

# THE MYSTERY CLEARED UP;

OR, THE HERITAGE OF MADAME YALTA.

## CHAPTER IV.—(Cont'd)

"That M. Dorgeres should have suffered himself to be carried away by his bourgeois prejudices," she went on; "that he should even have seized on the single pretext which offered to break a project of marriage that displeased him, need not greatly astonish us. He wished at any price to get rid of M. de Carnoel, and did not hesitate to dishonor without hearing him. Your uncle is an honest man in the strictest sense of the word, but there are sentiments he is incapable of appreciating. As to the Russian, who is in truth only a spy, it might well be expected that he would throw himself with ardor on the first trail pointed out to him, and in default of any other victim pursue M. de Carnoel without respect or scruple. But there is one whose conduct in this sad case is absolutely inexplicable."

"Who?" stammered Maxime, more and more out of countenance.

"The cashier, Vignory," said Madame Yalta.

"Vignory?" exclaimed Maxime. "I assure you his conduct has been unexceptionable. He defended M. de Carnoel warmly."

"Were you present when the scene occurred?" asked Mme. Yalta, coldly.

"No, but Vignory told me himself the same day, and he is incapable of lying. Besides, how could he do otherwise than defend M. de Carnoel, who was his most intimate friend?"

"And his successful rival?"

"That is not exactly the word. He had long had an inclination for my cousin, but he perceived that Robert de Carnoel and Alice loved each other, and kept himself aloof. He is the most modest and also the most loyal of men. Had it been in his power to save the honor of M. de Carnoel, he would have done it."

"Really? He is, then, deficient in intelligence?" asked the countess abruptly.

And as Maxime, stupefied, made no reply, she went on:

"He is stupid, then?"

"Stupid, why?"

"I did not think I should need to explain. Here is a man who hears his best friend charged with an infamy. He knows a fact which would change entirely the whole face of things. The accusers are ignorant of it. He has only to speak to modify their ideas. It was even probable that in bringing together and comparing different circumstances his friend's innocence would be apparent. And this man is silent!"

"What do you mean?" stammered Maxime.

"M. Vignory is cashier. On arriving one morning he finds the safe open. He sends for M. Dorgeres, who cries out: 'It is M. de Carnoel!' And M. Vignory does not reply: 'No, it is not he.' An attempt has been made before this to open the safe. A woman has left her hand there. M. de Carnoel had nothing to do with this first attempt since he was passing the evening with you; therefore M. de Carnoel took no part in the second. What would your uncle have opposed to this statement? Assuredly he would not have persisted in accusing his unfortunate secretary on the pretext that he had ill chosen his moment for leaving the house."

"I do not know," murmured Maxime, feeling all the justice of the countess' reasonings. "My uncle is very determined in his ideas, and had resolved to get rid of M. de Carnoel. I doubt if his opinion would have changed. It is none the less true that Vignory would have done better to speak—to tell the whole truth. He failed through want of presence of mind; it is pardonable under circumstances that must have so disconcerted him."

"I do not believe it. It was through fear of compromising himself. He was afraid of being reproached—for, between ourselves, he well deserved it; for the fact of his having been silent as to the severed hand is inexplicable and unpardonable."

"I had something to do with the

part Vignory took; I had begged him to keep silence, and having always exercised a certain influence over him, he consented."

"Once more, you were not M. de Carnoel's friend. Moreover, you could not foresee that he would be accused. But your Vignory has only to open his mouth for the affair to wear quite another aspect. With a word he could put his friend outside the case, and this word he took good care not to pronounce. The intention to injure is evident. In acting thus this man yielded to a base sentiment—jealousy."

"I should be pained to believe it. I think that even now if I asked him to relate to my uncle the adventure we concealed he would not refuse."

"Take care you do nothing of the sort. This tardy confession would not benefit M. de Carnoel, and it is of great consequence to me to act without the knowledge of the future son-in-law of M. Dorgeres. If you persist in your generous desire to aid me to find M. de Carnoel, I must exact of you a promise to make no sort of confidence to Vignory."

"It will be very easy. He thinks only of his approaching marriage and recent elevation to the partnership with my uncle; so much so, that when I took Georget there yesterday, he received me almost coldly. I understood, from his attitude that this old story interested him no longer."

"He is not aware, I hope, that you know, or think you know, that M. de Carnoel is Borisoff's prisoner?" asked the countess, quickly.

"No," replied Maxime, earnestly. "It was after a visit to the office that I passed with Georget by the Russian's residence. We parted almost angrily, and I have no need of your instructions in order to be reserved on this point."

"Thanks. I see that I may count on you. However, I shall not put your services too much under contribution, at least at present. The first point is that Borisoff should be reassured. He must hear no more of you. He will think you acted yesterday without consideration, and that you will not return."

"It is a painful enough role that you impose on me," said Maxime, with a smile that was rather forced.

"Why? Your altercation with the man did not go far enough to render a meeting the necessary consequence. And you have certainly on cause to fear any provocation on the part of Borisoff. He wishes only quiet."

"Since you wish it I resign myself not to disturb him. But may I ask how I can be permitted to serve you?"

"By abstaining from taking any measures."

"What! you will not allow me to assist in the delivery of M. de Carnoel?"

"If I succeed it will be to you I owe it, for without you I should not have known that M. de Carnoel was Borisoff's prisoner. But it is I alone who can act effectively—I alone in all the world."

"In the condition you are in?"

"Some one will take my place. I shall not appear, but will direct all. You do not understand. It is however, impossible for me to say more. Moreover, you will not remain long in uncertainty. At this moment, after the warning you have given, the colonel is making his arrangements to rid himself of M. de Carnoel. I cannot affirm that he will not kill him, but assuredly he will not keep him at his house. I have not an instant to lose. In three days from now you shall know whether I have succeeded."

"How shall I know?"

"By coming to see me. If my servants tell you I do not receive, insist on speaking to my femme de chambre who has always shown you in. She has my orders, and will admit you."

"At least if Dr. Villagos does not oppose it."

"Villagos! yes, you are right; he might do so; above all if he suspected M. de Carnoel to be in question."

"And his authority would cer-

tainly be stronger than mine."

"I will indicate to you how to make him yield. You have the ring I gave you yesterday?"

"I shall never be separated from it until you reclaim it."

"Show it to the doctor in case he undertakes to hinder you from seeing me—in that case only."

"And like Madame Piriac he will obey this talisman?"

"He will obey it. Perhaps he will ask some questions. Do not answer them. And now that I have said all," added the countess, "do me the favor to ring for my femme de chambre who will show you out. I am expecting this very Villagos, and do not care to have him find you here."

(To be continued.)

## UNNATURAL THINNESS EASILY CORRECTED.

By Clever Prescription Which Can Be Filled at Any Drug Store.

No Need to Be Thin Now as Reports Show This Method Effective.

People who are very thin and scrawny ought not to be so. Undoubtedly they are more subject to disease and contagions than the normally fleshy. Thinness is usually accompanied by weakness, and weakness subjects any one to colds, coughs, consumption, pneumonia, etc. It has been discovered, almost by accident, that tincture cadomene, when combined in a prescription with proper accelerative medicines, becomes one of the most valuable, effective, and reliable nutritive or flesh making medicines known to science. It is especially beneficial to men and women between the ages of sixteen and fifty-five, who from lack of proper nerve force and digestion, remain undeveloped in body, limbs, arms and bust. A well rounded symmetrical figure in man or woman indicates health, magnetism, stamina and happiness.

The reader who wishes to add from ten to forty pounds should not fail to begin with this valuable prescription:

First, obtain of any well stocked druggist, three ounces of essence of peppin and three ounces of syrup of rhubarb in an 8 ounce bottle. Then add one ounce compound essence cardiol. Shake and let stand two hours. Then add one ounce tincture cadomene compound (not cardamom). Shake well and take one teaspoonful before each meal, one after each meal. Drink plenty of water between meals and when retiring. Keep up this treatment regularly and of a certainty from one to three pounds will be added to the weight each week, and the general health will also improve.

## INGENIOUS SWINDLE.

A warrant has been issued for the arrest of a Swiss wine merchant who has made a fortune by sending wine to dead men and compelling the relatives of the deceased to pay the bills. The merchant received every day dozens of newspapers from all parts of Switzerland, and kept a book in which he noted the names and addresses of the men who had recently died. He would then write to the dead man stating that, according to the latter's order, he had forwarded the barrel of wine, and enclosed his bill.

Greta—"Belle tells me she's sorry she ever married you?" Clarence—"She ought to be. She did some nice girl out of a good husband!"

**Camphor Ice VASELINE**  
FOR CHAPPED SKIN AND LIPS, COLD SORES, WINDBURN.  
12 Vaseline Remedies in Tubes  
Capsicum, Borated, Mentholated, Carbulated, Camphorated, White Oxide of Zinc, etc. Each for special purposes. Write for Free Vaseline Book.  
CHESEBROUGH MFG. CO. (Cons'd)  
378 Craig St. W., Montreal

**FREE**  
For Selling Flower and Vegetable Seeds. Guaranteed Silver Nickel Man's Watch for selling only \$1.00 worth of flower and vegetable seeds. They go like hot cakes. Send us your name and address and we will mail you the seeds to sell at 5¢ small and 10¢ large packages. Write at once. Appointment will do. (Reference: Montreal Herald) The Reliable Premium Co., Dept. 2, Waterloo, Ont.



## Loose Tea Loses Flavour

It not only loses flavour, but worse than this, loose tea takes on new odors, such as coal oil, molasses, onions, coffee, soap, etc.—to say nothing of its exposure to the sun, dust, dirt and air. Therefore for your protection

# "SALADA"

is sold only in sealed lead packets—never in bulk.

Mrs. Jims—"Madame Snipper Mrs. Jims—"A revolving hat; it has perfected a wonderful invention—see so that the congregation can'tion." Mrs. Tims—"What is it?" see all sides of it."

## Western Assurance Company

INCORPORATED A.D. 1851.

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO

STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 1909.

Assets.....	\$ 3,257,082 55
Unearned Premiums and other Liabilities.....	1,735,711 13
Surplus to Policyholders.....	\$ 1,521,371 42

Losses paid since organization of the Company \$52,441,172 44

Fire Premiums.....	\$ 2,111,879 94	
Fire Losses.....	\$1,066,875 89	
Fire Expenses.....	858,121 53	1,924,997 47
Marine Premiums.....	\$ 698,426 61	\$246,682 47
Marine Losses.....	\$490,856 16	
Marine Expenses.....	155,094 55	645,950 71

Interest and other receipts.....	51,835 90
Profits on Year's Trading.....	84,877 99
	\$383,596 27

W. B. MEIKLE, General Manager. C. C. FOSTER, Secretary.  
Applications for Agencies at unrepresented points to be addressed to the Secretary.

## For Three Successive Years

The Great-West Life has written the largest Canadian business of any Company.

In 1909 the Paid-for business of the Company in Canada amounted to \$9,564,269.60—the largest Paid-for Canadian business ever secured in a year by any Company.

This prominence is readily explained. In The Great-West Life high interest earnings (7.05 p. c. net in 1909) are added to low expenses, and the result is—low rates and unequalled profits to Policyholders.

Write for booklet showing details of these profits.

## THE GREAT-WEST LIFE

ASSURANCE COMPANY,

HEAD OFFICE, WINNIPEG.

## The National Life Assurance Co. OF CANADA.

### A RECORD OF PROGRESS.

Applications for New Insurance Received Policies Issued, Taken Up and Paid for		Mortality Experience	
1899 (5 months) .....	\$ 663,500.00	1899 (5 months) .....	\$ 646,000.00
1900 .....	1,359,500.00	1900 .....	1,350,000.00
1901 .....	1,456,500.00	1901 .....	1,378,755.00
1902 .....	1,672,500.00	1902 .....	1,528,331.00
1903 .....	1,641,100.00	1903 .....	1,569,000.00
1904 .....	1,632,250.00	1904 .....	1,474,594.00
1905 .....	1,816,300.00	1905 .....	1,617,646.00
1906 .....	2,011,600.00	1906 .....	1,724,090.00
1907 .....	2,079,250.00	1907 .....	2,001,306.00
1908 .....	3,284,040.00	1908 .....	2,877,500.00
1909 .....	3,300,000.00	1909 .....	2,956,000.00

Assurance Record.		Mortality Experience	
1899 (5 Mos) \$ 604,000	\$ 22,954.60	1900 .....	\$ 6,000.00
1900 .....	1,792,500	1901 .....	11,500.00
1901 .....	2,554,304	1902 .....	22,260.00
1902 .....	3,425,897	1903 .....	9,250.00
1903 .....	4,686,112	1904 .....	23,714.00
1904 .....	4,509,754	1905 .....	14,693.00
1905 .....	5,125,437	1906 .....	16,091.00
1906 .....	5,802,358	1907 .....	23,250.00
1907 .....	6,678,057	1908 .....	27,108.00
1908 .....	8,625,509	1909 .....	41,831.00
1909 .....	10,310,500		

Interest Earnings, Etc.		ASSETS.	
1899 (5 months) .....	\$ 1,794.21	1899 .....	\$ 105,004.00
1900 .....	3,239.01	1900 .....	118,672.00
1901 .....	3,431.87	1901 .....	154,534.00
1902 .....	5,536.20	1902 .....	193,070.00
1903 .....	7,360.37	1903 .....	273,604.00
1904 .....	10,041.24	1904 .....	362,853.00
1905 .....	14,810.91	1905 .....	575,378.00
1906 .....	35,410.10	1906 .....	720,405.00
1907 .....	46,177.32	1907 .....	834,292.00
1908 .....	60,707.28	1908 .....	1,104,874.00
1909 .....	80,379.76	1909 .....	1,304,832.00

ALBERT J. RALSTON, Managing Director.  
ELIAS ROGERS, Esq., HON. J. J. FOY, WM. STONE, Esq.,  
President. 1st Vice-Pres. 2nd Vice-Pres.

The National Life wants a first-class agent in this locality to whom a liberal contract will be given.

HEAD OFFICE, NATIONAL LIFE BUILDING, TORONTO, ONT.