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### The Midnight Guest

By FRED M. WHITE

Author of "The Crimson Blind," "The Corner House," etc.

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(Continued.)

At an early time there must be some reason for this mystery and violence. And no doubt every word that Ravenspur had said about her mother's characters was true. Otherwise she could not have consented to an abduction like this. Still, there was comfort in the reflection that Lord Ravenspur and Walter would leave no stone unturned to punish this outrage. The miscreants would be found out sooner or later. Vera congratulated herself now upon the fact that she had left her handkerchief tied to the collar of the dog Bruno. That would be a sufficient clue to put her friends on the trail, and Bruno himself, with his unerring instinct, would lead the pursuers to the right place. After all, the imprisonment could not last long, though Vera boiled with indignation as she thought of the treacherous way in which she had been deceived.

"And you are going to take me to mother, then?" she asked.  
"That is the programme," Silva said coolly. "Unfortunately, you will not be able to see the Countess tonight. You may believe me or not, but I am sorry to have been compelled to take a step like this. But you see, Lord Ravenspur's plans made it quite impossible for me to wait till to-morrow."

Vera was silent for a moment. She could see plainly that Ravenspur's clever scheme for getting away to Weymouth had been betrayed by someone to this man. Her chief anxiety for the moment was for her guardian. It was terrible to think that he had been dogged and watched by people so cunning and unscrupulous as these. Vera was still thinking the matter over when the cab stopped and Silva had her get out. A wild idea of appealing to the cabman for assistance was dismissed as she caught sight of his face. There was a grin upon it, and she drove unmistakably winked at Silva. There was just enough light for Vera to see that the cabman was not wearing a badge. Doubtless he was a conspirator, too. There was nothing for it but to see the thing through to the finish. So Vera followed Silva through the garden till he paused at length on the steps of a house, which appeared to be in total darkness.

"The servants have gone to bed," Silva explained, as he opened the door with a latchkey. "If you will wait a moment, I will turn up the gas. If you desire anything—"

"Nothing," Vera said curtly. "All I want you to do is to take me to my room. I wish to be alone."

Silva bowed politely enough. He turned and locked the door, and Vera saw that he dropped the key in his pocket. Then he took a silver candlestick from the hall table and handed it to Vera, intimating that he would like her to precede him up the stairs. They came at length to a room in the roof of the house which appeared to be comfortably, almost luxuriously furnished, and with every feminine requirement at hand. With absolute amazement Vera saw her own silver toilet set laid out on the dressing table, and handbag was on the floor, and in one corner of the room stood the two dress-baskets which her maid had picked for immediate use on board the yacht. A slight smile of amusement flickered over Silva's face as he noticed Vera's amazement.

"Everything has been done to make you comfortable," he said. "It was my own idea to remove your immediate belongings from Waterloo Station and bring them on here. I assure you that it was no difficult job. And now I wish you good-night, with a thousand pardons for the way in which I have been compelled to treat you. Tomorrow morning—"

Silva paused significantly and bowed himself out of the room. He closed the door gently behind him, and Vera waited till the sound of his footsteps had died away. She tried the door, but as she had anticipated, it was fastened on the outside. Beyond all question, she was a

prisoner. There was nothing but to make the best of it, and wait on the course of events. There were two bolts on the inside of the door, and having secured these, Vera felt easier in her mind. She undressed slowly, and more for something to occupy her mind than anything else. She would never be able to sleep again. The idea of sleep seemed to be out of the question. Yet, within ten minutes, Vera had fallen into a deep slumber from which she did not awake until the sun was shining high, and the birds were singing in the trees. The girl rose eagerly and looked out. She could see a wide expanse of green lawn, with big shaded trees here and there. On two sides of the house a common stretched away apparently to the confines of space. How far she was from London Vera could not say. Certainly she had never been here before. She was still admiring the beauty of the landscape when there came a quiet knock at the door, and after the bolts were drawn Silva came in. He was, if possible, even more abjectly apologetic than on the previous evening.

"I am bound to intrude," he said. "You see, this house has only been taken for a time, and the servants are absolutely in ignorance of your presence here. I merely came to show you where you could find all the requisites for your breakfast and as to the rest, they are in this basket. Here is a spirit lamp, so that you can boil your own water. I am in great hopes that before breakfast I shall be able to give you what is practically the freedom of the house. Do not think too harshly of me."

Vera made no reply; she was only pleased to have the room to herself again, so that she could think the matter out. She ate her breakfast slowly, for time was beginning to hang on her hands. Any action was better than sitting there doing nothing. It was some time later when she crossed to the window, and looked out. She saw three men busily engaged in some occupation on the lawn. She saw a person come out wearing a hat, apparently in tones of expostulation, so far as she could judge from his actions. Then one of the men looked up, and Vera could see that he had noticed her. A moment later the man stooped down and went through some sort of a pantomime, which, in the circumstances, puzzled Vera extremely. Why should that grave-looking official stoop down and imitate the motions of one who is stroking a dog?

#### CHAPTER XXXV

Mother and Child.

At any other time the trifling incident would have escaped Vera's attention. But she had nothing else to occupy her mind now. She wondered what it meant. There was no doubt that the official-looking man was pretending to stroke a dog. There was no just about it, either, because the other two men took no heed. They appeared to be too absorbed in their occupation. Then, all at once, the truth of it flashed into Vera's mind with suddenness that left her pale and trembling. It was plain enough. She could not say for certain who it was patting and caressing an imaginary dog, but she was quite certain that there was a message to her behind it. In the first place the man had seen her at the window, of that she felt certain. And he was telling her as plainly as words could speak that her handkerchief had been found, and that Bruno led her friends to the right spot. No doubt, these willing assistants had assumed the guise of land surveyors with a view to getting better knowledge of the house. Once the excitement of this discovery passed away, Vera's courage came back to her. She now knew that she was safe. She knew that it would not be long before she was restored to her friends again. She deemed it prudent to keep away from the window, and when at length she looked down again, the men were gone.

There was nothing for it but to kill the dreary afternoon as best she could. It seemed to her that she knew every inch of her room, every design and pattern on the wallpaper. She would have given much for a book to while away the time, but apparently, Silva had overlooked that requirement. As she lay back in an armchair, for the first time, a small wooden trap in the ceiling attracted her attention. It seemed strange to Vera that she had not noticed it before. A sudden restlessness possessed her. She balanced a couple of chairs, one on the other, upon the bed, and made an attempt to lift the trap. There was not the slightest trouble. The square board gave to her touch at once. Vera thrust her head and shoulders through, and saw that she was immediately under the roof. A sliding glass window overhead lighted up the place, so that Vera could see what sort of a place she had discovered. Instantly she made up her mind

what to do. She turned a yacht jersey out of one of the baskets and removed the bodice of her dress. A short serge skirt completed the outfit, and a few moments later Vera had squeezed through the trap, and was kneeling along the boards which covered the whole area of the house under the roof. What she was now anxious to find was a way down. Here was a large tank which supplied the house with water, and by the side of it a short ladder, the end of which was fast in the scum-trap. But Vera had discovered enough. Doubtless the iron ladder was a permanent structure for the use of workmen in case anything went wrong with the big tank. In all probability the bottom of the iron ladder reached down until it joined the servants' staircase. Vera had seen arrangements of this kind in small country houses before.

(To be continued.)

### BRITISH SHIPS IN GREAT WAR GAME

#### The Dreadnought Takes Part in Manoeuvres to Repel a Supposed Attack of German Navy.

(Special Cable to New York Herald.) London, June 28.—The great naval manoeuvres that are to begin next week, when more than three hundred vessels will be mobilized on a war footing for a fortnight's operations in the English Channel and North Sea, will be the most interesting ever held, and the result will be watched with more than usual interest by foreign Powers.

They have been designed with one great purpose in view—to test the ability of the ships in permanent commission in home waters to repel the combined attack of the German navy delivered without warning. This fact is as well understood in Berlin as here, and for that purpose the attacking fleet has been made to approximate as closely to the strength of the German navy at the present time as possible.

Lord Charles Beresford is in supreme command, and a very great deal of independence is to be left the commanding officers of the various fleets to carry out operations as seems best to them. The centre of interest on this occasion will be the Dreadnought, as this is the first occasion upon which this ship has taken part in manoeuvres under such conditions. There is a general feeling in the navy that ships of this class are not sufficiently protected from attack by torpedo boats, and these manoeuvres should go far to demonstrate the truth or falsity of this belief.

The whole of the signalling stations along the south and east coasts will be manned during the manoeuvres, and nothing in the nature of attack on the coast is looked for, the ships remaining well out to sea the whole time. While on this topic, I may add that I learn the reluctance of the government to bring the quarrelsome admirals of the Channel Fleet to their senses is due to the approach of a violent discussion that will take place over the next naval estimates. Little has been heard of this subject lately but forcible arguments on both sides are being silently arrayed, and when the season is over there will arise the fiercest and most embittered controversy that has ever taken place in the British navy.

On one side there is a very large and influential section which considers that a large and immediate increase of the navy is imperative. On the other, there is a small but virulent and determined body of opinion which will fight to the last ditch against any increase in the expenditure of the navy. The authorities are fully alive to the coming of this controversy, and their caution in dealing with Lord Charles Beresford and Sir Percy Scott is due to their anxiety not to have these free to take any part in the bigger war campaign. It is not exaggeration to say that the fate of the government depends upon this naval discussion.

They are in a peculiarly difficult position. They will be in danger if they do not consent to a large expenditure on Dreadnoughts. If they do consent their schemes of social betterment, including old age pensions, must be dropped. It can be imagined, therefore, what wide dread the government contemplates the coming naval campaign and their anxiety not to interfere at present in the personal quarrels of popular admirals more than they can help.

### THIS IS THE AGE OF THE AIRSHIP

#### Dr. Bell, Inventor of Telephone and Founder of the Aerial Experimental Association Talks.

(Toronto News.) Dr. Alexander Graham Bell, the inventor of the telephone, is of the opinion that the age for flying machines is the present, and in the near future the air will be filled with these bird-like vehicles for business purposes as well as for sport. Dr. Bell is at present stopping at the King Edward Hotel on his summer home at Baddeck, Nova Scotia, and has been engaged in the study of flight for more than a decade, and is founder of the Aerial Experimental Association for the purpose of solving the problem of dirigible balloons and airships. "The flying machine is actually with us at present," he said, "and all that remains is the problem of improving and learning to operate it."

The great inventor declared there were now twelve successful flying machines in existence, two of which were of American manufacture. "Our machines are of so promising a character that I have no doubt we will be able to duplicate that feat that has been done in the Old Country."

He referred to the fact that the French army was now equipped with three dirigible balloons, and that the future wars between nations would see fleets of airships in action. "I am greatly interested in this aerial navigation than any other thing because with air power possible, sea power will become a secondary question. I am glad to see Great Britain taking up this subject. I predict that these airships will soon be used for pleasure, and very likely for carrying mail. We can see the present use of a speed of forty miles an hour, and there is no reason why we should not get sixty. One thing we can be sure of—we have gone far enough to show that the age of the flying machine is here now."

Although Dr. Bell is on his vacation he made it clear that upon his arrival in Nova Scotia he will continue his experiments. "It is simply my hobby. At Baddeck I have a splendidly equipped laboratory, and there I play, but the subject is of such importance I am giving it considerable attention. When the problem of flight is solved I will give my attention to something else. Dr. Bell is interested in constructing a dirigible from a scientific standpoint, nothing of a commercial nature is permitted to enter into the doing of the Aerial Experimental Association, whose membership totals five of the best-known scientists: Mr. F. W. Baldwin, chief engineer, and Mr. A. McCurdy, both graduates of Toronto University; Mr. G. H. Curtis, of Hammondport, N. Y.; and Lieut. Thoms Selfridge, military expert in aerodynamics for the United States army."

F. B. Black, of Sackville, was in the city yesterday.

### COUNCIL DISCUSSES THE HARBOR COMMISSION BILL

#### Clause Inserted in Draft Bill Giving Power to Widen the Scope of the Commission—The Bridge Question Also Discussed.

At a special meeting of the common council yesterday afternoon the draft of the bill relating to a harbor commission, which had been prepared by the harbor facilities committee, was discussed. Few amendments were made, the most important being a clause giving the new corporation other properties not on the western side of the harbor and a clause giving the corporation power to construct a bridge across the harbor.

An amendment defining the power of the harbor master is still to be drafted. This section and the section stipulating for what sum the city will transfer the west side of the harbor to the commission will be taken up this afternoon at 3.15 o'clock when it is expected the council will finally adopt the bill. The mayor occupied the chair.

On taking up the consideration of the draft as prepared by the committee, the preamble and the first five sections were adopted without discussion.

Section 6 provided among other matters for the purchase of the harbor properties on the western side of the harbor known as berths Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, together with such other harbor properties and land on the western side of the harbor between North Rodney Wharf and the Negro Point Breakwater, belonging to the city, upon such terms as may be arranged between the corporation and the city.

Ald. Pickett asked why the authority to acquire harbor properties was limited to the west side. He thought Courtney Bay might very well be included.

Ald. Baxter pointed out that under Section 20 the corporation was given the power to expropriate. After further discussion the following amendment by Ald. Pickett was added as sub-section 2 to Section 6: The said corporation may also from time to time by agreement or expropriation acquire such other harbor properties within the city as it may deem advisable.

Some debate followed on the question of including the construction of a bridge across the harbor.

Ald. Baxter favored a permissive section being added on the ground that if accepted by parliament it would amount to an assent to the interference with river navigation. Otherwise separate legislation would be required. He moved the following addition as sub-section 3 Section 6: "The said corporation may have

power to construct and maintain a bridge at or near Neavy Island."

The sub-section was agreed to.

Sections 8 and 9 were adopted. Some discussion took place on sub-section 4 of Section 9 on the question of the corporation making an agreement with the city as to the jurisdiction of the harbor master and as to payment for his services.

Ald. Rowan moved that the sub-section be struck out as too indefinite. He maintained the whole harbor should remain under the harbor master.

Ald. Frink said the clause had been added to avoid friction.

The amendment was lost.

At this point the council went into general committee to permit free discussion. It was subsequently agreed that the common clerk should draft a section to be submitted at today's meeting, giving the harbor master full jurisdiction over the harbor.

Sections 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 were agreed to.

A rider was added at the end of Section 13, which framed a number of by-laws, stipulating that no by-law should be in force beyond the limits owned or controlled by the corporation.

Sections 14 to 20 were agreed to.

On Section 21 coming up a point as to the meaning of the word "harbour" as used throughout the draft was brought up by Ald. Baxter. It was agreed that a clause defining it as having reference to that portion of the harbor owned by the corporation should be added.

Section 21 provided for the corporation to borrow money, and the amount was left blank. The section was left untouched as the amount the corporation may borrow is a matter for the government.

Section 22 provided that the governor in council might advance money from time to time for harbor purposes. The limit to which these advances might be made was left blank.

Ald. Baxter said the council would have to be prepared to fill this blank. He had been preparing a report as to the city's expenditures on the West side since 1892, and would have it ready at the next meeting. Discussion on the section was left over until today. The remainder of the report was adopted without discussion and the general committee reported progress.

The council then adjourned until 3.15 p. m. today.

### PLAYS AND PLAYERS

#### MAY HAVE SEASON OF GRAND OPERA HERE

#### Boston Opera Singers may Come to St. John for Exhibition.

The Boston Opera Singers who have just concluded a very prosperous engagement, expect to re-open the coming season in the Majestic Theatre, Boston, in August. They sing grand opera in English. Among the cast appear the well-known artists: Helen Darling, Louis Elwell, Josephine Isaleh, Harry Davis, Louise LeBaron, Georgiana Strauss, Alma Stetzel, Seg. Achilles, Albert, Sig. Cantori, Francis J. Boyle, W. H. Pringle, etc.

It is very probable that St. John and Halifax will have a season of grand opera in September, presented by this company which numbers sixty-five with an orchestra of twenty.

Walter M. Magee, of Boston, contemplates visiting St. John and Halifax, as well as other leading cities and towns in the maritime provinces, to ascertain whether sufficient encouragement can be procured through the medium of a subscription list to warrant the bringing of this company down during exhibition week.

Mr. Magee is a son of John S. Magee, formerly editor of the St. Andrew's Bay Pilot.

#### GREAT CROWDS AT NICKEL

The rush of people at the Nickel last evening and yesterday afternoon was the

#### OBITUARY

##### Hon. Thos. Baillentyne

Stratford, Ont., June 29.—Hon. Thos. Baillentyne, former speaker of the Ontario legislature, died this morning at the home of his son Thomas, after an illness extending over a period of about four weeks.

Mr. Baillentyne was 79 years of age and a native of Peebles, Scotland. From 1875 to 1894 he represented South Perth in the legislature of Ontario. He was known in agricultural and business circles of the country by his connection with dairying interests, his Black Creek cheese factory being particularly noted for its product. For many years he was president of the Ontario Dairymen's Association, and latterly was honorary president.

##### Willie J. McLaughlin

The many friends of John F. McLaughlin, of the firm of Emery & McLaughlin, City road, will be grieved to hear of the death of his eldest son, Willie J., which took place Monday. The deceased had, who was in his 13th year, had been sick for about three months with lung trouble. He was very bright and while in good health attended St. Malachi's school. Besides his father and mother he is survived by three brothers and one sister.

##### James Earley

A telegram received by Hugh Doherty, of St. James street, yesterday, brought news of the death of his cousin, James Earley, which took place at Los Animas (Colo.) on Sunday. Mr. Earley was a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Earley, of this city, and a brother of May Agnes Fleming, a noted St. John authoress. He left St. John years ago and for a long time was connected with the United States Navy. He last visited St. John about six years ago. Mr. Earley had been in poor health, from tuberculosis, for some time and had been in the government hospital in Los Animas, where he died. He was in his 33rd year. Daniel J. Doherty, of Doherty & Mc-

#### greatest for many months, the undoubted attraction being the wonderful reproduction in living photos of the centennial celebration of the Catholic diocese of New York and the spectacular welcome to Cardinal Logue, Primate of Ireland. To behold all the nobility of the church in full religious regalia and 60,000 fraternal society members in elaborate review was something to hold one in the most rapt attention and such was the case with every Nickel patron. Compliments and commendations have been heaped upon the big picture house for its bringing before the eyes of St. John people so notable an event, the Catholic community being particularly appreciative.

The picture includes the parade of school children, the solemn procession of clergy, including Cardinal Logue and Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop Farley and others; winding up with the tremendous procession of Catholic societies in plain clothes and semi-military. Some of the finest bands in America are to be seen in the great stream of participants. The surging New York eighteenth crowd is in itself a treat to watch.

The other pictures are also good—The Norwegian Army in Winter Manoeuvres, Led by King Haakon and A Story of The Racetrack. Mr. Cairns and Miss Wren have new songs; some great show today.

#### BUSTER BROWN AT THE PRINCESS

Buster Brown and his dog Tige will appear at the Princess Theatre all this week. Do not fail to see it. Every day will show this charming little gentleman in some new sketches. The regular picture programme is above the average and affords all a good evening's entertainment. As Mr. Brown's hour will be heard in the latest New York song hits.

#### Hugh, St. John, is also a cousin. Interview will be made at Los Animas.

#### John Armstrong

Summer Hill, June 17.—John Armstrong, aged eighty-four years, one of the oldest residents, died on June 17 after a short illness. Mr. Armstrong had lived in Summer Hill for more than sixty-five years. He leaves his wife and nine children to mourn their sad loss. There are six sons and three daughters, all of whom were at his bedside when he passed quietly away.

#### A DOUBLE FUNERAL

Jemseg, June 29.—A large number of people, about 300, gathered yesterday afternoon at McDonald's Corner to attend the obsequies of the late Emerson McDonald, of Chicago, son of Rev. A. B. McDonald. The body was brought from Chicago for burial in his native place. It was accompanied by his widow, and three of his brothers and by other mourning friends. The Elaine came up from St. John bringing a large number of friends. A cousin of the deceased, George, son of Donald McDonald, recently deceased in Massachusetts, was brought up in the Elaine. The sermon was preached by Dr. McIntyre, of St. John. The pastor, Rev. A. W. Currie, and Rev. E. T. Miller, of Jemseg, were present and assisted in the service. The aged parents, who are bearing the loss with Christian fortitude, have the profound sympathy of the entire section of country in which they dwell and of numerous friends in the provinces and the neighboring republic.

#### The industrial end of the exhibition gives every promise of being well filled this year. Already Manager Arnold has had inquiries from large manufacturing concern in Montreal who wish to send down a lot of machinery and also from the Canadian Canning Company, Ltd., of Hamilton (Ont.). It is hoped by the committee in charge of the arrangements that local firms will secure their space early.

### The Times Daily Puzzle Picture



Maxwellton braves the rain, Where early falls the rain, And it's there where I'm sure Gave me her promise true.  
(Song by William Douglas.)  
Find her lover.

ANSWER TO SATURDAY'S PUZZLE.  
Upside down at crocodile's tail.

### No Secrets

Complete Formulas for the New Alcoholic Pills. Each Fluid Unacne Expressions. Sarsaparilla Root, 10 Grs. Bismuth Leaves, Yellow Dock Root, 6 Grs. Black Cohosh Root, 6 Grs. Linaria Root, 6 Grs. Sassafras Bark, 6 Grs. Cinchona Red Bark, 6 Grs. Tonic of Potassium, 6 Grs. Chamberlain's Back, 4 Grs. Glycyrrh. 3 Grs. Dandelion Root, 6 Grs. Bile Beans, 6 Grs. Burdock Root, 6 Grs. Water. Sufficient to make one fluid ounce. We have no secrets! We publish the formulae of our medicines. J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass.

This is the Man with visage grim, You can easily see what's the matter with him; His stomach's upset, and it's all his fault, He needs a bottle of ABBEY'S SALT.

### Abbey's Effervescent Salt

Keeps the Stomach Sweet and Bowels Regular.

### PURITY FLOUR

Children like Bread made from  
**PURITY FLOUR**  
Give them all they can eat—makes 'em healthy and strong.

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are so perfect a child can ice a cake in three minutes.  
Chocolate, Pearl Pink, Lemon, Orange, White, Maple, Almond, and Coconut Cream.

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### PIANO OPPORTUNITIES

If you expect to get a piano this year it will pay you to buy one from us now as we have some special bargains to offer. We are expecting the demand to be lively this fall owing to the crops and other conditions being favourable, but as we have some special lines to sell it would pay you to buy now. Please call and see us or write.

### The W. H. Johnson Co., Ltd.

7 MARKET SQUARE, ST. JOHN.  
Also Halifax, Sydney and New Glasgow  
Agents for Steinway, Gerhard Heintzman, Nordheimer, New Scale Williams, Martin Orme, Mendelssohn, and other pianos, also the Simplex Player Piano.

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CURE FOR KIDNEY DISEASE  
GOUT, RHEUMATISM, GRAVEL, BRONCHITIS, DIABETES, BACKACHE, NEURALGIA, MIGRAINE, HEADACHE, INDIGESTION, BILIOUSNESS, AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE URINARY SYSTEM.