

## Secret Service

By Cyrus Townsend Brady

"You want to hear it?" asked Wilfred. "I've got to, haven't I? How could I help you if I didn't know what it was all about?"

"You're a pretty good girl, Caroline. You will help me, won't you?"

Her hand rested on the table as she bent over him, and he laid his own hand upon it and squeezed it warmly—too warmly, thought Caroline, as she slowly drew it away, and was sorry she did it the moment she had done so.

"Yes, I will help you," she said. "But about the letter? You will have to hurry. I am sure your mother will be here in a short time."

"That letter is mighty important, you know. Everything depends on it, much more than on mother's letter. I am sure."

"I should think so," said the girl. She drew a chair up to the table and sat down by the side of the boy, and he turned to her and gave it to him.

"That's the way to give it to him," said Caroline. "He's a soldier, and he's accustomed to such things."

"You can't fool much with father. He means business, and he's a soldier, too."

"That's right," assented Caroline sapiently. "Everybody does you say to him?"

"I said this," answered the youngster, reading slowly and with great pride. "General Ransom Varney, Commanding Division, Army of Northern Virginia."

"Dear Papa—"

"I wouldn't say 'dear papa' to a general," interrupted Caroline decisively.

"No?" What would you say?

"I would say 'Sir,' of course; that is much more businesslike, and soldiers are always abrupt."

"You are right," said the boy, beginning again. "General Ransom Varney, Commanding Division, Army of Northern Virginia. Sir—that sounds fine, doesn't it?"

"Splendid!" said the girl. "Go on."

"This is to notify you that I want you to let me join the army right now. If you don't, I will enlist anyway, that's all. The seventeen call is out, and I am not going to wait for the sixteen. Do you think I am a damned coward?"

Wilfred paused and looked apprehensively at Caroline, who nodded with eyes sparkling brightly.

"That's fine," she said.

"I thought it sounded like a soldier."

"It does, you ought to have heard the Third Virginia swear—"

"Oh," said Wilfred, who did not quite relish that experience, but he went on after a little pause: "Tom Kiltredge has gone; he was killed yesterday at Cold Harbor. Billy Fisher has gone, and so has Cousin Stephen. He is not sixteen—"

he lied about his age, but I don't want to do that unless you make me. I will, though, if you do. Answer this right now, or not at all."

"I think that is the finest letter I have ever heard," said Caroline proudly, as Wilfred stopped, laid the paper down and stared at her.

"Do you really think so?"

"It is the best letter I—"

"I am glad you are pleased with it. Now, the next thing is how to end it."

"Why, just end it."

"But how?"

"Sign your name, of course."

"Nothing else?"

"What else is there?"

"Just Wilfred."

"No, Wilfred Varney."

"That's the thing," he took up a pen from the table and scrawled his name at the bottom of the scrawling and historical document. "And you think the rest of it will do?"

"I should think it would," she assented heartily. "I wish your father had it now."

"So do I," said Wilfred. "Maybe it will take two or three days to get it to him and I just can't wait that long."

"Caroline rose and went to her room, and under the stimulus of a bright idea that came into her mind.

"I'll tell you what we can do."

"What?"

"We can telegraph him," she exclaimed.

"Good idea!" cried Wilfred, more and more impressed with Caroline's wonderful resourcefulness, but a disquieting thought struck him. "Where am I going to get the money?" he asked abruptly.

"I won't take very much."

"It won't? Do you know what they are charging now? Over seven dollars a word only to Petersburg—well, let them charge it," said Caroline calmly. "We can cut it down to only a few words, and the address won't cost anything."

"Won't it?"

"No, they never charge for that," continued the girl. "That's a heap of money saved, and then we can use what we save on the address for the rest."

Wilfred started at her as if this problem in economics was not quite clear to his youthful brain, but she gave him no time to question her ingenious calculations.

"What comes after the address?" she asked in her most businesslike manner.

"Sir."

"Leave that out."

"Wilfred swept his pen through it."

"He knows that already," said Caroline. "What's next?"

"This is to notify you that I want you to let me come right now."

"We could leave out that last 'to,' said Caroline.

Wilfred checked it off, and then read: "I want you—let me come right now. That doesn't sound right, and anyway, it is such a little word, and it costs just as much as the others."

"Yes, but it costs just the same as a big word," observed Caroline.

"That it doesn't sound right without it," argued the boy. "We have got to leave it in. What comes after that?"

Caroline in turn took up the note and read: "If you don't, I'll come anyhow, that's all."

"You might leave out 'that's all,'" said Wilfred.

"No, don't leave that out. It's very important. It doesn't seem to be so important, but it is—"

shows that that's all there is about it. That one thing might convince him."

"Yes, but we've got to leave out something."

"Not that, though. Perhaps there is something else. The seventeen call is out—that's got to stay."

"Yes," said Wilfred.

"The sixteen comes next. That's just not to stay."

"O course. Now, what follows?"

## Skin Disorders in the Spring

To old and young, rich and poor alike there come disfiguring, annoying, itching skin diseases. There are many theories as to the cause of skin diseases, but one thing is certain: you can cure them with Dr. Chase's Ointment.

Relief from the itching, burning sensations comes almost directly after the ointment is applied, and with a little patient treatment the sores are healed up and entirely disappear. Mr. John A. Creech, postmaster, Rawlwick, Simcoe County, Ont., writes: "I was a great sufferer from eczema or salt rheum. My hands and face were covered with itching skin eruptions and though I used many different remedies I could get no relief. Finally I was recommended to try Dr. Chase's Ointment, and am thankful to say that it has completely cured me. You may publish this for the benefit of others suffering as I did."

"I'm not going to wait for it," read Caroline.

"We can't cut that out," said Wilfred. "We don't seem to be making much progress, do we?"

"Well, we will find something in a moment. Do you think of anything?" she hesitated a moment; "a damned coward," she read, with a delicious thrill at her rash, vicious wickedness.

Wilfred regarded her dubiously. He felt as an author does when he sees his pet periods marked out by the blue pencil of a ruthless editor.

"You might leave that out," he began, cutting valiantly at his most cherished and cherished phrase.

"No," protested Caroline, vehemently. "Certainly not. That is the best thing in the letter."

"That 'damned' is going to cost us seven dollars, you know."

"It is worth it," said Caroline. "It is the best thing you have written. Your father is a general in the army, and he'll understand that kind of language. What's next? I know there's something, now."

"Tom Kiltredge has gone. He was killed yesterday at Cold Harbor."

"Leave that out about—"

"She caught her breath, and her eyes fixed themselves once more on that little round hole in the web of his jacket. "About his being killed."

"But he was killed, and so was Johnny Sheehan—I have his uniform, you know."

"I know he was, but you don't have to tell your father," said Caroline, choking up. "You don't have to telegraph him the news, do you?"

"No, of course not, but—"

(To Be Continued.)

## CORRESPONDENCE

"Catholic" Replies to "Common Sense."

To the Editor of The Advertiser:

As I am evidently entitled to last word in my tilt with "Common Sense," I crave your indulgence while I once more return to the defence of Catholicism.

Before proceeding, however, I must express my astonishment at the statement of "Common Sense" that though he "could build up a good case for the influence of the Roman Catholic Church in England, and for the Catholic system, historically considered," he "would not spoil it by asserting that England was a freer country in 1525 than in 1825, and further that I back Father Tobin up in this view. As I was not aware that Father Tobin expressed this view (all questions as to its accuracy aside) it will be seen that your correspondent is attacking a man of straw. Surely "Common Sense" understands the meaning of "contemporary."

Or would he seriously compare the Greece of Pericles, the England of John and Henry VII. with the England of Victoria and Edward? Did the British nation stagnate for four hundred years? Did it alone of the European states remain dead to the great revival of leading in the later middle period? Such silly comparisons, I think, may be safely characterized in his own verbiage, "rot."

There is just a touch of humor in the situation too. After I had pressed beyond catch, and from his own authority, that Magna Charta is a Catholic document wrong from a tyrannical monarch by the behest of the Catholic hierarchy in England, himself the particular favorite of the Holy See, who from the very moment of his landing in England had assumed the constitutional position of his office as champion of the liberties of the people against the encroachments of the king—mark it, the head of the Catholic Church in England was recognized as the constitutional champion of the people's liberties—"Common Sense" coolly proceeds, as if I had said nothing, to state that Catholicism had nothing to do with the charter of our English liberties!

He also very naively asserts that he would not hold the church altogether responsible for the misdeeds of some of the English kings. This is very generous of "Common Sense." I suppose he would not hold her altogether responsible for the "Constitutions of Clarendon" and the wholesale execution of the wives of "Bluff King Hal."

Indeed I am somewhat perplexed with your correspondent. As I cannot believe that he could be wilfully blind to the truth, I incline to the more charitable view that his reading of history is of a very superficial sort. Had he known anything he must have known that if there is a cardinal fact in the history of Western Europe it is that which speaks of the constant and almost uninterrupted struggle between the Catholic Church and the powers of an evil world largely represented by cruel and tyrannical kings, despotic states and a throng of turbulent, warlike barons, nobles and petty overlords, each bent upon his own aggrandizement at the expense of his neighbor and wholly at the expense of the people.

That the infant church was not herself destroyed by this devastating tide of barbarism which surged back and forth over Europe for centuries is a miracle of the greatest miracle of all. With infinite patience she proceeded to create and erect upon the ruins of the old order a newer and more glorious civilization. Through the long night of the dark ages she struggled and the dawn of the thirteenth century saw her achieving the "renaissance" of the fine arts and of the learning which was to lay the foundations of the fabric which we call "twentieth century" civilization.

Hence when I said that the church was the mother of the fine arts I spoke truly. Renaissance types are here and hers alone. She alone nourished the most priceless treasures of the world today in music, painting and sculpture are chiefly the products of her sons.

And in the very truth of these undoubted facts "Common Sense" finds my claims for the influence of church exaggerated and absurd! Yet M. Guizot, the great Protestant historian and lecturer at the University of Paris did not think so. On the contrary he would consider them very much understated.

Says this eminent authority: "The church had agitated all the great questions which concern man; she was solicitous about the chances of his destiny. Hence her influence on modern civilization has been immense; greater, perhaps, than has ever been imagined by her most ardent adversaries or her most zealous advocates. Absorbed either in her defense or in aggression, they considered her only in a polemical point of view and have failed. I am convinced, in judging her with fairness and in measuring her in all her dimensions," and further on he says: "To destroy the liberty of the papacy would be to aim a death blow at the rights and liberties of the people." In conclusion I desire to again pay my respects to my good-natured antagonist and to thank the editor of The Advertiser for his courtesy and forbearance in my defence of Holy Church. "CATHOLIC."

## BUSINESS BRISK IN FOREST CITY

Collections Are Fair to Good and Factories Working Full Time.

## STEADY AT MONTREAL

Bradstreet's Review of Commercial Situation at All Points of Dominion.

Montreal, June 22.—London reports to Bradstreet's say local business there is brisk. Wholesalers are fairly well satisfied with the amount of business offered and factories are all working full time. Retail trade there and in the surrounding district holds up well. Collections are fair to good.

Ottawa reports at both conditions there are unchanged from those of a week ago. Business at both wholesale and retail is steady in character. Crops in the district are reported to be in fairly good condition, and with good weather from now on, the yield should be a satisfactory one. Local industries continue busily engaged.

Steady at Montreal.

Montreal reports to Bradstreet's say trade there has held steady in character throughout the week. The volume of business holds up very satisfactory and indications point to continued good movement of goods. City during the balance of the season, City trade has been good on the whole, although unseasonable weather has to some extent affected the movement of goods. An excellent average lines are enjoyed and the total bulk of the season's trade promises to compare very favorably with that of last year.

Western orders for general business in the maritime provinces seem to be enjoying a period of unusual activity. As a result the movement of general merchandise is heavy. Values of commodities show little change and the tendency towards firmness noted in many lines and particularly in drygoods continues as pronounced as at any time throughout the season. Business in lumber is open, and labor well employed. Reports from the country say retail trade is moving nicely. Crops are looking good and prospects for later business look good. Collections from the West are still on the slow side. Others are generally satisfactory.

Conditions at Toronto.

Toronto reports to Bradstreet's say business is steady in tone and generally fairly good volume. Retail business holds up well. The weather has been rather adverse, but the business in household goods, furniture, etc., has been held back. The hardware trade continues active, with indications of further activity with the arrival of warmer weather. The hardware trade continues active, and a very heavy demand for building supplies is noted from all parts of the country. A serious shortage of brick is reported here. Paints, oils and kindred lines are also moving well. All kinds of labor continues to be well employed. Business in the surrounding district is generally good. Excellent reports on crops from all parts of the country are having a reassuring effect upon later trade. Full orders are already coming forward satisfactorily. Collections are generally fair. Commodity prices show little change from those of a week ago.

Winnipeg reports to Bradstreet's say from all parts of the west continues of a very satisfactory nature, and wholesalers and manufacturers are optimistic regarding business for the balance of the year. Travellers through the coun-



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are sending in excellent orders. They report conditions generally very satisfactory. Collections are fair in most districts, from others slowness is reported. Much building is reported from all parts of the country, and the demand for supplies is active. Vancouver and Victoria reports say general business there and at other provincial points holds steady. Shipments of supplies to interior and the prospects for future business are considered excellent. Wholesale stocks are moving freely. The amount of railway and general development work is going on much greater than usual, and the resultant demand for materials is exceedingly heavy. Bank clearings, building permits and custom receipts indicate a healthy state of trade in all parts of the province.

Hamilton reports say the volume of trade there continues fairly large. Business at both retail and wholesale is moving satisfactorily and local manufacturers report plenty of business on hand to keep them busy for some time. Trade in the district is steady. Receipts of produce are fairly large and collections generally satisfactory.

BANDITS LOOTING IN STREETS OF CANTON

Detachment of British Troops Rushed to Protection of Foreigners.

[Canadian Press.]

Hong Kong, June 22.—Bandits as soldiers have looted 47 shops in Canton, and a detachment of British troops has been rushed thither from Hong Kong to guard Shamen, the foreign settlement. Reports that foreigners were killed in the fighting following the looting have not been confirmed.

Reserves are being held here to proceed by boat and train to Canton if their presence is required, and the guns and ammunition of the Hazara artillery also ready to go forward. It is said that business in Canton is paralyzed. The gates of the city are closed, and strong guards patrol the streets. The British gunboat Rosario left here yesterday for Shamen to strengthen the fleet there. At present there are eleven warships at Shamen.

A Windsor Lady's Appeal

To All Women: I will send free with full instructions my home treatment which positively cures Leucorrhoea, Ulceration, Displacements, Falling of the Womb, Painful or Irregular Periods, Uterine and Ovarian Tumors or Growths, also Hot Flashes, Nervousness, Melancholy, Pains in the Head, Back or Bowels, Kidney and Bladder troubles, where caused by weakness peculiar to our sex. You can obtain treatment at home at a cost of only about 12 cents a week. My book, "Woman's Own Medical Adviser," also sent free on request. Write today. Address Mrs. M. Summers, Box H 12, Windsor, Ont.

CABOOSE OFF RAILS NEAR ERINDALE

Conductor Morgan, of London, Was Slightly Injured.

A caboose attached to a Canadian Pacific freight train jumped the tracks at Erindale, east of Streetsville, last night, and slightly injured Conductor Morgan, of London, who was riding in the car. The line was blocked for an hour or more, but as the van was badly damaged it was thrown into the ditch to clear the road.

SO CHANGEABLE.  
[Houston Post.]  
"How can you insist that the dress is all right when the most obtuse could see that it doesn't fit me?"  
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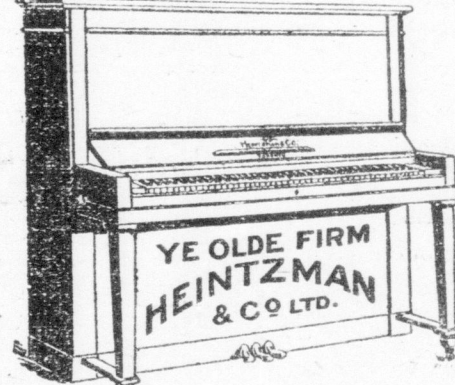
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