

Of Special Interest to Women Readers

THE AVENGER

by Walter Forder

Synopsis

The story opens with a scene in an American music hall. "MYSTICUS," a British artist with a great gift for stage "magic," has finished his turn. In his dressing-room he finds awaiting him his young brother, who is endeavouring to escape from a racket in which he has got himself involved. Mysticus offers to take him home to England, but the conversation is interrupted by the entry of three men, who, producing pistols, demand that the younger man come away with them. He refuses and the older brother intervenes, with the result that both are shot and left for dead.

Several years lapse, and the scene is changed to an old house, Ow's Croft, on the East Coast of England. It has been bequeathed by an eccentric man to his nephew, FRANK DIGBY, who, on taking possession of the neglected place, is almost scared out of his wits by what seem to be psychic happenings.

Digby enlists the help of MAXTON HUNTER, who has a reputation for private investigation, and the two take up residence at Ow's Croft, where they are attended by an elderly couple, MR. and MRS. BARLOW. The couple are unobtrusive, but Digby finds that other servants he engages refuse to stay.

On the first evening of Hunter's stay in the house there are unaccountable noises, a ringing of bells, and uncanny things happen to an ancient picture of a priest. Presently, foot steps are heard outside the library.

CHAPTER IV

As the two men stood within that darkened old room there came again the creaking peal of the deep throated bell far away in the kitchens.

"There, Hunter, that's the sort of thing that goes on here. There's the old bell-pull by the side of the fireplace."

Digby indicated a broad band of em-broidered silk which terminated in a rusty old ring.

"You mean that the bell now ringing in the kitchen is connected to that bell-rop?"

"I mean just the opposite, Hunter. It is not connected, and yet it is ringing as you hear. Say what you like, it's uncanny."

"Queer, certainly, but I find no room for introduction of the occult, and I must have a little time to investigate before I agree to your suggestion. In any case, what does the fellow in the picture need that he should ring?"

"It's the anniversary of his death, sir," Mrs. Barlow hushed her voice to a respectful tone. "And 'e always calls those who are in the 'ouse to see the death ring round 'is neck."

Hunter strode forward towards the high, old mantel-shelf, over which the portrait hung.

He was beheaded. Underneath it, whilst he peered upwards at the grimed old canvas, he demanded, "Well—what's the yarn, Digby?"

"It is supposed—"

"Supposed, sir! It's certain. I've seen it and so 'as my 'usband!" The hollow voice of Mrs. Barlow had now advanced to the door of the room, around which she peered fearfully.

"I say it is said," continued Digby, "for I have never seen it myself, that this picture lives for a fraction of a second every year upon the anniversary of the subject's impending death upon the block. He was beheaded, as I told you, and the picture in some horrible way suggests that grim penalty."

Hunter, fascinated, stared at the canvas, and as his eyes studied the picture a thin crimson line began to make itself visible around the saggy neck of the man.

Brouder and wider it became until it circled the neck just above an Elizabethan ruff.

"H'm! Very interesting," observed

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FRUIT-A-TIVES LIVER TABLETS

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the presence of a good automatic in his grasp.

CHAPTER V

The Mysterious Mr. Cranston
A shadow darkened the doorway of the library and a figure came into view. Tall, with sloping shoulders and arms a-swing like an ape's, long and lean, with scraggy neck.

"Guy Cranston!" breathed Digby.

"I appear to have disturbed you!" The voice was fitting like its owner, rasping and mincing in its peculiar diction. "I rang the bell, but no one appears to have heard it. I apologise, my dear Digby, for taking such liberties, but I had no idea you were entertaining a guest."

As he spoke he craned his vulture-like neck forward and displayed his waxen face with a wrinkled smile.

"My friend and neighbour, Mr. Guy Cranston. This gentleman is a friend from London, Mr. Hunter," said Digby, in a relieved and matter of fact tone.

"Hunter, Hunter?" croaked the grotesque man at the door. "Not Hunter, the criminologist?"

"That is so," answered Digby.

"Delighted, sir, delighted I am to meet the solver of so many mysteries! Here you are well placed, Mr. Hunter, for if ever there were mysteries wanting solution assuredly they are in Ow's Croft." He laughed harshly, and giving himself a queer twist upwards as though to stretch, sent the bones of his body cracking.

"Lor, sir, don't do it!" gulped Mrs. Barlow. "That cracking of yours sets my teeth on edge."

Hunter took in the quaint make-up of the mysterious visitor and mentally assessed him as something more than a crank. What fascinated him was the queer article he gripped, a faded old thing; a green umbrella.

(To Be Continued)

Variety In Your BREAKFASTS

The housewife who can prepare a breakfast that pleases her family and at the same time nourishes them, is to be envied. Most women find breakfast a problem. It comes at a time when appetites are temperamental and digestion sluggish.

Breakfast can start the day right or wrong. It all depends on the planning. It should be a fairly light meal—one that is easy and quick to eat, yet tasty, and contains plenty of healthful nourishment. It should not require any elaborate preparation. A sense of being at peace with the world when everything runs smoothly and easily should be inspired and this cannot be if there is a clatter of pots and pans.

Packaged cereals are a big help. They can be served in hot or cold weather and with fresh or canned fruit. Bran muffins are a delightful addition to the breakfast table. They can be made days ahead of time and heated in a double boiler over hot water or toasted just before serving. For the adults, be particular about the coffee you serve. It should be fresh, properly ground for the type of coffee-maker you use and of the right strength and don't skimp on the cream. Hot chocolate is a good starter for the youngsters who go to school.

Vary breakfast by starting off with pineapple juice, orange juice, tomato juice or grapefruit juice, stewed or fresh fruits when they are in season. This can be followed with cereal or eggs, sausages, fish cakes or cream-chipped beef on toast. Toast, or French toast can be served some mornings and bran muffins on others.

Fluffy Omelet

2 tablespoons quick-cooking tapioca
½ teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon pepper
¼ cup milk
1 tablespoon butter
4 egg yolks, beaten until thick and lemon-coloured
4 egg whites, stiffly beaten

Combine quick-cooking tapioca, salt, pepper, and milk in top of double boiler. Place over rapidly boiling water, bring to scalding point (allow 3 to 5 minutes) and cook 5 minutes, stirring frequently. Add butter. Remove from boiling water; let cool slightly while beating eggs. Add egg yolks and mix well. Fold in egg whites. Pour into hot, buttered 10-inch frying pan. Cook over low flame 3 minutes. Then bake in moderate oven (350 deg. F.) 15 minutes. Omelet is sufficiently cooked when a knife inserted comes out clean. Fold carefully and serve on a hot platter. Serves 4.

Bran Muffins

1 cup sifted flour
4 teaspoons baking powder
¼ teaspoon salt
1 egg well beaten
2 tablespoons sugar
¼ cup milk
3 tablespoons butter, melted
1 cup bran flakes
Sift flour once, measure, add baking powder and salt and sift again. Combine egg and sugar. Add flour, alternately with milk, a small amount at a time. Beat after each addition until smooth. Add butter and bran flakes. Pour into greased muffin pans, filling them two-thirds full. Bake in hot oven (450 deg. F.) 25 minutes. Makes 12 medium sized muffins.

French Toast

1 egg slightly beaten
½ cup milk
3 slices bread (¾ inch thick) cut in triangles
¼ teaspoon salt
Combine egg, milk, and salt. Dip slices of bread in mixture and fry in deep fat (350 deg. F.) 2 minutes, or until golden brown. Drain on unglazed paper. (Slices may also be sautéed in hot fat on griddle). Serve with maple syrup or jam. Makes 6 triangles.

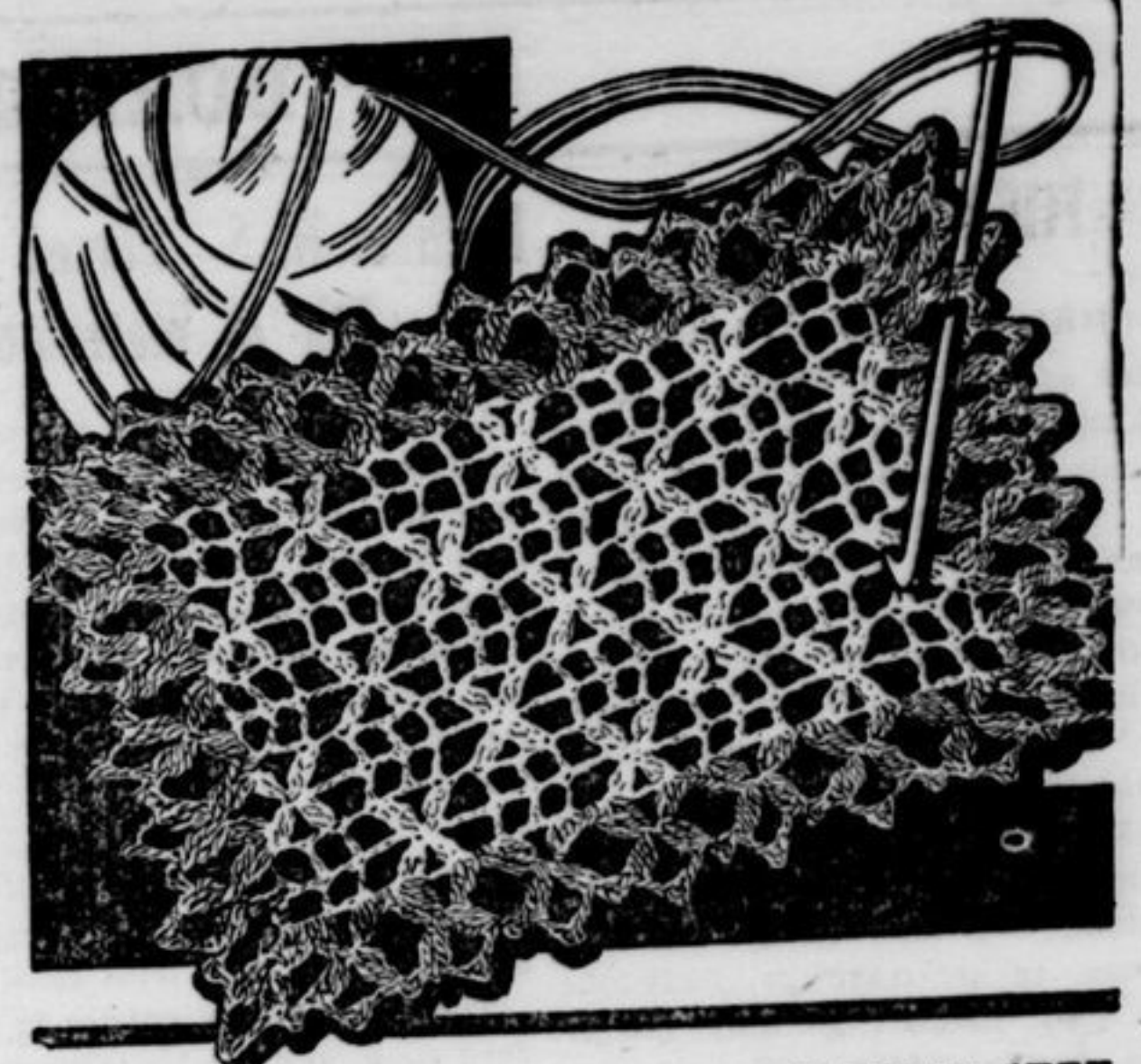
Envoy

Go, little book, and wish to all flowers in the garden, meat in the hall,
A house with lawn enclosing it,
A living river by the door,
A nightingale in the sycamore!
— Robert Louis Stevenson

WEAK AND NERVOUS?

MOST women at some period of their lives need a tonic like Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. The young woman who suffers from monthly pains, the expectant mother who has no appetite, and the middle-aged woman who experiences the "menopausal" symptoms, should try this "Prescription." Mrs. L. Teal, 482 Bridge St., Niagara Falls, Ont., said: "During motherhood Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription gave me a fine appetite, helped to relieve me of upset stomach, and strengthened me wonderfully. Before I used the 'Prescription' I was quite weak and nervous. Prospective mothers who are weak and in need of a tonic will find it a great friend." Buy now at your druggist.

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Believes Women Less Susceptible

To Menly Charms — Dr. Peter Sandiford States Men More Easily Influenced In Criticizing Teaching.

TORONTO. — However susceptible to manly charms women appear to be, it seems they are not influenced by them nearly as much as men are influenced by female charms.

It has all been worked out scientifically by Dr. Peter Sandiford, Department of Education Research, College of Education, who before the Training Section of the Ontario Educational Association convention in Toronto, showed by carefully worked out charts the part played by sex when men and women critics judge men and women student teachers.

Are Better Critics

His findings were: (a) Both men and women critics give significantly higher practice teaching marks to women students than to men students. (b) Men students obtained significantly higher marks from men critics than from women critics, while on the average women students obtained equally high marks from critics of both sexes.

"It seems that women critics are not so overcome by admiration for the opposite sex as to give them higher marks," said Dr. Sandiford. "Men critics, however, cannot claim to be so free from influence; it is probably that they are more lenient with women student-teachers."

Women Own Most Of U. S. Wealth

Women, "in pocket or in prospect," are the owners of 70 per cent. of the wealth in the United States, according to Dr. William E. Weld, president of Wells College, New York. In his address to the Wells College Eastern Alumnae Association, he asserted that 50 per cent. of the stockholders in the United States are women, and that they own 44 per cent. of the public utilities of the United States.

Every coin minted in Venezuela bears the profile of Simon Bolivar.

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TUCKETTS FINE CUT TOBACCO

Mice And Women Are Still Afraid Of One Another

Winnipeg Writer Goes Extensively Into This Age-Old Problem—Relations Somewhat Improved.

The wife of an African explorer, to whom the lion's roar has the same soothing effect as the sound of traffic to a New Yorker, shocked her friends of climbing onto a chair when a little grey mouse hove into view. Sally Chipman notes in The Winnipeg Free Press.

Then a woman's dinner was thrown into an uproar when the little fellow made his way from one corner to the other. "We carelessly assumed that all this went out with bustles in 1900, so we set out to ascertain the facts of the case," the writer explains. She interviewed prominent Winnipeg women about it.

Dates Back to Victorian Era
Dr. E. Cora Lind, for years the West's grain prophet, scoffed the idea, but she recalled seeing a veteran of the United States civil war climb up on a chair and howl when a little grey animal walked across the toe of his boot. "Perhaps we should have asked the men, too," the writer interjects.

Dr. Emma Adamson said the whole thing dated back to Victorian times and Jane Austen novels, when it was the mark of a lady to leap onto a sofa and let the edge of one's face panties peep out just ever so little. It's all a matter of what you are trained and brought up to fear, she said.

No Longer Seek Rafters
"No longer our friends shamelessly queried our answers in the best scientific, statistical manner," the writer sums up. "The findings of our research, in cold figures, prove that women no longer seek the rafters or the chandeliers when the wee cowering critters appear; that is, five women don't where four women do."

"One of the timid souls told us that a mouse had once taken refuge in her clothes cupboard when her family were out of the city. Fortunately she had two such cupboards so she closed the little fellow up and wore clothes from the other cupboard for a month until her family returned."

"One told us she was not a bit afraid of a mouse and she'd love to meet a ghost if we could arrange it. Another expressed the opinion that Mickey Mouse had a good deal to do with the improved relations between mice and women."

Women Operators Enjoy Gossiping

Over the Air Waves—Hams Are Pained and Yearn For Pioneer Days of Short-wave Radio

Pity the poor radio "ham"—since his wife discovered she could talk over the air without using Morse code he can't get a word in edgewise.

"They practically monopolize our sets exchanging recipes, gossiping about hats, new kinds of lipsticks and what not," the Purple Pajama asserted last week.

Off the air waves the Purple Pajama is Dr. Burton T. Simpson, director of the \$1,500,000 New York State Institute for the Study of Malignant Diseases and one of the nation's foremost authorities on cancer.

He has been an amateur radio operator for 15 years and has one of the most powerful "ham" sending sets in the country. His Purple Pajama title comes from his leadership in the Pajama Club, a group of "hams" in New York and New England who meet on the air three times a week at 7 a.m. to discuss the topics of the day.

The Old Days of Morse

"There was a time when we hams would say good night to our wives and then sit up until morning exchanging messages," Dr. Simpson explained. "But the radio telephone changed all that."

Hams used to designate their wives as Ow's (old woman) but no more!

"In the days of Morse that was all right," Dr. Simpson declared, "but when the women folk heard the loud-speaker saying, 'How's the Ow tonight?' they wanted to know what it meant and when they found out—they didn't like it."

"So, we've changed it to NYL, meaning ex-young lady."

Queen Mary Doesn't Like Modern Music

Queen Mary does not like modern dance music.

Shortly before she laid the foundation stone of the new St. Helen hospital at Surrey, a program of music for the ceremony was sent for her approval. She intimated that she did not like modern music, and particularly jazz. She said she preferred light opera and Viennese waltzes. She approved a program which included waltzes and a gavotte.

When the Lusitania sank, 1,198 persons lost their lives.

CO-OPERATING

Golden Mark...
Gellen Mark...
should know...
THE LESSON...
Time—A...
Place—Th...
were spoken...
rest of the...
lesson was...
pennant, at...
Son of Gall...
30. And they...
there, and...
and he would...
should know...
men and the...
sister Philip...
pennant. As...
notice, he...
mon westward...

31. For he taught...
meant to spend...
interrupted teaching...
not merely the...
remained faithful...
work was near...
all his time...
followers for...
unto them, The...
erred up into...
they shall kill...
killed, after...
again. Christ...
nounced his...
when they were...
see (8:31), but...
detail, i.e., that...
up to men, which...
betrayed by some...
mies. Such...
lately...
makes the...
pected...
knew it would...
be chosen, he...
such a death...
as this...
fully...
it would be...
conclusion...
ed to be, and...
dead because...
his work on...
holiness...
ing in the...
power of d...

Wanted Earthly

32. But they...
saying, and...
It was...
disciples...
dreams of an...
still...
ment. They...
his...
what it meant...
They...
to be brought...
cross that lay...
issues it opened...
understood...
ing to know...
that earthly...
kingdom were...

True Creation

33. And they...
am. Capernaum...
had ceased...
Christ's...
venient...
journey and...
fresh field...
Simon or...
2:13) afforded...
when he was...
them. What...
way? 34. But...
for they had...
other on the...
the greatest...
and the...
human heart...
quarreling...
serving their...
kingdom, when...
comforting...
priches...
ship and...
due, and...
by drawing...
to face.

35. And he...
the twelve...
Jesus sat...
fashion, his...
death him, and...
Twelve, all...
ed, sat before...
This action...
about to...
struction to...
sixth...
first, he...
servant of...
The...
of a...
minister...
and amount...
as man...
false, earth...
of...
ing before...
the...
prompts...
prompts...
that its...
all.

Serving Others

36. And he...
set him in...
taking him...
them, 27...
one of such...
name, receive...
receive...
me, receive...