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AUNT HANNAH'S SECRET

CHAPTER IV.

To two of the ladies from the floor above Sellars assigned his charge, and speaking a few words in a low tone to Hannah, he re-entered the library, while the negro returned to the kitchen and joined her daughter.

"It seems incredible, Sellars," observed Dr. Norcum, "that Robert Campbell should have committed this murder."

"Many things seem incredible at first glance," said the detective.

"The probability," remarked Herman, "that my uncle intended to become my wife; that he utterly refused to sanction his suit, and that in a fit of rage, Robert Campbell plunged the blade of the sheath knife into his heart. He doubtless thought no one else knew of his presence in the house. Perhaps he was appalled at the bloody deed he had committed. I doubt not, but that we heard my uncle's cries and hastened down, in another moment he would have died, and this murder might long have remained a mystery."

"Perhaps," assented the detective, "and then some innocent party might have been suspected. Why, even yourself, Herman Craven? It is fortunate that your uncle's cries aroused you."

Herman's pale face became paler yet, and he glanced uneasily at the detective, as he ran the fingers of one hand through his black hair.

"Fortunate, indeed!" he exclaimed. "My poor uncle has been like a father to me, and I have always tried to merit his affection. You know, gentlemen, my mother was his sister."

"By the way," observed Sellars, "I would like to go through the house. You know, of course, that the question will arise as to whether the premises were searched. It is best, on your account, Craven, that the fact should be established that a thorough search was made. You know, Campbell claims that he brought a bag of gold coin here. He can undoubtedly establish the fact that he procured it at the express office."

"He may have done so," said Herman, with a troubled look that he could not avoid, "but assuredly he did not enter this house with it in his possession."

"How, then, did he obtain that note and induce your uncle to cancel it? Had he said it at the bank during the day you must have known of it."

"Oh, he did not say it at the bank. He must have done so elsewhere."

"Perhaps he brought the coin, secured your uncle's indorsement on the note and had possession of it before he struck the blow. He may have planned to secure the note and retain his money also. He may have secreted the coin here in the house. Again, he may have had a confederate and tossed the bag out of the window to him."

"You forget," said the doctor, "that he was heading over the body of my expiring friend with the bloody weapon in his hand when Herman entered the room. He could not have had time."

"Secretly," said Herman, "I cannot think he had the gold," he continued, "and how he obtained that canceled note I cannot surmise. You can examine my uncle's desk."

Herman pulled open every drawer, raised the lid, opened the folding doors, and it was thoroughly examined. So also was the entire library, chamber and bath room, but no bag of gold was revealed.

"We will go through the other rooms," said the detective.

They were taken one by one—the double parlors, pantry, storeroom, kitchen, servants' rooms at the rear of the house, passage under the stairway, etc., but no bag of gold.

"I believe there is no basement to this house," said Sellars.

"None," was Herman's response.

"Well, we will ascend the stairs."

"Oh, he could not have ascended them," Herman said, "after having committed the murder."

"Perhaps he hid it in your interest," said the detective. "Have you ascended the stairs since you accompanied Miss DeRosette below?"

"I have not," replied Herman. "As I informed you, I had retired and was roused from sleep by my uncle's cries. I should know his voice—I can swear those cries were not those of another. I sprang from my bed, was joined in the hall by my cousin, and together we descended the stairs."

By this time the two men were in the hall above.

Soft and female voices were emanating from the room of the banker's daughter, which was a front chamber on the east side of the house, and a door opened into it near the head of the stairs.

"This is my room," said Herman, "directly back of my cousin's. The door yet is standing open as I left it."

The two men entered the room. It was finely appointed, for a gentleman's apartment. True the furniture that it contained would to-day be considered somewhat cumbersome and considerably out of date. The room was fully twelve feet square. The high-post bedstead occupied a position in the northeast corner of the room, its head being against the east wall of the house, while one side pressed against the partition that divided the room from that of the banker's daughter.

Yes, undoubtedly someone had occupied the bed that night. The clothing was cast aside just as it naturally would have been had its occupant leaped suddenly out of bed. One of the large pillows indicated where the head of the aroused Herman had lain.

Hanging over the back of a chair, near the head of the bed, was Herman's dress shirt, with a solitary diamond stud glinting on its white bosom.

"Why, you see," he said, "I yet have my night shirt on."

Sellars had noted that his hands and sleeves bore no stains of blood. Those of Robert Campbell did.

A large bureau stood between the two east windows, a trunk to the south of the bureau and a door led to the closet, in the northwest corner of the room.

"Perhaps he hid," said the old attorney, "but remember that but for you he would have hung the wrong man on one occasion."

"I think," Sellars said, calmly, "that I may promise you that he shall not hang the wrong man this time; neither will the wrong man, in my opinion, stand on the gallows trap and in the very shadow of death."

The detective's keen eyes were fixed on Herman Craven as he uttered the words. He alone saw a perceptible start, and a deeper pallor overspread the young man's countenance. The fingers of his hands closed convulsively, but in an instant he was himself again.

"I have every confidence that Mr. Sellars will bring this crime home to the guilty wretch who perpetrated it," he said. "I have little doubt, nor do I think he has, that the murderer of my dear uncle now occupies a cell in Wilmington jail."

"Dr. Norcum has stated the facts to me as far as he was able," the attorney said, "and it certainly looks very dark for Robert Campbell, but this bag of gold? I cannot understand that. Here in Angel, the express agent who delivered it to him, is a certain that he left the express office with it."

"He undoubtedly did, gentlemen," said Angel, "after having received for it."

"There is no evidence," observed Sellars, "that he brought it here. He may have done so, and after driving the blade of the sheath knife home have cast it out the window in the darkness, to where he expected to recover it when he made his exit from the house. Again, he may have had an accomplice, who bore the gold away. There is nothing further that I can do here to-night. The inquest may develop many facts. It is set for 10 o'clock to-morrow. Good-night, gentlemen."

"I will accompany you to the door," said Herman.

"Remain with these gentlemen," the detective said. "You will have arrangements made for your uncle's funeral. Good-night," and he stepped from the library and closed the door.

A dark form stood sobbing at the rear end of the hall.

"Hannah!"

"Follow me from the door."

Arrived there, the detective asked this question: "Who drove the blade of that sheath knife to your master's heart?"

"I don't know that, Mrs. Lang," sobbed the negro; "but I does know who rung de door bell, an' da was de house."

"Is the back door unlocked?" asked Sellars, "and can you enter the house from the rear?"

"Yes, Mrs. Lang."

"Then follow me."

The detective and the negro crossed the threshold, and Sellars, not very softly, closed the door.

(To be continued.)

EVENTS OF THE DAY

FROM THE FOUR QUARTERS OF THE WORLD.

A Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week Presented in a Condensed Form Which is Most Likely to Prove of Interest to Our Many Readers.

Fourteen people were killed in a race riot in Louisiana.

Lieutenant General Miles has submitted his annual report.

The state department is more sanguine of saving Miss Stone.

Rains in Argentina have greatly weakened the wheat market.

Chinese government is being reorganized on conservative lines.

The British barks *Bowman B. Law* and *Glenglow* were destroyed by fire.

Admiral Schley will call two more witnesses and the prosecution about 15.

Senator Hoar asks to be excused from delivering a eulogy on McKinley.

All preparations for the execution of Czolgosz, the assassin, have been completed.

The Schley court of inquiry is slowly dragging itself along, with no definite time set for its closing.

Czolgosz, the assassin of President McKinley, was electrocuted. He went to the chair unconfessed and unrepentant.

If the rumors concerning the condition of King Edward are well founded, it is barely possible that he may never be crowned king of England.

There is a scarcity of firewood at Salem.

Chile and Argentina are preparing for war.

King Edward is suffering from cancer of the throat.

Weyler denies that he aspires to a Spanish dictatorship.

Two steamers have arrived at Port Townsend from Nome.

Twenty-five insurgents were killed in a fight near Ilo Ilo.

Nashville police attempted to arrest a Great Northern robber.

Americans propose to buy up the street railways of St. Petersburg.

The town of Brobuck, Russia, was destroyed by fire and several lives lost.

Several Boers, wearing khaki uniforms, were court martialed and shot.

The McKinley Memorial Arch Association issues a statement to the public.

Three persons were killed in a railroad wreck at a crossing near Milwaukee.

Many people are being devoured by wolves while working in the fields in Poland.

Eight million salmon eggs have been received at the Clackamas hatchery.

Conditions in Cebu are encouraging. Lack of food is bringing the natives to terms.

Japan raises a loan of 10,000,000 yen.

Verdict in the *Ilander* investigation.

Conservative Chinese want Minister Wu recalled.

Southern Pacific passenger train held up in Lane county.

Noted smuggler escaped from jail at Port Townsend, Wash.

Roosevelt and other distinguished men receive degrees from Yale.

Cold rains in the Bulgarian mountains may force the brigands out.

Oregon export butter adjudged above highest standard at Buffalo.

Audubon boy broke the world's half-mile trotting record at Memphis.

All Oregon counties interested in question involved in clash over move to expert books of Marion county officials.

Reinforcements reach the Island of Samar from Manila. General Chaffee does not consider that there is cause for alarm.

Wall Street awaits the return of J. Pierpont Morgan.

Many persons were hurt in a panic in a Louisville theater.

Cost of public schools of Oregon for 1900 was nearly \$1,600,000.

An injured fireman sues the Southern Pacific for \$40,000 damages.

General Buller has been relieved of command of the First Army Corps.

Oregon Short Line train wrecked in Idaho and engineer and fireman killed.

The performance of the Students' Dramatic Association was the feature of the Yale celebration.

The French chamber of deputies refused to discuss the proposed concessions to the miners.

In 1899 the inheritance tax in France produced the amount of 198,900,000 francs (\$38,387,700).

In one New York factory 30,000,000 cigarettes a week are turned out on an average all the year round.

School savings banks are increasing rapidly in number in the United States. Last year the system was in practice in 73 schools of 99 cities in 18 states. During that year the deposits reached a total of \$378,229.

CONDITIONS IN CEBU.

Lack of Food Having its Effect Upon Natives—One Cause of Samar Troubles.

Manila, Oct. 30.—The constabulary report a fight with insurgents near Passi, province of Ilo Ilo, island of Panay, in which 25 insurgents were killed, together with a quantity of arms and ammunition captured.

News from General Hughes regarding conditions in Cebu are encouraging. Lorega surrendered with his entire force and one cannon and seven rifles, while General Hughes is negotiating for the surrender of Maziolo, who styles himself "Governor Politico-Militar." His surrender will mean the pacification of the island.

Lack of food and the harassing effects of the aggressive tactics now pursued by the American forces are having their influence upon the natives. In many places, where rice is doled out by the government, only a scanty amount is given for one meal, so that it is hardly possible for any large amount to find its way to the insurgents. It is believed that the recent manifestations in the island of Samar were chiefly due to the lack of food.

The first labor problem growing out of the new tariff has arisen. A hat and umbrella factory, employing 600 hands, has found it necessary to close. The lawyers are making a protest to the commission, urging protection, as the same goods from Germany can be sold at half the price it takes to manufacture them here.

In an attack by insurgents on the municipal police and scouts at Sabang, one scout was killed and two of the police were captured. The insurgents secured two Krag-Jorgensen rifles, two shotguns and 200 rounds of ammunition.

Dispatches from Catbalogan, Samar, say that stringent and energetic measures are being taken to suppress the insurrection in that island. General Smith has notified all the presidents and head men of the pueblos that they must surrender all arms and turn over the persons implicated in the Balangiga massacre before November 6, threatening that otherwise the presidents will be sent to the island of Guam, the village destroyed and the property confiscated.

FOUL DEED AVENGED

CZOLGOSZ, THE ASSASSIN, DIES IN THE ELECTRIC CHAIR.

Met His Fate With Perfect Composure—He Refused to Accept Religious Consolation and to Renounce Anarchism—Would Not Bid Relatives Farewell—His Body Will Be Buried at the Prison.

Auburn, N. Y., Oct. 29.—Leon Czolgosz, the assassin of President McKinley, was electrocuted at 7:12.30. Czolgosz passed a quiet night. He slept nearly all night. He awoke finally at 4:45 o'clock.

He suffered a slight nervous attack late yesterday, but remained sullen and stoic up to the time the prison closed at 10 o'clock. He refused to heed the words of the priests who came to urge spiritual preparation for death and declined to re-embrace Roman Catholicism or to renounce anarchism. Czolgosz showed no strength of love for kin, nor did he turn to any of those higher considerations which ordinarily claim the thoughts of men occupying his position. He may have suffered untold torture, but outwardly he seemed sullen and indifferent. The state is not to surrender possession of his body, and by sundown it will have been secretly interred in ground controlled by the officials of Auburn prison.

Czolgosz held his last two interviews last night, the first with Superintendent Collins and the second with his brother and brother-in-law. Both of the interviews were brief. The interview with the brother was mentioned, when Czolgosz broke from his seeming lethargy and violently denounced the church and the clergy and made his relatives promise that there should be no service for him, living or dead. When his brother and brother-in-law bid him farewell, he turned and walked to the other side of the cell and refused to answer them.

SHIPS FROM NOME.

Two More Steamers From the Icy North—Bring 1,200 Passengers.

Port Townsend, Wash., Oct. 29.—Two steamers arrived here from Nome today, bringing over 1,200 passengers, the Senator bringing 625 and the *Garrone* 700.

The Senator sailed from Nome October 19 and for several days before sailing the icy fingers of winter had fastened themselves on Nome and vicinity. Snow was falling and ice had formed, and preparations were being made for a long, cold winter. When the Senator sailed the steamship Queen was at Nome and the *Rosnoke* was at St. Michael. A furious northern gale was blowing. The Queen, Valencia and *Rosnoke* will be the last steamers from Nome, and they will bring about 2,000 people, and there are many more who would return if transportation could be secured, besides a large number of destitute who would be compelled to remain at Nome and face an Arctic winter, depending upon charity.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Increase in Loss of Life on Steamboats Last Year.

Washington, Oct. 28.—The annual report of General James A. Dumont, supervising inspector general of steam vessels the last fiscal year, has been made public. It shows that 9,773 vessels were inspected during the year, a decrease of 80 from the figures for the preceding year. The total loss of life on steam vessels last year was 340, an increase of 140 over the previous year. By the loss of the steamer *Rio de Janeiro* at San Francisco last February 127 lives were lost.

General Dumont advises that section 4490 of the revised statutes, providing for at least three water tight compartments in all sea-going and coastwise steamers, be amended to include all passenger and ferry boats hereafter built of 500 tons and upward, regardless of the water they navigate, and further, that the number of passengers be limited on ferry boats running routes exceeding three miles from dock to dock.

FINQUERRA AND LAUNDRESS.

A Kindly Act that Brought About a Great Discovery.

It is always pleasing to hear a pretty story told of a man who has created beautiful things. Two groups of tourists were standing in the Pitti Palace before the large plate of pure silver upon which Finquerra, the great master of early engraving, had depicted his lovely Madonna and Child in a trellised arbor covered with roses. As the tourists looked at the exquisite work, an Italian guide discoursed upon the value of the silver, and offered a magnifying glass with which to observe the delicate lines of the drawing, talking volubly, and uttering ecstatically, "Bello!" and "Bellissimo!" as he fell into theatrical poses of admiration. At the same time an Italian lady was telling her friends in an undertone the charming anecdote of Finquerra and the laundress.

The artist, it seems, in mastering the new and difficult art of engraving upon metal, had acquired a singularly keen eye and delicate touch; and he also possessed a number of very fine and sharp instruments, which he used in his work. Being a kindly man, he sometimes placed both his sure hand and his fine tools at the service of his friends and neighbors, in performing for them some of the simpler operations of surgery, until he acquired quite a reputation for his skill in doctoring their hurts.

One day a poor laundress who had been washing clothes in wringing out a garment in which a needle had been carelessly left, ran it deeply into her hand; worse yet, it broke off in the wound, and a part remained embedded in the flesh. She was in much pain, and on her way back from the stream where she had been washing, she stopped at the house of the artist and was admitted.

Entering his studio, she hastily set down her wet and heavy bundle, and held out the injured hand, begging his assistance. Finquerra left his work to help her, and after long and delicate manipulation extracted the broken needle. The woman thanked him and turned to go, lifting her bundle from its resting-place.

Then he saw that she had set it upon one of his engravings. Like all others at that time, it was a plate of engraved metal, complete in itself, and regarded as a single and sufficient picture, exactly as if it had been a painting.

But as the damp bundle was raised, the quick eye of Finquerra saw that it had received an impression from the engraved picture beneath, and his quick mind seized at once the suggestion of the possibility of indefinite reproduction from a single original. So that the kindness of a great artist to a poor washerwoman sprang the discovery which has placed the beautiful products of the engravers' art within the reach of all of us to-day—YOUTH'S COMPANION.

Oldest Woman in Massachusetts.

Mrs. Mary Spooner of Acushnet, Mass., who recently celebrated her 105th birthday, is probably the oldest woman in Massachusetts. She is entitled to the unique distinction of having lived in three different towns without having changed her residence. By alternations in the boundary lines of the towns the Spooner homestead has been first in New Bedford, then in Fairhaven, and finally in Acushnet.

MILLION DOLLAR FRAUD.

Hundreds of People All Over the Country Succumbed Out of Savings.

Boston, Oct. 30.—In connection with what the United States marshal's office declares to be one of the biggest frauds they ever had to deal with in this city, members of the firm of J. C. Fisher & Co., brokers, were arrested today on a charge of using the United States mail in a scheme to defraud. It is alleged that \$1,000,000 has been taken from the public since January 1, 1900.

The method of the firm is said by the authorities to have been very simple. People all over the country, it is alleged, were written to and told what exceptional chances there were to invest money, and that large returns could be expected. Pools were formed and those desirous of getting rich quickly were invited to re-invest. After two or three weeks, it is said, investors would be advised that a pool had been formed on a well-known stock and that as the quotations had gone down the margin had been swept away, and that more money was necessary immediately in order to save the stock. After having put in two or three times the original stock, some investor became suspicious and called the attention of the authorities to the matter.

SEVERE STORM.

Many Vessels on the North Coast Forced to Seek Shelter—Damage Great.

Vancouver, Oct. 30.—The severest storm of the season broke over the northern coast last week, and for three days shipping was nearly at a standstill. Skagway steamers were forced to seek shelter and the steamers *Now England* and *Capitano*, which have arrived here, report that the sea was the roughest seen on the north coast for a year.

The greatest damage done was at Port Esquimaux, just above the Indian village of Iyerness. There the building of the Church of England has been leveled by the storm and half a dozen other buildings were blown over and pieces of their roofs scattered for half a mile up the river.

Pulled a Lamp From the Table.

Allegheny, Pa., Oct. 30.—Thirteen-month-old Robbie Busler tonight pulled a lighted lamp from a table and was fatally burned. His mother, in her efforts to save the baby, was seriously burned about the head and breast and her recovery is doubtful. Three neighbors were all painfully burned while extinguishing the flames. Mrs. Busler ran into the yard with her clothing ablaze and it became necessary literally to tear the clothing from her.

Gun at Army Fort Exploded.

Leavenworth, Kan., Oct. 30.—By an explosion of a Colt's automatic firing gun at Fort Leavenworth today, Captain Mencher and five men of the Twenty-eighth battery of field artillery were wounded, three severely. The gun, a new one, was being tested, and was allowed to become too hot, and when a shell came into the breech after firing, the shell exploded, tearing out the breech, fragments of which struck and injured the men.

Boers Court Martialed and Shot.

London, Oct. 29.—The South African mail brings news that several Boers who were captured wearing khaki uniforms were court martialed and shot. It seemed also that Commandant Theron crossed the Cape line, west of Touws river station, September 23.

Confident of Rescue.

Washington, Oct. 30.—The state department officials are more sanguine than they have been of late as to the successful outcome of the efforts now being put forth in behalf of Miss Stone. It is true they have not succeeded in establishing communication with the kidnapers, but the reports they have received from Spencer Eddy, at Constantinople, and Dr. Dickinson, at Sofia, encourage the belief that they are about at a point where direct negotiations can be opened with the brigands.

Quick Way to Settle With Americans.

Washington, Oct. 30.—As a quick way of adjusting the claims of the small number of American citizens who were deported from South Africa and the Transvaal as a military necessity, the British government has offered to pay the lump sum of \$30,000 over to the state department, which will distribute the money among the claimants. This proposition has not yet been acted upon, but probably it will be accepted.

UNSUCCESSFUL EFFORTS MADE TO RESCUE TWO UTAH MINERS.

Salt Lake, Utah, Oct. 29.—A telephone message from Bingham, Utah, tonight states that up to 10 P. M., rescuing parties had failed to reach Charles Nutting and William Anderson, the two miners who were entombed in a cave-in in the Highland Boy mine. At that hour it was not known whether the imprisoned men were dead or alive, their signals having ceased after midnight last night. Great difficulty is being encountered in reaching the place where the men are located. The walls of the tunnel are constantly crumbling, not only impeding the work of rescue, but also endangering the lives of the miners who were endeavoring to save their entombed comrades.

KING HAS CANCER.

Real Condition of Edward VII is Explained—Trouble is in His Throat.

London, Oct. 29.—In Reynolds Weekly Newspaper is the first British paper to assert that King Edward is suffering from cancer of the throat. In today's issue, it declared that since his majesty's accession, three operations have been performed for the removal of papilloma on the left vocal chord and that one was removed from the right vocal chord last week.

"Assistance was hastily summoned," says this journal, "as his majesty was breathing with difficulty, and an immediate operation was performed. But it is regarded as only a temporary relief, the injured epithelium now having become a cancerous growth, and serious developments are expected."

Chicago Laborer's Crime.

Chicago, Oct. 29.—Because he was denied the sight of his two little children, James Kennedy, a laborer, today murdered his wife and killed himself. The couple were married 12 years ago, but quarreled recently and separated. Kennedy called on his wife today and asked to see them. She refused, fearing he meant to take them away and keep them from her.

Chinese Eager for Reform.

Chicago, Oct. 29.—Regeneration of the Chinese people and the overthrow of the Chinese government were predicted by the Right Rev. F. R. Graves, missionary bishop of Shanghai, in a sermon at Grace Episcopal church. According to the prelate, the recent outbreaks in China are but signs of a coming revolution. The Chinese people, he said, were becoming eager for reform and the new generation would revolt in order to learn of the customs and habits of other people.

Sunset Limited Starts December 3.

New Orleans, Oct. 28.—The Sunset Limited, the transcontinental service of the Southern Pacific, will be put into operation between New Orleans and San Francisco, Monday, December 3, the first train west bound leaving New Orleans that day. The Sunset Limited is the train which eight years ago established a record in transcontinental service.