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THE SCARLET PIMPERNEL

BY BARONESS ORCZY.

(Continued.)

The kicked the fire with the heel of his boot, making the logs blaze in the old hearth. He seemed in no hurry to go, and apparently was quite unconscious of his immediate danger. He dragged another chair to the fire, and Chauvelin, whose impatience was by now quite beyond control, sat down beside the hearth, in such a way as to command a view of the door. Degas had been gone nearly a quarter of an hour. It was quite plain to Marguerite that Chauvelin would abandon all other plans with regard to the fugitives and capture this important Scarlet Pimpernel at once.

"Hey, M. Chauvelin," the latter was saying airily, "tell me, I pray, is your front pretty? Demmed smart these little French women sometimes—what? But I protest I need not say," he added, as he suddenly strode back towards the supper table. "In matters of taste the Church has never been backward. Eh?"

But Chauvelin was not listening. He was looking at the door through which his prey would enter. Marguerite's thoughts, too, were centered there, for her eyes had suddenly caught, through the stillness of the night, the sound of numerous and measured tread some distance away.

It was Degas and his men. Another three minutes and the awful thing would have occurred; the brave eagle will have fallen in the ferret's trap! She would have moved now and screamed, but she dared not; for what she heard the soldiers approaching, she was looking at Percy and watching his every movement. He was standing by the table whereon the remnants of the supper, plates, glasses, spoons, salt and pepper-pots were scattered pell-mell. His back was turned to Chauvelin and he was still prattling along in his own affected and insane way, but from his pocket he had taken his snuff-box, and quickly and suddenly he emptied the contents of the pepper-pot into it.

Then he again turned with an insane laugh to Chauvelin.

"Eh? Did you speak, sir?"

Chauvelin had been too intent on listening to the sound of those approaching footsteps, to notice what the cunning adversary had been doing. He now pulled himself together, trying to look unconcerned in the very midst of his anticipated triumph.

"No," he said presently, "that is—as you were saying, Sir Percy?"

"I was saying," said Blakeney, going up to Chauvelin, by the fire, "that I saw in Piccadilly has sold me better snuff this time than I have ever before. Will you honour me, Monsieur l'Abbe?"

He stood close to Chauvelin in his own careless, debonnaire way, holding out his snuff-box to his arch-enemy.

Chauvelin, who, as he told Marguerite once, had seen a trick or two in his day, had never dreamed of this. With one ear fixed on those fast-approaching footsteps, one eye turned towards the door where Degas and his men would presently appear, lulled into false security by the impudent Englishman's airy manner, he never even remotely guessed the trick which was being played upon him.

He took a pinch of snuff.

Only he, who has ever by accident sniffed vigorously a dose of pepper, can have the faintest conception of the hopeless condition in which such a sniff would reduce any human being.

Chauvelin felt as if his head would burst—snuff after snuff seemed nearly to choke him; he was blind, deaf, and dumb for the moment, and during that moment Blakeney quietly, without the slightest haste, took up his hat, took some money out of his pocket, which he left on the table, then calmly stalked out of the room!

CHAPTER XXVI

THE JEW.

It took Marguerite some time to collect her scattered senses; the whole of this last short episode had taken place in less than a minute, and Degas and the soldiers were still about two hundred yards away from the "Chat Gris."

When she realised what had happened, a curious mixture of joy and wonder filled her heart. It all was so neat, so ingenious. Chauvelin was still absolutely helpless, far more so than he could even

have been under a blow from the fist, for now he could neither see, nor hear, nor speak, whilst his cunning adversary had quietly slipped through his fingers.

Blakeney was gone, obviously to try and join the fugitives at the Pere Blanchard's hut. For the moment, true, Chauvelin was helpless; for the moment the daring Scarlet Pimpernel had not been caught by Degas and his men. But all the roads and the beach were patrolled. Every place was watched, and every stranger kept in sight. How far could Percy go, thus arrayed in his gorgeous clothes, without being sighted and followed?

Now she blamed herself terribly for not having gone down to him sooner, and given him that word of warning and of love which, perhaps after all, he needed. He could not know of the orders which Chauvelin had given for his capture, and even now, perhaps.

But before all these horrible thoughts had taken concrete form in her brain, she heard the grunting of arms outside, close to the door, and Degas' voice shouting "Halt!" to his men.

Chauvelin had partially recovered; his sneezing had become less violent, and he had struggled to his feet. He managed to reach the door just as Degas' knock was heard on the outside.

Chauvelin threw open the door, and before his secretary could say a word, he had managed to stammer between two sneezes—

"The tall stranger—quick!—did any of you see him?"

"Where, citizen?" asked Degas, in surprise.

"Here, man! through that door! not five minutes ago!"

"We saw nothing, citizen! The moon is not yet up, and . . ."

"And you are just five minutes too late, my friend," said Chauvelin, with concentrated fury.

"Citizen . . . I . . ."

"You did what I ordered you to do," said Chauvelin, with impatience. "I know that, but you were a precious long time about it. Fortunately, there's not much harm done, or it had fared ill with you, Citizen Degas."

Degas turned a little pale. There was so much rage and hatred in his superior's whole attitude.

"The tall stranger, citizen—"

"Was here, in this room, five minutes ago, having supper at that table. Damn his impudence! For obvious reasons, I dared not tackle him alone. Brogard is too big a fool, and that cursed Englishman appears to have the strength of a bullock, and so he slipped away under your very nose."

"He cannot go far without being sighted, citizen."

MR. FOWLER WAS ABSENT AND COMMISSION WAITS

The Member for Kings Did Not Appear Yesterday when Called Upon—Mr. Foster Again on the Stand Disputes Statement About Director's Meetings—Union Trust Company's Affairs Gone Into.

Toronto, Oct. 9.—Hon. George W. Ross was the first witness at the insurance commission this morning.

Mr. Ross said he held \$1,000 in the Union Trust Company, for which he paid a premium. He was not aware that the Union Trust Company received 237 1/2 shares of stock in the Great West Land Company by way of a bonus for having financed the transaction, or that Dr. Oronhyatkeha had 100 shares, received under similar circumstances. He was not aware either that the Union Trust Company first took stock for the money advanced to the Great West Land Company, or that afterwards the security was changed to the form of a mortgage and the stock was surrendered.

Mr. Shepley referred to the minutes of the directors of the Union Trust Company, dated November 7, 13 and 28, 1903, at all three of which Mr. Ross was present. The minutes of one meeting set forth that after full discussion it was decided to surrender the stock held by the company and take a mortgage for the amount advanced. Mr. Ross said he had no recollection of such a discussion. He remembered that the board discussed the question of unloading themselves of their land holdings, but had no recollection of any discussion about "bonus stock" at all, and thought he would have remembered if such a discussion had taken place. The minutes of November 28 set forth that at that meeting the solicitor of the company, pursuant to instructions of the board at a meeting on November 7, read the agreement and mortgage between the Union Trust Company and Great West Land Company. After some discussion it was moved by Hon. George W. Ross, seconded by Lieut. Col. Davidson, that the form of agreement, as submitted by the solicitor, be adopted. Mr. Ross said he did not remember such an agreement being placed before the board and discussed, or that he had moved the resolution referred to. He thought he would have remembered the agreement which called for the surrender of stock. Mr. Ross' recollection of the practice was that the directors' attendance book was signed by those present, but he could not say that this was invariably done.

In reply to a question put by Mr. Shepley at the request of Wallace Nesbitt, K. C., counsel for Mr. Foster, Mr. Ross said he took no particular interest in the Great West Land transaction, which originated before he became a member of the board.

W. R. Frankish, clerk in the Union Trust Company, testified that he had copied into the directors' minute book the minutes of the meetings of November 7 and 13, 1903. The same practice was for Mr. Foster to draft the minutes which were copied on a typewriter and from the typewritten copy they were recorded in the book.

"Is George W. Fowler, M. P., here?" asked Mr. Shepley. The only response was the echo of the court room, and after a pause the next witness was called.

Hon. George E. Foster was recalled and Mr. Shepley took advantage of the opportunity to correct a misapprehension as to the contents of the previous statement prepared by Mr. Shepley, which indicated that, as stated by Mr. Foster, an adjustment had been made with the C. P. R. and Pope and Fowler on a basis of actual acreage received. There was no cutting down of the stock interest, but adjustments were made in cash payments. The land came to the Great West Land Company in two separate blocks, for which there were two separate contracts. The Great West Land Company, as they were paying six per cent. interest, made payments to both the C. P. R. and Pope and Fowler, the amounts obtained on these payments being \$5,197.20, and \$5,475.50 respectively. The Great West Land Company still retains \$1,183.40 and \$1,727.57 respectively, pending final adjustments.

On account of increase of business, Dr. Oronhyatkeha on January 3, 1903, wrote asking the directors to appoint an executive committee of the directors of the Union Trust Company, composed of Stevenson, McGillivray and Davidson. The recommendation was adopted. Mr. Foster, as manager, being made ex-officio member.

Mr. Foster said that it was his custom to make a memorandum for his own guidance of the business to be taken up by the directors of the Trust Company, but these were not preserved. It was his custom to hire, and which was to have been ready for him by eleven o'clock.

"It is past that now. Where does that Reuben live?"

"A few minutes' walk from this door."

"Send one of the two men to find out if the stranger has driven off in Reuben's car."

"Yes, citizen."

Degas went to give the necessary orders to one of the men. Not a word of this conversation between him and Chauvelin had escaped the latter, and every word they had spoken seemed to strike at her heart, with terrible hopelessness and dark foreboding.

She laid some all this way with such high hopes and firm determination to help her husband, and so far she had been able to do nothing, but to watch, with a heart breaking with anguish, the meshes of the deadly net closing round the daring Scarlet Pimpernel.

He could not now advance many steps without spying eyes to track and denounce him. Her own helplessness struck her with the terrible sense of utter desolation. The possibility of being of the slightest use to her husband had become almost nil, and her only hope rested in being able to share his fate, whatever it might ultimately be.

For the moment, even her chance of ever seeing the man she loved again, had become a remote possibility. She had determined to keep a close watch over her enemy, and a vague hope filled her heart, that whilst she kept Chauvelin in the balance, her fate might still be hanging in the balance.

(To be continued.)

Miss Margaret Stewart, whose engagement to Edward H. Balkley, a wealthy merchant of New York, was announced last week, arrived in the city yesterday and is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Knight, King street east. Last evening Miss Stewart pleasantly but firmly declined to discuss the subject of her engagement or marriage, and would not say why she came to St. John, when the despatches announced her wedding was to be any day. Mr. Balkley had been in poor health, the despatches said, and this had caused postponement of the wedding from the day first set.

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tom to send typewritten notices for the directors' meetings, but he had since found that these notices had been copied in the letter book and no record had been kept of the notices sent out.

Mr. Foster, speaking from memory, expressed the opinion that the notices for the adjourned meeting of November 13 were not sent out, but that directors in town were kept informed by phone of the meeting.

In reply to Mr. Shepley, Mr. Foster said that the minutes of Lieut. Col. Davidson with reference to the matter of the surrender of bonus stock having been discussed in no way shook either his recollection as to the full discussion that was had on the whole matter of changing security or his view of what took place. He was quite sure on agreement with the bonus stock was specifically discussed. Mr. Foster argued that Lieut. Col. Davidson having recollecting the discussion in reference to the matter generally, in taking the mortgage, it must have taken place either at the meeting of November 13 or November 28. Mr. Shepley pointed out that the matter was taken up November 7, but Mr. Foster contended that but little discussion took place at that meeting.

The absence of signatures in the attendance book would by no means be conclusive evidence that no meeting of the directors had taken place. A by-law of his claim that a meeting was held November 28, Mr. Foster pointed out that a call for a shareholders' meeting of the Union Trust Company was issued November 29, in accordance with the minutes of the meeting on November 28.

Taking up a new branch of the Union Trust Company's affairs, Mr. Shepley asked Mr. Foster in reference to the borrowing of the company, witness replied that the company had an agreement with the Standard Bank by which they were entitled to obtain advances amounting to \$200,000, according as the bank had money and the company required it. A by-law of the Union Trust Company had been enlarged to permit of borrowing up to \$400,000. A large portion of this was borrowed for interest in stock. There was also a general advance from the Standard Bank of from \$50,000 to \$100,000. A loan of \$200,000 was also effected with the Trust Bank. The Union Trust Company, through the Standard Bank, was a member of the Crown's Nest Pass Coal Company to the extent of the interest in the company. The loan was made by John Drynan and William Laidlaw, K. C. The transaction resulted in a profit to the Union Trust Company.

In February, 1904, the Union Trust Company, Mr. Foster said, called up fifty per cent. of stock subscribed, of which fifty per cent. had previously been paid.

"That meant getting more money from the promoters?"

"Certainly, they subscribed for all stock."

"And the result was you got \$100,000?"

"Yes. The result was you got \$100,000?"

"You were then engaged in making large advances to the Great Western Land Company?"

"Yes."

"And you were about entering upon Kamloops contract?"

"Yes."

Mr. Foster stated that in December last the Union Trust Company increased its capital stock by \$500,000, which was issued at a certain premium, giving the company an additional \$200,000 of capital work with. This addition to its resources, was, he said, necessary to carry on the operations of the company and meet the obligations which by their own act, were maturing.

"How much were you behind?"

"I do not know from memory, but we needed it all."

Mr. Shepley suggested that all the heavy payments to the C. P. R. and Pope and Fowler had been made prior to December, but Mr. Foster said the enlarged capital was necessary.

Mr. Foster also gave evidence of the payment of rebates on the sales of land to the Montague syndicate, which was financed by the I. O. F. through the company. The first commission of \$2,480 is still held by Mr. Foster for distribution. The forfeit of \$10,000, which the Union Trust Company as trustee for the syndicate, received equally between Oronhyatkeha, Lieut. Col. J. A. McGillivray, Montague and himself, who composed the syndicate. Another commission of \$2,480 is still held by Mr. Foster for distribution. The forfeit of \$10,000, which the Union Trust Company as trustee for the syndicate, received equally between Oronhyatkeha, Lieut. Col. J. A. McGillivray, Montague and himself, who composed the syndicate. Another commission of \$2,480 is still held by Mr. Foster for distribution. The forfeit of \$10,000, which the Union Trust Company as trustee for the syndicate, received equally between Oronhyatkeha, Lieut. Col. J. A. McGillivray, Montague and himself, who composed the syndicate.

The three-story \$4,000 brick building in course of construction near the northwest corner of College and Grace streets, is represented this morning by a heap of ruins. The high wind caused it to collapse about 1.30 this morning, destroying about \$2,000 worth of work.

WHAT WE MAY EXPECT

It is written in that book of books Our pastors recommend That a thousand years of peace will come Before the world will end.

Now, here is my opinion, Although I may be wrong, How things will be in the City of Saint John.

We'll have street car lines extended To the suburbs of the town, And the cars receive their power From the wires underground.

The dredging will be finished, And the crib work firm and steady, But there'll be no steamers sailing When the west side berths are ready.

We may need a few policemen, Not as many as before, When the dogs were carrying latch keys To open bar-room doors.

With the bridge across the harbor We can save the ferry fares When the Lord's in the dry-dock Undergoing more repairs.

The waterworks will be complete, I haven't got a doubt, If the council gets from now till then The money to put them out.

Now, this concludes my story—I hope it isn't too long, and about the great advantages that's coming to St. John. Rubrid Tipping, St. John, Oct. 9, 1906.

SUGAR TRUST INDICTED

New York, Oct. 9.—Eight indictments in the so-called sugar rebate case was handed down by the October federal grand jury today. The indictments were found earlier in the year but were never officially reported until today.

The indictments were as follows: Against the American Sugar Refining Co., the American Refining Co. of New York and C. Goodlove Edgar, and Edwin Earle, for receiving rebates from the New York Central Railway Co.

Against the Western Transit Co. for giving rebates to the American Sugar Refining Co., and the American Sugar Refining Co. of New York.

Against the American Sugar Refining Co., the American Sugar Refining Co. of New York, and the American Sugar Refining Co. for giving rebates to the Northern Steamship Co.

Against the American Sugar Refining Co. of New York for receiving rebates from the Northern Steamship Co.

Against the New York Central and Hudson River Railway for giving rebates to the Brooklyn Coöperage Co.

Against the Brooklyn Coöperage Co. for receiving rebates from the New York Central and Hudson River Railway Co.

STEEL KNIFE IN THE FLESH

That's the sensation experienced by Robert Price of Hebron, Ont. He knew it was a steel knife and he knew it was a steel knife and he knew it was a steel knife.

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Authentic "Slaters" There is only one Slater Shoe. It is branded with three words, "The Slater Shoe," in a slate frame. No other shoe by any name without the slate frame is a real Slater Shoe. For Men \$4.00 For Women \$3.50 THE SLATER SHOE STORE, E. G. McCOLOUGH, 81 KING STREET.

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The Canadian Drug Co. is Ready for Business Our new premises are completed and an entirely new stock of goods is ready for our patrons. Orders will be filled immediately upon receipt and every endeavor will be made to give complete satisfaction to all. We are headquarters for all that is best in Drugs, Patent Medicines Toilet Articles Druggist's Sundries, Etc. Give the CANADIAN DRUG CO. your business and be assured of high-quality of goods and prompt service. Address all correspondence to THOMAS GIBBARD, Manager The Canadian Drug Co., Ltd. 70-72 Prince William St. P. O. Box 187 St. John, N. B.

The Gospel of Health Orange Meat I want you to take this box of ORANGE MEAT home, and have some for supper. You'll make your WHOLESOME supper on it if you take my advice. Let it always be the big part of breakfast and supper. After you have been eating ORANGE MEAT for a while, you will find the wrinkles coming out, and the roses coming in, your cheeks—your figure will round—and you will begin to tell you how well you look. Orange Meat is health and strength and deliciousness combined. 25c and 50c a package. Every 50c package contains a coupon good for valuable premiums. 25c or "Jumbo" package contains 2 1/2 times the quantity of 50c size. Write "Orange Meat, Kingston" for new premium catalogue.