THE WEEKLY ONTARIO, THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 5, 1918.

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which caught the melody from the ed, but he was distinctly aware of Charlie nodded. "Yes. Your in Japanese. Then he turned to the splendour. There was no wind at wires! But why? Why? Why? the click when it closed again. That voice. That marvellous, And now, as he crouched behind back to London. I am here Miss ground with Oriental servility. "You while the frost upon the beather angelic voice—was that also an the lacquer screen, desperate, Vincent is out of your power. The see," he said, pointing to Charlie sparkled like jewels. effort of some cunning mechanism? furious and unafraid of anything jewels of Japan are also beyond your Pencese. fort of some cunning mechanism? furious and unafraid of anything jewels of Japan are also beyond your Penrose. Muriel Vincent woke from a deep With a little shudder Charlie that the fantastic night could bring, reach. It remains for you to "We see, Thou who wearest the sleep. She stretched her arms Muriel Vincent woke from a deep turned his back upon the wires and he was aware that the owner -the account to me for your persecution Two Swords." Invuriously, Although she was not machinery. He trod over the floor unknown tenant of the room-was of Sir Philip, to explain the murder "Take that man, bind him secure yet fully awake, she was conscious

of Anthony Vincent and Umataro ly, and keep him in the small yel- of a sense of extreme well-being

ed down with horror at the large The two little men, almost as dreamily, and then noticed with a

"Oh you fool, you extraordinary chair was the horrible waxen image arms were covered by wide sleeves

land, in the heart of this mysterious great captive cats. Charlie heard talk. See that he is fed. I shall have her white arms upon the counter-

barrier of painted wood stood That mouth. The hand which held the the form upon the floor. It was a a night robe which seemed un-

low room. One of you must watch and physical vigour.

curious picture. Overturned in its familiar. Down to hereelbows her

until he came to the waxen image there. of Anthony Vincent and Uma in the chair. He gazed at the great An instinct told him He realised And, lastly,—the Raven." door in the corner of the hall-the that the adventure of the night was After a satisfactory meal, over him night and day. He will She yawned lazily and opened her His throat seemed as if it was came accustomed he gathered other door through which the people about to culminate at last. visitors at the Zoo have heard the come to his senses presently. Ans- eyes. The first thing she saw-and cked with hot flour. His hands details, which, while they did not whom he had heard speaking had in the very centre of the moor-puring of the lions and tigers, those wer no question and forbid him to saw rather than realized-were apped with sweat. He heard a in the least dispel the mystery he gone.

my rattling sound like distant had come to discover, yet gave him The door had an ordinary handle castle, he-Charles Penrose-was some such vibration now. He look- need of him." astanets-it was the chattering of food for thought. It was like the door one sees in a alert, waiting, ready to spring. He might be in the house of some private suite of rooms in some great And on the other side of the face, the slanting eyes and mocking broad as they were high, pattered to sudden start that she was wearing is teeth.

It was monstrous! It was powerful madman-that seemed alideous! It was utterly incredible most certain. But he was in a What lay behind it? tow could Sir Philip Vincent have human place, a place made with "I have got in here," Charlie ed so much to find.

een spirited from Ravenscroft into hands. He swore to himself that thought. "I have discovered things An odd noise came to him. It young fool! Do you really think of Sir Philip Vincent in torture. By of sea-green silk. But sie sat up in But the horror struck him down, would not be frightened.

the castle and be sitting there whatever happened he would not be frightened; for Muriel's sake the frighten further on am I with my quest? Then there was a patter of feet, a your friends?" of Charlie Penrose, both sharply out-How odd this was! She was wear-But the horror struck him down, would not down would not down, wanderer in a thunder storm, was that the active active and a store and store and store active activ It was then that she came back than it takes to tell of his sensations tightly tied with rope in an ordinary feudal castle in Japan At any melody of dawn. Charlie waited, in a quiet voice, "you have been of two perfectly, co-ordinated ma-

which he had come so far and risk- pistol trembled a little.

than it takes to tell of his sensations sanity came back to him, and youth, clean living—and above all his des-perate purpose—expelled the perate purpose performs to the provide performs the provide performs the performs the provide performs the performs property and nothing more. - It had tried to open that door." ideous paroxysm of terror tried to open that door." was being pushed over the floor. agent of Japan. I know, too, that Charlie fell against it. Then, with-blankets were of marvellous texture He turned and saw the door by For nearly thirty heartbeats nothing you are actively working against out a further word, they lifted the —the bed itself an intricate work He rose, staggering a little, the been designed for some special use, He rose, staggering a little, the been designed for some optimity and saw the door oy For nearly thirty nearbeats nothing you are actively working firmly clenched in his the probability was that it had which he had entered, still ajar else happened. Then a great moan-band. And then, as he took two only just been made, and that the why should he not go out again in- ing sob shivered out and seemed the far East." and. And then, as no contained and the start of the start The great face confronted him. room. windows which looked straight to making had been examining it Snatches of the conversation he ing back from where he had come, Charlie took a noiseless step. His There was a wriggle of the shrivellgave a great sob of relief. "And now, Prince, what has hap- the east. The place was a pure circle. The electric light which fell full The electric light which fell full Snatches of the conversation he re-enter the ruined part of the nerves were tense to breaking point ed body. pened?" said Yoshida. The walls were hung with some 4-"I see, Mr. Penrose, you propose "Tomorrow you shall hear every- cream colored stuff which fell in

came back to Charlie. The soft-voiced Japanese; who had events? "That is what I will do," the screen, he heard again the to-" came back to Charlie. more than an effigy of way. thing. Meanwhile you can go back straight lines from a lofty, vaulted An image of wax! but wrought with such devilish and malignant skill, such triumph of sinister art, street, had been liberated as Charlie skill, such triumph of sinister art, street, had been liberated as Charlie skill, such triumph of sinister art, street, had been liberated as Charlie skill, such triumph of sinister art, street, had been liberated as Charlie skill, such triumph of sinister art, street, had been liberated as Charlie skill, such triumph of sinister art, street, had been liberated as Charlie street, had be skill, such triumph of sinister art, street, had been liberated as Charlie that it might well have deceived and Wag had arranged with the that it might well nave deceived and Wag had arranged with the place is, what it means, I have not organs. Like the wind from huge appalling, the sound pressed upon ity. He was thrilled with apprehen- glowed an electric stove which sent landlord of their flat. Good! that yet the slightest idea. At the same wings it beat him back. With hands the ear drums. sion at this extraordinary occur- out a genial, but not overpowering

time I have seen it, and I can go behind him he caught at the edge Charlie sick at heart, and terrified rence. How Charlie Penrose was warmth. seeming like a splash of Still trembing, but treaming grossing game. Unarite himsell, quietly, Charlie went up to the wax-together with Wag Ashton, was and on the brilliant light quietly, Charne went up to the wax- together with Wag Ashton, was came, and ask Sir Philip Vincent vasses were...and then he saw. arm, pointed and aimed straight at Heiston's room he did not know. of the sun. en figure in the chair. It was clour-ed in a morning suit of dark grey-London. Their ruse had not been diverted to the sum of the ed in a morning suit of dark grey— London. Their ruse had not been light upon my discoveries. I will upon a doll's chair, was That from head. This was not to be borne. The no sign of it appeared upon his face. equable temperature of the room, which came the voice of an arch- night was full of madners. All The Oriental mask, always worn in one of the windows was open, and Philip dressed two or three hours owner of the wonderful, incredible go at once." before. Every detail of dress was voice, believed that Ravenscroft was He turned to go. He trod softly angel in agony. ordinary conventions were utterly the presence of a ruler, served him that the fresh. clear air of mornabsolutely faithful. The face was now practically defenceless. And over the woven matting which An enormous head covered with upset. Murder ran down his arm well. ing was pouring in exactly the face of the Ambassador, again, Ravencsroft was to have a res covered the floor. He was nearly at sleek, black hair seemed to be sway- to his pistol end, as the angler feels "I wish you flowery sleep, Prince," For a moment or two her sensa again, ravenessorie was to nave a res as one might imagine it, when dis-pite tonight—Sir Philip and all the door, when he stopped short ing and wobbling at a height of two let rout which takes his fly. torted to unbearable physicial pain. other people in the old moated The gliding silent movement of feet from the ground. It was as if He pressed and pulled. The little figure which remained How bright the morning sun was, escape gave place to rigidity. His a monstrous bull-frog boomed its The only answer was an abortive shambled to the door and turned the how softly warm the room! How The thing was loathsome, impossible house could sleep in peace. To look at it filled the whole soul It was in this way that Charlie eyes had fallen upon something complaint to the silence. creak of the springs. The repeating key in the lock. Then Lord Helston simply perfect everything was! She with unnamable disgust—but it summed up the situation, and the which turned him into a figure as Charlie recovered himself, picked mechanism of the pistol had failed. came back to his chair in front of could not remember ever having

was only a waxen image after all. summed up the situation, and the motionless as that which sat in the up his pistol, strode past the tiny He flung it on the floor with an Pacensky's portrait of Muriel Vin- felt in better spirits. She laughed What did it mean? For what seemed to him — was that Muriel black painted chair of deal. purpose had some demoniac clever- was now safe from harm in York There was a great stone fireplace and swiftly turned round. ling, booming creature. ded chair, and gazed long and earn- the pleasure of perfect health. with Lady Yeoland, and that the at the end of the room. The mantel He confronted Lord Helston! "At any rate," he cried savagely, estly at the wonderful presentment The music of her laughter had

first impression was confirmed. glared out from the cloth of gold painted it. Something that Muriel like black diamonds—purely Asiatic did so his foot tripped against the scrambled from his seat, and went upon the mentelshelf. At once she Never in his life had he seen such which covered the walls were only had told him during the motor ride and full of pain. chair in which was tied the image quickly to the great mechanical harp recognized what it was. It was a The nose was large, aquiline of Sir Philip Vincent. at the far end of the hall. He clam- hypodermic syringe. an extraordinary place, never in his the most skilled and expensive in- to York and after the pursuit of the life had he even dreamed of any-stances of Japanese art. What else great black car, flashed into well formed. It was the nose of the He and it tumbled over and bered into the seat before the key- She looked at her arm. She con Helston family. Below, set in a sprawled upon the carpet. He felt board. One tiny hand pulled down nected the syringe, the little crimson thing of the sort. The wildest did the vast room tell him? Charlie's brain nightmare of a sick man, the most In the first place the floor was A year before, Pacsensky, the weak, receding chin, was the red- the cold wex against his face for one the electric switch of the mechan- puncture, and her normal sense of fantastic dream of one who eats covered with woven grass matting greatest portrait painter of the day, lipped mouth of some pierrot or horrible instant. people upon whom he had spied had Miss Vincent. Sir Philip had came one of the most marvellous hands fumbled at his throat, that a and muscular enough, began to press then, as she went to the open windas what confronted him. In the first place he was in a huge made a rustling, slithering noise as allowed it, but had not com- voices in the world. ow and leant out from a great nodding head like a child's balloon upon the miniature keys. missioned the picture beforehand. A hideous, unbelievable phenom- was floating over him. room-hall would be the better they went away. There in that far corner was the He wanted to be sure that the enon!-only three feet high A A sick sense of utter defeat chilled of sound shivered through the room. remembered! word. The roof was an immense height from the floor. The whole of great mahogany door through which famous painter would produce a huge chest, containing lungs like the running blood of his veins to The golden curtains semed to sway, She staggered back from the windportrait worthy to be added to the leathern bellows, tiny arms which jelly. All that he had done had the whole hall to become full of ow, the colour went out of her its area was covered with some dark they must have gone. substance which looked like ebony. Charlie began to move round the Ravenscroft galleries. The picture stuck out on either side of the been of no avail at all. He was a mist, unreal and unsubstantial as a cheeks till her face and the sable Great bosses and carved arabesques great place. The india-rubber soles had been hung upon the line at the shoulders like the feelers of a captive in the House of Horror, and dream. A great choir, as of lost an- masses of her unclasped hair were hung down from it. In the light of of his feet made no noise whatever, Academy, and on the private view shrimp, a body which went down this yas the end of all. He had not gels, harped their agonies in pierc- ebony and ivory. Yes! Now she rehe innumerable electric bulbs all and what he saw in this strange day, Sir Philip, had attempted to like a triangle, a body with hardly fainted. His sensations were real ing sadness . . . Then, as if a great- membered everything! Her aunt had round the walls of the room, lights midnight prowl sent his heart beat- buy it. He found to his enormous any legs a huge and stunted trunk enough, though he was only half er Angel, and even more lost than struck her down on the lonely road which imitated wax candles in great ing quickly with its suggestion of surprise, that someone had been balanced uneasily upon flat pro- conscious. As he struggled with his they had come to join the concert, outside York; a motor had come. horror of the creature that lay upon the thunderous rich voice began a She had heard a voice associated sconces of silver, the roof was the inexplicable, the unknown before him When the great Polish jecting feet. horrible. Huge carven bats with There was a table of green polish- aritst was approached he simply Charlie cried aloud in terror. Then, him, something wet and cold splash- pean of joy and sorrow, a volume of in her mind with horror-she was outspread wings, vampires which ed teak upon which were three vases said that Burlington House had not automatically, his right arm went ed down upon his nose and mouth. sound in which the creature doomed once again in the power of the Ungleamed and seemed to tremble, of Satsuma enamel, so perfect, so been opened half an hour when he up and pointed the thick barrel There was a sweet, sickly smeel in by Fate defied its creator, and yet known. It was obvious to her quick spread over the place. Here, Charlie beautiful that they represented a received a telegram offering him of his pistol straight at the monster. his nostrils and then a man sinks exalted in its own evil powers, and intelligence, stimulated as it was by saw a great curved tentacle with the fortune in themselves. Upon an two thousand pounds for the por- "Now I know," he gasped and through deep, dark waters, every- voiced its hideous hopes. the tonic drug which had been insucker of an octupus at one end, coiling sinuously down, carved and nine, was a framed coloured print offer, which had come from a dealer girl. "Now I know—oh!" able of And the refrain of the gigantic jected into her arm-no doubt in coiling sinuously down, carved and pine, was a framed coloured print offer, which had come from a dealer girl. "Now I know-oh!" harps, as the nimble hand floated order to soothe her nerves and give gleaming with the hideous flesh-like of Hokusai reopalescent lights, and withou any hesitation. The thing The creature in its low doll's Viscount Helston, in the peerage over the keyboard, and the melody of her peaceful sleep-that she was in scales of some deep sea monster. about to overwhelm a tiny island in had been a nine days' wonder. chair stared at him through its of England, Baron Mountclare in the the almost supernatural voice, fused Helston Castle. The horror of it sent As he looked up, immediately above the sea, etched upon a square inch Muriel had told Charlie of it-now glittering, stanting eyes. Then, peerage of Ireland . . . and Prince and blended into one expectant cry, her reeling to the bed upon which his head, he saw a dreadful little of coloured paper. half human creature, apparently barbaric picture had gone. It was here, in mouth opened and a tremendous Japan, rose from the unconscious should restore the mysterious emblems of Japan to its ruler. It was like some wounded bird, but nailed to the roof and curving splendour. It was a profusion of front of him. He looked no more boom of sound pressed against body of his adversary. downwards in a grotesque mask of incredibly costly objects crammed towards the door leading into the Charlie like an advancing wall. In one tiny hand Lord Helston not even a psalm of hate against en- gradually vitality came flowing pain. And there were things like into one great hall. But there were corridor. He lifted up his Brown- "Who are you in my house, who held a squat bottle of thick glass emies. back, and courage returned to a girl gigantic fungi, bloated grey things other things.... At the far end, ing and carefully examined the are you?" splashed with crimson...things stretched up against the wall to a automatic mechanism. Curious Charlie put up his left hand with There was a little of the colorless great mind encased in the body of a even during the hideous mysteries which seemed about to fall. height of ten or eleven feet, was suspicions, dreadful thoughts were a quick gesture. His voice, as he liquid still left in the phial. He monster; the love-cong of one un- of the last few days The walls of the room were hung an intricate mechanism. At first flooding and flowing in his brain. heard it, was throbbing and staccato raised it to his nostrils and snuffed able to obtain love as other men get She was in Helston Castle! She with tapestried curtains which sight it looked like an organ, at a Now he had no desire to escape to "I am the man," he said, "who is luxuriously. Like many another it, but determined to realize its own knew it not only by instinct, but going to put an end to your devil- drug-taker, Lord Helston was accus- desires in its own way-come what also from the view out of her windobviously concealed the windows al- second glance it was nothing of the Ravenscroft. so. This must have been the very sort. Like some spider's web, He was standing, gazing at the ries. You will never get back the tomed to recruit flagging energies by might. ow: Every contour: each mile of place from which the intruder had branching out in great veins, Charlie portrait of Muriel in an ecstasy of Regalia of Japan. You think you an occasional sniff of the anaesthetic For nearly twenty minutes the these wild Yorkshire moors was heard the monstrous music before saw something like a 'monstrous admiration at the artist's skill, and will destroy the House of Ravens- which in quantity destroys conscious- great and lovely harmonies flooded perfectly familiar to her from childhe had found entrance to the castle. succession of harps. The taut wires, with an intense adoration which croft, you have terrorised Sir ness. He had had the bottle in the through Helston Castle, and must hood. She was in Helston Castle, A curtain must have been pulled thick and thin, gleaming in the light sent his thoughts flowing like wire- Philip and his daughter. Now your pocket of his yellow silk dressing have been heard by late watchers only a little over a mile away from murders and kidnappings have come gown as he came into the room. upon the distant moors. over the window as the sound ceased strung from square, triangular and less messages over the cool moor-Ravenscroft. She was a prisoner But the curtains were of scintillat- oblong frames were innumerable land to where his lady lay in sleep home to roost." "That was a piece of good luck," Then Lord Helston, his face a in the round tower of the modern ing cloth of gold. Huge Japanese strings, And down below them, not at York, when he heard a small "I can't ask you to sit down under he said to himself, as he raised a dead white, his tiny body pathetic-Tudor section, a tower which she ragons embroidered in coloured more than a foot and a half from distinct sound. the circumstances," came from the thin silver whistle, which hung upon ally ineffectual, managed to reach had often seen from her own bedsilks and with scaly mosaics of pre- the ground, was an odd little me- Someone, something was approach- fantastic creature which rose from a chain round his neck, and blew a his sleeping chamber. room in her father's house. cious stones, writhed and rolled chanism which seemed half like a ing the door in the corner of the his chair, fragile, weak and over-shrill, penetrating blast. But as he tumbled into the sunk-It was easy enough to deduce among the gold. Directly opposite keyboard of a typewriter, half like saloon. borne by the great nodding head. The echo had but hardly died en bed of downy cushions, Lord Hel- this, to brace herself against the Charlie moved a step forward. | away when three men came running ston chuckled. to Charlie, and over the waxen im- a doll's piano. Directly in front was Close to him was a screen of four appalling fact: but then came the age, was an enormous dragon an ebony music stool with a green leaves, each leaf about seven feet The Thing sank quietly down into the room from the door of the "In two days," he said, "she will thought of her aunt! Her aunt, wrought in brilliant silks. The tail leather seat exactly fitted for some high. It was a lacquer screen from once more. be here and in my power." passage. Lady Yeoland, her father's sister. was made of thin slabs of jade, the big doll. Japan, covered with red and black "A determined young man," the First of all was Yoshida in a gown must have lured her out upon the eyes were like monstrous opals. Ah! so this intricate system of He heard the handle of the door rich voice murmured to itself. "I of padded silk, ten seconds after-CHAPTER XI lonely road, beyond the suburbs of It took Charlie several minutes to harps had made that pealing sadness turn, turn very slowly. He whipped suppose you are one of these two wards two barefooted attendants. Penalty Paid by a Traitress. York, with the fixed purpose of derealise this appalling and horrible outside upon the terrace! Yes, behind the screen and waited. people whom my agent enlisted by small, intensely muscular Japanese. livering her into the hands of the magnificence. At first it was like here was the electric motor that Then he heard the big door open- chance, and who afterwards met Yoshida rushed up to his master as ing! It was a perfect winter's mornenemies of Ravenscroft. Strangely foul dream of hell, but as his could be switched on and controlled ing. It hardly creaked, he felt, Sir Philip by a strange co- if to support him. By nine o'clock the sun had risen brain began to work and his eye be- the artificial fingers and plectrums rather than heard, that it had open- incidence?" "All is well," Lord Helston said over the Yorkshire moors in red To be continued

pane of the bed. She gazed at them

ness constructed it? The son of the Japanese Princess "I can choke your life out with my of the glorious and radiant girl. only just echoed in her own ears Even as he asked himself the precious Regalia of Japan was shelf was low, upon it was a huge question, light flashed upon guarded in the vaults of the local portrait. The portrait was framed of the Royal house and of the roving hands!" Out of the long glittering slits, when she became aware of a slightly question, light liashed upon guarded in the values of the locked round him with in flat gold, around it were many Viscount of thirty years ago, was "How you amuse me! Do try, do which were his eyes, tears began to irritating sensation upon her left night in Park Lane when he himself greater care than before, and he lights, hidden from the eye of the one of these human beings, which try!" fall and drip. One after another they forearm. She pushed up the sleeve had been the medium of throwing saw certain things which puzzled observer by shell-like shades of strike a chill to the very sould when Charlie shrank back. It was imdark metal. An intense radiance they are viewed by ordinary eyes. possible, and he knew that Lord Hel- iatic, half European, wholly aristo- saw that there was a tiny puncture the pictures of the Raven upon the him. screen. Yes, that was it! The By now he had surveyed every de- was, therefore, thrown upon the feet high. His frontal development choke the life out of such a smilling Otherwise the face showed no ex- clearly, so she got out of bed and figure of the young man portrayed tail of the roof. It was incredibly picture. by the cinema had originally been fantastic and designed to inspire It was a portrait of Muriel Vin- was vast. The forehead bulged out manstrosity. pression whatever, and might have went to the window to examine it a figure of wax, the girl in the bed, terror, but it was nothing more than cent, a portrait so perfect in its over the eyes. A great intellect The young man gasped and wheel- been carved in yellow ivory. As she crossed the room something made to resemble Muriel Vincent, a sublimated edition of the Chamber technique, so utterly living and was confined in the abnormal skull ed round. Then his eyes fell upon Then a huge-huge is the word- caught her eye. It was a little of Horrors at Madame Tussaud's vibrating that only one of the great- Below the huge protuberance were Pacsenky's marvelous portrait of sob burst out into the room like a glittering instrument of glass and had been no more and no less. He looked around the room. His The dragons and serpents that est artists of the day could have lang slanting eyes which glistened Muriel. He reeled from it, and as he boom of emotion. Lord Helstor silver in a leather case which lay