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A LIFE'S DEVOTION

BY

FRANK H. SHAW.

Author of "A Daughter of the Storm," "First at the Pole," etc.
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"Mr. Munster is in his room, sir," he said. "I will see if he is disengaged." And returned after an interval—the interval insisted on by all lawyers when even an influential client is in waiting—to say that his principal would receive his visitor.

Scroggs went straight to the question. He tried the door before advancing to where the lawyer stood beside his chair; assured himself that there was no possibility of eavesdropping, and then shook Munster by the hand. Then: "Have you by any chance been blabbing?" he said curtly. "You know what I mean. I have reason to suspect that some suspicion is being aroused afresh about Lord Greatheart's death. I have trusted to your absolute silence, and I should not like to think that I have misplaced that trust. Implicit secrecy was the term of our contract, I think. It would be fatal if the slightest inkling of the truth got out."

Munster rubbed his hands together confidentially. "There has been no leakage in this office," he said. "I am the only man who knows your part in the affair, Mr. Scroggs, and you may trust to me in every respect. You have paid me to do a certain thing, and I am a man of honor. Our conspiracy—unfortunate word, perhaps, sir, but descriptive—our conspiracy has succeeded for a matter of some years now and I really see no reason why it should not succeed indefinitely. Unless something in the nature of a miracle happens the mystery of Lord Greatheart's death is likely to remain a mystery to the end of time. In less skilled hands, yes, there might be a chance of discovery. But I have given a lot of thought to this matter, sir, a lot of thought; and you may rest quite content that there will never be any disclosure made. The only thing we have to fear is that you yourself, in a moment of aberration, might give the clue to the entire matter."

"There's no fear of that," said Scroggs, with a cool laugh, "I have too much at stake. But last night my wife expressed a fresh interest in the matter. I wondered whether she had been approached by someone in connection with the law, who might have voiced a theory to her."

Munster shook his head thoughtfully.

"Public interest in the case dropped very shortly after the—the murder. Scotland Yard gave it up as a bad job. We hid our traces rather cleverly, if I may be permitted to say so. And who is there, with the sole exception of Lady Marion—who I trust is well—who would take the trouble to resurrect an old mystery like this? No one, sir. We may conclude that the affair of Lord Greatheart's death will never come to light, and so I shall have earned my money, and Lady Marion will continue to live in peace."

"Yes, I hope so, Munster. My God! I hope so. Her happiness is the one thing that has to be considered above everything else. She is so impressionable; any hint of what we know would probably drive her mad. Very well, I trust to you. If you say there has been no leakage that is enough for me."

"I give you my solemn word of honor, sir, that from the day of Lord Greatheart's burial to this, no mention of the subject has crossed my lips."

"Right, that's all I want. Good morning." He left the office and the house, entered his car again, and drove homeward. Then, on the way, re remembered something at the farther end of the town, and was detained until almost lunch time by business.

It was somewhere about the time that Scroggs entered his car after leaving Munster's office that a man walked up the drive at Merrythought Hall; a man whose face was a little sullen and defiant; whose eyes had in them a gleam that might have meant much. Lady Marion was walking up and down the south terrace, imbibing the morning freshness after her weary night, thinking of the good man her husband and of the child. Mervyn had wakened that morning with a slight fever—his nurse attributed it to a totally insignificant chill received some days before. Marion was not a woman to adopt the hen with one chick attitude, and was not in the habit of sending urgent messages to her doctor if her child sneezed. She prescribed remedies taught to her by her motherhood, and now—she was alone to think out that enlightenment the morning had brought.

"Oh, I shall never be able to make up to him for my suspicions," she said huskily. "He's good, he's noble. He to shoot down an old man in cold blood! I deserve to have my tongue torn out by the roots for even venturing to voice such an idea." She turned and saw a man advancing up the drive. With a quick leap of her heart she named him for Harold Fortescue. And at once she stiffened. The man's presumption was unbearable—he must be taught a crushing lesson.

So her face was cold and inscrutable as he raised his hat to her, standing there, and Fortescue, reading it, smiled inwardly.

"It strikes me I'm doing the right thing in coming here," he said voicelessly. "I made a dashed silly break last night, and I've got some ground to make up. Very well, I'll do it. I think I knew Marion Seymour well enough to understand Marion Scroggs. Gad! how lovely she is!"

And he thought of the unfairness of Fate in giving that picture of womanhood to the man who had befriended him in the past. Thought of it so intently that the half-formed intention which had troubled him for months took a firmer hold, and he squared his jaw decisively.

"What matter the price if I win her?" he said. "She's worth any sacrifice. I'd go to the bottom of the Pit if I could only know she loved me for ten little minutes." Aloud he said: "I have come to make an apology." He spoke slowly, making no attempt to offer his hand, for he recognized that he stood on treacherous footing. Perhaps, had this man used some of his gifts aright, he might have made good in the paths wherein he had failed. For he possessed a queer kind of intuition that he seldom used to good advantage, preferring to let it serve him in a warped, one-sided fashion. And now he had come to the conclusion that the only way to regain Marion's favor was by way of professing a firm and unshaken belief in her husband's innocence.

Marion started at him coolly and critically. She had herself well in hand now, and in a quiet way she was angry with this man, which gave her an advantage.

"It is with reference to last night," said Fortescue glibly, as she said no word. "Lady Marion: I am half afraid that you must think me no end of a brute. I had no business to come over another man's words in the fashion I did. It was a grave error on my part, and I do not know how to express my sorrow at the unfortunate contretemps."

She stood looking down on him, still hostile, but a proud smile curled her lips now.

"I think I said last night," she said, "that such an accusation as you made was beneath contempt. What I said then I say now. That is all."

And she turned away, as if warning him that the subject was ended. But he had much to say yet. She was very desirable, and he loved her in his own selfish fashion. Essentially, then, must he break down this wall of ice that had grown up between them. He sprang up to the terrace and began to speak hotly, almost fiercely, so fiercely indeed that he almost convinced himself that he meant what he said, that he had not committed the idiotic folly of the night past. But he cursed Fleeton all the time. But for that vapid idiot he might have been spared that break, and Marion might have had no need to treat him with this almost ostentatious contempt.

"In common fairness let me have my say," he cried vehemently "It didn't use to be the case that you would condemn a man unheard, Lady Marion. On my word of honor——" She faced round at him at mention of that word. No one spoke of honor in Marion Scroggs' hearing without attracting her attention. Honor was to her a god, almost a religion.

If he smiled his face showed no sign, and his voice was still urgently pleading as he continued:

"I'm afraid you must have overheard something of what I said to Fleeton. But I don't think you could have heard all, or else you would not have spoken as you did. May I try to explain the matter, please"

It would have taken a harder heart than Marion's to deny him then; he was so earnest, his voice had in it a mildly despairing note. He was playing a difficult part extremely well She inclined her head a little, and he took this for permission to proceed.

"Of course, not knowing what you overheard, I am rather at a loss to go on; but I'll take it for granted that you heard me say something about your husband. Well, I did; but I was merely repeating what I had chanced to hear. I was quoting another man's words, that is all. If you had not interrupted me when you did, or if you had heard me before I entered the conservatory, you would have understood why I was doing so, for your interruption merely cut short my denial of the whole thing. Good heavens! I'd be the last to speak of such an entirely incredible suspicion. I owe Scroggs more than I can ever repay, and I'm not such a cur as to bite the hand that has lifted me out of the mud. I should have told you last night, but you would not stay to listen. I am firmly convinced of your husband's innocence, Lady Marion, and I told the man who was responsible for the lie, my unalterable opinion. I have apologized now, and I will go, as I see my presence is unwelcome."

He turned away, smoldering resentment in his heart, knowing that he had lied like a hound to win a woman's gratitude, hoping that gratitude might be but an ante-room to love.

(To be continued).

CIRCUS IN Y. M. C. A.

Parade Through Streets and a Performance in the Gymnasium.

The Y. M. C. A. circus committee of the boys' department, have mapped out a most pretentious programme for the circus to be held on May 9, 10 and 11.

A meeting of this committee was held last night, and plans completed for the parade.

Costumes will be secured to represent the following animals: Lion, tiger, leopard, white bear, brown bear, elephant, monkeys and performing donkey. The costumes are being secured from New York, and are of an expensive nature.

The order of the parade will be as follows: Two policemen to clear the way, officials in automobiles, wild west band, eight mounted Indians, lion, elephant, boy scouts, McClary's Band, horse chariot, eight mounted military men, tiger and trainer, eight mounted cowboys, leopard, brown bear. A number of other smaller attractions will be included, and the rear of the procession will be brought up by a steam piano in real circus style.

The route of the procession has not yet been decided upon. The circus will be held in the gymnasium.

THE BOY SCOUTS BUNKED IN BARN

Wolf and Pewitt Patrols Held a Camp at Pond Mills.

The Y. M. C. A. troop of boy scouts is a live organization, and a most extensive programme of work has been mapped out.

Last Friday evening Wolf and Pewitt patrols met at the Y. M. C. A. building in heavy marching order, with a day's rations, and their blankets, and shortly after commenced their march to Mr. Beattie's farm in Westminster Township, near Pond Mills.

The utmost hospitality was accorded the boys by their host, and they bunked it in the barn over night.

It is planned to have another camp in the course of the next couple of weeks. At the next meeting of the scouts the boys will be instructed in first aid and bandaging.

History of the Scouts.

The first Y. M. C. A. troop of boy scouts was organized on the 7th of April by Mr. Percy W. Graham, who was at that time acting as boys' secretary. It was the first complete troop to be organized in London, and at present it consists of two patrols—Wolf and Pewitt. Numerous applications for membership are in, and the boys are being trained to qualify for enlistment on May 7. These will be allotted to the new patrols, who will be officered by the present members, who will have qualified by that time.

The boys are anxiously waiting their uniforms, which are expected almost any time. So far they have held three outings, of a single days duration, and on Friday last their first overnight camp.

This scout training is intended to make the boys self-reliant and able to take care of themselves. Chief Scout Baden-Powell, who organized the movement in Great Britain, says that during the war in South Africa he found the soldiers utterly unfit to camp out, they had practically no training, and did not know how to properly prepare camp or food, and did not know how to care for themselves. It was to impart this knowledge to boys that he organized the movement.

The officers of the first Y. M. C. A. London troop are:

Scout Master—Percy W. Graham.

Assistant Scout Master—J. E. Chadwick, boys' secretary.

Leader Wolf Division — Charles LeSueur.

Corporal Wolf Division — Harris Mills.

Leader Pewitt Division — Newton Wright.

Corporal Pewitt Division — Claire McKay.

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Pleasant to take, agreeable in action, positive in effect. Purifies the blood, strengthens the nerves, builds up the whole system. Get it today. Sold by all druggists.

THE CEMENT MERGER AND MR. KING'S BILL

Could Be Investigated and Given a Chance to Defend Itself Against Charges.

Ottawa, April 26.—During the discussion of the anti-combines bill today in the Commons, the Hon. Mr. King in speaking of the cement merger and the rise in prices which had followed, stated that this bill would give the company a chance to defend itself or be found guilty. As the law now stood the only means of proceeding was to arraign the men interested in the combine under the criminal code, and the fact that they were not compelled to incriminate themselves in giving evidence, has so far proved a bar to thorough investigation. The new bill would be free of this limitation, and witnesses could be compelled to answer any question which the board might put to them, or produce any document called for. Afterwards if a criminal proceeding should be found necessary to enforce the penalty, failing remedy of the evils complained of through compelling force of publicity, then the evidence adduced in the investigation could be made use of before the criminal court.

Hon. Mr. Fielding told the House in reference to the duties upon cement, that he had been waited upon by a deputation of gentlemen who were not in the merger, who had pointed out that if the duty were abolished the effect might be to punish not the merger, which might be able to stand the competition, but the smaller companies, which might have to go out of business. They claimed that there was bonafide competition in cement.

PLEA FOR WHOLESALER

The Manufacturers Are Asked To Let Up a Little in Their rPices.

Toronto, April 26.—This is manufacturers' day at the Wholesale Grocers' Exchange and 45 factories from all parts of the province are represented. In speaking regarding trade conditions, Mr. Hugh Blain, of the Eby-Blain Company, asked the manufacturers to "Let up" a little on their prices and give the wholesaler a chance to live. He said that the wholesaler recognizes the fact that the manufacturer is growing tremendously wealthy while the poor wholesaler is distributing goods at less than cost. He said it is about time the manufacturers were getting together and readjusting matters and deciding to give a little more to the distributor for handling their articles.

P. C. McNULTY RESIGNS

Valued Member of the Police Force Leaving for the West.

P. C. John McNulty, who for the last two and a half years has been one of the most valued members of the London police force, handed in his resignation to Chief Williams yesterday to take effect on May 4. Mr. McNulty will leave early in May to settle seven miles from Lanigan, in the Province of Saskatchewan, where he will farm. Mr. McNulty prior to becoming a member of the police force was engaged in the milling business at Melbourne.

A MEDAL FOR PEARY.

Rome, April 26.—Marquis Cappelli, president of the Geographic Society, has announced that Commander Robert E. Peary will be in Rome on May 10 to give his lecture on the discovery of the North Pole and receive the gold medal of the society.

CANCER HEADS LIST.

New York April 26.—Cancer heads the list of diseases which the bureau of health finds are causing an increased mortality in New York. Others are appendicitis cirrhosis of the liver and scarlet fever. Deaths for the quarters totalled 20,660, against 19,058 for the corresponding quarter last year.

KEEP BABY'S SKIN CLEAR

By the Constant Use of

CUTICURA SOAP

Assisted, when necessary, by Cuticura Ointment. These pure, sweet and gentle emollients preserve, purify and beautify the skin, scalp, hair and hands of infants and children, prevent minor eruptions becoming chronic, and soothe and dispel torturing, disfiguring rashes, itchings, irritations and chafings. Peace falls on distracted households when Cuticura enters.

Sold throughout the world. Depots: London, 27, Charterhouse Sq.; Paris, 10, Rue de la Chaussée d'Antin; Australia, R. Towns & Co., Sydney; India, B. K. Paul, Calcutta; China, Hong Kong Drug Co.; Japan, Maruya, Ltd., Tokio; So. Africa, Lennon, Ltd., Cape Town, etc.; U. S. A., Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., 135 Columbus Ave., Boston.

Cuticura Soap, price 25c. Ointment, 25 and 50c. Resolvent, 25c. Cuticura Soap Shaving Stick, 25c. Cuticura Talcum, 25c. Cuticura Book, post-free, 32 pages of valuable information on Care of the Skin, Scalp and Hair.

An Unusual Embroidery Opportunity

SPRING STYLES UNDERPRICED

Here is a sale which no careful woman can afford to miss. Just at the opening of the spring season when everybody needs quantities of these dainty trimmings for dresses and undergarments, we are going to offer interesting assortments in new design and staple qualities, at considerably less than they are really worth.

Buy Now For Spring and Summer Needs at Important Savings

EMBROIDERIES AND INSERTIONS TO MATCH—Per yard ..... 5¢, 10¢, 12½¢, 15¢, 17¢, 20¢, 25¢ and 35¢

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FLOUNCINGS IN EFFECTIVE PATTERNS ..... 25¢ and 65¢ PER YARD

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ALBANIANS CORNER TURKISH TROOPS

Hamid's General Fighting With Rebels Display Masterly Strategy.

[By Associated Press.]

Constantinople, April 26.—The Albanian risings have again become serious, and the Government has decided to dispatch two brigades of reinforcements, equal to sixteen full battalions, to the affected districts from Smyrna and Saloniki. Latest reports say several thousand Albanians attacked eight Turkish battalions near Shtiniya, north Albany, and successfully prevented the Turkish occupation of Dalya Pass. The Albanians then captured Kachanik Pass and seized a military train convoyed by 150 Turkish soldiers who were disarmed and sent back to Uskub.

The capture of Kachnaik endangers communications with Uskub and threatens to complete the isolation of the Turkish army in Kossovo Plain, in upper Albania. The Albanians are displaying such strategical skill as to lead to the belief here that their leaders probably include some of the members of the old body guard of the deposed sultan, Abdul Hamid. Unconfirmed reports make reference to heavy casualties in the fighting.

TENT COLLAPSES ON CIRCUS ANIMALS

[Associated Press.]

New Jersey, April 26.—The big canvas tent of a circus which has been exhibiting in Jersey City, collapsed in an early thunderstorm today, killing one man and fatally injuring another. The cages containing the animals were also beneath the canvas, and there was a panic among the wild beasts, but the bars stood the test of the falling poles and canvas, and none of the animals escaped.

MAY GETS DIVORCE

Miss Yohe Secures an Absolute Separation from Captain Strong.

Portland, Ore., April 26.—Mrs. Mary Augusta Strong, formerly May Yohe, the actress, was granted an absolute divorce at Oregon City, yesterday from Captain Putnam Bradlee Strong, son of a former mayor of New York City on the ground of desertion. Strong has been in China several years.

TWO CONVICTS KILLED

Fatal Fight Follows Attempt to Break Jail in Colorado.

Canon City, Col., April 26.—Two convicts were killed and two others and a guard were wounded in a desperate attempt of prisoners to escape from the state prison late last night.

The dead—Harry Brophy, Andrew Johnson.

The wounded—John Bradley, W. J. Williams, Keeper Emory.

When Emory opened the doors of the cell house Brophy, who had filed a key to his cell, jumped into the corridor, drew a revolver, and shot Emory in the leg.

Brophy then unlocked the cells of Johnson, Bradley, Williams and John Miller with his improvised key. They then broke one of the bars of a window that had been sawed nearly through, and using Emory's body as a shield, Brophy and Williams forced their way into the yard. They were challenged by a guard, and Brophy answered with a fusillade of bullets.

The guard returned the fire, shooting Brophy through the head. Johnson attempted to go through the window, but was killed.

Williams reached the shelter of the walls, and was lighting the fuse attached to five sticks of dynamite, which he had placed against the wall, when he was shot by Warden Tynan.

STEAMSHIP ARRIVALS.

Montreal, April 26.—The Allan Line steamer Ionian, from Glasgow for Quebec and Montreal, sailed from Moville yesterday, with 325 second and 727 steerage passengers.

Father Point, Que., April 26.—The Athenia, Donaldson Line, from Galsgow, passed inward at 9:30 p.m. yesterday, with 270 cabin and 355 steerage pasengers. Capt. McNeil reports no ice.

MOVING FROM CITY.

Chicago, April 26.—Families of Chicago in greater numbers than ever before, are storing their furniture and going to live in boarding-houses or in the country, according to managers of storage and van companies. They assign this condition of affairs to the increased cost of living.

Diet For Mental Work

Have you ever felt the necessity of it?

I am speaking to people who have a certain amount of brain work to do every day and are sometimes hampered in the exercise of thought by a heavy feeling after meals. This is well known.

Of course you ought to study your diet, eat moderately, and avoid all indigestible foods. The presence in the stomach of imperfectly digested nutriment impedes the function of the intellect, and it is advisable to have recourse to small and frequent supplies of easily digested food if you wish your mind to remain alert.

During long business hours, when you feel exhausted, try a piece of TOBLER'S Pure Swiss Milk Chocolate, which contains the three following elements: Pure Swiss Milk, pure crystallized sugar, and pure cocoa.

This combination is both palatable and nutritious, and it will not overload your stomach.

Sold in 5, 10, 20 and 40c. packages and at 50c. per lb. See on every package

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The only way you can be sure of getting the best, is to insist on having

St. Lawrence Sugar

Put up by the Refinery in 20 pound Cotton Bags

The analysis of Prof. Hersey, Government Analyst, shows that "St. Lawrence Granulated" contains **99—99,100 to 100 per cent.** of **pure cane sugar** with no impurities whatever.

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is for Infants and Invalids and for those whose digestive powers have become weakened by illness or advancing age.

If the digestive functions, however weak, can do any work at all they should be given work to do *to the extent of their powers.* In the easy process of its preparation the digestibility of Benger's can be regulated to give this work with extreme nicety.

The "British Medical Journal" says—"Benger's Food has, *by its excellence* established a reputation of its own."

BENGER'S NEW BOOKLET deals with the most common doubts and difficulties which mothers have to encounter. It is sent post free on application to Benger's Food, Ltd., Otter Works, Manchester, England.

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