

Under False Colors OR Lord Somerton's Ally.

CHAPTER XLV.

"Good Lord!" roared Captain Parker, slapping his knee. "It's like a fairy tale!"

"I am dazed!" said Noel. "See here, captain! we will go to the Barry road now! Sir John shall know all and accompany us to Blairwood!"

Again was a cab in requisition, and despite the cautious fears of Markham, the captain burst into the presence of Sir John, who was sitting at the table reading.

Behind him walked Noel Campbell, backed with so much written evidence of plot and counterplot that Sir John, in his bewildering joy, wept upon his shoulder.

"Free! free!" he said; "I am already a new man!"

Then his face became set and hard, but he immediately added:

"No! no! I will leave all my enemies to a higher Judge. This is no time to have harsh thoughts!"

It was late when the party broke up, and an agreement was made for the whole of them to meet at Waterloo station at half-past seven the next morning.

"A train is due to leave at eight," Noel said, "and we shall be at Blairwood by nine-thirty."

"What a grand reunion!" laughed the captain, with tears in his eyes. "Bring your mother along, my boy, and I'll insist upon Mrs. Parker coming with Elsie's maid."

Sir John acquiesced by a firm pressure of the hand, and Noel knew that at last his mother was forgiven!

CHAPTER XLVI.

"It is my wedding day to-day, Kemp," the Earl of Somerton said, the next morning, meeting the butler as he came downstairs. "And I want you to fetch the postbag so that I can get through before breakfast with any correspondence that may require immediate attention."

"Yes, my lord. May I congratulate your lordship? The day gives promise of being unusually fine for this time of year. It is only just seven, so I shall have no reason to hurry, as the post office does not open till half-past seven."

"You will find me in the library, Kemp," the earl said. "How is Miss Sterne? Have you inquired of Lady Helena?"

"If it please your lordship, Lady Helena, when she gave her orders not ten minutes since, did say that the young mistress had slept beautifully all night."

"Thank you, Kemp." He was gratified to learn that Lady Freeman had obeyed his orders by keeping the butler posted as to the condition of Miss Sterne.

"I am obliged to Jordan for the narcotic," he thought, "and it proves to me that people of the East can teach us Westerners something yet. I believe that if minute sprays were injected into almost any kind of food that the death of the person who ate it would be slow and painless."

He stepped into the library, and started at sight of the reflection of his haggard face in a mirror.



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AT O'MARA'S DRUG STORES.

He laughed hollowly and poured out a glass of brandy, which he drained at a gulp.

"A night of torture I endured," he muttered.

He chuckled when he thought of the will which he had caused to be stolen, and which safely reposed in his own desk. The theft had materially increased his power over Miss Sterne.

"It had hastened the death of Mr. Vallance, and indirectly made of him a co-trustee of the estate of Blairwood Park."

"And I learned nothing from Zeba," he thought; "nothing. The crown pretended so much that I was bound to burn the but and all it contained about her ears. I have had but one fear, and that was that I might be forestalled by Campbell, for he alone was guilty of ransacking the safe in Sir John's bedroom. Well, my fine friend, it has been a battle of wits, but after the wedding, which takes place to-day, you will be worsted beyond recovery."

Presently Kemp arrived with the letter bag, and the earl was relieved to find only one letter addressed to himself.

It was from Lawyer Grant, and post-marked Paris.

It consisted of one sheet of paper, containing no address. In the center these words were scribbled:

"It may not be too late to draw back. Nemesis is close upon your heels. Be warned in time! J. G."

An awful oath left my lord's lips as he tore the letter into fragments. He did not know of the lawyer's predicament; he did not know that Mr. James Grant had disposed of all his worldly goods and fled to the Continent.

He breakfasted alone, and the meal consisted of one cup of black coffee, strongly flavored with brandy—the strongest cognac.

At nine o'clock Lady Helena joined him. Her ladyship was in a flutter of excitement.

"Elsie is dressed," she said. "I have told her that you wish to accompany her to London, and, in a listless, apathetic way, she expressed her willingness to go, but would far sooner lie down again."

His evil face glowed.

"The carriage will be ready at ten," he said. "Kemp and my man will precede us. God! how I wish it were over! One hour—two hours at the most, and it seems an eternity!"

The clock ticked off the seconds, the minutes, and he paced to and fro. Every unusual sound congealed the blood in his heart. He shivered, and then laughed at his folly. He believed that there was no one to fear except Captain Parker. He might arrive at an inopportune moment, and my lord had inwardly resolved to drug him. Nothing should stand in his path now.

Ten o'clock.

He rushed upstairs to bathe his face and hands, and when he came down

Harbor Grace Notes.

The marriage of Miss Gladys Stevenson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Stevenson, of Stevenson's Village, to Mr. Martin Sheppard, was solemnized quietly in St. Paul's Church, on Tuesday evening of last week, 4th inst. The bride was attended by her cousin, Miss Jennie Stevenson, while Mr. C. O. Butt, supported the groom. Following the ceremony, which was performed by the Rev. W. R. J. Hight, the party proceeded to the home of the bride's parents, where supper was served, and a most enjoyable evening spent. Mr. and Mrs. Sheppard will reside in future on Harvey Street. We wish the young couple many years of unalloyed happiness.

Mr. and Mrs. John Watts, of St. John's, in town recently, on a visit to their son, Mr. T. J. Watts.

Mr. Henry Squires, who had been here visiting Mr. A. Squires, returned to his home on the West Coast, by Thursday morning's train of last week.

Mr. J. J. Winter, is in town on his usual monthly visit in the interests of the United Towns' Electrical Co.

Several of the young people in town are suffering from an attack of Measles. Master Ralph Andrews, who was amongst the number sick, is now able to get out again, we are pleased to note.

The family of Mr. Eleazer Davis, formerly foreman of the Marine Railway Docks Co., Ltd., but who for the past two years has been working at St. John's, went to St. John's last week, where they will in future reside.

Mr. C. Dawe, Misses M. Dawe and Frazer, of Bay Roberts, paid a brief visit to town to-day.

The annual sale of work of the Women's Association and St. Catherine's Girls' Guild of St. Paul's Church, which was held in St. Paul's Hall on Wednesday and Thursday evenings of last week, proved very successful, the receipts of both evenings having amounted to some three hundred and seventy dollars.

The moving picture show, under the management of Mr. Robert Lee, is being held three times a week in the British Hall, and is well patronized.

The ground has donned the garb of winter during the last few days, and added to the Christmas like appearance, which the different shops in town have already put on. At the same time, trade is not any too brisk for what would be expected around the Festive Season, but, no doubt, there will be a stir next week—COR. Hr. Grace, Dec. 13th, 1923.

A Bridal Hall of Tragedy

THE STORY OF A LONDON MANSION OF MYSTERY.

One of those grotesque and romantic stories of a gorgeous bridal chamber, prepared for a wedding which death never permitted to take place, and now a ghostly hall tenanted by cobwebs and rotting drapery, is suggested by the legend of Chelsea's mystery house.

This strange house of balconied windows, gargoyles, and classic ornaments overlooking a tangled wilderness of a garden with Greek statuary, is familiar to all omnibus passengers through Oakley Street, Chelsea.

Seven modern houses, each with a garden and garage and hot water laid on, are shortly to take its place. The story of the Oakley Street mystery house is a strange one, and in some ways recalls the famous London legend of Dirty Dick, of Bishopsgate.

A White-Robed Ghost. An eccentric virtuoso, Dr. Pheno, who lived in a large house opposite, is said to have designed the mystery house as a home for his future bride.

He returned from Florence with a wealth of architectural ideas derived from Renaissance buildings, which he lavishly carried out in the interior and exterior design of his "folly."

The wedding breakfast was laid out in a stately room, with an ornate ceiling decorated with Tudors and fleur-de-lis.

Then death stepped in and claimed the bride on the very morning of the wedding-day. The heart-broken bridegroom gave orders that the room should be sealed up as it was, and, through furnished, the house itself was never occupied by anyone.

Old Chelsea folk and the artistic quarter speak of a white-robed ghost (a woman whose form has been seen fitting through the bridal chamber at fitting times).

Since Dr. Pheno died about twelve years ago the house has seen some curious changes of ownership. Originally the facade was a mass of bright gilding; then it was painted chocolate, and a company bought the house intending to turn it into an hotel.

This plan however, proved abortive, and in a few months another of old London's interesting landmarks will be a thing of the past.

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Sleeping Dolls, each 49c. to 65c.
Kewpie Dolls, each 25c. to 35c.
Rubber Dolls, each 35c. to 39c.
Miniature Kitchen Sets, per set 25c. to 45c.
Rocking Horses, each 49c.
Mechanical Mice, each 25c.
Bugsies, each 7c. to 59c.
Drums, each 29c. to 69c.
Mechanical Birds, each 59c.
Dolls Carriages, each \$1.49

Silk Flags, each 10c.
Humming Tops, each 29c. to 49c.
Clowns, each 39c.
Snow Shovels, each 10c. to 19c.
Barking Dogs, each 29c.
Dolls Cradles, each 29c. to 49c.
Tea Sets, per set 29c. to 60c.
High Chairs, Rockers and Kitchen Chairs, each 39c.
Motor Cars, each 40c. to 98c.

Ball Frames, each 10c. to 59c.
Pencil Boxes, each 35c. to 49c.
Horses, each 49c. to \$2.49
Ducks, each 39c.
Picture Blocks, each 29c.
Wheel Barrows, each 79c.
Swings, each 29c.
Play Carts, each 79c.
Teddy Bears, each 75c. to \$2.98
Santa Claus, each 29c. to 79c.
Rattlers, each 15c.
Pianos, each 65c.
Donkeys, each 35c.
Picking Hens (on farm), each 30c.
Spoon Sets, each 15c. to 49c.
Baby in Bath, each 39c. to 59c.
Toy Nursing Sets 19c.
Washstand (with toilet set), each 55c.
Toy Reins, each 15c. to 49c.



Colored Mufflers.
Beautiful, All Silk Colored Mufflers, silk fringed ends.
Each \$2.10

Ladies' Leather Hand Bags.
Makes an ideal Xmas gift.
Each \$1.25 to \$1.98

Men's Dress Shirts.
Of Stripe Percalé, soft cuffs.
Each \$1.19

Men's Silk Stripe Percalé.
Tunic style shirts.
Each \$2.98

Shaving Sets.
Nickel plated, Glass, Brush and cup complete.
Each 98c.

Men's Wool Hose.
Men's All Wool English Rib Hose.
Per Pair 98c.

Table Damask.
Good quality, wide widths.
Per Yard 69c. to \$1.19

Table Napkins.
Standard quality, medium size.
Each 19c.

Striped Flette.
36 inch Striped Flette, extra heavy, in striped patterns, in light and dark, colored ground.
Per Yard 29c.

Stamped Work.
Just arrived; you'll like them, they're Clean Crisp and New.
Runners and Centres, each . . . 49c.
Guest Towels, each 59c.
Carriage Wraps, each 59c.
Cushion Tops, each 19c. to 39c.

Wool Blankets.
Sturdy Blankets of a good soft quality, double bed size shown with Pink or Blue border and solesette binding to match.
Per Pair \$5.98 to \$9.98

Turkish Towels.
Pure white, hemmed ends.
Per Pair 49c.

White Bed Spreads.
Pretty patterns, large size. Reg. \$2.49
Now \$1.98

Ladies' Handkerchiefs.
In plain white, solid colors and white with embroidered corners.
Each 9c. to 15c.

Men's Winter Overcoats.
Of durable Tweeds and Naps, storm collar, all round or 1/2 belt.
Each \$11.98 to \$24.98

Boys Winter Overcoats.
Each \$4.98

Men's Suits.
We've grouped all our better suits together for our Xmas showing.

Children's Black Hose.
Per Pair 12c.

Sweaters.
Women's Slip-on Sweaters, round neck, long sleeves, in shades of Fawn, Tomato and Honeyday, with white stripes.
Each \$2.98

Women's Pink Bandeau Brassiers.
With elastic insert at back, taped edge and shoulder strap.
Each 25c. to 49c.

Women's Chamoisette Gauntlets.
With strap wrist, shades of Brown, Fawn and White.
Per Pair \$1.79

Babies' Velvet Bonnets.
Each 29c.

Watches.
Accurate timekeepers.
Each \$1.98

Men's Winter Caps.
Good quality tweeds and naps with ear lap.
Each \$1.69 to \$1.98

Masks.
Each 3c.

Melton Cloth.
40 inches wide, shades of Brown, Green, Red and Heather mixture.
Per Yard 90c.

Interest.
We will buy any double thread, home-knit socks in trade.
Per Pair 50c.

Silk Worked Cushion Tops.
With frill and fringed finish.
Each 98c. to \$1.49

Window Rubber and Lancaster Blinding.
Shades of Buff and Green.
Per Yard 49c. to 69c.

Angora Scarfs.
Shades of Fawn, Brown and Camel.
Each \$1.98

Wool.
Silk Zephyr Wool, 1 oz. ball 40c.
Red Rose Wool, all shades, per ball 19c.
Ball 19c.
Bee Hive, slip 28c.
Crescent, slip 15c. to 19c.

Men's Winter Caps.
Good quality tweeds and naps with ear lap.
Each \$1.69 to \$1.98

Masks.
Each 3c.

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Each \$1.69 to \$1.98

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