

# Cringly Court

Cringly Court was in a state of ferment. Not that this implied a strange condition, for the sense of excitement was the only sensation that stirred the field air of the court, and changed the complexion of its dirty grey walls to the impoverished dwellers within.

Mrs. Clancy, No. 5, was the first to spread the news, as she darted up the stairs to inform Mrs. Ataloni above, and then shuffled out along the fire-escape to huskily whisper through the window to Mrs. Levistay. Then the wireless telegraphy to the court flashed the information to all the inhabitants thereof. The cause of it was that a man was coming through the court taking pains.

What could he be? his father desired. Was he an agent of the police? Most likely. But who was the culprit sought? Hard telling, according to Mrs. Clancy, for "the ways of police is very strange." But it behooved all to be subservient, for they had tried to be so, without the millions of the law interfering them.

So when the man called at the houses in the court, he was met with ready answers, about the faces of his young sons, and what odd questions he asked. Mrs. Ataloni was sure it must have been a search for undesirable aliens, so she hastened to avail her husband's naturalization papers. Mrs. Levistay met the man's advent with stolidity, for did not the police of Russia come here to visit and at unexpected hours and seasons to question? And this was "a rare feller." As for Mrs. Clancy, she felt glib but wonderful replies, and the man's departure she winked assuringly to herself.

At the farther end of the court the grimy black wall of a machine factory seemed to prop a leaning old wooden robe of a house. The census man climbed two rickety flights without a response, but at the top of the last flight, like stairs to the rooms "beneath the eaves," he was met by the quaintest little figure of a woman. Attired in an antique styled black brocade, with a little white lace cap, she looked a neat, wholesome picture of the ancient grandmother. Nor did her apartment, with sagged floor, slanting ceiling and general ill repair, fail to accord to her appearance. Truly as her figure, was an ancient in suggestion.

The tendered seat was relief to his weariness, and the first few questions were answered quietly. But there is a strange tendency to sullenly natures, perhaps it is a searching out for sympathy or harbor the desire to listen to the recital, even though by themselves, of a cherished incident that impels them to expatiate on a story where the least blighting mention is offered. And in this case the dear little, old lady was so alluring in her quaintness that he raised his pen and listened when she dispersed.

"My name is Denise de la Bouillon. Please put in the 'de la' and have the right. Yes, I was born in the France. My husband was of the nobility. Anatole Marie de la Bouillon. Ah, he was a handsome gentleman, so beautiful, so proud. See, here is his picture! Was he not beautiful? Ah, me! It is so sad, you are a young man. You are not married? Ah, then, perhaps you do not yet know what it is, the grand passion?"

"You know, in the France the parents make what you call the match. When Anatole's father came to my father to arrange the match, my father storm. The Bouillon were noble, but very poor. My parents were wealthy and had an eye to a young man of equal wealth. By my father's forbidding Anatole the house. My father decided to take me on a voyage with me to take me away from Anatole. But one morning at church, I meet Anatole and tell him, and he beg and plead that I shall leave. A good priest shall marry us, and we sail across the sea. I was afraid, but I love him and consent at last.

"We were married and sailed to this country. The war was in the land, and times were so hard. There was no work for a poor foreign gentleman, and soon we were very, very poor and hungry. Anatole was so sad, and when alone I cry. One day he come to me and kiss me and put me on his hands. I am frightened, but Anatole weep with his face in his hands. And then I know, he is enlist for soldier, and this was what you call bounty money. That was my promise to be over soon and I was in danger and the money would keep me against he return.

"Ah, me, how I cry. How I wait for him to come back and all the time I hear of moreland more fighting and at last I get the word! He will not come back. How I prayed to go, too, but the good priest he hold and tell me to pray and let the good Saviour work his will. So here I am, but I want for my Anatole. It is a long time. Yes, the good government pays me what you call pension, so I am comfortable while I wait for my Anatole."

"The pension in Cringly Court when the census man departed, and the good priest would tell you, he checked, he had heard them on with his kerchief as he left the court.—CLARA SHEPHERD.

# WILL NOT UNITE PHYSICALLY UNFIT

Rev. Dr. H. S. Johnson's Strong Utterances on Subject of Ill-Advised Marriages.

## POVERTY MARRIAGES DISAPPROVED

Boston, Mass.—Pastor Encourages Matings on Scientific Basis.—Those with Communicable Diseases, Inherently Acquired, Should Remain Single.

Boston, Mass.—"I will refuse to marry persons afflicted with communicable disease if I have personal knowledge of such ailments existing, and I am not opposed to the marriage of people, except in the case of the innocent party," said Rev. Dr. Herbert S. Johnson, pastor of the Warren Avenue Baptist Church, in this city.

"I do not think it advisable to marry young couples who are in poor circumstances. I believe, through observation and consultation, that a prospective bridegroom should have an earning capacity of at least \$100 a year, and should be able to sustain the marital venture. This statement, of course, does not apply in all cases, for there are always exceptions, but I think the union of persons in the middle class in this city, who live in poor circumstances, creates nothing but a hell on earth."

"When I made the statement some time ago from the pulpit of my church that I would marry any couple, who did not have the marriage fee, my remark was a facetious one, made half in jest and half in earnest, but I will gladly perform the ceremony if any unfortunate couple might have been freed of it, if they apply to me and give evidence of good faith. It is a pitiable sight in a large city to see a young girl carrying a babe on her arm without a husband, and her mother and her father provide for her and her offspring."

"It was, perhaps, led to make the statement that I would marry all such couples that applied to me through the fact that I have long ago. Our church is so situated in the heart of the city that practicability is our chief aim. I became interested in a young girl who had signed, and she appeared in front of me. She was dressed in mourning and carried her babe on her arm. It developed that when her aged mother learned of the sin and disgrace of her daughter, she committed suicide by jumping herself into the river. And that is why I stand ready to help uplift the sinners, that are making a struggle to live an upright and honorable life, and our church is glad to do so in any reasonable manner, such as finding employment for the husband, etc."

"Now as to the marriage of young girls and follows in meagre circumstances. There has been a great deal of steadily being brought to my attention cases of hasty marriages when neither party is in a financial condition to warrant their marriage. Fifteen dollars a week is little enough to support a family. To live at home with his furnishings, his doctor's and nurse's bills, the support of children and the mite that should be given to charity by all Christians. Of course, when I place a young man at \$15 a week, I refer only to the middle classes, that is Irish-Americans, or those of Anglo-Saxon extraction, and so forth. I don't refer to the lower class of people from Europe who can get by on the street with a few cents, and who are afflicted with tuberculosis or other diseases of a hereditary nature to which man and woman are subject. It is my belief that a man or woman is morally enough to be married to someone who should be useful, even when they are aware of these diseases existing to be content to merely love the man or woman and not ask one to have white hair, wrinkles, and to have children born into this world with the taint of disease upon them. Yet there are a great many marriages in this country in the course of the year, when one of the contracting persons is a victim of some communicable sexual disease, and is the cause of much misery and the loss to the United States of millions of dollars.

"I will not marry persons whom I know are afflicted, and if there is any suspicion in my mind I will ask them frankly about the matter. A man should be as unselfish and sacrificing in assisting the soldier or the fireman or the hundreds of other heroes, and it is their duty to humanity as well as to their country that they cast aside all thoughts of marriage when they are afflicted, and be united to become husbands and fathers.

"I have steadfastly refused to marry divorced persons, unless in the case of the innocent persons. There are innumerable innocent persons who are being divorced through no fault of theirs and they should not be compelled to suffer for the sins of the guilty."

# "DEVIL ANSE" IN VIRGINIA

Former Feudist Visits "Crip" Hatfield, His Father.

Richmond, Va.—"Devil Anse" Hatfield is once again in the mountains of West Virginia, after an absence of years. Nineteen years ago James Hatfield, Jr., better known as "Devil Anse" was recognized throughout the mountains of West Virginia and Kentucky as one of the quickest and surest shots in the Hatfield faction, when he left West Virginia for the plains of Minnesota.

"Devil Anse" is highly respected in the community in which he lives. Few in that section know of his past life or of the exploits of himself and his kinsmen in their family warfare.

He is on a visit to his father, "Cap" Hatfield, leader of the Hatfield clan, who is 90 years of age and very feeble. After spending some time at his old home it is the purpose of "Devil Anse" to return to the wheatfields.

"West Virginia is no longer like home to me," he says, "my lives were lost during the war because of my family ties. The Hatfield-McCoy feud, known throughout the world for the ferocity with which it was waged, started in Floyd County nearly forty years ago and extended over a dozen counties in the two States. Twenty years ago I grew tired of the eternal strife and bloodshed and went West."

John McCoy was the head of the McCoy family, of which there were twenty-five members. Only one survives—"Cap" Hatfield was the father of thirteen children, of which number eleven were killed, the only two now alive being "Devil Anse" and a girl. A mountain romance concerns herself with the McCoy who survived and the Hatfield girl. The two were about the same age. One day they met on a mountain trail. Later the girl wanted to know that the two had eloped and that they had been married by a mountain preacher. This ended the feud. The couple are happy. They live in a pretty little wooded place in the West Virginia hills, surrounded by growing boys and girls carrying in their veins the fused blood of the two old fighting families.

At times the feud of former days troubled such portions that State troops had to be called out. The trouble affected even the cousins of the two sides. Innocent women and children were shot like rabbits in the fields. In one instance two boys were tied to the trees and burned to death.

## GUILTLIES VISIT CHICAGO

Easily Victimized by Sharpers, Who Don't Halt Try.

Chicago.—The gullibility of some persons is past all comprehension. A party of visitors from the West once made a purse of \$15 to see the statue of Gen. U. S. Grant diagonally from the stone horse at Lincoln Park.

A Kansas farmer agreed to purchase the Federal Building for \$2,000, securing his option with a cash payment of \$147.

Another man from Iowa State paid a newly found friend \$2.50 to see the Masonic Temple turn half way around.

But a new bunch came was discovered this week when Harry Fickler, agent of North Tonawanda, N. Y., kicked because two detectives refused to allow him to buy the "gold" on the tower of the Montgomery Ward Building.

Fickler's partner had just completed negotiations for the purchase when Detectives Russell and O'Brien accosted him.

## ANNIVERSARY SYNDICATE

Three Sisters and Cousin Married on the Same Date.

St. Louis.—At the wedding of Miss Rena M. Elliott, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Elliott, to Fred L. Dodge, of Sherman, Tex., at the home of the bride's parents, an unusual coincidence was discovered. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. W. M. Rhoads, a cousin of the bride.

The date was the nineteenth wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Tober and the twenty-third anniversary of Mrs. Thomas B. Ryle, both women being sisters of the bride. It was also the third wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas L. Bradshaw, cousins of the bride, and the birthday anniversary of Miss Elliott, also a sister of the bride, all of whom were present at the ceremony.

Rev. Mr. Rhoads was also the officiating clergyman at the other weddings.

## KILLS SKUNK; GETS DAY OFF

Motorman Told to Soak Himself and Burn His Clothes.

Tacoma.—On his way to work, and a little behind time, R. Hanson, motorman on the Tacoma street trolley line, contracted a violent cold on his way, and nearly caused a panic when he entered the lobby at the street car offices, where fifty men were waiting to go to duty.

Hanson was given a twenty-four-hour vacation by the superintendent of the car lines and ordered to spend twenty hours of it in a bathtub and to burn his clothes and bury his bicycle.

# THE NIGHT RIDERS AIDED KENTUCKY

Original Organization Did Away with Toll Gates and Brought About Good Roads.

## COMPANIES DISOBEYED THE LAW

Crimes Committed Now Are by Gangs Hiding Behind Name of Old Association Which Caused the Abolishment of the Turnpike Companies.

Louisville, Ky.—There has not been, it is said, a crime of mob violence committed in this State, in Tennessee, or, in fact, in any of the Southern States or in any of the Middle Western States in the past several years, with the exception of the occasional lynching of a negro by a mob, that has not been shadowed on the Night Riders.

The Night Riders were an organized body back in 1900, when the State Legislature passed a law doing away with private ownership of State roads. For months the turnpike corporations refused to obey the State law. They applied to the State Supreme Court, then to the Court of Appeals, and lastly to the United States Supreme Court, and on each appeal they would get them to continue running their toll gates and charging two cents a mile for every horse or vehicle that passed over their property.

Because of the law's delay the condition of the roads became impossible. The owners of the turnpikes would not expend one cent for improvements as long as there was question of their losing their property by a final court decision. They would not cease to molest travelers. All this while they refused to accept the fair price offered by the State for their roads.

It was then that the Night Riders were organized. The organization spread from Shelby County to every part of the State and one night in the late fall men rode from their homes and began burning toll gates. There is no record of toll gates being burned in any other State, but the toll gates were burned in Kentucky unless he showed resistance. Then he was taken from his home, and if he continued to be defiant he was flogged. In ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, the toll gates were burned to give up his job and let the gate burn.

Night Riders undoubtedly brought the turnpike corporations to terms. There was not a toll gate left standing in the State of Kentucky by the following spring. Had the taxpayers and farmers been contented to allow the law to take its never ending course the chances are that toll gates would still be burning in the State on the State roads today, and that the roads would have been worse now than they were when the Night Riders became organized.

The Kentucky roads now are among the best in the United States. There are not millions of dollars of watered stock on which to pay interest, and the State tax has improved them and even made it possible for almost all of them to be equipped with oil during the summer season, thus laying the dust.

The success of the Night Riders in the war against toll gates led to an organization of a similar character when the first war was waged against the American Tobacco Company. But out of this last organization there grew a body of violent men, who live on excitement and thrill on lawlessness. They sprang from the lawless bodies of men in many of the Southern and Middle Western States, who chose to call themselves Night Riders, though the probabilities are that 99 per cent of the men didn't own a cent as a horse to ride.

If a list of the original body of Night Riders could be had the chances are that the names of many of the men who figure in the operations of the old Ku-Klux gang would be found, and if this list were sifted down it would show that many property owners and men of prominence had resorted to violence because of their belief that action was their only safeguard against ruin, and that a defiance of law had to be met by a like defiance.

## Psychic Knit a Life Saver

Altamoa, Pa.—Having washed and dried her hair, Mary Housner, aged twenty-two, did it up in a Psyche knot and walked out on the front porch. While she leaned against the railing it gave way and she was precipitated backward, head first, ten feet to the sidewalk, alighting on her head. The roof broke the impact of her head against the flagstones, but she did not entirely escape injury.

She suffered a slight concussion of the brain, but recovered consciousness a few hours later.

## Old Age Compreh in Rochefort

Paris, France.—Rochefort seems to be a great town for longevity. Investigation of the records reveals the fact that during the last century from January 1, 1801, to December 31, 1800, 144 persons in Rochefort attained the age of 90 or over. Two of these were centenarians, one reaching the age of 103, and the other being 105.

## ALMOST 9,000 FIRES

Annual Average for New York City—One-Fifth the Country's Total.

New York averages 8,700 fires a year. Chicago has 4,100.

The average record in this country is three burnings, three public halls, twelve churches, ten schools, two hospitals, two asylums, two colleges, six apartment houses, three department stores, two jails, twenty-six hotels, 140 flats and nearly 1,600 homes, burned up every week in the year.

We indulged in 45,000 fires last year, some of them wiping out many buildings. We are born burners, are we Americans, and seem plied to take our chances on fire, believing, probably, that those chances are somewhat remote.

As a matter of fact, however, the country over, each family has just one chance in sixty of being burned out some time during the year; not a very long shot after all.

## Values of Fats and Oils

There is a remarkable misapprehension, particularly among many persons of the more intelligent class of our people, says the Dietetic and Hygienic Gazette, as to the food value of the fats and oils. The muscles or red meat is a valuable source of protein, but the excessive consumption of protein invites various diseases, which, in turn, are prominently in the causes of death. The fats and oils increase our resistance against cold and some of the causes of disease. The health of many so-called vigorous children were prominently in the causes of death. The fats and oils increase our resistance against cold and some of the causes of disease. The health of many so-called vigorous children were prominently in the causes of death. The fats and oils increase our resistance against cold and some of the causes of disease. The health of many so-called vigorous children were prominently in the causes of death.

## Artistic Treasure Trove

An amusing story of treasure trove in art is going the rounds of the Paris press. A Monsieur Leconte, who, in earlier life had acted as a model for an eminent impressionist painter, had fallen on evil days, and after squandering all her little resources exhausted and her debts for making ends meet no longer effectual, at last abandoned to her creditors a study once given to her by the artist and cherished to the end.

She thought so little of it that they demanded it to one of their number for a small sum, and he had no higher opinion of it than to organize a raffle at 5d. a ticket. The sale of an untraced picture that he, asked for its value in something else from the owner's shop and this was given to him.

The story got wind, and an enterprising commissioner who saw the picture offered £250 for it. And now the man who won it in the raffle wants to sue for the money.

## English Divorce Cases

Petitions for dissolution of marriage decreased from 824 in 1903 to 72 in 1904, but those for judicial separation rose from 80 to 102. Five hundred and eighteen decrees were made absolute in dissolution cases of the 634 that were granted, and in ten where a decree of nullity was sought. In thirty-one cases the King's Proctor intervened and in twenty-four the decrees were rescinded, and 7,633 separation orders were made by magistrates, against 7,232 in the preceding year. Of 537 petitions in 267 the parties had been married five years and less than ten years, while in 327 the duration of marriage was between ten and twenty years.—Law Times.

## Bevin Bars the Dime Novel

The American dime novel is too strenuous for Berlin, and the street sale of it has been forbidden by the police. "The blood and thunder" stories of American dime novels are held responsible for a deplorable outburst of juvenile crime, and henceforth some milder intellectual tonic will be given to youths, which will not lead them to headlines on the United States. If Hans, however can not get the fiction staple he wants he is less acute and persistent than the American boy, whose chief delight is to huff the "top."—New York Tribune.

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# Short Measures in Michigan Just Discovered

Federal Agents Find State Buyers Have Lost Millions in Half Century.

## Half-Bushel, Two-Quart and One-Quart Receipts Deficient

Lansing, Mich.—Consumers of almost everything sold by dry measure in the state of Michigan are out millions of dollars on their purchases of the last half century.

The fact was discovered recently when the United States government notified the pure food commissioner that the official half-bushel, two-quart and one-quart measures, legalized by this state, were all short measures.

# U. S. Importing Corn

Recently a cargo of 300,000 bushels of corn came from Argentina to Galveston, Texas, and it is understood that other cargoes will follow. This importation is made possible by the removal of the import duty on corn.

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