

# The Midnight Guest

By FRED M. WHITE

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

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(Continued.)  
With these words Walter took from his pocket the dingy yellow handbill, and laid it open on the table so that Ravenspur might read. The latter glanced at the printed words, and then turned to Walter with a questioning eye.

"What does it mean?" he asked. "It conveys nothing whatever to me, and, even if it did, I am the last man in the world to patronize entertainments of that kind."

"You never heard of Valdo before, then?" Walter asked.

"Not I, my dear boy. Who is the fellow?"

"He is a kind of flying man. He is an individual with extraordinarily developed arms and muscles. He can move those arms almost as quickly as a fly does in its flight; with the aid of specially prepared wings he can flutter about a stage like a bird. I dare say there is some secret behind it all, but still the performance is very graceful and attractive, though, as yet, the man tells me his flight is limited to some thirty feet."

"He tells you that?" Ravenspur exclaimed.

"Do you mean to say that you have actually paid a visit to this theatre?"

"Certainly I have, sir. You see, I regarded this bill as a kind of clue. I knew that you could not possibly have brought it into the house, nor were any of your friends likely to do so. Therefore I came to the not illogical conclusion the other night that your assailant must have dropped it."

"The man who got into the room, just the sort of fellow who would be connected with music halls and circuses and places of that kind. That is why I went down to the Imperial Palace Theatre together with a journalist friend of mine who takes an interest in such matters. The only item of the entertainment worth watching was this man Valdo, and, of course, up to a certain point I did not identify him with the outrage upon yourself."

"Why should you do so now?" Ravenspur asked.

"I told you that I have never seen or heard of the man, nor does he answer to any acquaintance of mine. Why, then, should you go out of your way to suggest that he had been here?"

"I am coming to that," Walter said quietly. "I was so interested in the performance that I went round to Valdo's dressing-room afterwards, and had a long chat with him. Just before I came away a woman looked into the room, and asked the performer if he was ready, or something of that kind. She did not notice me; indeed, she did not even look in my direction. It was only just as she was about to leave that I caught a glimpse of her face. It was only a great effort that I concealed my feelings."

"Tell me, the woman I am speaking about was Mrs. Delahay?"

"Impossible," Ravenspur cried in great astonishment. "The thing is absolutely incredible. I cannot believe it."

"Nevertheless, I am stating nothing but the truth," Walter said. "Of course, I am standing here I saw Mrs. Delahay. And now you know why I am sure that there is something behind this that has yet come to light."

## CHAPTER XII

### A Speaking Likeness.

It was some little time before Lord Ravenspur replied. For a moment or two he seemed to be bereft of the gift of speech.

"It sounds almost incredible," he managed to stammer at length. "You are not certain you are not mistaken?"

"No, I am not mistaken. Mrs. Delahay's face is far too striking a one to be taken for that of anybody else. Of course, I am not asking you to give me any information. I am not seeking to pry into your secrets; but this mystery maddens me. The most extraordinary part of the whole affair is this—three years ago and off I have known Mrs. Delahay intimately. I saw a great deal of her in Florence, also in Paris last year. And now she is here in St. John, and she is being absolutely straightforward and single minded. And now, for some reason or another, she has taken it into her head to tell deliberate lies which appear to have no point or meaning. If she had only said that she went to call upon a friend after her husband had gone out, of course, I should have been satisfied. But of course, I had not forgotten the evidence of the man Stevens."

"I should like to see him and ask a few pointed questions. But apart from all that, you must see the necessity of getting Mrs. Delahay to tell the truth. It is just possible that she is shielding somebody. It is just possible that the whole thing is capable of explanation. But of that you are the best judge."

"It is a miserable business altogether," Ravenspur groaned. "I am obliged to you for the straightforward way in which you have told me everything, and I will do my best with Mrs. Delahay. She ought to see me this morning. I don't want to say anything unkind about Louis Delahay, because he was a great friend of mine, and so far as I know, his past

is a clean and honorable one. But then that doing to make an enemy, who is prepared to run the risk of being hanged for killing him? And why does he want to go around to his studio at such an hour in the morning?"

"I thought of all that," Venables said grimly. "Depend upon it, your unfortunate friend had some secret chapters in his life of which the world will probably never know anything. But what has all this got to do with that fellow Stevens?"

"I was just coming to that point. If I had been the corner I should have asked Stevens a great many more questions this morning. As it was, the authorities seemed content to let him go after he had given evidence to the effect that he had seen Mrs. Delahay with her husband. He told the court that he had been prowling and spying about Fitzjohn Square for some months, and he gave a pretty plain hint to the effect that he could tell a story or two about some of the inhabitants there. Now, for six months or more before Delahay went to Florence to be married, he lived a bachelor life at this house; and all this time Stevens was prowling about the neighborhood after dark. It is not a very pleasant thing to have to do, but I should like to talk the matter over with Stevens and see if he can give us any information as regards Delahay. If you will telephone to Scotland Yard and get them to give you Stevens' address, we will go round to his rooms and interview him at once."

It was no difficult matter to get the address in question, and presently the two friends reached the shabby house in the dingy street where Stevens lived. An exceedingly dirty and decrepit-looking man, who might be required to wear a coat of arms, opened the door, and told Mr. Stevens was out at present, but that he always left his whereabouts behind him in case he might be required to give evidence. At the present moment, the precocious child informed the strangers, Mr. Stevens could be found at the Imperial Palace Theatre, in Vauxhall Bridge Road.

(To be continued.)

## THE GOLD STORAGE SCANDAL IS AIRED IN PARLIAMENT

Sir Frederick Borden Grilled by Mr. Foster for His Activity in Connection With the St. John Cold Storage Company—Minister of Militia Charged With Promoting Private Concern.

Ottawa, May 27.—A cold storage scandal occupied the whole of the afternoon session of the House of Commons today. The subject was introduced by Mr. Foster, who asked a series of questions of Sir Frederick Borden, his minister of Militia, in connection with the St. John Cold Storage Company.

It was only when money could not be got in England that the company joined hands with the New Brunswick Cold Storage Company.

It would be a graceful act, even at this late date for the minister of militia to cause to be examined the company's accounts.

Sir Frederick rose without applause from the fact that he said "to appear as the last man" of the House of Commons.

When Mr. Foster asked a question of Sir Frederick, the latter said "I am not going to answer that question, but I am going to answer the question of the House of Commons."

"All of which," said Foster, "is absolutely untrue. It was proven by the records," said Sir Frederick.

This Mr. Foster denied vehemently, and Sir Frederick proceeded to say Mr. Foster was "mentally crooked and morally crooked."

"I don't care," put in Mr. Foster, "but I can't let that go."

The knight withdrew saying "I beg the hon. gentleman's pardon and I withdrew."

Mr. Foster then said he was prepared to submit this case to any tribunal and answer the charges of Mr. Williams. It had been suggested that because Sir Frederick was his son-in-law, he had secured certain contracts, but Sir Frederick answered all this with the observation "so much for the son-in-law argument."

Mr. Borden said the formation of the company was all arranged before the minister of militia and he had no policy in assisting cold storage operations.

Sir Frederick claimed that everything had been done openly. There was nothing to conceal. His only interest in the establishment of the cold storage warehouse was to give the fruit growers in his district a chance of keeping their fruit in good condition for market. He did not own a dollar of stock in the company, and did not expect to receive one dollar of benefit. It remained for the member for North Toronto, with his suspicious mind, to unearth this spectre, but he believed in Mr. Borden's statement would receive more credence than any statement of Mr. Foster's.

Dr. Daniel, of St. John, who replied, observed that Sir Frederick was the last man who should preach morality. Reviewing the transaction, he showed that Mr. Williams had been badly treated. The importance of the subject warranted its being brought to the attention of the House, but he made a proposition to him which he considered unfair, coming from a minister of the crown, and he stated further that Sir Frederick had said he had influence enough to secure the subsidy for his own company. Enclosed was a letter from Hon. H. R. Emmerson in which that gentleman promised he would not allow Sir Frederick's scheme to interfere with the claims of Williams, but that it was not desirable to have a cabinet minister getting a concession from the government. Mr. Emmerson said there were various methods of doing things and his methods were usually successful.

Sir William replied to Mr. Williams on October 5, 1907, saying it was the intention of Mr. Fisher, had he received an application from Mr. Williams to give him the same consideration as had been given the New Brunswick company.

Summarizing, Mr. Foster said that in 1906, a minister of the crown, interested himself in the formation of a company, and during that time the minister was sitting at the council board for

## BOURASSA WILL OPPOSE GOUIN

Henri Bourassa Will Contest the St. James Division of Montreal Against Premier of Quebec.

Montreal, May 27.—Henri Bourassa today formally accepted the nomination in St. James division of Montreal, where he will have for his opponent Premier Gouin. The official announcement of Mr. Bourassa's decision came as a surprise in Liberal circles, and by no means a pleasant one, especially after the triumph he achieved a few nights ago at his Monument National meeting.

When Mr. Bourassa did not accept the St. James nomination, immediately after that meeting it was thought that he would not attempt to beat the lion in his den, but would content himself with running in St. Hyacinthe. As it is, Mr. Bourassa will run in two, St. James and Fortneuf, near Quebec.

## THE PRICE OF HARD COAL

If you Have the Money and the Bin Room, Why Not Buy Now.

At this time of year you may get a special offer on hard coal from Gibson & Co. Ltd. They have a special low price now for nut and chestnut and \$5.50 for furnace cannot fail. Prices advanced again June 1st.

If you want Scotch hard coal in bags or bulk, Gibson & Co. will do it for you.

A winter supply order for any kind of soft coal will also bring a special low price now from Gibson & Co. Ltd.

Weak women should read "Book No. 4" of Dr. Shop's "Night Cure" and just how these modern, healing, antiseptic suppositories can be successfully applied. The book, and strictly confidential, is sold by all druggists.

Write Dr. Shop, Racine, Wis. The Night Cure is sold by all druggists.

(To be continued.)



A STUNNING CREATION IN MOHAIR.

The most ultra-tailor-made designed for midsummer wear is that of white mohair, that lustrous English weave, in handsome plain and fancy weaves. Cost suits of this material for afternoon calling and reception use are trimmed elaborately with soutache braidings and cord ornaments that drop from the shoulders, the skirts of such costumes are usually plain, the elaboration being confined to the coat. They are most effective when worn with beautiful black picture lace and a new neck ruff of ribbon or mullerie, fastening under the left ear or directly in the back.

## PLAYS AND PLAYERS

### AT THE NICKEL

The most successful emotional ballad of the hour is "I'm Starving For One Sight Of You," which was featured a whole week in Keith's new house, the Bijou.

It is still the big hit in the leading picture and vaudeville houses of the city. Today and for the remainder of the week, DeWitt Cairns will sing this song at the Nickel, and his successful opening song will be "I'm Starving For One Sight Of You."

Miss Wren is booked to the musical number "When the Spring Time Brings the Roses."

In spite of the inclement weather, the Nickel was crowded after noon and evening, and the singers are above the great Pathe feature, The Haunted Castle, a wonder of wonders in animated pictures.

The Students' Jokes brought down the house. The real water in this sense made interesting because it was one of the first of Danish tea-orchestra St. John, since pictures today.

### AT THE PRINCESS

Do not miss seeing the show that is now on at the Princess. The pictures are of the highest quality, and the singing is of the highest quality.

The average, Hear Mr. Louis Monahan sing "Star of My Life." Baby Calahan is a wonderful singer.

This charming little lady is making a decided hit. Tonight \$5 in gold will be given to the holder of the picture for the construction of a cold storage warehouse in St. John.

Sharp, and if the number is not in the drawing will be advertised for before 7:00 p. m. Friday a new drawing will be held.

footing as the New Brunswick company. Indeed, he had waited for five months before the closing contract with the New Brunswick company was signed.

The people composing the company were estimable men.

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### KATHLEEN MAVOURNEEN

In the Opera House last evening a fair sized audience enjoyed the performance of the Irish drama Kathleen Mavourneen by the Emerald Dramatic Club.

The play was well staged and the players acquitted themselves well, giving a pleasing performance. Miss Florence Terrio in the name part made an excellent impression, and Misses J. Dalton, M. V. Power and May Davenport were good in the roles assumed. Miss Power received a pretty bouquet.

Mr. Richard as Terrio O'More played well, and J. Donalds won honors as Bernard Kavanagh. Messrs. K. L. Gillis, E. Dalton, P. Cassidy, Leo White, N. Landry, T. W. Mackay, F. Cormic, C. O. Blanch, J. J. Power and R. White gave good support. Specialties were introduced by Messrs. Cormic and Cassidy and Messrs. Blanch and Landry.

Everyone in the audience seemed to have enjoyed the amateur night at the Palace last evening, and the City Hall was crowded to the top stairway. In the laughable sketch, A Dollar for a Kiss, Fairbanks, Harrison, Moffat and Chapman, the performers, made a big hit, and the announcement that it would be repeated this evening was received with cheers.

Miss Moffat made a success in her new song, composed for her by Mr. Harrison, and the three encores spoke eloquently of the appreciation of her audience. Besides the five pictures no less than fifteen amateur participants in the big programme. A special candy manne was announced for Saturday afternoon.

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### ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH

At a meeting of the congregation of St. Matthew's church, Douglas avenue, last evening, a unanimous call was extended to Rev. J. M. McKaskill, B.A., of Fort Kent (Me.). Rev. A. A. Graham, who was appointed moderator, presided.

Rev. McKaskill preached in St. Matthew's on May 10 last and created a very favorable impression. He also preached in St. Stephen's church a year or so ago. He is a native of Cape Breton and unmarried.

A graduate of Dalhousie University, he completed his training for the ministry at Fine Hill Presbyterian church, Halifax. He has been in charge of the church at Fort Kent about six years.

The call will come before the Presbytery of St. John on Tuesday next at a meeting in Richmond near Woodstock, which is being held for the ordination of Rev. R. J. McDonald. J. Fraser Gregory was appointed last evening to attend before the Presbytery as the representative of St. Matthew's congregation.

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, Lucas County.

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of Hall's Catarrh Cure.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1907.

A. W. GLEAD, Notary Public.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O.

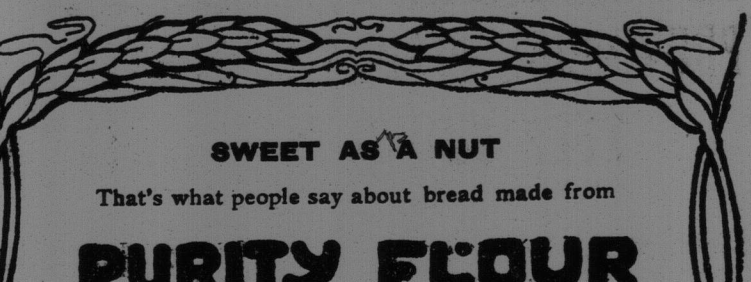
Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

### NOVA SCOTIA CROP OUTLOOK

Halifax, May 27.—Principal Culling, of the Truro Agricultural College, says the present season in Nova Scotia is the most favorable for farmers he has seen in four years. The weather has been especially good for seeding and a larger acreage is under crop than for many seasons.

Trains from Boston are crowded with people returning home, driven out of Boston by hard times. Many of them say they are back in Nova Scotia to stay.

The petition asking for the recognition of the service of a block of land in the west has been largely signed by the local soldiers and is now in the hands of the authorities at Ottawa and will be read in Parliament when the matter is taken up. Some are quite sanguine of success in securing the grants, while others are not quite so hopeful, but are willing to put forth every effort to obtain the grants.



SWEET AS A NUT

That's what people say about bread made from

## PURITY FLOUR

It is reliable.  
It is appetizing.  
It contains more nourishment than most flours.

Your Grocer Sells It.

WESTERN CANADA FLOUR MILLS CO., LIMITED  
MILLS AT WINNIPEG, GORDONHURST AND BRANDON

## The Busy Man

must have some recreation, and this should be interspersed with music. The PLAYER PIANOS that are now on the market are a great boon, not only to the busy man but his family and friends, as he can play not only the classical compositions but popular airs, and can play the music as the author intended or to suit himself. This piano can be played in the ordinary way as any other piano, or can be played by the most inexperienced person with the music rolls in the most artistic manner.

We invite you to call and see this wonderful Simplex Piano on exhibition at our warehouses.

The W. H. Johnson Co., Ltd.

7 MARKET SQUARE, ST. JOHN.

Also Halifax, Sydney and New Glasgow

## WATER AND SEWERAGE BOARD'S MONTHLY SESSION LAST NIGHT

At the monthly meeting of the water and sewerage board last evening it was agreed to hold a special meeting on Saturday to consider the water supply.

The board was informed that the water supply was about \$800 a week, and that the water supply was about \$800 a week, and that the water supply was about \$800 a week.

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