

# The Lure of the Mask

By HAROLD MAC GRATH

Copyright, 1908, by the Bobbs-Merrill Co.



(Continued.)

### CHAPTER XVI.

#### KITTY DROPS A BOMB.

"WHAT'S the matter, Jack? Whenever you smoke your cigar goes out. You read a newspaper by staring over the top of it. You leave your watch under the pillow and have to hike back for it. You are absent-minded. Now, what's the matter?" Hillard sighed heavily.

"There you go again!" laughed Merrilow. "You tack that sigh to everything you say. Hillard was human. He might be deeply in love, but this had not destroyed his healthy sense of humor, so he laughed at himself.

"It's a curious business—the dinner, the mask, the veil, the mystery," went on Merrilow. "I tell you frankly, Jack, something's wrong, and we shall both live to find it out."

"But what? Heaven on earth, what? Haven't I tried to figure it out till my brain aches? I haven't gone forward a single inch."

"What shall you do?"

"Nothing. When we have seen Florence we'll drop down to Perugia and Rome, then up to the Italian lakes, after that home, if you say."

Hillard looked at his watch.

"Only 9," he said. "Let's go over to Gambirini's and hear the music."

The Hotel Italia was but a few blocks from the Piazza Vittorio Emanuele. They found the Hall crowded, noisy and interesting. From the Hall they went downstairs and through the billiard room. Under the arcade they found a small table. Presently two officers, one in the resplendent uniform of a colonel, went past. Hillard's pulse was tuned to a quicker stroke.

"I hope he doesn't see us," he said, tipping his panama over his eyes.

Merrilow scowled fiercely.

"So long as he doesn't observe us," said Hillard, "I have no interest in his affairs." Had he none? he wondered.

"He is coming this way again, Dan," Hillard changed his mind. He pushed back his hat. If the man with the scar saw him and spoke he would reply. The colonel, glancing at the pair, halted. He turned and spoke to his brother officer. The man with the scar stepped over to the table and leaned with his hands upon it. There was a savage humor in his dark eyes.

"Did I not tell you that we should meet again?" he said to Hillard.

"Are you speaking to me?" asked Hillard. Every muscle in his body was alert and ready.

"Certainly I am speaking to you. This is the fellow," speaking to his companion, at the same time drawing off his gloves.

"I object to the word fellow," said Hillard. "Besides, I don't know you."

"Ah, discreet!" sneered the man with the scar.

"Colonel!" cried the subaltern as his senior smoothed the gloves and placed them carefully in his left hand.

"Oh, I am calm! But I have been dreaming of this moment. Now!" The colonel addressed Hillard. "You meddled with an affair that night in which you had no concern."

"Are you quite sure?"

"Yes, I am sure. And yet as I think it over, as I recollect the woman," went on the colonel, with a smile which was evil and insinuating. "In Monte Carlo I was practically alone. Here it is Florence. Doubtless you will understand." He struck out with the gloves.

But they never touched Hillard's face. His hand caught the assailant's wrist and with a quick jerk brought him halfway across the table. The Italian cried faintly. Hillard spoke tensely:

"Listen carefully, signor. I understand perfectly, but I shall fight no duel. It is an obsolete fashion. A blackguard I know you to be. If you ever address me again I promise to give you a whipping which will have a lasting effect upon your future actions. If that will not serve I shall appeal to the police."

Through the crowd the ever present carabinieri shouldered their way. The colonel motioned them to stand back, which they did with a sign of respect. This sign gave Hillard some food for thought. His antagonist was evidently a personage of some importance.

"Figure of an American pig!" Hillard laughed.

The scar was livid on the Italian's cheek. His companion laid a restraining hand on his arm. He nodded, and



Hillard spoke tensely.

the two made off. Merrilow was for going back to the hotel. Hillard agreed.

"I wanted you to give him a good stiff punch," said Merrilow.

"We should have slept in the lockup overnight if I had. If our friend is left handed he'll be inconvenienced for a day or two. I put some force into that grip. You see, Dan, the Italian still fights his duels. It would have been a fine joke if I had been fool enough to accept his challenge. He would have put daylight through me at the first stroke."

"Did you notice how respectful the carabinieri were?"

"It set me thinking. Oh, I've a premonition that we haven't seen the last of this distinguished gentleman."

After luncheon the next day they were entering the Via Tornabuoni when a young woman came out of a little millinery shop. Immediately Hillard stepped to one side of her and Merrilow to the other.

"You cannot run away this time, Kitty Killigrew!" cried Merrilow joyously.

(To be continued.)

### Prepaid Railroad Orders.

"Something which is of considerable interest to the public generally and which is perhaps not generally known is in effect between stations of the Southern Pacific company and all points in the United States. By means of this system tickets may be purchased at Medford from any place in the United States and mailed or telegraphed direct to the party wishing to come here. Sleeper accommodations and small amounts of cash in connection with these tickets may also be forwarded at the same time."

Medford, Oregon: This certifies that we have sold Hall's Texas Wonder for the cure of all kidney, bladder and rheumatic troubles for ten years, and have never had a complaint. It gives quick and permanent relief. 60 days' treatment in each bottle. Medford Pharmacy.

### A SNAP.

If you wish to consider a bargain—a real bargain—in real estate, address P. care of Tribune. 197

### CITY NOTICES.

#### ORDINANCE NO. 251.

An ordinance declaring the assessment on the property benefited for the cost of laying a water main on outer section of Clark street, West and corporation boundary line south to Jackson street, West, and directing the recorder to enter a statement thereof in the water main lien docket.

The city of Medford doth ordain as follows:

Section 1. Whereas, the city council did heretofore by resolution declare its intention to lay a 6-inch water main on outer section of Clark street, West, and corporation boundary line south to Jackson street, West, and to assess the cost thereof on the property fronting on said portion of said street in proportion to the frontage of said property, and did fix a time and place for hearing protests against the laying of said water main on said portion of said street and the assessment of the cost thereof as aforesaid.

Whereas, said resolution was duly posted and published as required by section 116 of the charter of said city; and

Whereas, a meeting of the council was held at the time and place fixed in said resolution for the purpose of considering any such protests, but no protests were at such time or at any time made or received by the council to the laying of said water main or the assessing of the cost thereof as aforesaid, and said council having considered the matter, and deeming that said water main was and is of material benefit to said city and that all property to be assessed therefor would be benefited thereby to the extent of the probable amount of the respective assessments to be levied against said property, did order said water main laid; and

Whereas, the cost of said water main has been and hereby is determined to be the sum of \$1236.50;

Now, therefore, it is hereby further determined that the proportionate share of the cost of laying said water main of each parcel of the property fronting on said portion of said street is the amount set opposite the description of each piece or parcel of land below and that each such piece or parcel of land is benefited by the laying of said water main to the full extent of the amount so set opposite the description of such piece or parcel, and that the respective amounts represent the proportional benefits of said water main to said respective parcels of property and also the proportional frontage thereof on said portion of said street, and the council does hereby declare each of the parcels of property described below to be assessed and each of the same is hereby assessed the amount set opposite each respective description for the cost of laying said water main.

#### ASSESSMENT FOR A 6-INCH WATER MAIN FROM INTERSECTION OF CLARK STREET, WEST, AND CORPORATION BOUNDARY SOUTH TO JACKSON STREET, WEST:

Assessment No. 1.—Eldred and Jennie Barzee, block 3, Mingus subdivision in the city of Medford, Oregon, frontage 802.56 feet and described Vol. 66, page 313, county recorder's records of Jackson county, Oregon; 752.56 feet; rate 50 1/2 cents per foot; amount due \$605.80.

Assessment No. 2.—F. W. Hutchason, the west half of lot 7, block 2, Mingus subdivision, in section 24, township 37 south, range 2 west of the Willamette meridian, in Medford, Jackson county, Oregon; frontage 400.76 feet, and described Vol. 28, page 265, county recorder's records of Jackson county, Oregon; 700.76 feet; rate per foot 80 1/2 cents; amount due \$322.60.

Assessment No. 3.—Mathias Demmer, commencing at the southwest corner of lot 6, block 2, Mingus subdivision, in section 24, township 37 south, range 2 west of the Willamette meridian, in Jackson county, Oregon, and running thence east on south line of said lot 9 chains 41 links, thence north at right angles to said south line to within 30 feet of north line of said lot, thence west parallel with and 30 feet distance south from north line of said lot to southerly line of said road, crossing northwest corner of said lot, thence south 42.15 degrees west to said southerly line of said county road, to west line of said lot, thence south on said west line of said lot to place of beginning, containing 6 acres; frontage 420.75 feet on east street, described Vol. 31, page 569, county recorder's records of Jackson county, Oregon; 382.75 feet; rate per foot 50 1/2 cents; amount due \$308.10.

Section 2. The recorder of the city of Medford is hereby directed to enter a statement of said several assessments in the water main lien docket of said city as required by the city charter.

The foregoing ordinance was passed by the city council of the city of Medford on the 2d day of November, 1909, by the following vote: Merrick aye, Welch aye, Eifert aye, Emerick aye, Wortman aye, Demmer absent.

Approved November 3, 1909.

W. H. CANON, Mayor.

Attest: ROBT. W. TELFER, Recorder.

### 30-Acre Orchard

Two miles from Medford; all good soil, planted to Newtown and Spitzenberg apples, Comice, Bose and Howell pears. Trees are 5 years of age and are in fine condition.

Price \$500 per Acre

Taking everything into consideration, the fine character of the soil, the age and condition of the trees, and its nearness to Medford, there is nothing in the valley equal to this as a bargain. Let us show you this tract.

W. T. York

West Main St., opp. Hotel Moore

### The BIJOU THEATRE

BILLY EMPEY VAN, Mgr.

TONIGHT Friday & Saturday

BROWN'S in TOWN A Roaring 3Act Comedy

Laugh - Langh - Laugh Admission 10 and 20c

### Paul de Anna

FIRST-CLASS GERMAN WATCHMAKER, JEWELER AND ENGRAVER. ALL WORK GUARANTEED. IN CONNECTION WITH MEDFORD LOAN OFFICE, COR. CENTRAL AVE. AND SEVENTH ST., MEDFORD.

### For the Best

In harness, saddles, whips, robes, tents, blankets, wagon sheets, axle grease and gait cure, as well as all kinds of custom work, see

J. C. Smith

314 E. Main.

### WANTED APPLE PICKERS

By Talent Orchard Company Talent Oregon

### TAXIDERMIST AND FURRIER

Send your trophies to me for mounting. Big game heads, fish, birds and mammals mounted true to nature by improved methods. I do tanning, make fur rugs, make, remodel and clean fur garments. Express and mail orders promptly attended to.

C. M. HARRIS, 495 Washington Street, Portland, Or. Telephone Main 3600.

### COMBINATION RANGE BOILER INSULATOR AND HOT FIRELESS COOKER



Containing two indispensable luxuries and two sources of economy.

Call and let us demonstrate its merits.

J. W. WHITNEY

Office in Aikin Plumbing Co.'s Store, Medford.

### WANTED

Timber and Coal Lands ENGINEERING AND SURVEYING CONTRACTS TAKEN AND ESTIMATES FURNISHED.

B. H. Harris & Co. MEDFORD, OREGON Office in Jackson County Bank Upstairs

APPLES AND PEARS AND ALL KINDS OF FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES.

### YAKIMA VALLEY NURSERY

Largest Commercial Nursery in the Pacific Northwest. Not in the combine. Competes with all first-class nurseries.

L. E. HOOPER, Agent

MEDFORD, OREGON



### RESOLVED

The best resolution for you to make is to come to us for your next suit, if you want something out of the ordinary. We do the best work and charge the lowest prices.

W. W. EIFERT THE PROGRESSIVE TAILOR

### When we suggest that you Toast Your Bread On Breakfast Table

We do not mean that you should eat off the stove—toast

### With an Electric Toaster

and have crisp, brown, delicious toast—costs 1c per meal to operate. We have the best toaster on the market for sale at \$4.50. Clean, appetizing, sanitary

ROGUE RIVER ELECTRIC CO.

Successors to Condor Water & Power Co.