and stand at the side of General

文章提答道，『我說西班牙話，大約一分鐘說十個字；那個老頭子一分鐘說二百字。無論他說什麼，他正在激怒他們。』

軍長披拉爾說道，『朋友們與兄弟們，好總統奧利瓦拉原是來自田間的，你們憂愁他就滴淚，你們歡樂他就微笑，假使我今日能夠伸手入奧利瓦拉的可哀的，沉寂的墳墓，我就會請他回來，把他交還與你們，可惜他死了——被一個惡劣懦夫所暗殺！』

演說人掉過臉來，很大膽的看大總統的馬車。他的手臂還是伸出，舉得高高的，好像要維持他的演說。大總統，臉無人色，在那裏細聽這一篇奇怪的歡迎詞。他身子往後靠，發怒與驚愕到發抖，卻不出聲，他的兩隻黑手緊緊的抓住車墊。

他半個身子起來，伸出一手向着演說人，一面大聲發嚴厲的號令給喀拉茲營長。這個飛騎隊統領坐在馬上，不動，兩手交加放在胸前，毫不表示他聽見號令。魯沙達又坐下，往後靠，他的黑臉顯然變作無血色啦。

那個演說人年紀雖老，他的聲音如同打仗時的喇叭那樣響，他忽然喊道，『誰說奧利瓦拉死了？他的屍體誠然是在墳墓裏，但是他會把他的精神遺交與他所愛的人民——而且把他的學識，他的勇敢，他的慈愛——還有啦，——還把他的少年，他的形像，遺交與你們——安朱里亞國的人民呀，難道你們忘記了奧利瓦拉的兒子雷門（Ramon）麼？』

克魯寧與文章提很小心的觀察，就看見狄奇·瑪路尼忽然舉他的帽子，扯下紛亂的紅頭髮，跳上台階，站在軍長披拉爾身邊。陸軍部長把手放在這個少年的兩肩上。凡

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Pilar. The Minister of War laid his arm across the young man's shoulder. All who had known President Olivarra saw again his same lion-like pose, the same frank, undaunted expression, the same high forehead with the peculiar line of the clustering, crisp black hair.

General Pilar was an experienced orator. He seized the moment of breathless silence that preceded the storm.

"Citizens of Anchuria," he trumpeted, holding aloft the keys to Casa Morena, "I am here to deliver these keys—the keys to your homes and liberty—to your chosen president. Shall I deliver them to Enrico Olivarra's assassin, or to his son?"

"Olivarra! Olivarra!" the crowd shrieked and howled. All vociferated the magic name—men, women, children and the parrots.

And the enthusiasm was not confined to the blood of the plebs. Colonel Rocas ascended the steps and laid his sword theatrically at young Ramon Olivarra's feet. Four members of the cabinet embraced him. Captain Cruz gave a command, and twenty of *El Ciento Huilando* dismounted and arranged themselves in a cordon about the steps of Casa Morena.

But Ramon Olivarra seized that moment to prove himself a born genius and politician. He waved those soldiers aside, and descended the steps to the street. There, without losing his dignity or the distinguished elegance that the loss of his red hair brought him, he took the proletariat to his bosom—the barefooted, the dirty, Indians, Caribs, babies, beggars, old, young, saints, soldiers and sinners—he missed none of them.

While this act of the drama was being presented, the scene shifters had been busy at the duties that had been

是見過前大總統奧利瓦拉的人們，這時候又看見同他一樣的威嚴如獅的態度，一樣的坦白無畏神氣，一樣的高額，帶着特別一排成團的，黑色鬚頭髮。

軍長披拉爾原是一個頗有閱歷的演說家。他就乘這個風雨欲來以前的靜寂無聲的機會。

他高舉卡沙摩林那的鎖匙，大聲喊道，『安朱里亞國的市民呀，我要交這幾把鎖匙——這是你們的家庭與你們的自由的鎖匙——交與你們所選舉的大總統。我還是交給行刺奧利瓦拉的兇手，還是交給奧利瓦拉的兒子？』

羣衆大叫大喊道，『交給奧利瓦拉！交給奧利瓦拉！』男人，女人，孩子們，與鸚鵡，全喊這個能迷人的姓字。

不獨是下民表現熱心。大佐羅卡士登階，如演戲一般，把劍放在少年雷門·奧利瓦拉腳下。四個關員摟抱他。營長喀拉茲發號令，就有二十名飛騎下馬，聯成一線，圍住卡薩摩林那的台階。

但是雷門·奧利瓦拉乘這個機會證明他是一個生來的天才與政客。他揮手，叫軍人們站立兩旁，他下台階，站在大街上。他摟抱下民們，摟抱赤腳的人，醜陋的人，印度人，卡力白人，嬰孩，乞丐，老的，少的，教士們，軍人們，罪人們，他全摟抱到了，一個也不差，卻並不絲毫損失他的威望。他雖然把紅頭髮扯下來，並不損失他的富麗堂皇。

正在演這幕戲的時候，那些布景人們忙着做他們奉

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assigned to them. Two of Cruz's dragoons had seized the bridle reins of Losada's horses; others formed a close guard around the carriage; and they galloped off with the tyrant and his two unpopular Ministers. No doubt a place had been prepared for them. There are a number of well-barred stone apartments in Corallo.

"*Rouge wins*," said Mr. Vincenti, calmly lighting another cigar.

Captain Cronin had been intently watching the vicinity of the stone steps for some time.

"Good boy!" he exclaimed suddenly, as if relieved. "I wondered if he was going to forget his Kathleen Mavourneen."

Young Olivarra had reascended the steps and spoken a few words to General Pilar. Then that distinguished veteran descended to the ground and approached Pasa, who still stood, wonder-eyed, where Dicky had left her. With his plumed hat in his hand, and his medals and decorations shining on his breast, the general spoke to her and gave her his arm, and they went up the stone steps of the Casa Morena together. And then Ramon Olivarra stepped forward and took both her hands before all the people.

And while the cheering was breaking out afresh everywhere, Captain Cronin and Mr. Vincenti turned and walked back toward the shore where the gig was waiting for them.

"There'll be another '*presidente proclamada*' in the morning," said Mr. Vincenti, musingly. "As a rule they are not as reliable as the elected ones, but this youngster seems to have some good stuff in him. He planned and manoeuvred the entire campaign. Olivarra's widow, you know, was wealthy. After her husband was assassinated she went to the States, and educated her son at Yale.

派所做的事。喀拉茲部下的兩個龍騎兵抓住魯沙達的馬韁；另外幾個緊緊包圍馬車；他們就帶着這個暴君與他的兩個不洽輿情的部長跑。他們已經預備地方收留這三個人，這是無疑的了。柯拉利奧本來就有好幾間有鐵窗子的石屋。

文章提很鎮靜的又點着一根雪茄，說道，『紅的贏了。』

營長克魯寧早已很留心觀察石頭台階附近地方。

他好像是才放了心，忽然喊道，『好孩子！我正在猜他會不會忘記了他的伽特林·梅和爾年(Katkleen Mavourneen)。』

少年的奧利瓦拉又登台階，同軍長披拉爾說幾句話，這個顯名的老將隨即下來，向着帕沙走來，她還在狄奇離開她的地方站着，眼色表示詫異。老將一手抓住他的有鳥羽的帽，胸前掛了許多發亮的寶星與勳章，他對她說話，伸手扶她，同登石頭台階。雷門·奧利瓦拉隨即踏步向前，當着衆人的面抓住她的兩手。

於是到處重新拍掌喝采，克魯寧船主與文章提掉過身子向海岸走，小船在那裏等他們。

文章提心有所思的說道，『明早另有一篇大總統的宣言書。向來這樣的大總統還不如被公舉的大總統那樣可靠，但是這個少年好像有點好質性。全盤的戰局都是他劃策的，都是他調度的。你是曉得的，奧利瓦拉的寡婦很有錢。她的丈夫被暗殺後，她到了美國，送她的兒子入耶爾

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The Vesuvius Company hunted him up, and backed him in the little game."

"It's a glorious thing," said Cronin, half jestingly, "to be able to discharge a government, and insert one of your own choosing, in these days."

"Oh, it is only a matter of business," said Vincenti, stopping and offering the stump of his cigar to a monkey that swung down from a lime tree; "and that is what moves the world of to-day. That extra *real* on the price of bananas had to go. We took the shortest way of removing it."

大學讀書。維蘇維亞公司把他找出來，做他的後盾，演這一幕戲。』

克魯寧一半帶着開頑笑的說道，『今日能夠驅逐一個政府，插入一個你自己所選定的政府，原是很有榮耀的事呀。』

文章提一面站着，一面把他吸剩的雪茄頭給一隻從菩提樹上下來的猴子，說道，『這不過是做生意，今日牽動世界的就是這種事加征香蕉一里爾的稅，必得取銷。我們不過走最短的路，取銷這項新稅。』（一個香蕉公司就能夠廢一個政府另立一個新政府，說來好像並不費力的，令人聽了不能不驚恐。譯者註。）



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英漢對照名家小說選

白菜與帝王

Cabbages and Kings

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