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THE TRUE BLUEBEARD

He Was a Cruelly and Malevolently Malignant Frenchman.

NOT A MURDEROUS MONSTER.

He Had Matrimonial Misfortunes, It is True, but He Seemed to Have Been the Only One Who Came to Grief on Account of Them—His Tragic End.

The supposedly detestable Bluebeard, the monster of murderous polygamy, the very name of the ogre into whose mouth one used, if one could, in childhood's happy hour, to throw India rubber balls, was in truth a man who has been as cruelly and malevolently malign by history as Nero, Richard III., Macbeth, tutti quanti. So says M. Anatole France—and pray who can speak with higher authority on the real facts of fairy?—in "Les Sept Femmes de la Barbe-Bleue et Autres Contes Merveilleux." One knew already that Charles Perrault first wrote, in about 1690, the historical biography of Bluebeard, but one did not know until now how deeply Perrault, probably through false information, wronged the memory of an excellent and ill-treated personage. From M. France we learn that M. Bernard de Montroux, of old and noble descent, lived in 1650 or thereabouts at the ancestral Chateau Les Guilletes, on his estates between Compiègne and Pierrefonds. The castle, of frowning outward aspect, was inside a treasure house of taste and wealth. Its owner, contrary to long existing tradition, wore no beard, only a mustache and a little tuft below the lower lip. He was known through the countryside as Bluebeard because his hair was very black, and therefore his close shaven cheeks and chin were markedly blue. He was a fine figure of a man who, in spite of his manifest advantages as a good match, did not get on well with women of his own rank in life. This was due to an incurable shyness on his part. Pleasant and pretty girls who had been well brought up attracted him immensely, but also filled him with an indescribable terror.

The first notable result of this affliction was that the unfortunate orphan, for such he had been since his early youth, incapable of making proposals for the hand of any of the attractive and high born ladies in the neighborhood, married a certain Colette Passage, a fascinating girl in her way, against whose character nothing seems known, who was going round the country with a dancing bear. Things went well enough for a few months, and then Colette, who had at first revealed in being a lady of quality, began to long for her old freedom. The longing became irresistible, and at last she took her departure secretly with her justly beloved bear. It is noteworthy that they made their escape by way of a room that had a door leading to what had been water meadows, and so to open country. Perrault called this room "le petit cabinet," but it was also known as "the wretched princesses' room," because a Florentine painter had covered its walls with the most lifelike figures of Circe, Niobe and Procris. The tragic effect of these paintings was enhanced by the porphyry flooring of the room, which suggested bloodstains.

Montroux appeared inconsolable at the disappearance, which was complete, of Colette, his first wife, and doubtless his lot would have been far less unhappy if he had never tried to console himself. This, most unfortunately, he did by marrying one Jeanne de la Cloche, who turned out to be a violent dipsomaniac. Bluebeard was of a nature so kindly and noble that, although in a fit of mad passion she nearly killed him with a kitchen knife, he continually hoped to reclaim her by kindness. But one day she strayed into the generally shut up princesses' room, took the painted figures for real people and was so terrified that she rushed wildly into the open fields, tumbled into a deep pool, and was drowned.

So things went on, a new affliction with each new wife, and in each case the final catastrophe was associated with the princesses' room. The climax to the unhappy career of the more than worthy and lovable Bernard de Montroux came with his seventh wife, Jeanne de Leopolse, cleverest and most fascinating of a family of utterly unscrupulous adventurers. No one knew anything about the supposed late husband of the mother. Of the two brothers, a dragon and a musketeer, one was a low rascal and a mere sponge; the other lived on gaming and on the good nature of women to whom he made love. Anne, the sister, was the incarnation of malicious cunning. Associated with this precious family was a certain Chevalier de Merlus, who had a great deal to do with the final tragedy of M. de Montroux's career. The nature of this tragedy may be inferred, but it is curious that while Perrault represented Bluebeard as taking a journey in order to lay a trap for his wife, the fact was exactly opposite. Both before and after his marriage he had heaped benefits on all these wretches. When he was obliged to go away in the matter of an inheritance he gave all his boys without reserve to his wife, warning her out of pure love against the unhappy associations of the princesses' room. As soon as he was out of the way a trap was laid for him, and it was in that very room that he was most treacherously assassinated. The worst and the best of it was that M. de Merlus, after marrying the wealthy widow, became an exemplary husband and subject of the king.

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JAPAN A LAND OF COLOR.

Forms of Two or Three Acres Divided into Many Tiny Fields.

Land is so scarce in Japan and the people so numerous that a farm rarely consists of more than an acre or two. These little farms are divided up into tiny fields. During the season of the year in which we made our journey one of these fields was filled with sprouting barley, light green in color; another field, perhaps the next, with vetch, a lavender colored, cloverlike fodder; a neighboring field with a dark green grass from the seed of which a lamp oil is manufactured; another with the pale yellow flowers of the mustard, and scattered here and there fields filled with what looked like a variety of lily, some white, some red, some yellow, but all equally brilliant.

Then to get the complete picture you must imagine patches of flowering meadows dotted the roadside; towering, round topped camellia trees breaking the sky line with frequent splashes of bright green; usually in the shade of these trees houses with white plastered walls and red tiled roofs; about the more pretentious of these houses white plastered walls, above which appeared a profusion of palms, roses and strange native flowers, and in the doorways of the garden walls kimono clad Japanese girls, the kimonos as many and as gayly colored as the garden that framed them.

I have traveled in but one other country that is so gayly colored, and that was some few years ago, when, in the company of a number of other youngsters and an evil smelling magic lantern, I used to make frequent visits to the Land of Primary Colors.—George MacDonald in Outing Magazine.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

(Not Coal Land.)

Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Lakeview, Oregon, September 4, 1909.

NOTICE is hereby given that Theodore L. Seymour of Klamath Falls, Oregon, who, on May 2, 1906, made Homestead Entry 3601, Serial 01333 for lot 1 section 1 township 37 south, range 10 east, Willamette meridian, has filed notice of intention to make Final Five-Year Proof to establish claim to the land above described, before C. R. DeLap, County Clerk, at Klamath Falls, Oregon, on the 21st day of October, 1909.

Claimant names as witnesses: Jack Leonard of Dalry, Oregon; Tom Meek of Dalry, Oregon; Dan Ryan of Dalry, Oregon; Valentine Barnhart of Dalry, Oregon.

ARTHUR W. ORTON, Register.
9-7 10-12

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Not Coal Land.

Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Lakeview, Oregon, August 16, 1909.

NOTICE is hereby given that John H. Colburn of Olene, Oregon, who, on December 6, 1907, made Homestead Application 3910, Serial 01509, for SE 1/4 of NW 1/4, E 1/4 of SW 1/4, NW 1/4 of SE 1/4, Section 11, Township 29 South, Range 10 East, Willamette meridian, has filed notice of intention to make Final Commutation Proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before C. R. DeLap, County Clerk, at Klamath Falls, Oregon, on the 20th day of October, 1909.

Claimant names as witnesses: John Blase of Olene, Oregon; Herbert Tipton of Olene, Oregon; Lee Wrightmeyer of Olene, Oregon.
A. T. Wilson of Olene, Oregon.
ARTHUR W. ORTON, Register.
9-19 9-20

CONTENT NOTICE

Department of the Interior, United States Land Office, Lakeview, Oregon, August 25, 1909.

A sufficient content affidavit having been filed in this office by Joseph H. Foster, contestant, against Homestead Entry 0679, made April 14th, 1903, for NE 1/4 NE 1/4 section 8; N 1/4 NW 1/4, NW 1/4 NE 1/4 section 7, township 41 south, range 12 east, Willamette meridian, by George H. Merryman, contestee, in which it is alleged that said Merryman did not establish his residence on lands within six months from date of entry; that he did not reside continuously, or at all, upon said lands; that he has maintained a residence and practiced as a physician and surgeon at Klamath Falls, Oregon (a distance of twelve miles from said lands); and that his absence was not due to employment in the army, navy, or marine corps of the United States; said parties are hereby notified to appear, respond and offer evidence touching said allegation at 10 o'clock a. m. on October 18th, 1909, before R. M. Richardson, United States Commissioner, Klamath Falls, Oregon, and that final hearing will be held at 10 o'clock a. m. on October 23d, 1909, before the Register and Receiver at the United States Land Office in Lakeview, Oregon.

ARTHUR W. ORTON, Register.
Proof of Personal Service.

State of Oregon,
County of Klamath, ss.

Joseph H. Foster, being first duly sworn, on his oath says that on September 4th, 1909, he served the above notice of contest by delivering a true copy thereof to the above-named contestee at his office in Klamath Falls, in the County of Klamath, State of Oregon.

JOSEPH H. FOSTER.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 4th day of September, 1909.
R. S. HILLIS,
Notary Public for Oregon.

NOTICE OF FILING OF PLAT

United States Land Office, Lakeview, Oregon, August 6, 1909.

NOTICE is hereby given that township plats surveyed under Contract No. 732, for Sections 7, 18, 19, 50 and 31, Township 37 South, Range 7 East, Willamette meridian; Sections 1 to 36, inclusive, Township 35 South, Range 28 East, Willamette meridian; Sections 1 to 36, inclusive, Township 34 South, Range 28 East, Willamette meridian, and supplemental plat of segregation survey of Sections 4, 9, 16, 21, 28 and 32, Township 31 South, Range 7 1/2 East, Willamette meridian, will be filed in this office on September 15th, 1909.

On and after said date all of said lands will be subject to selections, entry or filing on, if said lands are not otherwise reserved or appropriated.

ARTHUR W. ORTON, Register.
FRED P. CRONEMILLER, Receiver.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Lakeview, Oregon, August 7, 1909.

NOTICE is hereby given that James B. Humphrey, whose postoffice address is Klamath Falls, Oregon, did, on the 23d day of April, 1909, file in this office sworn statement and application, No. 01837, to purchase the W 1/4 of SE 1/4, E 1/4 of NE 1/4 section 23, Township 37 South, Range 9 East, Willamette meridian, and the timber thereon, under the provisions

of the act of June 3, 1878, and acts amendatory, known as the "Timber and Stone Law," at such value as might be fixed by appraisal, and that, pursuant to such application, the land and timber thereon have been appraised, June 14, 1909, the timber estimated 545 board feet at \$0.75 per M. and the land \$190.80; but said applicant must offer final proof in support of his application and sworn statement on the 21st day of October, 1909, before R. M. Richardson, United States Commissioner, at Klamath Falls, Oregon.

Any person is at liberty to protest this purchase before entry, or initiate a contest at any time before patent issues, by filing a corroborated affidavit in this office, alleging facts which would defeat the entry.
ARTHUR W. ORTON, Register.
9-16, 10-18

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION.

(Not Coal Lands)

Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Lakeview, Oregon, August 20th, 1909.

Notice is hereby given that William Pitts, whose postoffice address is Klamath Falls, Oregon, did, on the 16th day of March, 1909, file in this office sworn statement and application No. 01702, to purchase the W 1/4 NW 1/4, section 8, township 38 S, range 9 E, Willamette Meridian, and the timber thereon, under the provisions of the act of June 3, 1878, and acts amendatory, known as the "Timber and Stone Law," at such value as might be fixed by appraisal, and that, pursuant to such application, the land and timber thereon have been appraised, June 14th, 1909, the timber estimated at 317,000 board feet at \$1.50 per 1,000, and the land \$38.00; that said applicant will offer final proof in support of his application and sworn statement on the 23d day of October, 1909, before R. M. Richardson, U. S. Commissioner, at Klamath Falls, Oregon.

Any person is at liberty to protest this purchase before entry, or initiate a contest at any time before patent issues, by filing a corroborated affidavit in this office, alleging facts which would defeat the entry.
ARTHUR W. ORTON, Register.
8-23-10-22.

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