

SOUTH ATLANTIC LEGACY

By Sydney Parkman

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Principal Characters in the Story

TOM SALTER, bachelor sea captain of British origin, mostly engaged on American coastal trade.

STEINER LEPTI FRENCH, seafaring man of doubtful repute, who at one time sailed with Salter.

FATHER FRANCIS MALONEY, an Irish priest in Cuba, in whom Salter confides.

MAJOR SALTER, Tom Salter's brother living the life of a retired regular officer in England. Regards his seafaring brother as slightly disreputable.

DIANA SALTER, Major Salter's daughter and Tom Salter's niece.

TOBY BISHOP, hardworking, ambitious young man who wants to marry Diana.

JULIAN BECKER, mysterious American lawyer.

Synopsis

Returning to the Havana port in which he had his home, Capt. Tom Salter interviews his bank manager in regard to a sugar estate which he (Salter) has decided to buy in preparation for his retirement from the sea.

Thereafter he sails a few miles up the coast to the coastal village in which he lives. He learns from his friend, Father Maloney, that a stranger has been in the village inquiring about Salter. Arriving at his homestead the skipper is surprised to find that his housekeeper is absent and the place in darkness. Entering, he is confronted by a man with a revolver.

The intruder turns out to be STEINER who summons his confederates, LEPTI and FRENCH, who make it clear that they are on a blackmailing visit, based on the fact that Salter in the past engaged in smuggling liquor into the United States. There is a struggle in which the captain is shot dead, after the men have overhauled his money and papers.

Some weeks later, in Sussex, Salter's niece, Diana receives a letter from Father Maloney.

Neither Diana nor her father, Major Salter can fully understand the letter. It contains references to an earlier letter which apparently the captain had sent but which Diana had never received.

It seems that his property should go to his next of kin, the major, but he has no money to go to Cuba to make his claim nor to allow Diana to go, as the letter seems to propose.

TOBY BISHOP offers to finance such a visit. The Major, who, with a such-bish arrogance, dislikes Toby, is willing to accept assistance from the young man, but only in respect of a visit by himself. Toby's idea is a trip by all three of them, and he is not agreeable to the Major's counter-proposal.

Now read on!

CHAPTER VII

VOYAGE FOR THREE

The major frowned heavily at the tablecloth.

"Well, there may be something in that," he conceded at last. "I was only thinking of the additional expense. But if that's how you look at it..."

"But, Daddy! You're not thinking seriously about doing this, are you?" Diana demanded.

"I most certainly am!" the major told her emphatically. "And why not, now read on!"

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By James W. Barlow, M.D.

That Body of Yours

WHY YOUR WEIGHT IS SO IMPORTANT

The man and woman of average weight in good health cannot understand why so much is said about the dangers of overweight, and to a less extent about underweight. There are men and women who will tell you, and it is absolutely true, that they eat what they like and yet their weight has not changed in 10 to 20 years. Thus to see those who are overweight struggling bravely to reduce, and others struggling just as bravely to increase weight is a source of amazement and often of amusement to them also.

However with the figures of insurance companies before us, it is easily seen that underweight up to the age of 30 is a handicap and a liability to health and life, and overweight after thirty is even more of a handicap and liability. Insurance figures are true because companies, whether mutual or otherwise, cannot remain in business if they insure those who are likely to pass away early. The insurance companies have found that a certain weight for a certain age and height means health and longer life, and that being heavier or lighter than this weight is a disadvantage.

You have only to know or even look at the very thin or the very fat individual to see certain conditions of mind and body that make you realize that the insurance companies with thousands of case investigated are justified in refusing the very fat or the very thin applicants for insurance. And when these thin or fat individuals are accepted, an increased premium is charged, until they more nearly reach the required weight.

We have all noticed some of the characteristics of the thin individual. He or she is usually very nervous, jumps at the least noise or sound, tries to do everything and seems to put the last ounce of energy into doing the simplest and most unimportant tasks. They

him.

It had not occurred to Toby that he would be called upon to supply the major with spending money for the voyage till that warrior tackled him on the subject immediately before dinner on the first night out.

"I was wondering if you could advance me a little money—just for current expenses," the major had said. "I don't care about asking for it, but I very foolishly forgot to draw enough from the bank before I left, and what with one thing and another. You know how these little things mount up..."

Toby had extracted a ten pound note and handed it over.

It had not been an auspicious beginning, but he had known that the elder man existed on his army pension, and he assumed that he had been caught at the wrong end of the quarter. In any case, ten pounds would not make much difference to the sum he had already expended on his behalf, and he thought no more about it at the time.

In the course of the following days, however, he had found that the major had apparently set out to make an impression in his chosen circle, and had so far succeeded that a number of the denizens of the bar and smoking-room were persuaded that he had inherited one of the richest estates in Cuba. This, in itself, might have been harmless, enough but for the fact that he evidently thought it necessary to display a generosity befitting the part he had assumed; and as there were a number of men aboard returning to South America from leave, who were as thirsty as they were impetuous, it became obvious that his vanity was proving a somewhat expensive luxury.

He had spent more and more time in the smoking-room, and though he carried his liquor well, it was certain that he was drinking more than was good for his health or his pocket.

In the atmosphere of sycophantic adulation with which he had surrounded himself, his manner towards Toby had undergone a change for the worse, too. He now affected an air of tolerant patronage towards the younger man which was distinctly offensive, and though Toby had borne it so far without displaying any signs of resentment, it was only the knowledge that it would cause pain and embarrassment to the girl which had acted as a curb.

She had more than once attempted an apologetic defence of her father's attitude, but it was evident that she was painfully conscious of it and tried to make up for it in her own way. Nevertheless, it was borne in upon Toby more and more that she regarded herself as being bound closely to him by ties of filial duty, and he realized that in the present condition of affairs he was faced with a hopeless situation. It was evident that she would never leave her father while she fancied he needed her, and in the circumstances he felt that it would be wiser not to precipitate an issue—however great the temptation.

It would be better, he concluded, to see the outcome of this affair before taking any further action. If there really was something behind this man Maloney's communication—and he thought it was more than likely—then the whole situation might be materially affected, and he would have to readjust his plans accordingly. It was only a matter of a few days now, and once he knew for certain, he would be in a better position to decide finally upon a course of action.

(To Be Continued)

Florida's Prayer for Visitors from Canada

The following was published in "The Week in Lakeland," a bright little newspaper issued at Lakeland, Florida. A visitor from Timmins to the south treasured a copy of the little journal containing this poem, feeling that this "prayer in verse" was, perhaps, the most impressive possible evidence of friendship with which to greet the "Visitors from Canada."

TO OUR CANADIAN VISITORS
"FOR ALL WHO SERVE"
GOD—KING—COUNTRY
Lord God of Hosts, whose mighty hand Dominion holds on sea and land, In Peace and War Thy will we see Shaping the larger liberty. Nations may rise and nations may fall, Thy Changeless Purpose rules them all.

When Death blasts earth and sky and sea,
Keep all our hearts firm—stayed on Thee;
Console and succor those who fall,
And help and hearten each and all!

O, hear a people's prayers for those Who fearless face their country's foes!

For those who weak and broken lie,
In weariness and agony—
Great Healer, to their beds of pain
Come, touch, and make them whole again!

O, hear a people's prayers, and bless Thy servants in their hour of stress!

For those to whom the call shall come
We pray Thy tender welcome home,
The toll, the bitterness, all past.

We trust them to Thy love at last,
O, hear a people's prayers for all
Who, nobly striving, nobly fall!

To every stricken heart and home
O, come! In tenderest pity come!
To anxious souls who wait in fear,
Be Thou most wonderfully near!
And hear a people's prayer for faith
To quicken life and conquer death!

For those who minister and heal,
And spend themselves, their skill,
Their zeal—
Renew their hearts with Christ-like faith;
And guard them from disease and death.
And in Thine own good time, Lord, send Thy peace on earth till Time shall end!

—John Oxenham,
Tune—"Mellita"—"Eternal Father, Strong to Save."

The above poem contributed by Mrs. George B. Hiller, Cooperstown, N. Y., and is published here for the first time.

CHIMNEY FIRES

Avoid chimney fires by keeping the chimneys clean. A chimney fire may spread to the rest of the building.

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