

WAKENING OF SCIENCE TO THE VALUE OF FRUIT

What is "FRUIT-A-TIVES"?

The Lure of the Mask

By HAROLD MAC GRATH

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CHAPTER XII. GRAY VEILS.

THE fascination of Monte Carlo is not to be described—it must be seen. Vice shall be attractive, says the mother of Satan. At Monte Carlo it is more than attractive; it is compelling. A subtle hypnotism prevails, the lure of gold. Fool and rogue, saint and sinner, here they meet and mingle and change. To those who give Monte Carlo but a trifling glance, toss a coin or two on the tables and leave by the morrow's train it has no real significance. It is simply one of the sights of Europe.

To this latter class belonged the two young men. They had no fortunes to retrieve, no dishonesty to hide, no pretensions to make, no dancers to clothe and house. It was but a mild flirtation. They had searched Nice and Monaco and Mentone, but the women they sought were not to be found. They decided, therefore, that the women had gone to Paris.

"My system needs a tonic," said Merrilhew.

"We'll hold the funeral after tonight's play. Of all the damfool games it's roulette."

"And I can prove it." Merrilhew replied. "I have just \$50 left." He took out the gold and toyed with it. "Can't you hear it?" he asked.

"Hear what?"

"The swan song of these tender napoleons."

Merrilhew had played the numbers, the dozens, the columns, the colors, odd and even. Sometimes he would win a little, but a moment later the relentless rake would drag it back to the bank.

"Nature has done this very prettily. Quite clever with her colors, don't you know?" he drawled, plucking the down on his upper lip, for he was trying to raise a mustache, convinced that two waxed points of hair at each corner of his mouth would impress the hotel waiters and other facchini—baseborn. "Don't be a jackass!" Hillard was out of sorts.

"You agreed with me that I was one. Why not let me make a finished product?" good humoredly.

"Well," Merrilhew finally said, "you might as well let me have my letter of credit now."

"You will not set eyes upon it till we return to Genoa. That's final. I know you, my boy, and I know Monte Carlo. Even with your fifty, a watch and a ring I'm afraid to trust you out of sight."

"I can see that you will never forgive nor forget those bad cigars. Come on. We'll take a look at our Italian

touched him on the arm significantly, but the player shook his head. Ten minutes later he had won \$40,000 francs. Again he refused to leave his chair.

"If he stays now," said Hillard, "he will lose it all. His friend is right."

"Forty thousand francs, \$8,000!" murmured Merrilhew sadly. "Why couldn't he have luck like this?"

Hillard was a true prophet. There came a change in the smile of fortune. The game jumped from color to color, seldom repeating, with zero making itself conspicuous. The man with the scar played on, but he began to lose—small sums at first, then larger till finally he was down to his original stake. The scar grew livid. He waited five turns of the wheel, then placed his stake on the second dozen. He lost. He rose from his chair scowling. His eye chanced to meet Hillard's, and their glances held for a moment.

"Fool!" said Merrilhew in an undertone as the man strolled leisurely past them. "Eight thousand and not content to quit!"

Meanwhile the trolleys from Nice and Mentone had poured into Monte Carlo their usual burdens of pleasure seekers. On one of the cars from Nice there had arrived two women, both veiled and simply gowned. They seldom addressed each other and never spoke to any one else. Doubtless they were some sober married women out for a lark. Upon leaving the car they did not at once go into the casino, but directed their steps toward the terraces, for the band was playing. They sat in the shadow of the statue of Massenet and near by the rasp of a cricket etched upon the music. When the music stopped they linked arms and sauntered up and down the wide sweep of stone, mutually interested in the crowds. Once as they passed behind a bench the better to view the palaces of the prince they heard the voices of two men.

"As they went on the women heard something about 'those bad cigars.' The men were Americans evidently. It was only an inconsequent incident, and a moment later both had forgotten it.

"At which table shall I make the stake, Kitty?"

"To the center. There is always a crush there, and we shall not be noticed."

"I do not agree with you there. However, it shall be the center table. What would you do, Kitty, if I should break the bank?"

"Dish of excitement!" truthfully.

"You will live through this event then." With a light, careless laugh La Signorina pressed her way to the table.

"She lost steadily from the start. She may sign, however, that her forces were in full retreat from the enemy. She played on, and the hand which placed the bets was steady. And when the gold was all gone she opened her empty hands expressively and shrugged. She was beaten."

Behind the chair of the banker, opposite, stood the Italian. The scowl still marred his forehead. When the woman in the veil spread out her hands he started. There was something familiar in that gesture. And then the woman saw him. For the briefest instant her form stiffened.

"Kitty." La Signorina whispered. "Let us go out to the atrium. I am tired."

They left the hall leisurely and found a quiet settle in the atrium.

"How cold your hands are!" exclaimed Kitty.

"Kitty, I am, fool, a fool! I have unwittingly put my head in the lion's mouth. If I had not reached this seat in time I should have fallen. I would willingly give all my rings if at this moment I could run across the hall and out into the open."

"Merciful heaven! Why, what is the matter? What has happened?"

"Was it some one you saw in there?"

"Silence, and sit perfectly still!"

A man in evening dress came out into the atrium, lighting a cigarette. At the sight of him both women were startled.

"It is Mr. Hillard, Mr. Merrilhew's friend!" Kitty would have risen, but the other's strong band restrained her.

"Kitty, remember your promise?"

"Is he the man?"

"No, no! Only I have said that we must not meet him. It might do him incalculable harm. Harm!" La Signorina repeated. "Do you understand?"

Hillard released the imprisoned arm.

There was a paten rally, a quizzical insolence which convinced Hillard that the italiano had not given chase out of idle purpose.

"We shall meet again," the Italian said softly.

"Are you certain?" the italiano blessed.

"So certain! that if you do not obey me I shall call the police."

"I should like nothing better," replied the italiano, with a coolness which dumbfounded Hillard.

"Do you know these ladies?"

"Do you?" insolently.

"My knowing them does not matter. But it is any gentleman's concern when a man gives pursuit to a lady who does not wish to meet him."

"A lady? Grace of Mary, that is droll!"

Hillard released the imprisoned arm.

There was a paten rally, a quizzical insolence which convinced Hillard that the italiano had not given chase out of idle purpose.

"We shall meet again," the Italian said softly.

"I hope not," replied Hillard frankly.

"However, you may find me at the Hotel de Londres."

The italiano laughed again. "You understand the language well," debatingly.

"And the people too," Hillard had no desire to pass the time of day with his opponent.

"Well, I have said that we shall meet again, and it must be so."

"And your hat, as well as mine, is still in the casino. The night is cold."

The italiano permitted his glance to wander over Hillard critically. He was walking round on his heel and walked rapidly down the street. Hillard turned to reassure Kitty. Kitty had vanished!

CHAPTER XIII.

MANY NAPOLEONS.

MERRILHEW signed with perfect content. The pretty woman sitting opposite him tenderly, and he smiled back abstractedly, as a man sometimes will when his mind tries to gather in comprehensively a thought and a picture which are totally different. Before him in neat little lustrous stacks stood 7,000 francs in gold, 350 shillings of "Napoleon the Little"—7,000 francs, \$1,400, more than half the sum of his letter of credit!

He counted out ten coins and placed them on the second column. The bell jangled into No. 23. He leaned back again with a second sigh, and the pretty woman smiled a second smile, and the wooden rake pushed the beautiful gold over to him. He was playing a system, one bet in every three turns of the wheel in stakes of \$40 and \$80. Be sure, he lost now and then, but the next play he doubled and retrieved. On the American Comic Opera company should be well taken care of. Two more bets and then he would pocket his winnings and go. He laid \$10 francs on No. 28 and 400 on black, leaned upon his elbows and studied the pretty woman, who smiled. If she spoke English—he scribbled the question on a scrap of paper and pushed it across the table, blushing a little as he did so. She read it, or at least she tried to read it, and shook her head with the air of one deeply puzzled. He sighed again, reflecting that there might have been a pleasant adventure had he only understood French.

Twenty-six, black and eve!

Merrilhew slid back his chair and rose. He swept up the gold by the handful and poured it into his pockets, casually and unconcerned; as if this was an everyday affair and of minor importance. But as a matter of fact his heart was beating fast, and there was a wild desire in his throat to yell with delight. Eighteen hundred dollars, \$8,000 francs! A merry music they made in his pockets—Jingle, Jingle, Jingle! And then he saw Hillard coming across the floor. Instantly he forced the joy from his face and eyes and dropped his chin in his collar. He became in that moment the picture of desolation.

"To the Continued."

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STORIES AT LESS THAN CENT APPIECE.

In the fifty-two issues of a year volume The Youth's Companion prints fully two hundred and five stories. The subscription price to Canada is but \$2.00 so that the stories cost less than a cent apiece, without reckoning all the rest of the contents—advertisements, humorous sketches, the doctor's weekly article, papers on popular topics by famous men and women.

Although the two hundred and fifty stories cost so little, they are not cheap stories. In variety of incident, skill and truth in character depiction they cannot be excelled.

The announcement for the new volume, The Youth's Companion, is now being issued, giving more detailed particulars of these stories and other new features which greatly enlarge the paper, will be sent to any address in Canada free with sample copies of current issues.

Every new Canadian subscriber receives free The Companion's Calendar for 1911, lithographed twelve colors and gold, and if a subscription is received at once the issues for the remaining weeks of 1910.

THE YOUTH'S COMPANION,
144 Berkeley St., Boston, Mass.
New Subscriptions received in this office.

BEAVERDALE

Fothergills have the threshing about wound up for this season.

Mr. R. C. Johnston had a very good sale on Tuesday of last week. He sold over 50 head of cattle and horses, besides his sheep and horses and implements. He intends moving to Clarksville in a short time.

Mr. D. T. Mathews is home again from the west after spending eight weeks there.

Quite a number from here attended the fowl supper at Elgin Monday night; they claim having a good time and lots to eat.

Mrs. Jos. Fothergill had four quail shot this fall on Friday.

Sorry to say Miss Susie L. is on the sick list. We hear she has diphtheria.

RIVERDALE

Mr. D. Lee, who was engaged for the summer with Mr. R. T. Trotter, Markdale suburbs, returned on Saturday last.

A number from here attended the barn raising of Mr. Jos. S. Woodhouse, on Monday.

The Canadian boy, from W. house, was a caller in our last week.

Mr. J. Lee is engaged in stone quarrying during the past few days.

Owing to the threatening aspect of the weather on Friday evening last, a large number from here were detained from attending the fowl supper at Kimberley.

Mr. and Mrs. David Lee family, of Parry Sound, who were visiting friends in and around this vicinity during the past weeks returned home to-day.

Mr. Robert and Seth Hanning are engaged ploughing on the farm, Markdale suburbs.

While out hunting recently

of our famous sportsmen had occasion to experience a rare of good luck. Another local hunter took him for a jackrabbit but was evidently a jolly poor shot.

Turner's condition powders are the best for horses or cattle.

cents a package at Turner's Store.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the matter of the estate of James Morton Hewitt, late of the Township of Holland, in the County of Grey, Farmer, deceased.

Notice is hereby given pursuant to the Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1897, chapter 162, and amending acts that all creditors and others having claims against the estate of the said James Morton Hewitt, who died on or about the eighth day of September, 1910, are required on or before the tenth day of November, 1910, to send by post prepaid or deliver to Messrs. Lucas, Raney & Wallace, of the village of Markdale, Solicitors for Joseph Henry Hewitt and William John Hamilton, the executors of the last will and Testament of the said James Morton Hewitt, their Christian names, addresses and descriptions, the full particulars of their claims and the nature of the securities, if any, held by them.

And further take notice that after such last mentioned date the said executors will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased among the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which they shall then have notice, and that the said executors will not be liable for the said assets or any part thereof to any person or persons of whose claims notice shall not have been received by them at the time of such distribution.

Dated the seventh day of October, A. D. 1910.

Lucas, Raney & Wallace, Solicitors for the above-named executors.

Terrible Accident at Redwing

that Dolson, son of Mr. John Dolson, of Redwing, was the victim of a shocking accident, about nine o'clock on Monday morning of last week. It appears the young man, who is about 21 years of age, was assisting in threshing oats on his father's premises. The oats, being old and damp, caused the rollers of the machine to become clogged, the young man undertook to remove the clog by pulling out the straw. In doing so, his right hand got caught in the rollers, with the result that the thumb and all the fingers were completely chopped off.

When the accident was noticed it was stopped as quickly as possible, and medical assistance was summoned. Drs. Moore and Thompson deamed it necessary to amputate the arm at the elbow.

The young man worked in Mr. A. G. Swain's mill at Redwing all last winter and had the reputation of being a steady and reliable workman.

E. M. McPhail, Auctioneer.

Credit Sale

Term Stock, Implements, Etc.

Under-signed will sell by public auction at Lot 28 con. 8, Glenelg, on

Wednesday, Nov. 9th

the following chattels, viz: