

The Midnight Guest

By FRED M. WHITE

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

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(Continued.)
CHAPTER II.

No. 1, Fitzjohn Square.

A few moments later and Ravenspur's brougham was being rapidly driven in the direction of the Grand Hotel. No words were spoken on the journey, but Ravenspur did not fail to notice how his companion shook and quivered as the shouts of the newboys reached her ears. It seemed as if all London had given itself over to this last sensational tragedy. It was as if thousands of strange rough hands were pressing upon the still bleeding wound. To an intensely sympathetic nature like Ravenspur's, the relief of the destination was great. At his suggestion of food his companion shuddered. The more ideas of it turned her physically sick. Utterly worn out and exhausted she dropped into a chair. There was a light now of something like madness in her eyes. The doctor bustled in presently with something in his hand. Mrs. Delahay drank the medicine in a mechanical way, scarcely knowing what she was doing. Then, gradually her rigid limbs relaxed, and the staring dark eyes were closed.

"She'll do now for some time," the doctor whispered. "I have telephoned for a nurse who may be here now at any moment. Don't let me detain you. I have got my motor outside, and in any case I must remain till the nurse arrives."

"That is very good of you," Ravenspur murmured. "As far as I am concerned I should like to make some inquiries. I have known Delahay now for the last five years; indeed, it was I who persuaded him to take up his quarters in London. It seems a terrible thing that so promising a career should be cut short like this. That man would have come to the top of his profession, and so far as I know, he had no single enemy in the world. Perhaps, by this time, the Scotland Yard people may have found a clue."

Ravenspur drove straight away to Fitzjohn Square, and made his way through the crowd of morbid folks who had gathered outside. As he expected, he found the house in the hands of the police. Inspector Dallas came forward and greeted him respectfully.

"This is a terrible affair, my lord," he said.

"Ghastly," Ravenspur exclaimed. "It was a great shock when Mrs. Delahay came round to me this morning. And the strange part of the whole business is that I was in this very house myself, quite alone, till half past one. Perhaps I had better explain the circumstances to you, as the knowledge might prove useful to you. I have known you know all about it. Mind you, I saw nothing; I did not hear a sound. Indeed, I am quite convinced that there was no one on the premises when I left."

"But you had no means of making sure," the inspector protested. "The servants might have been here all the time. They might have been hiding in a room upstairs waiting for you to go."

"That they might have attacked me as far as that goes," Ravenspur replied. "My word, the mere suggestion of it turns one cold."

"At any rate, they were not after your lordship," the inspector said, thoughtfully. "Of course, I am assuming for the sake of argument that the murderer, or murderers, were actually here when you arrived last night. If so, the whole thing was carefully premeditated. These people did not quarrel with you, and, therefore, they did not molest you. All the same, they wanted to get rid of you, or they would not have cut off the light."

"But did they cut off the light?"

"That we can prove in a moment. I am going on the theory that these people wanted to get rid of you. These people who short-circuited the current and left you in darkness. That was a very useful expedient, and had the desired effect. I am very glad you told me this because it may be the means of putting us on the track of important evidence. But let us go down to the basement, and examine the electric meter."

Ravenspur followed his companion down the dark steps leading to the basement, and Inspector Dallas struck a light. Then, with a grim smile, he pointed to a cable which led from the meter to the different rooms on the upper floors. The cable had been clean cut with some sharp instrument, a fracture which must have been recently made, for the main wire to the cable gleamed like gold.

"So far, so good," Dallas said. "We have proved by yonder demonstration that these people were here last night whilst you were actually at work in the studio."

"That puzzles me more than ever," Ravenspur replied. "Why did they not get rid of me an hour before, when they could have done equally as well, by the same simple expedient?"

"Simply because they could afford to wait till half past one. You may depend upon it that Mr. Delahay's movements were absolutely known to them. They were perfectly well aware of the fact that he was not expected here till some time past half past one. It is not until Delahay left his hotel at midnight, he had not the slightest intention of coming straight here. Doubtless he had important business which was likely to last him an hour and a half, and for some reason or other he did not want his wife to know what it was. Speaking as one man of the world to another, Mr. Delahay's excuse for getting out strikes me as being rather a shallow one. Surely a married man, more or less on his honeymoon, does not want to visit an empty house after midnight. Surely he could have waited till daylight."

"Then you think he went out to keep an appointment?"

"I feel quite convinced of it, your lordship. And, moreover, the appointment was a secret one of which Mrs. Delahay was to know nothing. I will go still further, and say that Mr. Delahay came here after you had gone this morning to keep an appointment. It is just possible that he might have been in the house during your presence here. It is just possible that he cut the cable himself."

house during your presence here. It is just possible that he cut the cable himself."

"Ah but that won't quite do," Ravenspur protested. "When I came out of the house this morning I saw that the front door was carefully fastened, and I am prepared to swear that the latchkey which Mrs. Delahay found this morning was not in the lock then. No, no; I am quite sure that poor Delahay must have come here after I left. I am not prepared to contest your theory that my unfortunate friend came here to keep an appointment. Indeed, the presence of the latchkey in the door proves that he was in a hurry, and perhaps a little upset, or he would not have committed the mistake of leaving the key behind him. But after all, the said and done, this is merely conjecture on our part. Have you found anything yourself that is likely to give you a clue?"

Inspector Dallas hesitated just for a moment.

"Perhaps I ought not to mention it," he said, "but I am sure I can rely upon your lordship's discretion. When I was called this morning I found Mr. Delahay lying on the floor of the studio quite dead. So far as we could see there were no marks of violence on the body except a small puncture over the heart, which appears to have been made with some very fine instrument. But, of course, we can't speak definitely on that point till we have had the inquest. As far as we can judge, something like a struggle must have taken place, because the loose carpets on the floor were in great disorder, and one or two articles of furniture had been overturned. You may say that this proves nothing, except that violence was used. But in the hand of the dead man we found something that might be useful to use. Perhaps you would like to see it."

(To be Continued.)

BODY FOUND IN HAY MOW

William Thompson of Rockville, Kings County, Committed Suicide.

Sussex, N. B., May 12.—The people of Rockville were shocked this afternoon at the discovery of a suicide, which had been committed last Saturday, when the body of William Thompson was found in a hay mow in a barn.

Dr. Pearson, coroner of Sussex, was notified and viewed the body together with Dr. Murray. The coroner decided that an inquest was unnecessary in view of the circumstances, especially when it was known that the deceased had had a suicidal mania for some time past.

Last Thursday the unfortunate man left his house with the intention of going to Foulton, Maine. He went as far as St. John, where a ticket was found in his pocket which had been issued at St. John last Friday for Vancorbo. He returned from St. John Saturday and started for Cedar Camp, where his wife and family are living, a distance of twelve miles from Sussex. He drove as far as Rockville with Mark Dole and went part of the evening at the latter's home. This was the last seen of him alive.

This afternoon a search was instituted, owing to a letter received by Hugh Cunningham, addressed to Mrs. Thompson, which was in the handwriting of deceased Mr. Cunningham knowing that Thompson had started for his home on Saturday made enquiries but without result. Thinking it strange that he should write to his wife while on his way home, he opened the letter which contained a little over \$12, and the following brief message:

"From William Thompson, St. John, Good-bye Lizzie."

This aroused Mr. Cunningham's suspicions and he sent his son Lloyd to try to find some trace of the missing man. The young lad went to Rockville and in company with W. J. Patterson went to the barn, referred to, and there found the body of Thompson buried in the hay mow. He had dug a hole in the hay and covered himself up. There were no marks of violence or other evidence of a struggle.

The deceased had been an inmate of the asylum on two different occasions. About a year and a half ago he attempted suicide by taking carbolic acid and it is thought he took poison Saturday.

Deceased was 42 years of age. He has, besides his wife a family of twelve children. His father and mother are both living.

GOLD FOUND IN RESTIGOUCHE

W. A. Mott Says Some of It Assays \$145.00 to the Ton.

Speaking yesterday of the gold discoveries in Restigouche county, W. A. Mott, Campbellton, who is at the Royal, said yesterday that some had been found assaying \$145.00 to the ton. This ore, he said, was brought from the Petapedia river, a tributary of the Restigouche, and Mott was unable to tell whether this was an isolated ledge of free working gold or not. Neither does he know the name of the discoverer, but he added that there is no doubt of the genuineness of the assay.

Mr. Mott is personally interested in a gold mine in Restigouche county. This is known as the Big Brook property on the Upsalquitch river. It is a quartz vein located about six months ago. Ever since the discovery a small crew of men have been at work. It is on the side of a mountain and sits will be sunk to develop the vein. The assays, he says, have been very encouraging and show proportions of silver and copper as well as gold. Mr. Mott says that more attention than ever is now being paid to the mineral wealth of Restigouche and that asbestos of good quality is fairly abundant as well as gold, silver and copper.

Referring to the destruction of James Harquail's lumber mill in Campbellton in the recent fire, Mr. Mott says he understands that it is Mr. Harquail's intention to rebuild although not on the same site.

Prof. H. Ross, of Worcester (Mass.), whose wife was Miss Ella M. McDuffie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. McDuffie, of St. John, has been appointed dean of the faculty of the Emerson College of Oratory in Boston, succeeding Dean Southwick.



SUMMER GOWN STRIPED TUSSAH.

Beautiful silk costumes for afternoon summer wear are being developed this season along the same lines as printed cottons. Like the pictured gown of blue and white striped tussah, the skirts are usually of touch length and more often trimmed in a simple manner with the material. The trimming of the striped material in this imported gown is particularly novel. Skirt and waist are attached beneath a wide folded centre of the silk and worn with a dainty gumpie of white net with Cluny lace and braided with white linen soutache.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

The Audit Act Brings No Comment From the Opposition

Organizer Copp Invited to Suggest Improvements in It But is Silent—The Budget Expected Tomorrow.

Fredericton, N. B., May 12.—The house met at 3 p.m.

The acts respecting the protection of the woods from fire and the law library were read a third time. Three acts relating to the City of Fredericton were read a second time.

Hon. Mr. McLeod submitted the report of the Standing Rules committee.

Hon. Mr. Hazen submitted the report of the Law committee.

Mr. Sproul gave notice of enquiry regarding regulations governing sales of imported horses.

Hon. Mr. Flemming, answering Mr. Glazier's enquiry, said the amount of money paid for the inspection of branch railways was to Mr. Burns, \$2,136.69 and to Gilmore Brown, \$474.27. These payments were authorized by orders in council.

Hon. Mr. Hazen, in reply to Mr. Hartt's enquiry, said the government was unable to state how many bonds of the International Railway had been guaranteed by the province nor the total amount of such bonds, as no record appeared to have been kept of the bonds guaranteed for said company. By order in council of January 8th last the provincial secretary was directed to endorse the guarantee of the province upon the first mortgage bond of the said company to the amount of \$400,000 upon the condition that \$150,000 of bonds previously issued were delivered up and cancelled. There was not in any of the departments any record to show what had been done. Steps were being taken to secure the information asked for. The subsidy paid to the said railway was in 1899, \$25,000; in 1903, \$25,000; 1904, \$5,000; 1907, \$20,000; 1908, \$25,000; total, \$100,000. No loans had been made to said company.

Mr. Hyne presented a petition for an act to fix the annual valuation of certain properties in Gloucester county.

Hon. Mr. Grimmer introduced an act to amend and consolidate acts incorporating the town of St. Stephen.

Hon. Mr. McLeod introduced an act to amend an act relating to the town of Marysville.

Hon. Mr. Grimmer introduced an act relating to boom companies. Its purpose, he said, was to enable the crown land department to more readily ascertain the amount of lumber cut on crown lands when this lumber was passing through the booms.

Hon. Mr. Maxwell presented a petition for an act to incorporate the Twin Tree Mine Railway Co. Also for an act to amend the charter of the city of St. John and one relating to certain debentures issued by the City of St. John.

Mr. Hartt presented a petition for an act respecting the Charlotte county valuation.

Mr. LaBilloy inquired if it was the intention of the department of Public Works to build a bridge across the St. John River at or near Bath, as to who was the caretaker of the Florenceville bridge, and whether a ferry had been established at or near Bath.

Hon. Mr. Hazen introduced an act to amend an act providing for a stipendiary magistrate in the Parish of Addington. Experience, he said, had shown that the present stipend was not in the most suitable place and this bill provided for a change.

Hon. Mr. Flemming, replying to Mr. LaBilloy, said the government was aware of the revenue from liquor licenses granted in the county of Restigouche outside of Campbellton and Dalhousie as well as insufficient to pay the salaries of the inspectors and commissioners last year. The government was also aware that such license fees were fixed by statute and it was not the intention of the government to amend the statute at present session of the legislature.

Mr. Wilson presented a petition for an act to regulate coasting on the hills in the city of St. John.

Mr. Copp presented a petition for an act relating to the town of Sackville.

Mr. Lowell introduced an act in regard to debentures of school district No. 2, Lancaster.

Mr. Tweeddale presented a petition for an act to incorporate the Northern Pulp and Paper Co. Ltd.

LAURIER STRIKES HIS FLAG ON AYLESWORTH BILL ISSUE

He Now Declares That He is Willing to Grant Concessions in Manitoba Act Which the Opposition Demanded.

Ottawa, May 12.—Although it was expected that happened when the house met this afternoon, Sir Wilfrid Laurier striking his flag on the Aylesworth bill issue, the surrender was not unattractively accompanied by signals of exultation from the opposition benches.

After a pounding process which had lasted for more than a week, the prime minister announced his willingness to accept the terms proffered by his opponents, namely, to have the Manitoba lists revised by county judges, to leave the local lists untouched in provincial districts which are not intersected by federal boundaries, and to make other necessary amendments to the bill in committee.

Sir Wilfrid said at the outset that as Mr. Borden had appealed to him, "in the name of fairness, justice and broad equity" against the bill as an intensely partisan measure, so now he appealed in the same terms against Manitoba's partisan laws. For the bill before the house he accepted the entire responsibility.

"Conservative members from Manitoba," he said, "dread the effect of the law of their own province, it is administered by this government's officers. But there are men on this side of the house who dread the effect of that law, if it is to be administered, as it has been, by the officers appointed by their opponents. Those who oppose this bill dread it in anticipation; those who support it, dread the effect of the existing law of Manitoba from past experience."

This he understood was the situation. The record of the Conservatives was in favor of federal lists while the Liberals had fought for that principle in parliament. "Yet," he added, "although in 1885 we fought the federal franchise bill as effectively and vigorously as a measure was ever fought, we never thought of resorting to a refusal of supply, to the disorganization of the public service."

He went on to say that a condition of affairs had arrived in Manitoba which imperatively called for legislation by this parliament. It had been charged that Mr. Leach, the Liberal organizer in Manitoba, had acted dishonestly and disfranchised hundreds of electors. Sir Wilfrid denied absolutely that Mr. Leach disfranchised anybody. There may have been mistakes but there was no intentional wrongdoing. He had been told that Mr. Leach was a perfectly respectable man. The condition of affairs was such in Manitoba, that returning officers would be subject to the same peril as in 1904, owing to the difficulty of adjusting the lists to federal boundaries. Somebody must do this work. "The judges," he shouted the opposition in chorus.

"On this point for my part," continued the premier, coming to the real point of his speech, "after having conferred with the minister of justice and my other colleagues we are ready to accept legislation suggested by Dr. Roche in his speech the other day." (Opposition cheers.)

Sir Wilfrid then quoted the portion of the Manitoba act cited by Dr. Roche, which provides for the revision of the voters list by county court judges.

"If this would be agreeable to friends and Tories alike, for my part I am willing to take this means of giving satisfaction. This, however, would mean the defeat of the bill now before the house."

Mr. Borden replied that he had made this very suggestion at the opening of debate, pointing out that as the difficulty was not confined to Manitoba, the provisions of the act just cited would have to be made applicable to all Canada by general law.

Sir Wilfrid thought there was no difficulty elsewhere than in Manitoba. His objection to the Manitoba act was that it placed the whole machinery of revision in the hands of the minister in council. As he understood it, power was given receiving officers to extend the time for revising names. He could refuse to extend the

time for erasing names. Sir Wilfrid denied that a similar bill was prepared in 1903 and never submitted to parliament but admitted that the Manitoba Liberals were anxious for such a bill at that time. He found fault with the preparation of Manitoba lists by registration clerks but Dr. Roche pointed out that these clerks simply took the affidavits of persons applying to get on the lists.

Sir Wilfrid declared that there had been no attempt on Mr. Aylesworth's part, as charged, to tamper with the secrecy of the ballot and in conclusion, "I have to say on that point and upon every other point of the bill, we are prepared to amend the bill, if necessary, so as to give effect to the policy contained in it which is the secrecy of the ballot without stilling the voice of the people."

Mr. Aileen asked if the premier had in mind any modus operandi by which the new lists will be made altogether under judicial authority. "I think so," replied the premier, "I think we will be prepared to do so at the proper time when we are in committee."

Mr. Foster followed maintaining there had been absolutely no proof of any grievance against the Manitoba election lists. The bill was remarkable for what it did not contain, he thought.

There was no provision for simultaneous polling and nothing to remedy the grievance against long-delayed bye-elections, nothing to prevent the growing abuse of civil servants actively participating in elections; nothing to stop the bribing of constituencies by the promise of public expenditure; no adequate penalties for some election crimes, and no effective power to see the election law carried out. Nothing had been said in explanation of the omission of the clause preventing incorporated companies contributing to political party funds and the clause regarding the ballot opened the way for the purchase of votes, making it possible for any ballot to become known.

Mr. Foster congratulated the premier in accordance to the just demand of the opposition.

Proceeding, Mr. Foster said it was astounding that, after eight days, the prime minister did not know that the returning officers in 1904 went beyond the overlapping divisions and distributed the polling divisions that were self-contained. He commented on the Leach incident at length, putting Leach in the same class as Rudneski, the Galician, who sold false affidavits to Winnipeg Liberals for a price.

Dealing with Leach's operations, Mr. Foster charged that as a result of his work a messenger was now sitting in the house who should not be there.

Mr. Jackson (Selkirk), said he was referred to and asked for proof.

Mr. Foster replied that his proof was the sworn testimony of the returning officer.

"I make this proposition," said Mr. Foster, "let the prime minister bring a bill establishing the Dominion franchise on lists made by this government in all the provinces of the Dominion and put these lists in the hands of a non-partisan body and he will have this side of the house at his back." Mr. Foster concluded by observing that if he were a ruler of Manitoba he would fight against this invidious distinction of his province and he was sure that when the proper time came Manitoba and British Columbia would resent the indignity which the government sought to impose upon them.

The adjournment of the debate was moved by Staples (McDonald, Man.), who will continue the debate tomorrow.

By orders from headquarters, the St. Stephen's Scouts Cadet Corps have postponed their tournament and inspection until Thursday, May 21. The corps will be inspected in the 62nd regiment drill shed by Col. White, D.O.C. Seats will be provided and all those present are guaranteed an excellent entertainment.

Rheumatism

I have found a tried and tested cure for Rheumatism. Not a remedy that will straighten the distorted limbs of chronic cripples, nor turn bony growths back to flesh again. That is impossible, but I can help you all the pains and pangs of this terrible disease.

In Germany—with a Chemist in the City of Darmstadt—I found the last ingredient with which Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Remedy was made a perfect, dependable prescription. Without that last ingredient, I successfully treated many, many cases of Rheumatism; but now, at last, it is made a cure for all cases of this terrible disease. Those sand-like granular wastes, found in Rheumatic Blood, seem to dissolve and pass away under the action of this remedy as freely as does sugar when added to pure water. And then, when dissolved, these poisonous wastes freely pass from the system, and the cause of Rheumatism is gone forever. There is now no real need—no actual excuse to suffer longer without help. We sell, and in confidence recommend

Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Remedy
SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

OBITUARY

Mrs. Catherine Donovan

Mrs. Catherine Donovan, widow of William Donovan, died last evening at her home, Sandy Point road, after an illness extending over some time. She was sixty-five years old and is survived by two sons—Cornelius and James, at home and two daughters—Mrs. James McCrossin, of Newtown, Sussex, and Miss Margaret, at home. The funeral will be held at 2.15 o'clock on Thursday afternoon.

Howard Smith

Howell Hill, May 12.—Howard Smith, a highly respected resident of the district, died on Sunday at his home there, after a short illness. The deceased, who was about forty-five years of age, was a son of the late William Smith. Besides a wife and family, he leaves his mother and three brothers—Chipman and Whitfield, of Curryville, and Sanford, residing in the States, besides a large number of relatives and friends.

John Purdy Betts

A telegram received by George B. Hegan yesterday brought news of the death of John Purdy Betts in Portland (Ore.). Mr. Betts was a son of the late Capt. Albert Betts, of St. John, and was fifty-eight years of age. He left here thirty years ago and had not visited his native city since. He held the position of British shipping master in Portland.

Mr. Betts was married by his wife and daughter in Portland and his mother, Mrs. Albert Betts of 33 Broad street, and two sisters—Mrs. Geo. B. Hegan and Mrs. William Skinner of this city. Many old friends here will be sorry to learn of his death.

WEDDINGS

McKeough-Gorman

Newcastle, May 12.—Last Tuesday at Portland, Me., Miss Mary A. Gorman of Nelson, N.B., was married to Duncan M. McKeough of Portland. Michael McKeough, brother of the groom and Miss Katherine Gorman, sister of the bride, attended. The bride was beautifully dressed in white silk with picture hat, and carried a shower bouquet of bride roses. The maid of honor looked charming in white with picture hat of light blue and carried a bouquet of pinks. Mr. and Mrs. McKeough are spending their honeymoon in Boston, New York and Philadelphia, and will reside in Portland.

A Dutch market was held in Trinity church school room yesterday afternoon and evening and proved a very enjoyable affair on somewhat novel lines. As the visitors entered, each received a menu card containing a list of the appetizing dainties displayed on the tables, and also a tray of small delicacies. Waitresses in quaint Dutch costumes supplied their wants, and marked on each card the amount purchased. When the good things had been eaten, and it was time to leave, the menu card was presented at the door, and payment made, to the extent of the purchases. The novelty was well patronized and a considerable sum was realized.

THAT GARDENING FEVER

