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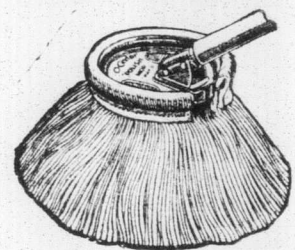
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C. J. Mitchell
Phone 148 80 Dalhousie St.

The MASQUERADER

By Katherine Cecil Thurston,
Author of "The Circle," Etc.
Copyright, 1904, by Harper & Brothers

standing quietly in Chilcote's place, he was conscious with a deep sense of



His voice rang quietly true and commanding

gravity of the peculiarity of his position, and perhaps it was this unconscious and unstudied seriousness that lent him the tone of weight and judgment so essential to the cause he had in hand. It has always been difficult to arouse the interest of the house on matters of British policy in Persia. Once aroused it may, it is true, reach fever heat with remarkable rapidity, but the introductory stages offer that worst danger to the earnest speaker—the dread of an apathetic audience. But from this consideration Loder, by his sharp consciousness of personal difficulties, was given immunity.

Pitching his voice in that quietly masterful tone that beyond all others compels attention, he took up his subject and dealt with it with dispassionate force. With great skill he touched on the steady southward advance of Russia into Persian territory from the distant days when, by a curious irony of fate, Russian and British enterprise combined to make entry into the country under the sanction of the grand duke of Moscow to the present hour, when this great power of Russia—long since alienated by interests and desires from her former co-operator—had taken a step which in the eyes of every thinking man must possess a deep significance.

With his usual quiet persistence he pointed out the peculiar position of Meshed in the distant province of Khorassan, its vast distance from the Persian gulf, round which British interests and influence center, and the consequently alarming position of hundreds of traders who, in the security of British sovereignty, were fighting their way upward from India, from Afghanistan, even from England herself.

Following up his point, he dilated on these subjects of the British crown who, cut off from adequate assistance, can only turn in personal or commercial peril to the protective power of the nearest consulate. Then, quietly demanding the attention of his hearers, he marshaled fact after fact to demonstrate the isolation and inadequacy of a consulate so situated; the all but arbitrary power of Russia, who in her new occupation of Meshed had only two considerations to withhold her from open aggression—the knowledge of England as a very considerable power, but also a very distant power; the knowledge of Persia as an imminent, but wholly impotent, factor in the case.

Having stated his opinions, he reverted to the motive of his speech—his desire to put forward a strong protest against the adjournment of the house without an assurance from the government that immediate measures would be taken to safeguard British interests in Meshed and throughout the province of Khorassan.

The immediate outcome of Loder's speech was all that his party had desired. The effect on the house had been marked, and when no satisfactory response coming to his demand, he had in still more resolute and insistent terms called for a division on the motion for adjournment, the result had been an appreciable fall in the government majority.

To Loder himself the realization that he had at last vindicated a justified claim by individual action had a peculiar effect. His position had been altered in one remarkable particular. Before this day he alone had known himself to be strong; now the knowledge was shared by others and he was human enough to be susceptible to the change.

The first appreciation of it came immediately after the excitement of the division, when Fraide, slinging him out, took his arm and pressed it affectionately.

"My dear Chilcote," he said, "we are all proud of you." Then looking up into his face, he added, in a graver tone, "but keep your mind upon the future; never be blinded by the present, however bright it seems."

At the touch of his hand, at the spontaneous approval of his first words, Loder's pride thrilled, and in a vehement

rush of ambition his senses answered to the praise. As Fraide in all unconcernness, added his second sentence, the hot glow of feeling suddenly chilled.

In a sweep of intuitive reaction the meaning and the danger of his falsely real position extinguished his excitement and turned his triumph cold. With an involuntary gesture he withdrew his arm.

"You're very good, sir," he said. "And you're very right. We never should forget that there is a future."

The old man glanced up, surprised by the tone.

"Quite so, Chilcote," he said kindly. "But we only advise those in whom we believe to look toward it. Shall we find my wife? I know she will want to bear you home with us."

But Loder's joy in himself and his achievement had dropped from him. He shrank suddenly from Lady Sarah's congratulations and Eve's warm, silent approbation.

"Thanks, sir," he said, "but I don't feel fit for society. A touch of my nerves, I suppose." He laughed shortly. "But do you mind saying to Eve that I hope I have satisfied her?" He added this as if in half reluctant afterthought.

Then, with a short pressure of Fraide's hand, he turned, evading the many groups that waited to claim him, and passed out of the house alone.

Falling in a cab, he drove to Grosvenor square. All the exaltation of an hour ago had turned to ashes. His excitement had found its culmination in a sense of futility and premonition.

He met no one in the hall or on the stairs of Chilcote's house, and on entering the study he found that also deserted.

Greening had been among the most absorbed of those who listened to his speech. Passing at once into the room, he crossed as if by instinct to the desk, and there halted. On the top of some unopened letters lay the significant yellow envelope of a telegram; the telegram that in an unformed, subconscious way had sprung to his attention on the moment of Fraide's congratulation.

Very quietly he picked it up, opened and read it, and, with the automatic caution that had become habitual, carried it across the room and dropped it in the fire. This done, he returned to the desk, read the letters that awaited Chilcote, and, scribbling the necessary notes upon the margins, left them in readiness for Greening. Then, moving with the same quiet suppression, he passed from the room, down the stairs and out into the street by the way he had come.

CHAPTER XX.

ON the fifth day after the momentous list of April on which he had recalled Loder and resumed his own life, Chilcote left his house and walked toward Bond street. Though the morning was clear and the air almost warm for the time of year, he was buttoned into a long overcoat and was wearing a muffler and a pair of doekin gloves. As he passed along the street he kept close to the house fronts to avoid the sun that was everywhere stirring the winter-bought town like a gust of young blood through old veins. He avoided the warmth because in this instance warmth meant light, but as he moved he shivered slightly from time to time with the haunting, permeating cold that of late had become his persistent shadow.

He was ill at ease as he hurried forward. With each succeeding day of the old life the new annoyances, the new obligations, became more hampering. Before his compact with Loder this old life had been a net about his feet. Now the meshes seemed to have narrowed, the net itself to have spread till it smothered his whole being. His own household, his own rooms even, offered no sanctuary. The presence of another personality tinged the atmosphere. It was preposterous, but it was undeniable. The lay figure that he had set in his place had proved to be flesh and blood, had usurped his life, his position, his very personality, by sheer right of strength. As he walked along Bond street in the first sunshine of the year, jostled by the well-dressed crowd, he felt a pariah.

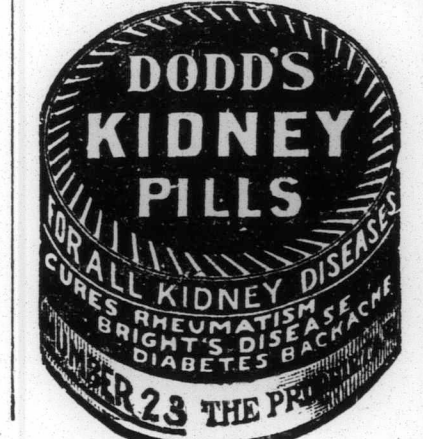
He revolted at the new order of things, but the revolt was a silent one—the iron of expediency had entered into his soul. He dared not jeopardize Loder's position because he dared not dispense with Loder. The door that guarded his view drew him more restlessly with every indulgence, and Loder's was the voice that called the "open sesame."

He walked on aimlessly. He had been but five days at home, and already the quiet, grass-grown court of Clifford's Inn, the bare staircase, the comfortable privacy of Loder's rooms, seemed a haven of refuge. The speed with which this hunger had returned frightened him.

(To be continued.)

One of the strongest points in using PURITY FLOUR is the delicious pastry it makes. Try it.

New York fire commissioner opposes the soliciting of gifts for firemen.



WOMAN'S BEST MEDICINE

Mrs. Kelly Advises all Women to Take "Fruit-a-Tives"

HAGERSVILLE, ONT., AUG. 26th, 1913.
"I can highly recommend 'Fruit-a-tives' because they did me an awful lot of good and I cannot speak too highly about them. About four years ago, I commenced taking 'Fruit-a-tives' for a general break-down and they did me a world of good. We bought a good many dollars' worth, but it was money well spent because they did all that you claim for them. Their action is so pleasant, compared with other laxatives, that I found only pleasure, as well as health, in taking them. They seemed to me to be particularly suited to women, on account of their mild and gentle action, and I trust that some other women may start taking 'Fruit-a-tives' after reading my letter, and if they do, I am satisfied the results will be the same as in my own case."

Mrs. W. N. KELLY

"Fruit-a-tives" are sold by all dealers at 50c. a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size, 25c, or sent postpaid on receipt of price by Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa.

HARRISBURG

Miss Hannah Savage of Brantford, was calling on friends in the village one day last week.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Card of Brantford, spent a few days last week with friends in the village.

Mr. John Leadham of New Toronto was the guest of Mr. James Dargie a few days last week.

Mrs. George Vrooman spent Sunday last the guest of her son, Charles Vrooman, at Paris.

Mr. Albert Hazell and Mr. Samuel Hill of Newport spent Sunday with friends in the village.

Mr. Thomas Wrecks and family of Paris, were the guests of their parents here a few days last week.

Mr. John Carroll, formerly of this place, but now of Hamilton, was calling on friends in the village one day this week.

Mr. Steedman of Brantford, was the guest of his brother here on Sunday.

Mr. B. Meredith of Niagara Falls, was calling on friends in the village a few days last week.

Greer and Co., of Galt, made a shipment of four cars of pigs from this station on Thursday last.

Mr. James Forsythe of Woodstock, was renewing old friends in the village.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Dargie were calling on friends in the village one day last week.

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Meals 25c and 35c
Special Sunday Dinner.

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Ice Cream in any style or quantity.

Cooper's Creamery
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USE "COURIER" WANT ADS.

RUSSIA

Libau and opened—N so Take Baltic.

By Special Wire to the London June 4.—Operating south of Libau off from Memel Germans of their base a Reuter despatch from the same time the Polangen (on the Baltic) and the village of R Libau. Another Russian approaching Libau from this city enveloped them with an entrenchment. The Russian troops on the north and west of the Przemysl evacuated. Wednesday night after materials taken from had been removed, an official statement issued the Russian general's planed that after the Jaroslau and Rlymyn-German forces from spread along the west making the defence of difficult task. The Russian realized from the enemy was incapable of self and they remained long as it served their positions occupied are extended the Russian 24 miles and the troops were exposed to artillery fire.

IMPORTED COTTON HAS NO

Amsterdam, June 3.—government has withheld the export of raw cotton means a severe blow to now all importation of to Germany has ended. Experts in the wool declare that since Germany cut off from the wool markets of the world by allies' blockade, she is in danger of inability to driers properly many of and may have great difficulty in cutting another winter the war lasts until the again.

Germany obtained the ed in her manufacture Australia and New Zealand the London markets in America, chiefly the

CORP. C. C. LIES Y

Gallant Brant W For Conspect and Fell in

The following pathetic mark the passing of one to the vallaha of those civilization. Few will joint letters, and who joint young life, but with glory of war. To his side on the Burford R there is the knowledge spent, and a career, that page of adventure closed death of a soldier of the had soldiered under t eagle, and fought for s adventure, soldiered be ing was the thing he lo He must have signall ed himself to have gaine ed for promotion so desperate days preceding at Langemarck, where h machine gun section, ha deeds of sterling valour. On a piece of paper, t officers' note book, a f to Col. Birchall of the talion, sent through the was the following messa From W. Lalor, M.G.O. To O.C. 4th B'n: Sir—I have the hono mend for promotion, Cal the M.G. section, for his and cool bearing, during April 23rd, 1915. I have the honor to be Your obedient ser W. J