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INCORPORATED 1888

JENNIE BAXTER: JOURNALIST

BY ROBERT BARR.

VIII.—The Robbery in the Sleeping Car.

(Continued.)

The conductor made a dive into the room and came out with an ordinary black dispatch box. The policeman seemed well provided with the materials for his burglarious purpose. He selected a key from a jingling bunch, tried it, selected another, then a third, and the lid of the dispatch box was thrown back. He took out a letter so exactly the duplicate of the one Jennie had that she clutched her own document to see if it were in its place. The Russian put the envelope between his knees and proceeded to lock the box. His imagination had not gone to any such refinement as the placing of a dummy copy where the original had been. Quick as thought Jennie acted. She slid open the door quietly and stepped out into the passage. So intent were the two men on their work that neither saw her. The tall man gave the box back to the conductor, then took the letter from between his knees, holding it in his right hand, when Jennie, as if swayed by the car, lurched against him, and with a sleight of hand that would have made her reputation on a necromantic stage she jerked the letter from the amazed and frightened man, at the same moment allowing the bogus document to drop on the floor of the car from her other hand. The conductor had just emerged from room A, holding his nose and looking comical enough as he stood there in that position, amazed at the sudden apparition of the lady. The Russian struck down the conductor's fingers with his right hand, and by a swift motion of the left closed the door of compartment A, all of which happened in a tenth of the time taken to tell it.

She sprang up on the seat and, placing her eye at the hole, peered through.

"Oh, pardon me!" cried Jennie. "I'm afraid a lurch of the car threw me against you."

The Russian, before answering, cast a look at the floor and saw the large envelope lying there with its seal uppermost. He quietly placed his huge foot upon it, and then said, with an effort at politeness:

"It is no matter, madame. I am afraid that I am so bulky I have taken up most of the passage."

"It is very good of you to excuse me," said Jennie. "I merely came out to ask the conductor if he would make up my berth. Would you be good enough to translate that to him?"

The Russian surlily told the conductor to attend to the wants of the lady. The conductor muttered a reply, and that reply the Russian translated.

"He will be at your service in a few moments, madame. He must first make up the berth of the gentleman in room A."

With that she retired again into her compartment, the real letter concealed in the folds of her dress, the bogus one on the floor under the Russian's foot. She closed the door tightly. Then, taking care that she was not observed through either of the holes the conductor had bored in the partition, she swiftly placed the important document in a deep inside pocket of her jacket. As a general rule, women have inside pockets in their capes and outside pockets in their jackets, but Jennie, dealing as she did with many documents in the course of her profession, had had this jacket especially made, with its deep and roomy inside pocket. She sat in a corner of her sofa wondering what was to be the fate of the unfortunate messenger, for in spite of the sudden shutting of the door by the Russian she caught a glimpse of the man lying face downward on the floor of his stifling room. She also had received a whiff of the sweet, heavy gas which had been used, that seemed now to be tincturing the whole atmosphere of the car, especially in the long, narrow passage. It is not likely they intended to kill the man, for his death would cause an awkward investigation, while his statement that he had been rendered insensible might easily be denied. As she sat there, the silence disturbed only by the low, soothing rumble of the train, she heard the ring of the metal cylinder against the woodwork of the next compartment. The men were evidently removing their apparatus. A little later the train slowed, finally coming to a standstill, and, looking out of the window into the darkness, she found they were stopping at an ill lighted country station. Covering the light in the ceiling again, the better to see outside, herself unobserved, she noted the conductor and another man place the bulky cylinder on the platform without the slightest effort at concealment. The tall Russian stood by and gave curt orders. An instant later the train moved on again, and when well under way there was a rap at her door. When she opened it, the conductor said that he would make up her berth now, if it so pleased her. She stood out in the corridor while this was deftly and swiftly done. She could not restrain her curiosity regarding the mysterious occupant of room A, and to satisfy it she walked slowly up and down the corridor, her hands behind her, passing and repassing the open door of her own room and noticing that ever and anon the conductor cast a suspicious eye in her direction. The door of room A was partly open, but the shaded lamp in the ceiling left the interior in darkness. There was now no trace of the intoxicating gas in the corridor, and as she passed room A she noticed that a fresh breeze was blowing through the half open doorway; therefore the window must be up. Once as she passed her own door she saw the conductor engaged in a task which would keep him from looking into the corridor for at least a minute, and in that interval she set her doubts at rest by putting her head swiftly into room A and as swiftly withdrawing it. The man had been lifted on to his sofa and lay with his face toward the wall, his head on a pillow. The dispatch box rested on a corner of the sofa, where doubtless he had left it. He was breathing heavily, like a man in a drunken sleep, but the air of the room was sweet and fresh, and he would doubtless recover. Jennie still paced up and down thinking deeply over what had happened. At first, when she had secured the important document, she had made up her mind to return it to the messenger, but further pondering induced her to change her mind. The messenger had been robbed by the Russian police. He would tell his superiors exactly what had happened, and yet the letter would reach its destination as speedily as if he had brought it himself—as if he had never been robbed. Knowing the purpose which Mr. Hardwick had in his mind, Jennie saw that the letter now was of tenfold more value to him than it would have been had she taken it from the messenger. It was evident that the British embassy, or the messenger himself, had suspicions that an attempt was to be made to obtain the document; otherwise room C of the sleeping car would not have been changed for room A at the very last moment. As it was the editor could say to the official: "The Russian police robbed your messenger in spite of all the precautions that could be taken, and my emissary cozened the Russians. So, you see, I have accomplished what the whole power of the British government was powerless to effect; therefore it will be wisdom on your part to come to terms with me."

"Your room is ready for you," said the conductor in French.

She had presence of mind enough not to comprehend his phrase until, with a motion of his hand, he explained his meaning. She entered her compartment and closed the door.

Having decided what disposal to make of the important document, there now arose in her mind the disquieting problem whether or not it would be allowed to remain with her. She cogitated over the situation, and tried to work out the mental arithmetic of it. Trains were infrequent on the Russian railways, and she had no means of estimating when the burly ruffian who had planned and executed the robbery would get back to St. Petersburg. There was no doubt that he had not the right to open the letter and read its contents; that privilege rested with some higher official in St. Petersburg. The two men had got off at the first stopping place. It was quite possible that they would not reach the capital until next morning, when the Berlin express would be well on its way to the frontier. Once over the frontier she would be safe, but the moment it was found that the envelope merely contained a copy of an English newspaper, what might not happen? Would the Russian authorities dare telegraph to the frontier to have her searched, or would the big official who had planned the robbery suspect that she, by legerdemain, had become possessed of the letter so much sought for? Even if he did suspect her, he would certainly have craft enough not to admit it. His game would rather be to maintain that this was the veritable document found in the Englishman's dispatch box, and it was more than likely, taking into consideration the change of room at the last moment, which would show the officials the existence of suspicion in the messenger's mind, or in the minds of those who sent him, that the natural surmise would be that another messenger had gone with the real document, and that the robbed man was merely a blind to delude the Russian police. In any case, Jennie concluded, there was absolutely nothing to do but remain awake all night and guard the treasure which good luck had bestowed upon her. She stood up on her bed, about to stuff her handkerchief into the hole bored in the partition, but suddenly paused and came down to the floor again. No; discomforting as it was to remain in a room under possible espionage, she dared not stop the openings, as that would show she had cognizance of them, and arouse the conductor's suspicion that, after all, she had understood what had been said, whereas, if she left them as they were, the fact of her doing so would be strong confirmation of her ignorance. She took from her bag a scarf, tied one end round her wrist and the other to the door, so that it could not be opened, should she fall asleep, without awakening her. Before intrenching herself thus she drew the eyelids down over the lamp, and left her room in darkness. Then, if any one did spy upon her, they would not see the dark scarf which united her wrist with the door.

She jerked the letter from the amazed and frightened man.

In spite of the danger of her situation she had the utmost difficulty in keeping awake. The rumble of the train had a very somnolent effect, and once or twice she started up, fearing that she had been slumbering. Once she experienced a tightening sensation in her throat, and sprang to the floor, seeing the rising gas, somehow made visible, the color of blood. The scarf drew her to her knees, and for a moment she thought some one clutched her wrist. Panting, she undid the scarf and flooded the room with light. Her heart was beating wildly, but all was still, save the ever present rumble of the train rushing through the darkness over the boundless plains of Russia. She looked at her tiny watch; it was 2 o'clock in the morning. She knew then that she must have fallen asleep in spite of her strong resolutions. The letter was still in the inside pocket of her jacket, and all was well at 2 in the morning. No eye appeared at either of the apertures, so she covered up the light once more and lay down again, sighing to think how rumpled her costume would look in the morning. Now she was resolved not to go to sleep, if force of will could keep her awake. A moment later she was startled by some one beating down the partition with an ax. She sprang up, and again the scarf pulled her back. She untied it from her wrist and noticed that daylight flooded the compartment. This amazed her. How could it be daylight so soon, in northern Russia? After a breathless pause there was a rap at her door, and the voice of the conductor said:

"Breakfast at Luga, madame, in three-quarters of an hour."

"Very good," she replied in English, her voice trembling with fear. Slowly she untied the scarf from the door and placed it in her hand bag. She shivered notwithstanding her effort at self control, for she knew she had slept through the night and far into the morning. In agitation she unbuttoned her jacket. Yes, there was the letter, just where she had placed it. She dare not take it out and examine it, fearing still that she might be watched from some unseen quarter, but "Thank God," she said to herself fervently, "this horrible night is ended. Once over the frontier I am safe."

(To be continued next Friday.)

RHEUMATISM

Distorts Muscles, Shatters Nerves, Stiffens Joints.

Is due to an acid poison which gains access to the blood through failure of the proper organs to carry off and keep the system clear of all morbid, effete matter. This poison through the general circulation is deposited in the joints, muscles and nerves, causing the most intense pain.

Rheumatism may attack with such suddenness and severity as to make within a few days a healthy, active person helpless and bed-ridden, with distorted limbs and shattered nerves; or it may be slow in developing, with slight wandering pains, just severe enough to make one feel uncomfortable; the tendency in such cases is to grow worse, and finally become chronic.

Like other blood diseases, Rheumatism is often inherited, and exposure to damp or cold, want of proper food, insufficient clothing, or anything calculated to impair the health, will frequently cause it to develop in early life, but more often not until middle age or later. In whatever form, whether acute or chronic, acquired or inherited, **Rheumatism is Strictly a Blood Disease,** and no liniment or other external treatment can reach the trouble. Neither do the preparations of potash and mercury, and the various mineral salts, which the doctors always prescribe, cure Rheumatism, but ruin the digestion and break down the constitution.

A remedy which builds up the general health and at the same time rids the system of the poison is the only safe and certain cure for Rheumatism. S. S. S., made of roots, herbs and barks of wonderful solvent, purifying properties, attacks the disease in the right way, and in the right place—the blood—and quickly neutralizes the acid and dissolves all poisonous deposits, stimulates and reinforces the overworked, worn-out organs, and clears the system of all unhealthy accumulations. S. S. S. cures permanently and thoroughly, and keeps the blood in a pure, healthy state.

Mr. J. O. Malley, 123 W. 15th Street, Indianapolis, Ind., for eighteen months was so terribly afflicted with Rheumatism he was unable to feed or dress himself. Doctors said his case was hopeless. He had tried fifty-two prescriptions that friends had given him, without the slightest relief. A few bottles of S. S. S. cured him permanently, and he has never had a rheumatic pain since. This was five years ago.

We will send free our special book on Rheumatism, which should be in the hands of every sufferer from this torturing disease. Our physicians have made blood and skin diseases a life study, and will give you any information or advice wanted, so write them fully and freely about your case. We make no charge whatever for this service. Address, SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., Atlanta, Ga.

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Mr. R. Gray, who lives near Amenia, Duchess county, N. Y., says: "Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is the best medicine I have ever used. It is a fine children's remedy for croup and never fails to cure." When given as soon as the child becomes hoarse, or even after the croupy cough has developed, it will prevent the attack. This should be borne in mind and a bottle of the cough remedy kept at hand ready for instant use as soon as these symtoms appear. For sale by the Kiesau Drug Co.

Ladies, if you want a refined and brilliant complexion free from blemishes use Rocky Mountain Tea. Never fails. Ask your druggist.

The Best Plaster.

A piece of flannel dampened with Chamberlain's Pain Balm and bound to the affected parts is superior to any plaster. When troubled with lame back or pains in the side or chest, give it a trial and you are certain to be more than pleased with the prompt relief which it affords. Pain Balm also cures rhematism. One application gives relief. For sale by the Kiesau Drug Co.

Among the tens of thousands who have used Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for colds and la grippe during the past few years, to our knowledge not a single case has resulted in pneumonia. Thos. Whitfield & Co., 240 Wabash avenue, Chicago, one of the most prominent retail druggists in that city, in speaking of this, says: "We recommend Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for la grippe in many cases, as it not only gives prompt and complete recovery, but also counteracts any tendency of la grippe to result in pneumonia." For sale by the Kiesau Drug Co.

Colds Melt Away

if you use Krause's Cold Cure. Prepared in convenient capsule form they are easy to take and effect a speedy cure of the most obstinate cases. Price 25c. Sold by Geo B. Christoph.

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"There is only one chance to save your life and that is through an operation" were the startling words heard by Mrs. I. B. Hunt of Lime Ridge, Wis., from her doctor after he had vainly tried to cure her of a frightful case of stomach trouble and yellow jaundice. Gall stones had formed and she constantly grew worse. Then she began to use Electric Bitters which wholly cured her. It's a wonderful stomach, liver and kidney remedy. Cures dyspepsia, loss of appetite. Try it. Only 50 cents. Guaranteed. For sale by the Kiesau Drug Co.

For sprains, swellings and lameness there is nothing so good as Chamberlain's Pain Balm. Try it. For sale by the Kiesau Drug Co.

If you would have an appetite like a bear and a relish for your meals take Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. They correct disorders of the stomach and regulate the liver and bowels. Price, 25 cents. Samples free at the Kiesau Drug Co.

Does it Pay to Buy Cheap?

A cheap remedy for coughs and colds is all right, but you want something that will relieve and cure the more severe and dangerous results of throat and lung troubles. What shall you do? Go to a warmer and more regular climate? Yes, if possible; if not possible for you, then in either case take the only remedy that has been introduced in all civilized countries with success in severe throat and lung troubles, "Boschee's German Syrup." It not only heals and stimulates the tissues to destroy the germ disease, but allays inflammation, causes easy expectoration, gives a good night's rest and cures the patient. Try one bottle. Recommended many years by all druggists in the world. Get Green's Prize Almanac. Kiesau Drug Co.

Drying preparations simply develop dry catarrh; they dry up the secretions, which adhere to the membrane and decompose, causing a far more serious trouble than the ordinary form of catarrh. Avoid all drying inhalants, fumes, smokes and snuffs and use that which cleanses, soothes and heals. Ely's Cream Balm is such a remedy and will cure catarrh or cold in the head easily and pleasantly. A trial size will be mailed for 10 cents. All druggists sell the 50c. size. Ely Brothers, 56 Warren St., N.Y.

The Balm cures without pain, does not irritate or cause sneezing. It spreads itself over an irritated and angry surface, relieving immediately the painful inflammation.

With Ely's Cream Balm you are armed against Nasal Catarrh and Hay Fever.

Jangling Nerves.

Are you irritable? Do you sleep badly? Is it hard to concentrate your thoughts? Is your appetite poor? Do you feel tired, restless and despondent? Try Lichty's Celery Nerve Compound. It will do you more good than anything you have ever tried. Sold by Geo. B. Christoph.

Ladies desiring a transparent complexion, free from blotches, blemishes and blackheads, should use Rocky Mountain Tea. Ask your druggist.

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Yes, August Flower still has the largest sale of any medicine in the civilized world. Your mothers and grandmothers never thought of using anything else for indigestion or biliousness. Doctors were scarce and they seldom heard of appendicitis, nervous prostration or heart failure, etc. They used August Flower to clean out the system and stop fermentation of undigested food, regulate the action of the liver, stimulate the nervous and organic action of the system and that is all they took when feeling dull and bad with headaches and other aches. You only need a few doses of Green's August Flower, in liquid form to make you satisfied there is nothing serious the matter with you. Get Green's Prize Almanac. Kiesau Drug Co.

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Intense suffering was endured by witness T. L. Martin, of Dixie, Ky., before he gave this evidence: "I coughed every night until my throat was nearly raw; then tried Dr. King's New Discovery which gave instant relief. I have used it in my family for four years and recommend it as the greatest remedy for coughs, colds and all throat, chest and lung troubles. It will stop the worst cough, and not only prevents but absolutely cures consumption. Price 50 cents and $1.00. Every bottle guaranteed. Trial bottles free at the Kiesau Drug Co.

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"I tried many remedies to cure piles," writes W. R. Smith, of Latham, Ill., "but found no relief till I used Bucklen's Arnica Salve. I have not been troubled with piles since." It's the only champion pile cure on earth and the best salve in the world. 25 cents per box, guaranteed by the Kiesau Drug Co.

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Your best feelings, your social position or business success depend largely on the perfect action of your stomach and liver. Dr. King's New Life Pills give increased strength, a keen, clear brain, high ambition. A 25 cent box will make you feel like a new being. Sold by the Kiesau Drug Co.