

# BLIND-FOLDED

By EADLE ASHLEY WALCOTT

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### SYNOPSIS.

Giles Dudley arrived in San Francisco to join his friend and distant relative Henry Wilton, whom he was to assist in an important and mysterious task, and who accompanied Dudley on the ferry boat to the city. The remarkable resemblance of the two men is noted and commented on by passengers on the ferry. They see a young man, whose eyes send a thrill through Dudley. Wilton possesses an explanation of the strange regard Dudley is to perform. But occurrences cause him to know it is one of no ordinary nature. Dudley is summoned to the morgue and finds the dead body of his friend, Henry Wilton. And thus Wilton dies without ever explaining to Dudley the puzzling work he was to perform in San Francisco. In order to discover the secret mission his friend had entrusted to him, Dudley continues his disguise and proceeds to the office of the attorney, Wilton. He learns that there is a boy whom he is charged with protecting and protecting Dudley's identity. The boy is employed by Knapp to assist in a stock brokerage deal. Giles Dudley is introduced to a room with another Barton who makes a confident of him. He is told about the meaning of the name of the boy, further than that it is "Terror" and "Barley" who are after him. Dudley visits the home of Knapp and is attracted by the beauty of Laella, his daughter. Shunning the thought of Laella, the party is planned. The trip to Chinatown. Giles Dudley learns that the party is being shadowed by Terrill. Laella and Dudley are captured from the rest of the party and imprisoned in a hallway behind an iron-bound door. Three Chinese ruffians approach the imprisoned couple. A battle ensues. One is knocked down. Giles begins firing. Terrill is seen in the mob. A new formed mob is checked by shots from Giles. The door with an ax and the couple is released. Laella thanks Giles Dudley for saving her life. Knapp appears in the office with no traces of the previous night's debauch. Following his instructions, Dudley has a notable day in the Stock Exchange, selling Crown Diamond and buying Omega, the object being to crush Becker, Knapp's hated rival. Dudley discovers that he loves Laella Knapp. Mother Barton tells Giles Dudley that they've discovered where the boy is.

I ordered Porter, Fitzhugh, Brown, Wilson, Lockhart and Abrams to wait for me at the Oakland ferry. Trent, who was still weak from his wound, I put in charge of the home guard, with Owens, Phillips and Larson as his companions, and gave instructions to look for Barkhouse, in case he did not return. Wainwright I took with me, and halting a hack drove to the Palace Hotel.

There was a rattle of wagons and a bustle of departing guests as we drove into the courtyard of the famous hotel.

I stepped out of the hack and looked about me anxiously. Was I to meet the unknown? Or was I to take orders from some emissary of my hidden employer? No answering eye met mine as I searched the place with eager glance. Neither woman nor man of all the hurrying crowd had a thought of me.

I glanced at the clock that ticked the seconds in the office of the hotel

I saw that I had been early, and that it was even now but 20 minutes to the hour.

The minute hand had not swept past the figure VIII when the door opened, there was a hurried step and two women stood before me leading a child between them. Both women were closely veiled, and the child was muffled and swathed till its features could not be seen.

One of the women was young, the other older—perhaps middle-aged. Both were tall and well-made. I looked eagerly upon them, for one of them must be the Unknown, the hidden employer whose task had carried Henry Wilton to his death, who held my life in her hands and who fought the desperate battle with the power and hatred of Doddridge Knapp. It was to the younger that I turned as the more likely to have the spirit of contest, but it was the older who spoke.

"Here is your charge, Mr. Wilton," she said in a low, agitated voice. As she spoke I felt the faint suggestion of the peculiar perfume that had greeted me from the brief letters of the Unknown.

"I am ready for orders," I said with a bow.

"Your orders are in this envelope," said the Unknown, hurriedly thrusting a paper into my hand. "Drive for the boat and read them on the way. You have no time to lose."

The younger woman placed the child in the hack.

"Climb in, Wainwright," said I, eyeing the younger unfavorably. "Will he travel with us, ma'am? He's rather young."

"He'll go all right," said the elder woman with some agitation. "He knows that he must. But treat him carefully. Now good-by."

"Oakland ferry, driver," I cried as I stepped into the hack and slammed the door. And in a moment we were dashing out into New Montgomery street, and with a turn were on Market street, rolling over the rough cobble toward the bay.

### CHAPTER XXII.

Tried.

"Did you see him?" asked Wainwright, as the hack lurched into Market street and straightened its course for the ferry.

"Who?"

"Tom Terrill. He was behind that big pillar near the arch there. I saw him just as the old lady spoke to you, but before I catches her eye, he cuts and runs."

"I didn't see him," I said. "Keep the child between us, and shoot anybody who tries to stop us or to climb into the hack. I must read my orders."

"All right, sir," said Wainwright, making the child comfortable between us.

I tore open the envelope and drew

forth the scented paper with its familiar, firm, yet delicate handwriting, and read the words:

"Take the train with your men for Livermore. Await orders at the hotel. Protect the boy at all hazards."

Izolved in the sheet were gold notes to the value of \$500—a thoughtful detail for which I was grateful as the outset of such an expedition. I thrust the money into my pocket and pondered upon the letter, wondering where Livermore might be. My knowledge of the geography of California was exceedingly scant, and Livermore was no where to be found in my geographical memory.

I had some thought of questioning Wainwright, who was busy trying to make friends with the child, but reflecting that I might be supposed to know all about it I was silent. Wainwright's efforts to get the child to speak were without success. The little thing might from its size have been five years old, but it was dumb-frightened, as I supposed, by the strangeness of the situation, and would speak no word.

What was he put thus in my charge? What was I to do with him? Whither was I to carry him? I reproached myself that I had not stopped the Unknown to ask more questions, to get more light on the duties that were expected of me. But the hack on a sudden pulled up, and I saw that we were before the long, ugly wood on building that sat square across Market street as the gateway to San Francisco, through which the tide of travel must pass to and from the Golden City.

"Look out on both sides, Wainwright," I cautioned. "You carry the boy and I'll shoot if there's any trouble. See that you keep him safe."

"There was nearly 10 minutes before the boat left, but the hurry for tickets, the rush to check baggage, the shouts of hackmen and expressmen, the rattle and confusion of the coming and departing street cars that centered at the ferry made us inconspicuous among the throng as we stepped out of the hack.

"Here Fitzhugh, Brown," I said, "and the rest of you see that nobody gets near him."

"All right," said Wainwright, lifting the child in his arms. "It will take a good man to get him away from me."

"Where's Abrams?" I asked, noting that only six of my men were at hand.

"You sent him forward," said Lockhart.

"Not for all day,"

"Well, he hasn't been seen since you told him to find out who's aboard."

"It's no use to wait for him," I growled. "But the next man that takes French leave had better look somewhere else for a job, for by the great horn spoon, he's no man of mine."

We marched on the boat in the rear of the crowd, I in pleasant humor, and the men silent in reflection of my displeasure. And with some difficulty we found seats together in a forward coach.

The train was the east-bound overland, and it seemed hours before the baggage was taken aboard and the signal given to start. I grew uneasy, but as my watch assured me that only 10 minutes had passed when the engine gave the first gentle pull at the train, I suspected that I was losing the gift of patience.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)



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(TO BE CONTINUED.)

"What's the matter over there?"

"The sword swallower is being choked by a fishbone."

"\$100 Reward, \$100."

The reason of this paper is pleased to learn that there is at least one cured case of Syphilis, and that it is Catarrh of the Bladder, the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh of the Bladder, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution, and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials.

Address: J. C. HENRY, P. O. Toledo, O. Sold by all Druggists. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Rest at Last.

"It is only too true," remarked the man who was fond of moralizing, "that we do not appreciate our blessings until they take their flight."

"Of course," replied Poppley. "they keep up such a racket during the day that we enjoy them most when the nurse has tucked them in their little beds."—Philadelphia Press.

SPOHN'S DISTEMPER CURE will cure any possible case of DISTEMPER, PINK EYE, and the like among horses of all ages, and prevents all others in the same stable from having the disease. Also cures chicken cholera, and dog distemper. Any good druggist can supply you, or send to manufacturers. 50 cents and \$1.00 a bottle. Agents wanted. Free book, Spohn Medical Co., Spec. Contagious Diseases, Goshen, Ind.

Only Colony of Kind.

The colony of Barbary apes on the Rock of Gibraltar is the only one of its kind in existence, and is being protected by the British government.

Asthmatics, Read This.

If you are afflicted with Asthma write me at once and learn of something for which you will be grateful the rest of your life. J. G. McBride, Stella, Nebr.

Let him who has bestowed a benefit be silent. Let him who received it tell of it.—Seneca.

Lewis' Single Binder straight Sc. Many smokers prefer them to the cigars. Your dealer or Lewis' Factory, Peoria, Ill.

Turn thyself to the true riches, and learn to be content with little.—Seneca.

FARMS FOR RENT or sale on crop payments. J. MULHALL, Sioux City, Ia.

Love does not stop at the boundaries of liking.

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS

Color more goods brighter and deeper colors than any other dye. One 10c package colors all fibers. They dye in cold water better than any other dye. You can dye any garment without ripping apart. Write for free booklet—How to Dye, Finest and Best Colors. MONROE DRUG CO., Quincy, Illinois.

LEST HE FORGET.

No Roseate Postcard Without its Thorn of Suggestion.

Harold's mother—"I'll call him Harold—went abroad a month ago, leaving Harold under the somewhat unsubstantial control of his elder sisters."

In spite of the itemized directions with which even unto the moment of final leave-taking she had not ceased to bombard him, Harold's mother was far from sure that her efforts would have any lasting effect.

Her voyage was more or less disturbed by these doubts, but before she landed on the other side she had determined on a course of action. Like all small boys, Harold is most covetous of picture postcards and had looked forward to a harvest from his mother's trip. He got it.

Every day she sent at least one card. And whatever else it bore in the way of inscription, there was not one which failed of this introduction: "Just as soon as you get this go and brush your teeth."

DEEP CRACKS FROM ECZEMA

Could Lay State-Pencil in One—Hands in Dreadful State—Permanent Cure in Cuticura.

"I had eczema on my hands for about seven years and during that time I had used several so-called remedies, together with physicians' and druggists' prescriptions. The disease was so bad on my hands that I could lay a state-pencil in one of the cracks and a rule placed across the hand would not touch the pencil. I kept using remedy after remedy, and while some gave partial relief, none relieved as much as did the first box of Cuticura Ointment. I made a purchase of Cuticura Soap and Ointment and my hands were perfectly cured after two boxes of Cuticura Ointment and one cake of Cuticura Soap were used. W. H. Dean, Newark, Del., Mar. 28, 1907."

Nailing Him.

He—"It's jolly nice to kiss you one like."

She—"No answer."

He—"That is, of course, if she doesn't mind."

She—"No answer."

He—"If she gets mad it's altogether another thing."

She—"No answer."

He—"I'd like to steal a kiss now—"

She—"No answer."

He—"If it would be quite safe."

She—"Have you finished?"

He—"Oh, yes."

She—"Then how can you make so many fool remarks when you see that I am alone and entirely at your mercy?"—Young's Magazine.

TERRIBLE ACCIDENT!

ALCOHOL—3 PER CENT Vegetable Preparation for Assimilating the Food and Regulating the Stomachs and Bowels of INFANTS, CHILDREN

Promotes Digestion, Cheerfulness and Rest. Contains neither Opium, Morphine nor Mineral. NOT NARCOTIC

Recipe of Old Dr. SAMUEL PITCHER

Perfect Remedy for Constipation, Sour Stomach, Diarrhoea, Worms, Convulsions, Feverishness and Loss of Sleep

Fac-Simile Signature of Dr. H. H. FLETCHER

THE CENTRAL COMPANY, NEW YORK.

Guaranteed under the Food and Drug Act.

Exact Copy of Wrapper.

EGOISM.



Mistress—Bridget, it always seems to me that the crankiest mistresses get the best cooks.

Cook—Ah, go on wid yer blarney!

A Believer.

"Do you believe in telepathy?" asked the mystical person.

"What do you mean by telepathy?" asked Mr. Dustin Stax.

"Thought transfer—the faculty that enables one person to know what another person is thinking about."

"Oh, yes. There's my old friend, Mr. Skinboodie. I know what he's thinking about this very minute."

"What is it?"

"Money."

Starch, like everything else, is being constantly improved, the patent Starches put on the market 25 years ago are very different and inferior to those of the present day. In the latest discovery—Defiance Starch—all injurious chemicals are omitted, while the addition of another ingredient, invented by us, gives to the Starch a strength and smoothness never approached by other brands.

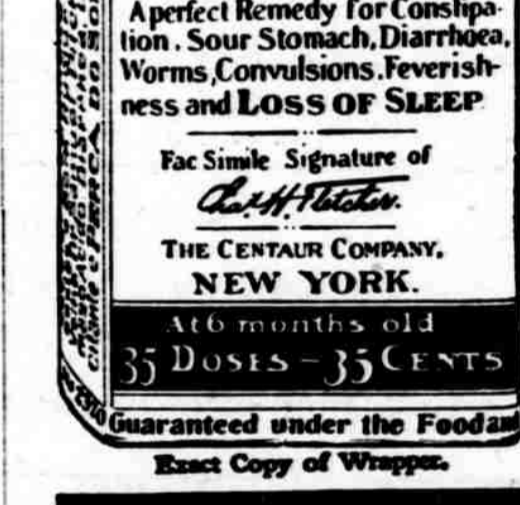
She Lost Out.

"I'd rather waltz than eat," confided the summer girl.

"Then we'll just have another dance instead of going to that fashionable restaurant," responded the thrifty swain. "And," he added mentally, "that's saved."—Kansas City Journal.

Also Big-Headed.

You can't always tell by appearance. Many a narrow-minded man is quite cheasy.



## CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of

Dr. J. C. FLETCHER

In Use For Over Thirty Years

## CASTORIA

THE CENTRAL COMPANY, NEW YORK.

## No More Constipation

or Stomach Trouble If You Eat Uncle Sam Anti-Dyspeptic Breakfast Food.

The greatest discovery of the age for overcoming constipation and stomach troubles. It is more nourishing than any other known food, building up the system. There is more blood-making property in these cereals than any other known food.

Keep your stomach and bowels right and nature will do the rest. It is pleasant to eat and very nutritious, overcoming nervousness and general debility. A small quantity is sufficient. After eating this a few days every one says that they feel stronger—have more life and vigor—overcoming that languid feeling that one has when their stomach is out of order and the bowels are constipated. No more appendicitis if you eat Uncle Sam Breakfast Food and keep your bowels open. Constipation is the cause of nine-tenths of our troubles. Our leading doctors are using this food and recommending it to their patients. We guarantee this to do as represented or your money back. It is made from whole wheat, extract of celery and flax seed, and guaranteed under the pure food and drug act. Recommended and sold by all grocer jobbers in Nebraska.

UNCLE SAM BREAKFAST FOOD CO., Omaha, Nebr.

W. L. DOUGLAS \$300 SHOES \$350

THE DUTCH BOY PAINTER STANDS FOR PAINT QUALITY IT IS FOUND ONLY ON PURE WHITE LEAD MADE BY THE OLD DUTCH PROCESS.

## The General Demand

of the Well-Informed of the World has always been for a simple, pleasant and efficient liquid laxative remedy of known value; a laxative which physicians could sanction for family use because its component parts are known to them to be wholesome and truly beneficial in effect, acceptable to the system and gentle, yet prompt, in action.

In supplying that demand with its excellent combination of Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna, the California Fig Syrup Co. proceeds along ethical lines and relies on the merits of the laxative for its remarkable success.

That is one of many reasons why Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna is given the preference by the Well-Informed. To get its beneficial effects always buy the genuine—manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co., only, and for sale by all leading druggists. Price fifty cents per bottle.

They regulate the Bowels. Purely Vegetable. SMALL PILL. SMALL DOSE. SMALL PRICE.

Genuine Must Bear Fac-Simile Signature

DEFIANCE STARCH

Other starches only 12 cents—same price and "DEFIANCE" IS SUPERIOR QUALITY.

Small Pill. Small Dose. Small Price.

Refuse Substitutes.

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