

The Pelham Affair by Louis Tracy

SYNOPSIS.
 Captain Arthur Pelham, arriving in London from Bombay, India, after several years' absence, is told by a railway porter of his strong resemblance to Sir Arthur, who he says was killed in France.
 Pelham declares that his cousin is very much alive.
 Jenkins, the porter, tells of words he heard the supposedly dying man repeat and declares that these names have been seen, signed to personal items in the "Agony Column" of a London newspaper.
 After going to a hotel, Captain Pelham decides to join in the fun and writes a personal address to "Matador" and "Vaquero" who had signed the ones which drew his attention. He warns both that "Bull" is after them.
 Scotland Yard will know of this in the morning, remarks one of the clerks in the advertising office.
 On a midnight walk Pelham walks through the gates of the family manor and immediately is set upon by another intruder. A policeman catches him but allows his assailant to escape.
 After being questioned at police headquarters, Pelham returns to his lodgings.
 Next morning C. F. Pridoux, of Scotland Yard calls upon him and hands him a story from the time he arrived in London to his fight of the previous evening.
 From the office from the criminal investigation department hears that



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though he lived on oranges, including the real and the false.
 "Who the devil deputized for you this morning, Arthur?" was the stout major's greeting.
 "A friend of mine pressed to let you know I couldn't come to lunch."
 "Yes, but what did he mean by saying you might turn your attention to peaches?"
 "Dinner at home, old thing. He's mad as a March hare."
 "Well, this is my South African pal, Anthony Close. He tells me that besides the Cape, I have checked out the tune of five hundred quid you'll have a place worth five thousand in five years, and meanwhile live in the rain."
 "I wish he could vary the figures a bit," grinned Pelham, subsiding into a chair. "All those fives sound like a racket-court, and it's horribly hot."
 "Oranges, lemons, grape-fruit and limes—began Mr. Close, but happily another matter of a nice man, a summer and Pelham joyously, and suggested long drinks, with ice in them.
 "By the way, you were at Look, Tum-tum, I think," said Pelham. "Did you happen to run across my cousin, Sir Arthur Pelham, in one of the Guards Battalions?"
 "No, but a bit like you, old beau, a regular stick. Seemed to have a grudge because the guards couldn't wear their bearskins, to differentiate 'em, you know, from common army men."
 "Do you mean that he does not resemble me, or that he hasn't my happy disposition?"
 "Oh, there's a family likeness all right, just as there is among coccinids, but there's no milk in him. Still, your chair he got badly cut up in those infernal quarries. They made a horrible mess of him. Oh, I forgot. You two don't hit it off."
 "Have you seen him lately?"
 "Not for a year or more. He hardly ever comes here. Anyhow, he'd use the Guards' club."
 "But you had seen him?"
 "Yes, two or three times."
 "Isn't he all right again?"
 "His face never will be right. He was badly gashed with shell, and lost a tip of one ear. But something internal, too. That is why he was exchanged."
 "How old is your cousin?" put in Mr. Arthur.
 "About two years my senior," said Pelham.
 "Then it would be his father I met in Johannesburg about 1917. A very shrewd person. He stood well in with the German banking crowd at that time."
 "Didn't he marry a German?" asked Drummer.
 "Yes."
 "Funny, isn't it, how the Teutonic type persists in the world? I expect Sir Arthur was made to speak German as a kid."
 "He was," said the fourth man.
 "He and I were at Eton together, and I remember he did well in maths."
 "He must have got the mathematical side from his father," put in Mr. Close, thus hinting that his acquaintance with the first baronet all those years ago in the Transvaal did not evoke happy recollections.
 "Now, about this orange-growing stunt," began Drummer. But Pelham was not fated to hear any fruit-farming details that day. An attendant came to say he was wanted on the telephone.
 "Who in the world knows I am here?" he could not help exclaiming.
 "Am I bewitched?"
 He hurried off, and a calm, agreeable voice apologized for disturbing him.
 "I am Superintendent Somers, of the C. I. D.," went on the speaker. "Mr. P. has just left me. We are anxious to have a word with that railway porter. If you are not otherwise engaged this evening could you possibly look him up and have him at your flat about 9 p. m.?"
 "I'm free enough, Mr. Somers, but naturally I cannot vouch for him."
 "Just so. Would you mind calling at Victoria and trying to secure him? If you fail, give me a ring here at 8:30. Otherwise we'll be with you at 9."
 Pelham promised to do his best. As he walked back to the smoking-room he could hardly avoid the reflection that he had stepped from a world of somewhat drab realism into a stage setting of romantic drama the moment he set foot on the platform at Victoria. He was so serious-faced when he rejoined his friends that Drummer said instantly:
 "Bad luck, old top! She has a date with the other Johnny!"
 "Worse than that. I've got to find a fellow with whiskers, and entertain him."
 "That's tough. Don't let anyone see you. A respectable young sojourner like you looking for a job, too, can't be too careful."
 "We were talking about your cousin, Pelham," said Jameson, the thirty one. How did you two intend to have the same Christian name?"
 "It was our grandfather's name, and my father quarrelled with his brother, the first baronet. There was something about keeping one branch of the family clear of the German taint. A poor reason, but the only one I was ever given."
 "Let me see. Weren't you at Wellington?"
 "Yes."
 "Ah, it all comes back now. Our Arthur Pelham wouldn't play in the Rugby team because you were in the opposition one. He was a clever forward, and we missed him. You scored two goals for Wellington that year. We were sore with him all the winter, and he was left out of the Harrow match. Small world, isn't it?"
 "Some people seem to think so. They are trying constantly to push others off the map."
 "Thus Mr. Close, who evidently could not forget some grievances of bygone days on the Rand.
 Pelham had no difficulty in finding Porter Jenkins at Victoria, but he had to interview an official to get the man off duty two hours before time. As it was, the representatives of the criminal investigation department were with him some fifteen minutes before Jenkins, spruce in attire and shiny with soap, put in an appearance.
 Superintendent Somers proved to be a most interesting and quite entertaining person. In every respect, whether physically or mentally, he was the exact antithesis of Pridoux. A big, strongly-built man, who might have been a heavy-weight pugilist had not fate guided his youthful footsteps to the recruiting office of the Metropolitan police, he had much more the air and semblance of a gentleman farmer than of the average detective. His natural expression was one of bonhomie and kindheartedness. His prominent blue eyes and downy forehead bespoke a rare intelligence. He might be expected to take a shrewd yet optimistic view of life's problems, and, as Pridoux had, a Havana cigar was evidently an inseparable companion.
 Two men more unlike than the superintendent and chief inspector can never before have united in the pursuit of criminals; Pelham had yet to learn that they were more dreaded by clever rogues than the whole of the remainder of the London police force.
 Mr. Somers wore a buttonhole of sweet peas; Pelham noted that each flower held four blooms on a stalk.
 "Do you really grow those in Britain?" he asked, when Pridoux introduced him to the chief.
 (Continued in The Morning Bee.)

Common table salt will remove egg stains from a silk frock.

Father Wants His Daughter to Remain His Housekeeper

Girl Has Chance to Marry—Care of Her Father Has Become Duty Unwilling to Shirk—Father Wants Her to Remain Single.

By MARTHA ALLEN.
 Self sacrifice is a fine attribute of character, but it can be overdone, like a good many other things. Any girl who keeps house for 10 years or more for her father is certainly entitled to some consideration.
 Ann writes that she is in a great quandary as to which road to choose for the remainder of life. She has an opportunity to marry a nice man, her father's wish to keep her at home, single. This seems to be outright selfishness on the part of the father. Any ordinary human being should realize that at one time or other a person is entitled to what measure of happiness he or she can find in the world. Surely brothers or sisters or even relatives could take their turn in caring for the old gentleman. Perhaps it could be managed to have him continue to live with the daughter after marriage. Never give up a chance for happiness if it can be possibly arranged satisfactorily. There is usually some way out if a thorough search is made for such a plan. Don't give up too easily, for you can probably find a way and means, just as others have done.

Too Good for Him.
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 While beautifying the hair "Danderine" is also toning and stimulating each single hair to grow thick, long and strong. Hair stops falling out and dandruff disappears. Get a 35-cent bottle of delightful, refreshing "Danderine" at any drug or toilet counter and just see how healthy and youthful your hair becomes.

Miss Mamie Graham, a resident of southern Jefferson county, boarded a Burlington train for Wymore at Keesterton, a short distance west of here, she laid her purse down on the head platform and forgot about it. She notified the dispatcher's office on arrival here, Keesterton is a blind siding and there was no way to get any one there to look for the purse.

a young man who claims he cares a great deal for me, yet insists that I am far "too good for him." We have been sweethearts for some months. He is considered wild and irresponsible, but I know that underneath his wildness he is as good as could be found. He asked me to forget him, but I have tried and find it impossible. If he only had part of the faith I have in him he could be better than the best. **LOVESICK.**
 It is nice to be appreciated, but it hardly mends the cracked heart that you seem to have at present. Your fine character and loyal interest in this man might win such high regard from him that he will reform. With superhuman effort you might be able to change the leopard's spots, but it is usually a great gamble. If you want to take the risk, go on believing in him and try to bring out the best in him through honest unswerving devotion. Your strong character will be taxed to its utmost, let me tell you, before you start the task.

Woman's Misaid Purse Is Found by Rail Officials
 Wymore, Neb., Nov. 20.—When



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The dispatcher informed a party of officials of the road who were passing that way several hours later on a railway motor car and they found the purse, which contained over \$5 and other valuables, and it was returned to the owner.
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Large Fancy Tangerines, per dozen	48c	Mott's New York Sweet Cider, per gallon	48c
Large Sweet Navel Oranges, per dozen	59c	Sweet Spanish Onions, 3 lbs. for	29c
500 Crates of Extra Fancy Emperor Grapes, per lge square basket	59c	Fancy Porto Rican Sweet Potatoes, 4 lbs. for	28c
		1 Carload of Large Thin-Skinned Juicy Grapefruit, 3 for	27c

10 Lbs. of PURE C. & H. CANE SUGAR 93c

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5,000 lbs. of No. 1 soft shell English Walnuts, lb.	35c
3 lbs.	99c
Large paper shell Almonds, per lb.	35c
3 lbs.	99c
Hard shell Almonds, per lb.	25c
3 lbs.	60c
Jumbo Washed Brazil Nuts, per lb.	28c
3 lbs.	73c
Jumbo Fresh Roasted Peanuts, lb.	23c
Large Fresh Cocoanuts, 2 for	25c
Large delicious Cooking Figs, 3 lbs. for	65c
Large Santa Clara Sweet Prunes, 25c value, 3 lbs. for	53c
Quart jars of solid pack Grand Canon Mince Meat per jar	49c
Grand Canon solid pack Kentucky Pumpkin, 3 20c cans	53c

SOAPS AND SOAP POWDERS

Soaps are advancing in price—stock up now at these prices.

10 bars of P. & G. Naptha Soap	45c
10 bars of Omaha Family Soap	42c
10 large bars of Petroleum Soap	78c
5 lb. boxes of Argo Gloss Starch	42c
3 25c pkgs. of Linn's Cleaner	69c
6 25c pkgs. of Linn's Cleaner	1.25
3 15c pkgs. Sal Soda	25c
3 25c pkgs. of Rain Water Crystals	63c

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Pillsbury's Best Flour, 48-lb. sack	\$1.80
24-lb. sack	\$1.00
Tea Table Flour, the best flour, 48-lb. sack	\$1.80
24-lb. sack	\$1.00
Fontenelle Flour, 48-lb. sack	\$1.55
Blue Bell Flour, 48-lb. sack	\$1.50
24-lb. sack	90c
Quart cans of Genuine Ginger Cake Molasses	22c
Pint jars of Pure Country Sorghum, jar	20c
Not-A-Seed Seedless Raisins, 3 1-lb. pkgs.	49c
Seeded Raisins, 3 20c pkgs. for	49c
7 Crown Imported Layer Figs, per lb.	43c
Dromedary Dates, 3 25c pkgs. for	63c
75c pkgs. of Dromedary Peel, consisting of one-third orange, one-third lemon and one-third citron	65c
1 lb. pkg. of Grecian Clean Currants	30c

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