

UNCLAIMED LETTERS, REMAINING IN G. P. to Jan. 18th, 1912.

A Abbott, Miss Olive, Allandale Road	E Edwards, F. J., Elliot, Miss Bertha	K Keefe, Martin, George's Street	P Pierce, John, retd Pinston, James, Hamilton Street
B Bairst, Samuel, Braddie, John, Carter's Hill	F Freak, Uriah, Fagen, Miss Mary, Pennywell Road	L Lees, Wm., LeDrew, Miss Annie	R Ryan, Joseph, care G.P.O. Ryan, James, late s.s. Ethlie Ryan, J. B., Raines, A. C., retd.
C Caird, W. T., slip Clarke, Robert, care Gen'l Delivery	G Gardner, Louis, Jarrett, Henry, Jarland, Jos., Water St.	M Maddox, Miss Annie, Martin, James, Carter's Hill	S Sparks, Mrs. S., Notre Dame Street
D Davis, Mrs. John, Dahal, Mrs., care Dyke, Miss Sophie, Dyke, Garfield, Delaney, Miss L., Diamond, Mrs. Wm., card, Cabot Street	H Hadden, Aug., Heales, Mrs. Jas., Merry Meeting Rd. Heller, J. S., Helmens, John, Hitchin, M. H., Hickman, Miss Annie, Hodge, Bert, care G.P.O.	N Neil, A. Water St. West No. 7 Street North, Mrs. T. P., O'Neill, John W., tailor	T Templeman, P., Cabot St. Thistle, Edward, Thistle, Ambrose, Thomas, Miss Mgt., Water Street
E Elmsley, R. S., Crosbie Hotel	J Jaynes, Miss Nellie, Jernigan, Miss L. V., James, Gordon, Jancion, Miss D. J., Kennedy, Miss Beatrice, Kennedy, John, New Gower Street	O O'Neil, John W., Parsons, Violet, card, Parsons, Eli, Crosbie Hotel Pelly, R., Pearce, Albert, Pendergrast, Miss Maggie, Cook's St.	V Verge, Charles C., Venus, Mrs. R., retd.

SEAMEN'S LIST.

A Rose, Frank, Warren, Augustine, Grandy, Capt. George, Greene, Hugh A., Chapman, Dan, Martin H., Gunnery, Capt. Thos., Russell, Baxter,	H Higdon, Chas. H., Agood, George H., Sheppard, Walter, Sheppard, D., Batstone, Corbett, Kelloway, Wm., James, James, Moors, C.,	I Irish, Joseph, card, Hanamer, Levi, Gibbons, Thos., Butler, Samuel, Sarty, Ermon, Martin, D.,	N Noy, James, Bradford, Capt. R., Parsons, Wesley, Petite, Capt. Henry, Savory, Wm., Gardner, Alex., Hobbs, Capt. R. J., Churchill, Capt. James,
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A MYSTERIOUS QUEST.

CHAPTER XXX.

A GREAT MYSTERY. (Concluded.)

Instantly, the Cleveland gentleman, with rare tact and generosity, declared that he would go for Miss Aspinwall, and taking the lawyer by the arm, drew him out leaving the field to his rival.

The artist at once sprang forward and clasped the new-made heiress by the hand.

'Signorina!' he exclaimed, 'one word before your prosperity is known to the world. I love you; you know that; and I have already laid my heart at your feet. But you were not the mistress of millions then, and knew no more than I of the good fortune which awaited you. So do not feel that I hold you as bound to me in the slightest degree, because of any expression of regard that may have escaped you. Love that might have moved you then may not move you now, and though I prize you always, and ever the same, whether you be rich or whether you be poor, I feel that it is only honorable in me to await a reply to my suit until you have become accustomed to your wealth, and learned the necessities of your new position. If in six months from now you still remember the artist, Hamilton Degraw—'

'Ah!' she interrupted, with a naivete charmingly in keeping with her blushes. 'I cannot wait six months. I have no home, no adviser, no protector. I should make a thousand mistakes. Besides, why not be altogether happy, since Fate has given us the opportunity?'

Was it possible! What man could resist such an appeal! He gazed upon her with rapture, he covered her hands with kisses, he all but took her in his arms, but did not accept the troth she proffered him.

'I cannot,' he cried. 'It would be like taking advantage of your inexperience. Wait three months, darling, and if then—'

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But was Jenny Rogers a coquette? We, who have partially sounded her nature and circumstance, do not think so, nor do her glances on this important day betoken that she is playing with the artist or even thinking too much of her newly acquired wealth. As she sits in her old place on the window-seat, almost buried under the flowers which have been thrown at her feet by her merry companions, she seems to us the embodiment of womanly sweetness and beauty. She smiles, but who could not smile when suddenly raised to a kingdom? Yes, and she utters mockeries at times, but it is not in scorn of any true expression of feeling, but only in disdain of the nearly fulsome adulation with which she is now and then addressed. She is clad in a soft clinging robe of pure white silk without any other ornament than the lace at her throat; but she never looked more beautiful, nor appeared more brilliant, and to one pair of eyes, at least, never seemed more alive with love and feeling. These eyes were those of Hilary, who, in the joy she thus saw revealed before her read the final words of her own hope.

Another person perceived the signorina's burning beauty, and resisted it as long as he could, but finally submitted to its charms and passed quickly to her side. 'Come,' he entreated, 'I must have a few words with you before we enter upon our three months of separation. Leave this crowd who have worshipped you long enough, and if you must be half covered with flowers, we will walk on the porch where the vines hang thick and I will shake down rose-leaves enough to make a carpet for your feet.'

'I care not for roses,' she said, and stood up at his side, a rose herself.

But when they had withdrawn into the porch, it was not of love he spoke, nor was it flowers he offered her. He had a fear to express and made haste to utter it. 'Signorina!' said he—'Pardon me, I will not call you by that name when I can acquire the right to use a dearer—you have never told me why you so suddenly left the house in—street.'

Taken aback, for she had expected different words from these, Miss Rogers looked at him with searching and slightly troubled eyes and murmured: 'Why do you ask me that now? I was not thinking of anything like that.'

'Because you are lost in the pleasures of the present, while I am concerned with the dangers of the past. Why did you fly from home in those days; was it because you feared Montelli more than you trusted me?'

Her head fell, she nodded a quick yes, and then as he still stood waiting exclaimed: 'He was a bad man. I dared not linger another day where he could visit me. One glimpse of his face had been enough to thoroughly alarm me. I fled and buried myself in an obscure place as I could find. The Portuguese accompanied me, but I soon came to fear her also. You had sown the seed of distrust in my heart, and I grew to be afraid of every one. So I ran away again and came here.'

'Alone?'

'Alone. I knew that Hilary Aspinwall had a country-seat in this town and I hoped she would see and take pity on me. You will not tell her that I calculated upon her friendship to such an extent, will you?'

'Oh, no,' he answered smiling, for her look was quite piteous in its shame and entreaty. 'But Miss Aspinwall would understand. She is so truly womanly.'

'I know, I know, but I have some pride and I acted as if the meeting were a surprise.'

'I see. Well, I will keep your confidence, only you must tell me one thing more. Did you ever suspect that Montelli was not really an Italian?'

'No; that is. I have not thought very much about it. I took if for granted he was what he said he was. Why?'

at the foot of the staircase. Though I had not noticed it before, I thought then that he had an eye like the Italian whom I saw for a minute in your rooms. If that is so, and he is Montelli in disguise, or, what is more probable, Montelli was this man in disguise, then the two waiters are one and the plot against you is of long standing.'

'It may be,' she acknowledged, 'it may be. But it is all over now. Why think of it?'

'Because I do not feel at ease about him; nor do you, for all your seeming gaiety. I have caught you more than once placing in visible apprehension toward the door, as if you feared a renewed sight of your murderous persecutor.'

'Did I betray myself like that?' she asked, then stopped and exclaimed with sudden conviction: 'It is because great pleasures never seem real. I cannot believe that I shall be allowed to step into this immense fortune without some disaster to dampen my happiness. It would be like the wonders of a fairy-tale occurring to an ordinary mortal.'

'But you are not a mortal; you are a witch, or one of the fairies themselves; so you should believe in your happiness, only—' he grew more serious here—'I do not want you to trust it so much as to be reckless. This fellow is in custody, but he may manage to escape; and though you certainly have nothing more to fear from his capidity, you may have from his revenge. He will never forget that through you he has lost, as he thinks, the possibility of handling an immense sum of money.'

To be continued.

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