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Cleaning, Pressing, Dyeing and Repairing
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A Striking Watch

And How It Furnished a Detective a Clew

By RYLAND BELL

Being directed by the chief of the detective bureau with which I was connected to report to Mr. Oliver Ainsworth to investigate a case for him, I did so, and this was Mr. Ainsworth's statement:

"I live in a suburban town. My family consists of my wife, my son, Albert, twenty-two years old, and my daughter, Edith, aged twenty. Other persons come in from time to time, remaining temporarily. There are also the servants, consisting of a cook, housemaid and butler.

"For some time past we have been missing small articles, principally jewels. Only yesterday a brooch set with diamonds and worth $100 disappeared. I suppose in all $1,500 worth of property has been taken. I wish you to come into my house for a long enough stay to discover the thief. Your chief has recommended you as a person who would not be likely to be taken for a detective, you having been well brought up. He has told me also that you are very musical and play on several instruments. My daughter wishes to learn to play on the mandolin, and you can give her lessons. I shall introduce you as the son of an old and very dear friend of mine, giving out that you have met with bad luck and that I have taken you in for awhile until you can get on your feet again."

There was truth in the latter part of this statement. I had recently come from England to seek my fortune in America like others of my countrymen who are ready to do abroad what they would be too proud to do at home. I tried music, for which I have considerable taste, but after starving awhile in that field fell in with a detective, who secured me a position in the bureau with which he was connected. I think my chief recommendation was that, being a gentleman, I could play parts that would be impossible with an unpolished man.

This assignment with Mr. Ainsworth was my first in my new business, and I knew nothing about how to trap a thief. Persons who are ignorant of an important work they are expected to do are prone to look very wise and appear to be thinking very hard. I put on the semblance of the wisdom of Solomon, and when Mr. Ainsworth was about to tell me of any suspicions that were entertained I stopped him, saying that I always worked by method, pursuing my investigations step by step, and wished to avoid any preconceived notions that might lead me astray. This inspired the gentleman with great faith in me. I must trust to luck or my wits to bear out his confidence.

The story of my supposed impoverishment, which, as I have said, was in the main true, brought a very sympathetic reception from Miss Edith Ainsworth, and the fact that I was to teach her music foreshadowed that I would pass a season in clover. Under the influence of her beautiful eyes I felt that I could be a thief hunter for the rest of my days. I commenced the music lessons at once and was supposed to enter upon my investigations at the same time. Alas, I knew not where to begin! That part of my work which consisted in leading the family to think that I was the unfortunate son of a dear friend of its head I performed with great ease since it was natural to me. I was first cousin to an earl, and my father, having been born to the courtesy title of honorable, had never done a stroke of work in his life except garrison work, for he had been colonel of a regiment in the British army.

I spent a fortnight as a member of Mr. Ainsworth's family, and since I had not secured the slightest clew to the thief I felt it necessary to put on all the appearance of pursuing a deep laid plan of which I was capable. Mr. Ainsworth refrained from questioning me, which was lucky. Indeed, so engrossed was I with my lovely pupil that had a dozen clews been under my nose I would not have detected one of them. I wondered that he did not notice how matters were going between me and Edith, but if there is one thing I observed in my career of detective it is the stupidity of parents in failing to notice the incipient love affairs of their children.

After spending nearly three weeks pretending to be following a deep laid plan of investigation I began to be not only conscience stricken, but fearful that the humbug I was practicing would be discovered. To add to my worry I began to realize that the farce could not last forever and I must soon be separated from Edith. My cup of misery was filling up rapidly when luck came to me. I hit upon a clew.

Lying awake at night when all was still, I heard the distant sound of a chime. I wondered that I had never heard it before, but it was so faint that I would only be likely to detect it under the most favorable circumstances. There were two strokes, followed at an interval by three more. Then all was still again. Presently I heard it again. This time it was three strokes. While the chime was striking I lifted my head from the pillow to hear better and was surprised that I could not hear at all.

Since the sound seemed periodical I listened for it again, and in a quarter of an hour it was repeated, three strokes, followed by one. Struck by a thought, I reached out to a table beside me, lighted a match and looked at my watch. It was a quarter past 3. The sound I had heard was not a distant chime, but one very near, and it was in a watch. When the next time for it to strike came around I was lying on my back and did not hear it, but when it struck 3.45 my ear was on my pillow, and I heard every stroke.

"That," I said, "is a watch that may be made to strike the hour. It is in this house and possibly in this room."

In order to make it appear that I was investigating I had requested such change of rooms as was convenient. I had slept in this room two nights before I heard the chime, but each night there had been a strong wind. Besides, I had proved that unless my ear was connected with the watch by solids the chime was inaudible. Believing the watch to be in the room with me, a few minutes before it should strike again I got up and, pressing my ear against the wall, heard it distinctly. During the next hour I made several such experiments with a view to locating the sound, but without success.

Then it occurred to me that a watch must tick and if I could get near enough to it I might hear it. I walked slowly around the room, stopping at intervals to listen, and, drawing near a fireplace, the ticking grew more distinct. Thrusting my head up the chimney, I heard a watch tick near my ear. I was about to reach up to grasp it when a chime rang out fine, clear, melodious strokes.

I put my hand upon a narrow coping and took down what I could feel to be a brooch. Then I grasped other articles and finally a watch.

"Eureka!" I exclaimed, delighted.

Leaving the articles where I found them, I went back to bed, but not to sleep. Day soon came, and, rising, I examined the fireplace and found quite a lot of jewelry. I compared the pieces with a list of the lost articles and found that about two-thirds of them were on the coping.

What should be my next step? I had found the plunder—or most of it—but not the thief. And in this second part of my work I was as much at a loss how to proceed as I had been in the first place. But I felt comparatively easy. I had evidence that I was not another kind of thief in palming myself off as an investigator when I was really simply falling in love. I called Mr. Ainsworth into the library after breakfast and told him that I had made important headway in the case, having located a number of the missing articles. I intended to say no more; but, fearing that if left where they were the thief would remove them, I added that during the morning I would turn them over.

That morning when the postman delivered the mail I received a letter from England that obviated the necessity of my remaining in the detective business. The missive had been following me for some time and was covered with "Try this and try that place," indorsed by different postal officials. It announced that the cousin mentioned earlier in my narrative, a vigorous man of thirty, had broken his neck following the hounds, and since his wife had not presented him with an heir I was Earl of Barrowfield.

I called up my chief, reported the case so far as I had followed it and offered my resignation from his force on the ground that I had business of my own that demanded attention. Before Mr. Ainsworth went out for the day I told him where he would find the plunder I had discovered and made a clean breast of the fact that I had learned where it was, not by a deep laid and methodical process, but by accident, and declined to receive any pay for my services or to permit any charge to be made by the bureau I represented.

Mr. Ainsworth declined to accept my services either as detective or as his daughter's music teacher. After arguing with him for awhile I showed him the letter I had received that morning changing my condition from a detective to a nobleman.

"While I am not the son of an old friend of yours," I said, "I am or at least have been in forlorn circumstances. I am your debtor, not you mine, since I have received every kindness at the hands of your family."

It was agreed between us that it would be better to inform the members of his family that I was not the son of his old friend, but that in considering me a gentleman they had not been deceived. Mrs. Ainsworth was informed first that the bulk of her lost property had been recovered, that I had come into the house as a detective and was going out a nobleman. From her the news spread to the other members of the family.

Miss Edith did not seem to know whether to be glad or sorry at the turn events had taken. I saw sincerity in her eyes when she expressed her regret that her music lessons must cease and said that she supposed the episode of my being there must end and she would never see me again. I assured her that an acquaintance so pleasantly formed would not be suffered by me to come to an end.

I went to Europe and discovered that the estate to which I had fallen heir needed attention. Nevertheless I found my thoughts constantly wandering back to America. And what drew them most forcibly was the young lady whom I had taught music while playing detective.

I never took sufficient interest to inquire whether the balance of the jewelry was discovered or the thief run down. Later I returned from England and took back Edith Ainsworth for my wife. As a wedding memento her father presented me with the striking watch that led to the recovery of the plunder, and I had engraved upon it an appropriate inscription.

Help for Asthma. Neglect gives asthma a great advantage. The trouble, once it has secured a foothold, fastens its grip on the bronchial passages tenaciously. Dr. J. D. Kellogg's Asthma Remedy is daily curing cases of asthma of long standing. Years of suffering, however, might have been prevented had the remedy been used when the trouble was in its first stages. Do not neglect asthma, but use this preparation at once.

"The Mystery of Agatha Webb"

By KATHARINE GREEN

Copyright, 1900, by Katharine Green

"Ah, and so making them your own," quoth Sweetwater, stung by the sarcasm in that word fiddler.

But with a suavity against which every attack fell powerless she met his significant look with one fully as significant and quickly said:

"If I had wanted the money for myself, I would not have risked leaving it where the murderer could find it by a bunch of sodden leaves. No, I had another motive for my action, a motive with which few, if any, of you will be willing to credit me. I wished to save the murderer, whom I had some reason, as you see, for thinking I knew, from the consequences of his own action."

Mr. Courtney, Dr. Talbot and even Mr. Sutherland, who naturally believed she referred to Zabel and who, one and all, had a lingering tenderness for this unfortunate old man which not even this seeming act of madness on his part could quite destroy, felt a species of reaction at this and surveyed the singular being before them with perhaps the slightest shade of relenting in their severity. Sweetwater alone betrayed restlessness, Knapp showed no feeling at all, while Frederick looked like one petrified and moved neither hand nor foot.

"Crime that is the outcome of forethought is despicable," she went on, with a deliberateness so hard that the more susceptible of her auditors shuddered. "But crime that springs from some imperative and overpowering necessity of the mind or body might well awaken sympathy, and I am not ashamed of having been sorry for this frenzied and suffering man. Weak and impulsive as you may consider me, I did not want him to suffer on account of a moment's madness, as he undoubtedly would if he were ever found with this money in his possession, so I plunged it deeper into the soil and trusted to the confusion which crime always awakens even in the strongest mind for him not to discover my subterfuge."

"Ha! Wonderfull Devilish subtle, eh? Clever, too clever!" were some of the whispered exclamations which this curious explanation on her part brought out. Yet only Sweetwater showed his open and entire disbelief of the story, the others possibly remembering that for such natures as hers there is no governing law and no commonplace interpretation.

To Sweetwater, however, this was but so much display of feminine resource and subtlety. Though he felt he should keep still in the presence of men so greatly his superiors, he could not resist saying:

"Truth is sometimes stranger than fiction. I should never have attributed any such motive as you mention to the young girl I saw leaving this spot with many a backward look at the hole from which we afterward extracted the large sum of money in question. But say that this reburying of stolen funds was out of consideration for the feeble old man you describe as having carried them there, do you not see that by this act you can be held as an accessory after the fact?"

Her eyebrows went up, and the delicate curve of her lips was not without menace as she said:

"You hate me, Mr. Sweetwater. Do you wish me to tell these gentlemen why?"

The flush which, notwithstanding this peculiar young man's nerve, instantly crimsoned his features was a surprise to Frederick. So was it to the others, who saw in it a possible hint as to the real cause of his persistent pursuit of this young girl, which they had hitherto ascribed entirely to his love of justice. Slighted love makes some bearts venomous. Could this ungainly fellow have once loved this bewitching piece of unreliability and suffered from her disdain?

It was a very possible assumption, though Sweetwater's blush was the only answer he gave to her question, which nevertheless had amply served its turn.

To fill the gap made by his silence Mr. Sutherland made an effort and addressed her himself.

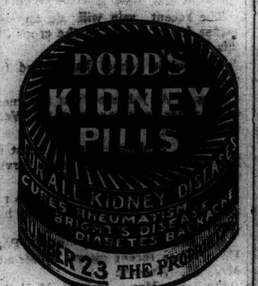
"Your conduct," said he, "has not been that of a strictly honorable person. Why did you fail to give the alarm when you re-entered my house after being witness to this double tragedy?"

Her serenity was not to be disturbed.

"I have just explained," she reminded him, "that I had sympathy for the criminal."

"We all have sympathy for James Zabel, but"—

(To be continued).



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Always bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher

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New Household Furniture.

S. P. Pitcher and Son, Auctioneers, will sell by public auction at the corner of St. Paul and Bowes Avenue, Thursday July 3rd.

Parlor— 3 piece parlor suite, (silk cover) Quarter cut oak centre table, easy rocker, rug, hall rack, oilcloth.

Diningroom — Sideboard, extension table, 6 diningroom chairs, couch, go-cart, rug.

Kitchen— Coal range, gas plate, oven, kitchen table, 4 chairs, set of dishes, (97 pieces) kitchen cabinet.

Contents of 3 bedrooms, 3 dressers, 3 iron beds, springs and mattresses, 3 woollen carpets, 3 toilet sets, curtains, blinds, poles, pictures, etc.

Remember the day, Thursday, July 3rd. Take Holmedale car to St. Paul. Ave.

Terms—Cash.

S. P. Pitcher,
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Quality, Variety, Good Values
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DEPARTMENT OF MILITIA AND DEFENCE
New Drill Hall at Simcoe, Ont.
NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

SEALED TENDERS, marked on the envelope "Tender for Construction of a Drill Hall at Simcoe, Ont.," and addressed to the Director of Contracts, Department of Militia and Defence, Ottawa, will be received until noon, July 7th, 1913, for the construction of a new Drill Hall at Simcoe, Ont.

Specifications may be seen and full particulars obtained at the offices of the Officer Commanding the 2nd Division, Toronto, the Town Clerk, Simcoe, Ont., and the Director of Engineer Services, Headquarters, Ottawa.

Tenders must be made on the form supplied by the Department and accompanied by an accepted cheque on a Canadian Chartered Bank, for ten (10 p.c.) per cent. of the amount of the tender, payable to the order of the Honourable the Minister of Militia and Defence, which amount will be forfeited if the party tendering declines to enter into or fails to complete the contract in accordance with his tender.

The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

EUGENE FISET, Colonel,
Deputy Minister.
Department of Militia and Defence,
Ottawa, June 17, 1913.

Newspapers will not be paid if this advertisement is inserted without authority from the Department.
H.Q. 14-85-8.—43816.

MAIL CONTRACT

SEALED TENDERS addressed to the Postmaster-General will be received at Ottawa until noon on Friday, the 8th Aug., 1913, for the conveyance of His Majesty's Mails on a proposed contract for four years, six times per week, over Rural Mail Route from Tuscarora (Special), (Co. of Brant), from the Postmaster-General's pleasure next.

Printed notices containing further information as to conditions of proposed contract may be seen and blank forms of tender may be obtained at the Post Office of Tuscarora and at the office of the Post Office Inspector at London.

G. C. ANDERSON,
Superintendent.
Post Office Department.
Mail Service Branch.
Ottawa, 23rd June, 1913.

CITY AXES, 1913

NOTICE is hereby given that payment for 1913, according to the Collector's notice, may be made to the Collector or City Treasurer at his office any time on or before July 5th. In case the first instalment is not paid by that time, five per cent. will be added to the instalment then due, and the whole amount of the tax (both instalments) may be collected at once by distress or sale. Persons who pay both instalments on or before the said 5th of July will be allowed the per cent. discount of the amount of the last instalment. Those who pay the first instalment on time will be allowed until the 5th of October (the 5th being Sunday) to pay the second instalment, if not then paid, five per cent. will be added. The Treasurer cannot receive the taxes unless the Collector's notice is brought. Persons entitled to pay taxes, and who have not received the notice will please notify the Collector at once, as duplicates cannot be furnished in the last days of collection.

ARTHUR K. BUNNELL

Electric Restorer for Men
Phosphonol restores every nerve in the body to its proper tension, restores vim and vitality. Premature decay and all sexual weakness averted at once. Phosphonol will make you a new man. Price $3 a box, or two for $5. Mailed to any address. The Scobell Drug Co., St. Catharines, Ont.

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Why go away to keep cool? You have only to buy one of our Electric Fans. They are guaranteed to do the work.

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Get our prices on electric wiring!

F. WEBSTER
211 Colborne St.

J. T. Burrows
CARTER and TEAMSTER
REMOVED TO
226 - 236 West Street

On and after April First my office and stables will be situated at the above address. I am now in a better position than ever to handle all kinds of carting and teaming.

If you require any Carting, Teaming, Storage, Moving Vans, Pianos Moved, Sand, Gravel, or Cellars Excavated place your order with me and you will be sure of a good job done promptly.

J. T. BURROWS
Phone 365 *Brantford*

Use Mann's Coal
ESTABLISHED John Mann & Sons 1856
We Have Plenty of Coal Have You?

WATER WORKS NOTICE!

HOURS FOR SPRINKLING LAWNS

No person or persons shall be allowed to sprinkle, or use in any manner whatsoever, the water supplied by the Board of Water Commissioners upon Lawns, Gardens, Yards or Grounds of any description, except between the hours of six and eight-thirty o'clock p.m., on Lawns up to and including 5000 square feet; on Lawns over that amount, from five to eight-thirty o'clock p.m., and any person wishing to use the water on their Lawns or Gardens in the morning in place of the evening may do so between the hours of six and eight o'clock a.m., by giving notice to that effect in writing to the Secretary.

It must, however, be clearly understood that the water cannot be used on Lawns or Grounds both morning and evening.

FRED W. FRANK, Secretary.
Water Commissioners' Office.
Brantford, June 14, 1913

SYNOPSIS OF CANADIAN NORTH-WEST LAND REGULATIONS

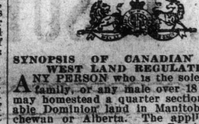
ANY PERSON who is the sole head of a family, or any male over 18 years old, may homestead a quarter section of available Dominion land in Manitoba, Saskatchewan or Alberta. The applicant must appear in person at the Dominion Land Agency or Sub-Agency for the District. Entry by proxy may be made at any agency on certain conditions, by father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister of intending homesteader.

Duties—Six months' residence upon and cultivation of the land in each of three years. A homesteader may live within nine miles of his homestead on a farm of at least 80 acres, solely owned and occupied by him or by his father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister.

In certain districts a homesteader in good standing may pre-empt a quarter-section alongside his homestead. Price $3.00 per acre. Duties—Must reside upon the homestead or pre-emption six months in each of six years from date of homestead entry (including the time required to earn homestead patent), and cultivate 50 acres extra.

A homesteader who has exhausted his homestead right, and cannot obtain a pre-emption may enter for a purchased homestead in certain districts, price $3.00 per acre. Duties—Must reside six months in each of three years, cultivate 50 acres and erect a house worth $300.00.

W. W. CORY,
Deputy of Minister of the Interior.
N.B.—Unauthorized publication of this advertisement will not be paid for.



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