

The Woman in the Alcove

By ANNA KATHARINE GREEN

Author of "The Millionaire Baby," "The Filligree Ball," "The Leavenworth Case," Etc., Etc.
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Meanwhile Mr. Grey had his own troubles. During this whole long evening, he had been sustained by the conviction that the diamond of which he had caught but one passing glimpse was the Great Mogul of his once famous collection. So sure was he of this, that at one moment he found himself tempted to enter the alcove, demand a closer sight of the diamond and settle the question then and there. He even went so far as to take in his hands the two cups of coffee which should serve as his excuse for this intrusion, but his naturally chivalrous instincts again intervened, and he set the cups down again—this time not seeing with the intention of writing to her a note instead. But though he found paper and pen to hand, he could find no words for so daring a request, and he came back into the hall, only to hear that the woman who had contemplated addressing him had just been murdered and her great jewel stolen.

The shock was too much, and as there was no leaving the house then, he retreated again to the library where he revivified again in silence till he perceived again at sight of the diamond in the inspector's hands that he did not even recognize when he took the false jewel from his hand.

The American had outwitted the Englishman and the triumph of evil was complete. Or so it seemed. But if the Englishman is slow, he is sure. Thrown off the track for the time being, Mr. Grey had only to see a picture of the stiletto in the papers, to feel again that, despite all appearances, Fairbrother was really not only at the bottom of the thefts from which his cousin and himself had suffered, but of this frightful murder as well. He made no open move—he was a stranger in a strange land and much disturbed, besides, by his fears for his daughter—but he started a secret inquiry through his old valet, whom he had crossed in the street, and whose peculiar adaptability for this kind of work he well knew.

The aim of these inquiries was to determine if the persons, whom two physicians and three assistants were endeavoring to nurse back to health on the top of a wild plateau in a remote district of New Mexico, was the man

he had once entertained at his own board in England, and the adventures itself. But the result seemed to justify delays, very trying to Mr. Grey, that he was not the same, though he bore the name of Fairbrother, and was considered by everyone around there to be Fairbrother. Mr. Grey, ignorant of the relations between the millionaire master and his man which sometimes led to the latter's personifying the former, was confident of his own mistake and bitterly ashamed of his own suspicions.

But a second message set him right. A deception was being practiced down in New Mexico, and this was how his spy had found it out. Certain letters which went into the sick tent were sent away again, and always to one address. He had learned the address, it was that of James Wellgood, C—, and if Mr. Grey would look up this Wellgood, he would doubtless learn something of the man he was so interested in.

This gave Mr. Grey personally something to do, for he would trust no second party with a message involving the life of a possibly innocent man. As the place was accessible by railroad, and his duty clear, he took the journey involved and succeeded in getting a glimpse in the manner we know of the man James Wellgood. This time he recognized Fairbrother and, satisfied of the circumstances of the moment that he would be making no mistake in accusing him of having taken the Great Mogul, he intercepted him in his flight, as you have already read, and demanded the immediate return of his great diamond.

And Fairbrother? We shall have to go back a little to bring his history up to this critical instant.

When he realized the trend of public opinion; when he saw a perfectly innocent man committed to the Tombs and then accused at what he continued to regard as the triumph of his star. But he did not start for El Moro, wise as he felt it would be to do so. Something of the fascination usual with criminals kept him near the scene of his crime—that, and an anxiety to see how Sears would conduct himself in the Southwest. That Sears had followed him to New York, knew his crime, and was the strongest witness against him, was as far from his thoughts as that he owed him the warning which had all but balked him of his revenge. When therefore he read in the papers that "Abner Fairbrother" had been found sick in his camp at Santa Fe, he felt that nothing now stood in the way of his entering on the plans he had framed for ultimate escape. On his departure from El Moro he had taken the precaution of giving Sears the name of a certain small town on the coast of Maine where he would be sent in case of a great emergency. He had chosen this town for two reasons. First because he knew all about it, having had a young man from there in his employ, secondly, because of its neighborhood to the inlet where an old launch of his had been docked for the winter. Always astute, always precautionary, he had given orders to have this launch loaded and provisioned, so that now he had only to send word to the captain, to have at his command the best possible means of escape.

Meanwhile, he must make good his position in C—. He did it in the way we know. Satisfied that the only danger he need fear was the discovery of the fraud practiced in New Mexico, he had confidence enough in Sears, even in his present disabled state, to take his time and make himself solid with the people of C— while waiting for the ice to disappear from the harbor. This accomplished and cruising made possible, he took a flying trip to New York to secure such papers and valuables as he wished to carry out of the country with him. They were in his deposit, but that safe deposit was in his strong room in the center of his house in Eighty-Sixth street (a room which you will remember in connection with Sweetwater's adventure). To enter in the security and darkness of a stormy night, seemed to this self-confident man a matter of no great risk. Nor did he find it so. He reached his strong room, procured his securities and was leaving the house, without having suffered an alarm, when some instinct of self-preservation suggested to him the advisability of arming himself with a pistol. His own was in Maine, but he remembered where Sears kept his; he had seen it often enough in that old trunk he had brought with him from the Sierras. He accordingly went up stairs to the steward's room, found the pistol and became from that instant invincible. But in restoring the articles he had pulled out he came across a photograph of his wife and lost himself over it and went mad, as we have heard the detective tell. That later, he should succeed in trapping this detective and should leave the house without a qualm as to his fate shows what sort of man he was in moments of extreme danger. I doubt, from what I have heard of him since, if he ever gave two thoughts to the man after he had sprung the double lock on him; which, considering his extreme ignorance of who his victim was or what relation he bore to his own fate, was certainly remarkable.

Back again in C—, he made his final preparations for departure. He had already communicated with the captain of the launch, who may or may not have known his passenger's real name. He says that he supposed him to be some agent of Mr. Fairbrother's; that among the first orders he received from that gentleman was one to the effect that he was to follow the instructions of one Wellgood as if they came from himself; that he had done so, and not till he had Mr. Fairbrother on board had he known whom he was expected to carry into other waters.

However, there are many who do not believe the captain. Fairbrother had a genius for rousing devotion in the men who worked for him, and probably this man was another Sears. To leave speculation, all was in

train, then, and freedom but a quarter of a mile away, when the boat he was in was stopped by another and he heard Mr. Grey's voice demanding the jewel.

The shock was severe and he had need of all the nerve which had hitherto made his career so prosperous, to sustain the encounter with the calmness which alone could carry off the situation. Declaring that the diamond was in New York, he promised to restore it if the other would make the sacrifice worth while by continuing to preserve his hitherto admirable silence concerning him. Mr. Grey responded by granting him just twenty-four hours; and when Fairbrother said the time was not long enough and allowed his hand to steal unconsciously to his breast, he repeated still more decisively, "Twenty-four hours."

The ex-miner honored his word. Withdrawing his hand from his breast, he brought out a note-book instead of the pistol and, in a tone fully as determined, replied: "The diamond is in a place inaccessible to anyone but myself. If you will put your name to a promise not to betray me for the thirty-six hours I ask, I will sign on to restore you the diamond before one-thirty o'clock on Friday."

"I will," said Mr. Grey.

So the promises were written and duly exchanged. Mr. Grey returned to New York and Fairbrother boarded his launch.

The diamond really was in New York, and to him it seemed more politic to use it as a means of securing Mr. Grey's permanent silence than to fly the country, leaving a man behind him who knew his secret and could precipitate his doom with a word. He would, therefore, go to New York, play his last great card and, if he lost, be no worse off than he was now. He did not mean to lose.

But he had not calculated on any inherent weakness in himself—had not calculated on Providence. A dish tumbled and with it fell into chaos the fair structure of his dreams. With the cry of "Grizel! Grizel!" he gave up his secret, his hopes and his life. There was no retrieval possible after that. The star of Abner Fairbrother had set.

Mr. Grey and his daughter learned very soon of my relations to Mr. Durand, but through the precautions of the inspector and my own powers of self-control, no suspicion has ever crossed their minds of the part I once played in the matter of the stiletto.

This was amply proved by the invitation Mr. Durand and I have just received to spend our honeymoon at Darlington Manor.

[The End.]

U. S. INJUNCTION FIGHT

Republicans and Organized Labor to Clash in Congress.

Washington, Dec. 6.—A fight without quarter will be fought on the floor of the House in the near future, when the Republican leaders, under the marshaling of Speaker Cannon, will test strength with the friends of organized labor.

The committee on judiciary is now working on the anti-injunction bill, and in a few days will bring out the Gilbert bill, modified to comply with the President's recommendations as given in his annual message.

The committee will favor a measure which will restrict the powers of the courts in the granting of injunctions, but which will not attempt to deny the courts the power to issue injunctions without notice.

The Federation of Labor strongly indorses the bill introduced by Representative Pearre, of Maryland, which in all cases requires notice before an injunction can be issued.

Having been forced to meet the issue in the last campaign, Speaker Cannon has yielded to the wishes of the House leaders to bring the fight from the stump into the House, and the friends of organized labor will be challenged to bring out their full strength and demonstrate what the people through their representatives in Congress want.

Labor leaders eagerly await the opportunity to press the issue, and a memorable debate is promised, in which great heat will develop. The House leaders are confident that, with an adverse report on the bill indorsed by organized labor, they will be able to defeat it, and the feeling of resentment entertained by some members against President Gompers for the fright he gave them in the last campaign is leading them to predict that before the contest is over Mr. Gompers will be sorry the issues have been raised.

What Do You Feed Your Baby?

If the Stomach Causes Distress There's Something Wrong.

Does baby's stomach cause trouble? Does constipation make baby's days miserable and nights restless? Before you become really alarmed and call in the doctor to give the little one a lot of drugs, just stop and think about what you have been feeding baby. Have you let it eat "what the others eat?"

Perhaps baby is only three or four years old and you feast it on meat, potatoes, gravy and pie? If that's true, and it is true in countless thousands of homes, there is no mystery about baby's stomach trouble.

Baby has to have nourishing food the same as anyone else. But it needs nourishing food that it can digest easily if it is to grow up strong and healthy.

Most mothers know that in wheat nature has provided for us one food which contains all the elements necessary for the sustenance of life if it is used rightly. When prepared in the form of Malta-Vita, wheat is a perfect food for babies, whether they are weak and sickly, or strong and well. And it is just as good for sickly or weak stomachs of grown folks. All grocers, now 10 cents. On cold mornings try it with hot milk or cream.

President Hadley, of Yale, in a recent talk to the students, said that their best preparation for a political career was not in thinking about it, but in assimilating the results of public opinion which they met in college.

HOLD-UP MEN OWN CHICAGO

A Fresh Wave of Crime Sweeps Over the Windy City.

Chicago, Dec. 6.—Hold-ups in Chicago are asserted to have reached a degree of boldness seldom known before. The city is writhing in the grasp of the criminal. Footpads, burglars and hold-up men prowl through the thoroughfares, slugging the pedestrian here, robbing the house there, and springing before the frightened citizen, demanding his money or his life. No part of the city is immune, and the police are apparently helpless.

Two men armed with revolvers and wearing black masks entered the restaurant of Piper Bros., 1229 Wabash avenue, forced two patrons to stand against a wall, pointed a revolver at the head of John Keegan, the cashier, and threatened to kill him if he made an outcry. They took all the money in the cash register. The patrons—Patrick Sullivan and J. H. Brown—were also robbed.

The robbers told Keegan to sit still or they would shoot him. Sullivan and Brown, the patrons, who were sitting at a few feet from the cashier's desk, were watched by one of the hold-up men while the other looted the cash register. The robbers backed out of the restaurant with their revolvers pointed at the victims.

Cashier Keegan notified the police, and several detectives hurried to the restaurant in a patrol wagon. Sullivan and Brown told the detectives of their experience, and a vain search was made.

Many resorts and downtown saloons were searched. Several men were arrested and taken to the police station. After an examination all but two were released.

The robbery of the restaurant is held by the police as one of the most daring which has occurred in the district for years. Cashier Keegan said the robbers were well-dressed and about 35 to 40 years old.

A lone masked robber attempted to rob the agent of the Western avenue station of the Metropolitan Elevated Railway. He lost his nerve upon seeing J. T. Parker, an agent, tumble from his stool in the fare-taker's cage. Apparently the robber believed there was a fight on hand, in which he would be worsted, and he made a hurried escape.

An hour later two men, Herman Epper and Philip Losschman, were arrested at West Twentieth and Wood streets. The police suspect one or both of them may have been implicated in the attempted robbery.

Easy to Take Easy to Operate

Because purely vegetable—yet it is enough, prompt, healthy, satisfactory.

Hood's Pills

HAD THIRTY-TWO BOILS AT ONE TIME

Two Bottles of Burdock Blood Bitters Cured Him.

Imperfect organic action makes bad blood, so, too, bad blood, in turn, makes imperfect action of every bodily organ. If the blood becomes impure, poisoned or contaminated in any way from constipation, biliousness or any other cause, some especially weak organ must soon become diseased thereby, or the whole system may suffer in consequence.

Pimples, boils, blotches, ulcers, festering sores, abscesses, tumors, rashes or some serious and perhaps incurable blood disease may result. There is no medicine on the market to-day to equal the old and well-known remedy,

BURDOCK BLOOD BITTERS

for all cases of bad blood. Mr. Ernest B. Tupper, Round Hill, N.S., says: "I think Burdock Blood Bitters a great medicine for boils. I had them so bad I could not work. I had thirty-two on my back at one time. I used only two bottles of B.B.B. and they completely cured me. I cannot recommend it too highly." Price \$1.00 per bottle or 6 bottles for \$5.00.

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the only Underwear made in Canada on the famous Spring Needle Circular Ribbed Machine.

Elastic till worn out. Every stitch—same length—insures perfect fit and durability. Just ask your dealer.

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Free booklet and sample of fabric from The Ellis Manufacturing Co., Limited, Hamilton, Ont.

See us at the opening of Spring and Summer Underwear.

Always the Best of Everything for the Least Money.

Saturday Our Ten Dollar Tweed Coats Will Be \$7.95

One of the biggest coat offers of the season is ready for you to take advantage of on Saturday. Nothing less than the pick of our ten dollar tweed coats for seven ninety-five. The early comers will have a very choice selection and everyone who buys one of these coats will strike a rich bargain.

Black and white checks and mixtures, plenty of the fashionable grays, several handsome brown mixtures. Long, Loose Tourist and Prince Chap styles. Smart trimmings of pleats and strappings. Some coats have velvet collars; several prettily piped with velvet. Saturday only..... **\$7.95**

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A nice range of comfortable LONG KIMONOS. Fancy stripes and unique Japanese patterns. Wrap-perfect, cottons and elderdowns.

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A wide choice of pretty designs and various colorings in short KIMONOS and DRESSING SACKS. Cashmerettes, cotton and all wool elderdowns..... **75c to \$2**

Dressy Ivory Oriental ALL OVER LACE WAISTS, from **\$6.50 to \$12**

Big selection of Silk Waists. Various styles and shades..... **\$3, \$4, \$5**

Our \$5 Silk Underskirts are the best in town. Make sensible Christmas presents, too..... **\$5**

When you see this waist you will agree with us that it is one of the handsomest creations you have ever set eyes on.

Material is an elegant Ivory MESSALINE SILK of superb quality.

A filmy, pen-tucked yoke of net is bordered with a row of guipure insertion to form a rather unique design.

Below yoke is shirring, bordered with another row of guipure insertion. Two other rows of insertion continuing down front.

Back has a shirred yoke effect. Sleeves are short and finished with shirring and guipure insertion.

A Christmas present any lady will become enthusiastic over..... **\$10**

You'll be charmed with the bewitching daintiness of these Japanese Kimonos. Choice of sky, pink and ivory.

Val. insertion together with a pin-tucked yoke, form a charming ornamental design in front.

Clusters of pin-tucks at back..... **\$3.50**

Ivory Jap Silk seems to be the material par excellence, to show off to advantage the elegance of Silk Maltese Laces, which is employed on this waist, for a yoke, as insertion trimming for the back, and as insertion and lace trimming on the short sleeves. Sleeves and back are also prettily pin-tucked. This style costs you only..... **\$5**

150 Dundas and Carling **GRAY & PARKER** 150 Dundas and Carling

Give Your Daughter a Heintzman & Co. Piano

Fathers and mothers who take a keen interest in the advancement of their daughters' musical education cannot give a greater evidence of the fact than to present HER with a magnificent Heintzman & Co. Piano on Christmas Day.

It will be a gift every loving daughter will prize for years and years.

And she will take more interest than ever in music, for a musically-inclined person cannot help trying to improve when there is such a wonderful tone as the Heintzman & Co. possesses just awaiting the touch of the fingers to express in beautiful music the thoughts of the world's famous composers. Yes, indeed. You, too, will enjoy her playing more than ever.

A MAGNIFICENT COLLECTION OF PIANOS NOW ON EXHIBITION.

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DESIGNED BY MARTHA DEAN.



A SMALL PLAY APRON—4084.

The apron needs no advocates, so efficient has its service been in the protection of small frocks. One especially suited for wear during the play hours when the owner assists her mother in little tasks about the home, it shown. It has a fanciful shape, yoke, with neck in high or V outline, and long sleeves, sufficiently full to slip on easily over any dress. A pocket is quite invaluable, and two may be used if desired. Any of the gingham, percale or other apron fabrics may serve, of which 2 3/4 yards 36 inches wide are needed.

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Measurement: Bust.....Waist.....

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CAUTION.—Be careful to inclose above illustration and send size of pattern wanted. When the pattern is sent you need only mark 32, 34, or whatever it may be. When in waist measure, 22, 24, 26, or whatever it may be. If a skirt, give waist and length measure. When misses' or child's pattern, write only the figure, representing the age. It is not necessary to write "inches" or "yards." Patterns cannot reach you in less than one week from the date of order. The price of each pattern is 10 cents in cash or in postage stamps.

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A woman's idea of economy is one that economizes.

MOTHERS' GRAVES' Worm Exterminator does not require the help of any expensive medicine to complete the cure. Give it a trial and be convinced.

Thomas Kinsey, purser of the American liner St. Paul, has just finished his 301st trip across the Atlantic Ocean. Mr. Kinsey holds the record of having crossed the western sea more times, than any other living man.

In figures his mileage amounts to about 2,708,600 miles on the Atlantic alone. Having an ideal is a polite way of saying that you feel that you are better than ordinary people.