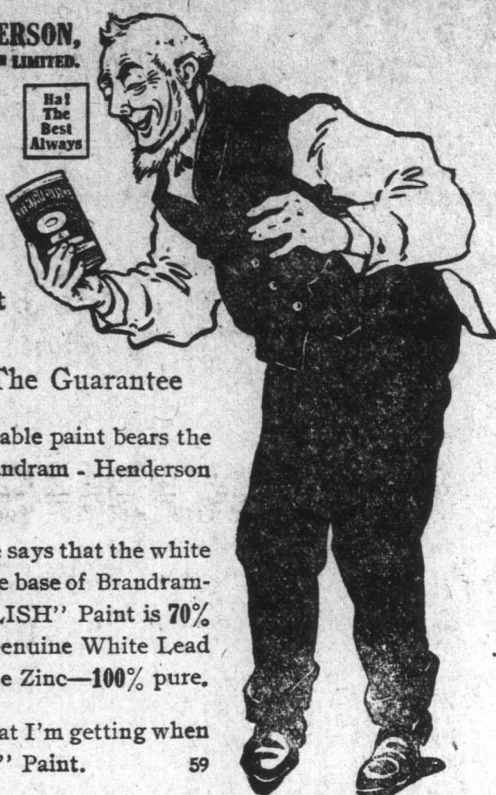


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BOWRING BROS. LIMITED, ST. JOHN'S

Tale of Mystery

CHAPTER I.

THE PROSPECT OF PERIL.

HERE a health to the Old Bailey, Dessie, and long life to all the causes that give one a criminal practice and point the road to a marriageable income; and the speaker, a handsome frank-faced man of about thirty, smiled to his hostess, lifted his small cup of tea, and drained it at a draught.

Dessie Merrion laughed in response, and a happy light shone in her eyes, and a flush of color tinged her rather pale cheeks at the reference in his last words.

Let's add, and good luck to the Press, Tom, and to all who paved the way for the woman journalist.

A fairly comprehensive toast, taken altogether; but if you and I can't be generous when briefs are coming in, who can and when? I always did like it, but I shall be glad to see it changed.

Oh, she cried, as a smile smoothed out the puckers, and spread over her face, while she lifted her left hand and kissed the engagement ring—a handsome diamond solitaire—that glistened on her finger I couldn't think for the moment what you meant.

Puzzled you to think that I should want you changed in anything, eh? I don't, except in that. Heigho, what times we will have? Do you know I hate those beastly chambers of mine worse every time I go into them? If my uncle hadn't been such a crotchety old idiot—dear old boy that he is—I shouldn't have had to go into them half so often; and the world would have been spared an awful lot of profanity. I'm afraid it will tell against the dear old chap when the reckoning comes. He knows all about it, so he can't plead ignorance. If he'd been at the bar,

SELF CURE NO FICITION! MARVEL UPON MARVEL! NO SUFFERER NEED NOW DESPAIR,

THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY

THERAPION

THERAPION No. 1—A Sovereign Remedy for rheumatism, neuralgia, sciatica, etc.

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THERAPION No. 5—A Sovereign Remedy for chronic diseases, etc.

THERAPION No. 6—A Sovereign Remedy for all ailments, etc.

How can a Johnnie like that have feelings?

He loves her, Tom, as surely—as surely as you love me. And I am sure this engagement will cut him to the quick. I know when a man's in earnest, and for all his affectations and surface silliness, George Vezey is a man, and would have made Dora a good husband. I only hope the man what's his name?—this Count de Montal, will make her as good a one. But what does Mr. Vezey say?

Oh, you know his way, Dess; well, if you can imagine what the effect of a spoonful of strong vinegar would be in a tin of Devonshire cream, you have his state of mind. He's as good as natured a fellow as ever stepped, but he hates this chap, de Montal; and it wouldn't be fair to take his evidence as without bias. What makes him more wild than enough, too, is that he himself introduced the Count—you should hear him say, the Count—he like a dog that's got hold of a bit of peppered meat; it's glorious fun. Poor old George. He won't say all he thinks; but it's easy to see what he thinks—that the man's a bad egg.

I hope for Dora's sake he's too jealous to be right. She's just the woman whom a bad man would nearly kill.

Yes, she's a bit weak, isn't she? Wants such a husband for instance as—? He stopped and laughed very brightly, looking into her face with a challenge.

As I can't spare, eh? she replied slipping her hand through his arm and turning up her face. Mr. Yarnity. Then in a serious tone she added, I shall be glad to see him and judge for myself. We must stand by Dora in this, Tom. I mean to; and I'm bound to say I don't like the way this thing has started. I shouldn't be a bit surprised if her head's been turned by the man's handsome face probably helped by a lot of the rubbly things that most of us women like—and think most of us women like—and he's snapped her up for the sake of her money.

Yes, I should think that's about it, he said with mock seriousness. Oh, Dessie, what a detective you would make! Here you are, without a single fact or scrap of evidence and yet you've got your theory of the crime part—just like most police the ones.

Well, we shall see. At least, shall, she answered with a smile. I don't care a bit what you say. I'm not a scrap biased; but you'll see I'm about right.

Possibly, women are born to guess. But now, I must be off. Am I look here, a word before I go. If you go dipping these little fingers—and he held them up and kissed them as he spoke, slowly and with emphasis—into other people's hot pies, you mustn't be a bit surprised if you get them burnt, or at least manage to do no more than spill some of the grease and stain on your own clothes. Good bye!

He laughed, kissed her two or three times very lovingly and the went out.

Dessie left alone, poured herself out another cup of tea, and then, a pleasant smile playing over her face, set down and picked up a book that lay at hand. But instead of opening it to read she let it lie on her lap, and leaned back thinking.

Life had been going smoothly enough with her for some time past and she had gradually pushed her way forward into a position of independence. Two years at Mrs. Barler's as drudge and governess had been an invaluable experience, drilling her into a condition of chronic patience under indescribably galling stings and provocation. Then a crisis had come through the utterly base conduct of a man who had professed to love her, and she had left her situation.

But the step had really turned out for her benefit. She had previously succeeded in getting some few stories accepted for some of the minor novelettes and periodicals, and as the time a longer tale had just been taken by one of the big religious publishing houses, she resolved to plumb boldly into the sea of minor literature and newspaper work, and trust to her own hands and brains for a living.

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without being at the beck and call of a capricious, narrow-minded and uncertain-tempered mistress.

It had been a hard fight, but she had won. She had a natural knack of expressing her thoughts clearly, and as those thoughts originated in a heart the instincts and prompting of which were pure, sincere, religious, and sanguine, she found people to read what she wrote.

The struggle had not been by any means won when Tom Cheriton and she met, however. It happened through some of her newspaper work, and the two were instantly attracted to each other.

It was the day after the illness to which they had referred—a very ugly attack of typhus, in which little Mrs. Dora Markham had saved Dessie's life, by her own personal devoted nursing as well as by the means which her wealth had enabled her to employ. In that way Mrs. Markham had bound the girl to her by the bond of deep gratitude; and it was this strong affection which had set her thinking so seriously about her friend's sudden engagement to a man of whom no one had ever heard a word, except that he was a sort of half-Frenchman, half-Englishman, whom she had met and fallen in love with at Ostend. Dessie was so happy in the love of such a man as Tom Cheriton that she wished Dora no better lot than a second marriage with a man as worthy. But she was vaguely doubtful of and prejudiced against the Count de Montal.

After Cheriton left she sat thinking loosely and earnestly about it, when a telegram came from her friend.

Am home. Come! and see me at once. Want to introduce you this evening. Stay the night.

(To be continued.)

Bovril

Comprises all that is good in beef and that only.

It has for many years been used as a beverage or pick-me-up by the traveller, the athlete, the business man and housewife; on the principle that it is wise to take it and keep well rather than to wait until you are ill.

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10 cases just in by Shenandoah.

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Virol, Marrol, Vimbos, Invalid Bovril and Bovril Wine, in all sizes.

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Commission 2 1/2 per cent. to 5 per cent. Trade Discounts allowed.

Special Quotations on Demand. Sample Cases from £10 upwards. Consignments of Produce sent on Account. (Established 1814.)

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ANYONE, anywhere can start a mail order business at home, investing as little as \$50.

UNCLAIMED LETTERS, REMAINING IN G. P. to APRIL 10, 1911

Table with columns of names and addresses, listing unclaimed letters.

SEAMEN'S LIST.

Table with columns of names, addresses, and other details for seamen.

H. I. E. WOODS, Postmaster General.

MASSEY HARRIS CO'S FARMING IMPLEMENTS. Includes illustrations of a mowing machine and a reaper, and text for MASSEY HARRIS CO. AGTS. MARTIN HARDWARE CO.

Grocer's Headquarters. GREEN PEAS, BEANS, etc. Includes list of products and contact information for GEORGE NEAL.

MUST b... ALL the... No chance like it ever before... of lease and change of bus... COME!

Chesley BEWARE of... The doctors tell us that of infection is MILK—that ally by germinated milk—use milk that has been the Reindeer Brand Jersey Cream—Manufactured and Guaranteed THE TRURO COND. LTD., Truro, Canada.

At The Big Fur... Now that the Spring has come will all require something in the way Window Draperies etc., etc., and before buying elsewhere us a call, as we have Curtains in all Lace, Madras Muslin, Coin Muslin about two weeks time a handsome Muslins, etc., etc. Just have a look Remnants, it is worth your while.

Callahan, G... The Height of LIPTON Confectionery... No Goods Better... Lipton's Flavored Cream Vanilla Flavored—1 lb. tin, 10c. tin, and in 1 lb. tins, etc. Lipton's Assorted Fruit Cakes Caramels, only 20c. tin. Lipton's Delicious Walnut that has come to stay, put up in this Toffey is perfectly delicious, is made of Pure Cane Sugar, best Lipton's Butter Scotch will always fresh, in packets, at 3c. Lipton's Nut Milk Chocolate Lipton's Milk Chocolate, is always of flavour, as has also Nut Milk. Lipton's Assorted Confectionery Boxes—only 35c. Lipton's Assorted Confectionery Boxes—only 60c. You will find Lipton's Confectionery in all Grocers' Stores; Mrs. Summers and Mrs. A. Delgado, A. S. Wadden, F. Co.'s Stalls and Trains, etc. If your Confectioner cannot supply you, we can supply you. H. Y. B. General Agent for...