

The Midnight Guest

By FRED M. WHITE

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

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(Continued.)

"That is a bit of a coincidence," Venables remarked. "However, we can't do better than go down to the theatre."

There was some little trouble in finding Stevens, and the performance was nearly at an end before he was pointed out to Walter by one of the attendants. He appeared to be none too sober, judging by his flushed face and somewhat unsteady gait; though, since the morning, his wardrobe had undergone a decided change for the better. The gray, seedy frock-coat had vanished, also the dilapidated silk hat. In fact the man looked quite prosperous.

"I would suggest that we don't speak to him in here," Venables said. "Let us follow him out into the road."

Walter fell in at once with the idea. In the road Stevens passed as if waiting for somebody, and presently from the stage door there appeared the slim, graceful figure of Valdo. For some moments the two men stood in earnest conversation together, and from their attitude it was plainly evident that they were in hot dispute upon some point. The discussion lasted some little time. Then with a shrug of his shoulders, Valdo put his coat in his pocket and passed, coin or two over to his companion. Stevens was understood to say something to the effect that that would suffice for the present. Then he lounged off down the road and vanished presently before a public-house which glittered invitingly opposite.

"Catch him before he goes in there," Venables whispered hurriedly. "If the fellow has any more to drink he will be perfectly useless to us for the rest of the evening."

Stevens turned suspiciously as Walter spoke to him. "I think your name is Stevens," the latter said. "My friend here is a journalist and is greatly interested in the Fitzjohn Square mystery. We have been reading your evidence of this morning, and have come to the conclusion that you may be able to afford us some useful information. If you will answer a few questions we will make it worth your while."

"To the extent of a couple of sovereigns," Venables put in. "Perhaps you wouldn't mind coming round as far as my rooms. I have some pretty poor memory for things, so I always jot everything down in my diary. I put everything down pretty well, because you never know what information is likely to be useful. I once made fifty pounds out of the simple fact that I saw a footman reading some post-cards he was posting. Since then I have neglected no trifles."

"What we want," Walter explained, "is all you can tell us about Mr. Louis Delahay. You knew him very well by sight, and you must be acquainted with some of his habits. Since then you have neglected no trifles."

"I could open your eyes about a few of them in that neighborhood," he said. "I haven't been looting about Fitzjohn Square all these months for nothing. I was a blackmailer, which I am not, I could live on the fat of the land. That is too dangerous a game to play, and I prefer to get along in a condition when he was past concealing anything. I chattered away gleefully until he opened the door and invited his visitors to enter. He apologized for the fact that he had nothing wherewith to entertain his strangers, which apology was duly accepted. It was, perhaps, on the whole, a fortunate thing that Stevens' collar was empty. He ushered his companions into a grimy room, stuffy from want of air, and reeking with the odour of stale tobacco smoke.

"You will excuse me for a moment," he said politely. "I will go into my bedroom and get my diary. I suppose pretty well all you want to know has happened quite lately."

work my uncle reckons to be the best thing he has ever done. And I quite agree with him."

"A portrait, I suppose?" Venables asked. "Well, my uncle always denies it. He says the face is more or less a fancy one. And while he is prepared to admit that it is colored by recollection, he says it is not intended for anybody in particular. But I can see a likeness there."

"Of course you can, and a very strong one, too," Venables exclaimed. "Do you mean to tell me that your uncle cannot see that that picture is Miss Vera Rayne?"

"That is the point I have put to him more than once. He says he can't see it at all. And there are others who share the same opinion. On the other hand, there are certain friends of ours who take the same view of it as I do myself."

"And they are right," Venables said vigorously. "My word, we appear to be only on the fringes of this mystery! It occurs to me that the thief who stole that picture did not steal it for the mere sake of gain, but merely because it is what he is. No doubt the other two works were merely stolen as a blind. I don't wish to appear curious, by dear lord, but what relation is Miss Rayne to Lord Ravenspur or yourself?"

"Ah, that I can't tell you," Walter replied. "Strange as it may seem, my uncle has always refused to say anything about Miss Rayne's antecedents. All I know is that she is well bred, exceedingly beautiful, and perfect in every way."

(To be continued.)

Wm. Pearce Head of Wiggins Home

He Has Been Appointed to Succeed Rev. R. Mathers Who Retires.

At a special meeting of the governors of the Wiggins Male Orphan Institution yesterday afternoon, William Pearce was appointed principal in the place of Rev. R. Mathers, who resigned. Mr. Pearce, who is superintendent of the Boys' Industrial Home, was notified of his appointment and it is understood that his resignation as superintendent will be accepted by the governors of the industrial home, and although three months' notice is required that they will place no obstacle in the way of his taking up his new position on July 1, when Rev. Mr. Mathers will retire.

Indigestion

Stomach trouble is but a symptom of, and not itself a true disease. Think of dyspepsia, heartburn, and indigestion as real diseases, yet they are symptoms only of a certain specific nerve sickness—nothing else.

Dr. Shoop's Restorative

FOR SALE AT ALL DRUGGISTS.

THE ORANGE GRAND LODGE

Grand Lodge of B.N.A. Opens at Midland, Ont.—Dr. Sproul Says Equal Rights Do Not Prevail in Quebec.

Midland, Ont., May 28.—The Most Worshipful Orange Grand Lodge of British North America, opened here yesterday with Dr. Sproul, M. P., Sovereign Grand Master in the chair. Dr. Sproul in his opening address spoke very strongly of Rome and her system. He said in part:—

"The arrogance she displays in her desire for law and order is evidenced in the refusal of her clergy to obey the command of the courts to appear as witnesses in civil and criminal suits. The regrettable feature of it is that even judges on the bench seem to be afraid or reluctant to compel obedience or punish for contempt of court. Two notable instances of their intolerance, where they are all powerful, occurred in Quebec recently. Four members of the Salvation Army were arrested and fined for soliciting aid in carrying on their Christian work. Their trial was brief and conviction made under some antiquated law of the period. Another case is the refusal of a proclamation by the Mayor of Buckingham, forbidding the Orangemen of Buckingham to parade on the twelfth of July, thus denying them their ordinary civil rights."

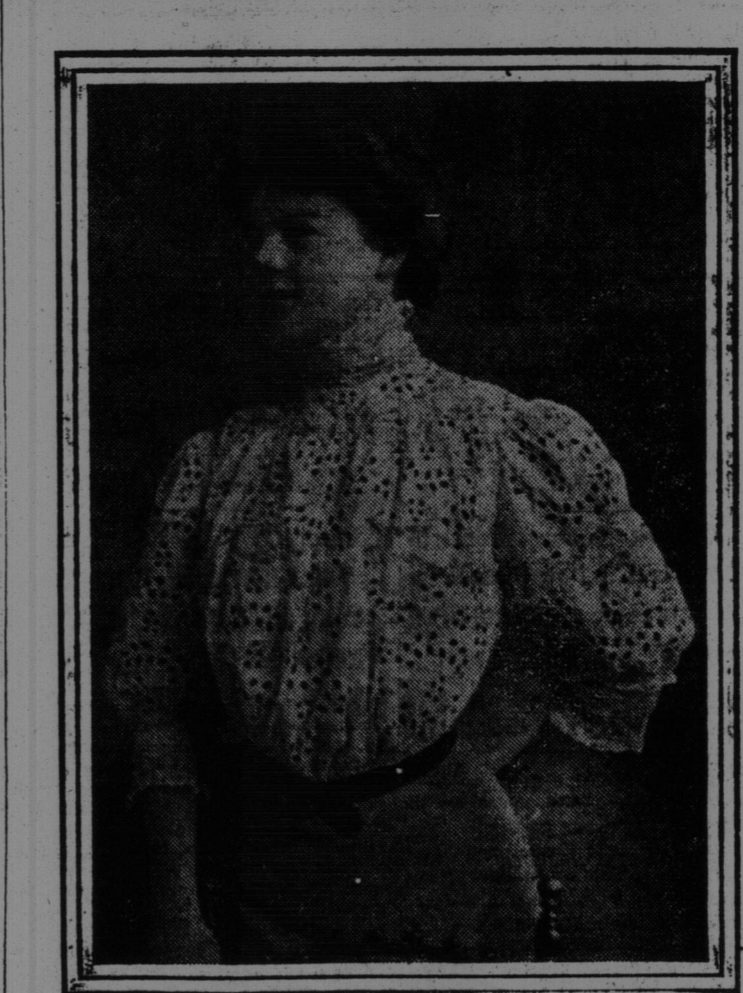
The election of officers for the Grand Black Chapter resulted as follows: Sovereign Grand Master, Dr. Sproul; Deputy Grand Master, Thomas Gilday, Montreal; Deputy Grand Master, Joseph McGill, Manitoba; Deputy Grand Master, James F. Harper, Hamilton; Grand Registrar, W. H. Wilson, Toronto; Grand Treasurer, A. A. Gray, Toronto; Grand Secretary, Thomas Law, Toronto; Grand Lecturer, Christopher Armstrong, Toronto; Grand Counselor, James McClelland, Grand Deputy Grand Counselor, H. G. Harrison, Mascon, N. S.; Grand Marshal, Samuel Brown, Montreal; and W. H. S. Armstrong, Peterboro; Grand Standard Bearer, John Ferguson and G. Loney, London, Grand Pursuivants; Grand Committee, J. H. Willoughby, Cobalt; Peter Hamilton, Dryville; Grand Marshal, St. Catharines; T. H. Wilson, W. H. Miller, B. Kirk, G. Dobson, Toronto; Grand Auditors, William Lee and William Foster, Toronto.

CONCERNING DENTIFRICES

When the teeth are discolored, finely pulverized pumice stone is preferable to charcoal powder for removing the discoloration. If the gums are tender and bleed at the brushing of teeth, a few drops of tincture of myrrh dropped into the water with which the mouth is rinsed will be found excellent.

The chalk and myrrh dentifrice to be procured at almost any drug store is light and very beneficial, which cannot be said of all dentifrices. Many, indeed, contain acid, which in time destroys the enamel. Really one does not pay enough attention to their teeth. Yet it is the first thing the great majority of people, especially women, notice in a man.

The teeth should receive attention after each meal and the last thing before retiring. Wooden toothpicks should be kept within reach. A thread of white silk, sadder's coarse twist, is excellent to remove particles from between very close teeth.



Beautiful waists which represent the minimum of labor with the maximum of effectiveness are those of allover eyelet embroidery, with medallions of lace centered with flit net or lingerie material finely tucked. There are many pretty models for the development of these all-over needlework effects which the shops are showing in great profusion, and one could not make a better choice in blouses for dressy wear with linen and lightweight worsted suits for midsummer.

PLAYS AND PLAYERS

AT THE OPERA HOUSE

A good house greeted the return of the ever popular comedian George F. Hall, at the Opera House last night. "Hello Bill" was the attraction offered and the piece made a decided hit. It is of three acts devoid of any plot but brimful of bright and catchy songs, dances, recitations, funny sallies and choruses; the whole being a fun maker from start to finish.

KING'S MESSENGER AT NICKEL

The Nickel has a great bill for the week-end and the children on Saturday afternoon, the leading feature of which is the grandly spectacular film, "The King's Messenger." This is a story of the days of chivalry with knights and ladies, kings and queens the principals and will appeal to old and young very strongly, because of its romantic setting. Then comes the new Pathe success, "The Founding," a tale of a noble who was found at a cottager's doorway and grew up in the humble home of a merry maker all the way and promises to draw bumper houses for the remaining two nights.

ARBITRATION OF DR. PUGSLEY'S CLAIM

Local Government Accepts Proposal of ex Premier and Names A. B. Connell as the Arbitrator—Some Items Will Not be Considered.

Hon. Wm. Pugsley sent to The Telegraph from Ottawa yesterday by wire the following copy of a despatch, to Hon. J. K. Fleming, Premier of the Province of Ontario:

"I am prepared to get my account against your government closed, I make following proposition: Let a gentleman of your proposal for arbitration on all items account rendered. I will pay expenses of arbitrator, and other items contained in my account rendered. This is, I think you will agree with me, a fair proposition and should be accepted by you."

Appetizing Sals from the Tomato

Plunge small tomatoes of similar size in a wire basket into boiling water. Boil once and cut out a circular piece around the stem of each. Remove the skins and set aside on ice to chill. When ready to serve dip each tomato on a lettuce leaf, seasoned with French dressing. Fill each cavity with a spoonful of mayonnaise or boiled dressing and press into the dressing quarters of hard-boiled eggs. Before setting aside to chill tomatoes are usually dusted in salt and to draw out the liquid, but the salt certainly toughens the tomato.

A cup of good Cocoa is the most nourishing thing to begin the day with.

COWAN'S PERFECTION COCOA

is good, morning, noon and night,—any time.

THE COWAN CO., Limited, TORONTO



This is the Maid of beautiful face; With wealth of hair and matchless grace; Complexion clear and without a fault; She's a regular user of ABBEY'S SALT.

Taft Will Be Nominated on First Ballot at Chicago

That he Will be Republican Choice for President is Regarded as Certain—Fairbanks, Hughes and Cortelyou in the Running for Vice-Presidency.

(From our Regular Correspondent.)

Washington, D. C., May 21.—As the day set for the closing of the season approach, the more evident it appears that it will be prolonged. It was set first for the 10th of May, then for the 23rd, an ominous day, now it is said that the 27th is the earliest day possible for an adjournment and that unless certain legislation can be accomplished before that time it may be prolonged until some time in June. The president is still insisting on legislation recommended by him, while both the house and senate are recalcitrant. Today the president had a long conference with the speaker of the house, "Uncle Joe," as he is called. It is the first conference that they have had for a long time. Formerly, the speaker was a frequent visitor at the White House. The two extremes of the party are now more friendly than they are now. The interview, according to the reports of the speaker, was of no great importance, but it may be assumed that the president urged action on the amendment to the Sherman anti-trust bill, and also on the anti-injunction measure that has been endeavoring to have passed.

Republican members are holding a conference to-night to determine whether there shall be any injunction legislation before adjournment. This conference is held against the wishes and in opposition to the judgment of the leaders of the party. The power of the speaker probably will make valuable any victory that those urging this legislation may accomplish. It is the purpose of those leading the revolt to force action on a specific anti-injunction plan, but the speaker would not agree to it, and through his influence the conference will consider only the general proposition whether injunction legislation shall be acted upon, and nothing more.

It is probable that every member of the house of representatives has received letters and telegrams urging action on an anti-injunction bill, or some anti-injunction bill, and the impression is strong with numerous members of congress that unless some bill of this character shall be passed at this session they will suffer defeat at the polls in the next congressional election. In other words, the labor organizations have succeeded in terrifying a large number of congressmen. Since I last wrote, the secretary of war, Taft, has returned from Panama, and he reports conditions at the canal site to be favorable to the early completion of this great undertaking. He says that the ditch itself can be dug in three and one-half years, but that the Gatun dam and the immense locks for the great boats of today and the greater ones of the future are an engineering proposition of stupendous proportions which cannot be completed until some time after the canal itself has been dug.

Secretary Taft's presidential campaign is in better condition even than when he left the country. It was a fortunate incident, if it was a mere coincidence, that he was absent when the convention of governors, with its many presidential aspirants, was in Washington. He and his prospects would have been overwhelmed by the comparison would have been made between his own and the setting sun, would have been too much for one system. There is considerable discussion with reference to the prospects and availability of Hughes, Fairbanks and Cortelyou for Chicago on the first ballot being assured. It is said that Mr. Cortelyou and Vice President Fairbanks both desire the office. Mr. Hughes is generally supposed to be a little more than indifferent to it. Mr. Cortelyou's availability resides chiefly in the fact that he is a New Yorker and will be acceptable to the great monied interests that centre in that city. He has had no experience in parliamentary procedure, although he has more White House experience, having been the secretary of four presidents, Cleveland, Harrison, McKinley and Roosevelt, than any other man in the country.

The appointment of Senator Burrows, of Michigan, as temporary chairman of the nominating convention at Chicago, was a surprise to everybody, and it is said to have been a severe disappointment to the president, who wished to have Beveridge or Deliver, or some administration senator make the opening speech. For a while it was thought there would be a division and a contest opposing the nomination of Senator Julius C. Burrows, but it appears that Secretary Taft and Mr. Burrows have gotten together and that peace has been made. As the end of the session approaches, financiers and business men interested in currency legislation are desirous to see the country over parties like that which menaced the prosperity of the country last October, begin to depart. Legislation this session. There is a French bill which has passed the house and an Alder-

rich bill that has passed the senate, and each house of congress stands stubbornly by its own bill and will not consent to an amalgamation or to any compromise that will favor the enactment of the best features of the two bills. The result is an impasse, and if there shall be a panic such as that which struck the country last October, there will be no such relief from it as was anticipated would be afforded by congress in the early days of the session.

PERSONAL

E. R. Machum, Miss Annie Colter, B. A. Mrs. Oscar Gronlund, B.A., J. W. Smith, Mrs. Smith, Rev. Dr. G. M. Campbell and Mrs. Campbell, returned yesterday after attending the commencement exercises at Mr. Allison.

Wm. L. Parker of the Bank of New Brunswick, Moncton, has returned home after spending a few days in the city, the guest of Mrs. J. A. Owens, Union street.

Mrs. F. W. Morgan and son of Vancouver, are in the city on a visit to Mrs. Ferguson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Stewart.

R. B. Emerson of the directorate and H. M. Hopper, secretary-treasurer of the St. John Railway Company have gone to Niagara Falls to attend the annual convention of the Canadian Street Railway Association.

George Killam, of Yarmouth, who was graduated in engineering from McGill this spring, has gone to Montreal, where he has accepted a position.

George Ackman, chief of the Moncton fire department, will be at the Royal yesterday.

W. H. Brunel, of Ottawa, is at the Royal.

Hon. J. K. Fleming, provincial secretary, was in the city yesterday for a few hours at the Victoria. He went to Fredericton on the train.

Mrs. W. Fred Nicholson and Miss Annie Nicholson, of St. Stephen, who have been at the Victoria, left for home last evening.

The civic delegation to Fredericton, consisting of Aldermen Van Wart, Spry, Lewis, Prink, Willet, Pickett and Baxter, returned to the city last evening.

Dr. H. S. Mullin, K. C., returned last evening from Fredericton.

Rev. G. Dickie spent yesterday in Fredericton.

Dr. H. S. Bridges and Dr. Thomas Walker returned last evening after attending the convocation exercises of the U. N. B. in Fredericton.

F. C. Taylor of Hoyt Station was in the city yesterday.

Arrangements for the annual Victoria church parade by the local lodges Marlborough and Portland Sons of England have been made. The parade will take place on Sunday morning and, headed by the band of the 62nd regiment, will march to St. Paul's Valley church. George Brown will act as marshal.

Had Palpitation of the Heart

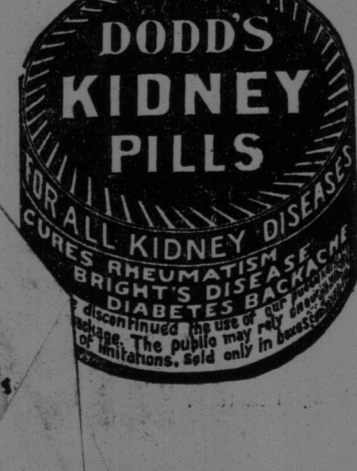
EVER SINCE SHE WAS NINE YEARS OLD, MILLBURN'S HEART AND NERVE PILLS EFFECTED A COMPLETE CURE.

If you find your health failing, your food apparently doing you no good, your heart beating irregularly—now slow, now fast—skipping a beat now and then, palpitations or throbbings on the slightest excitement or exertion, pain in the region of the heart, face pale, dizzy and faint spells, these all point to heart weakness, to nerve derangement, to a state of health consequent upon those, which, if not corrected and cured by Millburn's Heart and Nerve Pills, will surely end in utter prostration and hopeless invalidism.

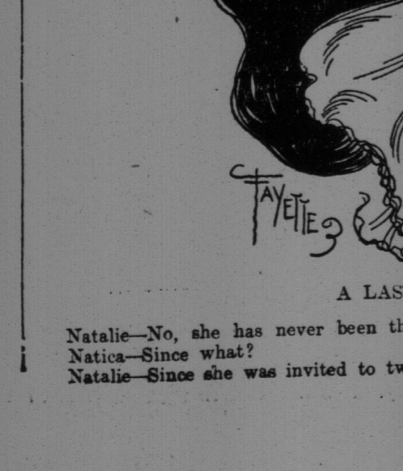
From the depths many have been raised by this remarkable remedy, as its power is beyond all question most marvellous; but, why wait until you have gone so far? Taking these pills now will turn you from the perilous path of sickness and put you on the highway to health.

Miss Mary Wilson, Toronto, Ont., writes: "It is with the greatest of pleasure that I recommend Millburn's Heart and Nerve Pills. Ever since I was nine years of age I have been afflicted with palpitation of the heart, pain in my side and nervousness. As I grew older it kept increasing. After having tried numerous doctors' medicines, but to no avail, I was induced to try your pills, and after using several boxes I began to improve, so kept on taking them for some time until now I can truthfully say I am in perfect health."

Millburn's Heart and Nerve Pills are 50 cts. per box or three for \$1.25, at all dealers or The J. Millburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.



Wenables regarded the painting with deep interest. All his journalistic instincts were now aroused. It appeared to him that he was on the eve of tapping a perfect gold mine of sensational "copy."



Natalie—No, she has never been the same woman since. Natalie—Since what? Natalie—Since she was invited to two bridge parties on the same afternoon.