

The MYSTERY

By Stewart Edward White
And Samuel Hopkins Adams

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[CONTINUED.]

take enough stock in my report to tell me to withhold anything," said Edwards, with a trace of bitterness in his voice. "It's nothing that I believe myself, anyhow."

"Give us a chance to believe it," said Ives.

"Well," said the ensign hesitantly, "there's a sort of atmosphere about that schooner that's almost uncanny."

"Oh, you had the shudders before you were ordered to board," bantered Ives.

"I know it. I'd have thought it was one of those fool presentiments if I were the only one to feel it. But the men were affected too. They kept together, like frightened sheep. And I heard one say to another, 'Hey, Boney, d'you feel like some one was a-buzzin' your nerves like a fiddle string?' Now," demanded Edwards plaintively, "what right has a jackle to have nerves?"

"That's strange enough about the compass," said Barnett slowly. "Ours is all right again. The schooner must have been so near the electric disturbance that her instruments were permanently deranged."

"That would lend weight to the volcanic theory," said Carter.

"So the captain didn't take kindly to your go-look-see?" questioned Ives of Edwards.

"As good as told me I'd missed the point of the thing," said the ensign, flushing. "Perhaps he can make more of it himself. At any rate he's going to try. Here he is now."

"Dr. Trendon," said the captain, appearing. "You will please to go with me to the schooner."

"Yes, sir," said the surgeon, rising from his chair with such alacrity as to draw from Ives the sarcastic comment:

"Why, I actually believe old Trendon is excited."

For two hours after the departure of the captain and Trendon there were dull times on the quarter deck of the Wolverine. Then the surgeon came back to them.

"Billy was right," he said.

"But he didn't tell us anything!" cried Ives. "He didn't clear up the mystery."

"That's what," said Trendon. "One thing Billy said," he added, waxing unusually profuse for him, "was truer than maybe he knew."

"Thanks," murmured the ensign.

"What was that?"

"You said 'Not a living being aboard.' Exact words, hey?"

"Well, what of it?" exclaimed the ensign excitedly. "You don't mean you found dead?"

"Keep your temperature down, my boy. No, you were exactly right. Not a living being aboard."

"Thanks for nothing," retorted the ensign.

"Neither human nor other," pursued Trendon.

"What?"

"Food scattered around the galley. Crumbs on the mess table. Ever see a wooden ship without cockroaches?"



"Dr. Trendon, you will please to go with me to the schooner."

"Never particularly investigated the matter."

"Don't believe such a thing exists," said Ives.

"Not a cockroach on the Laughing Lass. Ever know of an old hooker that wasn't overrun with rats?"

"No, nor any one else. Not above water."

"Found a dozen dead rats. No sound or sign of a live one on the Laughing Lass. No rats, no mice, no bugs. Gentlemen, the Laughing Lass is a charnel ship."

"No wonder Billy's tender nerves went wrong," said Ives, with irrepressible flippancy. "She's probably haunted by cockroach wraiths."

"He'll have a chance to see," said Trendon. "Captain's going to put him in charge."

"I way of apology, then," said Ives.

"That's pretty square."

"Captain Parkinson wishes to see you in his cabin. Mr. Edwards," said an orderly, coming in.

"A pleasant voyage, Captain Billy," said Ives. "Sing out if the goblins get yer."

Fifteen minutes later Ensign Edwards, with a quartermaster, Timmins, the boat's mate and a crew, was heading a straight course toward his first command, with instructions to "keep company and watch for signals," and intention to break into the brass bound chest and ferret out what clev lay there if it took dynamite. As he boarded Barnett and Trendon, with both of whom the lad was a favorite, came to a sinister conclusion.

"It's poison, I suppose," said the first officer.

"And a mighty subtle sort," agreed Trendon. "Don't like the looks of it." He shook a solemn head.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, SS. LUCAS COUNTY

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the city of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of One Hundred Dollars for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of Hall's Catarrh Cure. FRANK J. CHENEY.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1886.

(Seal.) A. W. GLEASON, Notary Public.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials free.

F. J. CHENEY & Co., Toledo, O. Sold by all druggists, 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

REPRIEVED ON GALLOWES.

Negro Had Just Delivered His Farewell Speech When News Came.

Greensboro, N. C., Feb. 11.—Frazier Jones, a negro, condemned to be hung here Saturday for wife murder, was reprieved at the last moment by Governor Glenn for ten days.

Great pressure had been brought to bear on the governor for a commutation of life imprisonment a month ago and the date in January was extended to Feb. 8.

Jones was perfectly resigned to die, and had delivered his farewell to the world when the sheriff received a phone message at the last moment which delayed the execution ten days.

Jones upon being told of this, exclaimed: "God is working for me," and collapsed.

His coffin was taken back to the undertaker's.

RIVAL TO MONTE CARLO.

London Hotel Syndicate Is Negotiating for Concessions at Madeira.

Lisbon, Feb. 11.—A London hotel syndicate, of which M. Ritz is the head, is negotiating with the Portuguese government for a concession at Madeira which will enable them to establish luxuriously appointed casinos as a rival to those at Monte Carlo, as well as new hotels and other improvements.

The syndicate is understood to be willing to pay the claim of \$2,500,000 demanded by Germany as indemnity for Prince Hohenlohe's syndicate, which acquired certain rights in Madeira from Portugal, but which was afterwards refused a gambling license.

Blue Laws Are Modified.

Birmingham, Ala., Feb. 11.—The blue laws, which have been so rigidly enforced in Birmingham for several weeks were in a measure modified on Saturday by a decision of Judge Weaver of the criminal court. He ruled that the law against Sunday golf playing is unconstitutional because of defects in the way it is drawn. The decision is the result of a friendly test suit brought by members of the Birmingham Country club.

Four Entries for Mayoralty.

Rome, Ga., Feb. 11.—Saturday was the last day for the entry of candidates for mayor and councilmen in the primary which occurs on the 18th instant. Four candidates, three of them with full aldermanic tickets, have qualified, and are in the race. This makes the most unique municipal contest in the history of Rome. Never before have there been four candidates for mayor in a city election.

Shot by Brother-in-Law.

Birmingham, Ala., Feb. 11.—Chas. Knight was shot and dangerously injured by his brother-in-law, Sam Morrison, at Bessemer Saturday. Knight had just stepped from a street car when fired upon, and several shots were exchanged. Family differences are said to have caused the trouble.

Reason Enthroned.

Because meats are so tasty they are consumed in great excess. This leads to stomach troubles, biliousness and constipation. Revise your diet, let reason and not a pampered appetite control, then take a few doses of Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets and you will soon be well again. Try it. For sale at O. L. Erwin's, Rosman, N. C. Samples free.

TO FORM FAIR CIRCUIT.

North Georgia Counties All Much Interested in the Prospect.

Calhoun, Ga., Feb. 11.—Efforts are being made to form a north Georgia fair circuit with the following fairs and dates:

Northwest Georgia fair, Chickamauga, Ga., Oct. 6-10.

Whitfield County fair, Dalton, Ga., Oct. 13-17.

Gordon County fair, Cedartown, Ga., Oct. 20-24.

Polk County fair, Cedartown, Ga., Oct. 27-31.

Gordon County fair, Calhoun, Ga., Oct. 20-24.

By arranging the circuit better attractions can be secured and the fairs all along the line be benefited.

A force of hands has been at work on the fair grounds here for some time. A boulevard has been built around the grounds by United States road experts and the grounds thoroughly drained.

The baseball grounds are being rebuilt and lumber is being placed for the new grandstand.

The fair next fall promises to be the best one ever held in this county. Large premiums will be offered and a poultry building added.

LOCAL OPTION CONTINUES.

South Carolina Senate Kills Prohibition Measure.

Columbia, S. C., Feb. 11.—Perhaps the most important matter acted upon by the state senate during the week was the killing of the prohibition bill by a vote of 24 to 13, thus insuring the continuance of the county dispensary system, or local option law, known as the Carey-Cothran act, for at least another year. Prohibition had previously met defeat in the house by a vote of 62 to 51. There is, however, a proposition to submit the question of prohibition to the people in the primary next summer, a resolution to this effect having already been adopted in the senate. It is now up to the house and will be considered early next week.

Another important matter that the senate has acted upon is a bill providing for a limitation of the hours of work of railroad employees. As adopted the measure is practically the same as the newly enacted federal law, which provides that railroad employees shall not work more than sixteen hours out of twenty-four.

Will Soon Return Home.

New Orleans, La., Feb. 7.—It was announced here Friday that Cardinal Gibbons, who is paying his annual visit to this city, will leave here on his return home Feb. 13, arriving in Baltimore Feb. 15. Efforts were made to induce the cardinal to remain here until after the mardi gras festivities were over, but it was found impossible for him to accept the invitation. Before his departure, however, he will figure prominently on many occasions other than those identified with his church.

Neighborhood Favorite.

Mrs. E. D. Charles, of Harbor, Maine, speaking of Electric Bitters, says: "It is a neighborhood favorite here with us." It deserves to be a favorite everywhere. It gives quick relief in dyspepsia, liver complaint, kidney derangement, malnutrition, nervousness, weakness and general debility. Its action on the blood, as a thorough purifier makes it especially useful as a spring medicine. This grand alterative tonic is sold under guarantee at T. B. Allison's drug store, 50c.

\$40,000 Fire at Clinton.

New Orleans, La., Feb. 8.—A fire at Clinton, in East Feliciana Parish, Louisiana, Friday destroyed \$40,000 worth of property. The fire originated in a grocery store, and besides that building, an office building, meat market, drug store, three residences and the Belmont hotel were destroyed.

Sentenced to Twenty Years.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Feb. 8.—Roy Hale, at Bristol, Tenn., was Friday morning sentenced to a term of twenty years in the penitentiary for the murder of Irby Davis, brother of Lily Davis, for whose murder Ack Hale is awaiting trial at Johnson City, Tenn.

Ask Yourself the Question.

Why not use Chamberlain's Pain Balm when you have rheumatism? We feel sure that the result will be prompt and satisfactory. One application relieves the pain, and many have been permanently cured by its use. 25 and 50 cent sizes. For sale by O. L. Erwin, Rosman, N. C.

Mrs. Lapsling was exhibiting to the caller the latest addition to her stock of household remedies.

"I have a good deal of faith in this medicine," she averred. "I got it from the hypochondriac himself, and he said he'd never known it to fail."—Chicago Tribune.

For That Terrible Itching.

Eczema, tetter and salt rheum keep their victims in perpetual torment. The application of Chamberlain's Salve will instantly allay this itching, and many cases have been cured by its use. For sale by O. L. Erwin, Rosman, N. C.

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