

"SHE THAT HESITATES"

BY HARRIS DICKSON.

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sped as the offhand of Navarre. "Tray be seated, monsieur," Von Goertz invited. "Adolph kept his feet. "Shall I retire, monsieur?" Von Goertz motioned him to a chair. "This is a magnificent animal you have, monsieur," he said, snapping a finger at the dog. But the dog did not stir. "Yes, my lord, Stuart is a good dog," D'Aubant smiled in reply, "and he only associates with such persons as meet my approval. See if you can call him as you."

The chancellor exhausted his blandishments on Stuart, who regarded him with impregnable reserve and dignity. D'Aubant laughed with the unaffected pleasure of a man that loves to praise his dog.

"You see he will not come," the Frenchman rose and took the chancellor impressively by the hand. "Friends, Stuart, friends, he said, the dog walked soberly to the older man, wagged his tail in the most amiable way, and held up a paw to be shaken. The chancellor took it courteously, whereupon Stuart sniffed round him to make sure he would keep him again, then resumed his post at D'Aubant's feet.

Von Goertz had little time to play with dogs, but he made it a rule to talk first upon trivial matters with those men whom he might afterward be called upon to trust. The chancellor gave Stuart and other gentle pats, then, having established friendly personal relations with D'Aubant, began.

"Monsieur D'Aubant, has my nephew told you of our business?"

"Nothing whatever, I understood it to be an affair in which he was personally concerned."

"Then I must begin at the beginning. My nephew reposes great confidence in you, Monsieur D'Aubant, and I have imbibed some of that confidence myself from your appearance and manner. Nay, do not, how your acknowledgment—we must lay aside formality in business dealings. Sweden has a delicate piece of work to be done. You may perhaps wonder at my intrusting it to a stranger, but no Swede could manage it successfully."

D'Aubant sat, politely attentive, leaning in an easy attitude against the table. There was a directness in his steady blue eyes which justified the confidence of a judge of men less acute than this keen old northern fox.

"Have you any enterprise on foot, monsieur, which might prevent your serving us for a time?"

"I am blessed with a superabundance of time, in fact, I have little else but time—and curiosity."

"Are you attached to any army or bound by any ties which might conflict?"

D'Aubant laughed musically. "My ties are with me, my lord," he pointed to the dogs.

"You have been an officer in Peter's regiment, the Frigorajenski, the chancellor stated; "do you owe him any allegiance?"

"None. I admire the man in a way, but I owe him no duty. I served him, he paid me, I resigned; my pay stopped. There's the end of it."

The chancellor nodded a moment. "There is only one way, to tell you the whole situation and ask your help. You have been in the employ of the crown, an observer of political events for the past few years."

D'Aubant nodded. "You know something, then, of the condition of Sweden?"

"You know your king is absent?"

"Absent is a relative word," D'Aubant smiled as he alluded to the captivity of King Olof.

"And our enemies are now seeking to ally the Germans with the Russians by marrying the son of Peter to Princess Charlotte of Brunswick."

"I had heard," interrupted D'Aubant, "that she was destined to be the bride of your own king." The chancellor winced.

"Our king's marriage has been deferred. Before that, before the Russian fleet was driven from the Baltic, the Russian Emperor did have such an agreement, but now Brunswick doubts. Russia, the stronger power, and a woman, Alexis, the son of Charles."

"Quite a difference between the two," remarked D'Aubant thoughtfully. "Yes, for the day of Charles—madman though they call him—has seen his downfall. The like of that boundless stripping does not live on the face of this earth."

The old chancellor bowed his gray head at the very mention of his glorious master's name.

"Amend to that," responded D'Aubant; "he is without equal as a soldier. I was with the Russians at Narva, and at Pultowa."

"The old man's words came quick and clear, and there was in them a touch of that fire which made him dreaded."

"We must prevent this Russian marriage. Ordinary might say extraordinary—diplomatic method have failed. Alexis will go to Brunswick in a few months. It is not known whether the Princess Charlotte will accept him; she has a head of her own, and is not always to be coerced by her kinsmen. My nephew now suggests that we send some young man to Brunswick. We have friends there who can bring him close to the king. He must engage her attention, and make her refuse the Russian. From all accounts she is a woman, Alexis is a stubborn temper, quite capable of following her own inclination. She has lived a dull and stupid life there in the mountains, has never had any love affairs of which we can hear. Possibly such a plan as this might result in at least deferring her marriage until our king returns. With him once free, and at the head of his veterans, we will force Brunswick to change her mind."

D'Aubant was thinking, thinking fast; here was a new sort of business on which to summon him from Sweden. "Really," he said, half aloud, "it promises a rare adventure. Now, will you please state precisely what you desire me to do?"

"Go to Brunswick; fall in love with this girl—or make her believe it, which is quite the same thing. Throw a spice of romance into her humdrum life. Fascinate her in every way possible—she is only seventeen; you have travelled, she has seen nothing. You could make your self very agreeable at that dismal little court. There's no knowing what may come of it—even a gain of time would be a great advantage."

"You're right," ejaculated D'Aubant; "with a seventeen-year-old girl, who has never had a lover, even a crack-brained scheme like this might bear fruit; but I warrant it will not be such as you expect."

"And now," asked the old chancellor, for he could see by the smile about his lips that D'Aubant would undertake it. "If you do this for us you can name any reasonable return."

"Really," D'Aubant laughed unaffectedly, "I scarcely know the pay of soldiers in a woman's war. I have fought in the bosom, but not for hire—as to the price, I have generally had to do the paying. But this campaign looks out other attractions than the gain. Have you seen this lady?"

"I have."

"What does she look like? Has she the proper complement of natural lines, is she hump-backed and red-headed, or a fierce complexion and violent manners?"

His was a strident voice like a man with a skirt on. D'Aubant went on laughing, but not for long—as to the price, I have generally had to do the paying. But this campaign looks out other attractions than the gain. Have you seen this lady?"

"None of these; she is seventeen, above medium height, not strictly beautiful, but graceful, winning, and exceedingly attractive, with great gray eyes and broad brow, a magnificent horse-woman, and—"

"A dangerous quarry," D'Aubant continued, laughing; "but I have an intimate friend at Brunswick, who could probably help."

"May I inquire who is your good friend?" asked the chancellor; "you see we must be cautious."

"Certainly; it is the young Count Kuno Von Sorre formerly of the Sorre family. Von Goertz chuckled and assented. "Yes, you will undoubtedly find Von Sorre willing to help."

"You know him, then?" D'Aubant asked.

To be continued.

IT IS IMPORTANT

To Know What You Are Taking When Using Catarrh Medicines.

Catarrh is the short route to consumption, and the importance of early and judicious treatment of catarrh, whether located in the head, throat or bladder, cannot be too strongly emphasized.

The list of catarrh cures is as long as the moral law and the forms in which they are administered, numerous and confusing, from sprays, injections, washes, and various preparations, to powders, liquids and tablets.

The tablet form is undoubtedly the most convenient and most effective, with nearly all advertised catarrh remedies it is almost entirely a matter of guess work as to what you are taking into your system, the proprietors, while making all sorts of claims as to what their medicines will do, always keep it a close secret as to what they are.

The success and popularity of the new catarrh cure, Stuart's Catarrh Tablets, is largely because it not only cures catarrh but because catarrh sufferers who used these tablets know what they are taking into their systems. Stuart's Catarrh Tablets being composed of Red Gum, Blood Root and similar valuable and antiseptic ingredients, are pleasant to the taste and being dissolved in the mouth they take immediate effect upon the mucous lining of the throat, nasal passages and whole respiratory tract.

The cures that Stuart's Catarrh Tablets have accomplished in old chronic cases of catarrh are little short of miraculous. The tablets, when used as directed, have been frequently contracted as the result of using secret catarrh remedies.

Stuart's Catarrh Tablets meet with cordial approval from physicians, because their antiseptic character renders them perfectly safe for the general public to use and their composition makes them a common sense cure for all forms of catarrh.

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WOULD IMPROVE WEST LONDON

Breakwater May be Turned Into Fine Driveway and Boulevard

It is not improbable that the breakwater question that is now so largely interesting residents in West London may be settled in a manner that would not only prove a proper bulwark against future floods but would greatly improve that portion of the city. The proposal is to make a breakwater of solid earth, properly faced, and perhaps fifty feet wide at the top. This breakwater would be levelled off and planted with trees, sodded down and laid out in part as a driveway. The idea then is that house properties near the breakwater could be faced about so as to overlook the driveway and river, the result being that what is now largely an eyesore would be turned into a place of beauty and a vast improvement to the adjacent property.

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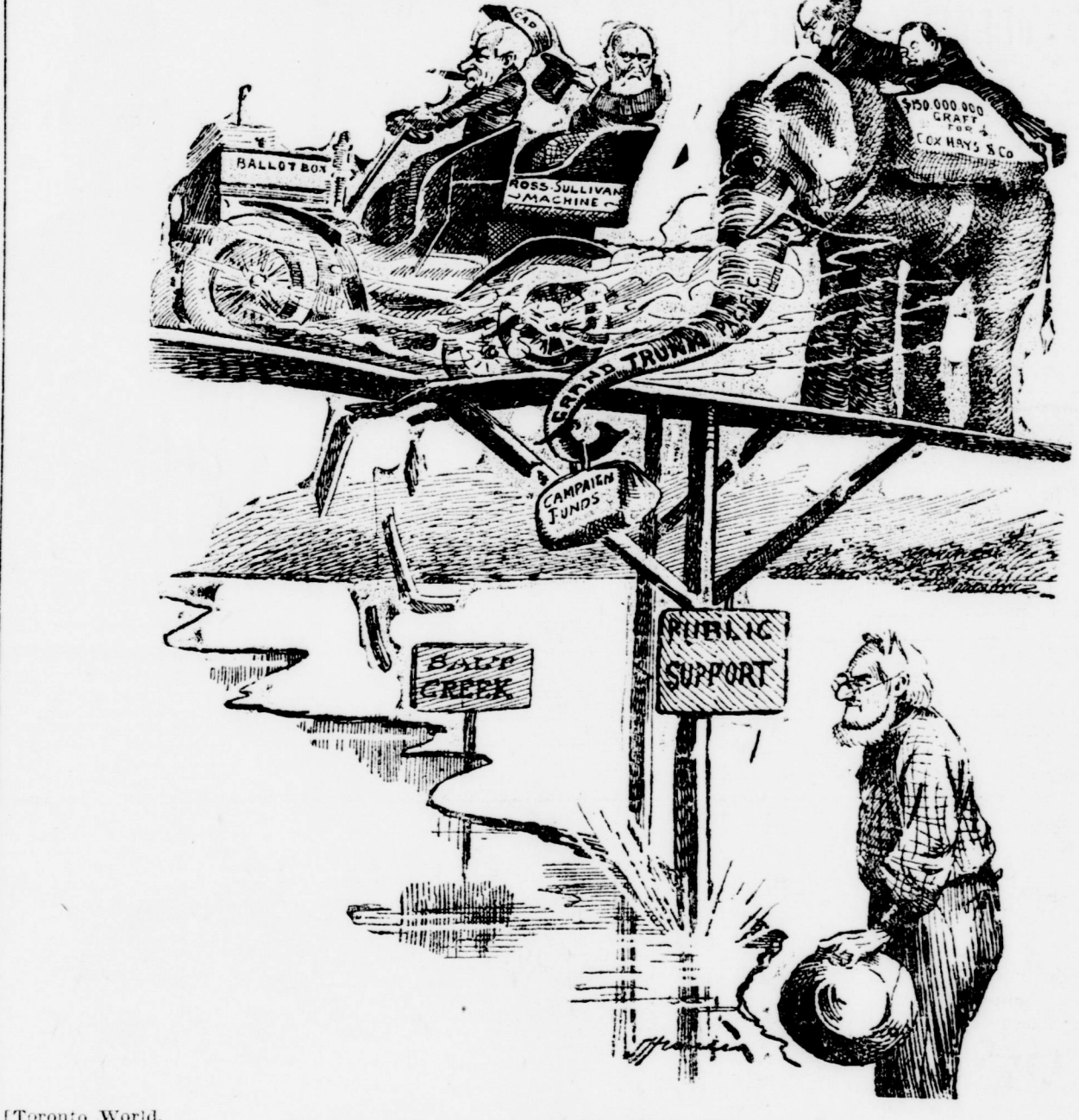
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"Comfort" Heels give uniformly good wear

Mr. Elson Well Received.

Mr. Elson, the candidate, was accorded a tremendous ovation upon rising. He told his audience that he had two great political parties in this country, and that the best way to draw a comparison of the relative qualities of the two was to review the actions of the two parties while in power. During the McKenzie Government, Mr. Elson pointed out, times were extremely hard and yet the Government was sent to power. Under the Conservative Government the country prospered, down villages sprang up and the people were happy and contented. During the time the Conservatives were in power the Liberals were always objecting to the expenditures. They said the expenditure of 38 millions yearly was unjustifiable, and promised, if elected to power, to lop off at least six millions

THE BRIDGE WILL NOT STAND FOR IT



Old Man Ontario:—I Think Somethin's Agoin' to Drop.

BIG RECEPTION TO MR. ELSON

Conservative Candidate at Lambeth

P. H. BARTLETT ON THE G. T. P.

Strong Denunciation of the Government's Stand on the Railroad and Tariff Questions.

Perhaps the most enthusiastic meeting ever held by the Conservative party in the township of Westminster was that of Saturday evening in the Masonic Hall, Lambeth, in the interests of Mr. Peter Elson, the Liberal-Conservative candidate for East Middlesex. Every seat in the hall was occupied, and the hall was filled with Conservatives who for years have fought the battles of the party in and out of the House of Commons.

The speaker, Mr. Elson, was a man of middle age, with a strong, manly face, and a voice of great power. He was dressed in a dark suit, and wore a white shirt and a dark tie. He stood at a table, and addressed the audience with great energy and enthusiasm.

He began by welcoming the audience, and then proceeded to speak of the importance of the election. He said that the election was a great test of the Conservative party, and that the result would determine the future of the country.

He then spoke of the Government's stand on the railroad and tariff questions. He said that the Government was doing wrong, and that the Conservative party was the only party that was doing right.

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