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Dr. J. D. KELLOGG'S ASTHMA REMEDY

W. N. U., DETROIT, MI., 17-1924.

In the Days of Poor Richard

By IRVING BACHELLER

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CHAPTER X

The Lady of the Hidden Face.

Next morning at ten, the door boy at his lodgings informed Jack that a lady was waiting to see him in the parlor. The lady was deeply veiled. She did not speak, but arose as he entered the room and handed him a note. She was tall and erect with a fine carriage. Her silence was impressive, her costume admirable.

The note in a script unfamiliar to the young man was as follows:

"You will find Margaret waiting in a coach at eleven today at the corner of Harley street and Twickenham road."

The veiled lady walked to the door and turned and looked at him. Her attitude said clearly: "Well, what is your answer?"

"I will be there at eleven," said the young man.

The veiled lady nodded, as if to indicate that her mission was ended, and withdrew.

Jack was thrilled by the information, but wondered why it was so wrapped in mystery. Not long after he had passed after the departure of the veiled lady when a messenger came with a note from Sir Benjamin Hare.

In a cordial tone, it invited Jack to breakfast at the Almshouse club at twelve-thirty. The young man returned his acceptance by the same messenger, and in his best morning suit went to meet Margaret. A cab conveyed him to the corner named. There was the coach, with shades drawn low, waiting. A footman stood near it. The door was opened, and he saw Margaret looking out at him and shaking her hand.

"You see what a shy thing I am," she said when, greetings over, he sat by her side and the coach was moving. "A London girl knows how to get her way. She is terribly wise, Jack."

"But tell me, who was the veiled lady?"

"A go-between. She makes her living that way. She is wise, discreet and reliable. There is employment for many such in this wicked city. I feel disgraced, Jack. I hope you will not think that I am accustomed to dark and secret ways. This has worried and distressed me, but I had to see you."

"And I was longing for a look at you," he said.

"I was sure you would not know how to pull these ropes of intrigue. I have heard all about the duel. I feel sorry for you, Jack. I hope you will not think that I am accustomed to dark and secret ways. This has worried and distressed me, but I had to see you."

"Our time is short and I have much to say," said Jack. "I am to breakfast with your father at the Almshouse club at twelve-thirty."

She clasped her hands and said, with a laughing face, "I knew he would ask you!"

"Margaret, I want to take you to America with the approval of your father, if possible, and without it, if necessary."

"I think you will get his approval," said the girl, with enthusiasm. "He has heard all about the duel. He says every one he meets of the court yesterday evening, was speaking of it. They agree that the old general needed that lesson. Jack, how proud I am of you!"

She pressed his hand in both of hers.

"I couldn't help knowing how to shoot," he answered. "And I would not be worthy to touch this fair hand of yours if I had failed to resent an insult."

"Although he is a friend of the general, my father was pleased," she went on. "He calls you a good sport. A young man of high spirit who is not to be played with. That is what he said. Now, Jack, if you do not stick too hard on principles—if you can yield only a little, I am sure he will let us be married."

"I am eager to hear what he may say now," said Jack. "Whatever it may be, let us stick together and go to America and be happy. It would be a dark world without you. May I see you tomorrow?"

"At the same hour and place," she answered.

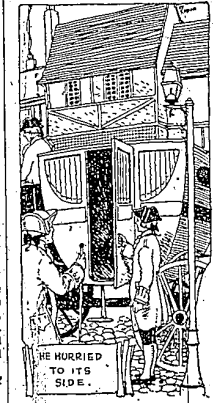
They talked of the home they would have in Philadelphia and planned its garden, Jack having told of the site he had bought with great care and at a river view. They spent an hour which lent its abundant happiness to many a long year and, when they parted, soon after twelve o'clock, Jack hurried away to keep his appointment.

Sir Benjamin received the young man with a warm greeting and friendly words. Their breakfast was served in a small room where they were alone together, and when they were seated the baronet observed:

"I have heard of the duel. It has set some of the best tongues in England wagging in praise of the Yankee boy. Our world scarcely have expected that."

"No," Jack prepared to run for his life—not that it pleased to do any great damage," said Jack.

"You can shoot straight—that is evident. They call you delivery of that bullet swift, accurate and merciful. Your behavior has pleased some very



HE HURRIED TO ITS SIDE.

eminent people. The blustering talk of the general excited no sympathy here. In London, strangers are not likely to be treated as you were."

"If I did not believe that I should be leaving it," said Jack. "I should not like to take up dueling for an amusement, as some men have done in France."

"You are a well-built man inside and out," Sir Benjamin answered. "You might have a great future in England. I speak advisedly."

"Please talk had taken a turn quite unexpected. It flattered the young man. He blushed and answered:

"Sir Benjamin, I have no great faith in my talents."

"On terms which I would call easy, you could have fame, honor and riches, I would say."

"At present I want only your daughter. As to the rest, I shall make myself content with what may naturally come to me."

"And let me name the terms, on which I should be glad to welcome you to my family."

"Loyalty to your king and a will to understand and assist his plans."

"I could not follow him unless he will change his plans."

The baronet put down his fork and looked up at the young man. "Do you really mean what you say?" he demanded. "Is it so difficult for you to do your duty as a British subject?"

"Sir Benjamin, always I have been taught that it is the duty of a British subject to resist oppression. The plans of the king are oppressive. I cannot fall in with them. I love Margaret as I love my life, but I must keep myself well of my conduct. It is because I have principles that are inviolable."

"At least I hope you would promise me not to take up arms against the king."

"Please don't ask me to do that. It would grieve me to fight against England. I hope it may never be, but I would rather fight than submit to tyranny."

The baronet made no reply to this declaration so firmly made. A new look came into his face. Indignation and resentment were there, but he did

CHAPTER XI

The Departure.

That evening Jack received a brief note from Preston. It said:

"I learn that young Clarke is very ill. I think you would better get out of England for fear of what may come. A trial would be apt to cause embarrassment in high places. Can I give you assistance?"

Jack returned this note by the same messenger.

"Thanks, good friend, I shall go as soon as my business is finished, which I hope may be tomorrow."

Just before the young man went to bed a brief note arrived from Margaret. It read:

"Dearest Jack. My father has learned of our meeting yesterday and of how it came about. He is angry. He forbids another meeting. I shall submit to his tyranny. We must assert our rights like good Americans. I have a plan. You will learn of it when we meet tomorrow at eleven. Do not send an answer. Lovingly, MARGARET."

He kept little, and in the morning awaited with keen impatience the hour of his appointment.

On his way to the place he heard a newsboy shouting the word "duel" and "Yanks" followed by the suggestive statement: "Bloody murder in high life."

Evidently Lionel Clarke had died of his wound. He saw people standing in groups and reading the paper. He began to share the nervousness of Preston and the wise, far-seeing Franklin. He jumped into a cab and was at the corner some minutes ahead of time. Precisely at eleven he saw the coach drive near. He hurried to its side. The footman dismounted and opened the door. Inside he saw not Margaret, but the lady of the hidden face. "You are to get in, sir, and make a little journey with the madam," said the footman.

Jack got into the coach. Its door closed, the horses started with a jump and he was on his way whither he knew not. Nor did he know the reason for the rapid ride at which the horses had begun to travel.

"If you do not mind, sir, we will not lift the shades," said the veiled lady, as the coach started. "We shall see Margaret soon, I hope."

She had a colorless, cold voice and what was then known in London as the "patrician manner." Her tone and silence seemed to say: "Please remember this is all a matter of business and not a highly agreeable business and me."

"Where is Margaret?" he asked.

"A long way from here. We shall meet her at The Ship and Anchor in Gravesend. She will be making the journey by another road."

She had answered in a voice as cold as the day and in the manner of one who had said quite enough.

"Will it please you?" she asked.

"On the Thames near the sea," she answered briskly, as if in reply to his ignorance.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

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