A Sealed Paper

It Was to Be Given to a Dying Man's Widow

By Evan C. Hunter

Copyright by American Press Association, 1911.

Strolling into my bankers in Paris for any mail there might be for me, I was handed a letter from Bernard Carey, dated at Thun, Switzerland. Carey and I had been chums ever since we were five years old. He had lost his health in the Spanish-American war and had gone abroad for its recovery. He had asked me to go with him, but at the time a matter of importance prevented. However, I was worried about him, and as soon as I could get away I followed him, for I loved him like a brother and wished to do what I could to enable him to get well.

His letter told me that he was at a hotel in the town of Thun, on the lake of that name. The town, he said, was



WE AGREED TO COMPLY.

a quaint old place, taking one's fancy back to the middle ages. The Kursaal (or casino) was but a stone's throw from his hotel; from the window of his room he had a view of the lake and the Bernese Alps beyond. Altogether it was a charming spot. Unfortunately, however, he was in such poor health that he took but little pleasure in anything. He looked eagerly for my coming.

A night journey brought me to Thun and the same hotel as my friend. I was shown at once to his room and found him in bed. I was troubled at having left him so long alone, but when I began to reproach myself to him he stopped me to tell me that although he would have been glad to have me with him he had all the attention he required. Then he let me into a secret that both surprised and pained me.

I need to preface what he told me by saying that travelers in Europe are constantly meeting American girls there who go from place to place relying entirely on themselves. Sometimes two or three will travel together; sometimes they will be found singly; sometimes they will attach themselves to parties they happen to meet on their travels, for Americans abroad quickly become acquainted and often become bosom friends.

Carey had met a party that had been joined by an American girl, a Miss Edith Hubbell. He had traveled with them, and they had been very kind to him. Miss Hubbell had nursed him and unfortunately an attachment had sprung up between them. I say unfortunately, for I did not believe Carey would ever recover his health. This party, including Miss Hubbell, were at the same hotel with him at Thun. While I was sitting beside him he rang for a maid and told her to ask Miss Hubbell if she would come to him. When the young lady entered I naturally looked at her somewhat intently, which brought a slight blush to her face. I have, or think I have, a faculty of reading character in faces, and I judged that Miss Hubbell was one of those kindly disposed persons who would sacrifice herself for one who needed her good offices. As to how much love had to do with her attentions to Carey, I could not judge of that without seeing more of her. She said at once that she was glad of my arrival since Bernard had been looking forward to my coming eagerly, and, I being there, she would feel more free in her visits to him.

Carey was not well enough to leave his room and, fearful that both I and his fiancee would devote too much time to him, urged us to take walks and trips together. We would stroll along the banks of the lake sometimes to Oberhofen, sometimes farther and when we went too far to care to walk back would return on one of the pleasure boats constantly plying on the lake. Then at Carey's suggestion we took trips to Interlaken and thence up into the mountains. These outings were a great relief to me from attendance upon an invalid, and I noticed that Miss Hubbell, who on my arrival was pale and thin, began to take on a rosier hue.

One afternoon on returning from Lauterbrunnen Carey sent for me to come to him. I found a great change in him.

"Dick," he said to me, "I'm going to die."

I tried to reassure him.

"No," he persisted, "I'm going to die and I wish to speak to you about Edith. I must take steps to secure to her my property, which is about $30,000. I don't know anything of the laws covering cases where the parties are Americans in a foreign land, do you?"

"No."

"How shall I manage it?"

I thought a few moments, then told him that the safest way I could suggest was marriage.

He took to the idea so quickly it was evident to me that marriage was what he wished me to suggest. He asked me to go at once to the girl, break the news to her that he had given up all hope and suggest to her the plan by which she should inherit his property.

I did not see how I could refuse anything to my dying friend and promised him I would do so.

(Continued On Page Three.)

REPAIRING !

Boots, Shoes and Harness repairing done cheap.

JACOB B. PRICE,
Millerton, N. B.

A BIG OFFER

FOR THIRTY DAYS

Free! Free! Free! Free!

We purpose during the Next Month to give away

HUNDREDS OF ARTICLES FREE !

Will You Be One to Receive the Gifts ?

CONDITIONS :

Every customer making a purchase and paying CASH will receive a ticket with the amount of the purchase; after you have secured $10.00 in tickets you will receive FREE OF CHARGE any of the following goods:

Shirtwaists, Corsets, Umberallas, Saten Underskirts, Corset Covers, Night Dress, Stockings, Dressing Sack, Grey Cotton, Print, Dress goods, Shirts, Underwear, Caps, Pants, or $1.00 worth of any goods we keep to sell,

If you purchase amounts to more than $10.00 you will receive the same proportion equal to 10 p. c. discount.

Is not this worth saving; be on hand any day and save money.

House Cleaning Time is here.

We have all the goods, such as Carpets, Squares, Curtains, Wall Paper, Blinds, Oilcloth, Linoleum, etc. that go to make a home beautiful.

This spring buy your goods right. Save money. Buy from us.

CLARKE & CO'Y,

Dry Goodsmen, Newcastle.