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St. John, N. B.
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THE SCARLET PIMPERNEL

BY BARONESS ORCZY.

(Continued.)

She felt no longer anxious about Armand. The man who had just ridden away, bent on helping her brother, inspired her with complete confidence in his strength and in his power. She marvelled at herself for having ever looked upon him as an insane fool; of course, that was a mask worn to hide the bitter wound she had dealt to his faith and to his love. His passion would have mastered him, and he would not let her see how much he still cared and how deeply he suffered.

But now all would be well; she would crush her own pride, humble it before him, tell him everything, trust him in everything; and those happy days would come back, when they used to wander off together in the forests of Fontainebleau, when they spoke little—for he was always a silent man—but when she felt that against that strong heart she would always find rest and happiness.

The more she thought of the events of the past night, the less fear had she of Chauvelin and his schemes. He had failed to discover the identity of the Scarlet Pimpernel, of that she felt sure. Both Lord Flammont and Chauvelin himself had assured her that no one had been in the dining room at one o'clock except the Frenchman himself and Percy—Yes!—Percy! she might have asked him, had she thought of it! Anyway, she had no fears that the unknown and brave hero would fall in Chauvelin's trap; his death at any rate would not be at her door.

Armand certainly was still in danger, but Percy had pledged his word that Armand would be safe, and somehow, as Marguerite had seen him riding away, this possibility that he could fall in whatever he undertook never even remotely crossed her mind. When Armand was safely over in England she would not allow him to go back to France.

She felt almost happy now, and, drawing the curtains closely together again to shut out the piercing sun, she went to bed at last, laid her head upon the pillow, and, like a wearied child, soon fell into a peaceful and dreamless sleep.

CHAPTER XVII.

THE MYSTERIOUS DEVICE.

The day was well advanced when Marguerite woke, refreshed by her long sleep. Louise had brought her some fresh milk and a dish of fruit, and she partook of this frugal breakfast with hearty appetite.

Thoughts crowded thick and fast in her mind as she munched her food; most of them went galloping away after the tall, erect figure of her husband, whom she had watched riding out of sight more than five hours ago.

In answer to her eager inquiries, Louise brought back the news that the groom had come home with Sultan, having left Sir Percy in London. The groom thought that his master was about to get on board his schooner, which was lying off just below London Bridge. Sir Percy had ridden thus far, had then met Briggs, the skipper of the Day Dream, and had sent the groom back to Richmond with Sultan and the empty saddle.

This news puzzled Marguerite more than ever. Where could Sir Percy be going just now in the Day Dream? On Armand's behalf, he had said. Well! Sir Percy had influential friends everywhere. Perhaps he was going to Greenwich, or . . . but Marguerite ceased to conjecture; all would be explained anon; he said that he would come back, and that she would remember.

A long, idle day lay before Marguerite. She was expecting a visit from her old school-fellow, little Suzanne de Tourville. With all the merry mischief at her command, she had tendered her request for Suzanne's company to the Comtesse in the presence of the Prince of Wales last night. His Royal Highness had loudly applauded the notion, and declared he would give himself the pleasure of calling on the two ladies in the course of the afternoon. The Comtesse had not dared to refuse, and promise to send little Suzanne to spend a long and happy day at Richmond with her friend.

Marguerite expected her eagerly; she longed for a chat about old school-days with the child; she felt that she would prefer Suzanne's company to that of anyone else, and together they would roam through the fine old garden and rich deer park, or stroll along the river.

But Suzanne had not come yet, and Marguerite, being dressed, prepared to go down stairs. She looked quite a girl this morning in her simple muslin frock, with a broad blue sash round her slim waist, and the dainty cross-over fichu into which, at her bosom, she had fastened a few little crimson roses.

She crossed the landing outside her own suite of apartments, and stood still for a moment at the head of the fine oak staircase, which led to the lower floor. On her left were her husband's apartments, a suite of rooms which she practically never entered.

They consisted of bedroom, dressing and reception room, and, at the extreme end of the landing, of a small study, which, when Sir Percy did not use it, was always kept locked. His own special and confidential valet, Frank, had charge of this room. No one was ever allowed to go inside. My lady had never cared to do so, and the other servants had, of course, not dared to break this hard-and-fast rule.

Marguerite had often, with that god-matured contempt which she had recently adopted towards her husband, chafed him about this secrecy which surrounded his private study. Laughingly she had always declared that he strictly excluded all prying eyes from his sanctum for fear they should detect how very little "study" went on within its four walls: a comfortable arm-chair, Sir Percy's sweet album, was no doubt, its most conspicuous piece of furniture.

Marguerite thought of all this on this bright October morning as she glanced along the corridor. Frank was evidently busy with his master's rooms, for most of the doors stood open, that of the study amongst the others.

A sudden, burning, childish curiosity seized her to have a peep at Sir Percy's sanctum. The restriction, of course, did not apply to her, and Frank would, of course, not dare to oppose her. Still, she hoped that the valet would be busy in one of the other rooms, that she might have that one quick peep in secret, and unobserved.

Gently, on tip-toe, she crossed the landing and, like Blue Beards wife, trembling paused a moment on the threshold, strangely perturbed and irresolute.

The door was ajar and she could not see anything within. She pushed it open tentatively: there was no sound; Frank was evidently not there, and she walked boldly in.

At once she was struck by the severe simplicity of everything around her: the dark and heavy hangings, the massive oak furniture, the one or two maps on the wall, in no way recalling to her mind the luxuriant and showy taste of the Countess, the dandified leader of fashion, that was the outward representation of Sir Percy Blakeney.

There was no sign here, at any rate, of hurried departure. Everything was in its place, not a scrap of paper littered on the floor, not a cupboard or drawer was left open. The curtains were drawn aside, and through the open window the fresh morning air was streaming in.

Facing the window, and well into the centre of the room, stood a ponderous business desk, which looked as if it had seen much service. On the wall to the left of the desk, reaching almost from floor to ceiling, was a large full-length portrait of a woman, magnificently framed, exquisitely painted, and signed with the name of Boucher. It was Percy's mother.

Marguerite knew very little about her, except that she had died abroad, ailing in body as well as mind, when Percy was still a lad. She must have been a very beautiful woman once, when Boucher painted her, and as Marguerite looked at the portrait, she could not but be struck at the extraordinary resemblance which must have existed between mother and son. There was the same low, square forehead, crowned with thick, fair hair, smooth and heavy; the same deep-set, somewhat lazy blue eyes, beneath firmly marked, straight brows; and in those eyes there was the same intensity behind the apparent laziness, the same latent passion which used to light up Percy's face in the golden days before his marriage, and which Marguerite had again noted, last night at dawn, when she had come quite close to him, and had allowed a note of tenderness to creep into her voice.

Marguerite studied the portrait, for it interested her; after that she turned and looked again at the ponderous desk. It was covered with a mass of papers, all neatly tied and docketed, which looked like accounts and receipts arrayed with perfect method. It had never before struck Marguerite—nor had she, alas; found it worth while to enquire—as to how Sir Percy, whom all the world had credited with a total lack of brains, administered the vast fortune which his father had left him.

She had entered this neat, orderly room, she had been taken so much by surprise, that this obvious proof of her husband's strong business capacities did not cause her more than a passing thought of wonder. But also it strengthened her in the now certain knowledge that, with his worldly inanities, his foppish ways, and foolish talk, he was not only wearing a mask, but was playing a deliberate and studied part.

Marguerite wondered again. Why should he take all this trouble? Why should he—who was obviously a serious, earnest man—wish to appear before his fellow-men as an empty-headed nincompoop?

He may have wished to hide his love for a wife who held him in contempt. . . . But surely such an object could have been gained at less sacrifice, and with far less trouble than this incessant acting of an unnatural part.

(To be continued.)

ANOTHER SENSATION IN FORESTERS INQUIRY

Most Startling Evidence Yet Came Out at Yesterday's Session --- Director of Union Trust Company Says Prominent Men Defrauded Company Out of \$55,000 --- Damaging Admissions Made.

Toronto, Sept. 26.—"We have been swindled out of \$55,000 and the swindlers will have to account for it."

"What are you doing in the matter?" "We are waiting the results of this investigation to ascertain who the parties are, aside from Mr. Fowler. Our solicitors will be instructed to recover from any and everybody who had any connection with it."

This passage is from the evidence of E. G. Stevenson, director in the Union Trust Company, especially appointed by Dr. Oronhyetka to represent the I. O. F. He was referring to certain investments of Union Trust funds in British Columbia. When the insurance investigation resumed this morning Hon. Dr. Montague was present, and Mr. Shepley said that he had offered himself, if required, and would be available as a witness at any time.

Mr. Stevenson was then called, and Mr. Shepley went over with him cheques for payments of money for Kamloops, Shuswap and Okanagan properties, including lumber mills and timber limits. In connection with the Kamloops Company there was a cheque for \$100,000 payable to Peter Ryan dated Feb. 9, 1904, a similar cheque for \$50,000 on March 9, and three other cheques for \$25,000 each to the credit of Ryan, the last being June 9, 1904. These made a total of \$225,000 paid for this property. Cheques for Shuswap property amounting to \$40,000 were four of \$10,000 each. They were given to Shields & Gregg. The first was signed by the Union Trust and the last three by Kamloops Company in which Shuswap property was merged. Stevenson said: "Whatever credits the Kamloops Company had would be furnished by the Union Trust. This company acted as secretary and treasurer of the Kamloops Lumber Company. My impression is the first cheque was paid before the Kamloops Company was fully organized, and that would explain the cheque being signed by the Union Trust Company."

For the Okanagan property at Enderby (B. C.), \$177,555 was paid and \$42,000 for logs. The cheques were paid to Geo. W. Fowler, M. P., who conducted the negotiations for the Kamloops Lumber Company.

Mr. Shepley—"Do you know where Fowler is now?"

"No, I can't say I do. The last I heard of him was when he wired us from Banff last week. Negotiations have been in progress for selling the Kamloops property by the Union Trust, and it was necessary to get the other stockholders to consent."

Mr. Shepley—"The Union Trust decided to get out of it entirely?"

"Yes." Mr. Stevenson then said that Mr. Foster had already transferred his stock to the Union Trust. Mr. Foster wanted to be released from a note for \$185,000 for his part in the original investment before he surrendered his stock.

"What was the first intimation you received that \$225,000 was not the true consideration?"

"About one month ago when my son, who was in the west, sent me a copy of a Vancouver paper."

"The report purported to be the testimony of Peter Ryan in a controversy with John Shields over the sale of timber limits. Ryan's testimony showed that the true consideration was \$175,000 and that he had paid out of the \$225,000 the sum of \$50,000 to Fowler. I did get the impression that a sum under \$50,000 had been paid."

"My impression was that there were two options; the option presented us was fictitious with the object of getting an additional \$55,000 out of us."

"You say you learned that the true consideration was \$175,000 and that when you paid Ryan \$225,000 then you paid \$50,000 too much, which has gone somewhere?"

"We have been swindled out of \$55,000 and the swindlers will have to account for it."

"What are you doing in the matter?" "We are waiting the results of this investigation to ascertain who the parties are aside from Fowler. Our solicitors will be instructed to recover from any and everybody who had any connection with it."

"Have the Union Trust Company been endeavoring to acquire information? Have you any information said to come from any of the parties?"

"Only a number of cheques which Mr. Tilley was kind enough to show me. I called upon Mr. Fowler about a week ago, when he first came to the city, and informed him of what I had heard. He replied that he had heard something of it, but that he had no information whatever. On the contrary, he thought \$225,000 was the true consideration when the transaction was made."

Mr. Shepley read an agreement in June 18, 1904, between Geo. W. Fowler, of St. John, William Irwin, of Peterboro, and George McCormick, of Kamloops, with the Union Trust Company regarding certain timber limits in British Columbia. Mr. Foster was named as a trustee and a statement of incorporation of the Kamloops Lumber Company thus formed showed capitalization to be \$500,000, divided as follows: Geo. W. Fowler, 1,250 shares, or \$125,000; Wm. Irwin, 600 shares, or \$60,000; George McCormick, 600 shares, or \$60,000; George E. Foster, Lieut.-Col. Davidson, E. G. Stevenson, Dr. Oronhyetka, Lieut.-Col. McGillivray, 10 shares, or \$1,000 each, to qualify them as trustees; and Union Trust Company, 2,500 shares, or \$250,000.

Mr. Shepley read a copy of an agreement for taking of Okanagan Lumber Company by the Kamloops Company, in which McCormick and Fowler took 37 per cent interest after borrowing the money from the Union Trust. The bill of sale dated May 24, 1904, for the purchase of the Shuswap shingle mill and timber limits for \$40,000 also spoke of Foster as trustee in the transaction. In taking over the Okanagan Company thirty-three square miles of timber limits was also acquired. The option on the property was secured by Mr. Fowler. The logs, for which \$42,000 was paid, cost \$6 per thousand.

Mr. Shepley—"All money was handed over to Fowler and dealt with by him. What was his relation in the transaction?"

"I understood he was acting for us. I never had suspicion of any other relation."

Witness said that this purchase was forced upon them by Irwin, who was with them in the Kamloops Company, declaring that if they did not purchase it he would leave the Kamloops company and purchase it himself. He was a good business man and experienced, and they did not want to lose him."

Mr. Shepley—"You got nipped afterwards when he withdrew in spite of the deal going through?"

"Yes, that's how I felt about it. We had no idea the investments in mills and limits would go beyond \$500,000 in the beginning. More money was put into it from time to time, however, till \$1,000,000 was invested."

Mr. Stevenson said that about the beginning of 1905 Dr. Oronhyetka informed the board of the Union Trust that Stevenson was to represent the I. O. F. in regard to the British Columbia investments. Subsequently he went to the west to inspect and report on the properties. There was an investment there of \$850,000 he said and only the personal obligations of Fowler and McCormick for one-fifth of that amount and if anything serious happened he did not reckon much on that security.

He found that there was 1,000,000,000 feet of standing lumber which he thought would in time be very valuable. He thought there would really be more money in holding it than manufacturing it into lumber at present. Stumpage then was only 50 cents and experience in Michigan and Ontario showed that when timber began to become scarce this would be of very much greater value and easily available. Timber included fir, cedar and pine and was all well situated for logging operations.

The company, therefore, decided to hold a large part of their limits, using only the provincial limits. There was 100,000,000 feet of this timber standing. The logs could be brought to Kamloops mill for \$5, 1,000 feet, and the timber would last them for ten years. The limits in connection with the Enderby property would last them for ten or twenty years, and was all on provincial limits.

The company would have an output at both mills of 20,000,000 feet of lumber a year, on which they would have a profit of \$70,000.

"What I objected to," said Stevenson, "was the investment of what was virtually trust funds in the business of manufacturing lumber, the holding timber alone would not have been so bad, but the milling business was more uncertain."

In his report he advised selling everything and getting entirely clear of the whole investment, if possible without loss, otherwise to sell all but the dominant timber limits.

Mr. Shepley—"In the whole of the British Columbia investment the Union Trust was putting up all the money and not getting any returns."

"Yes, and the expenditures had grown from \$500,000 as first intended to \$1,000,000. That is not the proper kind of an investment for a trust company. We reached that conclusion a year ago, and have since been working to unload without loss. The sale of the Kamloops property, which we are now negotiating, will give us a profit of \$75,000."

A selling company called the Independent Lumber Company was organized with a capital of \$200,000 to dispose of the lumber manufactured by the Kamloops Lumber Company. This was controlled absolutely by the Union Trust Company. Witness advised this course in order that the profits should not be participated in by Fowler and Irwin, who had not furnished the capital and did not assume any responsibility.

Mr. Stevenson added that he had succeeded in selling the Kamloops Lumber Company property with the exception of the Annis mill, for \$850,000. As it stood, therefore, the I. O. F. would receive back all the principal invested in lumbering operations, with interest thereon at six per cent and \$70,000 profit additional.

"And I have received \$35,000 more to be added to that."

Stevenson added, referring to the proposal to collect \$55,000 of which, he had stated earlier, they had been swindled.

Sir John Boyd made a personal explanation of his connection with the Union Trust and Great West Land Company, as a director. He understood that the investments were made with the sanction of the Foresters and did not know of the directors of the Union Trust borrowing for the company.

Peter Ryan was called by Mr. Shepley and he asked Ryan to relate the reasons Mr. Fowler gave for wanting the consideration placed at \$225,000 when the purchase price really was \$170,000.

Mr. Ryan said Fowler did not give any ground. He was unable to remember the conversation, but said the effect of it was that he was getting \$170,000 and give Fowler back \$55,000. So far as he was concerned the matter did not interest him at all. Mr. Fowler was, he knew, making a profit upon the transaction and he did not object.

The point was relentlessly pursued by Mr. Shepley and ultimately Mr. Ryan admitted that months after the transaction Mr. Fowler informed him that the \$55,000 was not for himself, but that he had to "divide up," but he never asked him and could not say who he was going to divide up with.

"Did he tell you?"

"I won't answer."

FATAL BLOOD POISONING

Frequently follows the use of cheap corn salves and plasters. The safest is the best, and that's "Putnam's," which has a record of fifty years' success. Refuse substitutes for "Putnam's," which costs 25c. in every drugstore.

Rev. C. B. Gibson, lately minister of Glasgow Presbyterian church, and Mrs. Gibson, who was Miss Louise Henderson, will leave on the 5.40 train this evening for Montreal en route for Glasgow (Scott.), where they will reside for the winter. Whilst in Glasgow Mr. Gibson will take post graduate work in the university, and also assist Rev. Dr. Somerville, of Blackfriars parish.

James Keator, of Bank of Montreal, Winnipeg, is in the city.



A Steady Trade

is most important to every baker. A business in which the receipts and profits vary every week, while the expenses remain the same, is a source of great anxiety to any business man.

No baker can hope for a steady and increasing business unless the quality of his bread is uniformly superior to that of his competitors. He can have no more valuable asset than the reputation that his bread is "the best in town." Any baker can win this reputation for his bread by using only "FIVE ROSES" and "HARVEST QUEEN" FLOUR.

These flours are made from the very highest grade wheat obtainable, and are superior to ordinary Bakers' Patents in every way. They will not lose but make trade for any baker who uses them, as they make the very sweetest, most wholesome, and most nutritious bread. Regular and ever increasing custom can be obtained by any baker who lets his customers know that he uses "FIVE ROSES" and "HARVEST QUEEN" only.

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WATER AND

SEWERAGE BOARD

At a meeting of the water and sewerage board held yesterday afternoon it was decided to extend the water service through a portion of Milford at a cost of \$13,000, work to be commenced next year. Extensions were also decided on in Fairville and on Egbert street. A claim by Mrs. M. Lillian Morrissey that she had been unjustly taxed for water, in consequence of an agreement that a city main running through her property should offset the assessment, was referred to a committee. The director was ordered to have the main in Mrs. Morrissey's property removed.

Ald. Bullock moved that a committee be appointed to act with the recorder regarding the suit being brought against the city by J. S. McKay, of Spring street, for damages alleged to have been done to his property by reason of a break in the sewer.

The motion was adopted and the chairman, Ald. Bullock and Baxter with the recorder and the director were appointed. On motion of Ald. Christie the water assessment for the ensuing year was confirmed and the members of the board signed it.

Other minor matters were discussed and the board adjourned.

Amherst Fire Losses

Amherst, N. S., Sept. 26.—The insurance adjusters were here today adjusting the fire losses in connection with yesterday's fire. The minor losses were awarded as follows:

Miss Brooks was insured in the Queen for \$900; damages assessed for \$600.

Amos Brooks' claim was settled for \$150 and Clarence Chapman's for \$100.

The insurance is distributed as follows: Hartford, \$3,800; Etna, \$2,000; Norwich Union, \$3,000; New York Underwriters, \$2,000; Royal, \$2,000; Home, \$4,000; London Mutual, \$2,500; Montreal Canada, \$2,000; Norwich, \$1,000; Commercial Union, \$1,000; total, \$23,300.

Some of the firemen worked continually for eighteen hours and much favorable comment is heard in reference to the manner in which the fire was handled. Much credit being due Deputy Chief N. D. Quigley who, in the absence of Chief took charge of affairs.

Silkner & Co. expect to be at work in temporary quarters at once.

Stensland Gets Ten Years

Chicago, Sept. 26.—Paul O. Stensland, to whose confessed embezzlement of \$100,000 was due chiefly the collapse of the Milwaukee Avenue State Bank, of which he was president, today was sentenced in record time to serve from one to ten years in the penitentiary. Within three hours after Stensland's arrival in Chicago today from Morocco, whither he fled before the bank failed, the former bank president pleaded guilty before Judge Kerster and received sentence. Before another three hours had elapsed he had begun service of the sentence at Joliet prison.

Stensland pleaded guilty on two indictments, charging embezzlement and violation of the state banking laws. A fine of \$120 was imposed on the latter charge, which was based upon the acceptance of \$50 in deposits after the bank was insolvent. The prison sentences imposed, which will operate concurrently, are from one to five and from one to three years, making the longest term possible ten years.

Ottawa, Sept. 26.—The grand jury, in their presentment at the assizes today touched on the question of fire escapes for public buildings and hospitals and recommended that they all be carefully inspected in this respect. The juryman visited the county institutions and the hospitals and found everything in a satisfactory condition.

Halifax, Sept. 26.—The attendance at the Dominion exhibition today passed all records of exhibition crowds at Halifax. The official count given out by the manager of the ticket department is 24,729. The attendance on the four days of the fair now reaches about 45,000.

Your Liver

You cannot possibly enjoy good health when the liver is inactive and the bowels constipated. You must keep the liver active. You must have daily action of the bowels. Ask your doctor if this is not true. Ask him at the same time if he knows a better laxative than Ayer's Pills. All vegetable, sugar-coated. Dose, only one pill, at bedtime.

We have no secrets! We publish the formulae of all our medicines. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.