All at Sea

by Carolyn Wells

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WHAT HAS GONE BEFORE

From the veranda of the Hotel Majusaca, at Ocean Town, N. J., Titus Riggs, a guest, sees a man taken from the ocean and laid on the beach while a crowd gathers to stare.

The reader has been introduced to these bathers:

Ned Barron, the copper king, and his wife, Madeline; Angelica Fair and her fiance, Robin Sears; Robin's father, Croydon Sears; Carmelita Valdon and her companions, Roger Neville, Garrett Folsom and Mrs. Barnaby, whom everyone calls the Duchess.

Riggs surmises that the man is dead and, putting down his field glasses, he hastens down to the beach, to learn that the victim is Garrett Folsom.

The body is taken to the hotel and an inquiry started by Dixon, hotel detective. Ross, the dead man's valet, enters during the questioning.

NOW GO ON WITH THE STORY

CHAPTER V.

"You have been to the bathhouse, Ross?" asked Dixon, straightforwardly.

"Yes, sir."

"You found Mr. Folsom's clothes there?"

"Yes, sir. The key was with the bathing master. He gave it to me, and I brought Mr. Folsom's clothes back here and put them in his room."

Knots of talkative chambermaids gathered in the halls.

"They were all in order, then—nothing missing?"

"Why, yes, sir. I suppose so. I didn't look in the pockets, sir, and Mr. Folsom never wears any valuable jewelry when he goes to bathe. Just a collar button and cuff links. And his watch—that was all right, sir."

"Well, of course, I didn't anticipate any molestation of his belongings. The bathing master wouldn't give up the key to a stranger. How did he come to give it to you?"

"I don't know, sir. I just told him the circumstances and said I was Mr. Folsom's man."

"All right, Ross. Did you put the clothes away?"

"No, sir. I just left them in a pile on the couch in the sitting room. The chambermaid is in the bedroom, doing it up, and I thought I'd better report to you at once, sir."

"You did just right. Now, Ross, consider yourself in charge of Mr. Folsom's effects until we can get advices from his sister. We are going to telegraph her. Perhaps you would do it?"

"Just as you say, sir. If I do it, I will ask her for orders."

"Not a bad idea. Go, then, and send the telegram in your own way."

Ross went off and Neville said thoughtfully:

"Going some, to leave that man in charge of all Folsom's belongings—"

"I know," returned the detective. "I watched his face for a gleam of satisfaction at the prospect, but he seemed to take it as a matter of course."

"Oh, it's all right, I know how Folsom trusted him, as a servant and as a general right-hand man. But somehow it seems—"

"It certainly does," put in Carmelita Valdon. "It seems wrong to leave a mere valet in charge of a rich man's goods."

"His valuables are in the safe," said Dixon. "I've already ascertained that. Late last night he brought two or three sealed envelopes to the desk and took a receipt for them. As to jewelry or money, I suppose the valet is honest."

"Oh, yes—that," said Neville. "I was thinking more of letters or private papers, not of a value to be put in the safe, but which ought not to be left around loose."

"Indeed, they ought not!" said Mrs. Valdon, with decision. "I should think as Mr. Neville is a great friend of Mr. Folsom and more or less associated with him in business—"

"Were you partners?" asked Dixon directly.

"No," Neville returned, "not partners, but we worked together on many cases, and I think I may say I know more of his private affairs than any one else."

"It would seem then, Mr. Neville, that you are the one to take charge of the whole matter. Will you take the keys then from Ross and consider yourself the responsible one?"

"Not quite that," Neville said, his face a little perplexed. "Suppose you let Ross keep his key and let me take the room key that Mr. Folsom carried. Then either of us can have access to the rooms."

"Yes, that is a good plan," and relieved at the settlement of the question, Dixon rose to go.

"I can't see that we have anything more to do until Miss Folsom comes or wires," Neville went on. "If you want to consult with me when the doctor comes, I'll be somewhere around the hotel."

"Very well, Mr. Neville," Dixon said, and bowed out the three guests with a feeling of satisfaction that the interview was over.

"As a matter of fact," he thought to himself, "I'd trust that honest-looking valet fellow before I would the gentlemanly Neville, but it's none of my business. If these people are friends of the dead man, it's up to them to care for his interests. Hello, there's Mr. Barron. I suppose I ought to ask him a question or two."

So he stepped up to the party of five, who had just come into the lobby.

"A word or two, if you please, Mr. Barron," he said, in a low tone, and as Ned Barron looked amazed, Dixon went on:

"Nothing much, only I want to know if you were acquainted with the gentleman who died in the water this morning—Mr. Garrett Folsom?"

"No, I was not," said Barron, a little shortly.

"But I'm told you were talking to him just before he had his heart attack, or whatever it was."

"You were misinformed. That is, he was talking to me, but I cannot say I was talking to him. Except to return short answers to his unasked-for remarks, I said nothing to him at all."

"You were annoyed by him?"

"Oh, it's going too far to call it annoyed. But I never like to have a stranger address me in the ocean, and that is what he did."

"You were unacquainted with him?"

"Entirely so. I never saw him before, and, presuming on the informality of the sea, I suppose, he began to chat. I was decently polite, but in no way did I encourage his conversation."

"None of your party was acquainted with him, then?"

"No—that is, I don't think any of them were. I'll inquire."

Ned Barron turned back toward the people who had come in with him and who stood waiting while the detective spoke to him.

"I say, 'Sears,' he beckoned to his friend, "you didn't know that man Folsom, did you?"

"Not socially," Croydon Sears replied, stepping closer to them. "I've had a little business with him once or twice, but it was some time ago—I doubt if he remembered me at all. Why?"

"Mr. Dixon wants to know. How about you, Robin?" and he turned to Sears' son. "Did you know Folsom?"

"No; never heard of him till the commotion on the beach. Somebody told me his name then."

"And the ladies?" Dixon turned to the two women of the party.

But both Madeline Barron and her young friend, Miss Fair, asserted that they had never before heard of Garrett Folsom, and so Dixon concluded the interview with an apology for the intrusion.

"Rotten business," he told himself. "Don't see why I should pester any more people about it. The hotel will get a bad name if we don't hush the thing up as soon as we can."

Whereupon Dixon saw to it that strict orders were given to all employes to say nothing whatever on the subject of Mr. Folsom's death, which orders were publicly obeyed and privately disregarded.

The elevator men refused any information asked of them by curious passengers and the bellboys told patrons that they knew nothing of the circumstances, but somehow the news flew about and knots of talkative chambermaids gathered in the halls and waiters in the pantries whispered unceasingly.

On the deck, after luncheon, many of the guests of the hotel sat about and those who had seen the affair at the beach in the morning eagerly told the story to those who had not been present.

Roger Neville, who felt in a way conspicuous as being a friend of Folsom's, would have preferred to absent himself from the crowded scene.

But both Mrs. Barnaby and Mrs. Valdon insisted on his presence and he couldn't well desert them.

"My heavens!" exclaimed the Duchess, "don't you dare leave us alone! Why, we'd be beseiged by gossip-mongers and what in the world could we say to them?"

"What can I say to them, my dear lady?" asked Neville. "Suppose we go for a ride in the wheeled chairs. Don't you think it would do you both good?"

"No," returned Carmelita. "It would not do to go away now. The manager might want to see us, and, too, I want to be here when word comes from Miss Folsom."

"You know her, don't you?" said Neville.

"I've met her a few times, and, between you and me, I didn't take to her at all."

Neville laughed. "Who could take to her? Anastasia is not an attractive person, I'll admit."

"Anastasia!" exclaimed the Duchess, "what an intriguing name! I'd love to meet somebody named Anastasia!"

(To Be Continued.)

Certain of Carmelita Valdon's actions begin to look suspicious. Read the next chapter.

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B. P. O. E., ATTENTION

Past Exalted Rulers' Night, Thursday, Feb. 10. All members be present. Good time and good feed. Fun starts at 8 o'clock.

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Arundel, piano tuner. Phone 189-L.

"We Raise Our Hand"

De Laval Agency is highly prized by progressive merchants everywhere.

It was during a state convention of progressive dealers that the president, in discussing better business methods, asked all in attendance who handled the De Laval Cream Separator to raise their hands. There was a fine showing of hands, including that of the president himself and most of the other officers of the association.

Then the president remarked: "All of you who don't handle the De Lavals wish you did"—and no one contradicted him.

Make Friends for Us

Now we weren't in attendance at that meeting because it was held in another state, but we want to take this occasion to raise our hand most

emphatically. Yes, we do have the De Laval Agency for this locality and consider it one of the most satisfactory lines we handle.

Why? Because De Laval Cream Separators give their users more honest, loyal and satisfactory service than any article we know of. More important, they skim cleaner than any other separators; that means bigger cream checks and more butter money for the users, and more friends for us. Every De Laval we sell makes for us a lifelong friend, and our business is based on friendship.

See the "Floating" Bowl

If you haven't seen the new De Laval please stop in the next time you are in town and do so. It is the best cream separator ever made. It has the wonderful "floating" bowl, the greatest separator improvement in 25 years, which runs smoother and skims cleaner.

If there is any doubt in your mind whether or not your present separator is skimming clean, let us run your skim-milk through a new De Laval—and if you are losing any butter-fat it will be recovered. This is an easy thing to do and may save you a lot of money.

Douglas County Creamery

Roseburg, Ore. Phone 340

FARMERS MAY SECURE TREES FROM CORVALLIS

The County Agent's office is in receipt of information to the effect that under authority of Section four of the Clarke-McNary law, forest tree stock is being produced at the Oregon Forest Nursery at the Agricultural College, for distribution among the ranchers of the state. This planting stock may be used for woodlot, shelter belt, and roadside planting, but can not be used for ornamental purposes.

The following stock is now available for distribution: Green Ash, Box Elder, Russian Olive, Russian Mulberry, Black Walnut, Honey Locust and Black Locust.

With the exception of the Black Locust, the stock is two-year old stuff, averaging three feet in height. The Black Locust is one-year-old stick about 18 inches high. With the exception of the Black Walnut, this material is especially suited to planting in Eastern Oregon. All species, however, will do well in western Oregon.

This planting stock may be had at the cost of transportation from Corvallis. Since the material is limited in amount, individual applications should not exceed 1,500 trees. This stock should now be planted as soon as it is possible to handle the ground. The trees should be spaced about five feet apart and thinned when they begin to crowd each other.

Farmers who desire this stock should place their applications direct with George W. Peavy, School of Forestry, Corvallis, Ore. Planting directions will be sent to each applicant at the time trees are furnished.

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LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

NEVER FAILING REMEDY FOR SMALLPOX

Editor News-Review: Here is a very simple home treatment and if directions are followed will cure smallpox.

The worst case of smallpox can be cured in three days by the use of cream of tartar. This is a never failing remedy.

One ounce of cream of tartar dissolved in one pint of boiling water to be taken when cold. Dose: two tablespoonfuls every two hours. It is also a preventative, dose as before, three times a day. This never leaves a mark, never causes blindness, and avoids tedious lingering.

MRS. J. T. LLOYD,
125 Sheridan St., Roseburg, Ore.

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Are You Too Thin?

Writer Says Folks Underweight Should Consider Question Seriously

One does not need to be "fat" in order to be healthy—but folks underweight should try to correct their weakness at once!

You do not need to be a Doctor to understand this danger. Common sense and the fact that Life Insurance Companies refuse to sell insurance to folks who are "too thin" furnish convincing daily proofs!

In the opinion of the writer, if you are five or more pounds underweight, you ought to try a few weeks' use of McCoy's Tablets at once. Tiny, tasteless tablets, containing the world known flesh giving value, the physical power and strength of Cod Liver Oil. At W. F. Chapman's and other druggists (60 tablets 60c) on money back if not satisfied plan.

FLASHES OF LIFE

ROME—Alfonso Fusco, who was a general in the Italian army when he became a Franciscan monk in 1914, died in his old uniform with the cross and tricolor sewed to his breast. They were found under his religious robe.

OLYMPIA, Wash.—Gene Tunney is a charming gentleman, but as a vote-getter he is something else. He made a hit before the legislators as an ideal clean living boxer, but the defeat of a bill to permit boxing, followed. It lacked three votes.

LONDON—Peter, a bald parrot, is talking more than ever at the age of 126 years plus. He has been owned by Colonel W. B. Ferris for 55 years, and records show he was captured by a British soldier in India in 1801.

HAYDEN, Ohio—A bull disliked the looks of a passing freight train and expressed his feelings as a bull does. He charged, knocking four cars off the track, including one loaded with dynamite. There was no explosion. The bull will charge no more.

NEW YORK—Miss Dorothy L. Scott was being arraigned. "Do you plead guilty to 38?" a magistrate asked.

"Oh, dear, no!"

"How fast were you going then?"

"Oh, I was speeding all right. I thought you meant my age."

She paid a $25 fine.

BUCHAREST—In Queen Marie's opinion the low price of Henry Ford's products permits American workmen to enjoy their Sundays in the country. Apparently she did not notice that many of those workmen have other kinds of cars.

World's Largest Chain Department Store Organization

A NATION-WIDE INSTITUTION—

J. C. PENNEY CO. INC.

Reliable Quality Goods Always at Lower Prices

Corner of Cass and Stephens Sts. Phone 386 Opposite Postoffice

Power of Our Values

Thru These Convincing Low Prices

Colorful Displays For Springtime

There is no season when a visit to a store is attended with such abundance of enjoyment and satisfaction as in February when the new style ideas for the bright Spring days are beginning to occupy the center of attraction.

You will find this particularly true of a visit to this Store at this time. The sunshine and warmth of Spring in the offing are brilliantly reflected in the colorful new displays this Store is presenting.

The displays are being added to with nearly every coming express. A cordial invitation is extended to you to inspect our new displays whether you buy or not.

J. C. Penney Co.

Silk Bandeaux
With Elastic Back

Silk jersey—with an elastic back—a little gem among Bandeaux! Just enough support and confining line! Priced, only,

79c

First Spring Frocks Arrive!

Radiating Newness and Beauty In Chic Styles and Colors

Long before old Mother Nature says that Spring has really come, we feel it in the air and we are gladdened by the new and captivating styles in Frocks!

The first Silk Dresses of the season are awe-inspiring in their charm! They await you here.

Our First-of-the-Season Price Is Low!

$14.75

You can shop here with greatest economy every day in the year, as our no-sale policy permits low prices always. Now it is especially noticeable.

Shirring, Plaits, Tiers, and Two-Tone Effects Prove New

You must see all the style innovations! Plaits galore! Soft, lovely colorings, a great animation and dash in every Frock! Tiered effects add grace! Two-piece effects in different interpretations.

For Women, Misses, and Juniors

Women and Misses Find It Here!

A Smart Coat--Attractively Priced

The new styles for Spring 1927 are here! The most fascinating collection of modish garments you will find at the moderate price named below. Straight lines prevail—with distinctive features in new sleeve treatments and tuck arrangements. Many garments are designed specially for the miss and short woman.

Mixed—Plaid—Plain

Tweed novelty mixtures and unusual plaid patterns are shown for sport—some strictly tailored and others with fur collars. Fine twill materials fashion dress coats—often fur trimmed.

Varied Styles, Spring Colors

All the leading colors are included—dark coats trimmed with gay embroidery.

See these coats now!

Enjoy Our Great Savings

$19.75

Sizes for women, misses, and junior misses.

SEE OUR

New Assortment Spring Flannels

in all the new shades

27 in. Plain, yd.	98c
36 in. Plain, all wood, yd.	$1.49
54 in. Plain, yd.	$1.79
54 in. Plain, yd.	$1.98
54 in. Plain, yd.	$2.98
54 in. Poiretsheen, yd.	$2.49
54 in. Nudesheen, yd.	$2.98
54 in. Tweed, yd.	$1.79
54 in. Tweed, yd	$2.49
40 in. All Wool Crepe, yd.	$1.79
54 in. All Wool, Twillsheen, yd	$2.98
54 in. Broadcloth, yd	$1.98

The Flex Support
For Foot Ease

A new feature for added comfort. The Flex Shank is flexible and bends with every step—does not break down. In patent with cut-out design; military heel with rubber tap—

$4.98