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A Mysterious Disappearance

By Gordon Holmes

A Great Detective Story

(Continued.)

"Probably not. I have hardly seen him since my marriage. We were schoolboys together, though I was so much his senior that we did not chum together until later, when we met a good deal on the turf. Then he went off roughing it in the States. It must be he. It is just one of his pranks. And he is going to marry, eh? Is she a nice girl?"

The baronet was thoroughly excited. He talked fast, and helped himself liberally to stimulants.

Yes, unusually so. But I cannot help marvelling at this coincidence. It has upset you."

"Not a bit. I was interested in your yarn, and naturally I was unprepared for the startling fact that an old friend of mine filled the chief part. What a fellow you are, Claude, for always turning up at the right time. I have never been in a tight place personally, but if I were I suppose you would come along and show me the way out. Sit down again and give me all the details. I am full of curiosity."

Bruce had never before seen Sir Charles in such a hysterical mood. The anguish of the past three months had changed the careless, jovial baronet into a fretful, wayward being, who had lost control of his emotions. Undoubtedly he required some powerful tonic. The barrister resolved to see more of him in the future, and not to cease urging him until he had started on a long sea voyage, or taken up some hobby that would keep his mind from brooding upon the everlasting topic of his wife's strange death.

Dyke's fitful disposition manifested itself later. After he had listened with keen attention to all that Bruce had told him concerning Mensmore and Phyllis Browne, he suddenly swerved back to the one engrossing thought.

"What are you going to do about Corbett?" he asked.

"Find him."

"But how?"

"People are always tied to a centre by a string, and no matter how long the string may be, it contracts sooner or later. Corbett will turn up at the Raleigh Mansions, and before many weeks have passed, if I mistake not."

'And then?"

"Then he will have to answer me a few pertinent questions."

'But suppose he knows nothing whatever about the business?"

"In that case I must confess the clue is more tangled than ever."

"It would be curious if Corbett and Jane Harding were in any way associated."

"If they were it would take much to convince me that one or both could not supply at least some important information bearing on my—on our quest. If Mr. White even knew as much as I do about them he would arrest them at sight."

"Oh, he's a thick-headed chap, is White, by the way, that reminds me. He got hold of the maid, it seems, before she bolted, and made her give him some of my wife's clothes. By that means he established some sort of a theory about—"

About a matter on which we differ,' put in Bruce quietly. "Let us talk of something else."

The other moved restlessly in his chair, but yielded. For the remainder of the evening they discussed questions irrelevant to the course of this narrative.

It was late when they separated, but Bruce found Smith sitting up for him at home.

That faithful servitor bustled about, stirring the fire and turning up the lights. Finally he nervously addressed his master:

"Pardon me, sir, but there was a policeman here asking about you tonight, sir."

"A policeman!"

"Well, sir, a detective—Mr. White, of Scotland Yard. I knew him, sir, though he did not think it. He came about ten o'clock, and asked where you were."

"Did you tell him?"

"Well, sir," and Smith shifted from one foot to the other, "I thought it best to let him know the truth, sir."

"Good gracious, Smith, he is not going to handcuff me. You did quite right. What did he say?"

"Nothing, sir; except that he would call again. He wouldn't leave his name, but I knowed him all right.'

"Thank you. Good night. It was unnecessary that you should have remained up. But I am obliged to you all the same."

The barrister laughed as he went to his room. "Really," he said to himself, still highly amused, "White will cap all his previous feats by trying to arrest me. I suspect he has thought of it for a long time."

And Mr. White had thought of it.

CHAPTER XII.

WHO CORBETT WAS.

"Inexorable Fate!" is a favorite phrase with the makers of books; but Fate, being feminine according to the best authorities, is also somewhat fickle in disposition. Not only is she not invariably inexorable, but at times she delights to play with her poor subjects, to dazzle them with surprise, as it were, to stupefy them with the sense of their sheer inability to foresee or understand her vagaries.

It was Bruce's turn to receive the sharpest lesson in this respect that he ever remembered.

At breakfast the next morning he selected from a packet of unimportant letters one which required immediate attention. The financiers to whom he had written in conformity with his implied promise to Mr. Dodge, had replied favorably with reference to the reconstruction of the Springbok Mine.

They informed Bruce confidentially that a thoroughly reliable man in Johannesburg, to whom they had cabled, reported very strongly in favor of the property. They would await his written statement before finally committing themselves. Meanwhile, if Messrs. Dodge, Son & Co. (Limited) were anxious to get the business advanced a stage, there was no reason why he (Bruce) should not assure them that, subject to the first satisfactory report being confirmed, his clients would underwrite the shares. The whole thing would thus go through in about three weeks. As for Bruce himself, they proposed to give him a commission of five per cent. in fully paid shares for the introduction.

"Well, I never!" he laughed. "Now who would have thought such a thing possible? Why, if that rascal Dodge is right and this company is really a sound undertaking, my share of the deal will be £10,000. It seems wildly incredible, yet my friends know what they are writing about as a rule."

An hour later he was in the city.

A smart brougham stood in front of the now thoroughly renovated offices of Dodge, Son & Co. (Limited), and out of it, at the moment the barrister detached himself from the chaos of Leadenhall Street, stepped the head of the firm.

He was making up the steps when Claude cried:

"Hello, Mr. Dodge, how is the junior partner?"

Dodge stopped, focussed Bruce with his sharp eyes and smiled:

"Oh, it is you, is it? The young 'un is all right, thanks. Are you coming in?"

"That was my intention."

"Come along then. I was hoping I would see you one of these days."

"Has business improved recently?" inquired Bruce, as they entered the inner office.

"Yes, somewhat; but money is very tight still. However, we generally look for a spurt early in the New Year. Why do you ask?"

"No valid reason. A mere hazard."

"Was it because you saw me drive up in a carriage?"

"Mr. Dodge, I never dreamt that self-consciousness was a failing of the members of the Stock Exchange."

"Then that was the cause. I guessed it. I have been making inquiries about you, Mr. Bruce, and there is no use in trying to fool you, not a bit."

"Have you another Springbok proposition on hand?"

"No; bar chaffing. You were the man who ferreted out the truth about that West Australian combination when everybody else failed. And, now I think of it, you made me talk a lot the last time you were here. However, I am ready. Fire away! I will tell you the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help me — "

"Sh—s—sh! Do not perjure yourself, for the sake of alliteration. Besides, it is I who have come to talk this time."

"About Springboks?"

"Yes. The people I mentioned to you at my previous visit are prepared to underwrite the shares, provided that their agent's report is as favorable in its entirety as a telegraphic summary leads them to believe."

"Eh? That's good news! When will they be in a position to complete?"

"As soon as they hear from South Africa by post. Say three weeks."

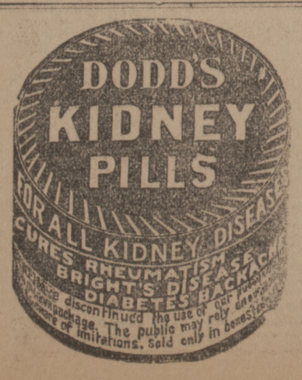
"So long! But suppose I get an offer from some other quarter in the meantime? I cannot keep the proposal open indefinitely."

"I have not asked you to do so, Mr. Dodge. Let me see—three shillings per share on, say, two hundred thousand shares is £30,000. It is a good deal of money. If any one likes to hand you a cheque for that amount without preliminary investigation, take it by all means."

The notion tickled Dodge immensely.

"All right, Mr. Bruce. When people of that sort turn up we don't sell 'em Springboks in the City. But there is no harm in you telling me your clients' names."

(To be Continued.)



Fashion Hint for Times Readers



THE EMBROIDERY FROCK IS ALWAYS A WISE CHOICE.

Embroidery wears and wears—as every woman knows; and fortunately just now fine embroideries are more fashionable than perishable lace. In this pretty frock panels of wide allover flouncing are joined with strips of double-edged insertion, the material being carefully machine-stitched to the insertion, and an edge turned back and run by hand before the allover is cut away around the mitred points of the insertion. A yoke and sleeves of the lace and tucking are matched by a strip of this tucking, which is laid under the edges of the flouncing at front and back of the skirt. The sash, threaded through the embroidery at the bust line, is a modish arrangement very popular with debutantes this season.

INTERESTING ADDRESSES DELIVERED YESTERDAY

Special Services Held in Several of the City Churches—Temperance Addresses Heard by Large Number.

Yesterday was a great day in Queen square Methodist church. In the morning there was a large gathering to hear J. Ritchie Bell preach on A Backslidden Church. Mr. Bell's text was from Revelations iii-20: "Behold I stand at the door and knock, if any man hear My voice and open the door I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with Me."

The preacher said that this was addressed to the church of the Laodiceans and consequently to those who had crowded Christ out of their lives. It was an appeal to backsliders to listen to Christ's voice and let Him in.

Mr. Bell spoke to the Sunday school in the afternoon from the words "All we like sheep have gone astray." He said that sin consisted in the desire to have one's own way instead of God's way. The speaker made an appeal to the scholars to accept Christ as their Saviour and follow His commandments. About thirty responded to his invitation.

The crowning service of the day was held in the evening, when the church was completely filled to hear Mr. Bell speak on Excuses. The pastor of the church, Rev. H. D. Marr, B. A., conducted the opening services and announced that the services would come to a close next Sunday night. The evangelist's address dealt with the various excuses men gave for not living Christian lives. He closed with a vivid description of the catastrophe of the Johnstown flood and used it as an illustration to urge men to seek refuge from sin and its consequences by fleeing to the Cross of Calvary. When the invitation was given more than twenty announced publicly their intention of leading Christian lives.

At the meeting tonight, which will open at 7.45, Mr. Bell's subject will be Repentance.

In St. Matthew's Church

In St. Matthew's church last evening Rev. J. J. McCaskill spoke on The Way of Life. He said:

The way of life as taught by Jesus is not difficult of statement. If we ask any question at all it is not what are the fundamentals of His teaching, but are His teachings practicable? The gospels furnish us with a perfectly clear statement: Beware of all externalism; bear in mind that defilement is from within, not from without. He that saveth his life shall lose it. The pure in heart shall see God. It is the life of the soul that matters, and no man can serve two masters. He must choose between them and happiness comes from adhering to the right choice. Do not strive to overcome evil with evil but overcome it with good. You must be ready to die for the sake of living. You cannot think too little of yourself nor too much of your real life. It is very much less difficult than the acrobatic attempt to ride two horses going in opposite directions which the average man attempts today.

It is the same lesson taught by the life of Abraham Lincoln. The individual cannot abide half-slave and half-free any more than the country. Lincoln was the most Christ-like man of the ages. He fought the same fight as Jesus, the fight of human rights against class privileges.

In examining the ills of our lot the first question we ask is: Are they remediable? If they are and we get a chance to hit the evil: "Let us hit the thing hard by the eternal God." Complaints unaccompanied with remedies or suggestions of remedy are, we all acknowledge, among the most useless forms of human activity. But he who sees evils in society is morally bound to seek remedies.

To see the greatness of Lincoln, you must measure him with his contemporaries. His lofty presence dwarfed all others. There were many who thought themselves his betters among contemporary statesmen and they took no pains to conceal the notion. Seward, Chase, Stanton, Greeley looked down upon him as inferiors. Greeley complained in a letter he wrote to Lincoln that great men were getting to be few and that his own health was not good.

But time has been duly and diligently all the while corrupting the reputation of Lincoln's rivals. Chase's abilities are recognized but they are eaten into by the acid of ambition and he stands before us petty, querulous and discontented. The great public men of his own time fall away from sight as he and they recede, leaving him towering alone in greatness of soul, like Saul, higher than any of them from his shoulders and upward. This is because he is altogether filled with the spirit of Jesus, and although outside of churches and creeds he walks with Him the way of life and the path of service.

Men will seek other ways but this alone is the secret of abiding renown. We have politicians and churchmen today scrambling for place and power, indifferent, tricky, dodging, vain, jealous, meddling and vindictive, and they think that in these things they are doing God service. But the path of every man who departs from the simple, clear, honorable, patient and straight way of nature is ever a tangent that leads continually further and further from the central truth, till it is lost in chaotic wilds where no man can dwell.

Thorne Lodge Meeting

A large number attended the Thorne Lodge meeting yesterday afternoon in Haymarket square hall. M. A. Thorne presided. The musical programme consisted of solos by Mrs. M. A. Thorne and Wm. Garnett and a quartette, Mrs. Pitt and Miss Patterson, A. H. Patterson and R. D. Coggan.

Rev. Jas. Crisp addressed the meeting. He congratulated Thorne Lodge on the good effect of these meetings and spoke of the progress of the temperance movement in this community. Some years ago the work of the temperance people was confined to getting the man away from the drink. Today this was combined with an effort to get the drink away from the man. Neither part of the work was slighted. The speaker said that on the temperance banner were inscribed some appropriate mottoes. "Homes Happy," was not possible while the drink holds sway over any member of the home. "Churches Flourishing" was another motto. "Country Prosperous," would be brought about by the happy solution of the drink problem. "Business Thriving," was another motto. It was evident that business was hampered by bad pay usually due to use of liquor. "Character Blameless" would be another outcome of total abstinence. "Souls Saved" would be added when the poison which now killed both body and soul was prohibited.

The greater the force brought to bear with the effort to take the drink away from the man the sooner they would have the proper state of affairs. No political party, said the speaker, would give the province or dominion prohibition out of principle. They would move in that direction only when they said that it was necessary to do so to extend their political life. In a short time it might be expected that such legislation would be given to New Brunswick.

Rev. Mr. Crisp closed a very helpful address with an appeal for a continuation of the work.

The Every Day Club

The singing of the national anthem at the opening of school, the practice of saluting the flag as it is done in the United States schools, and the study of the lives of eminent Canadians of the past, to draw from them lessons in patriotism and devotion to high ideals, were advocated by Ald. J. King Kelley in an address at the Every Day Club yesterday afternoon.

There was a large attendance for an afternoon meeting, and Ald. Kelley was heard with deep interest. Dwelling upon the importance of the development of loyalty to country and flag and duty, the

(Continued on page 5.)

Why Does It Cure

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Thus Hood's Sarsaparilla cures scrofula, eczema, anemia, catarrh, nervousness, that tired feeling, dyspepsia, loss of appetite, and builds up the system.

Get Hood's Sarsaparilla today. Prepared by C. I. Hood Co., Lowell, Mass.

DESPERADOES MAKE ESCAPE FROM JAIL

Two P. E. Island Men Break Out of Pictou Jail While on Their Way to the Penitentiary

Charlottetown, P. E. I., Feb. 13—Shepherd and McDonald, of Charlottetown, two prisoners convicted of robbery, jail breaking, etc., and sentenced to Dorchester penitentiary, have escaped from Pictou jail and are still at large.

They were taken over on Wednesday by Sheriff Coombs and Constable McKinnon and placed in jail, Keeper Jones putting them in his strongest cells. They picked the lock during the night and got clear of the cell, but there were other doors to force.

When the janitor came in the morning to give the prisoners breakfast the desperadoes lay in wait, and seizing the jailor, shoved him into the cell and locked him in.

When Sheriff Coombs learned of their escape he organized a search, telegraphed and telephoned in all directions, had a man watch MacDonald's home in Westville, but so far without success.

"Its Only a Cold, A Trifling Cough."

Thousands have said this when they caught cold. Thousands have neglected to cure the cold. Thousands have filled a Consumptive grave through neglect. Never neglect a cough or cold. It can have but one result. It leaves the throat or lungs, or both, affected. Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup is the medicine you need. It strikes at the very foundation of all throat or lung complaints, relieving or curing Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Asthma, Croup, Sore Throat, and preventing Pneumonia and Consumption.

It has stood the test for many years, and is now more generally used than ever. It contains all the lung healing virtues of the pine tree combined with Wild Cherry Bark and other pectoral remedies. It stimulates the weakened bronchial organs, allays irritation and subdues inflammation, soothes and heals the irritated parts, loosens the phlegm and mucous, and aids nature to easily dislodge the morbid accumulations. Don't be humbugged into accepting an imitation of Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup. It is put up in a yellow wrapper, three pine trees the trade mark, and price 25 cents.

"Mrs. J. Brewster, Grafton, N.S., writes:—"Two winters ago I suffered severely with a very bad cold and asthma. I was so bad I could not get my breath, and very often thought I would choke. My husband became very much frightened, and got me a bottle of Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup and it gave me almost instant relief. I can recommend it to anyone having the least kind of a cold."

WHAT THE LEVEL CROSSINGS COST

They Have Taken a Toll of 270 Lives in Canada in the Last Five Years—Carelessness of Victims Mainly Responsible

Ottawa, Feb. 14.—Statistics covering grade-crossing accidents during the past five years have been prepared in connection with the investigation now being made by the railway commission as to the best way to prevent loss of life at level railway crossings.

Since the board was established in 1903 records have been kept of fatalities on all railways in the dominion. In nearly every case there is on file a report from one of the board's officials giving particulars as to the accidents. During that period there have been altogether 270 fatalities at level crossings.

A remarkable fact, shown by an analysis of the various fatalities, is that nearly ninety-five per cent of them have been due to the carelessness or recklessness of the victims themselves rather than to the fact that the crossings were unprotected.

In Prince Edward Island there has not been a single level crossing fatality in five years and on the Intercolonial Railway there have been only thirteen in that period.

LUST FOR GOLD CAUSES MURDER

Two Prospectors Who Had Come Upon Rich Mine Murdered in the Canadian West

Winnipeg, Feb. 14—A story of the murder of two prospectors just as they had struck a rich gold mine, was brought to Edmonton (Alb.), today by Chas. McLeod, who claims to have come upon the mutilated bodies of his two brothers, Frank and Will, with their heads missing, near Nahanni river (B.C.) Robt. Weir, a mining engineer, who accompanied them is also missing.

The brothers cut the record of their find, and other particulars in the trees near where the bodies were found, but these had been carefully obliterated.

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY

Take LAXATIVE BROMO Quinine Tablets. Druggists refund money if it fails to cure. E. W. GROVE'S signature is on each box. 25c

Hetty Green vs. James Michael was the case tried before the court of the Highest Jurisdiction of the moot court in the law school on Saturday evening. The case was one of physical injury resulting from nervous shock. C. F. Inches, B. C. L., was the presiding judge. The attorneys for the plaintiff were D. K. Hazen, B. A., (senior counsel), H. W. Lunney, B. A., and J. A. Belyea, B. A. The attorneys for the defendant were G. E. Logan (senior counsel), J. S. Tait, B. A., and H. Adair. The judge rendered a verdict in favor of the plaintiff.

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Good values at 30c per yard. Our price for a few days

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And no charge for making the bows when the ribbon is purchased from us. Colors, black, white, cream, leghorn, navy, tabac, maroon, mexique, reseda, Saxe or Alice blue, myrtle, lotus, moss, champagne, sky, rose, cardinal, rosewood, turquoise, wine, paon, coral, gold, cequelicot, argent, lilac, prune and castor.

THE BEST RIBBON VALUES EVER OFFTRED.

Marr Millinery Co.

Corner Union and Coburg streets, and 687 Main street, North End.
SAME VALUES ALSO AT MONCTON, N. B.

WEDDED AT SHORT NOTICE



New York, Feb. 13—Ben Ali Haggin Lounsbery wedded Miss Rhea Isabelle Seaver, his financee of a half year, in Jersey City, at very short notice.

"I intended to take a trip around the world, and Miss Seaver intended to go to Europe, probably next summer, to complete her musical education," he said. "We are going to Europe next week, and will probably spend several months in England and on the Continent. My wife will continue her musical studies."

From Jersey City, where they went unaccompanied by any of their friends, Mr. and Mrs. Lounsbery returned to the home of the young man's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard P. Lounsbery, of No. 14 East Fifty-second street. They received congratulations, and then proceeded to the Hotel Walcott, where they will live until their departure for Europe.

Mrs. Lounsbery, the bride, is a handsome girl, twenty-four years old, daughter of Charles Seaver, of Detroit, Mich. Her home for years has been with her aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Charles O'Brien of Ithaca, Mich.

EDNA WALLACE HOPPER IS SECRETLY MARRIED

New Orleans, Feb. 13—That he and Edna Wallace Hopper were married nearly three months ago was the announcement made here today by A. O. Brown, who arrived in New Orleans from New York today. Miss Hopper is appearing at a local theatre.

The wedding of Mr. Brown and Miss Hopper took place at the home of Justice James S. White, in Freehold, Monmouth county (N. J.) on November 25, 1908. The marriage license was issued November 18 but the ceremony was delayed a week. The witnesses were Miss Leona Anderson, Louis Ginter Young and Dennis O'Brien, the latter an attorney for Miss Hopper. All parties were pledged to secrecy.

Miss Hopper said today: "We did not announce the marriage at the time because Mr. Brown and myself were getting more notoriety than we wanted out of the unfortunate failure last August, and the suits which followed. We really made up our minds that we would keep the marriage a secret to fool the smart reporters and have a good joke on them. And we succeeded too for a certainty."

Miss Hopper figured in the sensational failure in the firm of which Mr. Brown was the head. She was brought into the bankruptcy proceedings by the receivers of the Brown Company because of having a $7,500 automobile and a $25,000 insurance policy given her by Mr. Brown previous to the failure.

MR. FIELDING IN HALIFAX

Halifax, Feb. 14—(Special)—Hon. W. S. Fielding was a passenger on board the steamer Tunisian which arrived this morning. The minister of finance, who is looking well, had nothing to say about his business in England and at Paris. He will remain in Halifax for a couple of days before proceeding to Ottawa.

A delegation of coal mine owners will meet him tomorrow regarding a readjustment of the duties.

The rule prohibiting visits to prisoners confined in the Matteawan state hospital on holidays, was suspended yesterday to permit Mrs. Wm. Thaw to visit her son Harry K. Thaw, this being his 37th birthday.

The car was packed; she took my seat,
But what a look of rancor
Next moment marred her face so sweet—
I had forgot to thank her.
—Catholic Standard and Times.

The Times Daily Puzzle Picture



A FAVORITE SPORT IN NORWAY.

Find another boy.

ANSWER TO SATURDAY'S PUZZLE.

Right side down, under pillow.