

# The Result of a Caprice

By LOUISE B. CUMMINGS

"Auntie, why were you never married? I have heard that in your youth you were a great belle."

"My dear," replied the old lady, "why I was never married is a plain story to me. It has been constantly with me ever since I was nineteen years old, but I have never talked about it. There is a lesson in it for young girls like you, and on that account I will tell it to you."

Then the old lady told me the following story:

You know that I was born and raised in the south on one of those plantations that represented typical high life there before the war destroyed the institution which was its foundation. I came of age shortly before the struggle opened. I suppose it is true that I was a belle. Would that I had not been such, for the attention I received turned my head and caused what embittered my life.

Among my suitors were Alfred Beale and Edgar Turnlee. Turnlee was my favorite—indeed, I was very much in love with him—but I wished to be driven for and alternately encouraged him and his rival, Alfred Beale. One day I was sitting in the drawing room of the plantation house with Edgar. My back as well as his was toward the door opening into the great hall, while my face was toward a large mirror resting on the mantel over the fireplace. I caught a glimpse of the reflection of Alfred Beale in the hall.

He saw both Edgar and me sitting together. He paused and looked at us, making no sound to indicate to us that he was there. Indeed, he was eyes-dropping, but I thought little of that. I was wrapt in the idea of being an object of strife between two young men and was tempted to see what would happen between them should I purposely increase their antagonism.

I had been expecting a proposal from Edgar and now gave him every encouragement. He was placing an arm around my waist and his face was near mine when I gave a little shriek and drew away from him, assuming to be indignant. Beale stepped into the room and, glaring at Edgar, unbraided him. Edgar looked an appeal to me to exonerate him.

It is impossible to give reasons for the freaks that enter the heads of young persons, especially young girls, in the matter of coquetry. Instead of taking the blame of Edgar's act upon myself, I walked out of the room, leaving my admirers to settle the controversy in their own way. I had no sooner left them than it occurred to me that I had acted abominably. If I had gone directly back and confessed the situation might have been saved. I was about to do so when I remembered that such an acknowledgment would bring down upon me the contempt of both men—that is, if it were believed, which I doubted.

While I was deliberating I heard both men go out of the house. I started to call them back, but hesitated, and before I had made up my mind what to do they were out of hearing.

I wondered what would come to pass between them. It did not occur to me that they would fight a duel. Duelling by this time had largely died out in the

south, and I was too young to have heard much of an obsolete custom. What chiefly concerned me was that I had so deeply wronged the man I loved. I was not only suffering from consciousness of having done him an injustice, but was panic stricken lest he should never forgive me.

The affair began in the afternoon, and from then until bedtime I was in a state of dread, not that anything serious might occur between the rivals, but that I had lost my lover. In the middle of the night my father came into my room and asked me for an explanation of what had happened, for he had heard of it. Instead of telling him the truth, I left him with the impression that Edgar had transcended his rights and Alfred had resented his act. I asked father what had come of it, and he replied that I would learn the result in the morning; then he left me.

This was the first intimation I had of anything serious between the two men. Suddenly it flashed upon me that they would fight. I trembled. I lay turning the matter over in my brain, which was like a boiling caldron. With the first light of dawn I arose, dressed myself, stole down the great staircase and out on to the veranda. Looking out from behind a vine, I saw Edgar and two other young men riding by the plantation. Going to the barn, I saddled my horse, mounted and followed them.

I cannot dwell on the rest. It is too painful. I was some time in finding where they had gone. When I reached them they had fought a duel with pistols, and Alfred Beale was lying on the ground, while a surgeon was bending over him. I hurried to him to see if he were dead and was assured that his wound would not be fatal. I turned to Edgar. He gave me a look that has haunted me ever since. I saw in it that I had lost him forever.

You have heard my story. May it be a lesson to you that love is not a game for passing the time that young persons regard it. Love is a serious matter and should be treated seriously. Better the European method of matches made by parents than the follies committed by some young men and women when left to their own caprices.

**Dogs of War.**

The "dogs of war" have been more than a figure of speech for thousands of years. They were used in Egypt 400 B. C. The Romans, the Teutons and other fighting nations of antiquity depended much on them for sentinel and defense purposes. In the middle ages they are said to have even worn armor. The Spanish discoverers used bloodhounds in tracking the Indians in this country.

**Rare Modesty.**

"Bikins has been a passenger on some of the largest ships afloat."

"Is that his sole claim to distinction?"

"No, indeed." What makes Bikins unique is the fact that he didn't apparently become an intimate friend of all the prominent people on board those ships.—Birmingham Age-Herald.

**Sycamore.**

One of the most durable woods is sycamore. A statue made from it, now in the museum of Gizeh, at Cairo, is believed to be nearly 6,000 years old. Notwithstanding this great age, it is asserted that the wood itself is entirely sound and natural in appearance.

**There Are Others.**

"I thought I was brave, but I had an experience this morning with a man that made me lose my nerve."

"Dear me! Who was he?"

"My dentist."—Baltimore American.

# A Case of Blackmail

By SADIE OLCOTT

Pietro Caranil was deliberating on a plan to extort money by sending a threatening letter to some one who could afford to hand over the cash to avoid trouble, when chance gave him a fine opportunity. He was walking past the estate of the Hetheringtons one night about 11 o'clock when he espied a light flash among the trees within the inclosure.

Pietro was of an enterprising turn of mind, arguing that one can never tell when a secret may be picked up which may be turned into money. The flash had revealed to him something that he had not expected to see at that time of night in a rich man's grounds—namely, a gentleman carrying a small oblong box under his arm. Moreover, Pietro got a glimpse of a lady moving beside the gentleman. Both were young, and the lady was beautiful.

Pietro climbed the fence with the agility of youth and, creeping through such plants as adorn gentlemen's estates, made his way toward the couple, who were moving to a rear corner of the grounds.

Pietro did not need to be the adept he was at theorizing to feel sure that this young couple were going to bury the body of a child contained in the box they had with them. If the little one had died without mystery there would have been no need of their interring it at this time of night and in this secret manner. Stealthily he followed the couple, who stopped at an open space in the shrubbery. The man dug a grave and, having put the box in it, shoveled in the earth and smoothed the surface, while the lady, holding the lantern, stood by, a picture of melancholy. A big dog stood by the lady, viewing the burial with evident interest. When it was finished and the couple were about to return to the house the dog pricked up his ears and gave a low growl. Pietro beat a hasty retreat. The dog dashed toward him, and Pietro got over the fence just in time to save himself from a pair of powerful jaws.

Pietro believed that he had a valuable secret. If he was right in his inference that the body of a child had been buried there, he would undoubtedly give a large sum for the preservation of the secret. Pietro was a methodical rascal and would have visited the grave, dug up the box and assured himself of the truth of his inference, but he had a wholesome dread of the dog's jaws. To go there in the daytime was impracticable, and at night the dog was unleased and permitted to roam over the grounds.

Pietro thought of going to the house and making inquiries of the servants that would help him in determining what the secret burial meant, but he was farseeing and looked forward to a possible future arrest, in which case to be identified as having prowled around the place, the denizens of which he proposed to bleed, would prove a great disadvantage to him. He determined to proceed on the theory that there was something to be concealed.

He learned the name of the owners of the place, then wrote a note mentioning what he had seen and offering to keep the secret on payment of \$5,000, giving an assumed name to be addressed at the general delivery of the postoffice. In a week's time he received a note written in a feminine hand imploring him not to divulge what he had witnessed. The money to pay for his silence was being got together, and as soon as it was ready he would be notified.

A fortnight later, not having heard anything further in the matter, he wrote again, demanding immediate payment or the police would be notified that a crime had been covered up. To this he received a reply that \$5,000 of ready money had been raised and would be turned over to him in any manner that he might designate. Each year for four years \$500 would be paid him provided the secret was kept.

This looked to Pietro like a bona fide offer. He had not thought that the parties would likely provide against being called on for blackmail in future. He accepted the proposition and appointed a meeting at a certain day and hour at a street corner near the scene of the burial to receive his first payment. He would wear a brown suit and would carry a book in his left hand. Any attempt at treachery would result in the death of his would be captor.

At the time appointed a man appeared on the scene and, seeing another in a brown suit and a book in his hand, asked him if he were the party to be paid for keeping a secret. Pietro admitted that he was, and the other put his hand into his inside coat pocket and took out a fat pocketbook and was about to hand it over when several men started from different points nearby, one of whom clutched Pietro from behind before he could make any defense. Then he was taken to a police station.

Pietro, instead of having provided for his freedom for five years, had provided for his board at the expense of the state for an exact term. No explanation was made as to the secret of the burial, for none was needed. The lady's poodle had died in the evening, and she and her husband were to go on a journey early the next morning. The night burial was therefore necessary.

### Notice of Special Election

Notice is hereby given that on the 7th day of December, 1915, a special election will be held in the School District of the City of North Platte, in the County of Lincoln, in the State of Nebraska; the polling places to be as follows: For that portion of said District north of the tracks of the Union Pacific Railroad Company, at the Hose House in the Fourth Ward in the City of North Platte, Lincoln County, Nebraska; for that portion of said District south of the tracks of the Union Pacific Railroad Company and west of Dewey street, and public road No. 6, which is a continuation of Dewey Street, at the Hose House in the Third Ward of said City of North Platte; and for that portion of said District south of the tracks of the Union Pacific Railroad Company and east of said Dewey Street and public road No. 6, the same being a continuation of Dewey street, at Lloyd's Opera House in the First Ward in the City of North Platte.

At which said election the following proposition will be submitted to the voters of said School District: "Shall the School District of the City of North Platte, in the County of Lincoln, in the State of Nebraska, issue its negotiable bonds in the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars, (\$50,000.00) in denominations of \$1,000.00 each dated on the first day of April, 1916, bearing interest at the rate of 5 per cent per annum, payable semi-annually, principal and interest payable at the fiscal agency of the State of Nebraska in the City of New York and payable as follows, to-wit: In twenty years from the date thereof, but may be paid at any time after ten years from the date thereof at the option of the Board of Education of said School District."

Said bonds to be issued for the purpose of erecting and furnishing one 14 room school building in the First Ward of the City of North Platte, Nebraska, on Block 144 in said ward. And shall the Board of Education of the School District of the City of North Platte, in the County of Lincoln, in the State of Nebraska, be authorized to cause to be levied and collected, a tax annually in amount sufficient to pay the interest and principal of said bonds, as the same mature, in addition to the taxes now authorized to be levied by law, on all property within the said School District.

The ballots to be used at said election shall have printed thereon: "For issuing \$50,000.00 of the bonds of the School District of the City of North Platte, in the County of Lincoln, in the State of Nebraska, for the purpose of erecting and furnishing one 14 room school building on block 144 in the First Ward of the City of North Platte, Nebraska, in said District. Said bonds to be negotiable in form and to bear interest at the rate of five per cent per annum, payable semi-annually, principal and interest payable at the fiscal agency of the State of Nebraska, in the City of New York and which said bonds shall be due as follows: In twenty years from the date thereof, but may be paid at any time after ten years from the date thereof, at the option of the Board of Education of said school district; and for levying and collecting a tax annually in an amount sufficient to pay the interest and principal of said bonds, as the same mature, in addition to the taxes now authorized to be levied by law, on all property within the said school district."

Against issuing \$50,000.00 of the bonds of the School District of the City of North Platte, in the County of Lincoln, in the State of Nebraska, for the purpose of erecting and furnishing one 14 room school building on block 144 in the First Ward of the City of North Platte, Nebraska, within said district. Said bonds to be negotiable in form and to bear interest at the rate of five per cent per annum payable semi-annually, principal and interest payable at the fiscal agency of the State of Nebraska in the City of New York, and which said bonds shall be due as follows: In twenty years from the date thereof but may be paid at any time after ten years from the date thereof, at the option of the Board of Education of said School District; and against levying and collecting a tax annually, in an amount sufficient to pay the interest and principal of said bonds, as the same mature, in addition to the taxes, now authorized by law, on all property within the said school district."

Those voting in favor of said proposition shall mark their ballots with an "X" after the paragraph beginning "For issuing \$50,000.00 of the bonds of the School District of the City of North Platte, in the County of Lincoln, in the State of Nebraska."

Those voting against said proposition shall mark their ballots with an "X" after the paragraph beginning "Against issuing \$50,000.00 of the bonds of the School District of the City of North Platte, in the County of Lincoln, in the State of Nebraska."

Said election to be open at (8) eight o'clock a. m. and continue open until (6) six o'clock p. m. central time on said date.

Dated this 1st day of November, 1915. By order of the Board of Education. E. T. TRAMP, President. A. P. STREITZ, Secretary.

**Probate Notice.**

In the Matter of the Estate of Charles Lierk, Sr., Deceased.

In the County Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska, November 12, 1915.

Notice is hereby given, That the creditors of said deceased will meet the Administrator of said estate, before the County Judge of Lincoln County, Nebraska, at the County Court Room, in said County, on the 17th day of December, 1915, and on the 17th day of June, 1916, at 9 o'clock a. m., each day, for the purpose of presenting their claims for examination, adjustment and allowance. Six months are allowed for creditors to present their claims, and one year for the Administrator to settle said estate, from the 17th day of December, 1915. This notice will be published in the North Platte Tribune a newspaper printed in said County, for four weeks successively, preceding Dec. 17, 1915.

GEORGE E. FRENCH, County Judge.

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### Cigars in the Home

For the next five months smokers will spend their evenings indoors, and what is more convenient and more pleasurable than a box of cigars at home, easily accessible when you have an inclination to smoke. Try a box of our home-made and hand-made cigars, the kind that are a little better than you buy elsewhere for the same price.

We also carry a full line of tobacco and smokers' articles.

**J. F. Schmalzried.**

### LEGAL NOTICE

To Charles Brittingham, Joseph H. Schick, Joseph H. Schick, Administrator of the Estate of Gussie Schick, deceased, Catherine Lucille Schick, a minor; Joseph H. Schick, father and natural guardian of Catherine Lucille Schick, a minor, South Bend Chilled Plow Company, a corporation; Racine Sattley Company, a corporation; Racine Sattley Company, a corporation; Joel Turney & Company, a corporation; Challenge Company, a corporation; McFarlan Carriage Company, a Corporation, Mrs. Claude L. Abbott, Mrs. John C. Camp, George F. Sawyer and Mrs. George F. Sawyer, non-resident defendants.

You and each of you will take notice that on November 5, 1915, H. S. Evans, Plaintiff, filed his certain petition in the District Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska, bringing suit against you and each of you, impleaded with others, the object and prayer of which said petition are to foreclose you and each of you of all equity of redemption, claim, right, interest and title in and to the following described lands situate in Lincoln County, Nebraska, to-wit: Southwest Quarter (SW 1/4) of Section Four (4), Township Nine (9) and the East Half (E 1/2) and East Half of the Northwest Quarter (E 1/2 & E 1/2 NW 1/4) of Section Thirty-two (32), Township Ten (10), North, all in Range Twenty-seven (27) and west of the 6th P. M., to satisfy a first lien claimed by plaintiff upon said premises by virtue of being the owner of tax sale certificate No. 4765 and No. 4770 being certificates of the purchase of said respective tracts of land from the Treasurer of said County at public sale for the taxes for the year 1909 and by virtue of subsequent taxes paid thereon by plaintiff, and accrued interest, and upon said tax certificate No. 4765 there is now due the sum of \$93.22 being a lien upon said Southwest Quarter of Section four, and the sum of \$191.49 being a lien upon the East Half and East Half of the Northwest Quarter of Section Ten, and if said respective sums be not paid together with accruing interest thereon at the rate of 15 per cent per annum and cost of suit within thirty days from date of decree had herein that said respective tracts be sold in satisfaction thereof.

You and each of you will take notice that on the 20th, 1915, or decree will be taken against you as in said petition prayed.

H. S. EVANS, Plaintiff,  
By E. H. EVANS, His Attorney.

### I Am Paying More for HIDES

than anyone else. Before you sell come and see me.  
We are paying \$10 Per ton for Dry Bones.

### North Platte Junk House

Lock's Old Barn.

**Sheriff's Sale.**

By virtue of an alias order of sale issued from the District Court of Lincoln County, Nebraska, upon a decree of foreclosure rendered in said court, wherein C. S. Cadwallader is plaintiff and James F. Reinsmith, et al, are defendants, and to me directed, I will, on the 11th day of December, 1915, at two o'clock P. M., at the east front door of the Court House, in North Platte, Lincoln County, Nebraska, sell at public auction to the highest bidder, for cash, to satisfy said decree, interest and costs, the following described property, to-wit:

East half, (E 1/2) of Northwest quarter, (NW 1/4) of Section thirty (30), Township fifteen, (15), Range twenty-seven, (27), West of the Sixth (6th), P. M., Lincoln County, Nebraska.

Dated North Platte, Nebraska, November 5th, 1915.  
n9-5w A. J. SALISBURY, Sheriff.

**RESOLUTION**

**Of the Council of the City of North Platte, Creating Paving District No. 1**

WHEREAS, the City of North Platte did at a special election held on September 14th, 1915, vote to authorize the issue of bonds in the sum of \$16,000 for the purpose of paving street intersections and spaces opposite alleys within said city and which said bond issue is now available for such purpose.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the City of North Platte, that Paving District No. 1 of the City of North Platte be and the same is hereby created to be composed of the following streets and portions of streets therein and contained within the limits and boundaries herein set forth and defined, to-wit:

All that portion of Locust Street lying between the north side of Ninth Street and the north side of Third Street; all that portion of Dewey Street lying between the north side of Front Street and the north side of Third Street; all that portion of Pine Street lying between the north side of Front Street and the south side of Sixth Street; all that portion of Front Street lying between the east line of Vine Street and the west line of Chestnut Street; all that portion of Sixth Street lying between the east line of Vine Street and the east side of Pine Street; all that portion of Fifth Street lying between the west line of Locust Street and the west line of Pine Street and the North Platte Semi-Weekly Tribune and the North Platte Telegraph and that a copy of this resolution be published for not less than thirty days in the North Platte Semi-Weekly Tribune and the North Platte Telegraph and that non-resident property owners shall be mailed a copy of this resolution by registered mail to the last known address of said non-residents and that unless a majority of the owners of property abutting on the within described district shall file written objections to the creation of said district and to the paving and curbing of same within thirty days from the date of the first publication of this resolution, then the limits and boundaries of this District as defined shall be established and the paving and curbing thereof ordered by ordinance and that the Mayor and Council shall proceed forthwith to construct such pavement subject to the right of the property owner therein to designate the material to be used.

Passed and approved this 21st day of October, 1915.  
(SEAL) E. H. EVANS, Mayor.  
C. F. TEMPLE, City Clerk.

### Order of Hearing on Original Probate of Will.

State of Nebraska, Lincoln County, ss. In the County Court, Nov. 1, 1915. In the Matter of the Estate of Margratha Burke, Deceased.

On reading and filing the petition of John Burke, praying that the Instrument, filed on the 1st day of November, 1915, and purporting to be the last Will and Testament of the said deceased, may be proved, approved, probated, allowed and recorded as the last Will and Testament of the said Margratha Burke, deceased, and that the execution of said instrument may be committed and the administration of said estate may be granted to John Burke, Peter Burke and Elizabeth Bratt as Executors.

Ordered that November 26, 1915, at 2 o'clock p. m., is assigned for hearing said petition, when all persons interested in said matter may appear at a County Court to be held in and for said County, and show cause why the prayer of petitioner should not be granted. Notice of this hearing will be published in the North Platte Tribune, for three successive weeks prior to said hearing.

n1-3w GEO. E. FRENCH, County Judge.

### Order of Hearing to Determine Heirship.

State of Nebraska, Lincoln County, ss. In the Matter of the Estate of John B. Fisher, Deceased.

To the Creditors, Heirs and all persons interested in said estate:

Notice is hereby given, that John E. Fisher, claiming an undivided 1/4 interest in and to the E 1/2 SE 1/4 Sec. 27, E 1/2 NE 1/4 Sec. 28, T. 9 N. R. 24 West 6th P. M., filed his petition in the County Court of Lincoln County Nebraska praying for a determination of the time of death of John B. Fisher and of the heirs of said deceased, and their degree of kinship and the interest in said real estate of the petitioner and other heirs, and that all claims against said estate be barred. Said petition alleges that John B. Fisher died on or about September 4, 1913, and that at the date of his death he was a resident of Jasper, Florida, and was the owner of an interest in the above described premises by virtue of a mortgage upon said land, and that there survived him Margaret Fisher, his widow, and that he died intestate, leaving as next of kin: Ralph T. Fisher, Mrs. Dora S. Rachel, Mrs. Margaret C. Haddock and John E. Fisher, only children of deceased.

It is hereby ordered that said petition be heard at the office of the County Judge of Lincoln County, Nebraska, on the 25th day of November, 1915, at 9 A. M.

GEO. E. FRENCH, County Judge.

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Ed. 113

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