

THE CONFESSIONS OF ROXANE

By Frances Wal

I DECIDE TO SEEK MY HUSBAND.

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The attitude of the nurse was such that I saw it would be wasting time to question her further. Whatever her motive for concealment, it was sufficiently strong to make her an adamant, even to the plea of an unfortunate creature such as I felt myself to be. If my own pathetic condition did not appeal to her, nothing that I could say would. There appeared to be nothing, therefore, that I could do except to bide my time.

I tried to formulate a plan of action. I had determined first to ascertain where my husband really was. What I should learn would govern my later conduct.

All my credulity was gone, now that I was thoroughly aroused. I raged within myself to think that I had lain there like a sick kitten and had been lulled to a sense of security and comfort by the purrings of that nurse. From a frame of mind which permitted me to believe everything, I had swung to a condition which made me doubt everything she had told me. Her whole story was preposterous. Something terrible had happened to me, and she was concealing the awful facts from me. But what was her motive? Whose hireling was she? Was she employed by my husband to detain me there while he was fleeing elsewhere or living with some other woman?

This was the conclusion which seemed most logical to me. Who else would be so interested in my remaining a captive? Yet why should Arthur adopt such a course? Could he know that I was ill? It was unbelievable that he could be so heartless.

The anger in my heart must have made me delirious for I again lapsed into unconsciousness, and it was not until the next day that I was completely myself. The figure of the nurse once more was the first object that met my eyes. I sickened at the sight of her. She was a nurse no longer. She was my jailer. Yet I was too ill to show my disdain.

She soon saw that I was awake and came and bent over me. The expression on her face was one of grave concern, and well it might be, for was not she responsible for the condition to which I was reduced? I turned my face away, I could not bear to look at her.

She went methodically about her tasks, giving me first a dose of medicine, then some nourishment, and then a drink of water. She seemed determined that science should restore me for further suffering.

My determination not to question her again remained firmly fixed in my mind. No matter what should happen I would not seek further information from her. The programme I had mapped out before my escape would be carried out. I would hide my time and learn of myself into whose hands I had fallen; whose prisoner I was.

Time wore on. At first I was hardly conscious of the difference between day and night. Gradually, however, strength came back to me.



As the paper fell from my hand to the coverlid I breathed a sigh of relief. I was disappointed, to be sure, but even then it was infinitely better than I had expected.

The ready pallor left my cheeks and the brightness slowly crept into my eyes. A naturally strong constitution asserted itself steadily. I began to realize it was only a question of a short time when I would be able to move about the room.

Until I should have recovered completely there would be no way for me to obtain information from the outside world except by using the telephone in my parlor, and if my nurse really was my jailer, she would not permit that if she knew it. It would be necessary, therefore, for me to conceal my every movement, my every thought and purpose from her.

To a nature accustomed to candor it might be expected that this sudden necessity for secretiveness could readily prove an impossible task. But I did not find it so. In my whole life there had been little which I had felt it necessary or desirable to hide. My daily conduct was an open book. Yet when the present necessity arose I was equal to the emergency. I simulated the condition of an invalid long after I had gained strength. Even when I was strong enough to leave my bed I made my attendant believe I still was too weak to rise even on my elbow.

Miss Thompson's vigilance was such that it was not easy for me to attempt my first move. She remained almost constantly at my bedside or within sight of me during the day, and at night she slept at the foot of my bed, and the slightest noise from me roused her. I soon saw that she must be decoyed from the room if I was ever to be able to use the telephone.

One or twice I suggested that she take some air. I do not think she suspected anything, but she declined each time I offered to let her go. "But I want you to take a walk," I urged on one such occasion. "You will be ill yourself if you remain shut up here with me much longer."

"I am used to it, my dear," was her reply. I dared not insist upon her leaving, yet I was determined that she should go. "The air seems so fresh," I continued temptingly. "I do not see how you can miss the opportunity. If only I was able, how quickly would I leave my bed and seek the sunshine!"

"We will go together as soon as you are better!" she told me. "We will order a taxicab and ride to one of the parks. It will not be long before you will be able to go."

She spoke quite naturally, but each word was like a pin pricking me. "How well she dissembled! What a cunning woman she must be!" (To be Continued.)

Reverse of the Usual Form Answer Well.

The following advice for Canadian fishermen regarding the best methods of baiting for the king of our game fishes:

When using minnows for bass (shiners are the only reliable ones), pass the hook in at the mouth, then out through the gill, and finally use the barb in the flesh just above the tail. This is the reverse of the usual way, but answers very well. Keep the bait moving in a natural headforemost manner by means of a slight turning of the wrist. A bass seizing this bait will either grab it crosswise or by the tail, and then bory toward his stronghold before swallowing. If given plenty of time he will flit the minnow around so as to take it head first in swallowing. This is natural, but do not wait for it.

Upon the first twitch strike sharply and trust to luck. The bass has the minnow either crosswise or tail first in his first grab, and in either event the hook has two chances of taking hold. Two to one is good odds. If given time the bass will reverse the bait, and in so doing he may find the hook and promptly reject the imagined dainty. When hooked head upward the minnow plays in a natural manner; if hooked merely through the lips it may be taken without giving a chance to plant the barb firmly, and good minnows are scarce. If hooked first through the lips and then through the skin of the back, or the back fin, there is still a goodly portion of it at which a fish may grab with impunity. Therefore, hook the bait as described, and strike at the first sign, without giving any chance for goring at leisure and subsequent trouble in removing a fairly swallowed hook.

When using white grubs pass the hook in at the mouth, or just below it, and on to the tail. This gives a natural curve, which few bass can resist. When the grub is in the mouth, pass the barb in at the mouth and through to the tail. This also gives the important natural curve, and a bait so rigged and sent down with Mr. So-and-So's compliments, is well nigh irresistible.

Another important thing is that bait so rigged may serve two or three times. This is no trifling matter, when fish are biting freely. As a rule, crayfish, frogs, minnows, and so on, are difficult to secure in numbers and the more service one can be made to render, the better. And furthermore, a bait so rigged will almost invariably slide up the gullet, at the fish's first rush and so be preserved to do another throw.

When using a frog pass the hook first through the lips and then through the skin at the juncture of the legs with the back. In this position the frog can kick out and swim more or less, and in so doing make himself the more attractive. The grasshopper and the bee may be hooked crosswise behind the wings, and so serve their purpose.—All Outdoors.

Alberta's School Survey.

With a view to relating the Provincial Institute of Technology at Calgary not only to the existing educational system, but also to the commercial and industrial situation, the Principal and staff of the Institute have been charged by the Minister of Education with the responsibility of making a careful pre-vocational survey of the boys and girls in the Province between the ages of fourteen and eighteen, whether in attendance at school or not, with a view to vocational guidance and educational adjustments.

Also with the making of a careful industrial survey of the Province with the assistance and co-operation of the various departments of the Government, the local school and municipal authorities, and the commercial and industrial organizations of the Province; co-operating with the Military Hospitals Commission in the retraining of disabled soldiers, and, as far as may be, in the supplying of training of returned soldiers, whether disabled or not, who desire technical instruction; the organization of the Department of Mining in the Institute on the basis of the need as found in the experience of the past two years in developing technical instruction in the mining centers; the provision of such courses as the School of Trades and Industries of the Institute as the limited staff of the first year may be able to provide over and above those involved in the retraining of returned soldiers; and the provision of special classes for teachers in technical subjects in Calgary, and, where feasible, the organization and supervision of similar special classes in the other two cities of the Province.

Canada's New Rifle.

Details which have been received in Ottawa in regard to the new Canadian service rifle, which replaces the Ross rifle, indicate that it is, as a matter of fact, not a Lee-Enfield at all, but a new weapon on entirely modern lines. It might properly be called the new Enfield rifle, as it is being manufactured at the Enfield arsenal, but it is not a Lee-Enfield, since Lee was not its designer.

Novo Scotia's First Coal.

Garrulous old Samuel Pepys writing in 1647 mentioned that there is "Newcastle coal" in Nova Scotia, but it was not discovered in Pictou County till 1798. In that year the outcrop of the seam still known as the MacGregor and still being worked, was found on the bank of a brook at the rear of Dr. MacGregor's farm near the old Middle River road. For a time nothing was done to exploit the discovery, but the Doctor and his neighbors dug what they required for their own use. But in 1826 the General Mining Association obtained a lease of the mines and minerals in Nova Scotia, and next year they began work on the East River. The spot chosen for their first operations was close by Dr. MacGregor's house. It was soon apparent that his farm was necessary to the association. A sum that now seems small, but then was princely 1,150 pounds was offered for it and accepted.

There will be no leisure in which to repent for those who marry in haste.

The Landshing, the upper house of the Danish Parliament, Tuesday night, appointed a committee of fifteen members to consider the matter of the sale of the Danish West Indies to the United States.

Oil Imports.

Canada in a Year Uses Two Hundred and Fifty Million Gallons.

General indications are that the higher price of oil in Canada has not appreciably diminished the use of the automobile. Roads are as alive with them to-day as they have ever been, and the licenses being taken out in Canada are on the increase, as they are in the United States. The motor car has come to be regarded as the chief agent in the consumption of oil, and rightly so; but there are other purposes to which it is put that are at the present time making great demands upon the supply. By-products of oil are very numerous, and have become articles of very general use. One of them, paraffin wax, is the principal constituent of some of the most generally used chewing gums, and much of it is used in the making of matches. One oil company delivers about forty thousand pounds monthly to one Canadian match factory, and another delivers, according to information furnished by The Toronto Globe some time ago, one million pounds a year to an explosive company. These figures will suffice to show that the by-products of the oil industries of the Dominion are of some consequence.

The total imports of coal oil, petroleum products, gasoline, crude oil, and lubricating oil in 1916 was 238,151,648 gallons, valued at \$9,562,588.

If we add to the foregoing figures the quantities of vegetable and animal oils consumed in Canada, the aggregate will not be very much less than 250,000,000 gallons. Very few realize that, per capita, Canadians consume annually about thirty-five gallons. This does not include vegetable oils brought into the country; only mineral oils are taken into account.

The different uses to which the products of crude petroleum are being put multiply almost every year. Many years ago the ardent promoters told the public that eventually the engines which drew freight from the Atlantic to the Pacific would be propelled by oil. Scientists confirmed these statements with the condition as to supply attached to their findings. Some of the prognostications made have come true, but many were made as to profits from the exploitation of oil wells that very properly led the over-zealous to jail. It is true now that oil is used for hauling big trains over our mountains and for a hundred other purposes that were not thought of in the years which do not seem to be long past. Many thought that the old-fashioned kerosene lamp was doomed to pass away, but the oil companies to-day tell us that as much is being used of the gas and the electric current utilities are still very numerous and they are better off than they used to be. Moreover appliances for the use of oil have vastly improved. For illuminating purposes oil has been adapted to produce results that would astonish the age of fifty years ago. To-day far more cooking is being done by oil stoves and the accidents resulting therefrom are less numerous and the general results are very much better. Advances of this character have served to maintain the demand for oil and which fully explains the development within the Dominion of a very large and successful industry.

Quebec Men in Ontario Factories.

One of Canada's agricultural implement industries provided for service in kind no less than \$600 men. Some of these it was, of course, not difficult to replace, but a large proportion of them knew the run of their work. They were trained to different processes and machines, and were an important factor in the measure of the output. Those obtained to replace them, of which some 200 were brought from Quebec, had to be trained, and they could not be classed as competent for some weeks after they were put to work. Conditions at present, and as they for some time have been, are such that men such as could be got were put to work. In Ontario especially the shortage of men has been most marked. Bringing men from a distance is in itself an expensive undertaking. Only higher wages and other considerations can bring men away from their home environment. To-day, in every part of industrial Ontario, permanent signs are fixed over the offices of iron-working plants reading, "Men Wanted." This announcement is not qualified by the term "experienced" or that skill of any kind is required.

Use Advised for Rending Children Immune from Paralysis.

New York, Aug. 17.—Family physicians were advised by Dr. Abraham Zingher, of Willard-Parker Hospital, to try the use of "normal" blood serum obtained from parents as a method of rendering their children immune to infantile paralysis. Many cases of the disease have been treated in Willard-Parker Hospital during the present epidemic.

The theory on which Dr. Zingher and his assistants are working is that the blood of the normal adult contains the anti-bodies which neutralize the virus of poliomyelitis, or infantile paralysis. Some physicians believe the presence of these antibodies is due to the fact that the parents have had the disease in an unrecognized form. It is stated that if the theory of this anti-bodies is correct, the blood serum treatment may prove as effective in preventing infantile paralysis as vaccination is in preventing typhoid.

VICE HUNT IN NEW YORK.

Thousands of Girls Said to Have Been Sold by "White Slavers."

New York, Aug. 17.—Revelations in the vice investigation in this city has induced a number of society women to offer their services to stamp out the evil and help the girls rescued from the clutches of white slavers. In addition to this unofficial agency the police department is co-operating with the district attorney's office in the greatest vice hunt this city has ever known.

KEPT U. S. OUT OF WAR.

That Will be President Wilson's Chief Claim to Re-election. Cleveland, O., Aug. 17.—The issues upon which President Wilson will base his fight for re-election were outlined by Secretary of War Baker to the members of the Democratic county central committee at their convention here. He specifically told them these were the arguments they could advance on behalf of the President.

Keeping the United States out of the war is to be the principal claim of President Wilson for re-election, according to Baker. He declared "the fact we are at peace to be the greatest argument of all for President Wilson." The other issues are composed for the most part of the Democratic legislative accomplishments. As outlined by Baker, they are: The Federal reserve bank act, the rural credits bill, amendment to the ship registry act, the Underwood tariff bill, preparedness policy, and the child labor bill now pending in Congress.

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Increased taxes on the nickel industry to be retroactive were forecast by Hon. G. Howard Ferguson, Minister of Mines, at a South-west Toronto election meeting.

The new post of Arthur Henderson in the British Cabinet is expected to be in the Department of the Minister of Munitions for dealing with labor matters.

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MADE IN CANADA

There are men who would not kick an enemy when he was down, referring to jump on him with both feet. It is astonishingly too late to pick the winner after the race is over.

ICE CREAM

Steps will be taken within the next few days if the spread of infantile paralysis continues in the rural districts to prevent the attendance of children at the Watertown, N.Y., fair early next month.

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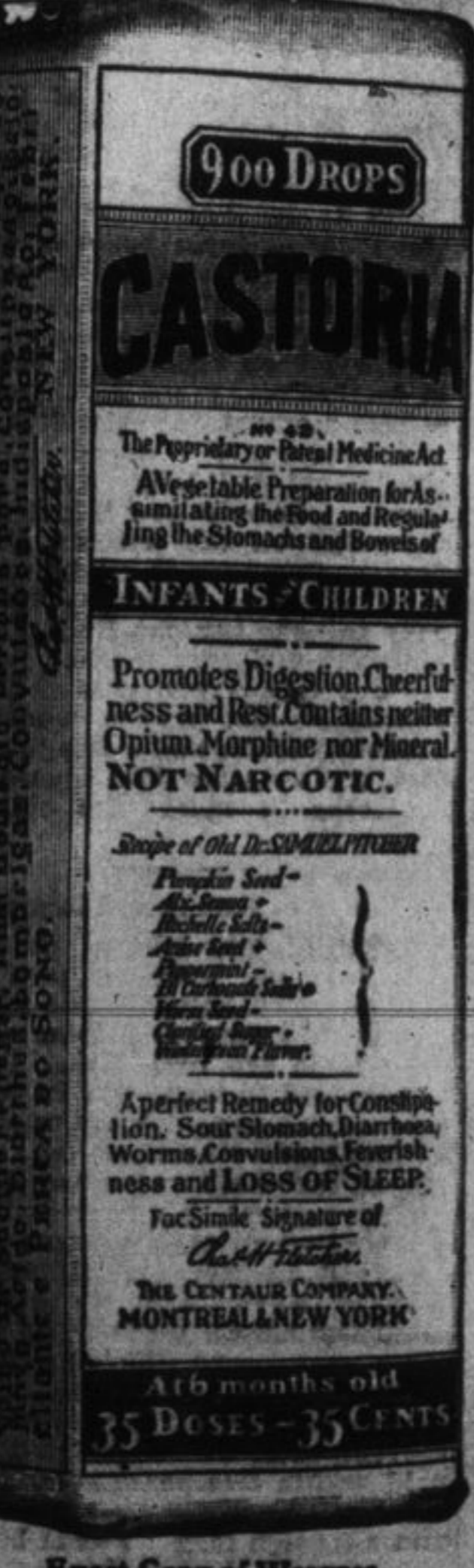
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