

An Adventure of the Scarlet Pimpernel

By
The Baroness Orczy

WNU Service

CHAPTER VII—Continued

"No use trying to us, Raffet," one of the others retorted, somewhat incoherently. It was Francois who spoke this time, the mercer from the Rue Grande, and he had always been always noted for his eloquence. "You raised your hands against us citizens of the republic, who came here to avenge an unpardonable wrong. And let me tell you that 'tis you who will suffer for this night's work—"

"Ah, ca!" Raffet broke in savagely, for his temper was still up. "How long are you going to talk in riddles? In truth, it's the devil that has deprived you of your senses. What's all this talk about the English spy? Who told you we were after him? And why should you hinder us from doing our duty?"

"We know," Francois retorted, striving to appear calm and full of dignity, "that not only were you after the English spy, but we know you captured him in our district and you have got him in the diligence yonder and are conveying him to Paris, where you and your friends will share ten thousand livres, which by rights should have belonged to us men of the district where the spies were captured."

"What gibberish is this? I tell you not only have we not got the English spy, but owing to your senseless folly we are not likely to get him now."

"I say that the English spy is in your diligence!" Francois exclaimed and pointed dramatically at the old vehicle, which stood like a huge, solid mass, heavier and darker than the surrounding gloom. "Some of us have seen him, I tell you!" And his companions, even those who were in the sorriest plight, nodded in assent.

But Raffet swallowed his temper now. What was the use of arguing with these fools? He would have thought it beneath his dignity to give them ocular demonstration that the diligence now only held the three miserable aristocrats. But the trouble was what to do with this crowd. Raffet counted them over. There were eight of them, and four of these were helpless with wounds in the legs. Somehow, at the first rush, Raffet thought there had been more like a dozen young ruffians and he had a distinct recollection of a big, clumsy fellow who seemed the prime mover in this senseless escapade. But no doubt he, as well as one or two others, had had the good sense to take to their heels and Raffet had certainly no intention of scouring the woods for them. On the other hand, he had every intention of seeing those that remained well punished for their folly. He did not wish to drag them along with him to Epone. It was another four kilometers and more and the first part of the journey would still be through the forest; with the gathering darkness the coach horses would have to be led by men carrying lighted lanterns.

Pondering a moment over the future of his prisoners, Raffet had a sudden inspiration.

"Who drove the cart that brought you all hither?" he demanded.

"A man from Lannoy," Paul, the washerwoman's son, replied.

"Then he shall take you back to Mantes the way you came."

"You would not dare!" One of the others protested.

Raffet, however, had already turned to his corporal of gendarmes.

"Citizen Corporal," he said, "take these rascals as far as the cart which brought them hither. It must have come to a halt somewhere near the bottom of the hill. Let two of your men go with them to Mantes and there hand them over to the deputy commissary. Order the owner of the cart to drive them on pain of severe punishment if he refuses. Take one of the lanterns with you. It will be needed, as the road will be pitch dark before they are well on their way. And stay! You have some stout cord inside the diligence. We were going to use it on the English spy. Now it will serve to bind these rogues together two by two, lest they try some more of their tricks on you. Those who are hurt can lie in the bottom of the cart."

"Citizen Raffet!" Francois the mercer raised his voice in final impotent protest. "You will answer to the state for this outrage on her citizens."

Chiffon Yoke

An autumn toned printed chiffon frock for afternoon gets a charming effect of daintiness by using plain beige chiffon, the tone of the print's background, for an off-the-shoulder yoke. The pointed lower edge of the skirt reveals a slip's edge of similarly pointed edges. In the plain beige.

New Boutonnieres

A black suit has five colorful feather tips stuck in graduated manner in the buttonhole of its jacket.

But Raffet was no longer in a mind to listen. The corporal had sent one of the men to find the length of rope which was inside the diligence and was to have served for binding up the English spies and now it would be used on a lot of jackanapes on their homeward journey to Mantes. Protests and curses were indeed in vain, and the soldiers whose tempers had not yet cooled down were none too gentle with the rope.

CHAPTER VII

The Catchers Caught

Raffet, in the meanwhile, had called one of the men of the gendarmes to him. "Hide, citizen soldier!" he commanded, "as fast as you can to Epone. You will find the citizen commissary and his friend from Paris at the post-house inn. Tell them just what has occurred and that I am sending the pack of miscreants back to Mantes for punishment. Tell them also that this senseless piece of folly has not left us unprepared for attack by the English spies, though we have not much more hope in that direction now. We shall be on the road again in a quarter of an hour, but will have to walk the horses practically all the way, so do not expect to be in Epone for another two hours at the least."

Comparative silence fell upon the scene, where a brief while ago deafening shouts and tumultuous melee had roused the woodland echoes. Only the prisoners now were heard groaning and cursing. The courier had ridden away bearing the unwelcome news to Lauzet and his friend from Paris; the men who were not busy with the prisoners were looking to their horses or their accoutrements, while Raffet stood by, observant and grim. And suddenly, right out of the darkness, there came the sound of agonizing calls for help.

"What was that?" Raffet queried, straining his ears to listen.

"Help! Help!" came from the distance. And then again, "Help! Hi!" and "Curse you, why don't you come?" And with it all the now familiar sound of men fighting and shouting. Not so very far away, either. A couple of hundred meters perhaps, just the other side of the bend. Were it not for



The Courier Had Ridden Away.

the thicket and the darkness, a man could cut his way through to where those shouts came from in a couple of minutes.

"Help! Help!"

One of the prisoners broke into a harsh laugh. "It's Citizen Lauzet, I'll wager," he said, "and his friend from Paris."

"Citizen Lauzet?" Raffet exclaimed. "What in h— do you mean?"

"Well!" Paul, the washerwoman's son, replied, still laughing and forgetting his sorry plight in the excellence of the joke. "We found those two ambling on the bridge path, on their way to Epone, ready, no doubt, to seize the largest share of reward for the capture of the Scarlet Pimpernel."

"Great God!"

"And so we seized them both," Francois the mercer rejoined, "and did to them what you are doing now to us; gave them a good hiding, then bound them together with ropes and threw them in the bottom of the cart."

"Name of a dog!"

"No doubt," came a high-pitched voice from among the group of prisoners, "the English spies have found them and—"

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Lese Majeste

In Yugo-Slavia one must be careful of his speech or he is likely to find himself behind bars with the information that he is guilty of lese majeste. A woman of Serajevo was sentenced to one year in prison for making "insulting remarks" about the king's parents. A man at Novi Sad got a sentence of three years for "insulting remarks" about King Alexander himself.

Unusual Blouse

The egg-shell crepe blouse that tucks into a midnight blue suit has its bateau neck finished in a one-inch standing collar of the satin side of the crepe and four one-inch bands of the satin applied around the cuff puff of the sleeve.

Pointed Ruffles

A black transparent velvet frock for fall has a knee flounce and a peplum of circular cut that dips in points front, back and on the sides.

U. S. OF EUROPE IS FAVORED BY BRIAND

Makes Plea to Nations for Close Federation.

Geneva.—Such impetus was given to Premier Briand's plan for formation of a European confederation that he at once decided to invite representatives of all European nations to confer with him on the subject.

The conference is to be unofficial and to be devoted largely to examining the possibilities of the vast project.

M. Briand plans to reveal to this gathering his own ideas how such a confederation, with political as well as an economic basis, could be created without loss of national sovereignty by the participating governments.

He will recommend appointment of a commission for further investigation, should his proposals win favor at the unofficial conference.

At a dinner attended by the French Premier, Gustav Stresemann and Ramsay MacDonald, Prime Minister of Great Britain, M. Briand seized his opportunity to briefly outline his conception of the European confederation and what it would mean.

All European leaders, beginning with Briand himself, repudiate any imputation that the suggested confederation would be hostile to America. However, there exists an impression that the project appeals to European minds as a logical consequence of the economic power achieved of late years by the United States.

Europe is described as being driven by the very force of events, and even against her own will, into defending herself against growing American competition on the one hand and dangerous communistic propaganda on the other.

The well-informed Journal de Geneve, which is read in all the chancelleries of Europe, recalled that every confederation in world history has been born as the result of external forces.

It is said that the industrial power of the United States, coupled with growing investments in Europe and irritations caused by the war debt question, had created an atmosphere highly favorable to tightening the political and economic bonds between European nations.

Briand, probably the greatest orator of France, in addressing the League of Nations appealed to all nations to support his plan for a "United States of Europe."

He made a memorable appeal to women of the world to protect their children from false ideals of strife and from doctrines calculated to inculcate prejudice and racial hate.

Economic disarmament is needed to supplement military disarmament, he said, and this could best be approached from the political standpoint.

The great ovation accorded the veteran French statesman did not end in the assembly hall itself. Crowds had gathered in the streets, and they hailed him with cheers as he left the hall to attend the journalists' lunch-eon.

Bean Growers Request Orderly Crop Marketing

Washington.—Michigan bean growers, accompanied by a group of state officials and representatives of bean co-operatives in other states, asked the federal farm board to assist in effecting an organization which will result in more orderly marketing of their product.

The delegation asked no financial assistance, but wanted the board to consider a suggested program which the bean men hope will encourage existing and develop new organizations of bean co-operatives in the states.

Aged Woman Prisoner Killed Trying Escape

Bay City, Mich.—A federal prisoner, Mrs. Mattie Kelley, seventy-eight years old, of Saginaw, met death when she attempted to escape from the Bay county jail here. Mrs. Kelley suffered a skull fracture when she lost her hold on a rope with which she was trying to let herself down from a third floor window. She died as she was being taken into Mercy hospital.

Famous Silver Mine Closes

Mexico City.—The famous Dos Estras silver mine at Tlalpujahua, Michoacan, at one time the biggest in the world, announced a complete suspension of activities, throwing 3,000 men out of work.

Consul Held as Embellisher

Los Angeles.—The arrest of William Elizondo, consul for Nicaragua at San Diego, for the alleged embellishment of bank funds, became known with his arraignment before the United States commissioner.

Bobby Jones Meets Defeat

Pebble Beach, Calif.—Bobby Jones, four times crowned king of American amateur golfers and recent winner of the open title, was defeated by John Goodman of Omaha, 1 up, in the greatest sporting upset of the year.

Students to Guide Tourists

Berlin.—An organization of students from all the high schools of Berlin has been formed to furnish young college men as guides to foreign and provincial visitors to the German capital.

REAR ADMIRAL RETIRES



Rear Admiral H. P. Jones.

Washington.—Rear Admiral Hilary P. Jones, who served as naval adviser to the 1929 Geneva preparatory disarmament commission, has been ordered relieved of duty at his own request. Admiral Jones retired in 1927 but was recalled to active duty and attached to the office of the secretary of the navy for the last year.

U. S. ACCEPTS ROOT PLAN, STIMSON SAYS

Announces O. K. on Adherence to the World Court.

Washington.—Acceptance of the Root formula for American adherence to the World Court was announced by Secretary of State Henry L. Stimson.

Mr. Stimson said he believes that the amended World Court protocol, which was approved by the members of the international tribunal meets the objections set up by the American senate. He added that the protocol will be submitted to the senate for ratification as soon as all the fifty odd members of the court have ratified it. Owing to the length of time usually necessary for so large a number of nations to act, the better part of a year is expected to elapse before President Hoover puts the question of World Court entrance up to the senate.

At the same time, Mr. Stimson revealed that on August 14 he dispatched a note to the secretary general of the League of Nations announcing that the amended Root protocol was acceptable to him.

The administration's acceptance of the amended draft protocol of the court is certain to precipitate a battle in the senate. Five reservations were added to the senate's acceptance of the original protocol in 1926, because it was feared that American interests were not properly protected. Many senators consider that while the protocol has been improved, it does not entirely meet the senate's reservations, and the fight against the court will be waged on this issue.

Of the five reservations attached to the senate's acceptance of the World Court proposition in 1926, the most important related to the court's powers of granting advisory opinions in cases in which the United States had or might have an interest. This reservation grew out of the fear that the power of the council and assembly of the league to request advisory opinions in disputes might be exercised in a manner detrimental to American interests.

Navy Rifleman Winner of President's Match

Camp Perry, Ohio.—The President's match, which drew the cream of the nation's riflemen at the national rifle matches here, was won by Ensign O. E. Coffin of the United States navy with a score of 147 out of a possible 150.

Ensign Coffin, whose home is Indianapolis, will receive an autographed letter from President Hoover, as the leading trophy, the Army Ordnance association trophy, a 30 caliber sporting rifle, a gold medal, and the Crescent cup.

Cornhuskers Report on Sept. 16

Lincoln, Neb.—The University of Nebraska football squad will report to Coach Bible on September 16. Southern Methodist will be the first opponent of the Cornhuskers.

Former Chicago Mayor Dead

Chicago.—William E. Dever, former mayor of Chicago, died suddenly at his home here, after an illness of one year.

Last Mexican War Vet Dead

Washington.—Taps was sounded for America's last survivor of the Mexican war. Owen Thomas Edgar of Washington, who became the lone veteran of the War of 1846 last June, died before his ninety-eighth birthday, he said.

World Police to Meet

Paris.—Forty countries, including the United States, will be represented at the international convention of police chiefs here in November.

Community Building

Right Kind of Building Affects Value of Land

The wrong kind of buildings are sometimes found on city land in much the same way that the wrong kind of hats are found on women's heads, says the National Association of Real Estate Boards. When a woman wears an unbecoming hat, it means that she has not looked around sufficiently for the right hat and her appearance consequently suffers. When the wrong building is erected on a piece of land, it means that its owner has not looked around sufficiently for the right building, and the value of the land suffers.

Owners of land cannot afford to toss a coin to decide whether to build an apartment house or an office building on a given site, because the proper use of the land can make or break its value, says the association.

There is a certain type of structure suitable for every piece of urban real estate, and property owners should seek advice on this subject before breaking ground, because the highest and best use of the land is a serious matter and involves a look into the future.

It is not enough to observe all of the advanced rules in selecting a location unless, after its selection, the land is developed to the best advantage, because maximum values cannot be brought about for urban real estate until the proper buildings are placed on it.

National Campaign for Senic Beauty Now On

The Virginia state chamber of commerce recently called a conference to discuss cleaning up the scenery. The garden clubs of Nashville, Tenn., are proposing to plant ramble roses along all the highway fences leading into their city. They see Nashville a few years hence as "a bridal procession of flowers." Seattle contemplates a 60-mile highway between Tacoma and Everett, electric-lighted and fringed with rhododendrons. To a young Detroit school girl, Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., gave a three-day trip to Washington and the promise of a Presidential handshake as a reward for coining the slogan "This is your country—beautify it," which Mrs. Rockefeller expects to use as a trenchant weapon in a national campaign to banish unsightly hot-dog stands, billboards, placards and plasters from the roadside.

Selecting Home Site

It is highly important that the home builder ascertain that the section in which he is contemplating construction will continue as a home section so that he may not only put his property to the highest and best as a residential site, but count on it persisting in this use for many years to come. He should, of course, inquire whether the district is protected by zoning laws or building ordinances that bar the construction of commercial buildings, but he should remember that zoning laws can be amended if it can be shown that commerce or business is making justifiable demands on a district.

The home builder, therefore, should seek competent advice as to the trend of the land in the sections adjacent to his proposed home, for although one can be a magnan in these matters, the changing of districts, with the possible change of zoning laws, can be foretold with reasonable accuracy.

Get Reliable Contractor

Where a contractor accepts a job of house building at a price that is too low for him to make a profit on good work, the tendency is to cheapen or slight work in such a way that no loss will be sustained. This is particularly true where there are inadequate plans and specifications.

Furthermore, there are in the ranks of the contracting profession men who are unskilled, just as there are in other professions. Their capacity to do high-grade work is distinctly limited. They deliver the kind of workmanship that they know about—the type that is condemned by high-class builders. They charge less because their costs are less, but what they deliver is often not worth its price.

City Planning in California

A city-planning enabling act is a matter of current interest in California at the present time, the National Association of Real Estate Boards points out. The state legislature has passed a bill repealing the existing planning enabling act and substituting a new law and the legislation has just been signed by the governor. Enactment of the bill was favored by the California Real Estate association.

Home Modernizing

When modernizing your house you take advantage of the sturdy construction which exists in the structure itself and add to that more features which are substantial, modern, useful, and decorative.

Ethetics and Business

It is not incompatible to combine estheticism with sound business principles. Those communities that succeed in doing so are always in the van of progress.

DADDY'S EVENING FAIRY TALE

by Mary Graham Bonner

WILD AND FIERCE

"The other day it was quite warm," said the first Leopard brother, "and I took a little snooze or a little nap or whatever you choose to call it."

"I fell asleep, at any rate, and had a most beautiful dream. I will tell you my dream."

"I dreamed that I was in a jungle and that all the hunters and every creature who could do me harm had had his gun smashed before him and that he was smiling at me, and saying: 'I will let you do anything to me you like, but I will not harm you.'"

"And then the place seemed to change and I was here in the zoo and the keeper was building me a new house."

"Leopard," the keeper said to me, 'I am building you a house.'

"As soon as I get it built for you, you may unbuild it for I will keep on building such houses for you."

"I watched him begin to build and the foundation of the house was of great, gigantic, enormous beautiful, handsome meat bones."

"Then the house began to be built by the keeper, and it was of meat, wonderful meat, oh, such raw meat!"

"Don't be afraid to make me trouble, Leopard," said the keeper to me if



Such Wild and Fierce Times.

my dream, I'm here just to build meat houses for you."

"I will eat and appreciate your kindness, keeper," I said in my most polite growl.

"Of course after I awoke I knew it was a dream, but all this time it seemed very real to me."

"That's good," the keeper said, in reply to what I had said to him. "Se we thoroughly agree. And if you should ever want to take a nibble at my arm when I am putting an extra story or floor on your house of meat do not be bashful about it."

"Just make yourself quite at home," I shall, keeper," I said, "and I'm obliged to you for seeing things with my leopard's eyes, and in such a sensible fashion."

"Oh," said the second leopard, "what a pity it was all a dream."

"But such a pleasant dream while it lasted," said the first leopard.

"And," he continued, "I went on dreaming of days and nights in the Indian jungles."

"Oh, what splendid times I was having. Such wild and fierce times."

"I dreamed of fine feasts, I dreamed of freedom, and there was no one to harm me."

"It was so lovely to dream such wild dreams. How I love being wild and fierce."

"So do I," said the second leopard.

"I hope I have a dream of being free and wild and fierce soon."

"Wild and fierce—what beautiful words they are."

"Wild and fierce," repeated the first leopard, "they are beautiful words."

And the leopards took a nap, repeating to themselves in low, happy growls the words wild and fierce—although they said them in their leopard way.

RIDDLES

What is yellow as gold? The sun.

What is covered, yet is seen? Book.

Where is the smallest bridge in the world? On your nose.

What is that which touches one but unites two? A wedding ring.

What is the oldest piece of furniture in the world? The multiplication table.

Round as an apple, as thin as a knife, if you guess this riddle, I'll give you a life. A dime.

What two things go round and round the earth, but never touch the ground? The sun and the moon.

Why is it dangerous to walk in the meadows in springtime? Because the trees are shooting and the bulrush is out (bull rushes out).

Had His Troubles for Nothing

Six-year-old Freddy was on his first visit to his uncle's farm. In the morning it was found that the Jersey cow had been stolen during the night.

"That's a good joke on the man who stole her," was Freddy's comment.

"Why?" asked his uncle.

"Why, just before supper last night the hired man took all the milk out of her."



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