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Under False Colors

OR

Lord Somerton's Ally.

She heard Dr. Denver's voice in the hall, and he appeared to be somewhat excited. He was talking to Lady Helena Freeman, a large, good-natured woman, who had been left a widow at forty, with a title, and nothing to support it. Sir John had taken pity upon her, for Elsie's sake. Lady Helena was an excellent chaperon, and nominally held the reins of management at Blairwood Park. The position suited her, and she filled it with a dignity worthy of the old place.

"I will not consent to this childish nonsense," Dr. Denver was saying. "Had I not known Sir John from boyhood, I would refuse to enter the house again. My professional reputation is at stake."

"Really, I do not know what to do," Lady Helena replied. "His orders are imperative. Markham will not permit any one to enter his master's room. He says that he is recovering fast, but not to be disturbed for some days. 'This—this to me!' the doctor said, angrily."

Then he saw Elsie on the stairs, and a look of compassion crossed his face. For a little while he talked to her upon generalities, but it was apparent that his mind was greatly disturbed, and he made his visit brief.

"Papa is much better, Lady Helena," Elsie said. "And Dr. Denver has been treating him for a malady from which he does not suffer. He has finally resolved upon a sea voyage, and the doctor opposes it. I believe that papa is right."

"And we shall be left to our own devices!" Lady Helena exclaimed. Her eyes sparkled with pleasure, for she was thinking that at last they might venture into the whirl of summer gaiety before the season was gone.

Elsie divined her thoughts, but said nothing. It would be impossible to enjoy anything until Sir John's health and happiness were assured.

At that moment a footman approached with a card on a salver, saying:

"The gentleman in the green drawing room, Miss Sterne. I told him Sir John was ill, and he insisted that he must see you."

Elsie looked at the card, and read: NOEL CAMPBELL.

CHAPTER IV.

Elsie stood irresolute, the hot blood rushing to her face in a fierce tide of anger.

But the next moment she strode with a resolute step to the room wherein the footman had left Mr. Noel Campbell, opened the door, and to tell young man rose from a lounge opposite.



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At your druggist

Blue-jay

He made an eager step forward, his face flushed, his purple-blue eyes shining eagerly.

Elsie scarcely knew why her heart leaped into her throat—why her whole being trembled.

"A ridiculous question," she said. "Whose name but your own—Noel Campbell?"

"How absurd!" he laughed. "What an egregious ass I have made of myself! I wonder if you will ever forgive me, Miss Sterne? I wonder if the bad impression I have created will ever be effaced?"

He sat down and laughed heartily, then apologized to Elsie, saying:

"I gave my friend's card in mistake. He commissioned me to see his uncle. I have the letter in my pocket now, and remember that half a dozen of Campbell's cards were handed to me at the same time in mistake. My name is Colin Erasmith, and I am Noel Campbell's friend. He was too busy to come to Blairwood himself."

Colin Erasmith! Elsie wondered no longer at the magnetic attraction of the stranger. His name had long been familiar to her, attached to the most exquisite sketches in the leading magazines. His pictures had been the attraction of the Academy for two seasons. Devoted to art herself—art in every form—she had long worshipped the genius of Colin Erasmith.

And now he was standing before her, asking to be forgiven some sin, when he had committed none.

"I am glad to meet you, Mr. Erasmith," Elsie said. "I seem to have known you for years, and I trust that you will pardon me for being so rude to you."

His eyes danced merrily as he replied:

"I am sure that I shall never forgive myself for making so unpardonable a blunder. How lucky it is that I am not Noel Campbell! If Sir John is ill it will perhaps be wise to keep back for a few days the letter your cousin has sent."

He hesitated, adding:

"And I think that I had better persuade Noel to let me again be his ambassador."

(To be continued.)

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MINARD'S LIMENT FOR DIS-TEMPER.

CLIMAX LONG DISTANCE RECORD.

ROME.—The record for long distance swimming is claimed by the Roman swimmer Armando Santhalia, one of the water fans of the Tiber. Santhalia swam a distance of 100 kilometers recently, and contends that such a feat constitutes a record. The distance is roughly 60 miles, and ran on the Tiber from Rome to the sea. The time was 15 hours.

His accomplishment seems phenomenal, but it should be remembered that the Tiber is a very swiftly flowing river, the current moving at the rate of two or three miles an hour.

sept25, f.m.



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Wild Jungle Beasts Constantly Menace Life in East Africa

London.—All is not joy in the life of British officials in Tanganyika territory, formerly German East Africa. Lions, leopards and elephants menace the population, missionary jealousy bewilders the pagan natives, and witchcraft, practiced by the wild Wapara of the Moshi district, causes many helpless infants to be put to death annually.

Aspects of life in this new British territory are described in the 1922 report of the country. Big game multiplied rapidly in Tanganyika during the war. Lions frequently satisfy their taste for human flesh at the expense of life. Their boldness is incredible, and whole villages have been terrorized by their presence. In the first half of the year rewards were paid for the destruction of 300 lions and 800 leopards. In Tabora district alone 67 people were killed by lions.

Elephants do great damage to crops, often ruining a whole plantation in a single night, or entering the villages, they strip the roofs of grain stores and scatter or consume the contents. The native too often assumes a fatalistic attitude in the presence of disaster, and becomes unwilling or unable to help himself.

In Tanganyika witchcraft has as fatal effects on infants as wild beasts have on adult natives. To the influence of the medicine-men, says the report, may be attributed the barbarous practice of infanticide which prevails among the Wapara in the Moshi district. Children born with some abnormality, or the offspring of parents who have failed to undergo initiation into certain tribal ceremonies, are done to death by deliberate starvation and neglect, or by exposure to the unhealthy climate of the low country. Often parents would not of their own accord abandon such children, and in many cases have preferred to give them away to strangers.

When the elders of the tribe were addressed on this matter, there was a decided tendency to recognize its evils and to adopt more enlightened ideas, but a few were against the abolition of the custom on the ground that the destruction of the tribes certainly would follow. According to these wages, life is altogether too precarious, and the number of acts as being fatal is amazing; even to plant a tree was pronounced to be equivalent to dooming oneself to death.

Another difficulty confronting British administrators in the territory is that of rivalry among missionaries. "It is greatly to be regretted that a spirit of jealous rivalry has manifested itself in certain districts between Christian missions of different denominations," the report declares. "It arises from a very natural and sincere belief in the superiority of that branch of the common faith which is their pride and their duty to preach to the heathen, but it has often resulted in an undignified competition to extend the scope of the mission beyond limits which a proper degree of influence and control would demand, and in attempts to set up schools in just opposition of those of another denomination. This open display to the pagan of religious differences cannot but react to the damage of the Christian faith."

"Christian missionaries, by offering one doctrine here, another close by, and still another a few miles away, must achieve little more than the complete bewilderment of the pagan native, and it would be well if Christian societies would recognize that the principle of spheres of influence is ultimately to the clear advantage of Christianity as a whole, no less than that of pagan populations."

Roman Swimmer

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m,w,t,h,f

Punishment

Should Deter

(Montreal Star.)

Judge Monet imposed the maximum penalty on an automobile thief, and announced his intention of continuing his policy in the future. "Leniency has apparently had no effect," he said; and he is now convinced that only the heaviest penalties will deter this particular form of criminal.

A judge on the bench soon learns to eschew sentimentalism in dealing with deliberate criminals. A man does not steal an automobile on sudden impulse or in a moment of passion. He must plan and wait and manoeuvre to get his chance. It is a premeditated and determined crime. Leniency looks like weakness to such a criminal. Nothing short of the maximum penalty will deter. Judge Monet is entirely right in his decision to deal sternly and vigorously with these men.

The same principle applies to all premeditated crime. Minimum pen-

alties are inserted in the statutes to afford the judges a certain amount of latitude in exceptional cases. But we may be very sure that Parliament does not fix a maximum penalty too heavy in its judgment for the specified crime when committed with deliberation. It, too, is a more or less sentimental body, and is far removed from

actual contact with the criminal. It is very foolish to put it in the power of judges to be too severe. Its maximum punishment is usually what it thinks should be imposed in ordinary cases with no really extenuating circumstances.

Crimes—especially crimes accompanied by violence or carrying with them the possibility of assault or murder—should be sternly punished when the criminal is caught and convicted. There are so many cases where the criminal escapes that we are bound to make examples of those who are captured. Sentences in such cases should come out as warning signs visible all over the Continent. We should convince a prospective criminal that Montreal at all events is a very poor place to ply his infamous trade.

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