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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.)

"Do you really think so?" he asked eagerly. "Well, I suppose what everybody says is bound to be true. At the same time, these resemblances are not always desirable. For instance, look happened to me only the other day."

"Don't you know? It was the last time I dined with your guardian. Didn't they tell you about it? It reminded me of the days when I was a soldier—quite an adventure, too, I assure you. I was coming up Cheyne Row, more or less in the darkness, when a Mr. Gardner, of the shadows, and attacked me. I had some difficulty in beating him off. I don't know whether the man was mad or not, but his intentions were quite serious."

"Really?" Vera exclaimed, with widely opened eyes. "And what became of the man? Was he locked up?"

"Oh, he got away before I could do anything. Still, it was very unpleasant while it lasted. I assure you, however, that I must have been very foolish."

"But, my dear Sir James, I don't quite understand what this adventure has to do with your likeness to Lord Ravenspur."

"Oh, well, I had almost forgotten that. You see, when the fellow rushed at me, he addressed me as Ravenspur, just as the hero of the melodrama addresses the villain when he is caught in the last act. There is not the slightest doubt that I was mistaken for the man. Indeed, as soon as the man realised his mistake, he drew off at once. I am rather surprised they did not tell you."

Vera was listening uneasily enough now. In the ordinary course of events she would have heard all about this mysterious occurrence. Why had they kept the knowledge from her? As she sat there thinking the matter over, she began in her mind to piece events together. So this sudden flight from London was dictated by personal fear on the part of Lord Ravenspur. He wanted to get away from this relentless foe. There was no other way to safeguard himself than by this yachting career. And hitherto Vera had never detected in her guardian the slightest sign of nervousness or fear. This, too, then, must be a man of extraordinary determination and tenacity of purpose.

Vera could see it all more clearly now. She recollected the disturbance in the conservatory on the previous evening. And why, for the first time in his life, had Lord Ravenspur been so nervous? All these questions Vera asked herself, but she could think of no reply. In some vague way her woman's instinct told her that she was mixed up in the business. If so, it would never do for her to desert Lord Ravenspur at this critical moment. She would have to stay by him until the danger was past.

She sat there replying to the chattering remarks of her companion at random, until even he saw how preoccupied she was.

"I am afraid you are not quite yourself to-night," he said.

"I am sure I beg your pardon," Vera murmured. "I am not quite myself. I wish you would do me a favor, Sir James. Would you mind finding Walter and sending him to me?"

Sir James trotted off obediently enough and presently Walter came along. He looked somewhat warm and heated.

"I am sorry I couldn't find you before," he said. "We have been having a bit of fun in the drawing-room. It was rather a nuisance, too. What do you think happened? But you will never guess."

One of the dogs got away and actually followed us here. I found three or four ladies held up by one of the brutes in a drawing-room. They were frightened to death, not knowing what a peaceful creature the dog was."

ture poor Bruno is in the ordinary way. I had to lead him away and tie him up to one of the trees in the shrubbery."

"He will be quite quiet where he is," she said, "and we can take him with us when we go. I shall be glad to get away. I am longing to leave London behind me now."

Walter looked anxiously at his companion. He saw how pale and disturbed she was, how distressed her features were. "What is the matter?" he asked tenderly.

"I was going to tell you," Vera replied. "I have had a considerable shock to-night. I have learnt something which you tried to conceal from me. Oh, I am not blaming you, because I am sure you only acted for the best, but I have just been having a conversation with Sir James Seton, and he was telling me all about the attack that was made on him the other night when he came to dine with us. I was dreadfully grieved to hear what he had to say."

"But, my dear girl," Walter protested, "really."

"Oh, yes, I know. You are thinking about me now," Vera said. "But it is rather late to late. That murderous attack was made upon Sir James Seton because the miscreant mistook him for Lord Ravenspur. There can be no doubt about it, because Sir James told me so. And what I heard that other strange circumstances flashed into my mind. For instance, those two mysterious occurrences in the studio. Now, tell me honestly, Walter, is the danger really great?"

Walter hesitated a moment before he replied. "I am very much afraid it is," he said presently. "It is all a question of time. And you must not regard Lord Ravenspur as a coward, because he is nothing of the kind. I am certain when the proper time comes, he will be in the front of your very best interests."

"Ah, I thought I was at the bottom of it somewhere," Vera cried, as Walter bit his lip. "I was absolutely convinced of it. Oh, I know I couldn't tell you why, except that my instinct warns me. But am I not to know, Walter? Am I to go on being treated as a child? You both have been very good to me, and the mere suggestion that I am a danger and a burden to you fills me with pain. Won't you tell me, for your own confidence? I am no longer a child."

CHAPTER XXIX

The Message.

"If the secret were only my own I would not hesitate a moment," Walter said. "Be patient a little longer, my dearest girl. I am quite sure that Ravenspur will tell you all about it in the proper time. Once we are on board the yacht there will be no occasion for further secrecy. Another hour, and we shall be on our way. I am not a nervous man, but this thing is beginning to worry me."

Vera persisted no further. The hand had just ceased playing, and there was a sudden rush of guests into the garden, so that there was no opportunity for further privacy. A somewhat imperious waiter, who told her that Lord Ravenspur had been waiting for her, and that there was nothing for it but to obey. Just for a moment Vera stood in the midst of a laughing, chattering group of friends, then she managed to slip away unseen. She wanted to be alone and think this matter out.

She was just a little hurt that the others had not taken her into their confidence. Still, perhaps Lord Ravenspur acted in this way to save her pain and annoyance. He had always been kind and considerate to her. She owed him a deep debt of gratitude. And yet, up to a few moments ago, she had been prepared to turn her back upon her friends and face the world alone. But she could not do that now. She would have to abandon her plans for the future. She would have to stay by Lord Ravenspur's side until this terrible danger was past. She was only a girl, and could not do much. Still, that little she would do cheerfully.

Vera was still busy with these painful thoughts when a footman came up and spoke to her. He had a note on a tray, which he handed to Vera, with the intimation that there was no reply. So far as Vera could tell, the handwriting was quite strange to her.

"Who brought this?" she demanded. "It was left by some strange man, miss," the servant said. "I was to give it to you at once, when you were alone, if possible."

The footman's manner was perfectly respectful. He discreetly said nothing of the sovereign which had accompanied

the letter. Vera turned away and broke the seal. She was in a somewhat secluded part of the garden now, but she had no difficulty in reading the letter with the aid of the sparkling points of flame which glimmered from the branches of the overhanging trees.

"My dear child (the letter ran),
"I want you to read this to me. I want you to promise me that it shall be shown to nobody. I daresay you will wonder why I write like this, after all these years, but I can only plead that circumstances, not myself, are alone to blame. I want you to believe that up till quite recently I was hardly aware of your existence. But all these things I can explain when we meet. Naturally you will ask yourself who I am, and why I should venture to address you in this fashion. You will see presently.
(To be continued.)

GETS A COPYRIGHT ON HIS RESIDENCE

Spokane Man Will Not Permit Imitations of his Original Home.

Spokane, Wash., June 19.—To prevent carpenters from copying the design of his house, which is of unique and original architecture, F. N. Martin, secretary and manager of the Hazelwood company, has had his plans copyrighted. So far as is known, this is the only copyrighted residence in Spokane.

The method of obtaining a copyright from the United States Patent Office is the same as for patents. No builder can duplicate the house in the United States without Mr. Martin's consent.

While conforming to no style of architecture, the house is on the order of a Swiss bungalow, with flat tar and gravel roof. The greatest distinction is toward the street, which accentuates the low, wide effect.

The front porch, covered with the main roof, has a cobblestone floor and is enclosed with lattice. The pillars are shingled and between them is a built-in seat.

Under the house is a rustic basalt foundation, and the massive exposed chimney is constructed of the same material. The walls are shingled and stained brown with trimmings of ivory white. The windows have small panes, and the Swiss design is carried out in the outside shutters and flower pots.

Projecting beyond the porch roof are exposed beams six inches square, which form the support for the main roof of the house. This gives the house the distinction of having a beamed ceiling with solid beams.

The massive fire door has an old-fashioned brass knocker, and the hardware throughout the house is of the same type. The front hall is indicated by one of the beams which divide it from the large living room on the right and the dining room on the left. The living room is 15x23 feet.

The ceiling follows the lines of the roof and is spanned by solid beams. On the north wall of the room is a massive fireplace constructed of honeycomb basalt rock, with heavy cement mantel shelf. The chimney breast is exposed to the ceiling and the hearth is a massive slab of stone five inches above the floor level. Niches in the wall of the fireplace are made to receive flower pots and bric-a-brac, while the grate hood is fitted on a heavy cement slab.

At each side of the fireplace are windows beyond which at right angles to the fireplace, are built-in seats with high backs. Along the south wall extends a bric-a-brac shelf, while the chandeliers are simple chain effect.

In the principal rooms the finish is select fir, stained brown, and the floors are waxed maple. The walls in the living room are treated golden brown and the ceiling pumpkin yellow.

Delightful Dutch designs are carried out in the dining-room.

OBITUARY

Mrs. Jeremiah McCarthy

Mrs. McCarthy, wife of Jeremiah McCarthy, of Dorchester (Mass.), died on last Friday after a short illness. Mrs. McCarthy was a native of this city, a daughter of Denis O'Sullivan and was a school teacher and poet. She was married to Mr. McCarthy in the cathedral here.

Miss Annie Young McDonald

Miss Annie Young, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert McDonald, died yesterday at the residence of her parents, Millidge Lane, aged sixteen years. Miss McDonald had been sick for about a year with lung trouble. She was of a quiet, retiring disposition but was popular with a large circle of friends who will regret to hear of her early death. Besides her father and mother she is survived by three sisters. The funeral will take place on Tuesday afternoon with services at the house at 2.30.

Charles Cahan

Halifax, June 20.—(Special).—Charles Cahan, father of C. H. Cahan, of Mexican Light & Power Co., died today at his home in Hebron, Yarmouth. He had been in failing health for two years with heart trouble. Mr. Cahan was one of the best known men in Yarmouth. He was an ardent church and Sunday school worker in the Methodist church and was in his 71st year. His wife survives. C. H. Cahan is in Mexico at the present time.

Edgar Benson

Sussex, June 21.—(Special).—Edgar Benson, aged 59 years, died at his home, Snider Mountain, yesterday morning of cancer in the neck. The funeral takes place tomorrow at 1 o'clock, Rev. Mr. Spargo officiating.

OTTAWA MAN DROWNED IN THE RIDEAU CANAL

Ottawa, June 21.—George Barbeau, aged 53, drowned in the Rideau Canal last night in sight of more than 100 people who were powerless to render assistance. Barbeau had been to Cornwall to witness the lacrosse match and disembarked with the crowd at the central station. Instead, however, of taking the platform, he crossed the tracks and walked into the canal. There was not so much as a loose plank that could be thrown to the drowning man and in half an hour, when the body was recovered with a boat hook, life was extinct.

The closing exercises of the school at the Protestant Orphan Asylum will take place on Tuesday, June 23, from 10 to 12. All members of the board, also the public, who are interested in the institution, are cordially invited to attend.

How to Limber Your Joints

All they need is rubbing with Nerviline. It takes out rheumatism and stiffens every time. Cures lumbago and every muscular ache. No liniment so penetrating, so soothing as Nelson's Nerviline. Buy a large 25c bottle.

Fashion Hint for Times Readers



SILKEN BATHING SUITS ARE SHAPELY.

Time was, and not so many years ago, when bathing suits were a horror to contemplate. But all that has changed and the woman who studies her appearance first and her health afterward need no longer hesitate to appear on the seashore in bathing garb. Costumes in plain taffetas and fine mohair are in all the dark shades. They have skirts which discreetly cover the knees and fit smoothly about the hips, although by means of shirring fullness is added wherever necessary. Sailor collars and nautical ties distinguish most of the deeply plaited blouses whose sleeves are short and puffy, the better to display a pretty elbow.

PLAYS AND PLAYERS

HALIFAX AMATEURS

NEXT WEEK

The Bohemian Girl will be sung in the Opera House on June 29 and 30 and July 1 by a company of Halifax amateurs.

GOOD BILL AT THE NICKEL

It will be doubly interesting to old and young patrons of the Nickel today to watch a litter of the cutest little kittens at play, for the lover of household pets little felines are always a source of amusement. The picture was taken by Pathe Freres and shows the kittens in an old silk hat, playing in a gutter and in all sorts of funny positions and at innumerable pranks. The Tattertale Mother-in-Law and Lazy Jim's Luck will make more laughs. The whole show is bright and new; in fact all Nickel shows are fully abreast of the largest and best motion picture theatres in the United States. Mr.

Cairns opens another week with the sentimental selection, Love Is the Light of the World and Miss Wren's contribution will be None Can Take Your Place. The Nickel is delightfully cool with its three new 24-inch air shafts.

BIG RUSH FOR SEATS

FOR AMATEURS SHOW

The demand for seats for "A Sailor's Sweetheart" and "Caprice," which will be presented by Theo. H. Bird and the St. John Dramatic Club in the Opera House on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of this week, still continues, and subscribers' tickets are meeting with a large sale. The box office will be open to the public tomorrow morning. Some good seats are left downstairs for Wednesday and Friday evenings, when a Sailor's Sweetheart will be the attraction and good positions can still be had in the balcony for all three performances.

THE C. P. R. AND THE MINTO COAL MINES

Supt. Downie Discusses Their Acquisition with C. P. R. Officials in Montreal.

Montreal, June 20.—William Downie, superintendent of the Atlantic division of the C. P. R., was in town yesterday on his way to British Columbia. While in Montreal he discussed with C. P. R. officials the question of securing certain coal areas in Queens County in the vicinity of Minto, N. B., and operating them for the C. P. R. It is not stated as yet which mines the C. P. R. has secured.

PRESBYTERIAN SABBATH SCHOOL INSTITUTES

The Maritime Synod of the Presbyterian Church in Canada has made arrangements for the conducting of a series of Sabbath school institutes throughout the presbyteries of St. John, P. E. I., Pictou, and Miramichi during June and July. These institutes will be held at various convenient "centres" in each presbytery, will continue in session one day only—afternoon and evening, will deal with the practical problems of the Sunday school teachers and workers, and will be conducted on the conference plan.

Rev. J. C. Robertson, general Sabbath school secretary of Toronto and Rev. J. H. Anderson of Florenceville, convenor of the Maritime Synod's Sunday school committee will be present at all the institutes of the tours. Rev. J. J. McCaskill of Fort Kent, convenor-elect of the presbytery's Sunday school committee will attend all the institutes in St. John presbytery while in the other presbyteries his place will be taken by the respective convenors. Following is a partial list of the institutes in St. John Presbytery: Fort Kent, June 21; Amherst, June 22; Bristol, June 23; Woodstock, June 24; St. Stephen, June 25; Harvey, June 26.

JUDGE HANINGTON AT KING'S GARDEN PARTY

Montreal, June 21.—(Special).—A special London cable says: Among the Canadians present at the king's garden party on Saturday were Lieut.-Governor and Mrs. Dunsen, Lieut.-Col. Prior, Justice Graham and wife, Justice Hanington, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Beaudre, Mr. and Mrs. Miss Colly, Mr. and Mrs. Marpole, Miss Edington, Mrs. and Miss W. Goodenham, Miss Phyllis Hendrie, Mrs. and Miss Plummer.

Rev. Gordon Dickie and Mrs. Dickie returned after their wedding tour on Friday last, and are staying at Carville Hall. In about a fortnight's time Mr. Dickie will take his annual vacation which will be spent this year in Nova Scotia. Mrs. Dickie will not be receiving until after their return, when they will take up their residence in Garden street.

J. H. Searle, of Halifax, was registered at the Dufferin on Saturday.

How to Cure Pimples

Cleanse the blood, flush out the system by a course with Dr. Hamilton's Pills. No purifying tonic so potent, so sure to cure pimples and skin diseases. Try 25c box of Dr. Hamilton's Pills.

George Henderson, of Halifax, was at the Royal on Saturday.

The Times Daily Puzzle Picture



ANSWER TO SATURDAY'S PUZZLE.
Upside down under the table.

ONTARIO TOWN LOSSES BY FIRE

Business Portion of Burk's Falls Wiped Out—Loss is Very Heavy.

Burk's Falls, Ont., June 21.—Driven by a strong wind, a fire which started Saturday afternoon in the drying kiln of Knight Company, Limited, swept down the main street of the town carrying all before it. The citizens fire company did what they could to stop the flames but their efforts were of no avail and aid was sought from neighboring towns. In spite of all that could be done it was late at night before the flames were under control. By that time the whole business portion of the place had been completely wiped out and a number of residences destroyed.

Telegraph and telephone wires were burned down and for many hours the place was isolated. Many of the business men lived above their stores and lost their household belongings as well as stocks of merchandise.

The loss cannot be even approximately estimated. It will be very heavy. Among the buildings destroyed are the Knight Drying kiln, Burk Hotel and Clifton Hotel, Stewart's livery and livery of Burk Falls Transfer Co., English church, two butcher shops, four general stores, two shoe stores, two restaurants, barber shop, tailor shop, harness shop, jewelry store and a dozen other buildings, including several residences.

WILL TEST LOCH LOMOND WATER SERVICE TONIGHT

It Will be Tried Before the Fire Underwriters in the Market Square at 7 O'Clock.

A public demonstration of the water power now available for fire protection purposes, will be given in Market square this evening at 7 o'clock. The test has been decided on by Ald. Frier, chairman of the water and sewerage board, after consultation with F. A. Barbour, the consulting engineer on the Loch Lomond extension.

The board of fire underwriters have been invited to be present and it is hoped that the result of the test will go far in convincing the board that the time has arrived when the insurance rate can safely be reduced.

The display will be in charge of John Kerr, chief of the fire department. There are five hydrants within the area of the Market square, and it is intended to have eight, and possibly ten, streams playing at once. The engineers anticipate that there is now sufficient force of water to give a pressure of sixty-five pounds with ten streams going.

It is probable that a large crowd will be attracted to the square to witness the interesting demonstration.

As it will be necessary to stretch the hose across the car tracks, the street railway service will be disorganized between 7 and 8 p.m. Intending passengers should leave the North End during that hour may in consequence meet with some delay.

A GROWING CITY

A Few Figures which Show the Advance of Montreal.

Montreal, June 19.—Extracts from the latest statistical returns issued at the City Hall give interesting evidence of the growth of the city since 1880, in which year the city's finances were placed on a permanent stable basis.

The revenue from real estate assessment last year was \$1,979,426, as compared with \$882,100 in 1880, being an increase of \$1,097,326. The revenue in water taxes was \$885,656 against \$327,014, and in business and personal taxes \$394,117, against \$146,148 in 1880. The largest increase is shown in the licensing department, where the revenue now amounts to nearly two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, as compared with \$43,635 twenty-eight years ago.

The total net revenue during the past year was \$4,889,276, as compared with \$1,495,660 in 1880.

CANADIAN FISHERIES

The fisheries of Canada are the most extensive of the world. The eastern sea coast of the Maritime Provinces from the Bay of Fundy to the Straits of Belle Isle covers a distance of 5,600 miles, more than double that of Great Britain and Ireland, and the salt water inshore area, not considering minor indentations nor the Great Lakes of the West, covers more than 1500 square miles.

George Tingey and J. H. Vaughan returned on Saturday after a fishing trip to Victoria lake and West Long lake, back of Gaspeaux. They report the fishing fair and they secured some large trout, some weighing three pounds.

WHAT INCREASED RATES MEAN TO I.O.F.

Old Foresters Under the New Rating Will Pay About \$8 Per Year More—H. A. Collins, Supreme Treasurer, Dead.

Toronto, June 21.—The new rates adopted by the Independent Foresters mean an increase of nearly \$900,000 yearly to the mortuary fund.

Any lapses which occur, and there are bound to be a number, will be to the advantage of the order as helping to decrease its liability.

The all round increase averages about \$8 yearly to each member. The number of old members is 112,000, carrying more than \$140,000,000 insurance. Formerly the average rate paid monthly was \$1.01 per \$1,000, which has been increased to \$1.06.

It has been decided to abandon the orphan's home built by Dr. Oronchatekha, at a cost of \$230,000 and the sixty children inmates will be provided with new farm homes near Toronto.

The Union Trust Company will be continued in connection with the I. O. F., but the capital stock was reduced from \$2,000,000 to \$1,000,000. The Foresters' stock was reduced to \$400,000 from \$1,000,000 and on this amount ten per cent. profit was paid.

The death of Harry A. Collins for eighteen years supreme treasurer of the Independent Foresters and one of the best known members in Canada, took place at the family residence, Major street about 5 o'clock Saturday afternoon. He was sixty-four years old.

Last Monday when he announced his withdrawal from the contest for supreme chief ranger he was ill and the attack developed in a few days an acute condition of nephritis, a form of kidney disease from which he had suffered for many years. He leaves a widow, one son, Harry, ranching near Strathcona, Alberta, and two daughters, both married.

A meeting of all the counsel for various claimants against the assets of York County Loan and Savings Company, Saturday morning, decided that no further appeals will be made from the decision of George Kappelle, official referee, in the case and that the appeals now in progress will be dropped. The liquidators, The National Trust Company, will now be able to go on with the work of apportioning to each of thousands of claimants, his share. The work will occupy months.

METHODS OF DEALING WITH LIQUOR QUESTION

Rev. D. Lang Delivers Excellent Address in Every Day Club Hall.

A thoughtful and vigorous appeal to men to live sober lives was presented by Rev. David Lang in the Every Day club hall last evening. Discussing methods of dealing with the liquor problem, he spoke of legal restraint as one very important method, and referred to the pronounced advance of sentiment in the direction of greater restriction in England, the United States and Canada.

But there was also the method of dealing with men as individuals and inducing them to give up or avoid the drink habit. This also was very important.

Some of the great railways insisted that their employees must not drink liquor. He told of an employer in Winnipeg who had discharged a man who was always sober at his work, but who drank when off duty. The employer knew that the man would not have as clear a brain for business in the morning. And so it had come to pass that it was the total abstinence who was sought after to fill a responsible position.

Mr. Lang said that a man should abstain from liquor for the sake of his body, his soul and his friends. Each of these points was elaborated with clearness and force, and among the effective illustrations cited was that of a bear-eyed, staggering man whom he had met in one of the streets of the city yesterday.

R. H. Cother and the president of the club spoke briefly of its work. Several hymns were sung and Mr. Ross sang a solo. At the close of the meeting, a man who had been deeply impressed by the words of Mr. Lang asked to be given a pledge to sign, saying that he was determined to try to abstain hereafter from the use of liquor. The pledge was signed.

50,000 Men Wanted

Before next month this number are wanted to step up and have their corns removed with Putnam's Corn Extractor—it's painless—safe—sure. Use only "Putnam's," it's the best.

