

November Joe

The Detective of the Woods

By HESKETH PRICHARD

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CHAPTER XIII.

Linda Petersham.

NOVEMBER JOE had bidden me farewell at the little siding known by the picturesque name of Silent Water.

"Spect you'll be back again, Mr. Quaritch, as soon as you've fixed them new riding contracts, and then, maybe, we'll try a wolf hunt. There's a tidy pack comes out on the Lac Noir ice when it's moonlight."

But the shackles of business are not so easily shaken off, and the spring had already come before another vacation in the woods had begun to merge into possibility. About this time Linda Petersham rang me up on the telephone and demanded my presence at lunch.

"But I am engaged," said I. "What is it?"

"I will tell you when you come. I want you."

I made another effort to explain my position, but Linda had said her last word and rung off. I smiled as I called up the picture of a small Greek head crowned with golden hair, a pair of dark blue eyes and a mouth wearing a rather imperious expression.

The end of it was that I went, for I have known Linda all her life. The Petersham family consists of Linda and her father, and, though in business relations Mr. Petersham is a power to be reckoned with, at home he exists for the sole apparent purpose of carrying out his charming daughter's wishes. It is a delightful house to go to, for they are the happiest people I know.

I found myself the only guest, which surprised me, for the Petersham mansion has a reputation for hospitality.

"James, I want you to do this for me. I want you to persuade pop not to do something."

"I'll persuade him? You don't think I can do that—you, who can make him do or not do anything, just as you wish?"

"I thought I could, but I find I can't." "How is that?"

"Well, he is set on going back to Kalmacks."

"Kalmacks? I know it is the place Julius Fischer built up in the mountains. He used to go shooting and fishing there. It's a place you'd love—lots of good rooms and standing water back on a mountain slope, with miles of view and a stream tumbling past the very door. Father bought it last year and with it all the sporting rights Julius Fischer claimed. The woods are full of moose, and there are beaver and otter, and that's where the trouble came in."

"But Fischer had trouble from the day he went up to shoot at Kalmacks. He had to run for it, so I was told. Didn't your father know that? Why did Mr. Petersham have anything to do with the place?"

"Oh, it was just one of pop's notions, I suppose," said Linda, with the rather weary tolerance of the modern daughter.

"They are a dangerous lot round there."

"He knew that. They are squatters—trappers who have squatted among those woods and hills for generations. Of course they think the country belongs to them. Pop knew that, and in his opinion the compensation Julius Fischer offered and gave them was inadequate."

"I would be," I commented. I could without effort imagine Julius Fischer's views on compensation, for I had met him in business.

"Well, father went into the matter, and he found that the squatters had a good deal to be said for their side of the case, so that he did what he thought was fair by them. He paid them good high prices for their rights, or what they considered to be their rights, for in law, of course, they possessed none. Every one seemed pleased and satisfied, and we were looking forward to going there this spring for the fishing when news came that one of father's game wardens had been shot at."

"Shot at?"

Linda nodded the Greek head I admired so much.

"Yes. Last autumn father put on a couple of wardens to look after the game, and they have been there all winter. From their reports they have got on quite well with the squatters, and now suddenly, for no reason that they can guess, one of them, William Worke by name, has been fired upon in his camp."

"Killed?" I asked.

"No, but badly wounded. He said he was sure the bullet could have been put into his heart just as easily, but it was sent through his knee by way of a noose to quit, he thinks."

"Those folks up there must be half savages."

"They are, but that's not all. Three

days ago a letter came, meant for father, but addressed to me. Whoever wrote it must have seen father and knew that he was not the kind of man who could be readily frightened, so they thought they would get at him through me. It was a horrible letter."

The words were written upon a sheet torn from an old account book. They ran as follows:

"You, Petersham, you mean skunk! Don't you come in our woods unless you're willing to pay five thousand dollars. Bring the goods and you'll be told where to put it, so it will come into the hands of rifiers. Dollars ain't nothin' to you, but they can keep an expanding bullet out yer hide."

"Do you think it is a hoax?"

"Well, no, I can't honestly say I do."

"Which means, in plain language, that if father does not pay up that \$5,000 he will be shot."

"Not necessarily. He need not go up to Kalmacks this fall."

"But of course he will go! He's more set on going than ever. You know your father when he's dealing with men. And he persists in his opinion that the letter is probably only bluff."

I considered for a little before I spoke. "Linda, have you really sent for me to try to persuade your father that it would be wiser for him not to go to Kalmacks?"

Linda's lip curled scornfully. "I should not put it just like that. I can imagine father's answer if you did. I'm afraid it will be no good letting you say anything you don't know how."

"You mean that I have no tact?"

She smiled at me, and I instantly forgave her. "Well, perhaps I do, but you know it is far better to be able to give help than just to talk about it. Father is determined on going to Kalmacks, and I want you to come with us."

"Us?" I cried.

"Naturally, I'm going."

"But it is absurd! Your father would never allow it!"

"He can't prevent it, dear James."

she said softly. "I don't for a moment suppose that even the Kalmacks people would attack a woman. And I'm in all that I have in the world. I'm going."

"Then I suppose I shall have to go too. But tell me what purpose does your father think he will serve by undertaking this very risky expedition?"

"He believes that the general feeling up at Kalmacks is in his favor, and the shooting of the warden as well as the writing of this letter is the work of a small band of individuals who wish to blackmail him. We will be quite a strong party, and he hopes to discover who is threatening him. By the way, didn't I hear from Sir Andrew McLerrick that you had been in the woods all these last falls with a wonderful guide who could read trails like Uncle Sam, the last of the Delawares, or one of those old trappers one reads in Fenimore Cooper's novels?"

"That's true."

"What is his name?"

"November Joe."

"November Joe," she repeated. "I visualize him at once. A wintry looking old man, with gray goatee and piercing eyes."

I burst out laughing. "It's extraordinary you should hit him off so well."

"He must come too," she commanded.

On Friday I got Joe, who arranged to meet us at Primville, the nearest point on the railway to those mountains in the heart of which the estate of Kalmacks was situated. I myself arranged to accompany the Petershams.

Into the story of our journey to Primville I need not go, but will pick up the sequence of events at the moment of our arrival at that enterprising town, when Linda, looking from the car window, suddenly exclaimed:

"Look at that magnificent young man!"

"Which one?" I asked innocently as I caught sight of November's tall figure awaiting us.

"How many men in sight answer my description?" she retorted. "Of course I mean the woodsman. Why, he's coming this way. I must speak to him."

Before I could answer she had jumped lightly to the platform and, turning to Joe with a childlike expression in her blue eyes, said:

"Oh, can you tell me how many minutes this train stops here?"

"It don't generally stop here at all, but they flagged her because they're expecting passengers. Can I help you any, miss?"

"It's very kind of you."

At this moment I appeared from the car. "Hello, Joe!" said I. "How are things?"

"All right, Mr. Quaritch. There's two slick buckboards with a pair of horses to each waiting and a wagonette fit for the king o' Russia. The road between this and the mountains is flooded by beaver working in a backwater 'bout ten miles out. They say we can drive through all right. Miss Petersham needn't fear getting too wet."

"How do you know my name?" exclaimed Linda.

"I heard you described, miss," replied Joe gravely.

the identity of the man who fired the shot?"

"Nothing," said Puttick, "and not likely to. They're all banded together up there."

On which cheerful information our little caravan started. At Linda's wish Joe took the place of the driver of Mr. Petersham's light imported wagonette, and as we went along she gave him a very clear story of the sequence of events, to all of which he listened with the characteristic series of "Well, news?" and "You don't say?" with which he was in the habit of punctuating the remarks of a lady. He said them, as usual, in a voice which not only emphasized the facts at exactly the right places, but also lent an air of subtle compliment to the eloquence of the narrator.

When we stopped near a patch of pine trees to partake of an impromptu lunch it was his quick hands that prepared the campfire and his skilled ax that fashioned the rude but comfortable seats. It was he also who disappeared for a moment to return with three half pound trout that he had taken by some swift process of his own from the brook, of which we only heard the murmur. And for all these doings he received an amount of open admiration from Linda's blue eyes which seemed to me almost exaggerated.

"I think your November Joe is a perfect dear," she confided to me.

"If you really think that," said I, "have mercy on him! You do not want to add his scalp to all the others."

"Many of the others are bald," said she. "His hair would furnish a dozen of them!"

(To Be Continued.)

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for anyone of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. F. J. CLEGG & CO., Toledo, O.

Write the undersigned, have known F. J. Clegg for the last 23 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions, and financially able to carry out any obligations made by him.

NAT. BANK OF COMMERCE, Toledo, Ohio. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, and it directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price, 50 cents per bottle. Sold by all druggists. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Make Your Wants Known

Advertisements under this heading five cents per line each insertion. Six cents per line each insertion and no advertisement taken for less than ten cents.

STRAY bear taken up at my place. Black with white spots. Louis Friedrich. 12-7-tfw

We are in the market to buy your cream every day in the year. Highest prices at all times. Zuckweiler & Lutz. 12-7-2wks-w

TAKEN UP—Black Holstein heifer. Owner may have same by calling at my place and paying for this advertisement. Wm. Wehrlein. 10-7-tfw

FOR SALE—A few more of those light Brahmas. Inquire of Mrs. Wm. Gilmour, R. F. D. No. 1, Plattsmouth, Neb. 12-10-3tw

FOUND—A black muff. Owner may have same by calling at this office and paying for this advertisement. 12-15-1fd

FOR SALE—648-acre ranch, with fine improvements; clear. Will take good Plattsmouth property as first payment; balance, 5 years at 6 per cent. Price, \$10,000.00. Also four sections, all good, will sell on same basis; 2,500 bushels of corn on one place now. Address C. B. Schiechler, Brady, Neb.

WM. DUNN, AUCTIONEER - Weeping Water, Neb. - will take charge of your public sale business. Farm sales a specialty. Owners' interests are always guarded with the best ability, and satisfaction guaranteed. For open dates telephone at my expense to Weeping Water. WM. DUNN.

Forest Rose Flour

Wahoo Mill Co. Wahoo, Neb. Forest Rose Flour

Sold by all leading Dealers

CHICHESTER'S PILLS

THE DIAMOND BRAND. Indolent! Ask your Druggist for Chichester's Diamond Brand Pills in Red and Gold Metallic Cases, sealed with Blue Ribbon. Take no other. Buy of your Druggist. Address: CHICHESTER'S DIAMOND BRAND PILLS, 69 N. 3rd St., Philadelphia, Pa.

SOLD BY DRUGGISTS EVERYWHERE

DISPLAY AND SALE OF USEFUL GIFTS for Christmas

Art Needlework!



Display of Handkerchiefs!

You will find on display a most varied line of Handkerchiefs for Men, Women and Children. One, two, three, four or six in fancy Holiday Boxes, at most reasonable prices— One in a box, at .10c, 15c, 10c, 15c and 25c Two in a box, at .10c, 15c, 20c, 25c, 30c, 60c Three in a box, at .15c, 20c, 25c, 30c, 60c Four in a box, at 60c, 75c, \$1.00 Six in a box, at \$1 and \$1.50 Most of the Handkerchiefs all linen this year, fine values .10c to 25c Men's and Women's Initialed Handkerchiefs at .15c and 25c

Corner 6th and Main St., Plattsmouth, Neb.

Ribbons!

Nice, large line to choose from: Pillows, front and back, with 6 skeins of silk and lesson sheet, all for .25c Library Scarfs, with 6 skeins of silk and lesson sheet, for .50c Stamped Guest Towels, ea. .25c Stamped Pillow Cases, per pair, .60c and 50c Slipper and Laundry Bags, at .25c and 50c Richardson's Grecian Embroidery Floss, Skein .4c Peri-Lusta Embroidery Cotton and a big line of Mercerized Crochet Cotton.



E. A. WURL, PHONE 56

Gift Hosiery!

A practical gift and always acceptable to anyone, young or old. Gift Boxes if desired. Exceptional values are offered here in pure thread Silk Hosiery for Women, at, per pair, .50c, \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.00, \$3.50, \$4.00, \$4.50, \$5.00, \$5.50, \$6.00, \$6.50, \$7.00, \$7.50, \$8.00, \$8.50, \$9.00, \$9.50, \$10.00. Gauze Lisle Hose that wear—four pairs in a box guaranteed four months, for \$1.00; pair 25c Men's Half-Hose, linen heel and toe; colors, grey, tan and black, two pairs for .25c Gauze, Lisle or Silk Half-Hose, all colors; per pair .25c



Blacksmithing and Horseshoeing!

I am now prepared to look after all general blacksmithing and horseshoeing. Shop 4 1-2 miles west of Murray. JOHN DURHAM. Registered Jersey Bull for service. C. E. Babbitt, Plattsmouth. 1-2-2mos-wkly

FIRM OF JOHN BAUER, OF THIS CITY, DOING EXTENSIVE BLUMING IN IOWA

The firm of John Bauer in this city is carrying on a great deal of work at present in our neighboring state of Iowa, where they have contracts at Pacific Junction for the placing of a large heating plant in the new school building, and at Glenwood, where they will place a plant in the new Mills county poor farm, situated a few miles from that city. This firm has done some very good work in the past few years and their reputation is widespread, and when anyone desires a first-class job they come to Plattsmouth and secure the services of the workmen employed by Mr. Bauer to look after the job, and with the well known reputation of Mr. Bauer as a contractor, they always get the very best work that can be turned out anywhere.

C. H. FULLER OFFERS TO DONATE MANY TOYS TO A MUNICIPAL CHRISTMAS TREE

The article dealing with a municipal Christmas tree that appeared in the Journal last evening has attracted much attention among our citizens, and the first to respond with an offer to aid in the movement is C. H. Fuller, who, on returning from Omaha last evening and reading the article in the Journal, called up and informed us that he had a large number of toys which he secured in a recent trade for a hardware stock in South Omaha, and would donate them to the cause of making the children happy if it was decided to have a public Christmas tree. These toys are all new and the number which he has would help greatly in making the tree a success. If others respond half as liberally a record-breaking Christmas tree could be put on here.

Box Social.

A box social and entertainment will be given at the Wilson school house, near Greenwood, Friday evening, December 18th. Everybody invited. Ladies please bring boxes. Viola Haynie, Teacher. 12-15-2td-1tw

CHICHESTER'S PILLS

Indolent! Ask your Druggist for Chichester's Diamond Brand Pills in Red and Gold Metallic Cases, sealed with Blue Ribbon. Take no other. Buy of your Druggist. Address: CHICHESTER'S DIAMOND BRAND PILLS, 69 N. 3rd St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Taken Suddenly Ill.

Yesterday afternoon Dr. E. W. Cook was taken suddenly ill at his office and was compelled to go to his home, where he has been confined since that time. The friends of the genial doctor will be glad to learn that he is feeling somewhat better today, but is still confined to his bed.

AN ATTRACTIVE SHOW WINDOW AT THE WARGA & SHULDICE STORE

One of the show windows that has attracted a great deal of attention in this city is that of Warga & Schuldice in their east show window, where a number of electrical fixtures for Christmas decorations are shown, as well as a large assortment of the new mechanical construction toys for children. The chief feature of the window is the many colored electric lights of small size that can be used effectively in the decoration of Christmas trees and insures absolute safety from fire that has been caused so often from the use of candles in the past. This enterprising firm has also a most complete line of lamps of all kinds from huge dining table domes to the smallest and neatest flashlights, made in the shape of a fountain pen. There is a most thorough stock of all kinds of the latest electrical devices, and in these times this kind of gifts make the most acceptable Christmas presents. There are few stores in the large cities that carry a more complete or up-to-date stock of goods than this firm, and the citizens of Plattsmouth can find most anything they desire in this establishment.

Best for Kidneys—Says Doctor.

Dr. J. T. R. Neal, Greenville, South Carolina, says that in his 30 years of experience he has found no preparation for the kidneys equal to Foley Kidney Pills. In 50c and \$1.00 sizes. Best you can buy for headache, rheumatism, kidney and bladder ailments. For sale by all druggists.

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Constitution causes headache, indigestion, dizziness, drowsiness. For a mild, opening medicine, use Doan's Regulents. 25c a box at all stores.

A Few Suggestions for Christmas

of items that we are showing a full stock of

- Ladies' Silk Petticoats
- Table Linens
- Shirt Waists
- Linen Towels
- Fancy Aprons
- Linen Luch Cloths
- Silk Hose
- New Hand Bags
- Sweaters
- Fancy Ribbons
- and Ladies' Fancy Neckwear

Gents'—

- Neckties
- Mufflers
- Suspenders
- Hose Supporters
- Silk Fiber Sox
- Gloves

Handkerchiefs—

- Ladies' Initial
- Gent's Initial
- American Lace
- Colored Initial
- Embroiders Linen
- Children's Box
- Gents Plain Linen Hemstitched

Zuckweiler & Lutz

Sell your property through the Journal Want Ads.