

The Midnight Guest

By FRED M. WHITE

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

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(Continued.)

CHAPTER II.

No. 1 Fitzjohn Square.

A few moments later and Ravenspur's brougham was being rapidly driven in the direction of the Grand Hotel. No words were spoken on the journey, but Ravenspur did not fail to notice how his companion shook and quivered as the shouts of the newboys reached her ears. It seemed as if all London and given itself over to this last sensational tragedy. It was as if thousands of strange rough hands were pressing upon the still bleeding wound. To an intensely excited and nervous nature like Ravenspur's the relief of the destination was great. At his suggestion of food his companion answered, "I have no idea of it, but I am physically sick. Utterly worn out and exhausted she dropped into a chair. There was a light glow of something mad and in her eyes. The doctor bustled in presently with something in his hand. Mrs. Delahay drank the medicine. In a moment she was scarcely knowing what she was doing. Then, gradually her rigid limbs relaxed, and the staring dark eyes were closed.

"She'll do now for some time," the doctor whispered. "I have telephoned for a nurse who may be here now at any moment. Don't let me detain you. I have got my motor outside, and in any case I must return to the nurse who is waiting." "That is very good of you," Ravenspur murmured. "As far as I am concerned I should like to make some inquiries. I have known Delahay now for the last five years; indeed, it was I who persuaded him to take up his quarters in London. It seems a terribly exciting thing so promising a career should be cut short like this. That man would have come to the top of his profession, and so far as I know, he had a single enemy in the world. Perhaps, by this time, the Scotland Yard people may have found a clue."

Ravenspur drove straight away to Fitzjohn Square, and made his way through the crowd of morning callers who were gathered outside. As he expected, he found the house in the hands of the police. Inspector Dallas came forward and greeted him respectfully. "This is a terrible affair, my lord," he said.

"Ghastly," Ravenspur exclaimed. "It was a great shock when Mrs. Delahay came round to me this morning. And that it was in this very house myself, quite alone, till half past one. Perhaps I had better explain the circumstances. As the knowledge might prove useful to you, I will say nothing about it. Mind you, I saw nothing; I did not hear a sound. I was assuming that there was no one on the premises when I left."

"But you had no means of making sure," the inspector protested. "The miscreants might have been here all the time. They might have been hiding in a room upstairs waiting for you to come. They might have attacked me as far as that goes," Ravenspur replied. "My word, the mere suggestion of it turns one cold."

"At any rate, they were not after your lordship," the inspector said, thoughtfully. "Of course, I am not a lawyer, but the argument that the murderer, or murderers, were actually here when you arrived last night. If so, the whole thing was carefully premeditated. These people had no quarrel with you, and therefore they did not molest you. All they wanted was to get rid of the light, or they would not have cut off the light."

"But did they cut off the light?" "That was the theory that these people wanted to get out of your way, so they short-circuited the current and let you in darkness. That was a very useful expedient, and had the desired effect. I am very glad you told me this because it may be the means of putting us on the track of important evidence. But let us go down to the basement, and examine the electric meter."

Ravenspur followed his companion down the dark steps leading to the basement. Inspector Dallas struck a light. Then, with a grim smile, he pointed to a cable which led from the meter to the different rooms on the upper floor. The cable had been cut with some sharp knife. It had been cut in two places, the main wire and the cable glass. "So far, so good," Dallas said. "We have proved by yonder demonstration that these people were here last night when they were actually at work."

"That puzzles me more than ever," Ravenspur replied. "Why did they get rid of me an hour before which they could have done equally as well, by the same simple expedient?"

"Simply because they could afford to wait till half past one. You may depend upon it that Mrs. Delahay's movements were absolutely known to them. They were perfectly well aware of the fact that he was not expected here till some time past half past one. It is a nice insinuation to make, but when Mrs. Delahay left his hotel at midnight, he had not the slightest intention of coming straight here. Doubtless he had important business which was likely to last him an hour and a half, and for some reason or other he did not want his wife to know what it was. Speaking as one man of the world to another, Mr. Delahay's excuse for getting out early as being rather a shallow one. Surely a married man, more or less on his honeymoon, does not want to visit an empty house after midnight. Surely he could have waited till daylight. It is just possible that he went out to keep an appointment."

"I feel quite convinced of it, your lordship. And, moreover, the appointment was a secret one of which Mrs. Delahay was to know nothing. I will go down to see to it that Mrs. Delahay comes here after you had gone this morning to keep an appointment. It is just possible that he might have been in the house during your presence here. It is just possible that he cut the cable himself."

"Ah, but that won't quite do," Ravenspur protested. "When I came out of the house this morning I saw that the front door was carefully fastened, and I am prepared to swear that the latchkey which Mrs. Delahay found this morning was not in the lock then. No, no, I am quite sure that poor Delahay must have come here after I left. I am not prepared to contest your theory that my unfortunate friend came here to keep an appointment. Indeed, the presence of the latchkey in the door proves that he was in a hurry, and perhaps a little upset, or he would not have committed the mistake of leaving the key behind him. But after all, said and done, this is merely conjecture on our part. Have you found anything yourself that is likely to give you a clue?"

Inspector Dallas hesitated just for a moment. "Perhaps I ought not to mention it," he said, "but I am sure I can rely upon your lordship's discretion. When I was called this morning I found Mr. Delahay lying on the floor of the studio quite dead. So far as I could see there were no marks of violence on the body except a small puncture over the heart, which appears to have been made with a very fine instrument. But, of course, we can speak definitely on that point till we have had the inquest. As far as I can judge, something like a struggle must have taken place, because the loose carpets on the floor were in great disorder, and one or two articles of furniture had been overturned. You may say that this proves nothing, except that violence was used. But in the hand of the dead man we found something that might be useful to us. Perhaps you would like to see it."

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(To be continued.)

BODY FOUND IN HAY MOW

William Thompson of Rockville, Kings County, Committed Suicide.

Sussex, N. B., May 12.—The people of Rockville were shocked this afternoon at the discovery of a suicide, which had been committed last Saturday, when the body of William Thompson was found in a hay mow in a barn.

Dr. Pearson, coroner of Sussex, was notified and viewed the body together with Dr. Murray. The coroner decided that an inquest was unnecessary in view of the circumstances, especially when it was known that the deceased had had a suicidal mania for some time past.

Last Thursday the unfortunate man left his house with the intention of going to Houlton, Maine. He went as far as St. John, as a ticket was found in his pocket which had been issued at St. John last Friday for Vancouver. He returned from St. John Saturday and started for Cedar Camp, where his wife and family were residing, a distance of twelve miles from Sussex. He drove as far as Rockville with Mark Dole and went part of the evening at the latter's home. This was the last seen of him alive.

This afternoon a search was instituted, owing to a letter received by Hugh Cunningham, addressed to Mrs. Thompson, which was in the handwriting of the deceased. Mr. Cunningham, knowing that Thompson had started for his home on Saturday made enquiries but without result. He thought it strange that he should write to his wife while on his way home. He opened the letter which contained a little over \$12, and the following brief message: "From William Thompson, St. John, Good-bye Lizzie."

This aroused Mr. Cunningham's suspicions and he sent his son Lloyd to try to find some trace of the missing man. The young lad went to Rockville and in company with W. J. Patterson went to the barn, referred to, and there found the body of Thompson buried in the hay mow. He had dug a hole in the hay and covered himself up. There were no marks of violence or other evidence of a struggle.

The deceased had been an inmate of the asylum on two different occasions. About a year and a half ago he attempted to take his own life by drinking carbolic acid and it is thought he took poison Saturday. Deceased was 42 years of age. He was a bachelor and had a family of twelve children. His father and mother are both living.

GOLD FOUND IN RESTIGOUCHE

W. A. Mott Says Some of It Assays \$145,000 to the Ton.

Speaking yesterday of the gold discoveries in Restigouche county, W. A. Mott, Campbellton, who is at the Royal, said yesterday that some had been found assaying \$14,500 to the ton. This ore, he said, was brought from the Petapedia river, a tributary of the Restigouche. Mr. Mott was unable to tell whether this was an isolated ledge of free working gold or not. Neither does he know the name of the discoverer, but he added that there is no doubt of the genuineness of the assay. Mr. Mott is personally interested in a gold mine in Restigouche county. This is known as the Big Brook property on the Upragitch river. It is a quartz vein located about six months ago. Ever since the discovery a small crew of men have been at work. It is on the side of a mountain and shafts will be sunk to develop the vein. The assays, he says, have been very encouraging and show proportions of silver and copper as well as gold. Mr. Mott says that more attention than ever is now being paid to the mineral wealth of Restigouche and that sections of good quality is fairly abundant as well as gold, silver and copper.

Referring to the destruction of James Harquail's lumber mill in Campbellton in the recent fire, Mr. Mott says he understands that it is Mr. Harquail's intention to rebuild although not on the same site.

Prof. H. Koss, of Worcester (Mass.), whose wife was Miss Ella M. McDuffie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. McDuffie, of St. John, has been appointed dean of the faculty of the Emerson College of Oratory in Boston, succeeding Dean Southwick.



SUMMER GOWN STRIPED TUSSAH.

Beautiful silk costumes for afternoon wear are being developed this season along the same lines as printed cottons. Like the pictured gown of blue and white striped tussah, the skirts are usually of tough length and more often trimmed in a simple manner with the material. The trimming use of the striped material in this imported gown is particularly novel. Skirt and waist are attached beneath a wide folded centre of the silk and worn with a dainty guant of white net with Cluny lace and braided with white linen tussah.

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

The Audit Act Brings No Comment From the Opposition

Organizer Copp Invited to Suggest Improvements in It But is Silent—The Budget Expected Tomorrow.

Fredericton, N. B., May 12.—The house met at 3 p.m.

The acts respecting the protection of the woods from fire and the law library were read a third time. Three acts relating to the City of Fredericton were read a second time.

Hon. Mr. McLeod submitted the report of the Standing Rules committee. Hon. Mr. Hazen submitted the report of the Law committee. Mr. Sproul gave notice of enquiry regarding regulations governing sales of imported horses.

Hon. Mr. Fleming, answering Mr. Glazier's enquiry, said the amount of money paid for the inspection of branch railways was, to M. Burns, \$2,138.60 and to Gilmore Brown, \$474.27. These payments were authorized by orders in council.

Hon. Mr. Hazen, in reply to Mr. Hart's enquiry, said the government was unable to state how many bonds of the International Railway had been guaranteed by the province nor the total amount of such bonds, as no record appeared to have been kept of the bonds guaranteed for January 8th last. The provincial secretary was directed to enquire into the guarantee of the province upon the first mortgage bond of the said company to the amount of \$400,000 upon the condition that \$100,000 of bonds previously issued were delivered up and cancelled. There was not in any of the departments any record as to how many of the bonds had been delivered up.

Mr. Byrne presented a petition for an act to fix the annual valuation of certain properties and to amend and consolidate an act in relation to the town of Maryville. Mr. Grimmer introduced an act to amend and consolidate an act in relation to the town of St. John. Mr. McLeod introduced an act to amend an act relating to the town of Maryville.

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Hon. Mr. Maxwell presented a petition for an act to incorporate the Twin Trees Railway Co. Also for an act to amend the charter of the city of St. John and one relating to certain debentures issued by the City of St. John.

Hon. Mr. Hart presented a petition for an act respecting the Charlotte county valuation. Mr. LaBillose inquired if it was the intention of the department of Public Works to build a bridge across the St. John River at or near Bath, as to who was the caretaker of the Florenceville bridge, and whether a free ferry had been established at or near Bath.

Hon. Mr. Hazen introduced an act to amend an act providing for a stipendiary magistrate in the Parish of Auldington. Experience, he said, had shown that the present lockup was not in the most suitable place and this bill provided for a change. Hon. Mr. Fleming, replying to Mr. LaBillose, said the government was aware that the revenue from liquor licenses granted in the county of Restigouche was insufficient to pay the salaries of the inspectors and commissioners last year. The government was also aware that the same force were fixed by statute and it was not the intention of the government to amend the statute at present session. Mr. Wilson presented a petition for an act to regulate coasting on the hills in the city of St. John. Mr. Copp presented a petition for an act relating to the town of Sackville. Mr. Lowell introduced an act in regard to debentures of school district No. 2, Lancaster. Mr. Tweeddale presented a petition for an act to incorporate the Northern Pulp and Paper Co. 14d

LAURIER STRIKES HIS FLAG ON AYLESWORTH BILL ISSUE

He Now Declares That He is Willing to Grant Concessions in Manitoba Act Which the Opposition Demanded.

Ottawa, May 12.—Although it was expected that happened when the house met this afternoon, Sir Wilfrid Laurier striking his flag on the Aylesworth bill issue, the surrender was not unannouncedly accompanied by signals of exultation from the opposition benches.

After a postponing process which had lasted more than a week, the prime minister announced his willingness to accept the terms proffered by his opponents, namely, that the Manitoba lists be revised by county judges, to leave the local lists untouched in provincial districts which are not intersected by federal roads, and to do so on other necessary amendments to the bill in committee.

Sir Wilfrid said at the outset that as Mr. Borden had declared to him, "in the name of fairness, justice and broad equity" against the bill as an intensely partisan measure, so now he appeared in the same terms against Mr. Borden's partisan laws. For the bill before the house he accepted the entire responsibility.

"Conservative members from Manitoba," he said, "dread the effect of the law of their own province, it is administered by this government's officers. But there are men on this side of the house who dread the effect of that law, if it is to be administered, as it has been, by the officers appointed by federal boards. Those who support it, dread the effect of the existing law of Manitoba from past experience."

This he understood was the situation. In favor of the Conservatives was the record of federal lists while the Liberals favored provincial lists and in 1885 had fought for that principle in parliament. "Yes," he added, "although in 1885 we fought the federal franchise bill as effectively and vigorously as a measure ever fought, we never thought of resorting to a refusal of supply, to the disruption of the public service."

He went on to say that a condition of affairs had arrived in Manitoba which imperatively called for legislation by this parliament. It had been charged that Mr. Leach, the Liberal organizer in Manitoba, had acted dishonestly and defrauded hundreds of electors. Sir Wilfrid denied absolutely that Mr. Leach defrauded anybody. There may have been mistakes but there was no intentional wrongdoing. He had been told that Mr. Leach was a perfectly respectable man. The condition of affairs was such in Manitoba that returning officers would be subject to the same peril as in 1904, owing to the difficulty of adjusting the lists to federal boundaries. Somebody must do this work. "The judges," he shouted the opposition in chorus.

"On this point for my part," continued the premier, coming to the real point of his speech, "after having conferred with the minister of justice and my other colleagues we are ready to accept legislation suggested by Dr. Roche in his speech the other day." (Opposition cheers.)

Sir Wilfrid then quoted the portion of the bill now before the house, which provides for the revision of the voters list by county court judges. "If this would be agreeable to friends and Tories alike, for my part I am willing to take this means of giving satisfaction. This, however, would mean the defeat of the federal franchise bill as it stands. Mr. Borden replied that he had made this very suggestion at the opening of debate, pointing out that as the difficulty was not confined to Manitoba, the provisions of the act just cited would have to be made applicable to all Canada by general law.

Sir Wilfrid thought there was no difficulty elsewhere than in Manitoba. His objection to the Manitoba act was that it placed the whole machinery of revision in the hands of the government in council. As he understood it, power was given revised by the county judges, whether or not they were willing to extend the

Mr. Copp repeated his objections to the provisions of the section. Hon. Mr. Hazen said the province would for the future have an absolutely independent audit-gate, unanswerable to no one except the legislature itself. He would have full powers either to recommend or not any expenditure desired by the auditor if it would be that official's duty to do so. He said he was sure that the government to be the most satisfactory safeguard against improper expenditure and if the hon. member for Westmorland (Copp) could suggest a better he (the premier) would be glad to hear it.

Progress was reported. Mr. Prescott asked for leave of absence for Mr. Dickson till Monday next. The house went into committee on the bill to create the parish of St. Charles, which after some little discussion was agreed to. The speaker having resumed the chair, the bill was reported and ordered for third reading. The house adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

SCHOONER IN HARD LUCK

After running into one gale and then another, which lasted for fifteen days, the two-masted schooner F. & E. Givan, Capt. Melvin, completed her run of hard luck from St. John, N. B., by being her starboard anchor when preparing to let go her mud hooks in Boston harbor. It was late afternoon yesterday when she poked her nose in by quarantine. She came up to the upper harbor, and when off Commonwealth docks let go her starboard anchor. The chain parted, carrying fifteen fathoms of chain and the anchor, too. It is now for Capt. Melvin to buy a new one, unless he wants to grapple for the other. The crew declared it was a fitting climax to the trip.

The Givan met a series of gales in the Bay of Fundy which battered and beat fairly the craft that is a quarter of a century old. She was held back near the pier, and finally made Portmouth Harbor, where she remained until yesterday morning, when the skipper set out for Boston. She has 20,000 feet of spruce lumber, 140,000 laths and 250 pieces of pil- ing.

Rev. G. M. Campbell went yesterday to Albert county on Bible Society business, and later will go to P. E. Island to spend some days. Late in July Mr. Campbell, Mrs. Campbell and Miss Campbell will sail for England. Mr. Campbell will spend some weeks there and Mrs. Campbell and her daughter will remain a year or more.

Some microbes worketh in a man When springtime rolls around And makes him formulate a plan To till the mellow ground. A lovely coat of tan; And when he goes down to his work What stories he can hatch! Ten dollars' worth of energy For ten cents' worth of truck.

He knows that he can wield a rake Just like a hired man, And feels assured his skin will take A lovely coat of tan; And when he goes down to his work What stories he can hatch! Ten dollars' worth of energy For ten cents' worth of truck.

Rheumatism

I have found a tried and tested cure for Rheumatism! Not a remedy that will straighten the distorted limbs of chronic cripples, nor turn heavy growths back to flesh again. That is impossible. But I can cure you with the pain and pang of this deplorable disease.

Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Remedy

SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

OBITUARY

Mrs. Catherine Donovan

Mrs. Catherine Donovan, widow of William Donovan, died last evening at her home, Sandy Point road, after an illness of six weeks. She was 62 years of age and is survived by two sons—Cornelius and James, at home and two daughters—Mrs. James McCrossin, of Newtown, Sussex, and Miss Margaret, at home. The funeral will be held at 2:15 o'clock on Thursday afternoon.

Howard Smith

Hopewell Hill, May 12.—Howard Smith, a highly respected resident of Demolise Creek, died last Sunday at his home there, after a short illness. The deceased, who was about forty-five years of age, was a son of the late William Smith. Besides a wife and family, he leaves his mother and three brothers—Chipman and Whitfield, of Curville, and Sanford, residing in the States, besides a large number of relatives and friends.

John Purdy Betts

A telegram received by George B. Hegan yesterday brought news of the death of John Purdy Betts in Portland (Or.). Mr. Betts was a son of the late Capt. Albert Betts, of St. John, and was fifty-eight years of age. He left here thirty years ago and had not visited his native city since. He held the position of British shipping master in Portland.

Mr. Betts is survived by his wife and daughter in Portland and his mother, Mrs. Albert Betts, of 33 Broad street, and two sisters—Mrs. Geo. B. Hegan and Mrs. William Sumner of this city. Many old friends here will be sorry to learn of his death.

WEDDINGS

McKeough-Gorman

Newcastle, May 12.—Last Tuesday at Portland, Me., Miss Mary A. Gorman of Newcastle, N.B., was married to Duncan McKeough of Portland. Michael McKeough, brother of the groom and Miss Katherine Gorman, sister of the bride, attended. The bride was beautifully dressed in white silk with picture hat, and carried a bouquet of pink. Mr. and Mrs. McKeough are spending their honeymoon in Boston, New York and Philadelphia, and will reside in Portland.

A Dutch market was held in Trinity church school room yesterday afternoon and evening and proved a very enjoyable affair on somewhat novel lines. As the visitors entered, each received a menu card containing a list of the appetizing dainties displayed on the tables, and also a tray. Waitresses in quaint Dutch costumes supplied their wants, and marked on each card the amount purchased. When the good things had been eaten, and it was time to leave, the menu card was presented at the door, and payment made, to the extent of the purchases. The novelty was well patronized and a considerable sum was realized.

THAT GARDENING FEVER



Some microbes worketh in a man When springtime rolls around And makes him formulate a plan To till the mellow ground. A lovely coat of tan; And when he goes down to his work What stories he can hatch! Ten dollars' worth of energy For ten cents' worth of truck.

Advertisement for DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS, featuring a circular logo and text describing the medicine's benefits for kidney ailments.