THE CRIMSON BLIND

BY FRED M. WHITE

"And she played her part splendidly. Mr. Steel, it is very, very good to know that Hatherly Bell has cleared himself in the eyes of Lord Littimer at last. Did Reginald suspect——"

"Nothing," Steel said. "He is utterly and hopelessly puzzled over the whole business. And Bell has managed to convince him that he is not suspected at all. That business over the Rembrandt was really a brilliant bit of comedy. But what has Henson found out?"

"That Chris is not dead. He has seen Walker and the undertaker. But he does not know yet that Dr. Bell was in the house that eventful night, which is a blessing. As a matter of fact, Reginald has not been quite the same man since Rollo nearly killed him that exciting evening. His nerves seem to be greatly shaken."

"That is because the rascal feels the net closing round him," Steel said. "It was a fine stroke on your sister's part to win over that fellow Merritt to her side. I supplied the details per telephone, but the plot was really Miss Chris'. How on earth should we have managed without the telephone over this business?"

"I am at a loss to say," Enid smiled. "But tell me about that plot. I am quite in the dark as to that side of the matter."

David proceeded to explain his own and Chris' ingenious scheme for getting Merritt into their power. Enid followed the story with vast enjoyment, tempered with the fact that Henson was so near.

"I should never have thought of that," she said; "but Chris was always so clever. But tell me, what was Henson doing in the garden just now? Williams says he was ill-treating my aunt, but that seems hardly possible even for Reginald."

"It was over a ring that Mrs. Henson had," David explained. "She was running away with it, and Henson was trying to get it back. You see——"

"A ring!" Enid gasped. "Did you happen to see it? Oh, if it is only ——. But he would not be so silly as that. A ring is the cause of all the trouble. Did you see it?"

"I not only saw it, but I have it in my possession," David replied.

Enid turned up the flaring little lamp with a shaking hand. Quite unstrung, she held out her fingers for the ring.

"It is just possible," she said, hoarsely, "that you possess the key of the situation. If that ring is what I hope it is we can tumble Henson into the dust tomorrow. We can drive him out of the country, and he will never, never trouble us again. How did you get it?"

"Mrs. Henson dropped it and I picked it up."

"Please let me see it," Enid said, pleadingly. "Let me be put out of my misery."

David handed the ring over; Enid regarded it long and searchingly. With a little sigh of regret she passed it back to David once more.

"You had better keep it," she said. "At any rate, it is likely to be valuable evidence for us later on. But it is not the ring I hoped to see. It is a clever copy, but the black pearls are not so fine, and the engraving inside is not so worn as it used to be on the original. It is evidently a copy that Henson has had made to tease my aunt with, to offer her at some future date in return for the large sums of money that she gave him. No; the original of that ring is popularly supposed to be at the bottom of the North Sea. If such had been the case—seeing that Henson had never handled it before the Great Tragedy came — the original must be in existence."

"Why so?" David asked.

"Because the ring must have been copied from it," Enid said. "It is a very faithful copy indeed, and could not have been made from mere directions—take the engraving inside, for instance. The engraving forms the cipher of the house of Littimer. If Henson has the real ring, if we can find it, the tragedy goes out of our lives for ever."

"I should like to hear the story," said Steel.

Enid paused and lowered the lamp as a step was heard outside. But it was only Williams.

"Mr. Henson is in his bedroom still," he said. "I've just taken him the cigars. He's got a lump on his head as big as a billiard-ball. Thinks he hit it against a branch. And my lady have locked herself in her room and refused to see anybody."

"Go and look at our patient," Enid commanded.

Williams disappeared, to return presently with the information that Van Sneck was still fast asleep and lying very peacefully.

"Looks like waiting till morning, it do," he said. "And now I'll go back and keep my eye on that 'ere distinguished philanthropist."

Williams disappeared, and Enid turned up the lamp again. Her face was pale and resolute. She motioned David towards a chair.

"I'll tell you the story," she said. "I am going to confide in you the saddest and strangest tale that ever appealed to an imaginative novelist."

CHAPTER XLIV.

Enid Speaks.

"I am going to tell you the story of the great sorrow that has darkened all our lives, but I shall have to go a long way back to do it," Enid said. "I go back to the troublous day of Charles, as far back as the disastrous fight at Naseby. Of course, I am speaking more from a Royalist point of view, for the Littimers were always followers of the court.

"Mind you, there is doubtless a deal that is legendary about what I am going to tell you. But the ring given to my ancestor, Rupert Littimer, by Prince Rupert himself is an actuality.

"Naseby was over, and, so the legend goes, Prince Rupert found himself desperately situated and in dire peril of capture by Cromwell's troops, under one Colonel Carfax, a near neighbor of Rupert Littimer; indeed, the Carfax estate still run parallel with the property round Littimer Castle.

"Now, Carfax was hated by all those who were attached to the fortunes of the King. Seeing that he was aristocratic birth, it was held that he had violated his caste and creed by taking sides with the Roundheads. History has told us that he was right, and that the Cavaliers, picturesque as they were, were fighting a dubious cause. But I need not go into that, Carfax was a hard, stern man who spared nobody, and many were the stories told of his cruelty.

"He and Rupert Littimer were especially at daggers drawn. I believe that both of them had been in love with the same woman or something of that kind. And the fact that she did not marry either made little difference to the bitterness between them.

"Well, Carfax was pressing close on Rupert, so close, indeed, that unless some strategy were adopted the brilliant cavalry leader was in dire peril. It was there that my ancestor, Rupert Littimer, came forward with his scheme. He offered to disguise himself and go into the camp of Carfax and take him prisoner. The idea was to steal into the tent of Carfax and, by threatening him with his life, compel him to issue certain orders, the result of which would be that Prince Rupert could get away.

"'You will never come back again, friend,' the prince said.

"Rupert Littimer said he was prepared to run all risk of that. 'And if I do die you shall tell my wife, sir,' he said. 'And when the child is born, tell him that his father died as he should have done for his King and for his country.'

"'Oh, there is a child coming?' Rupert asked.

"Littimer replied that for aught he knew he was a father already. And then he went his way into the camp of the foe with his curls cut short and in the guise of a countryman who comes with valuable information. And, what is more, he schemed his way into Carfax's tent, and at the point of a dagger compelled him to write a certain order which my ancestor's servant, who accompanied him, saw carried into effect, and so the passage for Prince Rupert was made free.

"The ruse would have succeeded all round but for some little accident that I need not go into now. Rupert Littimer was laid by the heels, his disguise was torn off, and he stood face to face with his hereditary foe. He was told that he had but an hour to live.

"'If you have any favor to ask, say it,' Carfax said.

"'I have no favor to ask, properly so-called,' Littimer replied; 'but I am loth to die without knowing whether or not I have left anybody to succeed me—anybody who will avenge the crime upon you and yours in the years to come. Let me go as far as Henson Grange, and I pledge you my word I will return in the morning!'

"But Carfax laughed the suggestion to scorn. The court party were all liars and perjurers, and their word was not to be taken.

"'It is as I say,' Rupert Littimer repeated. 'My wife lies ill at Henson Grange and in sore trouble about me. And I should like to see my child before I die.'

"'Then you shall have the chance,' Carfax sneered. 'I will keep you a close prisoner here for two days, and if at the end of that time nothing happens, you die. If, on the other hand, a child is born to you, then you shall go from here a free man.'

"And so the compact was made. Unfortunately or fortunately, as the case may be, the story got abroad, and some indiscreet person carried the news to Dame Littimer. Ill as she was, she insisted upon getting up and going over to Carfax's camp at once. She had barely reached there before—well, long ere Rupert Littimer's probation was over, he was the father of a noble boy. They say that the Roundheads made a cradle for the child out of a leather breastplate, and carried it in triumph round the camp. And they held the furious Carfax to his word, and the story spread and spread until it came to the ears of Prince Rupert.

"Then he went to see Dame Littimer, and from his own hand he drew what is known in our family as Prince Rupert's ring. He placed it on Dame Littimer's hand, there to remain for a year and a day, and when the year was up it was to be put aside for the bride of the heir of the house for ever, to be worn by her till a year and a day had elapsed after her first child was born. And that has been done for all time, my aunt, Lady Littimer, being the last to wear it. After Frank was born it was put carefully away for his bride. But the great tragedy came, and until lately we fancied that the ring was lost to us for ever. There is, in a few words, the story of Prince Rupert's ring. So far it is quite common property."

Enid ceased to speak for a time. But it was evident that she had more to say.

"An interesting story," David said. "And a pretty one to put into a book, especially as it is quite true. But you have lost the ring, you say?"

"I fancied so till tonight," Enid replied. "Indeed, I hardly knew what to think. Sometimes I imagined that Reginald Henson had it, at other times I imagined that it was utterly gone. But the mere fact that Henson possesses a copy practically convinces me that he has the original. As I said before, a true copy could not have been made from mere instructions. And if I could only get the original our troubles are all over."

"But I don't see how the ring has anything to do with——"

"With the family dishonor. No, I am coming to that. We arrive at the time, seven years ago, when my aunt and Lord Littimer and Frank were all living happily at Littimer Castle. I told you just now that the Carfax estates adjoin the Littimer property. The family is still extant and powerful, but the feud between the two houses has never ceased. Of course, people don't carry on a vendetta these peaceful days, but the families have not visited for centuries.

"There was a daughter Claire, whom Frank Littimer got to know by some means or other. But for the silly family feud nobody would have noticed or cared, and there would have been an end to the matter, because Frank has always loved my sister Chris, and we all knew that he would marry her some of these days.

(To Be Continued.)

The Illinois supreme court has decided that a labor union's "unfair list" is in effect a boycott and can be enjoined.

Emigration to the United States from Antwerp, Belgium, has practically ceased.

Advertiser Patterns

DESIGNED BY MARTHA DEAN.

2431

MISSES' FIVE-GORED EMPIRE SKIRT.
Paris Pattern No. 2431
All Seams Allowed.

Any of the thin Summer materials in wool or wash goods make up charmingly in this style. It is gathered to the top of a belt of two-inch webbing and falls in full folds from this point to the ankles. Two wide bands of silk in the same or a contrasting shade are used as a trimming and the skirt closes at the centre-back. The pattern is in 8 sizes—13 to 17 years. For a miss of 15 years the skirt requires 6¾ yards of material 20 inches wide, 5½ yards 36 inches wide, 3 yards 44 inches wide, or 2¾ yards 54 inches wide; ¾ yard of webbing 2 inches wide for stay-belt and 1¼ yard of silk 20 inches wide for bias bands.

Price of pattern, 10 cents.

PATTERN DEPARTMENT OF THE ADVERTISER.

Please send the above-mentioned pattern, as per directions given below, to

Name .....

Street Address .....

Town .....

Province .....

Measurement: Bust ..... Waist .....

Age (if child's or misses' pattern) ....

CAUTION.—Be careful to inclose above illustration and send size of pattern wanted. When the pattern is bust measure you need only mark 32, 34, or whatever it may be. When in waist measure, 22, 24, 26, or whatever it may be. If a skirt give waist and length measure. When misses' or child's pattern write only the figure representing the age. It is not necessary to write "inches" or "years." Patterns cannot reach you in less than one week from the date of order. The price of each pattern is 10 cents in cash or in postage stamps.

PATTERN DEPARTMENT,
LONDON ADVERTISER.

What Women Suffer

At All Ages They Need the Rich, Red Blood That Dr. Williams' Pink Pills Actually Make.

A woman needs medicine more than a man. Her organism is more complex, her system more delicate. Her health is disturbed regularly in the course of nature. If anything happens to interfere with that natural course she goes through unspeakable suffering. In fact, the health of every function and the health of every moment in a woman's life depend upon the richness and regularity of her blood supply. That is the simple scientific reason why Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are worth their weight in gold to women of all ages from early girlhood up—they actually make the rich, red blood all women need.

Mrs. Edwin Ward, Brooksdale, Ont., says: "For years I suffered from those ailments that make the lives of so many of my sex miserable. I would take weak spells and become so nervous that I could not go about. My stomach was out of order, and I frequently vomited the food I took. Headaches and backaches afflicted me nearly all the time. Then I took a severe cold, which settled on my lungs, and I went to an hospital for treatment. I had the best of care, but the doctors gave me little hope of recovery. My face and limbs became swollen and my system racked with a harsh, dry cough. As the doctors did not look hopefully upon my case, I decided to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. By the time I had taken half a dozen boxes there was a great change for the better. I still continued to take the pills until I had used thirteen boxes, and I am now enjoying perfect health. I have no hesitation in saying that I believe Dr. Williams' Pink Pills saved my life."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills cured Mrs. Ward by actually making the new blood her system needed. That is all Dr. Williams' Pink Pills do, but they do it well. They don't act on the bowels. They don't bother with mere symptoms. They go straight to the root of the trouble in the blood. That is why they cure all blood and nerve troubles like anaemia, female irregularities, indigestion, rheumatism, headaches and backaches, sciatica, nervous prostration and St. Vitus dance. Substitutes and imitations won't cure, purging medicines only make you worse, therefore you must get the genuine pills with the full name "Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People" on the wrapper around every box. Sold by all medicine dealers or by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for $2.50 from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

GOUIN'S MAJORITY IS THIRTY-FOUR

Bourassa Likely To Join Forces With the Conservatives—Opposition Gained Four.

Quebec, June 9.—It was not until last evening that the political enthusiasm, which seemed to have been kept in check throughout the entire day, while the actual polling was in progress, burst with an ardor which recalled strikingly the memorable days of the great Liberal victories of years ago. As fully anticipated, the Liberals secured an overwhelming majority, while the Conservatives gained several seats, and in the forthcoming Legislature will be numerically stronger than they have been for the past eight years. The darkening feature of the great Liberal triumph has been the defeat of Premier Gouin by Henri Bourassa, the French-Canadian patriot who gained such notoriety a few years ago by opposing the sending of Canadian troops to the Boer war. Bourassa's entry into the Quebec Legislature is certainly a triumphant one, defeating as he did the Premier himself, and is looked upon ominously by Government supporters throughout the province, as the Nationalist party, of which Bourassa is the chieftain, is directly opposed to the principles of the Gouin Administration. Although the Liberals have been humiliated in a measure by the defeat of Premier Gouin in Montreal, the Conservatives suffered a crushing blow through the vanquishing in the county of Dorchester of the Tory district leader, Hon. L. P. Pelletier.

Mr. Gouin will, nevertheless, continue for the time being to direct the destinies of the Liberal party in this province, for, doubting as he did the election in Montreal, he took the precaution to contest the seat for Portneuf, his native county, which he captured by a majority of over nine hundred. Political conjecture is rife here today as regards the personnel of the ministry, and it is believed that Hon. Mr. Turgeon, minister of crown lands, who was re-elected yesterday, will shortly resign to accept a Government post in Europe. According to rumor Premier Gouin will shortly disappear from the political horizon and will be succeeded by Hon. Alex. Taschereau, now minister of public works.

Majority of 34 Seats.

Mr. Gouin will either be elevated to a senatorship or a judgeship. The returns of yesterday's polling at present place the Opposition at fourteen, the Nationalists three and the Liberals fifty-one.

At St. Hyacinthe the vote was a tie, and the Liberal was elected by the vote of the returning officer. It is likely there will be a recount in three Quebec constituencies, St. Annes, St. Hyacinthe and Laval. It was thought that, owing to the close vote, a recount would be asked in St. James, but Premier Gouin stated this morning there would be no recount.

Bourassa to Lead.

"I am satisfied with the result," Bourassa said, "I expected to be returned, and by a somewhat larger majority than I actually got." With regard to his future plans, he had not a word to say. It is stated, however, that in all probability he will join forces with the Conservatives, as the defeat of Leblanc gives him an opportunity to get after the Opposition leadership.

QUEBEC BRIDGE FINANCES

Inquiry Resumed Before Special Committee of the Commons.

Ottawa, June 9.—The Quebec bridge inquiry was resumed this morning by the special committee, of which Mr. A. K. MacLean is the chairman.

Mr. F. D. Monk, who was responsible for the committee, continued the examination of Mr. Ulric Barthe, the secretary of the Quebec Bridge Company. Mr. Barthe produced the bank books of the company, and traced the cash which, under the agreement with the Government, was to be paid for stock before the Government would guarantee the bonds.

The books showed that, in addition to several smaller amounts, the following deposits were made in the Montreal and Molsons Bank to the credit of the bridge company.

Hugh Allen, check, $25,000 Hon. John Sharples, two checks, $50,000; Grand Trunk Railway, $25,000; Mr. P. D. Davis, $94,880. The smaller amounts include checks for $5,000 paid in by the directors in payment of stock. These checks were issued in 1902 by the company to the directors in payment of attendances at meeting. It was true that at the time the checks were issued no resolution providing for this remuneration had been passed.

Mr. Barthe explained that this was due to the fact that the date of the shareholders' meeting was postponed.

Mr. Monk elicited the information that payments have been made to directors as follows: 1901, $10,000, covering services during 1899, 1900; 1902, $5,000.

During 1901, 1903, $5,000. In 1904 the board of directors voted $5,000 themselves, having secured legal advice that it was entitled to do so.

Barthe could not say definitely that this was all the money paid to directors, but promised to prepare a statement which would include traveling expenses.

ON THE MARRIAGE DAY

Romance ceases and history begins and corns begin to go, too, when "Putnam's" is applied—it takes out roots, branch and stem. Nothing so, sure and painless as Putman's Corn and Wart Extractor. Try "Putnam's."

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup has been used for over THIRTY YEARS by MILLIONS OF MOTHERS for their CHILDREN WHILE TEETHING, with PERFECT SUCCESS. IT SOOTHES THE CHILD, SOFTENS THE GUMS, ALLAYS ALL PAIN, CURES WIND COLIC, and is the best remedy for diarrhea. Sold by druggists in every part of the world. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's."

The universal municipal suffrage bill passed its third reading in the Danish Landsthing 32 to 29.

Silk and Lisle Gloves

Wrist Lengths, 25c to 50c
Elbow Lengths, 50c to $1.50

ALL COLORS

What a comfort there is in a pair of Fine Lisle or Silk Gloves. And lots of style, too, for they fit without a wrinkle or a crease.

They come in most any color. All considered, they are ideal for warm weather wear, and fashion authorities predict them as the universal hand-clothing for this summer's wear.

EACH AND EVERY PAIR COMES FROM A MANUFACTURER NOTED FOR THE TRUSTWORTHINESS OF HIS OUTPUT.

Wrist-Length Gloves, selling at **25¢** and **50¢**, in brown, navy, white, cream, black.
Elbow-Length Gloves, in lisle, selling at **50¢, 75¢** and **$1.00**, in cream, gray, black.
Elbow-Length Gloves, in silk, selling at **75¢, $1.00, $1.25** and **$1.50**, in all colors.

Another of Those Early Morning Special Sales

SALE COMMENCES AT NINE A.M.

One hundred Ladies' White Cambric Nightdresses and Underskirts. Skirts beautifully trimmed with embroidery or lace. When bought in the regular way would sell from $1.50 to $2.00. Sale price $1.38

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Perrin's Biscuits

DAINTY DELICIOUS DIGESTIBLE

Baked to perfection and most easily assimilated

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Venetian Wafers —ABOUT 72 TO THE POUND

TRIED TO FIRE CHURCH

German Incendiaries Make Attempt on Famous Structure at Berlin.

Berlin, June 8.—An attempt was made yesterday to burn down the old St. Paul's Catholic Church at Moabit, belonging to the Dominicans, which was crowded with people assembled to hear a sermon by the famous Dominican monk, Bonaventuri. About 1,800 persons were present, including more than 1,000 women and children, to hear the minister.

Those in the church not knowing the extent of the fire fortunately did not realize their peril, and on the clergy's request made their exit rapidly and in an orderly manner.

The fire fighters discovered that nearly a dozen fire brands soaked with petroleum had been distributed about various parts of the roof. The flames were extinguished with difficulty after great damage had been done. The police suspect a gang of incendiaries, who, it is stated, set fire to the old Garrison Church which was destroyed on April 14 last. The foremen declare that only the coolness of the clergy today prevented a great disaster.

HUGHES MAY BE BALKED

May Not Secure a Second Vote on His Anti-Gambling Measure.

Albany, N. Y., June 9.—Precarious in the extreme is the condition of the Agnew-Hart bills, framed to carry out Gov. Hughes' recommendation for the abolition of the present legal protection of public gambling at race tracks. Gov. Hughes confidently expects that Senator Foelker, whose vote is apparently indispensable to the passage of the bills, and who has been absent from the extraordinary session hitherto by reason of an operation for appendicitis, will come to Albany tomorrow in time to repeat his vote for the bills should they reach that stage of progress.

The peril in which the measures stand tonight lies in the shortness of the time remaining before the hour of 2 p.m. on Thursday, when the leaders of both Houses intend to adjourn the extra session in order to start on Friday for Chicago to attend the Republican national convention.

So short is the time that well-managed obstruction in either Houses or both might well suffice to prevent the bills coming to a vote at all before adjournment.

The assembly committee on codes this evening voted 8 to 1 to report the bills favorably.

W. & L. E. NOTES PROTECTED

New York, N. Y., June 9.—E. T. Jeffery, who was intimately familiar with the various properties in the Gould system, said today:

"The $7,000,000 notes of the Wheeling and Lake Erie Railroad Company which mature on Aug. 1, will be protected, but just how this will be done has not been definitely decided. There are still nearly two months in which to act upon this matter."

Regarding the future of the Wheeling and Lake Erie and the Wabash-Pittsburg terminal, it may be stated in a general way that it has been decided by the directors of both these companies that the lines in the Gould system east of Toledo could be best developed through a reorganization. This will be brought about in due time, but will not be hurried."

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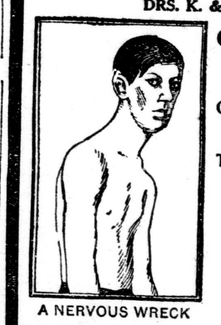

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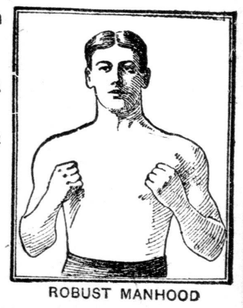

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We Guarantee to Cure all Curable Cases of Stricture, Varicocele, Nervous Debility, Blood Poisons, Vital Weaknesses, Kidney, Bladder and Urinary Diseases, and all Diseases Peculiar to Men and Women.

Don't waste your time and money on cheap, dangerous, experimental treatment. Don't increase at your own cost your sufferings by being experimented on with remedies which they claim to have just discovered. But come to us in confidence. We will treat you conscientiously, honestly and skillfully, and restore you to health in the shortest possible time with the least medicine, discomfort and expense practicable. Each case is treated as the symptoms indicate. Our New Method is original and has stood the test for twenty years.

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COWAN'S
PERFECTION
COCOA
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is good, morning, noon and night,—any time.

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Physicians will not permit Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria-Hungary to take part in a proposed pageant in honor of his diamond jubilee. His physical condition vetoes the project.

Feather Beds, Pillows and Mattresses renovated and sterilized; also manufacturers of Mattresses, Feather Pillows, Cushions and Spring Beds. Brass and Iron Beds, $3. Stoves, Furniture, Camp Beds, at the Feather Bed, Pillow and Mattress Cleaning Factory. J. F. HUNT & SONS, 593 Richmond street. Phone 997.